

**Canadian Delegation Profiles  
TOBB/CTBC CONFERENCE  
Ankara, November 15 2019**



**Hon. Gar Knutson P.C.**  
**Chair, Canada Turkey Business Council**  
**Owner, Knutson Law Professional Corporation**

The Honourable Gar Knutson P.C. is a former Member of Parliament (1993-2004) and Cabinet Minister who served as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and International Trade under two Prime Ministers (2002-2004). Mr. Knutson specializes as a lawyer and advisor assisting companies new to the Canadian market as well as advising foreign governments and Embassies in Ottawa as to the impact of domestic policies on their strategic objectives. His clients have included (from the public record) Embraer Aerospace (Brazil), the Embassies of Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, as well major corporations in the United States and Canada.

Mr. Knutson is experienced in the inner workings of government and how to advocate for government policy that will have a positive impact on a client's business. After leaving government in 2004 he worked for Borden Ladner Gervais LLP for 14 years heading the Government Relations practice in the Ottawa office.



**Asif Rana**  
General Manager  
**Adam Travel**  
<https://adamtravel.ca/vacation/>

Asif Rana is an entrepreneur who has been involved with a wide variety of industries due to his expertise. Travel, medical tourism, hospitality, real estate and expanding franchises for minority business owners are few ventures that he has partaken in. With over 30+ years of experience and a vast amount of connections on an international scale, Asif Rana has joined Link Education Consulting Inc as the Director of Middle East Operations & South Asia. He has teamed up with Koral Kanca to expand the business and reach out to thriving markets.

Asif Rana is the General Manager of Adam Tourism, a company that specializes in medical tourism, travel packages and hospitality. Through his leadership, Adam tourism has expanded to multiple locations globally. Through their expertise, Asif has been able to utilize his company for the best interests of his clients. With affordable rates and packages, Adam travel ensures that their clients are their main priority. Through Asif's international relationships, other windows of opportunities have opened up on a global scale. Medical tourism is an industry that Adam tourism has tapped into and they aim for further expansion.

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Adam travel would like to find more partnerships in Turkey because of their growing medical industry and the company's ability to bring clients to Turkish hospitals.



**Ilhan Akmanol**  
Vice President  
**Akman Construction**  
<http://akmanconstruction.com>

Ilhan Akmanol, serves as Vice President of Akman Construction. Over the past 28 years, Akman Construction has proudly built much of the foundation upon which the city of Ottawa thrives. From food supply buildings, national defence compounds, hospital foundations, light rail transit and public transit stations, Akman Construction has developed the public infrastructure that Ottawa citizens rely upon every day.

Ilhans family owned multi-purpose family owned company was initially founded by brothers Ilhan and Engin Akmanol. Eren inherited the business in 2008 and proudly operates the company today, specializing in commercial construction projects. From excavation to rock breaking, site servicing to site clearing, site development to landscaping, demolition to road building, we take care of all of commercial construction needs. The purpose of our trip to Turkey is to identify potential joint venture partners for projects in Canada and in Turkey.



**Pervez Nasim**  
Chairman & CEO  
**Ansar Financial Group, Canada**  
[www.ansarhousing.com](http://www.ansarhousing.com)  
[www.ansarfinancial.com](http://www.ansarfinancial.com)

Mr. Nasim is Chairman and founder of Islamic Co-operative Housing Corporation that was established in 1980 to provide Interest-free Home Ownership Program in Canada. Ansar Financial and Development Corporation (AFDC) is first the Sharia-compliant Interest-free Public company in North America that is listed on a Stock Exchange. Its shares are traded under the symbol "AFD" at Canadian Stock Exchange (CSE).

This Co-operative has now grown into a number of entities known as Ansar Financial Group of companies to provide various Interest-free Investments and Financing services to the community. Ansar Financial group has three major community owned Halal finance and investment programs:

The Ansar Financial Group, introduced the Home Ownership Program through Co-operatives based on Diminishing Partnership/Rent to own model. This program has been in operation in

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Canada since 1981. Private investment companies that invest in self-owned and operated businesses and joint ventures/partnerships (Participation model) now mostly in Real Estate Development projects. Some of these companies utilize tax deductible Retirement, Education and Savings Accounts funds/investments of the community.

AFDC's major investments are in land holdings and commercial/industrial real estate development projects in Canada. AFDC would like to explore partnership/joint venture possibilities from Turkish companies and individual investors.

We would like meet with people from Ministries of Housing, Finance/Financial Institutions and with representatives from the Turkish banking sector.



**Mohammed Jalaluddin**  
**President**  
**Ansar Financial Group, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA**  
<http://www.ansarfinancial.com>

Mohammed Jalaluddin received his Master of Science degree (MS) from the University of Texas at Dallas, Texas. Mr. Jalaluddin is the President of Ansar Financial Group in Toronto, Canada and has accumulated over 30 years of experience in the Islamic Financial sector.

The Ansar Financial Group manages an array of over \$100 Million interest-free assets, through various projects across Canada. A division of Ansar Financial Group is listed with the Canadian Stock Exchange (CSE) trading under the symbol "AFD".

Jalaluddin is a board member and Vice-Chairman of the Ansar Housing Co-operative based out of Toronto, Canada.

Mohammed Jalaluddin established the first Takaful (Islamic Insurance) in North America as a joint project with the Co-operators General Insurance Company of Canada in 2007 that is currently offering home, auto and commercial insurance. He played an important role in organizing the 3rd International Conference on Islamic Banking and Takaful held in Ottawa in 2007. He has also given numerous presentations on Islamic finance around the world including the Financial Services Commission of Ontario.

He is interested in meeting Turkish Investors for a Townhomes complex investment in Toronto. There is great demand and very good return on investments. He is also open to meeting Takaful operators in Turkey and share his experience in setting up and operating a Sharia Compliant Takaful in a western country like Canada.

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**Imran Abdool**

President

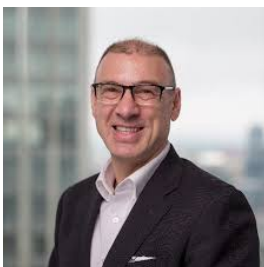
**Blue Krystal Technologies and Business Insights**

<http://bluekrystaltecsol.com/>

Imran Abdool is the President of Blue Krystal Technologies and Business Insights and Lecturer at the University of Windsor (both at Odette School of Business and the Department of Economics). He is a former Instructor of Mathematics at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth in Baltimore, Md., USA. Mr. Abdool is a past member of the Assistant Deputy Minister's Office for Financial Sector Policy for Canada, at the Department of Finance Canada where he contributed to work in Macroprudential policy.

Blue Krystal Technologies and Business Insights provides business intelligence, including: feasibility studies, economic impact statements, business planning, and transfer-price optimization. Notable consulting projects include: providing the Town of Cobourg advisory services for the creation of a \$10-million venture development corporation, speaking to a group of CEOs of the Kawartha's Manufacturers association regarding the impact of a Canada-EU FTA, and providing a feasibility study to the University of Toronto Health Network on the creation of a perioperative regional anaesthesiology center.

Mr. Abdool is hoping to meet Turkish companies interested in exporting to Canada, establishing a presence here - ranging from a wholly-owned subsidiary or a representative office, or Turkish companies who already have a presence here and would like expert-level advice on their FOREX and risk-management including transfer-pricing optimization. He is also interested in meeting officials with the Ministry of Finance or the Central Bank with a view to exploring advisory/consulting possibilities in the Turkish Financial sector around compliance with various global banking standards. For example, what are the early warning signs and systems of problems with the Turkish Financial Sector? Have these indicators and systems been back-tested? If so, how did they perform? Have they considered scenarios involving past data for the Turkish Financial Sector being structurally different than the future? What were the scenarios? Would they meet the latest iteration of Basel Banking accord?



**Ian Atacan**

Chief Financial Officer

**Blueberries Medical Corp**

<https://blueberriesmed.com/en>

Blueberries Medical Corp. is a Latin American company with all the licenses granted by the Ministries of Justice and Health of Colombia, necessary to produce naturally grown premium cannabis with low and high contents of THC and commercialize, manufacture and export derived products, with its primary operations

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ideally located in the Bogotá Savannah of central Colombia and operations currently being established in Argentina. Blueberries Medical Corp is listed in the following markets: (CSE: BBM) (OTC: BBRRF) (FRA: 10A).

Objectives of visit to Turkey: Establishing a hemp cultivation, extraction and production company in Turkey; Financing the company locally in Turkey and in Canada with the objective of public listing; Looking for local partners. Looking to visit ministries that deal with cannabis/hemp.



**Valérie Chardon**  
VP/ Head of Strategic Markets Development  
**Bombardier Transportation**  
<https://rail.bombardier.com>

Valerie Chardon has been heading the development of our Bombardier Transportation Strategic Markets since 2018. Valerie has held several executive positions for 15 years in the Railway Industry Sector, in both historical and emerging markets.

Bombardier Transportation covers the full spectrum of rail solutions, ranging from trains to sub-systems and signaling to complete turnkey transport systems, e-mobility technology and data-driven maintenance services. Combining technology and performance with empathy, we continuously break new ground in sustainable mobility by providing integrated solutions that create substantial benefits for operators, passengers and the environment. Headquartered in Berlin, Germany, Bombardier Transportation employs around 40,650 people and its products and services operate in over 60 countries.

Bombardier has been committed to Turkey since 1986. We have in-depth knowledge of the urban Turkish transportation systems since we delivered metro, light metro and tram systems to several major cities in Turkey, Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Adana, Eskisehir and Bursa. Not only has Bombardier successfully delivered the vehicles for these systems, we also supplied signalling technology that allowed increased capacity and safety of the metro and LRT systems.

We would like to take the opportunity of this mission to meet with Turkish Mainline & Urban Transportation key stakeholders, as well as investors, looking to discuss the massive investment planned for the Turkish railway development.

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**Gurpreet Dhillon**

Councillor

**City of Brampton**

<http://www.brampton.ca/en/Pages/welcome.aspx>

As chair of Brampton's Economic Development Committee, Councillor Dhillon is closely involved with promoting increased SME activity and advancing the City's strategic economic development priorities. Many Brampton businesses are already familiar with the potential to expand business ties with Turkish counterpart organizations. CEVA Logistics and DSB Logistics are two businesses with a presence in both Brampton and Istanbul. Turkey's position as an entry point for logistics companies into the Eastern European market makes it an attractive place to invest for growing firms. MAGNA International has parts manufacturing operations in Istanbul and nearby Kocaeli region.

In 2019, Council approved Brampton's FDI strategy and work plan. The FDI strategy will deliver on the goals of the Economic Development Master Plan (EDMP) and 2040 Vision, specifically to attract new investment and jobs, fill gaps in the supply chain, diversify the tax base, and promote economic growth. The program also aims to raise the City's global profile as a competitive place in which to do business, and initiate lead generation activities aimed at attracting FDI to the city. Brampton's FDI efforts focus on the City's key sectors: Health and Life Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing (including Food and Beverage Manufacturing), and Innovation and Technology

There are many reasons for Turk's to consider pursuing commercial initiatives in Brampton. For example, over 30% of Brampton's economic output is generated by the Advanced Manufacturing sector. With a highly diversified economy, a steady flow of well-educated, skilled labour and a strategic position in the country, Brampton's advanced manufacturing sector is a world-class powerhouse of production as it is the largest industry by employment, accounting for almost a quarter of Brampton's workforce.

Councillor Dhillon will be looking to make connections in the Turkish Advanced Manufacturing Sector and the Health and Life Sciences sector, as well as build connections and contacts with companies in other sectors interested in doing business in Canada.



**Badar Shamim, CIM, CFP**

Vice President/ Portfolio Manager

**Generation Portfolio Management**

<http://generationpmc.com>

While Badar has been advising Canadian investors for the last 20 years as a Certified Investment Manager (CIM), he is also known across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for his volunteer leadership role on the

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board of Brampton Board of Trade, as the Director of Int'l Trade and former Chair of the board.

Prior to joining the board of directors, Badar helped establish the chamber's Int'l Trade committee through engagement with local business community members representing all major sectors, including Manufacturing, ICT, Healthcare, Education, logistics and warehousing. He was responsible for establishing contacts with Canadian Trade Councils representing U.S, EU, China, India, Turkey, MENA, Africa and Vietnam, in partnership with Municipal, Provincial and Federal Govts and related agencies, I.e City of Brampton EDO, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, EDC, BDC, Trade commissioner services etc.

Badar represented Brampton Board of Trade on trade missions to Turkey, India as well as UAE over that period of time establishing contacts with regional chambers as well govt stakeholders in those jurisdictions during his time on the board of Brampton Board of Trade, and continues to quarterback dialogue amongst Brampton's / GTA's institutions I.e Private and publicly trade corporations, healthcare systems such as Osler Health System, and education institutions such as Sheridan, Brock U etc and Int'l stakeholder's.

Having served on the board of BBOT, Badar is currently serving as a director of Canada Turkey Business Council, as well as Director, Int'l Service of Rotary Club of Brampton, while working as Vice President and Portfolio Manager for Generation Portfolio Management Corp, a North American Asset management company.



**Nilgun Uzunhasanoglu**

Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA)

**GLOBAL ABC Services, Canada**

[www.globalabcservices.com](http://www.globalabcservices.com)

Ms Uzunhasanoglu has over 15 years of progressive experience handling public listed companies from Canada, Middle East, India, Turkey, in Financial, Mining, Hospitality, Education and other industries. Being CPA, CMA she is well experienced in Financial Reporting, Statutory Filing, dealing with Auditors, Regulators & Investors.

Prior to starting her own accounting and consultant business, she was working as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Homeland Energy Group Ltd. (TSX-HEG) part of GMR Group (NSX & BSX – GMR). Over the years she has worked as a Controller, Financial Reporting Manager and Consultant. She is a founding member of Immigrant Women in Business for Turkey, and member of other social and non-profit organizations.

GLOBAL ABC Services (“The Company”) provides accounting, business and consultant services to individuals, small-mid size corporations and business groups locally and internationally. The

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Company would like talk with investors, business owners who are interested in doing business in Canada.



**Ian Atacan**

Representative and former CFO

**Global Atomic Corporation (formerly Silvermet)**

<https://www.globalatomiccorp.com>

Global Atomic is a TSX listed company providing a unique combination of high-grade uranium development and zinc concentrate production. The Company's Uranium Division includes six exploration permits in the Republic of Niger covering an area of approximately 750 km<sup>2</sup>. Uranium mineralization has been identified on each of the permits, with the most significant discovery being the DASA deposit situated on the Adrar Emoles III concession, discovered in 2010 by Global Atomic through grassroots field exploration.

Global Atomic's Base Metals Division holds a 49% interest in Befesa Silvermet Turkey, S.L. ("BST") joint venture, which operates a processing facility located in Iskenderun, Turkey that converts Electric Arc Furnace Dust ("EAFD") into a high-grade zinc oxide concentrate which is and sold to zinc smelters around the world. The Company's joint venture partner, Befesa Zinc S.A.U. ("Befesa", listed on the Frankfurt exchange under 'BFSA'), holds a 51% interest in and is the operator of the BST joint venture. Befesa is a market leader in EAFD recycling, capturing approximately 50% of the European EAFD market with facilities located throughout Europe and Korea. BST has just finished its expansion project rebuilding its processing plant in Turkey. The expansion will double annual production of zinc from 30 million lbs to 60 million lbs and is supported by EAFD supply currently available for processing in Turkey. At a zinc price of US\$1.20 per lb, 2020 EBITDA is projected to increase from its current level of US\$14.4 million to US\$38.0 million. Global Atomic's share of distributed cash flow is projected to be US\$12.5 million (Cdn\$16.6 million).

Objectives of Visit to Turkey:

- Would like to meet relevant officials to discuss the potential of Turkey's policy vis-à-vis EAFD. EU allows imports of EAFD and transport between countries, since it is covered off as a controlled waste under the Basel Convention. For example Spain imported EAFD Korea from Turkey. If Turkey would follow this program, all the EAFD processors would have more EAFD to enable operation at full capacity. This would result in greater profits and therefore greater tax revenues to Turkey.
- Hope to meet Turkish contractors and mining firms for potential work for our mine in Niger. We are doing a pre-feasibility study over the next 9 months and will then look to move the project through feasibility and into production.
- As well as contractors and equipment suppliers, we will be looking for funding alternatives, so we would be interested in financing partners.



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- Another aspect is that Turkey is building reactors. Although the fuel supply might be included in those agreements, there may be some benefit in the government having alternative sources of uranium supply.



Mehmet Kömürcü, PhD  
Counsel, Business Law  
Gowling WLG  
<https://gowlingwlg.com/en/>

Mr. Komurcu serves as counsel in Gowling WLG's Toronto office and is a member of the firm's Energy, Mining, Infrastructure and Tech groups. Having spent the last decade in Istanbul before moving to Canada, Mehmet provided counsel and direction to a range of corporate clients there. He has delivered strategic advice in a variety of areas, including M&A, investment management, IP matters, litigation, dispute resolution, privatization and IPOs. Mehmet has worked extensively with multinational companies looking to expand into Turkey. In a previous role, he was general counsel to Turk Telekom during its privatization, international expansion and subsequent IPO, which at that time was the largest in Turkey's history. As a result, Mehmet has worked in the foreign investment environment across Turkey, Europe, and the Middle East, and possesses strong relationships with lawyers and government leaders throughout the region. He is licensed to practise law in Ontario, Istanbul and New York, and holds a doctorate in public international law from the University of Wisconsin - Madison Law School. He is the Turkey chapter chair for the New York State Bar Association in Istanbul. **Gowling WLG** is an international law firm with over 1,400 legal professionals located in offices in 18 cities worldwide.



**Koral Kanca**  
President and CEO  
**Link Education Consulting Inc.**  
<http://www.linkeducationinc.com>

Koral Kanca has been involved in the education sector for over 25 years. His experience includes, but not limited to, global business to business transactions between Canada and Foreign markets, international articulation agreements, building language centers for Turkish universities in Canada, and over seeing a team of Educational Consultants in Toronto under his own business, Link Education Consulting Inc.

Link Education Consulting Inc. allows international students and their respected families to have in depth access to over 80+ Canadian educational institutions through their partnerships. This allows their clients to make the right choices in terms of their educational needs.

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Their services include, English Language center placements, Summer/Winter Camps, High school/ Boarding school applications, Pathway Programs, College/University applications and Post-Graduate applications.

Link Education offers a personalized service that addresses each of their student's needs in accordance to their educational aspirations. Furthermore, through a thorough understanding of each program offered, Link Education guides their students in ways where they can make the most out of their opportunity in Canada.

Internships, Co-op placements, mentorship are a few crucial components found in our education partnerships that give clients the experience they need for the workplace. As Canada continues to diversify the nationalities of their international student, Link Education has seized the opportunity and has remained adaptable.

Through Link Education's international contacts and relationships, they aim to find opportunities that are mutually beneficial for their company as well as potential collaborators.



**Zahide Sezerman**

Vice President

**OZ Optics, S.A Turkey**

<https://www.ozoptics.com>

Established in Ottawa in 1985, OZ Optics Limited is a leading worldwide supplier of fiber optic products for existing and next-generation optical networks. In addition to designing and manufacturing components and test equipment for fiber optics markets, the firm offers award-winning fiber optic sensor systems for remote monitoring of oil and gas pipelines, wells, refineries, bridges, dams and other large structures, security fences and for fire detection.

The company manufactures its products in Ottawa (Canada), Izmir (Turkey), and Jiaxing (China). The firm's seven different product groups are sold globally to over 10,000 customers in over 60 countries, through an extensive network of sales representatives and distributors.

Fiber optic product lines include: Components for OE Packaging, Attenuators, Laser-to-Fiber Delivery Components, Polarization Maintaining Components, Test Equipment, Fiber Optic Sensors, High Power Components, and Fiber Optic Components for OCT Applications.

During the visit to Istanbul, the company would like to meet with representatives from Roketsan, Netas and Aselsan.

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**Steve Williams**

President, CEO & Founder

**Pasinex Resources Ltd.**

Pasinex Resources Limited is exploring and mining zinc in Turkey. Formed in 2012, the firm is a 50 / 50 Joint Venture with a Turkish mining company called Akmetal and currently operates a zinc mine in the province of Adana, Turkey, called Pinargozu.

Mr. Williams graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science (Extractive Metallurgy) from the Western Australian School of Mines (1976) and an MBA from Tulane University, USA (2001). He has worked in the mining industry since 1976 in milling operations in Australia, Canada, Philippines, Dominican Republic and Mongolia. He worked 20 years with SGS Lakefield Research in Canada and Chile in both metallurgical project management and business management, finally becoming Managing Director for SGS Canada, a company with about 1300 employees in Canada.

Steve has authored many technical papers and in 2004 he became a CIM Distinguished Lecturer and in 2008 a CIM Fellow, for his work in geometallurgy.



**Rakhmad Sobirov**

Managing Partner, Lawyer, Notary Public

**Sobirovs Law Firm, Toronto, Canada**

<https://sobirovs.com/>

Rakhmad Sobirov is a licensed lawyer in Ontario, Canada and practices business law and corporate/commercial law. Established as a small practice in 2012, our firm has grown to serve clients from several regions of the world: Europe, the Middle East and Turkey and the Americas. Sobirovs Law Firm specializes in business and investor immigration. The firm helps business owners, corporate executives, entrepreneurs, investors and their families to relocate to Canada on a temporarily or permanently basis.

Whether a business wants to establish an office in Canada, transfer its key employees and senior management, or the senior management and the owners of the business want to obtain permanent residence in Canada, Sobirovs Law Firm is ready to help in every step of the way. Sobirovs Law Firm is located in Toronto, Canada and is expanding its reach with certain trusted agents in various parts of the globe, including Turkey.

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The firm's staff are fluent in several foreign languages, including Turkish, the firm has helped thousands of qualified people come to Canada to explore, establish a business presence and relocate permanently. We are the largest Turkish-speaking team of immigration specialists in Canada and have assisted many Turkish business owners to enter the Canadian market confidently.

The firm would like to meet and talk to Turkish investors and business owners who are interested in doing business in Canada and entering the North American market.



**Feruza Djamalova**

Partner, Senior Immigration Lawyer, Notary Public

**Sobirovs Law Firm, Toronto, Canada**

<https://sobirovs.com/>

Feruza Djamalova is a licensed lawyer in Ontario, Canada and exclusively practices Canadian immigration law.

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**Engin Nigdeli**

Creative Director

**Tamgha Trade Office**

[www.tamghatrade.com](http://www.tamghatrade.com)

[info@tamghatrade.com](mailto:info@tamghatrade.com)

Engin Nigdeli owns and operates two companies in two different fields.

Tamgha has history on helping foreign investors to have easy transition to their business in

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Canada. Some aspects include setting up a new company, getting an accountant, finding a location to operate new business, purchase or lease properties, interior/ exterior design, financing, legal advice, marketing, and building brands. The firm believes that such a broad variety of services will be of use to their customers and partners.

Tamgha's focus is mostly based on the development of Turkish companies. For the last 4 years Tamgha has helped many Turkish manufacturers to get in the Canadian market and develop their business. Tamgha possesses a right to represent its Turkish companies throughout the Canadian market and NAFTA bounded countries.

Bayrons Inovation corp. another company under Engin Nigdeli has been in the construction industry for the last 16 years. Servicing low rise and high-rise buildings around the GTA and possess a team to turnkey projects for commercial fields or any other.

The firm would like to engage with Turkish entrepreneurs & manufacturers in: Health care, Automotive industries, Construction, Heating cooling, electrical, firearms and ammunition, Hunting and outdoor gear.



**Lesley Gouldie**

President and CEO

**Thornhill Medical**

<https://thornhillmedical.com>



President and CEO of Thornhill Medical is a seasoned and well-respected senior leader who brings her depth of experience in the biotech and healthcare sectors to her role as President and CEO of Thornhill Medical.

Lesley is also a C.P.A. with broad based Business Development, C- Suite and M&A experience having held senior positions in both blue chip companies and startups. Lesley looks forward to networking and understanding the needs of prospective partners to bring Thornhill's products to new markets. Thornhill Medical's innovative medical technology is changing the face of emergency medicine for first responders and the military, globally.

Thornhill Medical was founded by Dr. Joseph Fisher, a world-renowned research scientist in the field of anesthesiology and cardiovascular intensive care. Since spinning off in 2003 from the University Health Network, the largest healthcare and medical research organization in Canada and North America, our team has focused on developing compact, mobile emergency care devices for the military, emergency medicine, and critical care fields. Our products are

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invented, developed, manufactured and sold from our location in the heart of downtown Toronto. Our team is made up of 40 scientists, engineers and product development specialists.

I would like to meet with the Ministries of: Health, Defence, and Disaster Recovery/ Emergency Medicine. We have mobile medical devices that are flexible, portable and provide solutions to problems in both rural, urban, military, and emergency (disaster/conflict) environments).



**Arda Ozgun**  
Vice President  
**Wesley Clover, Canada**  
<https://www.wesleycover.com>



Arda Ozgun is a Vice President with the company and is responsible for oversight of the product and technology aspects of portfolio companies. This includes those companies that are part of the Alacrity Global technology start-up initiative that Wesley Clover created and operates.

Wesley Clover is a private, global investment management firm and holding company. Under the direction of founder, Chairman and serial technology entrepreneur Terry Matthews, the focus has been consistent for more than four decades now – found or fund successful technology companies.

Arda also provides council on new investment opportunities and holds Directorships with several investee firms.

The cornerstone of current Wesley Clover global activities is the Alacrity Ecosystem, a series of technology start-up funds which have been or are being deployed in at least 10 countries to date. Each fund takes the proven, flexible investment and management model developed by Wesley Clover and adapts it to meet local partner, government, cultural and other requirements. The hands-on model provides entrepreneurs with more than just capital, offering access to highly experienced mentorship from which to learn, an ecosystem of IP and platform technology as a basis from which to innovate, vital first-client relationships for product validation, and established channels to market for reduced time to revenue and growth.

Mature Alacrity funds have active companies in local portfolios, and newer locations are formalizing the partnerships and operations required to start first cohorts. Active locations include Canada, the U.K., Turkey, France, India and Mexico, and efforts to launch funds in Singapore, Austria, China and other locations are under consideration. In all cases, the objective is to bring local, like-minded investors, government organizations, academic

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institutions and entrepreneurs together to create successful, scalable local technology companies.

Alacrity Turkey has started 5 companies and invested in 2 existing start-ups. The fund has generated returns in the top 10% of funds with similar vintage. Wesley Clover would now like to build partnerships with additional enterprises doing business in Canada and Turkey. We also would like to talk with potential partners looking for technology investments in Turkey. These investments will generate financial returns, will promote positive community relationships through trusted partnerships, and can also help address identified technology challenges.

In Ankara, Wesley Clover is interested in meeting:

- 1- Bilim Sanayi Bakanligi: Regarding incentives for technology funds
- 2- Maliye bakanligi & SPK: Regarding pension fund investment into Turkish technology funds.



**Mike Ward**

Executive Director

**Canada Turkey Business Council**

<https://www.ctbc.ca>

Mike Ward has extensive public and private sector experience in the areas of international commerce, trade policy and political affairs. His international work includes a career in Canada's Foreign Service with senior assignments to Canadian embassies and consulates in Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Poland, Ukraine, the United States and Thailand.

Since leaving the Foreign Service in 2011 he has worked with Canadian firms and organizations in the energy, mining, ICT, health care, aerospace, defence/security and education sectors to help them identify and develop new international business potential. He has authored numerous reports and been a speaker in Canada and abroad on topics related to the changing geopolitical landscape in CE Europe, Canadian and international energy security issues, CSR, global trade, and strategies tailored to international business expansion. In addition to being Executive Director of the Canada Turkey Business Council, Mike is a consultant with the Canada Arab Business Council. He is also vice president of the NATO Association of Canada.

In terms of community service, Mike is past president and current board member of the Ottawa-based Multifaith Housing Initiative, an NGO that provides affordable rental housing to those in need and which recently started construction of a 40-room apartment complex for homeless Canadian military veterans. He is also a facilitator with The Oasis in Kanata, which offers a support network to caregivers of mentally ill family members.