

PRESS RELEASE

21st TCI Network Global Conference on clusters to be held in Toronto, Canada in October 2018

June 27, 2017 – With a theme of *Collaborating to Compete: Cluster Policy in Action*, the 21st TCI Network Global Conference 2018 will be held in Toronto, Canada. The Global Conference will lend itself to topics related to cluster leadership, governance and evaluation, as well as designing innovation networks for knowledge exchange, with the goal of furthering economic growth and development. Hosted by the Institute for Competitiveness & Prosperity, the co-chairs of the Global Conference will be Tiff Macklem, Dean of the University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management, and former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada, and Jamison Steeve, Executive Director of the Institute for Competitiveness & Prosperity.

The Global Conference will be a forum for knowledge exchange and partnerships between local and international experts and leaders to showcase the strong clusters in the region. It also aligns with the economic development agendas of the three levels of government. “Ontario is positioned to be a leader in our fiercely competitive global economy – that’s why we’re developing clusters that can integrate disruptive technologies, accelerate innovation and boost productivity,” says Hon. Brad Duguid, Ontario Minister of Economic Development and Growth. “Conferences like this are critical to advancing ideas on a topic that is vital to the future of this province.”

“Clusters are vital to economic growth and integral to building diverse and vibrant cities people want to live in. With new platform technologies like artificial intelligence, blockchain, and quantum computing enabling new business models across all sectors, clusters are morphing and opportunities expanding,” says Tiff Macklem, Dean of the Rotman School of Management. “Harnessing these forces for economic and social prosperity is imperative.”

About the host

The Institute for Competitiveness & Prosperity is an independent, not-for-profit organization that deepens public understanding of macro and microeconomic factors behind Ontario’s economic progress. We are funded by the Government of Ontario and are mandated to share our research findings directly with the public.

Research by the Institute is intended to raise public awareness and stimulate debate on a range of issues related to competitiveness and prosperity. It is the aspiration of the Institute to have a significant influence in increasing Ontario and Canada’s competitiveness, productivity, and capacity for innovation. We believe this will help ensure continued success in creating good jobs, increasing prosperity, and building a higher quality of life. We seek breakthrough findings from our research and propose significant innovations in public policy to stimulate businesses, governments, and educational institutions to take action.

For nearly 16 years, the Institute has advocated for the development of strong clusters in the province of Ontario to close the prosperity gap between the province and its peer jurisdictions. We remain the only source for Canadian cluster data and is recognized for our focused work on clusters.

More information can be found on the Institute’s website: <http://www.competeprosper.ca>.

TCI Global Conferences

For two decades, the annual TCI Global Conference brings together experts in the field from around the globe and aim to be a forum to create progress in the practice of cluster development, regional

competitiveness, and innovation support. The conferences are the meeting point for the TCI community and are open to members and non-members of TCI.

Since 1998, TCI has been received in outstanding cities and regions from the five continents, renowned for building competitiveness strategies from the strengths of their clusters and people: Barcelona (Spain), Varese (Italy), Glasgow (UK), Tucson (USA), Cairns (Australia), Gothenburg (Sweden), Ottawa (Canada), Hong Kong (China), Lyon (France), Portland (USA), Cape Town (South Africa), Jyväskylä (Finland), Delhi (India), Auckland (New Zealand), Basque Country (Spain), Kolding (Denmark), Monterrey (Mexico) and Daegu (South Korea). The 20th TCI Global Conference will take place in Bogota, Columbia, from November 7-9, 2017.

For more information on the TCI Network's conferences, please visit <http://www.tci-network.org/conferences>.

About TCI Network

TCI Network is the leading global network of more than 9,000+ main organizations and practitioners with deep expertise in clusters and competitiveness, who collaborate in a unique open, flexible and practical context to advance in the practice of competitiveness, innovation and cluster development. For more information on the TCI Network, please visit www.tci-network.org.