

## **Alberta Research and Innovation Advisory Committee (ARIAC) Appoints Members**



On July 5, 2017, through an Order in Council, the Government of Alberta appointed ten new the Members of the Alberta Research and Innovation Advisory Committee (ARIAC), the advisory body that provides strategic advice and recommendations to the Government of Alberta on research opportunities, emerging technologies and policy direction to enhance innovation.

**Helena Acheson** – Ms. Acheson has 30 years of professional experience in national and regional economic and enterprise development organizations. She is formerly the Head of Division, Cultural and Creative Industries and Services for the MFG Public Innovation Agency, a state funded enterprise created by the Baden-Wurttemberg region of Germany to advance innovation. She specializes in interpreting future trends in technology as a basis for prioritising public investments in science and innovation.

**Topaz Conway** – Based in Australia, Ms. Conway is an entrepreneur, venture capitalist, not-for-profit executive, and public policy expert specializing in the commercialization of new technology in ITC, health, and medical devices.

**Dr. Kashmir Gill** – Dr. Gill recently retired from the Canadian federal government, serving for the last 11 years as Regional Director of the National Research Council-Industrial Research Assistance Program for central and northern Alberta and Northwest Territories.

**Lori Knowles** – Ms. Knowles is an expert in regulatory regimes in medicine, science and health care. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, Ms. Knowles is also the Chair of the Institute of Forest Biosciences (IFB), a U.S. and Canadian-based organization that promotes the responsible use of innovation and technology to advance the forestry sector.

**Winnie Lieu** – Ms. Lieu has 16 years working experience in the energy sector and has earned Master's degrees in Engineering from the University of Alberta and in Business Administration from Cornell University. In her current role, in Chevron's Downstream Strategy organization, she is responsible for directing biofuels commercialization activities and leads cross-functional teams on renewable feedstock strategy and alternative fuel technology development.

**Dr. Ray Muzyka** – Edmonton-based Dr. Muzyka was originally trained as a medical doctor and practiced Emergency/Family Medicine while also co-founding [BioWare](#), a videogame development studio. After BioWare was acquired by Electronic Arts, he retired from videogames and started [ThresholdImpact](#) which focuses on mentoring entrepreneurs and angel investing in information technology, new media and medical innovations.

**Dr. Erasmus Okine** – is the Vice-President (Research) at the University of Lethbridge. He is considered an international expert in the mitigation of greenhouse gases and increasing the efficiency and productivity of livestock.

**Anil Pereira** – Mr. Pereira is a high technology executive and entrepreneur based in Silicon Valley, California. He is an expert in marketing, new product development, corporate development, start-up financing and governance. He also serves Executive in Residence in the Faculty of Management at the University of Lethbridge.

**Dr. Andrew Powell** – Dr. Powell is the CEO of Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd., which advances the bio-based business agendas of clients from both the public and private sector, and advises on risk

management strategies, with a special focus on regulatory, technology, and market risks. He serves on the board of the Rice Bowl Index which measures the robustness of food security systems, and Scientific American's WorldView Report. Dr Powell's network is extensive and covers Canada, USA, Central and South America, Asia, Australasia and Europe. He resides in Singapore.

**Chris Shipley** – Ms. Shipley is an author, consultant and technology analyst with experience producing large scale events to examine current issues and future trends related to innovation. She produced DEMO Conferences and InnovateEurope, both large-scale international conferences bringing together IT investors, entrepreneurs, executives, and the media to showcase technology innovation and trends. Ms. Shipley resides in Silicon Valley.