

# BELFAST INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING THE GREEN EDITION



AN TEACHT ABHAILE

4 NOVEMBER 2021  
TITANIC BELFAST  
& BELFAST CITY HALL  
[WWW.BELFASTHOMECOMING.COM](http://WWW.BELFASTHOMECOMING.COM)  
PROGRAMME

#GREENBELFAST

PLATINUM PARTNERS



Belfast  
City Council

 **Ulster Bank**



 **PHOENIX**  
NATURAL GAS

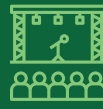


**Belfast  
Harbour**



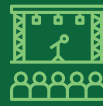
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# 2021



## Titanic Belfast

- 8am**                      **Registration**
- 8:20am**                    **Shifting to Sustainable Tourism & Events**  
**Chair:** Mike Nesbitt MLA  
**Panel:** Shona McCarthy, Director, Edinburgh Fringe  
Susan Picken, Director, Belfast Culture Night  
John McGrillen, CEO Tourism Northern Ireland  
Maša Klemenčič, Project Manager, Research, Development, Innovation  
and EU Projects, Slovenian Tourist Board
- 8:50am**                    **Sustainable Tourism & Placemaking in City Neighbourhoods**  
**Chair:** Harry Connolly, CEO Fáilte Feirste Thiar, West Belfast  
Chris Armstrong, Tourism Development Manager, EastSide Partnership, East Belfast
- 9am**                        **Official Opening of 12th annual Belfast International Homecoming**  
Chris Rendo, Deputy US Consul General in Belfast  
**Response from Diaspora:** Shaun Kelly, New York. Chair KPMG Advisory Board,  
Belfast & Vice-Chair, Ireland Funds
- 9:20am**                    **Ulster University Reborn in Belfast: A Campus with Sustainability  
at its Core**  
Prof Neil Hewitt, Director of the Centre for Sustainable Technologies,  
Head of Belfast School of Architecture & the Built Environment, Ulster University
- 9:30am**                    **Legislating for a Green Future**  
**Chair:** Amanda Ferguson, Freelance journalist with The Washington Post, BBC & RTÉ  
**Panel:** John O'Dowd MLA, Sponsor of Small Scale Green Energy Bill in NI Assembly  
Conor Fegan, Planning and Environmental Law Barrister, at Francis Taylor Building  
Chambers, London  
Anurag Deb, KRW Law, Belfast



10:00am

**Unleashing the Potential of our Ports – All at Sea or Plain Sailing?**

**Chair:** Clare Guinness, Innovation District Director, Innovation City Belfast

**Panel:** Jerry Hallisey, Head of Business Development, Shannon Foynes Port Authority, Co Limerick

Joe O'Neill, CEO Belfast Harbour

Maria Bos, CEO Plug, Norway

10:25am

**A New Era in Green Buildings**

**Chair:** Debbie Caldwell, Climate Commissioner, Belfast City Council

**Panel:** Patrick O'Gorman, Principal Bywater Properties.

Prof Aoife Houlihan Wiberg, School of Architecture, Ulster University

Grainia Long, CEO Northern Ireland Housing Executive

10:50am

**Our €1bn Gamechanging Investment in Solar and Battery Energy.**

Paul Carson, Managing Director, Strategic Power Projects

10:55am

**Creating the Green Economy of the Future**

**Chair:** Sam McCloskey, Director of Sustainability & Climate Resilience, Tetra Tech

**Panel:** Michael McKinstry, CEO Phoenix Natural Gas

Chris Train OBE, Executive and Senior Advisor, CT Energy

Fiacre O'Donnell, Director of Sustainability, Encirc, Co Fermanagh

Ruth Kimbley, Communications Director, Strategic Power Projects

11:20am

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

*Britannic Suite*

**New sustainable modes of travel to the new Ulster University Campus**

*Active Travel: The new Ulster University campus is already transforming the north inner city centre – and 15,000 students are on the way. How will this influx of students and staff affect local communities in terms of travel and parking?*

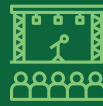
*How can sustainable travel be encouraged?*

**Chair:** Prof Duncan Morrow, Director of Community Engagement, Ulster University

**Contributors:**

Andrew Grieve, Head of Active Travel, Department for Infrastructure

Caroline Bloomfield, Director, Sustrans



### *The Bridge (6th floor)*

#### **Financial and Practical Supports to help your Business Go Green**

*Meet the potential funders who can help your business go green. To accelerate the green transition, businesses will require assistance from government to decarbonise and adopt energy-efficient strategies. What assistance is available now and what grants are likely to be available when the Department of Economy's new Energy Policy is agreed?*

**Chair:** Carol Fitzsimons MBE, Chief Executive Young Enterprise

#### **Contributors:**

Declan McGarrigle, Special EU Programmes Body

Paul Browne, Policy & Performance Division, Central Procurement Directorate, Department of Finance

Thomas Byrne, Energy Strategy Director, Department for the Economy

Mark Welsh, Energia

Ciaran Boylan, Partner Locus Management, Author Belfast City Council 'Green Economy Scoping' report

**11:50am**

#### **Are Customers and Investors Ready for Sustainable Start-ups?**

**Ulster Bank**

**Chair:** John Ferris, Regional Ecosystem Manager, Ulster Bank

**Panel:** Catherine Rooney, CMO, Obbi Solutions.

Aidan Donnelly, CEO, SmartWorkPlus. Belfast.

Gary Wickham, Founder Maggrow.com, Dublin.

Helen Keys, Founder, Source Grow.

Carla Tully, CEO & Founder, Earthrise Energy, Washington DC

**12:15pm**

#### **Dragons Den Pitching Competition**

**Dragons:** Mark Goldstone, Founding Partner Eckuity, New York

Gabi Burnside, Entrepreneur Acceleration Manager at Ulster Bank

Patricia O'Hagan, CEO Core Systems

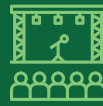
**Pitching Start-ups:** Peter Marshall, RPM, Belfast

Stephen McPeake, Civic Dollars, Belfast

Tzaritsa Asante, TZARI, Glasgow

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12:35pm

## How One US Company is Revolutionising Energy Use in Construction and Creating Green Collar jJobs in Buffalo, NY

Fireside Chat with Jon M. Williams, CEO Viridi Parente Inc, Green Machine Inc

12:50pm

## Cities of the Future – Circular, Sustainable, Clean and Green

**Chair:** Tina McKenzie, Hon Consul General of Finland in Belfast & CEO, Staffline Ireland

**Panel:** Marie Macklin, Founder Halo, Kilmarnock

Assemblyman Mike Cusick, Chairperson New York State Legislature Energy Committee, New York

Pekka Timonen, Mayor of Lahti, Finland, European Green Capital 2021

Cllr Ruairi Kelly, Convenor, Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm City Policy Committee, Glasgow City Council

1.15pm

## Lunch

2:45pm

## Homecoming Fact-Finding Visit to B9 Energy Headquarters, Larne Harbour



**Belfast  
City Hall**

6pm

## Gala Dinner and Installation of 2021 Belfast Ambassadors

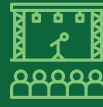
Guest Speaker: Pekka Timonen, Mayor of Lahti, Finland, EU Green Capital 2021  
City Hall, Belfast

*Proof of Covid vaccination required for entry to all events.*

*The travel carbon emissions of this conference Will be offset via the [goldstandard.org](https://www.goldstandard.org)*

# BELFAST INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING THE GREEN EDITION

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## Ambassadors 2021

### **Anurag Deb**

Paralegal at KRW LAW LLP and PhD researcher  
School of Law Queen's University Belfast

### **Cllr Ruairi Kelly**

Chair of Neighbourhoods  
Housing and Public Realm Committee  
Glasgow City Council

### **Conal Harvey**

Chair  
Titanic Belfast

### **Hugh Haughian**

Sr Director Customer Growth, MRP, Philadelphia

### **Conor Fegan**

Planning and Environmental Law Barrister  
at Francis Taylor Building Chambers, London

### **Debbie Caldwell**

Climate Commissioner  
Belfast City Council

### **Keith Farley**

Managing Director and Vice President  
Aflac NI

### **Lori Gatsi-Barnett**

Founder  
Join Her Network

### **Nell Watson**

Tech Ethicist, Researcher and Reformer

### **Shona McCarthy**

Chief Executive  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society

### **Sue Gray**

Second Permanent Secretary to Cabinet Office  
London

### **Terry Stevens**

Founder and MD  
Stevens & Associates Swansea