

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, November 29, 2016**

**WINDSOR-ESSEX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS**  
**HOW INNOVATION AND THE INTERNET OF THINGS IS CHANGING**  
**THE WORLD AND HOW THAT COULD IMPACT THE REGION**

Sponsored by:    

**Windsor-Essex County, Ontario, - Tuesday, November 29, 2016** –Today over 300 people attended the **Emerging Technologies in Automation Conference and Trade Show** held at Caesars Windsor and presented by the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation. In partnership with NRC-IRAP, WEtech Alliance and the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce, the participants included local company representatives and exhibitors as well as delegates from outside the region. The audience was enlightened by keynote speaker **Ian Khan, Technology Futurist, TEDx Speaker and Author** who spoke about *Unlocking the Internet of Things (IoT) to the Maximum Potential*.

**Stephen MacKenzie, CEO of the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation** said, “In Windsor-Essex there are over 300 companies across many sectors involved in the engineering, designing and production of cutting-edge industrial manufacturing systems and many are here presenting and exhibiting today. We are pleased to be able to provide our local companies with this opportunity to showcase their latest developments in this industry that we know is changing the face of manufacturing around the world.”

**Lee McGrath, Director of Business Retention and Expansion with WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation** added, “The feedback has been very positive about today’s Emerging Technologies Conference and Trade Show. We recognize that in order to keep up with the rapid pace at which innovative technology is developing and to support our region as an international hub for automation, this conference and trade show will now be an annual event for the corporation. As well, our launch today of the Connect Innovate Develop web application that is new to our buywindsor-essex.com database will help keep our companies at the forefront of innovation. This application will enable companies to present their latest developments to a global business ecosystem across all sectors and help them to grow by being a provider of innovative business solutions.”

**Ian Khan TEDx Speaker & Technology Author:** “By the year 2020 over 50 Billion Devices are predicted to be connected to the internet, performing various tasks, collecting critical information and helping serve key needs that provide value to us in many ways. This includes areas such as manufacturing, automation, agriculture, healthcare and more, making the current times one of the most exciting times for innovation and transformation. Each one of us should take it upon ourselves to understand how this massive revolution will affect us and how we can be part of using technology to shape a better today and an even more amazing tomorrow. Simplifying the complexity of technology into what all of us can understand and relate to, is going to be my goal at the automation conference. We need to realize that behind every complex technology is a simple need that drives it.”

**Attached: Bio - Ian Khan**

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