























The tenth annual Golden Bridges Conference and Awards celebrates the transatlantic bridges that have been built between Massachusetts and Ireland Northwest. The purpose of this event is to promote partnerships between the two regions but also to highlight exceptional community, business, and education initiatives by bringing together leaders from Ireland Northwest and their counterparts in Boston and Massachusetts.

Thursday, November 15th 2018

Welcome Reception. Consulate General of Ireland in New England (By Invitation only)

Friday, November 16th 2018

Business and Investment Conference (Cityview Ballroom, World Trade Centre, Boston) 7:45am Registration • 8am Business Breakfast 9am-12:30pm Conference Plenary

12:30pm-2:30pm Golden Bridges Awards Luncheon (Harborview Ballroom, World Trade Centre, Boston)

Program: November 15th

Thursday, November 15th 2018

Welcome Reception by Aoife Budd, Vice Consul, Consulate General of Ireland in New England (535 Boylston Street, Boston) By Invitation only

5:30pm: Registration

6pm: Céad Míle Fáilte: Aoife Budd, Vice Consul of Ireland **Welcome to the Capital of Irish America**: Rep. Daniel J. Ryan

6:15pm: Launch of Cósta Chonamara & Árainn

Maeve Seoighe, Destination Tourism Manager, Údarás na Gaeltachta

Program: November 16th

Moderators



Sean MoynihanPrincipal,
The Moynihan Group



Laura Hamilton
Executive Vice President, US
Operations, RxCelerate

7:45am: Registration (Cityview Ballroom, World Trade Center, Boston)

8am: **Business Breakfast** (Plated breakfast)

8:20am Maintaining the Momentum: A Resurgent Northwest Ireland

Chair: Ray O'Hanlon, Editor, The Irish Echo

Panel: John Kelpie, CEO, Derry City and Strabane District Council

Seamus Neely, CEO, Donegal County Council

9am: Official Opening: Shane Cahill, Consul General of Ireland, New England

9:05am: Welcome: Mayor John Boyle, Derry City and Strabane District Council

Mayor Seamus Ó Domhnaill, Donegal County Council



Mayor John Boyle, Derry City and Strabane District Council



Mayor Seamus Ó Domhnaill, Donegal County Council

Program: November 16th

9:25am Rolling out the Red Carpet: Fulfilling the Tourism Potential of the Northwest

Chair: Nuala Friel-Wright

Panel: Billy Condon, VP Marketing, Tourism Ireland

Stephen Gillespie, Director of Business & Culture, DCSDC

Maeve Seoighe, Destination Tourism Manager, Údarás na Gaeltachta Garry Martin, Director of Economic Development, Donegal County Council

9:50am: Golden Bridges Soapbox: Irish Cultural Center of New England

10am: Driving Business Success in the Northwest

Chair: Therese Murray, President and CEO, MassIgnite

Panel: Peter Barber, Director, Allstate NI, Derry

Adrian McMorrow, Site Director, Abbott Diabetes Care, Donegal

Katie Coyle, Randox Laboratories

10:25am Golden Bridges Soapbox: Mary Sugrue, CEO Irish American Partnership

10:35am Talent First: A Northwest Solution to a Global Problem

Chair: Maureen Bennett, Partner, Jones Day

Panel: Garry Martin, Director of Economic Development, Donegal County Council

Kevin O'Connor, Head of Business, Derry City and Strabane District Council

Susan Whoriskey, Biotech Entrepreneur, MA

Ciaran Hynes, Managing Partner, Cosimo, Ventures

Eddie Friel, Director of Development & Alumni, Ulster University

11am Golden Bridges Soapbox: A hybrid future for Northern Ireland: a vision from Ulster University

Business School. Prof. Mark Durkin, Executive Dean of the Ulster University Business School

11:10am Research, Innovation and Creativity: Universities as Economic Engines

Chair: James Davitt Rooney, Rooney Associates LLC

Panel: Prof. Mark Durkin Executive Dean of the Ulster University Business School

Samantha Traynor, North West Regional College

Rob McCarron, SVP, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities Massachusetts

Dr Steve Spinelli, President, Philadelphia, University

11:35am Golden Bridges Soapbox: Coming Home: Bringing the Great Hunger Art Collection to Derry

Ryan Mahony, Executive Director, Ireland's Great Hunger Museum at Quinnipiac University, CT

Program: November 16th

11:45am Fostering Enterprise in Peripheral Regions - The Gaeltacht Experience

Chair: John Foley, Foley Law Offices, Boston **Panel:** Mark de Faoite, Údarás na Gaeltachta

Joe Connolly, West Galway Distillery - Branding the Gaeltacht

Kieran Mulhern, Tríona Design, Donegal Tweed

Michael Tunney, Head of Enterprise and Economic Development, Donegal County Councl

12:10pm Golden Bridges Soapbox: Donegal Connect 2019 Joanne Kilmartin, Donegal Diaspora Executive

12:20pm Golden Bridges Soapbox: Garvan O'Doherty: Queen's Quay Plaza, Derry

12:30pm Reimagining our Cities: Driving an Agenda of Transformation

Chair: Katie Stebbins, Vice-President of Economic Development, University of Massachusetts

Panel: Garvan O'Doherty, Garvan O'Doherty Group

June Matte, Managing Director, PFM, Boston

Brian Golden, Director, Boston Planning and Development Agency

Thomas McGee, Mayor of Lynn, MA

Eunan Quinn, Community Enterprise & Planning Services, Donegal County Council

12:55pm Conference Close

Awards Luncheon

Golden Bridges Awards Luncheon.

(The Harborview Ballroom, World Trade Center)

12:30pm Wine Reception and Registration

1pm Awards & Lunch

Host: Ray O'Hanlon, Editor, The Irish Echo

Guest Speaker: Senator Mike Rush, State Senate of Massachusetts

Honorees: Abbott Diabetes Care Donegal, Represented by Adrian McMorrow,

Site Director, Donegal

Allstate represented by Peter Barber, Director, Allstate NI

Cathal McGloin

Dave Barrett, Director, ICCNE, Recipient of the Dave Burke Award

Kevin Monahan (Irish Echo Labor Leader 2018)

Margaret Lynch, Irish American Archives Society, Cleveland, Ohio

Tim Murray, Worcester Chamber of Commerce Dr Steve Spinelli, President, Philadelphia University

Victoria Denoon

Vinny O'Malley, Executive Director, Maine Irish Heritage Cente