

For Immediate Release

Sibos 2017: Toronto Financial Services Alliance Welcomes Sibos to Toronto

TORONTO, ON - October 12, 2017 - Sibos, an international business forum for the global financial community that brings together financial leaders from around the world to network, collaborate and address issues and changes impacting the industry is returning to Toronto. Organized by SWIFT, this year's conference, which runs from October 16-19, titled "Building for the Future," will examine the industry's biggest issues including Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence (AI), the impact of geopolitical and regulatory shifts, data and identity, and Financial Technology (Fintech).

As a top ten international finance centre and one of the fastest growing Fintech hubs in the world, with an investment rate exceeding that of Silicon Valley, New York City and London in the last six years, Toronto was a natural choice to host Sibos 2017.

The Toronto Financial Services Alliance (TFSA), along with its federal and regional partners, are supporting Sibos through events and activities such as the Canadian Fintech Corner and a B2B platform.

"Toronto is a rapidly growing Fintech hub with a strong financial sector, over 140 Fintech firms and a deep talent pool, which together makes it a vibrant ecosystem where financial technology and financial services intersect," said Jennifer Reynolds, the Toronto Financial Service Alliance's new President and CEO. "The TFSA is excited to support Sibos at this year's conference through the recruiting of 32 companies for the Canadian Fintech corner along with a number of other activities."

Ontario is currently the second largest IT cluster in North America, followed by the Toronto region as the third largest. The region is also a key hub for AI, Blockchain and Cybersecurity innovation. According to a 2016 Deloitte report commissioned by the TFSA, Canada is the fourth most active country for innovation development and cybersecurity deals, behind Israel, the United States and the UK.

Fuelling these impressive rankings is a strong and unique talent pipeline of students graduating from ICT (information and communications technology) programs at Ontario's 44 colleges and universities. These programs have annually produced more than 38,000 graduates in science, engineering and math and offer students the opportunity to apply skills and knowledge in 200 co-

operative programs in the ICT field. In particular, the University of Waterloo and the University of Toronto are both highly ranked globally for their strengths in cutting-edge technology, start-ups, accelerator programs and technology talent.

As the capital of Canada's financial services industry, Toronto is the second largest financial services hub in North America and is now a global player, as ranked by the *Global Financial Centres Index* and *The Banker* magazine as seventh and eighth respectively.

"This is the perfect time for Toronto, the region's Financial Services and Fintech communities to come together to showcase our strengths and to provide a forum for interactive discussion and debate with the international community visiting Toronto for Sibos," added Reynolds.

About the TFSA:

The Toronto Financial Services Alliance is a public/private initiative whose mandate is to enhance and promote the long-term competitiveness of Toronto as a top ten global financial services centre. Its membership encompasses core financial services companies – banks, brokerages, investment fund managers, insurance companies – as well as partner sectors – accounting, law and education. Established in 2001, TFSA is a collaboration involving three levels of government, the financial services industry and academia. For more information, please check out our website at www.tfsa.ca

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