

## WestConnect Middle Market Growth Conference

May 14–15th, 2025 / Fairmont Waterfront Vancouver

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## 2025 Conference Program

### Wednesday, May 14

**5:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

#### President's Reception

The Vancouver Club

Event Sponsor: *Stenner Wealth Partners+ | CG Wealth Management*

Wine Sponsored by: *MNP Corporate Finance Inc.*

### Thursday, May 15

**8:00 am – 8:45 am**

#### Registration & Networking Breakfast (Foyer and Ballroom)

WestConnect Middle Market Conference Event Sponsor: *National Bank of Canada*

Breakfast Sponsored by *BMO*

Lanyards Sponsored by *Mogan Daniels Slager LLP*

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**8:45 am – 9:45 am**

#### Conference Opening and Keynote (Ballroom)

Title: *Fireside Chat with Judith Menard | National Bank's Acquisition of CWB*

Moderator: *Andrew Hennigar, Past President, ACG BC, and Partner, BLG*

Keynote Speaker: *Judith Menard, Executive Vice President, Commercial and Private Banking 1859, National Bank of Canada*

**9:45 am – 10:35 am**

#### Morning Panel A (Ballroom)

Title: *Dealmaking in the Resources Sector: Charting a Course Through Uncertainty*

Moderator: *Mackenzie Regent, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Kalos LLP*

Panelists: *Peter Christopher, Senior Vice President, ARC Financial Corp.*

*Michael Ciaramella, Director, Longbow Capital Inc.*

*Scott Alanen, VP, Investments, Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation*

## Wednesday, May 15 continued

### 10:35 am – 11:05 am

#### Coffee Break & Networking (Foyer)

*Networking Lounge Sponsored by Norton Rose Fulbright*

*Espresso Bar Sponsored by TriWest Capital Partners*

### 11:05 am – 11:50 am

#### Morning Presentation A (Ballroom)

**Title:** Macroeconomic Update

**Presenter:** Robert Kavcic, Senior Economist and Director Economics, BMO

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### 11:50 am – 12:50 pm

#### Luncheon Buffet and Networking (Foyer)

*Luncheon Sponsored by Kalos LLP*

*Bar Sponsored by Dentons*

### 12:50 pm – 1:20 pm

#### Afternoon Presentation A (Ballroom)

**Title:** Private M&A Update – Western Canada

**Presenter:** Sven Milelli, Partner, McCarthy Tétrault

Samantha Thompson, Managing Director and Partner, Deals  
– Corporate Finance, PwC Canada

*Sponsored by McCarthy Tétrault*

### 1:20 pm – 2:10 pm

#### Afternoon Panel A (Ballroom)

**Title:** M&A Practice Points – “The People Process”

**Moderator:** Susan Tomaine, Partner, Blakes

**Panelists:** Josh Pekarsky, Partner, FGS Longview

Chad Danard, Senior Managing Director, TriWest Capital Partners

Mike Burtch, Partner, Fort Capital

## Wednesday, May 15 continued

### 2:10 pm – 3:00 pm

#### Afternoon Panel B (Ballroom)

**Title:** From Vision to Value: Insights from the Deal Table  
**Moderator:** Elaine Tham, Partner, Mogan Daniels Slager LLP  
**Panelists:** Kristi Miller, Executive Partner, Krystal Growth Partners  
Tamsin Plaxton, Exited Founder, Consultant  
Sarah Bundy, Co-Founder and CEO, Athena Collective  
Jaclyn McPhadden, Exited Founder, Investor, OKGN WMAN

### 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

#### Coffee Break & Networking (Foyer)

### 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm

#### Afternoon Presentation C (Ballroom)

**Title:** High Performance: Lessons From the Ice to the Boardroom  
**Speaker:** Cheryl Bernard, CEO, Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and Olympic Silver Medalist

### 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

#### Closing Networking Event

Ballroom Foyer

*Event Sponsored by TD*

*Wine Sponsored by MEP Business Counsel*

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