

NATURE'S DIVIDEND: HOW NATURE-BASED WELLNESS DRIVES ECONOMIC GROWTH

MODERATOR: MARTIN RYDLO

Martin brings over 25 years of marketing and business development experience in health, wellness, and community economic development. He has worked with digital agencies and major brands, founded a content division at Influence Marketing, and started multiple sports nutrition companies. Previously, he led marketing and economic development for the Town of Collingwood, creating initiatives like the Business Development Centre and Tech Hub North. Currently, he is President of Duntroon Highlands Resort Ltd. An international athlete in triathlon and adventure racing, Martin enjoys exploring South Georgian Bay with family and friends through biking, running, skiing, kayaking, sailing, trail building, and open-water swimming, gaining deep knowledge of the region's natural assets.



PANELIST: JAMIE CUTHBURT

Drawn to South Georgian Bay in the 1980s for its natural beauty and small-town charm, Jamie and his wife Val have lived, worked, and raised their family there while embracing year-round outdoor adventures like hiking, biking, paddling, and skiing. After a career in manufacturing focused on continuous improvement and product development, Jamie joined the Osler team 17 years ago to help manage facilities and ski cabin communities. His role has since evolved to lead infrastructure and development projects that reflect Osler's commitment to "winter first," expanded seasonality, and responsible environmental stewardship.



PANELIST: CHRIS KORNACKI

Chris Kornacki is the Farm Manager at the New Farm Centre and former owner of Farmacare Regenerative Health and Fitness, a holistic health and farming business. Passionate about restoring ecological balance, Chris focuses on building resilience in landscapes by mimicking natural ecosystem processes. He's fascinated by the intricate relationships between soil microbes, plants, grazing animals, hydrology, nutrition, and human health. Committed to practices that create a net positive environmental impact, he prioritizes animal welfare, improved working conditions, and community nourishment. Equally enthusiastic about sharing knowledge, Chris frequently leads farm tours and speaks at public events—when he's not moving cattle or flipping compost piles himself.



PANELIST: BRANDON HOUSTON

Brandon is a Collingwood-based entrepreneur with 20 years of experience building businesses, & working with clients in over 15 countries, from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies. He's the founder of The Collingwood Foundry, a co-working space that is home to over 250 entrepreneurs and remote workers.

With a background in technology and automation, he consults on systems, automation, and AI integration into business processes. He continues to build and support the community of entrepreneurs at The Foundry through mentorship and business consulting.

