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Women in Private Markets Summit: North America

Day One: June 2, 2026

08:00
Coffee & registration

08:00
LP Breakfast Roundtable
Discuss key challenges with the shifting landscape of organizational expense obligations over breakfast with other LPs as part of an off-the-record, facilitated group conversation hosted by ILPA

09:10
Chairs opening address
Laurie Mahon, Infrastructure Advisor

09:15
Keynote Interview
Private Markets at an Inflection Point: navigating volatility and the next phase of growth

Sunaina Sinha Haldea, Global Head of Private Capital Advisory, **Raymond James**
in conversation with
Mary Kathleen (MK) Flynn, Editor-in-Chief, **PE Hub**

9:45
GP leaders' discussion: Navigating change and driving returns

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- How shifting economic and geopolitical forces are influencing investment strategies
- Market outlook: fundraising conditions, deal flow, M&A activity, and where disruption is creating opportunity
- Building trusted, transparent relationships between LPs and GPs in a changing landscape
- Leading with perspective: how culture and conviction drive performance and impact

Deborah Shire, Deputy Head, **BNP Paribas Asset Management Alts**

10:30
Inside the Portfolio: How Investors Are Responding to Evolving Market Pressures

- Comparing performance and outlook across buyout, real estate, infrastructure, and credit strategies
- Continuation funds under the microscope: are investors becoming more cynical?
- The DPI challenge: navigating slower distributions and recycling capital effectively
- Co-investments: evolving dynamics, risks, and alignment between LPs and GPs

Jackie Rantanen, Managing Director, Evergreen Portfolio Management, **Hamilton Lane**
Ashli Aslin, Partner, Senior Analyst, Infrastructure, **Albourne Partners**

11:15
Networking Break

11:45
The AI Boom: Assessing Opportunity and the Role of Private Markets
- How investors are assessing AI-driven opportunities across different sectors and stages
- The role of private markets in funding and scaling AI
- Separating substance from speculation: identifying durable business models and value chains
- How AI is reshaping investment processes, due diligence, and portfolio management

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Liz Gaffney, Managing Director and Global Head of Business Development, **InvestorFlow**
Dana Baines, Vice President, Private Institutional Client Group, **Raymond James**

12:20
Secondaries in Focus: From Niche to Necessity in Private Markets
- How interest rates, valuations, and fundraising conditions are shaping deal flow
- Market evolution: secondaries expanding across private equity, credit, and real assets
- GP-led deals: new structures, pricing shifts, and alignment challenges
- LP-led activity: liquidity needs and portfolio reshaping across asset classes

Moderator: **Sijia Cai**, Partner, **Davis Polk**
Maurissa Bell, Director, **OTPP**
Nicole Kim, Managing Director, **StepStone Group**

13:00
Lunch

Infrastructure Investor
Women in Infrastructure Forum

14:00
Opening remarks

Private Equity International
Women in Private Equity Forum

14:00
Opening remarks

PERE
Women in Real Estate Forum

14:00
Opening remarks

Private Debt Investor
Women in Private Debt Forum

14:00
Opening remarks

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14:05

The state of play in infrastructure: balancing demand against structural and policy headwinds

- Navigating policy uncertainty amid unprecedented U.S. infrastructure investment needs
- Evolving dynamics in infrastructure fundraising amid heightened competition and shifting investor priorities
- Rising demand, capital realignment, and the disruptive impact of the AI boom

Kemi-Christina Abdul, Managing Director, **BlueHaven**

14:05

The state of play in private equity in North America: Assessing momentum amid uncertainty

- How geopolitical and macro-uncertainty is reshaping the US PE landscape
- Do early signs of renewed M&A activity signal a genuine market turning point?
- How evolving fundraising dynamics are redefining competition for capital

Jennifer Fox Bensimon, Managing Director, **Partners Capital**

14:05

The state of play in real estate: Capitalising on a market moving back into gear

- The ongoing valuation reset and what it means for deployment, distress, and price discovery
- How managers are reshaping portfolio strategies to stay competitive amid high rates and geopolitical volatility
- How capital is rotating toward sectors with structural tailwinds

Elizabeth Bell, Co-Head of Real Estate, **Hamilton Lane**

14:05

The state of play in private debt: navigating momentum, competition, and structural shifts

- The rise of asset-backed finance as a core growth engine for private credit
- Capital rotation toward specialty strategies as investors seek diversification
- How managers are responding to tighter liquidity, higher scrutiny, and increasing complexity in borrower profiles

Kristina Matthews, Partner, **Falcon Investments**

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Infrastructure Investor | Private Equity International | PERE | Private Debt Investor

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14:40

Digital Infrastructure: navigating competition and capturing new value

- The evolving economics digital infrastructure and finding opportunities in aligned areas
- The shifting dynamics of digital assets and the search for opportunities in adjacent and next-generation segments
- How utility involvement is reshaping access, competition, and partnership models

Katie Langton, Managing Director, **Newmarket Capital**

14:40

Private Equity's Evolving Playbook: from fund models to deal size

- How emerging structures including deal-by-deal, continuation vehicles, and evergreen models are reshaping fund dynamics
- What differentiates mid-market and large-cap strategies today?
- How LPs evaluate both structure and scale: balancing innovation with proven platforms amid tighter capital, slower exits, and evolving return targets

Karolina Iaydjieva, Portfolio Manager, Custom Impact Portfolios, **Rally Assets**
Anna Dayn, Managing Partner, **New End**

14:40

Real Estate Reset: identifying secular growth trends driving U.S. deal flow

- Where are the most compelling risk-adjusted entry points in the U.S. as pricing stabilises and distress begins to clear?
- Which alternative and emerging sectors are attracting capital?
- How are GPs structuring deals to win: recapitalisations, JV structures, preferred equity, and creative capital stacks?

Molly Mahoney, Managing Director, **Slate Asset Management**
Jennifer Halvas, Managing Director of Investor Relations, **Cityview**

14:40

Inside the Asset-Backed Lending Boom

- Has the market reached scale or is more expansion ahead?
- How today's ABL platforms stack up against direct lending
- Structural advantages and pitfalls versus other credit products

	Alexandra Leubecher, Principal, **PACT Capital Partners** **Abigail Rayner**, Principal, **HarbourVest** **Elisabeth McKenna**, Vice President, Investor, Private Equity, **BMO Global Asset Management**	**Jennifer Jones**, Partner, **StepStone Group**	
15:15 **Energy Evolution: Investing through transition, volatility, and policy shifts** - The political forces accelerating and derailing US renewable deployment - How capital is rebalancing across hydrocarbons, clean-tech, storage, and next-gen power infrastructure - The market shifts investors are watching as incentives	**15:15** **Managing AI opportunity and risk as a PE investor** - Where is AI creating investable opportunities today? - How to assess portfolio companies exposed to AI disruption and timing exits - What GPs must build internally: AI-enabled sourcing, underwriting, diligence and value-creation capabilities	**15:15** **The rise of operational real estate: Investing in sectors with structural demand and defensible income** - Why operationally intensive sectors—self-storage, hospitality, and senior housing—are capturing investor attention - How managers are repositioning strategies to scale in these segments	**15:15** **Financing the AI Build-Out: Debt Opportunities in Digital Infrastructure** - How the AI arms race is reshaping demand for capital across digital investments - Lenders' perspectives on underwriting AI-linked infrastructure: risk, pricing, and structure

evolve and new technologies scale **Andrea Martinez Logan**, Director, **FirstPoint Equity** **Nidhi Chadda**, Founder, **Enzo Advisors** / Chief Impact Officer, **Richmond Global Sciences**	**Isabelle Freidheim**, Founder and Managing Partner, **Athena Capital** **Lisa Weaver-Lambert**, Managing Director, **Alysian**	and compete with early movers - What's driving capital flows toward operational models: demographic shifts, pricing power, and differentiated yield **Patti Unti**, Portfolio Manager, **MONTICELLOAM**	- The rise of mega-deals and implications for competition and access **Lexi Fallon**, Member, Credit Market Strategic Situations Group, **JP Morgan**

15:45
Coffee break

16:10 **How Investors Are Evaluating Infrastructure Allocations** - Have rising valuations and lower yields diluted infrastructure's "safe haven" status? - In which sectors are investors still finding genuine value?	16:10 **Rethinking Returns: How Allocators are viewing private equity** - How LPs are measuring performance in an era of delayed exits and reduced DPI - Appetite for re-ups: are GPs being held to higher	16:10 **How Allocators Are Viewing Real Estate in the current economy** - Performance without exits: income, NAV credibility, and downside protection - Re-ups under pressure: cash yield, leverage	16:10 **How investors are weighing risk & return in debt markets** - How allocators are assessing risk and discipline in a crowded market - The trade-off between yield and covenant

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- How LPs are balancing long-term resilience with short-term performance pressures **Joanna Wang**, Investment Portfolio Management, **CPPIB** **Ying Lin**, Principal, **StepStone Group**	scrutiny on realized performance and distributions? - Are allocators rethinking pacing, secondaries, or fund sizes to manage liquidity pressures? **Ya Tung**, Chief Investment Officer, **The Jefferies Family Office** **Anita Foster Washington**, Investment Associate, **Avivar Capital** **Rainy Guo**, Head of Investment Research, **Aeterna Capital** **Sarah Bennani**, Executive Director, **J.P. Morgan Global Alternative Investment Solutions**	discipline, proof of execution - Portfolio fixes: pacing, secondaries, structure shifts to manage liquidity **Inna Khidekel**, Partner, Senior Managing Director & Co-Head, Client Solutions Group, **Bridge Investment Group** **Rohit Nerurkar**, Head of U.S. Real Estate Investment, **Mercer** **Danielle Even**, Executive Director, Real Estate Investments, **GCM Grosvenor**	protection amid growing borrower pressure - Which strategies (direct lending, opportunistic, structured credit) remain most attractive? **Helena Wang**, Managing Director, **CPPIB** **Amanda Wall**, Global Credit Markets - Strategy & Partnerships, **Liberty Mutual Investments** **Aimee Johnston**, Portfolio Manager, Alternative Credits, **APG** **Jennie Rose**, Head of American Private Credit, **AustralianSuper**
16:40 **The New Shape of Infrastructure Debt in the U.S.**	16:40 **Solving the Liquidity Crunch: exits, continuations and secondaries**	16:40 **Investing in offices: opportunities in an improving market**	16:40 **The Future of Middle-Market Lending: can direct lending maintain its edge?**

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- The evolution of the infrastructure debt markets in the U.S.
- How structured solutions are enabling developers and sponsors to finance complex projects
- How investors are weighing risk in a higher-rate environment

Jessica Thompson, Co-Head of Americas Infrastructure Debt, **Allianz Global Investors**
Katherine McElroy, Managing Director, Infrastructure Debt Investment, **Infranity**

- Are GPs relying too heavily on continuation vehicles to manufacture liquidity?
- Can the secondaries market realistically absorb the backlog of aging assets?
- How firms are planning hold periods, refinancing and exit readiness in a tighter credit environment

Caroline Bliss, Principal, **LGT Capital Partners**
Boriana Karastoyanova, Managing Director, **Neuberger Berman**
Conway Bate, Global Head of Capital Formation, **Hunter Point Capital**

- How lenders are recalibrating their appetite for office exposure in the U.S.
- What borrowers are actually seeing on the ground: leasing realities, capital needs and whether repositioning strategies are working
- Where recovery is happening and which markets or asset profiles remain stuck

Gila Cohen, Partner and Chief Investment Officer, **Vanbarton Group**

- What's happening to compression, competition and pricing in the midmarket?
- Banks vs. private credit: how is this relationship continuing to evolve?
- How scale platforms are defending margins and whether smaller lenders can still win deals

Alyssa Roland, Co-Founder and Managing Director, **Brinley Partners**

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17:10
Infrastructure Secondaries: unlocking liquidity and reshaping portfolios

- Why infrastructure LP-led and GP-led secondaries are accelerating
- How pricing, risk assessment and manager selection differ from private equity
- What the next wave looks like: recapitalisations, continuation funds and the rise of specialist infra-secondary buyers

Ashley Marlow, Regional Lead North America, Business Development & Client, **Stafford Capital Partners**

17:10
Emerging Managers: navigating a shifting fundraising landscape

- How market conditions, liquidity constraints and LP consolidation are reshaping opportunities
- What today's fundraising journey looks like for first- and second-time funds
- How do emerging managers stand out and where they struggle in a crowded market

Cari Lodge, Founder and Managing Partner, **Aqualis Partners**
Elizabeth Weymouth, Founder and Managing Partner, **Grafine Partners**

17:10
Real estate in the age of AI: positioning portfolios for digital demand

- How AI is reshaping demand for land, power, and digital infrastructure
- What capabilities real estate managers need to build to compete
- Where investors see the strongest opportunities: data centres, edge sites, fibre-rich locations, and power-adjacent assets

17:10
NAV Financing and GP Liquidity: the new core of private credit?

- How NAV loans, continuation vehicles and hybrid facilities are reshaping fund-level finance
- Examining demand drivers that are driving this trend
- Where returns, structures and risks sit relative to asset-backed and corporate lending

Lindsay Powers, Senior Investment Analyst, **NEPC**
Colleen Sozzi, Director, Investments, **17Capital**

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	Madeline Rodriguez, Head of Capital Formation, **MPowered Capital** **Lisseth Lin**, Vice President Private Equity, **Unigestion**		

17:45
Cocktail Reception

Day Two: June 3, 2026

08:00
Morning Think Tanks — Invitation Only
Start your day with a focused, closed-door discussion among women leaders. These morning think tanks provide a confidential forum to speak openly about the issues shaping your office and asset class. Benchmark ideas, share best practices, and collaborate on solutions to common challenges before the day's main sessions begin.

09:15
Private Markets Morning Masterclasses
After the morning think tanks, dive into focused masterclasses designed for candid discussion and practical learning. Join a small group of peers to exchange ideas, tackle challenges, and sharpen your approach - whether it's on leadership, negotiation, or navigating the next wave of private markets.

- Decoding Value Creation in the Next Cycle
- Secondaries, Continuations and Liquidity Solutions
- AI and Analytics in Deal Sourcing and Portfolio Management
- The 2025 Allocation Playbook: Where Private Markets Capital is Moving Next

10:15
AI in Action Pitches
A fast-paced, interactive session where GPs present real, deployable AI use cases from their portfolios to a panel of LPs and the room. See how allocators judge which AI applications genuinely create value, which are still hype, and where they spot execution risk. Audience reactions and challenges are part of the discussion.
Room 1 – Real Assets

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Elizabeth Bell, Co-Head of Real Estate, **Hamilton Lane**
Dr. Saurabh Mishra, CEO, **Taiyo.AI**
Emilia Sherifova, Founder & CEO, **LegionX**

Room 2 – Private Equity & Debt
Amy Nelson, Managing Partner, **Rethink Education**
Stephanie Song, Head of Client Success, **F2**

11:00
Coffee & networking

11:30
Keynote Interview: From Investor to Leader - Building a Private Markets Career that Lasts
As former Head of Investments at Allianz, Deborah Zurkow held one of the most senior roles in alternatives. In this fireside chat, she reflects on the decisions that shaped her career: stepping up before she felt fully ready, backing herself at key moments, and knowing when it was time to move on. A conversation about judgement, timing and what it really takes to build a career that endures.
Deborah Zurkow, Previously Global Head of Investments, **Allianz Global Investors**

11:50
Democratization in Practice: What Investors Want and What's Holding Them Back

- What investors are actually looking for in private market exposure
- Product design and distribution: are current models fit for purpose?
- Building trust through transparency, education, and realistic expectations
- How RIAs and platforms can drive adoption and confidence in the next phase of democratization

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Sinead Colton Grant, Chief Investment Officer, **BNY Wealth**
Kirsten Olsen, Managing Director, Head of Private Capital, Private Wealth Management, **William Blair**

12:30
Are we in a golden age of Private Debt? Is the market in danger of overheating?

- Market dynamics: how high rates and tighter bank lending are fuelling private debt's growth
- Risks beneath the surface: competition, leverage, and the potential for market correction
- Where investors are finding the best risk-adjusted returns
- Can private debt remain the market's most resilient performer?

Tina Suo, Head of Alternative Credit, **Office of the New York City Comptroller**
Emily Bannister, Head of Private Credit, **Wellington Management**

13:10
Seated Networking Lunches — Connect by Asset Class
join fellow investors, fund managers & advisors for a seated lunch designed to spark meaningful connections within your asset class. Tables will be arranged to bring together peers from across the market in a relaxed, conversational setting.

- Infrastructure
- Private Equity
- Private Debt
- Real Estate

14:30
Oxford Style Debate: This house believes that opening 401k plans to private equity will expose US retirement savers to

unacceptable levels of risk (Off-the-record)
This is an Oxford-style debate in which we'll have two speakers for the proposition and two speakers against, with audience voting on their views at the start and at the end of the session. This session will be an off-the-record discussion.

For the motion: **Lenore Palladino**, Associate Professor of Economics & Public Policy, **University of Massachusetts Amherst**

15:00
Final Reflections: From Insight to Action - An Interactive Closing Conversation

- Bringing together the most powerful ideas and stories from the summit
- Lessons in resilience, collaboration, and purpose-driven leadership
- How to sustain the momentum beyond the event
- Encouraging audience voices — shared takeaways, personal goals, and collective next steps

Cecilie Søndergaard Nielsen, Founder and Managing Director, **CN8 leadership confidence**

16:00
Close of conference