

# 2025 SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SUMMIT

BUFFALO, NY | NOVEMBER 19, 2025

## CALL FOR SPEAKERS

### ABOUT THE WNY SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

The Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable (SBR) is a business member network that accelerates the integration of sustainability into business operations to drive resilience and prosperity across our region. We bring together organizations from a wide range of industries to share knowledge, build relationships, and access tools that translate sustainability into tangible business success. As a place-based organization, we envision an environmentally and economically resilient WNY where businesses and communities thrive.

### ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SUMMIT

The Sustainable Business Summit is SBR's annual flagship event and the region's key platform for sustainable business leadership. Each year, the Summit brings together approximately 200 attendees, including sustainability professionals, business leaders, and community partners. Attendees represent top employers and private companies across diverse sectors, from energy and construction to health care, food systems, and finance.

This half-day event features a mix of keynote speakers, expert-led breakout sessions, and networking focused on how sustainability drives innovation and builds regional resilience. The Summit is an energizing and solutions-oriented space that helps attendees turn ideas into action.

## 2025 SUMMIT THEME:

## *THE FUTURE WE BUILD TODAY*

This year's theme challenges us to think boldly about what's possible when sustainability is both prioritized and grounded in practical action. Summit sessions are organized around these two interrelated themes:

### Envisioning What's Possible

What could WNY look like if we lead with bold climate action and systemic change? This approach focuses on transformative ideas, such as breakthrough technologies, forward-thinking policies, and reimagined systems, that illuminate what's possible for our businesses and communities.

### Building the Future Today

What can we do now to turn vision into reality? This approach emphasizes actionable strategies, real-world applications, and replicable tools that help organizations integrate sustainability into their operations and drive measurable progress today.

## EXAMPLES OF RELEVANT TOPICS



- Successful sustainability strategies by communities or companies
- Scalable clean technology, infrastructure, or design innovations
- Cross-sector collaborations for systems-level change



- Circular economy practices in traditional business models
- Climate-related regulations, disclosures, or risk assessments
- Engaging Employees & Stakeholders in Sustainability
- Incentives, funding, or technical support for sustainability projects

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## CALL FOR SPEAKERS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

*THE FUTURE WE BUILD TODAY*

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Who Can Submit:** All are welcome to submit. All submissions must include clear takeaways, practical relevance, and connection to the WNY business context
- **Session Format:** Sessions are 50 minutes in length and can be led by one or more individuals
- **Submissions may include** one or multiple speakers, and selected presenters may be paired with others to form a session
- **Audience Engagement:** Successful submissions will prioritize audience interaction and engagement
- **Content Level:** Content can be targeted at those beginning their sustainable business journey or those with advanced experience and knowledge
- **Speaker Benefit:** 2025 Summit speakers will receive member ticket pricing
- **Submission Deadline:** Submissions are due by **August 1, 2025**
- **Review Process:** Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis. You may receive follow-up questions or a request to connect before the deadline
- **Notification Date:** Applicants will be notified of the selection decision during the week of August 18

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

- **Basic Information:** Name, company, title, and email address
- **150-word bio** (please limit word count) or link to public bio or LinkedIn profile
- **Location:** Where you will be traveling from
- **Session working title** or key topic areas
- **300-word abstract outlining:**
  - The session's objectives and how it aligns with the Summit's theme
  - A clear session goal and key takeaways for the audience
  - Any planned audience interaction or participation
- **Has this topic been presented before?** If yes, please note where and to whom
- **Target audience:** Who will benefit most from this session?
- **Suggested audience knowledge level:** Beginner, intermediate, or advanced
- **Technology needs:** Any tools or tech required to deliver the session

### HOW TO SUBMIT

Please email your submission to [wnysbr@gmail.com](mailto:wnysbr@gmail.com) with the subject line "Summit Session Proposal." Attach your abstract and supporting materials as a Word doc, Google Doc, or PDF.