

Biographies of Speakers and Panelists

Gord Miller

Gord Miller was first sworn in as the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario in 2000 to oversee the continued implementation of the Environmental Bill of Rights. He has now been re-appointed for his third term. As an independent officer appointed by the Legislative Assembly, Commissioner Miller oversees 13 ministries, and monitors and reports annually on: government compliance with the provisions of the EBR; government progress on reducing greenhouse gas emissions; activities in Ontario to reduce, or make more efficient, the use of electricity, natural gas, propane, oil and transportation fuels. As Environmental Commissioner, Gord Miller has released 14 annual reports, nine special reports, five Greenhouse Gas Progress Reports and four Energy Conservation Progress Reports to the Ontario Legislature. Prior to his appointment as Environmental Commissioner, Gord Miller worked as a scientist in pollution abatement and in environmental education and training.

Bud Wildman

Bud Wildman was the MPP for Algoma for over 23 years, serving as the Minister of Natural Resources, the Minister responsible for Native Affairs, and the Minister of Environment and Energy. During his years as an MPP, he also acted as an Opposition Critic for many ministries and served as the NDP interim leader and Caucus House Leader. Upon retiring from provincial politics in 1999, he became the Chair of the Board of Governors of Algoma University College in Sault Ste. Marie, serving in that capacity for 10 years. As the Minister of the Environment and Energy, Mr. Wildman shepherded the passage of the Environmental Bill of Rights.

Minister Jim Bradley

Jim Bradley is the MPP for St. Catharines. He was first elected to the Ontario legislature in 1977 and has been re-elected ten consecutive times. He was appointed Minister of the Environment for a second time in October 2011. Bradley has served as Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Transportation, Tourism, Minister Responsible for Seniors and Government House Leader. Before his election to the legislature, Bradley was a teacher with the Lincoln County Board of Education and a member of the St. Catharines City Council.

Michael Harris

Mr. Harris was elected to the Ontario Legislature on Oct. 6, 2011, as the MPP for Kitchener-Conestoga and was soon appointed as the PC Environment Critic. In this role, Mr. Harris has fought for greater environmental protection using a market-based approach that empowers individuals, not government bureaucracy. He has called for bold reforms to overhaul the province's recycling programs in order to unleash private-sector ingenuity and divert more waste from Ontario's landfills. Grounding Mr. Harris's politics is a strong belief that government should remain accountable to the people it serves.

Jonah Schein

MPP Jonah Schein currently serves as the Member of Provincial Parliament for the riding of Davenport and Environment Critic for Ontario's New Democrats. He was elected in October 2011. Before being elected to Provincial Parliament, he worked at The Stop Community Food Centre, where he coordinated civic engagement and advocacy programs.

Dave McLaughlin

David McLaughlin is a public policy professional with over 25 years of experience at top levels of federal and provincial governments in both the public service and in politics. David completed a five-year term as President and CEO of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy in 2012, and currently serves as a Strategic Advisor on Sustainability to the Dean of Environment at the University of Waterloo. He has served as chief of staff to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of New Brunswick, and federal Minister of Finance. He was deputy minister to the Premier of New Brunswick for intergovernmental affairs, policy and planning, legislative democracy, and served as secretary to the NB cabinet on policy and priorities. David has an MBA, MA in International Affairs and a BA Honours, and is a published author who writes regular commentaries on national policy and political issues. He has made numerous media appearances on CBC TV and radio including Power and Politics, As it Happens, and the Newsworld Network; CTV Newsnet and Power Play; Global TV and The West Block, and Sun News Network offering expert analysis and commentary.

Ruth Grier

Ruth Grier held elected office in Ontario for 25 years. First a councillor in the former City of Etobicoke, she was elected MPP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore in 1985. During her years as an MPP, she served as the Minister of Health and the Minister of the Environment. She has been an outspoken political commentator on TVO's "Fourth Reading," she has honorary doctorates from Ryerson University and Trinity College in the University of Toronto, and she is currently a member of the Advisory Council to the Sheela Basrur Centre. Upon her appointment as Minister of the Environment, Ruth struck a Task Force to develop an Environmental Bill of Rights and she was responsible for introducing the EBR to the Ontario Legislature.

Michael Cochrane, Rick Lindgren, and John Macnamara were three of the members of the Task Force that designed the Environmental Bill of Rights.

Michael Cochrane

Michael Cochrane is a partner with the Toronto law firm of Brauti, Thorning, Zibarras LLP. He chaired the multi-stakeholder processes that lead to the creation of Ontario's Class Action laws and the introduction of Mediation into the Family Law system of Ontario. He was a Senior Crown Counsel with the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General for several years. He completed a Fellowship at the National Association of Attorneys General in Washington D.C. and has lectured at several universities. He is the

author of numerous legal texts and for three years was the host of the Business News Network's consumer law program Strictly Legal.

Rick Lindgren

Richard Lindgren is a staff lawyer with the Canadian Environmental Law Association, and he represents citizens and environmental groups in the courts and before tribunals. He has used the Environmental Bill of Rights extensively over the past 20 years.

John Macnamara

John Macnamara is Hydro One's Vice-President of Health, Safety and Environment. He is also President of the Business Council on Occupational Health and Safety and recently served on the Tony Dean Expert Panel that developed improvements to Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Act. He previously worked for ArcelorMittal as Global Vice-President, Health and Safety based in Luxembourg and was the General Manager, Health Safety and Loss Prevention at their Dofasco facility in Hamilton.

Anastasia Lintner

Anastasia M. Lintner is a staff lawyer and economist with Ecojustice Canada. Prior to diverting her career path and attending law school, she earned her PhD in Natural Resources and Environmental Economics from the University of Guelph and held Associate Professor positions at Wilfrid Laurier University and Memorial University. Dr. Lintner specializes in environmental assessment, conservation and water law, and in Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights.

Lynda Lukasik

Lynda Lukasik is the Executive Director of Environment Hamilton. She holds an Honours Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry, a Master's of Environmental Studies, and a PhD in Planning. Dr. Lukasik has been involved in numerous environmental efforts and is co-chair of the Ministry of the Environment's External Working Group on Regulation 419 – Local Air Quality. Lynda is currently teaching a graduate course in environmental policy and management at Ryerson University, where she always makes sure her students are aware of Ontario's *Environmental Bill of Rights*.

Mark Mattson

Mark Mattson is an environmental lawyer and president of Lake Ontario Waterkeeper. He sits on the board of directors of four other Waterkeeper organizations, including Waterkeeper Alliance.

Anne Bell

Dr. Anne Bell is the director of conservation and education at Ontario Nature, a charitable organization that protects wild species and wild spaces across the province. Anne has worked as an environmental educator, researcher and activist in Ontario for over 20 years.

Justina Ray

Dr. Justina Ray is Executive Director and Senior Scientist of Wildlife Conservation Society Canada. A wildlife biologist, she has been appointed to numerous government advisory panels related to policy development for species at risk and land use planning in Ontario and Canada. She has been editor or author of 3 books and numerous peer-reviewed articles, and is Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto (Faculty of Forestry) and Trent University (Biology Department).

David Donnelly

David Donnelly is one of Canada's leading environmental lawyers and an award-winning advocate for smart growth. He has represented public interest groups and ratepayers in some of Ontario's key environmental battles, including: the Oak Ridges Moraine hearing in Richmond Hill; Big Bay Point Ontario Municipal Board marina hearing; and the Walkerton Commission of Inquiry. David is the founder of Donnelly Law and a founding member of several important environmental campaigns, including the Greenbelt, Green Energy Act, SLAPP suit legislation and smart growth/ Green Building Standards. David has a law degree from the University of Windsor and a Master's degree in Environmental Studies from York University. Prior to practicing law, David was a professional planner and the executive director of Environmental Defence Canada.

David Estrin

David Estrin is Canada's senior environmental law specialist. His environmental law career has uniquely combined litigation, policy and strategic advice, teaching and writing. A Gowlings senior partner, for over 40 years Mr. Estrin has advised corporations, government agencies, municipalities, environmental organizations, Aboriginal communities and law firms in Canada and the United States in all facets of environmental matters. David was a founding director of the Canadian Environmental Law Association, was its first general counsel and directed Canada's first public interest environmental law clinic. He has established and extensively lectured in environmental law programs in faculties of environmental studies, law, and engineering, as well as for business. David is currently Chair of the International Bar Association Environment, Health and Safety Committee as well as Co-Chair of the IBA President's Task Force on Climate Change Justice and Human Rights. David is the founding editor of what is now the Canadian Environmental Law Reports and author of several authoritative texts on Canadian environmental law. He and John Swaigen were the co-editors and major contributors to the 1974 pioneering book, *Environment on Trial – A Handbook of Ontario Environmental Law* – that articulated first principles for an Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights.

John Swaigen

Ecojustice lawyer John Swaigen has served as General Counsel to the Canadian Environmental Law Association, associate of the Canadian Institute of Environmental Law and Policy, counsel to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Chair of Ontario's Environmental Appeal Board. John was the co-editor of Canada's first environmental law text, *Environment on Trial*, and is the author of books on administrative law, law enforcement, and fundraising for non-profit groups.