
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barrie hosting manufacturing summit for industry experts
'City making a name for itself in evolving industry'

(Barrie, ON) Manufacturing industry experts from across the province will gather at Barrie's first Manufacturing Innovation Summit on April 20, at the Performing Arts Centre in Barrie (1 Dunlop Street West). The conference is being co-hosting by the City of Barrie, Georgian College and ventureLAB.

"We're excited to host this summit to provide a platform for Ontario manufacturers to exchange ideas, collaborate and participate in a peer-to-peer learning experience," said Zvi Lifshiz, Executive Director of Invest Barrie. "Manufacturing is in the midst of a revolutionary shift due to technology and innovation, and Barrie is starting to make a name for itself in this evolving industry. We hope to build off this momentum, helping our companies maintain a competitive edge, while also showcasing to the province what's happening here in Central Ontario."

At the summit, industry leaders will speak about emerging technologies and innovations in the manufacturing industry such as advanced robotics, internet of things and big data. Representatives from Siemens, Grant Thornton, Memex Inc, Lynch Fluid Controls, ReMap and other leading organizations will take the stage to share their first-hand experience in adapting to new technologies changing the manufacturing industry.

The Summit will begin with a Keynote by Irene Sterian, Executive Director of ReMap Network. ReMap works accelerate the commercialization of electronics developed in Canada for the global market. Sterian has published over 30 industry papers, articles and industry publications and frequently speaks at industry events as a subject matter expert in electronics assembly and emerging technologies.

The summit is sponsored by the Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) and Grant Thornton and supported by Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium. For further details, please visit Manufacturing Innovation Summit, via www.investbarrie.ca/programs.

Barrie is currently home to over 490 manufacturers providing 6000 jobs. The city has been ranked to be Canada's second lowest cost city of manufacturing operations according to KPMG's 2016 Competitive Alternatives report.

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About Barrie – Barrie is an exciting, caring and progressive community that 143,000 people call home. Situated 90 km north of the Greater Toronto Area on beautiful Kempenfelt Bay, Barrie offers an excellent life style and multitude of recreational opportunities. We are committed to the growth of prosperity of Central Ontario's leading City and most dynamic waterfront community.