



NL Ec Dev 26

BURIN PENINSULA SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2026



Conference Agenda

Wednesday September 23

EVENT TITLE SPONSOR:



8:00 – 8:45

Breakfast

8:45 – 9:00

A Welcome and Introduction to the Burin Peninsula

Leo Hartson – Town Manager, Town of Burin

9:00 – 9:45

**Economic Development on the Burin Peninsula:
Past, Present, and Future**

Mayor Gerry Brenton - Town of Marystown

Mayor Rita Piercey - Town of Fortune

Mayor Kevin Pittman - Town of St. Lawrence

Leo Hartson - Town Manager, Town of Burin

Linda Collier - Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Fortune

*Moderator: Trevor Bungay - Regional Manager Eastern/Central, Department of Jobs,
Growth and Rural Development*

9:45 – 10:30

**Panel Discussion: Community Economic Development
on the Burin Peninsula**

Vanessa Jackman - Executive Director, Burin Peninsula Health Care Foundation

Nora Tremblett - St. Gabriel's Hall

Immacula Drake - St. Lawrence Historical Advisory Committee

Moderator: *Stephanie Janes* – Program Manager (ASCEND)

Community Sector Council NL

10:30 – 11:00

Nutrition Break

Brought to you by:



ATLANTIC CANADA ATLANTIQUE

11:00 – 11:30

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Rural Revitalization Strategy

Dan Brake - Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry and Economic Development

Department of Jobs, Growth and Rural Development

Jennifer Meadus - Director, Strategy Development, Rural Revitalization Strategy

Department of Jobs, Growth and Rural Development

11:30 – 11:45

NL Economic Development Lightning Round

Jeff Lawlor – Office of Red Tape Reduction, Government Services

Ariyana Gomes, NLWIC PR Specialist - FSC Special Projects – Welcoming

Communities – Burin Peninsula Project

Alexandra Stefanovic-Chafe, NLWIC Faculty Researcher – Employer-led Workforce

Development Project – Baie Verte Peninsula

11:45 – 12:30

Redevelopment and Revitalization of Brownfield Sites

Dillon Beck - Master Grower, Oceanic Releaf

Courtney Hiscock - Economic Development Officer, Town of Paradise

Moderator: *Mark Whiffen* – Business Development Officer, CBDC Central

12:30 – 1:30

Lunch

1:30 – 2:15

Keynote Speaker

John Perrott - Executive Director, Economic Developers Association of Canada

2:15 – 3:00

Programs to Support Economic Development

Nancy Robbins - Development Offer, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

Abdul-Latif Alhassan - RED Facilitator, Regional Prosperity Partnership

Miranda Maddox - Manager, Regional Economic

Development, Department of Jobs, Growth and Rural Development

3:00 – 4:30

Site Visits

Oceanic Releaf

Heritage Square

4:30

Wellness Hike

Led by Lindsey Hynes

Director - Community Vitality, Innovation & Impact

Community Sector Council NL

5:00

Dinner (On Your Own)

7:30

Economic Developers Networking Social

Frontier Town (Smuggler's Cove)



Thursday September 24

8:00 – 8:45	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:00	NL Economic Development Lightning Round <i>Hannah Barrie</i> - Well-Being Communities Advisor, Community Sector Council NL <i>Katie Green</i> – Innovation Operations Coordinator, SABRI <i>Andre LeBlanc</i> - Senior Associate Social Ventures, Community Sector Council NL
9:00 – 9:30	A New Tool for Labour Market Analysis in NL <i>Jamie Ward</i> - Manager, Regional Analytics Laboratory (MUN)
9:30 – 10:15	The Lens of Productivity and its Importance in NL EcDev <i>Dr. Robert Greenwood</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Nutrition Break
10:45 – 11:30	Panel Discussion: Regional/Community Benefits Agreements <i>Greg Osmond</i> - Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Marystown <i>Ray Greene</i> - Community and Industry Lead, Port of Argentia <i>Mark Duggan</i> – Director, Public Affairs and Engagement, North Atlantic Moderator: <i>Pat Curran</i>
11:30 – 11:45	NL Economic Development Lightning Round <i>Brian Critch</i> - Economic Integration Ideas Lab <i>Melissa Tarrant</i> – Executive Director, Craft Council NL <i>Sherri Tucker</i> – Avalon Employment Inc.
11:45 – 12:30	NL's Future Economy: The Opportunities We Face <i>Dr. Tom Cooper</i> – Professor, MUN <i>Meagan Kay-Fowlow</i> – CEO, Co. Innovation Centre <i>Ken Carter</i> – Director of Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, MUN Moderator: <i>Kieran Hanley</i>
12:30	Closing Remarks
12:30	Lunch
2:00 – 5:00	Boat Tour of Great Burin Island and Surrounding Area Burin EcoTours