



VIP Speaker Bios

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty *(Canada), Premier of Ontario and Minister of Research and Innovation*

Dalton McGuinty is Ontario's 24th Premier. He was elected Premier of Ontario in October 2003, bringing to power a majority Liberal government. He was first elected in 1990, representing the people of Ottawa South, and subsequently re-elected in 1995, 1999 and 2003. He became Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party in 1996. He previously served as opposition critic for energy, colleges and universities, native affairs, and the environment.

Since becoming Premier, Mr. McGuinty has focussed his energies, and those of his government, on the ongoing growth and development of the Province of Ontario and on ensuring the well-being of its citizens. Almost 230,000 new jobs have been created since he took office and he is Ontario's first Minister of Research and Innovation, a ministry he established. The Premier's initiatives include: the creation of 150 Family Health Teams to improve access to primary care, the reduction of wait times for key medical services, the establishment of community-based Local Health Integration Networks and the launch of an expanded five-year \$30-billion infrastructure plan. Emphasis on wellness and illness prevention through the new Ministry of Health Promotion is central to the Premier's plan for a healthier Ontario.

Before entering politics, Mr. McGuinty was a lawyer in Ottawa. He has a science degree from McMaster University in Hamilton and a law degree from the University of Ottawa.