



Canadian Supply Chain Sector Council Speakers Bureau

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Fergus Groundwater – Program Lead, Global Trade Management Centre of Innovation Export Development Canada

Fergus Groundwater is currently the Program Lead for Export Development Canada's (EDC) Global Trade Management Centre of Innovation (GTM Col) – part of the Business Solutions & Technology Group. In this role, he leads an internal consulting and R&D team that focuses on global trade and supply chain management. The GTM Col develops supply chain-focused market intelligence and relationships, and leverages its expertise to support EDC's strategic business development activities. The group also provides supply chain leadership to Canadian companies by fostering and facilitating the adoption of innovative supply chain practices and technologies.

Mr. Groundwater has authored reports on the supply chain dynamics in different Canadian markets and spoken extensively at industry conferences. He is actively engaged in promoting the development of supply chain finance in Canada. Mr. Groundwater joined EDC in 2006 from the private sector, where he was Vice-President, Procurement for a mid-market manufacturer of large industrial materials-handling systems. There he was responsible for the company's procurement activities and spearheaded foreign sourcing and supply chain enhancement/integration initiatives. Over the past 10 years, he has held senior management roles in SMEs and has been an active user of EDC solutions. Mr. Groundwater's early career is rounded out with experiences as a CFO for an information technology firm, as a commercial lender with a top-five global bank and as a consultant with a major international strategy consultancy. His diverse industry experience includes financial services, heavy manufacturing, forestry products, and information technology.

Mr. Groundwater obtained a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance & Entrepreneurship) from McGill University. He is a Certified Management Accountant.

EDC is Canada's export credit agency, offering innovative commercial solutions to help Canadian exporters and investors expand their international business. EDC's knowledge and partnerships are used by more than 8,300 Canadian companies and their global customers in up to 200 markets worldwide each year. EDC is financially self-sustaining and is a recognized leader in financial reporting, economic analysis and has been recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for eight consecutive years.