



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

***MEDIA RELEASE***

**CITY OF STRATFORD HOSTS CONFERENCE  
FOR PRIVATE NETWORK OF ONTARIO CEO'S**

***Global CEO's Meet in Stratford to Discuss Global Reach Expansion***

*Stratford, ON – May 7, 2018 – Ontario Global 100 (OG100), a private network of top Ontario CEO's held their annual conference at various venues within the City this weekend.* The inaugural conference allowed OG100 members and invited guests to discuss trending global issues in business while showcasing some of the innovative work being done locally. The two-day event was an opportunity to convene the full membership of OG100 under the theme of "Learning from Leaders" and featured thought leaders and global CEOs including **Dominic Barton, Global Managing Partner of McKinsey & Company and Mark Barrenechea, Vice Chair, CEO and CTO of OpenText.**

**City of Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson** stated *"OG100 brings together the best and brightest CEO's and thought-leaders and I am thrilled that our City was the backdrop for their annual conference."*

**The Stratford OG100 conference featured events and networking opportunities** held at **The Bruce Hotel**, the **Stratford University of Waterloo Digital Media Campus** and the **Stratford Festival**. Events began on Friday evening with an interview of **Kik Founder and CEO, Ted Livingston** preceded by an overview of crypto-currencies and blockchain from **Ivey professor and director of Ivey's Scotiabank FinTech lab, Dr. J.P. Vergne**. The event concluded on Saturday evening with OG100 members and guests enjoying a gala dinner, a thought-provoking talk from Artistic Director, Antoni Cimolino and the performance of The Music Man.

**investStratford CEO Joani Gerber** added *"It was a great 2-day event with tremendous networking opportunity. I am positive that many great partnerships and opportunities will result from this event."*

OG100 is a mentorship network which brings together the CEOs of Ontario's most successful global firms with mid-sized, growing firms determined to increase their international sales, particularly beyond the U.S. market. The CEOs of its 15 founding members (firms like Toyota, Magna, Linamar and OpenText along with financial institutions such as EDC, BDC and a number of Canada's largest banks) are dedicating significant resources and senior management time to mentor the next generation of successful Ontario exporters. OG100 is chaired by **Tom Jenkins, Chair of OpenText Corporation**. **Sandra Pupatello, a former Minister of Economic Development** in Ontario, is Vice Chair.

**OG100 Chair Tom Jenkins** said of the event, “*Stratford was an ideal location to gather our membership, guests and top government officials to discuss what’s happening globally and how these trends will impact operations at home in Ontario. OG100 was created under the vision that Ontario firms can be bigger and better when information, knowledge and know-how are shared within a network of growth-oriented CEOs. Our inaugural event has proven there is much we can learn from each other.*”

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**About Ontario Global 100:**

OG100 is determined to help CEOs of mid-sized Ontario companies take advantage of the growth in emerging markets by providing access to business leaders who have ‘been there and done that’ and want to share their knowledge and experience; facilitating international marketing planning; advising on how to implement effective global operations; and helping companies obtain financing for increased exports and global growth.

**For Further information:**

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**About investStratford:**

*investStratford is committed to advancing the economic future of Stratford, Ontario, Canada through investment in arts, education and industry. Globally Connected | Community Driven*

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