



THE SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC POLICY

Student Profiles

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY
2015/2016

Practical | Global | Focused



Master of Public Policy Class of 2016

The goal of the Master of Public Policy program is to train policy professionals who will find leadership positions in government and the private sector.

Joseph Abinader

**Hometown:**

Edmonton, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., University of Alberta: Physiology

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Research project with the University of Alberta Department of Physiology, 'Characterizing Extracellular Fluid Volume in Hypertension Treatment', 2013 - April 2014
- Research Assistant, University of Alberta Hospital Renal Clinic, 2014
- Patient Advisor, Grey Nun's and Misericordia Hospital, 2014- present
- Volunteer, Villa Caritas Psychiatric Hospital, 2011 - 2015
- Volunteer, University of Alberta's Campus Food Bank, 2012 - 2014

Direction of Capstone:

Investigating the impact that basic income would have on Alberta's health care (costs/benefits) or comparing provincial immunization policy.

Zak Biggs

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., Carleton University: Political Science, Minor in French
- Advanced Citation in Global Leadership, University of Alberta

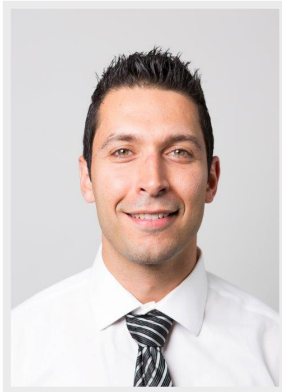
Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Project Assistant, Bavarian Research Alliance in Munich, Germany as part of the Government of Alberta's 'Alberta Abroad' program, 2013-2015
- Project Administrator, Propipe Group Ltd. (2013)
- Volunteer Parliamentary Assistant to MP Linda Duncan (2013)

Direction of Capstone

Carbon pricing and the commercialization of renewable energy technology.

Belal Chemali

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Ed., the University of Western Ontario
- B.Sc., UWO: Honours Spec. Biology, Major Psychology

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Developmental Occupational Hygienist, the City of Calgary, Summer 2014
- Research Assistant, Faculty of Medicine UofC, 2013-2014
- Health, Safety & Environmental Advisor, Bradken Canada, 2011-2013
- Administrative & Research Assistant, Psychology, UWO, 2009-2011
- High School Teacher, London/Dorchester, Ontario, 2010-2011
- Research Assistant, UWO Biology/Robarts Research Ins., 2008-2009
- Community Outreach Coordinator and President, Youth Aiding Youth, 2006-2010

Direction of Capstone:

Health, Safety & Environmental Policy.

MacNeil Cornez

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- Bachelor of Nursing, Mount Royal University
- Emergency Medical Responder, SAIT

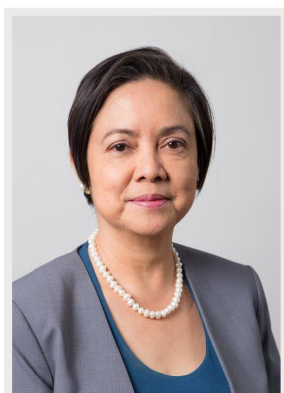
Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Site Manager, Foothills Medical Centre, Alberta Health Services, 2015
- Registered Nurse, Surgical Oncology, Alberta Health Services 2013-2015
- President, Student Society, Mount Royal Faculty of Nursing, 2011-2013
- Project Amigo, Juarez Mexico, 2010

Direction of Capstone:

Improving health care by advocating for upstream intervention, innovation and fiscal responsibility. Investigating long term care supply and its impact on emergency department wait times.

Glecy Cuenco

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., University of the Philippines: Social Work (Cum Laude)
- Diploma in Social Development, Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University, Rotary Foundation Scholar

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Program Coordinator, Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary, 2013-2014
- Glyn Berry Funding Representative to the Philippines, AGRITEAM Canada, 2012
- Program Coordinator, Alberta Network of Immigrant Women, 2010-2011
- Executive Director, Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) Cares Foundation, Inc., 2003-2010

Direction of Capstone

A survey of best practices in political participation by immigrants in major cities of Southern Alberta and implications on policy-making at the provincial level.

Marko Daljevic

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: Economics
- B.Com., University of Calgary: Energy Management

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Regulatory Analyst, Regulatory Research and Analysis Department, TransCanada Pipelines, 2012 - Present
- Economic Analyst, Energy Department, Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources, 2009

Direction of Capstone:

Regulatory economic policy and the development of energy infrastructure in Canada.

Hélène M.E de Beer

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- Masters in Language and Literature: Free University of Amsterdam

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Alberta Energy Regulator, 2012-present
- EnCana, 2009-2012
- Woodside Energy, 2006-2009
- EnCana, 2000-2006
- Shell International Exploration & Production, 1990-2000
- Three years of volunteer work with the Public Petroleum Data Management Association

Direction of Capstone

Closure and liability challenges and opportunities for energy development in Alberta.

Brendan Frank

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., Queen's University: Environmental Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Local candidate in the 2015 federal election.
- Environmental Coordinator at ATCO Energy Solutions, 2012-present
- Kingston Sustainability Center, 2010-2012

Direction of Capstone:

The social and environmental costs and risks of resource extraction.

Amanda Giang

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., University of Ottawa: Political Science and administration (honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Junior Policy Analyst, Consultation and Accommodation, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, 2015
- Co-op Ambassador, University of Ottawa Co-operative Education Program, 2014-2015
- Junior Social Policy Analyst, Assembly of First Nations Secretariat, 2014
- Junior Evaluation Officer, Audit and Evaluation, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, 2013
- Assistant Policy Analyst, Specific Claims, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, 2013

Direction of Capstone

Health care funding and intergovernmental relations in Canada.

Lee Harding

**Hometown:**

Regina, SK

Educational Background:

- B.A., Briercrest College: Theology
- B.A., University of Regina: Journalism

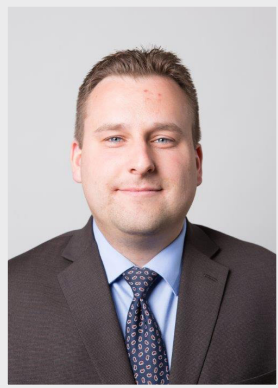
Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Representative Agent and Saskatchewan Director for Canadian Taxpayers Federation
- Assistant for Member of Parliament, David Anderson (SK)
- TV reporter for CBC, CTV, Global TV, and 100 Huntley Street

Direction of Capstone:

How government spending must adjust as baby boomers retire.

Erik Henningsmoen

**Hometown:**

Airdrie, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A.Tech, SAIT: Geographic Information Systems
- B.A., University of Calgary: International Relations

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- International projects advisor, University of Calgary, 2014 - 2015
- Research intern, Frontier Centre for Public Policy, 2014 - 2015
- Research assistant, Early Childhood Mapping Project, University of Alberta, 2013 - 2014
- Research intern, Center for Technology and National Security Policy, National Defense University, 2012
- Junior GIS technician, Calgary Fire Department, 2012

Direction of Capstone

Corporate political risk in developing and emerging economies.

Alexa Hutchinson

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A. (Honours), University of Western Ontario: Political Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Policy Analyst, Public Safety Canada, 2007-present
- English Language Teaching Assistant, Academie de Lyon, Lyon, France, 2005-2006

Direction of Capstone:

Labour Policy - Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program.

Nicolaas Jansen

**Hometown:**

Dawson City, Yukon

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: Economics
- B.A., University of Calgary: Political Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- URICA Energy Management Corporation (2014 – 2015) – Regulatory Consultant
- The Office of the Utilities Consumer Advocate (2011 – 2014) – Regulatory Analyst
- The Market Surveillance Administrator (2011) – Summer Student

Direction of Capstone

Policy and regulation of the Alberta Interconnected Electric System.

Brianne Jenner

**Hometown:**

Oakville, ON

Educational Background:

- B.A., Cornell University: Major in Government and Minor in Law and Society

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Olympic Athlete (National Women's Hockey Team), Motivational Speaker - current
- Right to Play Representative

Direction of Capstone

Investigating the effects of hosting a major international event (e.g. Olympics) on a city or region's social capital.

Siân Jones

**Hometown:**

Exeter, United Kingdom

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., London School of Economics: History and International Relations,
- Master of Economic and Social Studies, University of Wales Aberystwyth: Security Studies
- PhD, The Open University: Social Research Methods

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Research Social Planner, City of Calgary, April 2014 – current
- Freelance Researcher/Consultant, including work for Justice Studio and Calgary Homeless Foundation
- Researcher, Cordis Bright Consulting (public sector consultancy), London, UK, 2009 – 2013
- Researcher, Demos (independent think tank), London, U.K., 2007-2008

Direction of Capstone:

Comparative analysis of immigration policy in Canada and the United Kingdom, with a focus on responses to perceived security threats.

Taylor Kawaguchi

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

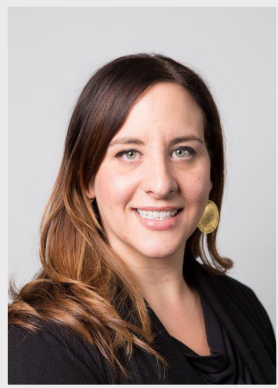
Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: History and Political Science

Direction of Capstone

Post-conflict resolution and Canadian foreign policy.

Kaleigh Kuchinski

**Hometown:**

Airdrie, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., Dalhousie University: Social Anthropology and Spanish (Honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Managing Director, Effective English Institute, Colombia 2012 - 2015
- Research Assistant to the Energy and International Advisor, Government of Alberta 2011 - 2012
- Program Coordinator, Base Camp International Centers, Nicaragua 2011

Direction of Capstone:

Examine the formulation and implementation of the world's first Human Rights Impact Assessment in a free trade agreement (Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement).

Blake Leew

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., Queen's University: Engineering
- Joint MBA/MPP Candidate, University of Calgary

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Project Manager at Eighth Avenue Place, EllisDon Construction, 2008-present
- Project Engineer on various geotechnical construction projects in Canada, Australia, the Caribbean and the South Pacific, Golder Associates Ltd, 2003-2008

Direction of Capstone

Interests include innovation policy, sustainability, aboriginal affairs, middle eastern politics, and the interface between public policy and business.

Rachel Lorimer

**Hometown:**

Fort McMurray, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., University of Calgary: Environmental Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Conservation Educator, Town of Okotoks
- Regulatory Compliance Advisor, Suncor Energy

Direction of Capstone:

An analysis of the effects of water-related policy and incentive programs on the reduction of wasteful water consumption.

Beth MacDonald

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of British Columbia, Okanagan: Political Science, minor in Sociology

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Member of the UBC Okanagan Political Science Association
- 2014 UBCO Canadian Cancer Society Volunteer
- 2008 to 2013 Volunteer with Calgary Catholic Schools

Direction of Capstone

The environmental and social policy dimensions of sustainable resource development in Canada.

Paige MacPherson

**Hometown:**

Pickering, ON

Educational Background:

- B.A., Dalhousie University: Political Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Elections Reporter, Weekend Anchor and Video journalist, Sun News Network/Vancouver 24 Hours, 2012-2015
- Communications Officer and AIMS on Campus (student outreach program) Founder, Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, 2011-2012
- Intern, Manning Centre for Building Democracy, 2009
- Alberta Director, Canadian Taxpayers Federation

Direction of Capstone:

I would like to pursue a capstone exploring the impact of education choice policies on student performance outcomes in Calgary and Edmonton schools, perhaps with a particular focus on disadvantaged students.

Sean McCann

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Env.Sc., University of Waterloo: Environment and Business Co-operative Program (Honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Chair of the Sustainability Standing Committee, University of Calgary, Graduate Students' Association, 2015-2016
- Undergraduate Honours Research Project, MSCI ESG Research, "Integrating ESG Factors into Equity Investment, 2014-2015
- Research Published at the World Social Marketing Conference, Sydney Australia, "Barriers and Benefits of Sustainable Consumer Behaviour for Jack Johnson's All At Once Campaign", 2014-2015
- Health, Safety and Sustainability Analyst, IAMGOLD Corporation, 2014
- Teaching Assistant, School of Environment, Enterprise and Development, University of Waterloo, 2013

Direction of Capstone

Energy and Environmental Policy.

Natali McGladrey

**Hometown:**

Vancouver, BC

Educational Background:

- B.A., Queen's University: English Language and Literature (Honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Communications Coordinator, Corporate Communications, TELUS, 2014
- Volunteer Student Consultant, Freshsight Solutions, Queen's University, 2013-2014
- Volunteer, Soul Food, Queen's University 2014
- Summer Research Assistant, Provincial Health Services Authority (BC), 2008-2011

Direction of Capstone:

Community and stakeholder relations in economic development projects, affordable housing and homelessness as well as aboriginal affairs.

Curtis McKinney

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., Concordia University: Political Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Cost Control Analyst, Shell, 2012-present
- Board of Governors Calgary-Varsity Progressive Conservative Association, Volunteer Coordinator, 2011-present
- Big Brothers Big Sisters, In-School program, 2013-2014
- VP Sustainability, Loyola International College, 2010-2011

Direction of Capstone

A comparative analysis between First Nation groups in Alberta and British Columbia, identifying differences in how each negotiates land use with private firms as a result of policy set by the respective provincial governments.

Karin Moen

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: English (with distinction)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Calgary Emergency Management Agency, Technical Writer, 2014
- Communications Assistant, Strategic Communications Section, Calgary Police Service

Direction of Capstone:

Analyzing health and social issues affecting First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities.

Vladislav Oujegov

**Hometown:**

Riga, Latvia / Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: International Relations

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Commercial Specialist, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2014 - Present

Direction of Capstone

Foreign policy decision-making.

Harvey Rabin

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- Medical Degree, University of Western Ontario
- Internal Medicine, FRCPC
- Special Competency in Adult Infectious Diseases

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary
- Formerly the Head, Division of Infectious Disease, Department of Medicine
- Formerly the Director, Adult Infectious Diseases Subspecialty Training Program, Department of Medicine
- Currently the Director of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Clinic, University of Calgary Medical Clinic of the Foothills Medical Center

Direction of Capstone:

The current policy structure of disability insurance benefits for Canadians, in comparison to other countries, and identifying differences in disability requirements for persons with hidden versus overt disabilities.

David Sandoz

**Hometown:**

Neuchatel, Switzerland

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: International Relations,
- Study Abroad Program, University of Seoul, Korea
- Information Technology Diploma, Switzerland

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Project Analyst, Alberta Human Services, Government of Alberta, 2013-Present
- Research Assistant, Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, 2010-14
- Multicultural Counselor, Immigrant Services Calgary, 2013-14
- Volunteer, Operations Manager, International Translation Foundation, 2013-14

Direction of Capstone

What lessons from the evolution of international trade can we learn and apply to the social and economic development of the community?

Gillian Smith

**Hometown:**

Canmore, AB

Educational Background:

- B.Phil., University of New Brunswick: Interdisciplinary Leadership Studies, minor in Political Science

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Employment Counselor - YMCA Work Services, Fredericton 2014
- Research Assistant - Poverty Reduction Seminars, New Brunswick 2014
- Research Assistant and Contract Testing Position for First Nations Literacy Rates Study - Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy 2014
- Research and Community Development Project for the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation (Volunteer) 2013/2014
- Leadership Workshop Developer and Facilitator - Sherubtse Student Leadership Program, Bhutan (Volunteer) 2013
- Research and Consulting on Foreign Affairs Topic - Mr. Dominic LeBlanc; Liberal MP 2013

Direction of Capstone:

Aboriginal Affairs, specifically First Nations land claim policy.

Marina Spahlinger

**Hometown:**

Stuttgart, Germany

Educational Background:

- M.A., Heriot-Watt University: Languages - Interpreting and Translating German, French and English (Honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Regulatory Coordinator, Genalta Power, 2014 - present
- Senior Analyst and Project Lead, Stakeholder Information Management, Communica Public Affairs, 2011 - 2014

Direction of Capstone

International energy markets, policies and regulations.

Ashley Stedman

**Hometown:**

Winnipeg, MB

Educational Background:

- B.A., Carleton University: Double Major in Political Science and Human Rights (honours)

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Public Policy and Entrepreneurship Intern, Canadian Federation of Independent Business, 2015
- Research Student, Macdonald Laurier Institute, 2015
- Symposium Coordinator, Manning Centre for Building Democracy, 2014-2015
- Youth Outreach Intern, Manning Centre for Building Democracy, 2014
- Intern, Office of the Minister of Western Economic Diversification, Government of Canada, 2013
- Parliamentary Assistant, Office of Joyce Bateman, Parliament of Canada, 2012-2013

Direction of Capstone:

Analyzing the relationship between online activism and public support for pipeline projects in Canada.

Joy Steppacher

**Hometown:**

Milton, ON

Educational Background:

- B.Sc., University of Toronto
- B.A., Ryerson University: Criminal Justice

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Ryerson Student Union's Centre for Women and Trans People, June 2013 - May 2014
- RSU Sexual Assault Support Line, June 2013 - May 2014
- Ryerson University Academic Integrity Council September 2013 - August 2014
- Ryerson University Research and Ethics Board, July 2013 - May 2015

Direction of Capstone

Examine the efficacy of a Prison Needle and Syringe Program in Canada, as a cost-effective public health policy approach to current policies in place for the costly growing population in Canadian prisons.

Mason Stott

**Hometown:**

Saskatoon, SK

Educational Background:

- B.Comm., University of Saskatchewan

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada, Oilseeds Division – Assistant Research Agronomist 2014
- Junior Accountant, Federated Co-op 2013
- Investor Relations, University of Saskatchewan Space Design Team 2011-2012

Direction of Capstone:

Workplace productivity increases, resulting from enhanced mental health policy.

Gianfranco Terrazzano

**Hometown:**

Toronto, ON

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: Economics

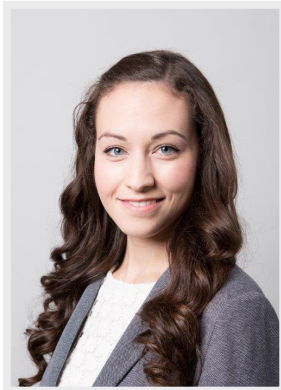
Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Mount Royal University, Department of Policy Studies, Research Assistant, 2015
- Absolute Baseball Academy Performance Program – Coach and Fitness Instructor, 2013- present

Direction of Capstone

Canadian Foreign Policy.

Nicole Williams

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of Calgary: Sociology and Communications

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- Board Member of The SHARP Foundation's Board of Directors, 2014-present
- Chair of The SHARP Foundation's Communications Committee, 2015
- Registry Agent at Alberta Motor Association, 2014-2015

Direction of Capstone:

Poverty reduction in Canada, focusing on domestic violence shelters and the provision of affordable housing.

Erinn Wilson

**Hometown:**

Kelowna, BC

Educational Background:

- B.A., University of British Columbia - Okanagan: Political Science, minor in Canadian History

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- UBC Okanagan Collegium Assistant, 2013-2014
- Jan Taylor Swim Program, Swim Instructor 2010-2013

Direction of Capstone

A focus on community involvement and stakeholder relations in Canada's energy sector and its implications on future infrastructure development.

Yang Yang

**Hometown:**

Kunming, China

Educational Background:

- B.A., Institute of International Relations: International Relations

Work/Volunteer Experience:

- 1st lieutenant, staff officer, program supervisor, National Defense Ministry, Beijing, 2006-2010
- Captain, program supervisor and coordinator, National Defense Ministry, Beijing, 2010-2011
- Staff sergeant, policy advisor, international policing coordinator, Narcotics Control Bureau of Yunnan Provincial Police Department, Kunming, 2011-2014
- Lieutenant, liaison officer, Narcotics Control Bureau of Yunnan Provincial Police Department, 2015-present

Direction of Capstone:

Policies regarding international cooperation and foreign affairs.





**For a professional introduction to one or more of
our Master of Public Policy students please contact:**

Geoff Webb

Advisor, Student Careers/MPP

The School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

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