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Rita received her MA in Economics from the University of Calgary in 2011. She has been a research associate with The School of Public Policy since 2012. Her research focuses on the macroeconomic and socio-economic impacts of public finances, particularly the fiscal policy choices of provincial governments. Her current research analyzes the finances of provincial governments and issues relating to poverty and homelessness. Her research has been covered by national media outlets and has been published in Canadian Public Policy, The School of Public Policy Research Paper series, and by the Fraser Institute. She is the co-author of Social Policy Trends, a publication released monthly by The School, which considers a variety of issues impacting social policy choices.