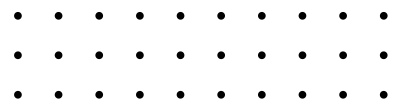
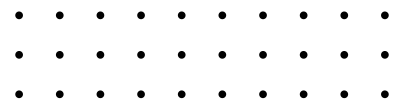


# WORLD SUMMIT ON SDG CITIES AND URBAN FINANCE

## Participants

Feb 13 – 15, 2024

World Urban Pavilion,  
Toronto, Canada

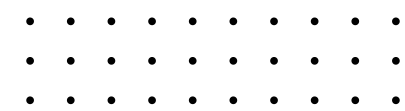


The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of: Powered by:



# PARTNERS & SPEAKERS

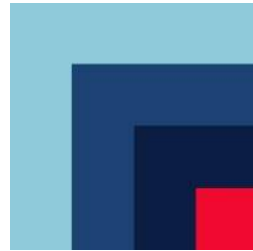


The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:



MITREX™  
BUILDING-INTEGRATED SOLAR TECHNOLOGY



URBAN  
ECONOMY  
FORUM



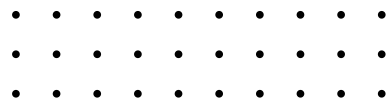
UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

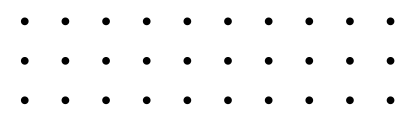


GPUF  
Global Platform  
for Urban Finance

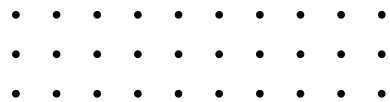


Noventa™  
INNOVATING TO DECARBONIZE OUR FUTURE™





# ORGANIZERS



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



URBAN  
ECONOMY  
FORUM



Daniels  
HOW WE WORK

Powered by:





## Alex Venuto

World Urban Pavilion

Alex Venuto is the Acting Deputy Director of the World Urban Pavilion, where all activities for the YPP will take place. The World Urban Pavilion is looking to introduce Regent Park as an SDG Global Neighbourhood. Alex is creating international partnerships between public and private sectors for local development in cities and communities across Canada and the globe.

Alex has a background in public policy and community development. Alex leads the development and implementation of a number of strategic initiatives for the World Urban Pavilion's parent organisation, the Urban Economy Forum.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park



## Amir Hossein Kashfi

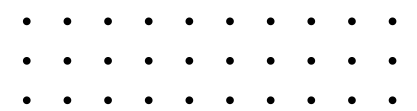
Aragon Enterprise  
Advisory

Bringing forth over 25 years of extensive expertise in Urban Planning, Business, and the Travel and Tourism industry, Amir Hossein Kashfi is a seasoned professional currently serving as the dynamic Managing Director at Aragon Business Advisory Corp in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. His illustrious career spans 1 year and 8 months since January 2022.

Amir's professional journey is marked by a comprehensive understanding of Urban Planning intricacies, coupled with a versatile command of business management and the ever-evolving travel and tourism sector. This rich background positions him as a holistic leader with a profound grasp of diverse industries.

In his role as Managing Director, Amir adeptly steers the day-to-day operations and strategically shapes the long-term vision of Aragon Business Advisory Corp. His keen decision-making and proactive approach have been instrumental in propelling the company to new heights of growth and success.

Amir's leadership extends beyond conventional boundaries, reflecting a steadfast commitment to excellence honed over decades of professional experience. His transformative management style serves as an inspiring archetype for emerging professionals, illustrating how a multifaceted background in Urban Planning, Business, and Travel and Tourism can harmoniously converge to drive exceptional achievements.







## Douglas Ragan

UN-Habitat

Doug is an accomplished professional with a wealth of management experience in City and UN Agency settings. His career has been dedicated to driving transformative change and empowering diverse communities through sustainable urban development initiatives.

A Programme Management Officer at UN-Habitat for 13 years, Doug has led key initiatives that not only have impact at the local, national and global level. At the heart of his work is a passion for community engagement and social inclusion. By championing community engagement in local governance, Doug's has made a significant impact in hundreds of communities worldwide. Doug's leadership has extended to shaping policy frameworks on an international scale.

As the co-chair of the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development in 2018, UN-Habitat was pen-holder for the UN Youth 2030 Strategy, where the agency played pivotal role in advocating for increased youth engagement within the United Nations system. His visionary approach and commitment to youth empowerment have been instrumental in driving forward the Youth 2030 Cities programme, which localizes the Sustainable Development Goals by involving young people in local government decisions. In addition to his work on the global stage, Doug's academic work further demonstrates his expertise.

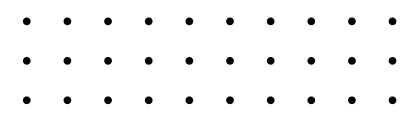
Currently completing his PhD in Anthropology at Carleton University, he brings a strong academic foundation to his leadership.



## Dyfed Aubrey

UN-Habitat

Dyfed Aubrey is an Inter-Regional Advisor at UN-Habitat and provides technical and policy advice on a broad range of urban issues including forced displacement in cities. He also coordinates UN-Habitat's Sub-Programme - Enhanced Shared Prosperity of Cities and Regions, and the global flagship initiative, SDG Cities. Previously he headed UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Arab States, and prior to that UN-Habitat's country programme in Iraq, where he led the UN's work on land, housing and shelter. His international experience also includes working with INGOs in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Kosovo in reconstruction and slum upgrading. Prior to working internationally, he was an architect and urban designer in London. He has a Masters Degree in Development Planning from the University College London.



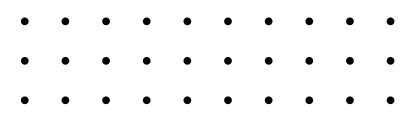
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Eduardo López Moreno

World Urban Pavilion



Eduardo López Moreno, is an architect from the University of Guadalajara with more than 25 years of academic and professional experience in the areas of urban development and housing policy, poverty reduction, governance and institutional analysis.

His studies include a Doctorate in urban geography at the Sorbonne University in Paris, France and a master's degree in urban sociology from the University Paris, Saint Denis, France. Eduardo López Moreno has five books on issues related to social housing, land policies, urban development and urban history.

His book "The Grid in the Development of the Hispano-American City" received the Jalisco Research Award and has been published in several editions. He has published more than 30 articles in national and international magazines on urban policies, urban history, poverty and housing financing.



## Eduardo Ortiz Jasso

Urban Economy Forum - Latin America and the Caribbean

Eduardo Ortiz Jasso, Director for UEF - Latin America and the Caribbean, is a seasoned Mexican architect and urban planner, boasting three decades of expertise in architecture, tourism, sustainable urban development, and planning across the region. Graduating from UNAM's Faculty of Architecture and holding a Master's Degree from IBERO, Ortiz Jasso has established himself as a visionary figure.

He founded IMPLAN, earning Cancun international recognition with the "Award of Excellence in Urban Planning 2008," and spearheaded AGEPRO, renowned for transformative projects such as the Nichupte Bridge and Equity's Park. As a member of AIA, FCARM, and ISOCARP, where he served as President in Mexico, Ortiz Jasso has significantly contributed to the field, shaping urban landscapes and institutions that serve as benchmarks in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:

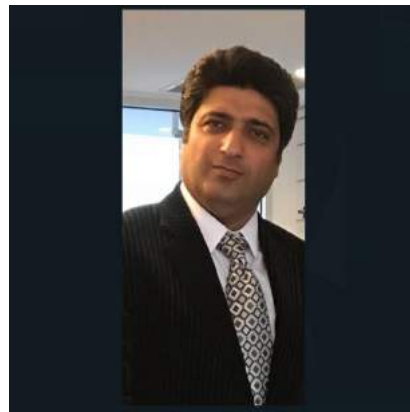


Powered by:



## Kamran Hassani

### Urban Economy Forum



Mr. Kamran is a network system and industrial engineer who has been involved in designing and executing business and development initiatives. He comes with academic knowledge along with comprehensive professional experience in the network, database, feasibility study, business plan and development projects.

He is a professor at CDI College and continues to engage in development projects.

He is currently serving as Urban Economy Forum's Executive Director



## Kaz Jeddi

### Aragon Enterprise Advisory

Kaz got his PhD in Nanotechnology Engineering from the University of Waterloo and holds P. Eng. designation in Ontario. He has nearly 15 years of experience in research and development in different areas of nanotechnology engineering in industry and academia, including high-energy density energy storage devices, polymer nanocomposites, novel building materials, and emerging new materials for food and agricultural applications. Kaz has (co)authored several articles in high-impact journals, conference proceedings, and magazines. He was one of the recipients of the prestigious Nanofellowship at the Waterloo Institute for Nanotechnology and the University of Waterloo in 2013.

Since 2020, he has been a member of Aragon Enterprise Corp team with the focus on helping international entrepreneurs establish their businesses into new markets. In this role, Kaz provides services to international business owners and entrepreneurs to relocate to by taking care of business planning, finding investors and local business partners to join them, provides engineering and technology consultation in setting up the operations, manufacturing plants, getting required government approvals, engineering and safety regulations, and also finding potential customers for these new businesses in new markets.

Aragon is founded on the belief that great ideas are necessary but not enough. We are the bridge between ideas and execution by helping founders stay focused with strategic guidance, business development, operational efficiency, and more. We help international entrepreneurs to build the companies of tomorrow.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Pouyan Zamani

Aragon Enterprise  
Advisory

Pouyan is a distinguished Sales Professional and Chemical Engineering PhD graduate from the University of Waterloo, bringing nearly 15 years of vast experience across both industry and academia to his work. His expertise spans several engineering domains, including high-energy density energy storage devices, polymer nanocomposites, beauty and personal care products, the oil and gas industry, novel building materials, and innovative materials for food and agricultural applications. Pouyan is a prolific contributor to the scientific community, having (co)authored numerous articles in high-impact journals, conference proceedings, and magazines, with his work receiving nearly 1600 citations to date.

Since joining Aragon team in 2021, Pouyan has dedicated himself to aiding international entrepreneurs in navigating and establishing their businesses within new markets. His advisory role encompasses providing comprehensive services to business owners and entrepreneurs, facilitating their successful relocation and market entry.

Aragon Enterprise, underpinned by the belief that while great ideas are essential, they are insufficient on their own, acts as a conduit for transforming visionary ideas into reality. The organization prides itself on offering strategic guidance, business development, operational efficiency, and more, all designed to help international entrepreneurs build the companies of tomorrow. Through his work with Aragon, Pouyan plays a pivotal role in bridging the gap between innovative ideas and their execution, ensuring founders can remain focused on their core objectives while expanding into new markets.



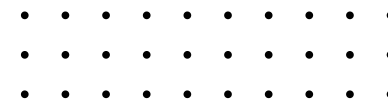
## Reza Pourvaziry

Urban Economy Forum

Reza Pourvaziry is an Architect with over 20 years of experience, including as an international urban researcher focusing on the concept of architecture and sustainability. Reza established the International Art & Architecture Research Association (IAARA) in 2002 to work and conduct research pertaining to urban architecture, habitat, and settlements, with a focus on sustainability, multiple international architecture awards.

He created numerous development projects and programs and started working as the member of Steering Committee of UN-Habitat's best practices since 2004. Designated by the Under-Secretary-General of the UN and former Executive Director of UN-Habitat as the First Global Advocate of UN-Habitat in 2016 for his contributions globally. He established the Middle East Regional Center for Best Practice and Local Leadership from 2012 to 2014.

Presently, he is the Founder and Chair of Urban Economy Forum since 2018, and is working on urban development projects globally. Reza established strategic partnerships between United Nations and the Government of Canada to establish the World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park, a collaborative initiative between the UEF and UN-Habitat, supported by the Government of Canada and The Daniels Corporation. The Pavilion was officially launched on April 21, 2020.



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:

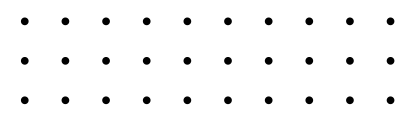


Powered by:

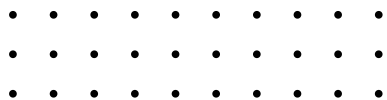


GPUF  
Global Platform  
for Urban Finance





# SPEAKERS & PARTICIPANTS



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



URBAN  
ECONOMY  
FORUM



Powered by:

Daniels  
www.daniels.com





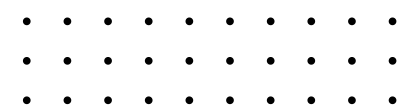
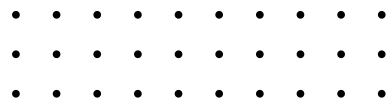
## Alireza Kashef

JTA Holdings

Kashef holds a Master Degree in Financial Management & Accounting, and has 10 Years' experience as accounting and finance expert and manager, and 40 year career in high level management level as CEO/CFO/Chair as an International Affairs/Board Member and main contract negotiator, such as:

- MehrCam Pars the No.1 Auto Part Manufacturer. in middle east to produce Car Internal and External Trims like Dashboard, Bumpers, Seats and etc.
- Parsian Bank No.1 Private bank in Iran (Vice Chairman and Deputy)
- Leasing Co (Chairman) Provide different finance facilities to clients regarding Car, Ship, House ....
- Hafez Stock Exchange Brokerage
- Investments Co's (Parsian Investment, IIC, Sabin)
- Canned Food Ind. (Foodland Iran)

In 2018, Kashef moved to Canada as a Financial Consultant (Licenced) and Country Manager (JTA Holding a Qatari Investment co.)



## Alice Xu

City of Toronto

Alice Xu is the Manager of the Connected Community/Smart City program at the City of Toronto's Technology Services Division. The Connected Community team is committed to delivering broader quality of life value as a City through the use of data, technology and processes.

Prior to joining the Connected Community/Smart City team in 2019, Alice spent over 10 years cutting her teeth in the vehicle and business licensing and regulatory world in Municipal Licensing and Standards, where she navigated regulatory challenges like ride-sharing and rooming houses. Alice studied Electrical Engineering at the University of Toronto. Upon finding her passion in public service, she completed post graduate studies in Public Administration and Governance at Ryerson University.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:

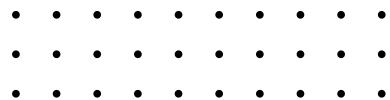




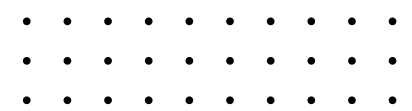
**Amir Azhari**  
BrickEye

Amir Azhari, PhD, MBA has a diverse work experience. Amir started their career in 2012 as a Research Associate at the University of Waterloo, where they worked until 2017. In 2013, they co-founded Brickeye (Formerly AOMS Technologies) and served as the Chief Commercial Officer.

Amir Azhari, PhD, MBA, pursued their education at the University of Waterloo from 2012 to 2016. During this period, they successfully obtained a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Mechanical Engineering. Additionally, they have attained certifications in Project Management I&II from Mitacs Inc.



**Andrew Apampa**  
Convergence

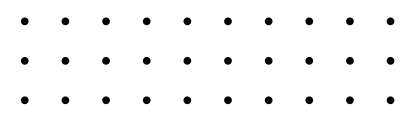


As a Manager, Andrew is responsible for developing Convergence’s data and research activities, including building out Convergence’s database of historical blended finance transactions and developing blended finance trends analysis and benchmarks. Prior to joining Convergence, Andrew worked at the African Private Equity & Venture Capital Association (AVCA) as a Research Associate. While there, Andrew inaugurated the Special Report series, publishing in-depth studies on thematic issues within African private equity, such as political and currency risk in African PE, and the rise of the private credit industry in Africa.

Prior to joining AVCA, Andrew worked at HSBC as an Emerging Markets Equity Strategist, where he published reports focused on investing in frontier equity markets. During his time at HSBC, he also worked on the European Equity Strategy team and the Global Research Marketing team. Prior to his time at HSBC, Andrew was at the University of Cambridge, where he completed his master’s thesis on protest and mobilization in Sub-Saharan Africa. He is a CFA charterholder.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park





## Andrew Martschenko

Parataxis Design & Development Corporation.

Andrew Martschenko studied architecture at the University of Waterloo.

Andrew Founded Urban Proportions - a residential design firm, specializing in the design of homes designed specifically to the needs of each individual client and the unique character of each site, designing projects in Canada, the USA and the Caribbean.

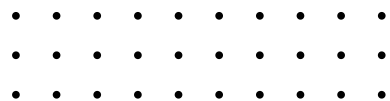
He became heavily interested in Traditional Neighbourhood Development (TND) as an alternative to predominant Conventional Suburban Development (CSD). Started attending TND design workshops, first as an observer, and then as a member of the design team.

Andrew became increasingly frustrated with the loss of quality, energy and momentum of exemplary TND projects, that, despite well intentioned owners, designers, planners, developers and builders, were failing at buildout.

He then formed Parataxis Design and Development Corporation, providing comprehensive design and management continuity and integrity for TND projects, from land ownership, to urban design, planning and approvals, to development, to architecture, to marketing, to buildout. nce again became increasingly frustrated with the lack of appropriate funding available for the development of TNDs, despite having both the access and opportunity to proceed with a few exemplary projects with immense potential.

To find a solution to his frustrations Andrew formed the Parity Fund for Sustainable Development, structured specifically to fund the design, permitting and development of TNDs. Andrew's responsibilities are project origination, and then managing the Urban Design and Architecture in each project undertaken.

He has since created and maintained a pipeline of project being pursued in Canada and USA.







## Carlos Sousa

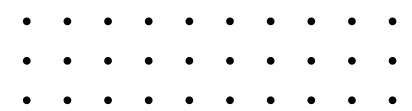
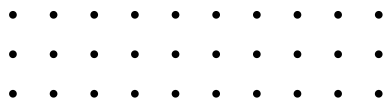
Director, FIABCI Canada

Mr. Sousa holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from York University, Toronto and has completed an Administration and Operations practicum with Siemens AG, Germany.

Mr Sousa is a Global Realtor with Sutton Group and specializes on pre-construction, land development and infra-structure projects. He is currently doing research on large projects: New Capitals of Indonesia's (Nusantara), Egypt's (NAC), as well as Saudi Arabia's: "The Line", "Neon" and the revitalization of Diriyah.

Mr. Sousa is also the Director for FIABCI Canada (2023), the International Real Estate Federation, and has the following Designations: TRC (NAR USA) and CBW (Certified Boundary Wise) (Toronto). He has participated actively as a Canadian Delegate to the FIABCI General Assembly and in the Environment /Policy Committee.

Besides his commitment to the decarbonization of buildings in major world Metropolises, Mr. Sousa produces a TV Series "PRODUCTIVE TALKS", at GOLIVE TV (Toronto) with focus on "Visionary Trends in Architecture, Urbanism and the Environment".



## David MacMillan

Public Energy Initiatives

David MacMillan is a Program Manager in the Public Energy Initiatives – New Development Team in the City of Toronto’s Environment & Energy Division. He has a Master in Environmental Studies from York University and is currently pursuing his RPP designation with the OPPI.

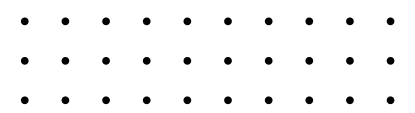
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:

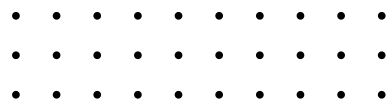




**Dennis Fotinos**  
Noventa Energy

Dennis is a performance driven thought leader and entrepreneur with notable transformational achievements in the energy sector. In 1997, he initiated and led the corporate reorganization that created Enwave Energy Corporation, which he then led to sustained profitability and growth for almost twenty years as President and CEO.

As an early adopter of ESG practices, he established the forward-thinking commercial strategy that brought Enwave’s capabilities to market through the development of innovative projects like Deep Lake Water Cooling. In 2018, he left the company to start Noventa Energy Partners as a platform for renewable energy innovation. In his early career, Dennis served as an elected member of regional and local governments in Toronto and as Director on several Boards including his current role on the Board of CreateTO



**Don Simmonds**  
CitiIQ

A Canadian executive leader and serial entrepreneur, Don is the founding CEO of CitiIQ. He is also Chairman of Blyth Group, the Chancellor of Crandall University, a member of the Canadian Telecommunications Hall of Fame, recipient of the Queen’s Jubilee medal, and a Director of Baylin Technologies (BYL: TSX).

CitiIQ has developed a global standard for city measurement. Using evidence-based methodology the CitiIQ measurement system scores 35 essential city Considerations out of 100 to be easily understood and readily comparable with other cities. CitiIQ is acquired through a cloud-based annual license making it easy to use, economical and effective.

In April 2020 as the pandemic was expanding globally, UN-Habitat commissioned the CitiIQ platform to provide daily COVID-19 data updates at a city level for 2600 global cities.

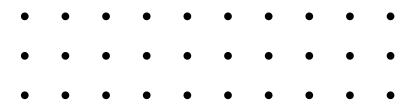
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Mayor David West

Richmond Hill

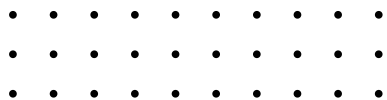
David West was re-elected Mayor in October 2022, after first being elected in January 2022. Prior to that, he was appointed to Council on December 4, 2013 to fill a vacancy and was elected in October 2014 and 2018 to continue as Councillor for Ward 4.

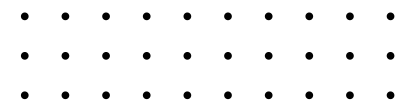
He has served the residents of Richmond Hill for years as a local business owner and has demonstrated leadership through various volunteer community positions. With the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce, he has been Chair of the Government Affairs Committee, a member of the Board of Directors and also served as Chair of the Chamber. A committed contributor to his community, David has volunteered with Yellow Brick House, Mackenzie Health and the Toronto Waldorf School.

Before becoming a Councillor, David served on numerous Richmond Hill committees and task forces, including: Yonge Street Subway Task Force; Cultural Leadership Council; Committee of Adjustment; RHCPA Marketing Committee; Community Hub Liaison Committee; Richmond Hill Winter Carnival Committee and more.

David was also an active participant in the public consultations held during the development of Richmond Hill's Official Plan and Strategic Plan (2010 to 2014).

David's current Committee participation includes Heritage Richmond Hill, Richmond Hill Heritage Centre Advisory Committee, downtown BIA and the Youth Action Committee. As a member of Regional Council he also sits on the Housing Affordability Task Force





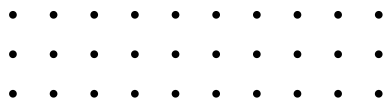
## Doug Farr

Farr Associates  
Architecture & Urban  
Design

Doug Farr is a nationally-recognized architect, urbanist, and author. He leads Chicago-based Farr Associates, a pioneering, sustainability-driven architecture and urban design firm that plans and designs lovable and aspirational buildings and places. The firm was recognized by the New York Times as "the most prominent of the city's growing cadre of ecologically sensitive architects." Doug was personally deemed one of Planetizen's 100 Most Influential Urbanists of All Time.

Doug Farr is a leader of the sustainability movement, having delivered keynote speeches in more than 37 states and at all major relevant professional conferences. He co-chaired the development of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) and has served on the boards of urban sustainability organizations including the Congress for the New Urbanism, Bioregional, EcoDistricts, and Elevate Energy. Based on his pioneering sustainable design practice, Doug authored the urban planning best-seller Sustainable Urbanism: Urban Design with Nature (2008) and Sustainable Nation: Urban Design Patterns for the Future (2018).

In 2020 Doug launched Carbon Free Chicago, a 30-year campaign for the equitable transition away from fossil fuels. In 2022 Doug Co-Curated the ENERGY REVOLUTION exhibit at the Chicago Architecture Center. At any given time the firm's current projects represent the state-of-the-practice in high-performance buildings and walkable urbanism.



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

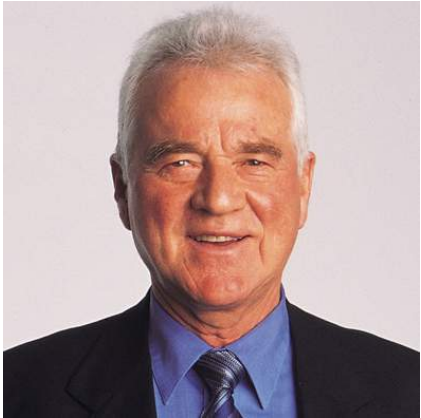
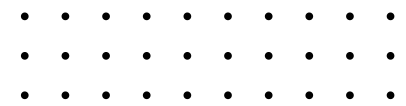
Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:







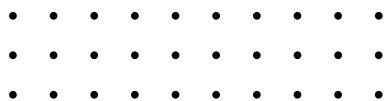
## Frank Stronach

Magna International

Frank Stronach (CM) immigrated to Canada from Austria in 1954 with nothing more than a suitcase, a few hundred dollars, and a dream to build his own business. In 1957 he started Magna International in a garage then built it into the world’s most diversified automotive parts supplier with more than 170,000 employees in 34 countries and sales of over US\$40 billion. He is currently the founder and Chairman of Stronach International, a company whose mission is to enhance society and the environment through micro-mobility transportation and organic agri-business—two of the fastest growing economic trends globally.

Mr. Stronach introduced his unique management philosophy, known as Fair Enterprise, to Magna in 1971. Fair Enterprise is based on a business Charter of Rights that predetermines the annual percentage of profits shared between employees, management, investors, and society. These rights are enshrined in a governing Corporate Constitution. Mr. Stronach notes that when Magna employees participated in profit sharing, profits went up 40% in the first year, 100% in the second year, and 200% in the third. “Employees basically became partners in the business. By knowing they get a portion of the profits, they have a great incentive to make better products for a better price,” Mr. Stronach said.

In addition to serving on corporate, government, and university boards over the years—including the corporate governance board of the NASDAQ stock exchange—Mr. Stronach is the recipient of numerous honorary doctorates and awards including being inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame, the Automotive Hall of Fame in the US, and the Order of Canada. He is the author of The Magna Man, published in 2012, which tells the story of his life and career. A passionate philanthropist, Mr. Stronach has provided assistance to a wide range of charitable and community organizations over many decades.



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Ehsan Mokhtari

Chargelab

Ehsan Mokhtari has a diverse work experience in the technology industry. Ehsan is currently serving as the CTO & Co-Founder of ChargeLab, where they have successfully raised \$30M in VC funding and built a team of 60 people, including a 35-person engineering team. At ChargeLab, they have developed event-driven micro-service-based software to connect and manage thousands of EV chargers across North America.

Prior to ChargeLab, Ehsan worked at Nielsen as a Technical Lead from 2017 to 2019. Before that, they co-founded and served as the CEO of Sentrant Security. Under their leadership, they led business strategy, execution, fundraising, operations, and sales activities, ultimately selling Sentrant Security to Nielsen in 2017. Additionally, as the CTO of Sentrant Security, they were responsible for leading the engineering team and building digital ad-fraud and click-fraud detection systems in the cloud. Ehsan also played a significant role in recruiting and engineering management, co-authoring two US patents.

Ehsan's career began at the Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity, where they worked as a PhD Candidate, Cybersecurity Researcher, and Developer from 2010 to 2013. Prior to their cybersecurity research, Ehsan worked at AmaajSystem Corporation in various roles, including Chief Software Architect, Software Architect, and Software Developer. Ehsan was involved in software development and architecture from 2003 to 2009.



## Fernando Carou

City of Toronto

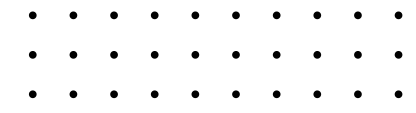
Fernando Carou is a Energy transition leader. Expert in developing, managing, and delivering renewable energy and sustainability programs both in the public sector in Canada and private sector in North America, Europe, and Asia.

At the City of Toronto, Fernando leads the energy transition, accelerating environment and climate action in through partnerships and innovation. He leads a multi-disciplinary team focused on creating, developing, and operating best-in-class programs, policies, and projects for net-zero development, electric vehicles, and renewable energy.

Leveraging of municipal soft and hard assets for climate action, including innovative business models and partnerships, such as:

- Toronto's solar map and calculator
- Renewable and low carbon district energy systems,
- Wastewater energy program to decarbonize buildings by displacing natural gas use.

Fernando holds an engineering degree from the University of Toronto, has sustainability training from the Harvard University Extension School, and completed courses in Advanced Local Government from Western University.



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



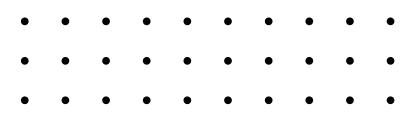
Powered by:





**Ivan Vasyliv**  
Serotiny Group

Ivan is focused on delivering and expanding sustainable development using a holistic process that harmonizes economic, environmental, social, and cultural demands of each project. He works with landowners to develop opportunities for high-performance buildings using lifecycle costing and product-oriented delivery. He also oversees end-to-end implementation of sustainable design in Serotiny’s delivery process to ensure that cost, schedule, and performance opportunities are realized at every stage, from concept to production to operation and maintenance.



**James Donovan**  
Global CEO Alliance

Mr. James Donovan is the Co-founder and CEO of global business services company, ADEC Innovations, focused on Sustainability, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Resiliency, Adaptability and Impact. He has more than 25 years of dedicated experience and expertise in global business services, sustainability, impact investment and finance.

Under his strategic guidance, ADEC Innovations has grown to encompass 4000 workers across 5 continents. Committed to promoting sustainable development and ensuring meaningful impact on a global scale, he consistently demonstrates the harmonious balance between achieving business success and upholding environmental responsibility in both his professional and personal endeavors.

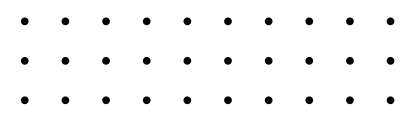
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Jason Gangaram

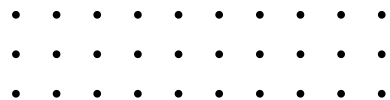
IBU



In 2022, Jason Gangaram assumed the role of inaugural Director of Recruitment, Admissions, and Partnerships at IBU.

Previously, Jason served as the Director of Admissions at CDI College, a leading independent institution in Canada. With over a decade of experience in higher education leadership, he streamlined admissions processes, developed specialized recruitment programs, and significantly boosted applicant pools and yield rates. Jason's dedication to education extends to his role as Campus Director at CDI College, where he supported student outcomes and career transitions post-graduation.

With a Bachelor of Commerce (double major) from Ryerson University and currently pursuing his MBA at the Ted Rogers School of Management, Jason is deeply committed to helping individuals leverage education to achieve their long-term goals. His passion for guiding diverse groups of people towards success aligns with IBU's mission, and he is dedicated to surpassing expectations in his role as Director.



## Jeff Ranson

Responsible  
Development,  
Northcrest



Jeff joined Northcrest Developments to lead the Responsible Development strategy for the redevelopment of the 370-acre Downsview Airport Lands in Toronto. He brings two decades of experience with sustainability leadership positions at BOMA Toronto, the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC), Sustainable Buildings Canada, and Toronto 2030 District. He frequently advises on public policy including appointments to the City of Toronto Climate Advisory Group and the Waterfront Toronto Design Review Panel (2017-2023).

He received his MDes and the President's Award for Graduate Studies at OCADU for his work on developing market transformation roadmaps for low-carbon housing in Peru and holds an HBA from the Richard Ivey School of Business at Western University.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





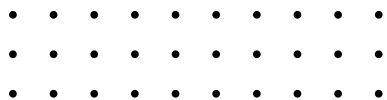


## Jennifer Hutcheon

Vancity Community Investment Bank

Jennifer is the Vice President of Vancity Community Investment Bank (VCIB), Canada’s first and only values-based bank. As VCIB’s VP, Jennifer leads the development and implementation of the bank’s growth strategy in the areas of commercial and business banking, social purpose real estate, and climate finance.

Born from Vancity’s community-first finance model, VCIB exclusively supports organizations and businesses that share a commitment to positively impact the communities where they live and work. VCIB’s specialized project financing has supported thousands of impactful projects across the country. Visit [vcib.ca](http://vcib.ca) for more information.

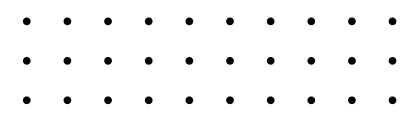


## John Safrance

EMIF Group

With over 10 years of experience in the infrastructure and finance sectors, John is a passionate and driven sustainable finance expert, who aims to create positive social and environmental impact through innovative and scalable solutions. John is currently a Founding Partner at EMIF Group, a private equity fund management and advisory company that provides project preparation funding for urban infrastructure projects in the developing world, in alignment with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

John serves as a Senior Sustainable Finance Consultant for UN-Habitat, where he designed a \$50 million feasibility fund that provides development capital to sub-national governments. Additionally, he is a member of the Executive Consultation Group for the Blue Dot Network, an initiative led by the OECD to establish global standards for quality infrastructure investment. In these capacities, he leverages his industry analysis, analytical, and corporate finance skills, as well as his extensive network of partners and stakeholders, to deliver high-quality and impactful outcomes for communities and the environment.



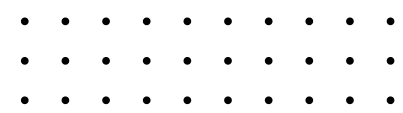
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Jennie Moore

UN-Habitat

Dr. Jennie Moore is a navigator for our times: an urban ecologist and planner who is helping cities and businesses understand their use of energy and materials and point the way to reduced carbon emissions and lighter footprints -- aligned with the Earth's limited ecological resources.

After earning a masters degree in urban planning at UBC, Moore was chosen for pioneering roles in fast-emerging fields of sustainability planning. She was the first planner in charge of Metro Vancouver's Sustainable Region Initiative and first Air Quality Planner in charge of Climate Action, and she won national awards for innovative "demand-side management" in establishing an ambitious Employee Trip Reduction Program for the regional government.

She navigated in new waters, too, when she returned to UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning to do her doctorate, adapting the ecological foot-printing method developed by her supervisor, Dr. William Rees, for use by cities and regional governments. Moore's ecoCity Footprint Tool (EFT) allows cities to map flows of energy and materials (urban metabolisms), understand their ecological footprints, and measure their consumption-based and territorial carbon emissions.

Moore's keen sense of direction and achievements are coupled with skills as a speaker and administrator. Though willing to tell the truth about climate change and hyper-consumption, her good humour and belief in the power of people to effect change is inspiring. As BCIT's first-ever Director, Institute Sustainability, Moore is taking her approach worldwide.

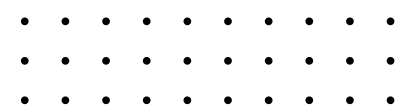
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Jose Etcheverry

York University

Jose Etcheverry, BA Hons is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University. He is Co-Chair, Sustainable Energy Initiative (SEI). His work is focused on developing practical policy solutions to climate change through collaborative efforts, particularly in strategies to develop all renewable energy sources to their full potential and in finding new ways to communicate effectively about solutions to climate change and energy problems.

As Co-Chair of SEI he is working on efforts to advance the Global Campaign for 100% Renewable Energy in key cities in Canada and internationally through the development, with the best national and international partners, the new International Renewable Energy Academy (IREA) which will provide unique opportunities based on experiential learning. His research focuses on climate change mitigation strategies, storage solutions for renewable energy, transportation and renewable energy, and sustainable energy development at York University. He is part of the Scientific Committee of the International Renewable Energy Storage Conference that is held every year in Dusseldorf, Germany. He also worked with the Work in a Warming World (W3) project on Adapting Canadian Work and Workplaces to Respond to Climate Change and with the Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium.

John serves as a Senior Sustainable Finance Consultant for UN-Habitat, where he designed a \$50 million feasibility fund that provides development capital to sub-national governments. Additionally, he is a member of the Executive Consultation Group for the Blue Dot Network, an initiative led by the OECD to establish global standards for quality infrastructure investment. In these capacities, he leverages his industry analysis, analytical, and corporate finance skills, as well as his extensive network of partners and stakeholders, to deliver high-quality and impactful outcomes for communities and the environment.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Kevin Beaudry

Fortius Canada

25+ years of national commercial real estate advisory experience.

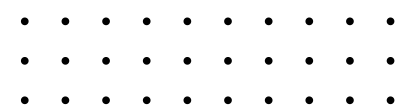
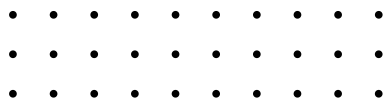
My professional services practice provides comprehensive real estate transaction & advisory support for Enterprise Real Estate Clients and Investors.

Specialties include: Multi-market acquisition & disposal services, valuation, portfolio management, consulting, and project management.

Kevin leads a passionate team of commercial real estate advisors plying real intelligence to deliver extreme service through unrivaled execution and unprecedented levels of synergy.

Our Fortius team has a deep record of success built by delivering real-time strategy and execution through advanced tools and strategies to outperform the market. We are uniquely agile and fully vested in client business strategy to deliver the highest level of enterprise value.

We are driven by inspired business engagement.



## Mackenzie Bent

Global Development,  
CitilQ

Mackenzie is the Manager of Global Development at CitilQ. Her work advances the application of CitilQ's technology across cities, while maintaining a focus on global and regional development challenges.

She holds an MSc in International Development Studies from SOAS, University of London (UK) and a BA from the University of Toronto (Canada). She has conducted and collaborated on many projects related to resource management and sustainable development including the valuation of low carbon transformations throughout the world.

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

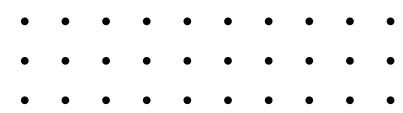
Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:







## Mark Fox

University of Toronto

Dr. Fox received his BSc in Computer Science from the University of Toronto in 1975, and his PhD in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1983. Fox received his BSc in Computer Science from the University of Toronto in 1975, and his PhD in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1983. In 1979 he was a founding member of the Robotics Institute of Carnegie Mellon University as well as the founding Director of the Intelligent Systems Laboratory within the Institute. He co-founded Carnegie Group Inc. in 1984, a software company that specialized in Artificial Intelligence-based systems for solving engineering, manufacturing, and telecommunications problems, and was its Vice-President of Engineering and President/CEO. Carnegie Mellon University appointed him Associate Professor of Computer Science and Robotics in 1987 (with tenure in 1991).

In 1988 he was the founding Director of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Decision Systems at Carnegie Mellon. In 1991, Dr. Fox returned to the University of Toronto where he was appointed the NSERC Research Chairholder in Enterprise Integration, and Professor of Industrial Engineering and Computer Science. In 1992, he was appointed Director of the Collaborative Program in Integrated Manufacturing. In 1993, Dr. Fox co-founded and was CEO Novator Systems Ltd., a pioneer in E-Retail software and services. From 1994-98 is represented Canada on the Intelligent Manufacturing Systems Global Program Scientific Committee. In 2013 he was appointed a Senior Fellow of the Global Cities Institute at the University of Toronto, and an Academic Advisor to the iCity Lab, Singapore Management University. Dr. Fox received his BSc in Computer Science from the University of Toronto in 1975, and his PhD in Computer Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1983. In 1979 he was a founding member of the Robotics Institute of Carnegie Mellon University as well as the founding Director of the Intelligent Systems Laboratory within the Institute. He co-founded Carnegie Group Inc. in 1984, a software company that specialized in Artificial Intelligence-based systems for solving engineering, manufacturing, and telecommunications problems, and was its Vice-President of Engineering and President/CEO.

Carnegie Mellon University appointed him Associate Professor of Computer Science and Robotics in 1987 (with tenure in 1991). In 1988 he was the founding Director of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Decision Systems at Carnegie Mellon. In 1991, Dr. Fox returned to the University of Toronto where he was appointed the NSERC Research Chairholder in Enterprise Integration, and Professor of Industrial Engineering and Computer Science. In 1992, he was appointed Director of the Collaborative Program in Integrated Manufacturing. In 1993, Dr. Fox co-founded and was CEO Novator Systems Ltd., a pioneer in E-Retail software and services. From 1994-98 is represented Canada on the Intelligent Manufacturing Systems Global Program Scientific Committee. In 2013 he was appointed a Senior Fellow of the Global Cities Institute at the University of Toronto, and an Academic Advisor to the iCity Lab, Singapore Management University.

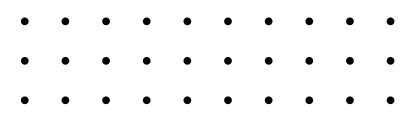
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





## Massoud Ghandchi

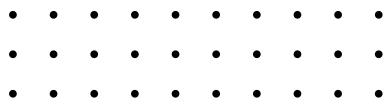
Ghandchi Foundation

Massoud Ghandchi is the founder of Ghandchi; City for all, Homes for all. He immigrated to Canada in 1992 with his family. Mr. Ghandchi has had a robust and vibrant professional career. His career began with studying Business Administration at York University and exploring various industries including: recycling, retail, international trade, petroleum industries, and equity markets. Eventually, Mr. Ghandchi found his passion: real estate.

Since 2005, he has been active in different aspects of real estate from brokering sales transactions to investing in and developing housing. To this day, Mr. Ghandchi's residential development motive is driven by his experience working with residential rentals and the harsh living conditions of low-income families and struggles they went through on a daily basis in regard to housing. From those moments he imagined how people in poverty would be living in developing countries where it is common to see a family of four forced to live in a small room cramped in inadequate conditions.

Ghandchi believes if we use knowledge, innovation and the sustainable approach to find solutions we can build cities in a correct method. He has been supporting UN agencies and international initiatives on sustainability to support people with adequate housing around the world.

Ghandchi has been working with a strong network of other investors locally and internationally who share the same vision of providing City for all, Homes for all to create a better understanding of the concept of sustainable and attainable housing for all.



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:



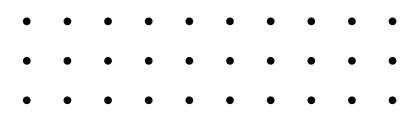
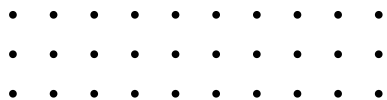


**Oren Singer**

Sparrow

Oren is the Co-Founder & CEO at Sparrow. Sparrow is a purpose-led homesharing platform and community tackling two of the largest problems of our generation - housing affordability and loneliness. With over 12 million empty bedrooms across Canada, and a growing loneliness epidemic, the time to reimagine how we use and share our housing space is now.

Their vision is a world where people live better together. They plan on bringing Sparrow to all neighborhoods in need of new housing opportunities, stronger financial stability, and greater social connection. Our world is changing fast, and the way we live will change with it.



**Paul Mugambe**

Mayor of Nakawa,  
Uganda

Paul Mugambe is my name, currently the Mayor of Nakawa and a member of LAVRAC. Hold a Bachelor degree in Business administration. Am passionate about a better climate

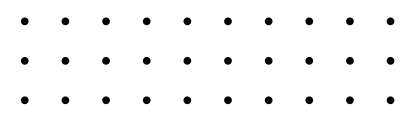
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





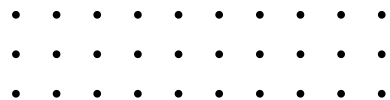
## Peter Sweeney

Green Emerald Real Estate Group

Peter recently founded Green Emerald Real Estate Group, a Canadian real estate investment group that is focused on Canadian based income producing assets that include retail shopping centres, industrial and warehouse facilities and commercial office buildings, which provide constituent investors with stable, safe, and secure returns over the long term.

Prior to establishing Green Emerald, Peter was the Chief Financial Officer of SmartCentres Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT), one of Canada's largest fully integrated REITs specializing in retail and mixed-use real estate.

Prior to joining SmartCentres REIT in 2014, Peter served as the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Allied Properties from 2010-2014. From 1996-2010, he held the position of Chief Financial Officer at DTZ Barnicke, a leading real estate brokerage and advisory firm.



## Pooya Baktash

Serotiny Group

Pooya Baktash is founder and CEO of Seortiny Group. Born in Tehran, Iran. Pooya studied Architecture at the University of Azad in Tehran, Iran, where he also worked at renowned architecture firm EBA, recipient of the Aga Khan Award.

In 2007, he came to Canada to pursue a Master's degree at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture. Pooya has a record of achievement on major civic projects including the Revitalization of Union Station and Ontario Place. He co-founded PARTISANS in 2012.

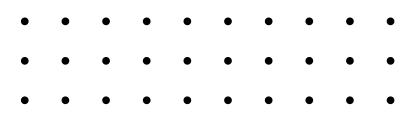
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





**Shahin Azad**

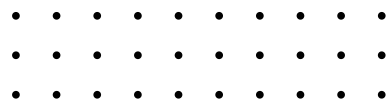
Hansen Academy

My name is Shahin Azad and I am the principal at Hansen Academy. In my 15 years of experience being in academic and educational institutions, I had the privilege of working with hundreds of international and local Canadian students, teachers, and staff. I love what I do and I enjoy spending my time with our beloved students.

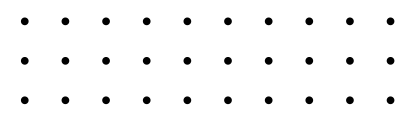
I received my Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Ryerson University in 2011 and studied for my master's degree in Environmental Engineering at Lakehead University until 2015. Then I studied the education system in Canada received my Bachelor of Education degree and became a registered teacher in Ontario and a member of the Ontario College of Teachers with an active OCT certificate in 2017. During my university years, I have been working as a GA (Graduate Assistant) and RA (Research Assistant) with many professors. My experience working with university professors has taught me about the university and professors' expectations of students and admissions to Top universities.

I have experience working and teaching in elementary and high schools for 15 years. I have been a teacher, principal, vice-principal, guidance, and student career planner for many public and private schools in Canada and around the world. My expertise is in technical subjects such as Mathematics, Science, Physics, and Computer Science. I have experience working in public schools in Toronto, York, and Thunderbay school boards. I also have experience working in an international Canadian school in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. After many years of working with students, I understand that every student is different and has a specific, perhaps unique, and customized plan to become successful. Working with international students has helped me understand the challenges that students are facing when entering a new country.

Currently, I am working as the principal at Hansen Academy and I am very excited to help many students to become successful and enter the university or career of their choice.



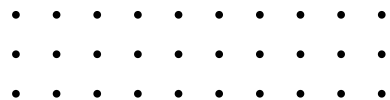




**Reza Esmaeili**  
Land Services Group

The Land Services Group is led by Reza Esmaeili, who has been involved in numerous remarkable GTA land development projects within the past 17 years, including Maffey Glen Townhomes, Harris Gate, Flo Condominiums, Prince Parque Luxury Townhomes, Maple Park Homes, Duchess of Oxford, Silver Spring, and many other projects totalling over 500 units and millions of dollars.

Reza’s real estate expertise plus his intimate familiarity with the cultural, historical, and environmental significance of the land he transacts has made him a consistent top producer.



**Zacchy Mawula  
Mberaze**  
Uganda  
Rubaga Division

ZACCHY MAWULA MBERAZE won the Rubaga Division mayoral race in 2021 in Uganda. He was previously DP but later crossed to NUP. In the past, he served as a councillor for Rubaga South on the DP Ticket.

He is the current Mayor of Lubaga Division Urban Council, one of the five Divisions under Kampala Capital City Authority that make up Kampala, the capital City of Uganda and a member in the Lake Victoria Regional Local Cooperation (LVRLAC). He is a Professional Lawyer and an Economist

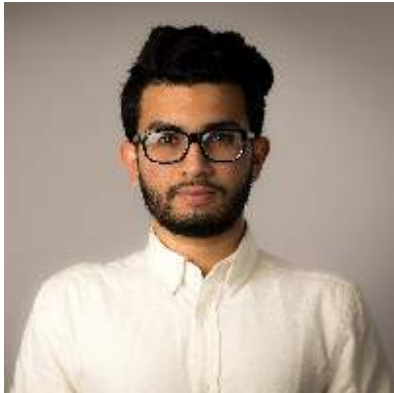
The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





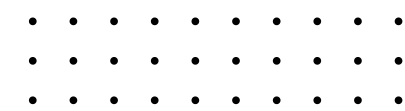
**Aarij Khan**  
Land Services Group



**Alex Ning**  
Payvand Business  
Network Inc



**Amir Ghazvini**  
Payvand Business  
Network Inc



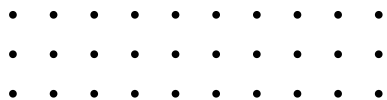
**Babak Khodaparast**  
The First Institute of  
Canadian Inventors  
(FICI)



**Babak Rahmani Fard**  
Iran Khodro



**Dennis Osaigbovo  
Osagie**



The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:





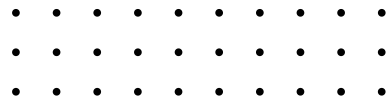
**Mack Chan**  
Hansen Academy



**Mark Gebrail**  
Mitrex: Integrated Solar  
Technology



**Nader Gharakhan**  
SHARMANARG CANADA  
INC.



**Salman Nasr**  
Samin Clean Tech  
Metals Canada



**Soheil Mehdipoor**  
Ortho Assist Tech



**Touraj Mahmoudi**  
Tank 4 Swap

The World Urban Pavilion in Regent Park

Under the collaboration of:



Powered by:

