

NATURAL RESOURCES FORUM

2024
SPEAKERS



KAMLOOPS & DISTRICT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Matt Milovick was appointed the Vice-President, Administration & Finance on July 22, 2013. Along with his extensive post-secondary administration experience, he has two undergraduate degrees, BSc (University of Guelph) and BAS (York University), a MEd (Memorial University of Newfoundland) in post-secondary administration and a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation.

Mr. Milovick has held senior and executive positions with various post-secondary institutions including Vice-President, Finance and Administration at the Ontario College of Art and Design University, Chief Financial Officer (Interim) and Vice-President, Operations and Strategic Development at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT). He has also held diverse senior roles at Saint John's College (University of New Brunswick Saint John) and York University.



MATT MILOVICK

**TRU VICE-PRESIDENT,
ADMINISTRATION AND
FINANCE**

Tom currently serves as the Fibre Manager for Kruger Kamloops Pulp LP. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of Alberta in 1982 and holds registration as a Professional Forester in both Alberta (now retired) and British Columbia.

With nearly four decades of experience in the forest industry, Tom has worked across various sectors including OSB, pulp, and sawmills. His roles have encompassed Woodlands Manager, Sawmill Superintendent, and Vice President of Forestry Operations. Joining Domtar/Kruger in March 2020 marked his second stint in the pulp mill sector.

Tom has been happily married to Wendy for 40 years, and together they have three adult children and two grandchildren. In his leisure time, he enjoys pursuits such as flying, hiking, and fishing.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Tom actively engages in community service, serving as a board member for the TRU Foundation since 2021 and holding the position of Vice-President at Community Futures BC. He has also chaired the Northern Development Initiative Trust and has been a member of Rotary for a decade. Additionally, Tom has contributed his expertise as a former board member of the Association of BC Forest Professionals. In his leisure time, he enjoys pursuits such as flying, hiking, and fishing.



**THOMAS
HOFFMAN**

**FIBRE MANAGER
FOR KRUGER
KAMLOOPS PULP LP.**

Hot summers used to be looked forward too with anticipation. Now residents, businesses and tourists scan the weather forecasts, hoping for a cooler spring and summer mixed with rain. Are wildfires increasing? If they are- why? What can we do to reduce wildfires and their impacts?

Join retired forester, Murray Wilson, to learn more about wildfire solutions and management options to reduce wildfire risk for our community.

Murray Wilson is a retired forester. He started his forestry career on a wildfire suppression crew in 1977. Over the following decades he worked in a variety of forestry positions ranging from Operations Forester to Woodlands and Stewardship Manager.

Murray received a Forest Technology Diploma from Selkirk College and a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of Alberta.

Murray has over 30 years of experience working in our forests and is passionate about actively managing forests to reduce the devastating impacts of wildfires.



**MURRAY
WILSON**

RETIRED FORESTER

Tim Shaw brings nearly two decades of consulting, strategic communications and engagement experience to his role in public affairs at Tourmaline Oil where he provides strategic input and guidance on key engagement and advocacy initiatives at provincial, federal, and municipal levels.

Tim's experience includes managing critical issues and files across healthcare, tech and pharma industries before moving from Toronto back to Calgary where he has spent the past decade working in Canada's upstream and midstream energy sectors.



TIM SHAW

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS,
TOURMALINE OIL**

Michael Armstrong, RPF, CPA, CA is Vice President and Chief Forester of the BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI). COFI is an industry association that represents forest companies in BC that produce wood for construction, pulp and paper, and bioenergy. The forest industry is foundational to many regional economies in BC and COFI members are committed to advancing sustainable forest management and Indigenous rights and reconciliation. In his role, Michael works on all forest related land base policies on behalf of COFI's members with the provincial, Indigenous and federal governments.

Prior to joining COFI, Michael was Senior Manager at both PwC and KPMG. At these firms he worked on a variety of projects including managing the sales process for the Harmac Pulp Mill, the Mackenzie Pulp Mill, the Fort St. James sawmill, the Grand Forks sawmill and the Castlegar sawmill. He also was the lead auditor for the carbon credits generated from the Great Bear Rainforest, lead auditor for greenhouse gas emissions from industrial facilities across BC, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, conducted Sustainable Forest Initiative audits in the Southern US, and managed the Forest Science Program to distribute over \$30 million to scientists working on forest research in BC. He also worked for five years at Canfor's coastland operations as Assistant Forester after graduating from UBC Forestry.

Michael was a member of the Finance Committee Member for Forest Professionals BC (FPBC) for eight years and is currently on their Election Review Committee. He is a member of the Canadian Institute of Forestry and the co-chair for the Provincial Forestry Forum.



**MICHAEL
ARMSTRONG**

**VICE PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF FORESTER OF
THE BC COUNCIL OF
FOREST INDUSTRIES
(COFI)**

Tim McEwan is Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs with the Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC), a role he assumed in April 2021.

Tim's career as a senior executive spans more than 25 years in public policy, economic development, and business advocacy in both the public and private sectors.

During his time in the BC public service, Tim served as Deputy Minister of Small Business, Red Tape Reduction, and Liquor Distribution; Associate Deputy Minister of the BC Major Investments Office, charged with accelerating permitting and authorizations for complex major natural resource and infrastructure projects; and founding Executive Director (Assistant Deputy Minister) of the BC Progress Board, a board of blue-chip CEO's tasked with benchmarking BC's performance and providing strategic advice to the Premier of British Columbia.

Tim's work in economic development also includes serving as President & CEO of Initiatives Prince George Development Corporation -- the economic development authority for Prince George, BC -- where he was responsible for collaborative cross organizational efforts to advance the city as a globally connected, knowledge-based, resource economy hub.

Apart from his current role with MABC, Tim has also worked with other leading BC business associations, including most recently the Independent Contractors and Businesses Association as Senior Vice President, Policy & Stakeholder Engagement. Early in his career, he was Director, Programs & Policy with the Business Council of BC, where he worked on public policy advocacy initiatives, including the landmark multi-association, two-year BC Business Summit process.

Tim has served as a member of the Deputy Ministers Council of BC and the Board of Governors of the Business Council of BC, along with numerous other government and non-profit organizations.

Tim holds a B.A and an M.P.A. from the University of Victoria, and lives with his wife Cynthia McEwan in Tsawwassen, BC.



TIM MCEWAN

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
CORPORATE AFFAIRS
WITH THE MINING
ASSOCIATION OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
(MABC)**

Sean Surerus grew up in a pipeline construction family in northern BC and has been immersed in the infrastructure industry his whole life. He began his career operating equipment in the summers and joined Surerus Pipeline Inc. full-time in 2001 as a Project Coordinator. He has held increasingly senior positions and today he is President of the Surerus Group of Companies and Chairman of Surerus Murphy Joint Venture.

During his tenure at Surerus Pipeline Inc., the organization grew from a regional contractor to one of the largest pipeline construction companies in Canada. Surerus Murphy Joint Venture was formed in 2015 and has experienced immense growth, having successfully delivered significant sections of two of Canada's most recent large-scale legacy pipeline construction projects – TC Energy's Coastal GasLink and the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.

Following the success of these projects, the Surerus and Murphy businesses jointly acquired WHC Energy Services, a Louisiana-based energy infrastructure company with a presence in over 40 states. Now called WHC – A Surerus Murphy Company, Sean sits on WHC Energy Service's Board of Directors.

Sean's leadership and depth of understanding of business drivers and the energy market has leveraged the organizations he leads to become a North American centre of excellence for infrastructure construction. With his eye on the future of the industry, Sean is guiding his team through the energy transition, embracing the addition of carbon capture, facilities construction, hydrogen infrastructure construction and utility-scale solar installations to his organizations' suite of infrastructure services.

Sean is committed to community and oversees his organizations' community investment portfolios where he focuses on giving back to wellness, sustainability, education, and community-based initiatives. He is a fierce supporter of Indigenous inclusion and engagement and ensures his teams have ongoing opportunities to better understand and learn from Indigenous cultures. He is also a mental health advocate and is assisting with changing the way the pipeline industry addresses mental health issues by encouraging his teams and industry associations to view mental health just as it would physical health.

Sean lives in Calgary with his wife and two young children.

He is a past member of the BC Small Business Roundtable and a former Director of the Northern Society of Oilfield Service Firms, Petroleum Human Resources Council of Canada, Northern BC Winter Games, and former Chair of the Fort St. John Chamber of Commerce Synergy Group.

Sean holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Simon Fraser University, Bachelor of Arts (Economics) from Carleton University and a Graduate Certificate in Project Management from Royal Roads University. Sean is a former All-American in Track and Field and continues to run in his spare time today.

A professional headshot of Sean Surerus, a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a dark tie with thin diagonal stripes. The background is plain white.

SEAN SURERUS

**PRESIDENT OF THE SURERUS
GROUP OF COMPANIES,
CHAIRMAN OF SURERUS
MURPHY JOINT VENTURE**

Korah DeWalt-Gagnon is a seasoned leader within the Mining Industry, has a background in the mining sector and brings a vital industry perspective to the Kamloops & District Chamber Board of Directors. DeWalt-Gagnon's expertise will play a role in shaping the Chamber's initiatives with respect to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility.

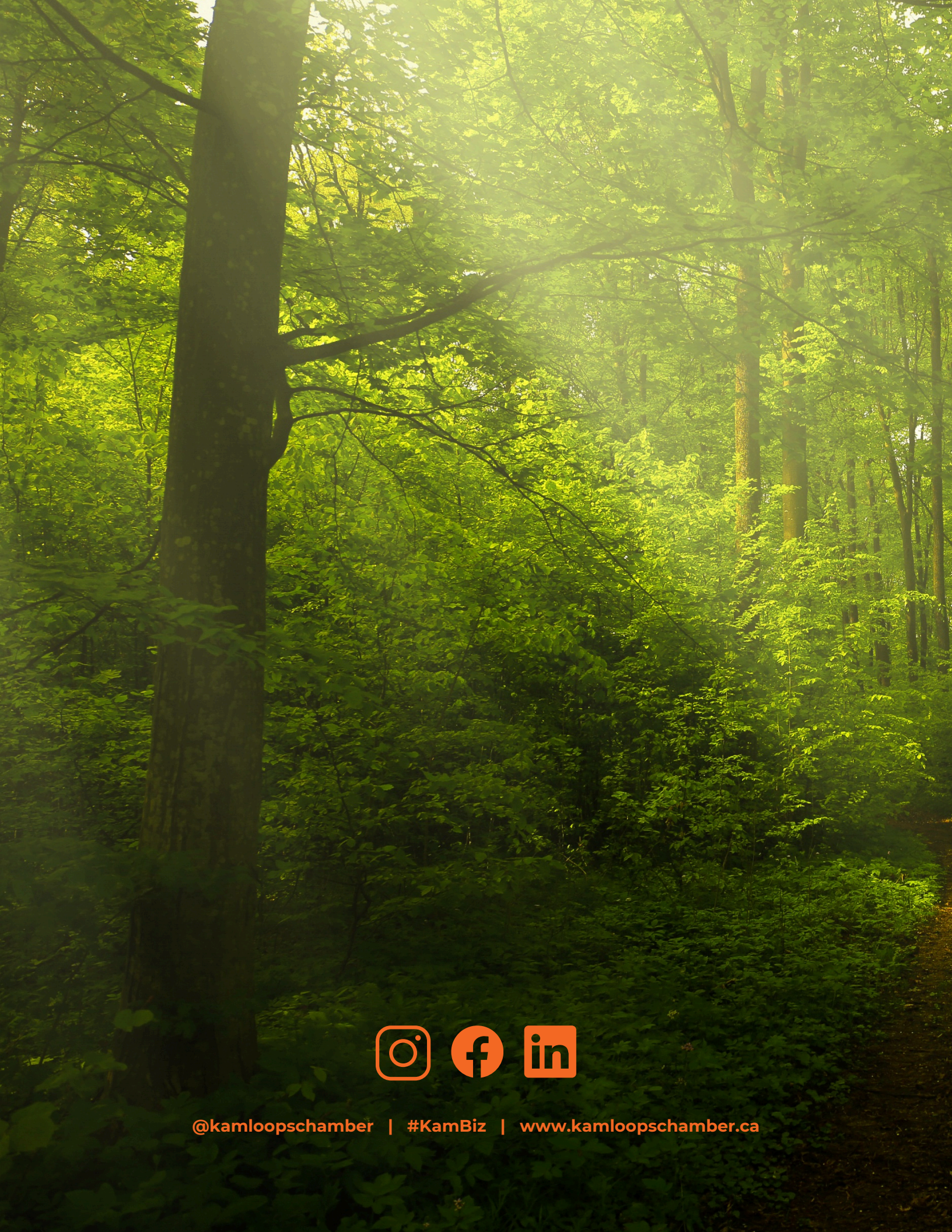
Korah has served on the Chamber of Commerce Board for one year and has recently been elected for her first two-year term for the KDCC. During the past term, Korah has served as an active member on the Business Advocacy Committee, and will be leading the Chamber's new Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility Committee.

Korah is a proud member of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc and born and raised in Kamloops, BC. For the past 13 years, Korah has worked in the resource industry at New Gold's New Afton Mine prior to joining Taseko Mines last Summer as Project Manager, Yellowhead Project.



**KORAH DEWALT-
GAGNON**

**TASEKO MINES
LIMITED**



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