Ron Kneebone

Program Director, Social Policy Research

Dr. Kneebone is a Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Calgary. From 2006 to 2009 he served as Director of the University of Calgary's *Institute for Advanced Policy Research*. He joined the School of Public Policy upon its formation in 2009 to serve as the Scientific Director of the Social Policy and Health research division. For three years (2014-17) he also served as Director of the Master of Public Policy (MPP) program. A good deal of his research has focused on issues related to government finances. For the past 10+ years his attention has been directed toward understanding the causes and consequences of homelessness and poverty. His understanding of these issues has been aided by working closely with experts having backgrounds in anthropology, social work, sociology, and health. By working with others to view issues of homelessness and poverty through these many lenses he hopes to have contributed to the development of public policies that influence these problems in positive and effective ways.

Professor Kneebone is a co-author on two well-known undergraduate textbooks: A text on economic principles (with Gregory Mankiw, Ken McKenzie) and an intermediate level text on macroeconomic theory (with Andrew Abel and Ben Bernanke). For joint work with Ken McKenzie, he was awarded the Doug Purvis Memorial Prize for the best published work in Canadian public policy in 2000. From 2016 to 2019, he volunteered to serve on the Board of Directors for the Calgary Homeless Foundation where he was chair of the Public Policy Committee.

Professor Kneebone has occasionally been asked to provide advice to governments concerning their budgets. In 2002 he served on the Technical Advisory Group for the Alberta Financial Management Commission. In 2017 he was one of 5 members on the Yukon Financial Advisory Panel. He is currently a member of the federal government's Homelessness Data Advisory Committee. Since 2017 he has co-hosted, with the Calgary Homeless Foundation, a national conference on the use of data in the study of homelessness.

Research/interests:

1) The economics of homelessness
2) The economics of poverty
3) Provincial and territorial government finances