

The 4th Annual  
**People Around the World  
Conference**

A two-day, online event | February 2 & 3, 2021



**Global to local for the goals:** *Harnessing the power of collaboration to re-emerge stronger and together*



Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, the 2030 [Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At the heart of this agenda are the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), an urgent call for action by all countries — poor, rich and middle-income — to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.<sup>1</sup>

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COVID-19 is spreading human suffering, destabilizing the global economy and upending the lives of billions of people around the globe. The pandemic is an unprecedented wake-up call, laying bare deep inequalities and exposing precisely the failures that are addressed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Leveraging this moment of crisis, when usual policies and social norms have been disrupted, bold steps can steer the world back on track towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This is the time for change, for a profound systemic shift to a more sustainable economy that works for both people and the planet.

The Sustainable Development Goals are vital for a recovery that leads to greener, more inclusive economies, and stronger, more resilient societies.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs-framework-for-covid-19-recovery/>

# PAW 2021 program

Day One: Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Emcee: Dr. Meghna Ramaswamy (PhD) | Director, International Office, University of Saskatchewan

All program times are in Central Standard Time (CST): [https://www.worldtimeserver.com/current\\_time\\_in\\_CA-SK.aspx](https://www.worldtimeserver.com/current_time_in_CA-SK.aspx)

8–8:55 AM

## DAY ONE OPENING REMARKS

**Introductory remarks and housekeeping**

*Dr. Meghna Ramaswamy (PhD)*

**Prayer and greetings**

*Elder Roland Duquette*

**National Anthem**

*Ms. Kiela Caudillo Ruiz — International partnerships specialist, International Office, University of Saskatchewan*

**Welcome remarks**

*Dr. Peter Stoicheff (PhD) — President, University of Saskatchewan*

**Greetings from the City of Saskatoon**

*Charlie Clark — Mayor, City of Saskatoon*

8:55–9:45 AM

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**The nexus of human rights, education, and research: Facilitating collaboration at the edge of the horizon**

*The Honourable Judge David Arnot — Chief commissioner for the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission*

**Q&A moderator**

*Dr. Meghna Ramaswamy (PhD)*

9:45–10 AM

## BREAK

10–11:20 AM

## THEMATIC SESSION — HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**COVID-19 Research at Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO)**

*Dr. Volker Gerdtz (PhD, DVM) — Director and chief executive officer, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization; Professor, Department of Veterinary Microbiology, University of Saskatchewan*

**Mozambique-Canada Maternal Health Project — progress and prospects during a Pandemic**

*Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine (PhD) — Professor, Community Health and Epidemiology, College of Medicine; Principal investigator, Mozambique-Canada Maternal Health Project, University of Saskatchewan*

*Dr. Jessie Forsyth (PhD) — Project director, Mozambique-Canada Maternal Health Project, Mozambique*

**Developing Indigenous-centric indicators for meaningful evaluation of Indigenous health research: a first look at the NEIHR networks' approach**

*Dr. Simon Lambert (PhD) — Associate professor, Indigenous Studies, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan; Executive director, Network Environments for Indigenous Health Research (NEIHR) National Coordinating Centre; tribal member of Tuhoe/Ngāti Ruapani (Aotearoa, NZ)*

**Session and Q&A moderator**

*Dr. Marek Radomski (MD, PhD, DSc) — Vice-dean research, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan*

# PAW 2021 program

Day One: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 (continued)

11:20–11:25 AM BREAK

11:25 AM–12 PM KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy in the COVID-19 world**

**The Honourable Minister Karina Gould** — Minister, International Development, Government of Canada

**Q&A moderator**

**Moderated by Dr. Steven R. Webb (PhD)** — Chief executive officer, Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS), University of Saskatchewan

12–12:30 PM SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION

**Culinary demonstration\***

**Chef Dale MacKay** — Award-winning culinary artist and celebrated restaurateur; Canada's first Top Chef winner

\*Download the recipe "Ricotta gnocchi with tomato butter sauce" on the [PAW 2021 website](#).

12:30–1 PM LUNCH BREAK

1–1:10 PM UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

**Dr. Irena Creed (PhD)** — Associate vice-president research, University of Saskatchewan; Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada

1:10–2:30 PM THEMATIC SESSION — FOOD, LAND, WATER (SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY)

**Enabling sustainable development in Bangladesh through bilateral collaboration and partnership**

**Mr. Stephen Visscher (CBE)** — Director of strategic partnerships and chief operating officer, Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS), University of Saskatchewan

**Exploring the role of youth in community-based resource management and conservation**

**Dr. Jim Robson (PhD)** — Assistant professor, School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS); UNESCO Co-chair in Biocultural Diversity, Sustainability, Reconciliation and Renewal, University of Saskatchewan

**Dr. Marlene Soriano (PhD)** — Program director, Bolivian Institute of Forest Research (IBIF), Bolivia

**Three initiatives to promote equitable sustainability and share successes**

**Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace (PhD)** — Associate professor, Geography and Planning, College of Arts and Science; Associate director, Global Water Futures, University of Saskatchewan

**Session and Q&A moderator**

**Dr. Irena Creed (PhD)**

2:30–2:45 PM SPECIAL LIVE PRESENTATION

**Energizing yoga**

**Ms. Amanda Plante** — Research Ethics Specialist (Animal), Research Excellence and Innovation, University of Saskatchewan

# PAW 2021 program

Day One: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 (continued)

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2:45–3 PM

BREAK

3–4:45 PM

## THEMATIC SESSION — EDUCATION, GENDER AND INEQUALITY

**An international perspective of teachers' beliefs about inclusion: implication for inclusive education in Canada**

**Dr. Pei-Ying Lin (PhD)** — Associate professor, Educational Psychology and Special Education, College of Education, University of Saskatchewan

**Alliances as a key element to promote sustainable education**

**Ambassador Miguel Ruiz Cabañas Izquierdo** — Director of the SDGs Initiative at Tecnológico de Monterrey; Co-chair of the Mexican chapter of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN Mexico)

**Rediscovering English for academic purposes in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals**

**Ms. Sally Abu Sabaa** — Manager, English for Academic Purposes, York University

**Using design thinking and Facebook to solve a plastic pollution problem in the Mediterranean Sea**

**Dr. Diane Pruneau (PhD)** — Director of the Littoral et vie Research Group, Université de Moncton

**Session and Q&A moderator**

**Dr. Dawn Wallin (PhD)** — Associate dean (undergraduate programs, partnerships, and research), College of Education, University of Saskatchewan

4:45–5:30 PM

## SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION

**Visiting professors at the University of Saskatchewan**

5:30 PM

## DAY ONE WRAP-UP

**Closing remarks**

**Dr. Meghna Ramaswamy (PhD)**

**END OF DAY ONE**

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The University of Saskatchewan (USask) is committed to enhancing the supply and sustainability of global water, energy, and food supplies, as well as to promoting the health and the protection of our environment. In undertaking these efforts, USask is resolved to acquiring and sharing knowledge in the service of society, and becoming distinguished as a globally influential and engaged academic institution. A strong bond between the University of Saskatchewan and society is vital and beneficial to both: society benefits from the application of knowledge derived by our university, and our university benefits from the experiential learning and connections that come from generating and utilizing this knowledge, and bringing it back to the learning environment.

—University of Saskatchewan International Blueprint for Action 2025;

**Pillar four: Growing our global citizenship and international community service**

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# PAW 2021 program

Day Two: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

**Emcee:** Professor Jay Famiglietti (PhD) | Canada 150 Research Chair in Hydrology and Remote Sensing; Executive Director, Global Institute for Water Security (GIWS), University of Saskatchewan

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|-----------------------|---|
| <b>8:30–8:55 AM</b>   | <b>DAY TWO OPENING REMARKS</b>  |
|                       | <b>Introductory remarks and housekeeping</b><br><i>Dr. Jay Famiglietti (PhD)</i>  |
|                       | <b>Welcome remarks</b><br><i>Dr. Baljit Singh (PhD)</i> — Vice-president research, University of Saskatchewan   |
| <b>8:55–9:45 AM</b>   | <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>  |
|                       | <b>Pathways to Sustainable Development</b><br><i>Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs (PhD)</i> — Professor, Columbia University; President, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)  |
|                       | <b>Q&amp;A moderator</b><br><i>Dr. Jay Famiglietti (PhD)</i>  |
| <b>9:45–10 AM</b>     | <b>BREAK</b>  |
| <b>10–11:20 AM</b>    | <b>THEMATIC SESSION — SUSTAINABLE, EQUITABLE AND DIVERSE COMMUNITIES</b>  |
|                       | <b>Can money buy health? The nuts and bolts of a family income generation project</b><br><i>Dr. Ronald Siemens (MD, FRCP)</i> — Assistant professor, Division of Pediatric Emergency, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan   |
|                       | <b>Responding to challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic through gender and cultural-sensitive development programs in northern Luzon, Philippines</b><br><i>Dr. Marlowe Aquino (PhD)</i> — Professor and core faculty member, Graduate School of Mariano Marcos State University; Adjunct professor, Benguet State University, Philippines |
|                       | <b>Principles for transdisciplinary sustainability scholarship with Indigenous and Rural Peoples</b><br><i>Dr. Maureen Reed (PhD)</i> — Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS); UNESCO Co-chair Biocultural Diversity, Sustainability, Reconciliation and Renewal, University of Saskatchewan                       |
|                       | <b>Session and Q&amp;A moderator</b><br><i>Dr. Michelle Aihina Inkinsh Holhpokunna Johnson-Jennings (PhD)</i> — Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Community-Engaged Research; Associate professor, Indigenous Studies, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan; tribal member of Choctaw Nation                       |
| <b>11:20–11:25 AM</b> | <b>BREAK</b>  |
| <b>11:25 AM–12 PM</b> | <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>  |
|                       | <b>Moving forward a provincial approach to International Education</b><br><i>Ms. Livia Castellanos</i><br>Executive Lead, International Education and Jurisdictional Initiatives, Ministry of Advanced Education, Government of Saskatchewan  |
|                       | <b>Q&amp;A moderator</b><br><i>Dr. Jay Famiglietti (PhD)</i>  |

# PAW 2021 program

Day Two: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 (continued)

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| 12–12:30 PM  | <b>SPECIAL PRESENTATION</b><br><b>Collaborative learning, internationally</b><br><i>Ms. Aditi Garg</i> — Education development specialist, Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning, University of Saskatchewan<br><i>Dr. David Parkinson (PhD)</i> — Professor, English, College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan   |
| 12:30–1 PM   | <b>LUNCH BREAK</b>  |
| 1–2:30 PM    | <b>TRAINEE RESEARCH COMPETITION</b><br><b>Opening remarks and prayer</b><br><i>Elder Roland Duquette</i><br><a href="#">Review the abstracts and presentation schedule</a>   <a href="#">Join Room 1</a>   <a href="#">Join Room 2</a>  |
| 2:30–2:45 PM | <b>SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION</b><br><b>Bhangra dance: energize yourself by joining a traditional Punjab dance</b><br><i>Mr. Gurdeep Pandher</i>  |
| 2:45–4:10 PM | <b>THEMATIC SESSION — CLIMATE ACTION AND ENERGY</b><br><b>Climate change, agriculture, land and sustainable development</b><br><i>Dr. Margot Hurlbert (PhD)</i> — Professor and Canada Research Chair, Climate Change Energy and Sustainability Policy, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Regina<br><b>Three C's: climate action through capacity building in community renewable energy</b><br><i>Dr. Andrea Kraj (PhD, P.Eng)</i> — Assistant professor, School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS), University of Saskatchewan<br><b>Sustainable clean energy production from biomass</b><br><i>Dr. Ajay Dalai (PhD)</i> — Distinguished professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering and Canada Research Chair, Bioenergy and Environmentally Friendly Chemical Processing, College of Engineering, University of Saskatchewan<br><b>Session and Q&amp;A moderator</b><br><i>Dr. Karsten Liber (PhD)</i> — Executive director (Interim) and distinguished professor, School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS), University of Saskatchewan |
| 4:10–4:40 PM | <b>AWARDS CEREMONY</b><br><b>University of Saskatchewan Internationalization Recognition Awards</b><br><b>University of Saskatchewan International Blueprint Project Grant Awards</b><br><b>PAW 2021 Trainee Research Competition Awards</b><br><i>Presented by Dr. Meghna Ramaswamy (PhD)</i> — Director, International Office, University of Saskatchewan   |



# PAW 2021 program

Day Two: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 (continued)

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4:40–5:30 PM

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

### Technologies to help Canada meet net-zero emissions by 2050

**Dr. Phil De Luna (PhD)** — Director, National Research Council Canada (NRC); Member, Canadian Commission for UNESCO Working Group on AI Ethics and the Sustainable Development Goals

### Q&A moderator

**Kirsten Marcia (P. Geo)** — Director, president and chief executive officer, Deep Earth Energy Production (DEEP)

5:30–5:35 PM

## CONFERENCE WRAP-UP

### Closing remarks

**Dr. Jay Famiglietti (PhD)**

5:35–6 PM

## VIRTUAL CONCERT WITH JAY MAILLET

END OF DAY TWO

# The International Blueprint for Action 2025

A vision for a globally significant university

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## CONNECTING WITH THE WORLD

Global problems cannot be solved by only thinking and acting locally. Moreover, the world is evolving, and so is the University of Saskatchewan. The University of Saskatchewan is well-positioned to contribute to the global needs of our society, and we will prepare our students, faculty and staff to appreciate, ask and then address society's most important challenges. Our academic excellence, partnered with international engagement and activity, will secure our global presence and enhance the university's impact in the world in which we live and share.

The [University Plan 2025](#) highlights the importance of interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to discovery, Indigenization, teaching and learning, and community engagement. [The International Blueprint for Action 2025](#) amplifies the university plan by focusing and enhancing our efforts across these same themes through an internationalization strategy and goals distinctive of a truly world-class university.

