

## PANEL DISCUSSION

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD WATER DAY AND WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY  
(Organized by One WATER Institute, CIFAL York and CIRC-DRWC Program)

### AGENDA

**Theme Title:** Fluid Perspectives: Navigating the Future of Water.

**Date:** 05 June 2024.

**Time:** 10.30 AM – 2.30 PM.

**Venue:** LSB 103, Life Sciences Building (LSB), York University.

**Panellists:** Panel 1 – Academic representatives, Panel 2 – Government, industrial, and not-for-profit representatives, Panel 3 – Student representatives.

**Event Overview:** The panel discussion fosters dialogue and collaboration among diverse stakeholders to address pressing water challenges and explore innovative solutions. By bringing together experts from academia, government, industry, civil society, and the student community, we seek to leverage collective expertise and insights to drive positive change in water management and conservation efforts.

Time	Event
10:30 AM	<b>Welcome Speech and Event Introduction</b> – Prof. Satinder Kaur Brar, Director, One WATER Institute & Prof. Ali Asgary, Director, CIFAL.
10:35 AM	<b>Academic Panel Discussion</b> <b>Session title:</b> Convergence in water <b>Topics covered:</b> Technological Innovations, Water Quality, Health, and Pollution Control, Indigenous Perspectives on Water.
11:50 AM	<b>Government, Industry &amp; Not-for-Profit Panel Discussion</b> <b>Session title:</b> All for Water & Water for All <b>Topics covered:</b> Case Studies and Best Practices, Water Governance and Policy, Community Engagement and Equity, Urban Water Challenges and Solutions.
1:05 PM	<b>Lunch break</b> - Venue: <u>LSB 101, Life Sciences Building (LSB), York University</u>
1:35 PM	<b>Student Panel Discussion</b> <b>Session title:</b> Education and Awareness <b>Topics covered:</b> Global Water Crisis, Understanding Water Scarcity, Canadian Water Landscape Overview.
2:35 PM	<b>Concluding Remarks</b> – Prof. Satinder Kaur Brar, Prof. Ali Asgary

## PANEL MEMBERS

### Panel 1 – Academic representatives

1. Evalyna Bogdan, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University.
2. Kathy Lynn Young, Professor, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, York University.
3. Luz Adriana Puentes Jácome, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Science, York University.
4. Pulin Mondal, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, York University.
5. Raymond Kwong, Associate Professor, Faculty of Science, York University.

### Panel 2 – Government, Industry & Not-for-Profit representatives

1. Andrew Wilson, Executive Director, Alberta WaterPortal Society.
2. Fred Peters, Founder and current Chair, Friends of Swan Lake Park.
3. Kevin Matthews, Founder and Owner, Sustainable Resource Solutions Ltd.
4. Michael Piotrowski, Vice-President, Engineering, Intuitive Water System Inc.
5. Nicola Crawhall, CEO, Canada Water Network.

### Panel 3 – Student representatives

1. Arefeh Shamskhany, Doctoral student, Civil Engineering, York University.
2. Diego Alejandro Hernández Ospina, Master's student, Civil Engineering, York University.
3. Maryam Zarean Adarmanabadi, Doctoral student, Department of Biology, York University.
4. Shiva Akhtarian, Doctoral student, Mechanical Engineering, York University

### Moderators

1. Ali Asgary, Professor, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University – **Students panel moderator.**
2. Marina Freire-Gormaly, Assistant Professor, York University – **Academic panel moderator.**
3. Syed Imran Ali, Research Fellow, Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, York University (DIGHR) - **Government, Industry & Not-for-Profit organization panel moderator.**

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

### Panel 1 - Academic representatives

#### Session title: **Convergence in water**

Highlights the need for interdisciplinary collaboration between scientists, engineers, policymakers, and local communities to tackle water-related issues effectively.

#### Topics:

1. **Technological Innovations:** Showcasing emerging technologies for water purification, desalination, and efficient water use.
2. **Water Quality, Health, and Pollution Control:** Examine water pollution sources, such as industrial discharge, agricultural runoff, and urban waste, waterborne diseases, water quality monitoring. Discussion on innovative technologies and strategies for water treatment and pollution control.
3. **Indigenous Perspectives on Water:** Exploration of Indigenous challenges, knowledge and perspectives on water stewardship and governance.

### Panel 2 – Government, Industry & Not-for-Profit representatives

#### Session title: **All for Water & Water for All**

Overview of approaches to integrated water resource management, including watershed management, groundwater recharge, and water reuse. Discussion on the importance of stakeholder engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration in water resource planning.

#### Topics:

1. **Case Studies and Best Practices:** Sharing success stories and lessons learned from various regions and communities implementing effective water management strategies.
2. **Water Governance and Policy:** Analyzing the role of Federal and Provincial government policies, regulations, and international agreements in addressing water challenges.
3. **Community Engagement and Equity:** Examination of the role of local communities in water management and conservation efforts. Discussion on promoting equity and social justice in access to clean water and sanitation services.
4. **Urban Water Challenges and Solutions:** Discuss water management issues in urban areas, such as aging infrastructure, stormwater management, and water supply sustainability. Showcase of innovative approaches and green infrastructure initiatives implemented in Canadian cities.

### Panel 3 – Student representatives

#### Session title: **Education and Awareness**

Addresses the significance of education and public awareness campaigns in promoting water conservation and responsible water usage.

#### Topics:

1. **Global Water Crisis:** Understanding the current state of water resources worldwide, including issues such as scarcity, contamination, and depletion.
2. **Understanding Water Scarcity:** Discuss the causes and consequences of water scarcity, including population growth, climate change, and unsustainable water use practices.
3. **Canadian Water Landscape Overview:** Overview of Canada's water resources, including freshwater bodies, watersheds, and ecosystems. Discussion on key challenges such as water quality degradation, habitat loss, and the impacts of climate change.