





## About the Canada-in-Asia Conference 2025

The annual Canada-in-Asia Conference (CIAC) is a multi-directional engagement platform for Canadabased and Asia-based companies, institutions, universities, and governments. CIAC convenes business leaders, experts, investors, policy-makers, researchers, and innovators from across Asia and Canada to exchange perspectives, knowledge, and ideas, with the goal of facilitating collaborative partnerships. The conference's plenary and concurrent sessions, as well as dedicated networking times, provide a range of opportunities for engagement and exchange with likeminded partners. The annual CIAC Gala Dinner provides a centrepiece attraction for Canadians with interests in Asia, and for those based in Asia who have business, institutional, or personal connections to Canada.

CIAC2025 will be held at the Raffles City Convention Centre in Singapore February 19-21, 2025. We envisage it will attract 700 attendees from across Asia and Canada.

### **Plenary Sessions**

CIAC2025's four substantive plenary sessions bring together all conference attendees and focus on major cross-cutting themes and ideas in the Canada-Asia relationship as well as global challenges such as geopolitics, the renewed space race, sustainable investment, and infrastructure.

#### **Concurrent Sessions, Sectors & Engagement Tracks**

CIAC2025 offers four concurrent session blocks, which can be navigated by either **sectors** or **engagement tracks.** The following four sectors have been identified after extensive consultation with CIAC stakeholders and represent areas in which there is much opportunity for collaboration between and among Canada-based and Asia-based firms, researchers, and institutions. Engagement tracks offer an alternative pathway to engage for those who are more interested in themes that cut across these sectors.

SECTORS	ENGAGEMENT TRACKS
<ul> <li>Agri-food &amp; Food Security</li> <li>Ocean Tech &amp; Blue Economy</li> <li>Energy Transitions &amp; Energy Security</li> <li>Clean Technologies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Innovation Ecosystems</li> <li>Trade &amp; Supply Chains</li> <li>Investment &amp; Finance</li> <li>Artificial Intelligence (AI)</li> </ul>

Staggered timing across engagement tracks allows conference attendees to participate in similarlyfocused sessions across multiple sectors. For instance, an investment professional will be able to choose to attend each of the four 'investment & finance' sessions, with each focusing on a different sector, while an AI executive will be able to attend an AI-focused session in each of the conference's four sectors. Alternatively, those working in the sectors of focus can attend four sessions dedicated to their field of expertise.

Please see the preliminary program on the final page of this document.

**Executive Roundtables** - Held on the afternoon of February 20, these small-group, by-invitation sessions offer an opportunity to delve deeper on specific policy- or business topics with other industry, government and academic leaders. Discussions are off-the-record and limited to 16 people. Participants are invited in the month prior to the conference.

**Investor Summit** - Building on the success of the *Venture into Sustainability* investor program held at CIAC2024, the CIAC2025 Investor Summit brings together investors, innovators, accelerator and incubator leaders, as well as government officials from across Canada and Asia to foster deeper Canada-Asia collaboration and introduce Canada-based and Asia-based entrepreneurs and investors to key innovation stakeholders on the other side of the Pacific.

**Partner Events** - We anticipate several partner-led events to take place parallel to the CIAC2025 main program, as was the case in the event's two previous iterations. These will be a mix of panel discussions, cocktail events and thematic networking sessions.

**Networking** - CIAC2025 offers a platform to meet and connect with potential partners and collaborators from a diverse range of sectors across Canada and Asia. As with past events, we predict that attendees at CIAC2025 will come from a breadth of economies and sectors: over 75% of the 460 attendees at CIAC2024 were from Asia and represented 35 cities in 19 economies. 57% of CIAC2024 attendees were from the private sector, 20% were from the public sector, while 23% came from universities and research communities, including NGOs. Past events have attracted many senior Canadian diplomats and senior trade commissioners, as well as Presidents of Canadian universities, and we envision similar at CIAC2025.

**Gala Dinner** - The annual CIAC Gala Dinner that will take place on the evening of February 20. This is an opportunity to celebrate all things Canada-in-Asia for all CIAC2025 participants, plus additional guests.

### Building on CIAC2024 and CIAC2023...

CIAC2025 builds on the momentum of the previous two years of Canada-in-Asia Conferences, which were established by APF Canada and Universities Canada to catalyze a new and transformative phase of Canada-Asia engagement. Learn more about these events <u>here</u>.

#### JOIN US

To stay informed about CIAC2025, we invite you to sign up for our event mailing list <u>here</u>. Program information and ticket purchase will be available in September 2024.

Please contact the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada if you have questions about CIAC2025, if you have suggestions for the program, or if you are interested in engaging as a partner:

# JORDAN DUPUIS

Senior Program Manager, CIAC & Partner Networks jordan.dupuis@asiapacific.ca

ROSIE BOLDERSTON Senior Program Manager, Business Development rosie.bolderston@asiapacific.ca

## CIAC2025 Preliminary Program – June 2024

Concurrent session sectors and tracks subject to minor change

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2025					
Welcome Reception					
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2025					
Opening Plenary					
Concurrent Sessions:					
Agri-food & Food Security Innovation Ecosystems	Ocean Tech & Blue Economy Investment & Finance	<b>Clean Technology</b> Trade & Supply Chains	Energy Transitions & Energy Security Artificial Intelligence		
Lunch Plenary					
Concurrent Sessions:					
Agri-food & Food Security Investment & Finance	Ocean Tech & Blue Economy Trade & Supply Chains	<b>Clean Technology</b> Artificial Intelligence	Energy Transitions & Energy Security Innovation Ecosystems		
Executive Roundtables – by invitation only					
CIAC2025 Networking Reception					
CIAC2025 Gala Dinner					

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2025 Concurrent Breakfast Sessions:					
Agri-food & Food Security Trade & Supply Chains	Ocean Tech & Blue Economy Artificial Intelligence	<b>Clean Technology</b> Innovation Ecosystems	Energy Transitions & Energy Security Investment & Finance		
Plenary Session					
Concurrent Sessions:					
Agri-food & Food Security Artificial Intelligence	Ocean Tech & Blue Economy Innovation Ecosystems	Clean Technology Investment & Finance	Energy Transitions & Energy Security Trade & Supply Chains		
Lunch Closing Plenary (program concludes by 2pm)					