The School of Public Policy

The School of Public Policy provides a practical, global and focused perspective on public policy analysis and practice in three focus areas:

- Social & Economic Policy
- Energy & Environmental Policy
- International Policy

Our mission is to get public policy right in this country. This means strengthening Canada’s public service and bridging the gap between business, government and academia. These are the keys to unleashing Canada’s full economic potential – domestically and internationally.

We fulfill our mission by:

BUILDING CAPACITY IN GOVERNMENT:
The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program trains students to hit the ground running, offering them practical, hands-on and intensive experience in policy development and analysis.

PRODUCING INFLUENTIAL RESEARCH:
Our research papers and communiqués offer in-depth analysis on the most pertinent issues of the day and create specific recommendations for policy makers.

IMPROVING PUBLIC POLICY DISCOURSE:
We bridge the gap between business, government and academia by creating forums for communication and best-practice-sharing.

PROVIDING A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE:
The School of Public Policy has launched an initiative with two other highly regarded foreign policy institutes to create a critical mass of foreign policy expertise.
Welcome

This report summarizes the activities of The School of Public Policy for its financial year from April 2011 to March 2012. This was an exciting year for The School and it is important that we acknowledge and share some of its highlights with you.

Above all, I am tremendously proud of the growth we achieved in all aspects of The School’s operations. We expanded our Executive Programs and Outreach by offering a total of 49 events, including roundtables, symposia, student lectures and community talks. Our research efforts produced 27 new papers, all examining relevant policy issues and offering specific recommendations to government. Even the number of people involved with The School grew, now totaling an impressive 45 individual faculty, fellows, advisory council members or staff.

In September 2011, The School opened its classroom doors for the very first time as we welcomed the inaugural class of the Master of Public Policy (MPP). Having taught these students for several months and seen their engagement at many of our events, I am confident they will soon be making great contributions to public policy in Canada and abroad.

This past year was also exciting for public policy in general. The 2011 federal election and the Keystone XL Pipeline proceedings were just two major occurrences the Canadian public watched with great interest. The School’s academics shared expertise and commentary on these issues with the media on a daily basis. As such our media presence grew to be the largest in the country amongst policy schools.

We could not have achieved these successes without the contributions of a large number of people. A great deal of credit is owed to our donors for their commitment to The School’s mission of bettering public policy in Canada. The efforts of our staff, faculty, fellows and advisory council have also been integral to our development. Finally, I must thank the thousands of individuals who have shown their support for The School by attending our events, following our research or engaging us directly.

Sincerely,

Jack Mintz
Director and Palmer Chair in Public Policy
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News

• In its 2011 financial year, The School hosted 49 unique events. This includes 6 research symposia, 20 MPP Speaker Series talks, 17 Community Outreach events, and 6 specialized forums involving business, government and academia.

• In May 2011, Robert Mansell, Academic Director for The School, received a Premier’s Award from the Government of the Northwest Territories for his work on the Mackenzie Gas Project National Energy Board Intervention Project Team.

• In September 2011, The School welcomed 40 students to the inaugural class of its Master of Public Policy program and launched its Student Lecture Series featuring policy experts from the private, public and non-profit sectors.

• Martha Hall Findlay, former Member of Parliament for Willowdale, joined The School as an Executive Fellow in the fall of 2011.

• In October 2011, the Federal Government appointed Jack Mintz, Director of The School of Public Policy, to the governing council of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The agency, which was formed in 1977, is charged with promoting and supporting post-secondary research and training in the humanities and social sciences.

• Professor Ken McKenzie was awarded the 2011 Doug Purvis Memorial Prize for his paper *Taxation and R&D: An Investigation of the Push and Pull Effects*, co-authored by Natalia Sershun. The prize is awarded annually to the authors of a highly significant, written contribution to Canadian economic policy.

• Since inception, The School has secured over $40 million to fund various research, outreach and academic programs. Highlights from the past year include:
  - Over $500,000 in graduate scholarships for Master of Public Policy students
  - $1M investment from TransCanada Corporation to create a program in Energy Policy and Regulatory Frameworks
  - $5M investment for the Taxation and Economic Growth Program, creating a global centre of excellence in taxation at The School
  - Established a research program in Sustainable Prosperity focusing on policies to expand and sustain Canada’s global competitiveness. This program also supports the Master of Public Policy Student Lecture Series
  - $5M investment into The School’s International Policy programs
  - $500,000 investment from PricewaterhouseCoopers for an annual tax roundtable and research program
  - $600,000 investment from a consortium of partners including Manulife Financial, the Canadian Bankers Association and the Investment Funds Institute of Canada for the Financial Regulation and Economic Policy Program
  - Over $400,000 in sponsorship from community and business leaders throughout Canada for various keynote speaking events and policy symposia

We would like to thank all our donors from the past year, and previous years, for their generous support.
Research

The School of Public Policy’s publications series offers in-depth, evidence-based assessments and recommendations on a range of public policy issues. All research falls under one of three priority areas:
• Economic & Social Policy  • Energy & Environmental Policy  • International Policy

In the 2011 financial year, The School released a total of 27 publications: 23 Research Papers and 4 Communiqués.

April 2011

Can the G-20 Save the Environment? Potential Impact of the G-20 on International Environmental Policy
By: Barry Carin
This report examines the prospect of G-20 leaders taking hard action on environmental issues and finds that it is unlikely that environmental policy will be a major agenda item at G-20 meetings to come thanks to current economic and financial challenges. The report includes an evaluation of ten environmental action points – Climate Change, Water, Forests, Biodiversity and Land Use Management, Air Pollution, Waste Management, Ozone Layer Depletion, Oceans, Fisheries and Population – that shows a pressing need for global cooperation.

Canada’s World Can Get A Lot Bigger: The Group of 20, Global Governance and Security
By: Paul Heinbecker
The author examines Canada’s international standing and finds a tarnished reputation that can be restored through careful use of G-20 relationships. The paper outlines ten points of action for Canada to advance its role in the G-20 and to position Canada as an influential international player. Among these recommendations is a call for Canada to overcome the loss of its seat on the UN Security Council by pushing for collaboration between the UN and the G-20.

May 2011

Is This the End of the Tory Dynasty? The Wildrose Alliance in Alberta Politics
By: Anthony Sayers & David Stewart
This paper offers an empirical analysis of whether the Wildrose Alliance is aligned with the political values of Albertans. Based on this analysis the authors assess the likelihood of the party being able to achieve electoral victory. The authors look at voter sentiment in key areas such as western alienation, social conservatism, environmental issues and the role of government, among others, and compare these results with the Wildrose’s positions on these issues.

Small Business Taxation: Revamping Incentives to Encourage Growth
By: Duanjie Chen & Jack Mintz
The authors analyze small business tax policies in Canada and find that despite the common belief that small business tax concessions encourage job creation and economic growth, this cannot be substantiated. In addition to challenging current provincial tax policies, the authors provide a clear set of recommendations for government: Encourage investment in depreciable assets, create a capital gains incentive for small businesses going public and reduce the lock-in effect of capital gains taxes.
Tax Impact of BC’s HST
Debate on Investment and Competitiveness
By: Jack Mintz
This comminqué examines proposed changes to British Columbia’s HST and compares their potential impact against the impacts of scrapping the HST altogether. The author finds that by killing the HST, BC’s economy will suffer in the long run. The retail sales tax will have to be reintroduced, leading to steep increases in the marginal effective tax rates on capital and costs, and a dip in investment and job creation.

Rhetoric and Realities: What Independence of the Bar Requires of Lawyer Regulation
By: Alice Woolley
Woolley analyzes the effectiveness of self-regulation in Canada’s legal profession and finds a regulatory system that can be modified to help ensure accountability and the protection of clients’ rights. Among the measures she proposes are the creation of a legal regulatory review office in each province to oversee law society activities, the separation of dispute resolution functions of provincial law societies into distinct regulatory entities and a greater commitment from the Supreme Court of Canada to facilitate access to justice.

PIIGS “R” US: The Coming U.S. Debt Crisis and What Can Be Done About It
By: Stephen Richardson
This brief paper proposes key policy changes for the U.S. to combat its debt woes and economic turmoil. Among these policy changes are the creation of a U.S. national Value-Added Tax levied at a rate of 10 percent; an elimination of new mortgage finance activity by Fannie Mae and Freddy Mac, with a shift to a pure insurance-based model for government support for mortgage finance; the phasing out or reduction of mortgage interest deductibility; and a reduction of corporate tax rates to encourage investment.
Research (continued)

A Fresh Start on Improving Economic Competitiveness and Perimeter Security
By: Derek H. Burney
This report offers a critical examination of the Joint Action Plan announced by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and President Barack Obama. While the bilateral initiative is a promising step towards strengthening perimeter security and economic ties between Canada and the U.S., it’s success will depend on the commitment and personal involvement of the nations’ two leaders.

Environmental Benefits of Using Wind Generation to Power Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles
By: Mahdi Hajian, Monisha Manickavasagam, William D. Rosehart & Hamidreza Zareipour
As alternatives to conventional vehicles, Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) running off electricity stored in batteries could decrease oil consumption and reduce carbon emissions. By using electricity derived from clean energy sources, even greater environmental benefits are obtainable. This study examines the potential benefits arising from the widespread adoption of PHEVs in light of Alberta’s growing interest in wind power. It also investigates PHEVs’ capacity to mitigate natural fluctuations in wind power generation.

Investment Review in Canada – We Can Do Better
By: Lawrence Herman
Using the scuttled acquisition of Potash Corporation as an example, Lawrence Herman finds that Industry Canada should be more transparent with decisions on foreign takeovers under the Investment Canada Act. Herman argues that when a foreign acquisition is approved or rejected, the Industry Minister should be required to issue public reasons and disclose how he or she applied the test of “net benefit.”

Income Support for Persons with Disabilities
By: Ronald Kneebone & Oksana Grynishak
This report reveals a disparity between the support provided by BC, Alberta and Ontario to disabled residents, and argues that BC is failing to provide for basic needs. The authors show that as a result of recent increases to payments to people with disabilities, Alberta provides an amount that ranks it first amongst the three provinces, and is roughly equivalent to the amount the federal government provides to poor seniors. While not as “generous” as Alberta, Ontario also provides an amount that could meet basic human needs, barely.
Plucking the Golden Goose: Higher Royalty Rates on the Oil Sands Generate Significant Increases in Government Revenue

By: Ken McKenzie

McKenzie examines how Alberta’s oil sands have been affected by the controversial New Royalty Framework and finds incremental revenue for the government of Alberta over the last two years in excess of $1 billion. He argues that these revenues have been achieved without much political outcry thanks to the design of the royalty system for the oil sands, where the net impact on producers is only a fraction of the increase in royalty rates. As such, investment in the oil sands is expected to shrink only slightly, while the increase in government revenue is significant.

Homelessness in Alberta: The Demand for Spaces in Alberta’s Homeless Shelters

By: Ronald Kneebone, Herb Emery & Oksana Grynishak

The authors measure homeless shelter usage across Alberta and find that the province’s homeless population is disproportionately concentrated in Calgary. Despite Edmonton and Calgary being similar in total population, 63 percent of all shelter use in the province was in Calgary while only 28 percent was in the provincial capital. As for the causes of this large gap, the authors pinpoint three economic factors: the supply of rental accommodation, the state of the labour market and the rate of in-migration.

The New Security Perimeter with the United States

By: Brian Flemming

This paper attempts to predict how a new Canada-U.S. security perimeter agreement will be negotiated and what subjects will be covered. Sensitive issues like privacy, civil rights, harmonization of national regulations, trade and security practices are examined. The author also highlights the twin problems of the current lack of trust in politicians and governments and the difficulty of getting an agreement before the American elections get under way. He also describes the consequences of the countries failing to reach any sort of agreement.

The Tricky Art of Measuring Fossil Fuel Subsidies: A Critique of Existing Studies

By: Ken McKenzie & Jack Mintz

The authors propose an alternative “economic view” for measuring fossil fuel subsidies in Canada. The new method is based on economic rents, which provides a neutral benchmark against which subsidies, royalties and other energy-focused fiscal measures can be measured. Using marginal effective tax rate (METR) analysis, the authors show that it is possible to obtain a more accurate picture of energy subsidies and their impact on resource allocation and economic activity.
The Constitutionality of Federal Climate Change Legislation
By: Alastair Lucas & Jenette Yearsley
This paper analyzes the constitutionality of the federal government’s proposed coal-fired electricity generation regulations alongside the failed 2006 Clean Air Bill. They find the Constitution limits Ottawa’s ability to enact climate change legislation limiting greenhouse gas emissions because this legislation falls under provincial jurisdiction. Using a rich body of case law, the authors offer policymakers invaluable guidance in properly framing legally sound emission reduction statutes.

Catching the Brass Ring: Oil Market Diversification Potential for Canada
By: Michal Moore, Sam Flaim, David Hackett, Susan Grissom, Daria Crisan & Afshin Honarvar
Given the controversy surrounding the Keystone XL pipeline, the authors offer the first comprehensive analysis of what greater access to new and existing refining markets would mean for Canada. The authors calculate potential price differentials available to Canadian producers if pipelines existed to maximize the potential production capacity of the oil sands. "With better access and new pipeline capacity, oil producers will see more efficient access to international markets which can add up to $131 billion to Canada’s GDP between 2016 and 2030," the authors write.

Public Sector Wage Growth in Alberta
By: Ken Boessenkool & Ben Eisen
This report offers a comparative study of public sector wages across Canada. Authors Ken Boessenkool and Ben Eisen analyze salary or wage data released by Statistics Canada for four employee categories: provincial general government, health and social institutions, universities and colleges, and local school boards. In each of the categories studied Alberta led the way in spending.

Housing Subsidies and Homelessness: A Simple Idea
By: Brendan O’Flaherty
The author argues for a simplified approach to combat homelessness using the power of incentives. Specifically, he proposes that governments offer housing allowances to people for every night they are not homeless. This optimal homelessness-reducing home allowance (OHRHA) would be open to adjustment to suit individual circumstances and the effects of homelessness on different demographics.
The International Experience with Privatization: Its Rapid Rise, Partial Fall and Uncertain Future
By: John Nellis
This paper examines international examples of privatizing government owned corporations and quantifies the economic impacts of doing so. The author concludes that overall there is a net economic benefit to privatization, stating that “privatization increases efficiency, rewards the new owners, generally improves the fiscal position of the selling government and increases societal net resources.”

A Review and Assessment of Privatization in Canada
By: Anthony Boardman & Aidan Vining
Examples of Canadian firms that have been privatized are studied, with the authors quantifying the impacts on those firms’ operating performance. Drawing on lessons learned, the authors propose a common-sense framework to guide future privatizations and ensure all Canadians derive the maximum possible benefits from them.

Some Observations on the Concept and Measurement of Income Inequality
By: Stephen Richardson
This communiqué takes a sober look at facts relating to income inequality and redistribution in Canada. The author applies methodology to reveal that, while the scale of income redistribution has declined since 1994, growth in real income since then has done much to compensate in maintaining levels of absolute income redistribution that are high by historical standards.

Departures from Neutrality in Canada’s Goods and Services Tax
By: Michael Smart
This paper offers a detailed assessment of the effects of the Goods and Services Tax on the Canadian economy and proposes a number of specific, feasible reforms to the GST-HST system. The author contends that if all Value-Added Tax preferences were eliminated, government VAT revenues would increase by as much as $39 billion, or more than 50 percent. As such, he recommends reconsidering exemptions or rebates for housing and several public services, and proposes base-broadening methods like taxing food and agricultural products.

Smart Environmental Policy with Full-Cost Pricing
By: Nancy Olewiler
In this report, the author issues a fundamental challenge to the way federal environmental policy is approached in Canada. The author contends that the current system of complex environmental regulation as well as subsidies to particular industries is highly inefficient. A better replacement would be the reduction or elimination of subsidies and regulation, and the imposition of a transparent and equally applied system of full-cost pricing. That would include full-cost pricing on energy production including, potentially, a carbon tax.
Implications of the Recommendations of the Expert Panel on Federal Support to Research and Development

By: Preston Manning & Jack Mintz

Two of Canada’s leading minds in public policy collaborate to produce a report on how to foster business innovation in Canada. Manning and Mintz review the Expert Panel Report on Federal Support to Research and Development and find that while some of the ideas presented offer a step in the right direction others have major deficiencies. Reconsidering the appropriate level of support of federal and provincial research and development tax credits is a specific measure that Manning and Mintz recommend.

Tantalus Unbound: Government Policy and Innovation in Canada

By: Jeffrey MacIntosh

The author examines the findings and recommendations presented in the Jenkins Report and finds that the authoring panel both overlooked and incorrectly evaluated policies designed to foster innovation in Canada. Above all, the author criticizes the panel for its failure to address current funding of Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporations and the panel’s decision to scale back the current Scientific Research and Experimental Developmental tax credit.

The Role of Crown Corporations in the Canadian Economy: An Analytical Framework

By: Edward Iacobucci & Michael Trebilcock

This paper offers a highly readable theoretical and practical framework for understanding federal and provincial governments’ market interventions in sectors including power generation, alcohol and mail delivery. The authors contend that state-owned enterprises or Crown corporations simply are not necessary in particular sectors – particularly mail delivery – as there are several alternatives to full-scale state ownership as means for regulating industry, including through governmental departments and agencies, self-regulation, taxes and subsidies.
Executive Programs and Outreach

ROUNDTABLES, SYMPOSIA AND CONFERENCES

June 2011

Executive Program in Government Affairs
The School hosted 21 government relations personnel in majestic Banff, Alberta for two days of intensive instruction in government affairs. Policy advisors for the federal and provincial governments, including two former Chiefs of Staff to the Prime Minister, shared lessons on lobbying laws, how to manage relationships with government, public opinion measurement and several other topics.

Oct. 2011

Public Enterprise Performance and Privatization
This full-day roundtable featured discussion of the role and impacts of public enterprises and the prospects for privatizing these entities. A series of research papers by global experts examining both international and Canadian examples were tabled and debated.

Nov. 2011

The GST at 20: The Future of Consumption Taxes in Canada
The School’s 2nd Symposium in Tax and Economic Growth centred on an increasingly contentious political issue: consumption taxes. Leaders from business, government and academia converged to analyze and debate the economic impacts of Canadian Value-Added Taxes with five research papers published by The School providing impetus for discussion. The symposium also featured an opening dinner where former policymakers Janet Ecker, Gordon Gibson and Janice MacKinnon were put on the hot seat during a debate titled GST & HST: When Policy and Politics Collide.
Reforming Canada’s Transportation Policies in the 21st Century

In partnership with the Van Horne Institute, The School hosted a full-day roundtable devoted to transportation policy in Canada. Among the specific topics addressed were Canada’s infrastructure needs, reforms to the Canada Transportation Act, evolving trends in transportation and what Canada can learn from other countries.

The Economic Union and Pressures from Uneven Growth

The central purpose of this roundtable was to build a better understanding of Canadian equalization and broader fiscal arrangements from the Western view. The event offered an opportunity for informal, off-the-record discussion amongst provincial representatives from across the country. An opening dinner featured a keynote speech by David Dodge, former Governor of the Bank of Canada.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Annual Tax Policy Roundtable

Two papers were presented at this roundtable devoted to energy taxation. The research – Capturing Economic Rents from Resources: Optimizing the Structure of Government Revenues Through Royalties and Taxes and Federal-Provincial Dimensions of Resource Taxation in Canada – fueled discussion amongst academics and members of the private and public sectors.

Hon. Denis Lebel
Community Outreach Events

In its 2011 financial year, The School hosted 17 community and university campus events featuring global policy leaders. These events brought together individuals from business, government and academia around significant policy issues of the day.

Michael Adams – Founding President of Environics Research Group
Topic: The New Focus Canada

Barry Carin – Sr. Fellow of the Centre for International Governance Innovation

Christopher Eagle – President & CEO of Alberta Health Services
Topic: Who Says Elephants Can’t Dance? Leading Health Services Through Change

David Hale – Chairman of David Hale Global Economics Inc.
Topic: Imperial Oil Distinguished Lecture Series: Can the Global Economy Overcome the Despaired Headwinds?

Karen Harbert – President & CEO of the Institute for 21st Century Energy
Topic: The Role of Canadian & United States Energy Policies

Tim Hearn – Chairman of Hearn & Associates and former Chairman & CEO of Imperial Oil Limited
Topic: Sovereignty, Public Policy and Global Forces

Lawrence Herman – Counsel at Cassels, Brock & Blackwell LLP
Topic: Reviewing Foreign Takeovers in Canada – Yes, We Can Do Better

Melissa Jones – Chief Deputy Director at the California Energy Commission
Topic: California’s Impact on Climate Change

Denis Lebel – Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities for the Government of Canada
Topic: Moving Canada Forward: Making Transportation Policy Work for Canadian Business

Salim Mansur – Barbara Mitchell Visitor at the University of Calgary and Professor of Political Science at the University of Western Ontario
Topic: A Liberal Repudiation of Multiculturalism

Ken McKenzie & Jack Mintz – Directors with The School of Public Policy
Topic: The Tricky Art of Measuring Fossil Fuel Subsidies

Ted Morton – Minister of Energy for the Government of Alberta
Topic: Seizing Canada’s Energy Opportunity

Michael Smart – Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto
Topic: Departures From Neutrality in Canada’s Goods and Services Tax (held in Ottawa)

Chuck Strahl – former Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, and Minister of Transport and Infrastructure for the Government of Canada
Topic: Agriculture Present and Future: Policy, Pragmatism and Politics

Larry Summers – President Emeritus and Charles W. Eliot Professor of Harvard University, former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and former Director of the National Economic Council for the Obama Administration
Topics: America’s Fiscal Future and James S. Palmer Lecture Series: Does Keynesian Stimulus Work During a Global Financial Crisis?

Robert Trumbull – Vice-President of State Street Global Advisors
Topic: A Private Sector Solution to the Retirement Income Problem

Frank Umbach – Senior Associate and Head of the Programme "International Energy Security" at the Centre for European Security Strategies (CESS, GmbH), Munich-Berlin and Associate Director at the European Centre for Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS) at the King’s College, London
Topic: Global Energy Challenges and the EU’s Common Energy Policies
MPP Speakers Series

A distinguishing feature of the Master of Public Policy program is the MPP Speaker Series, where students are treated to classroom talks from experienced policy personnel. This past year students heard from senior members of Parliament and legislatures, leaders from financial, administrative and regulatory agencies, and business executives from some of Canada’s largest companies. Below is a list of names of those who shared their insights and experiences at these events.

Michael Adams Founding President of Environics Research Group

Perrin Beatty President & CEO of The Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Roxanna Benoit Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental, International & Aboriginal Relations for the Government of Alberta

Ken Boessenkool Chief of Staff to Premier of British Columbia Christy Clark

Richard Cohen Senior Defence Advisor for the Department of National Defence

Jack Davis Chair of CEO Mobile, former President & CEO of the Calgary Health Region, and former Deputy Minister for the Government of Alberta

Christopher Eagle President & CEO of Alberta Health Services

Tim Hamilton Managing Partner of Odgers Berndtson (Calgary)

Karen Harbert President & CEO of the Institute for 21st Century Energy

Tim Hearn Chairman of Hearn & Associates and former Chairman & CEO of Imperial Oil Limited

Lawrence Herman Counsel at Cassels, Brock & Blackwell LLP

Melissa Jones Chief Deputy Director of the California Energy Commission

Peter Kruselnicki Vice-President, Public Sector Relations at TransCanada Corporation

Preston Manning President & CEO of the Manning Centre for Building Democracy, and Founder and former Leader of the Reform Party of Canada

Darrel Reid Executive Director of the Manning Centre for Building Democracy and Fellow at The School of Public Policy

Nancy Southern President & CEO of ATCO Group

Chuck Strahl former Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, and Minister of Transport and Infrastructure for the Government of Canada

Larry Summers President Emeritus and Charles W. Eliot Professor of Harvard University, former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and former Director of the National Economic Council for the Obama Administration

Paula Tyler President of Norlien Foundation and former Deputy Minister of Alberta Child Services for the Government of Alberta

Annette Trimbee Deputy Minister of the Treasury Board and Finance for the Government of Alberta
Media Coverage

The School of Public Policy’s research and academic staff are featured regularly in the Canadian and international media. From April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 The School averaged 367 monthly media references, making us the most cited Canadian policy school. Some of the outlets that featured The School and its people are listed below.

Newspapers, Magazines and Online

- Alberta Views
- Alberta Venture
- Bloomberg
- Calgary Herald
- Calgary Sun
- Canada.com
- Canadian Business
- CBC.ca
- Edmonton Journal
- Edmonton Sun
- Financial Post
- Globe and Mail
- Huffington Post Canada
- Macleans.ca
- Montreal Gazette
- Morningstar
- National Post
- Ottawa Citizen
- Ottawa Sun
- The Guardian
- The Star Phoenix
- Times Colonist
- Toronto Sun
- Vancouver Sun
- Wall Street Journal

Television and Radio

- 660 News
- Business News Network
- CBC News
- CTV News
- Fox News
- Global News
- Sun News Network

Social Media

- facebook.com/policyschool
- twitter.com/policy_school

LinkedIn Groups

- The School of Public Policy
Executive

Jack Mintz, Director and Palmer Chair in Public Policy

Dr. Mintz (Ph.D., University of Essex) held the position of Professor of Business Economics at the Rotman School of Business from 1989-2007. He was a Visiting Professor, New York University Law School, 2007, President and CEO of the C.D. Howe Institute from 1999-2006, Clifford Clark Visiting Economist at the Department of Finance, Ottawa, Chair of the federal government’s Technical Committee on Business Taxation in 1996 and 1997, and Associate Dean (Academic) of the Faculty of Management, University of Toronto, 1993-1995. He was founding Editor-in-Chief of International Tax and Public Finance from 1994-2001, and recently chaired the Alberta Financial and Investment Policy Advisory Commission reporting to the Alberta Minister of Finance. Dr. Mintz has published extensively on policy issues, including a book Most Favored Nation: A Framework for Smart Economic Policy that won the Purvis Prize for best book in economic policy and was runner up for the Donner Prize for the best book in public policy. He also writes extensively for the popular press and is a consultant to many governments, businesses and non-profit organizations in Canada and internationally.

Robert Mansell, Academic Director

Dr. Mansell (Ph.D., Alberta) is Founding Director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy and former Dean of Graduate Studies and Head of Economics. He has authored many studies on energy and regulatory issues and on regional economics. Examples include publications on traditional and incentive regulation; tolling alternatives for pipelines; the economic impacts of energy and related projects; fiscal transfers, policy and restructuring; and changes and challenges in the Alberta economy. Dr. Mansell is qualified as an expert witness before many energy and utility regulatory bodies. In addition to serving on a large number of U of C committees, councils and task forces, he has provided extensive service on a variety of external committees and boards. Recent examples include service on the Energy Strategy Advisory Committee for the Government of Alberta; as an advisor to the Government of Canada on the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline Project; on the Canadian Academy of Engineering Energy Pathways Taskforce; and on the Council of Canadian Academies Study on Hydrates. Dr. Mansell also serves on the Boards of Directors of the Alberta Chamber of Resources, Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions, the Canadian Energy Research Institute, the Alberta Ingenuity Centre for In Situ Energy, and the Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation.
Directors

David Bercuson, Director, International Policy
Dr. Bercuson (Ph.D., University of Toronto; F.R.S.C.) is Professor of History, Director of the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies and a former Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. He was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2004. He has authored, co-authored or edited more than 35 books on Canadian history, with specialization in Canadian military history and Canadian defence and foreign policy. He is currently a member of the Advisory Council on National Security and of the Board of Governors of the Royal Military College of Canada.

Ron Kneebone, Director, Economic and Social Policy
Dr. Kneebone’s (Ph.D., McMaster) research is mainly in the areas of macroeconomic aspects of public finances and fiscal federalism. His published research has dealt with issues pertaining to government budget financing in a federal state, the political economy of government deficit and debt reduction, the history of government fiscal and monetary relations in Canada and the characteristics of Canadian federal, provincial and municipal fiscal policy choices. He is a co-author of two widely-used undergraduate textbooks on economic principles and macroeconomic theory. From 2002 to 2006, Professor Kneebone served as an associate editor of Canadian Public Policy, Canada’s foremost journal examining economic and social policy.

Michal Moore, Director, Energy and Environmental Policy
Dr. Moore (Ph.D., Cambridge, UK) is a visiting scholar and research associate at Cornell University and Senior Fellow at the Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy. He teaches courses on energy markets and policy, carbon valuation and policy, and regulation. He was formerly the Chief Economist at National Renewable Energy Lab at Golden, Colorado and regulatory commissioner with the California Energy Commission. Recent publications include articles and papers on geothermal energy, energy conservation, electricity system planning and evaluation, incorporation of renewable power, bioenergy, and geological storage of CO₂.

Ken McKenzie, Director, Taxation and Economic Growth
Dr. McKenzie (Ph.D., Queen’s University) is Professor of Economics at the University of Calgary. His principal area of research is public economics, with an emphasis on taxation and political economy. He received both the Harry Johnson Prize for the best article in the Canadian Journal of Economics (1996, with Herb Emery), and the Douglas Purvis Memorial Prize for a published work of excellence relating to Canadian public policy (1999, with Ron Kneebone). He sat on the Taxation and Finance Committee of the Alberta Economic Development Authority, was a member of the Alberta Business Tax Review Committee in 2000, an expert advisor to the Financial Review Commission in Alberta in 2002, and was involved with the federal government’s Technical Committee on Business Taxation in 1997.
Faculty

Jeffrey Church
Dr. Church is Professor of Economics at the University of Calgary. He held the T.D. MacDonald Chair in Industrial Economics at the Canadian Competition Bureau in Industry Canada and is an expert on regulatory and competition policy matters. His published research deals with merger simulation, network economics, strategic competition, entry deterrence, intellectual property rights, and competition policy. He is the co-author of a book on the regulation of natural gas pipelines in Canada, a text in industrial organization, and a monograph for the European Commission on the competitive impacts of vertical and conglomerate mergers.

Diane Eaton
Dr. Eaton has served as an instructor at UBC, Douglas College and, most recently, the University of Calgary. Her areas of specialization include spoken and written discourse, composition and creative writing. She has many diverse publications including (as co-author) eight editions of a popular university textbook (microeconomics), two editions of a travel guide, and an art history/biography book, and a secondary school textbook (Canadian history). She is also the author of two textbooks on drama/media studies. Dr. Eaton currently teaches a course on effective writing and research skills at The School of Public Policy.

Herb Emery
Dr. Emery is Professor of Economics and Svare Professor in Health Economics, with a joint appointment between the Department of Economics and the Department of Health Sciences. His research interests and publications are focused on economic history, labour economics, and health economics. Current projects include studies on reform of public health care in Canada.

Tom Flanagan
Dr. Flanagan is Professor of Political Science and has published extensively on Metis lands, Louis Riel, Native land rights and self determination, game theory and on recent political movements in Canada (such as the Reform Party and the Conservative rise to power). In addition, he has published numerous editions of textbooks on government and politics. Dr. Flanagan also has considerable professional expertise and experience through his participation at various levels in national government. For example, he served as the Director of Research for the Reform Party (1991-1992), Chief of Staff in the Office of the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons (2002-2003), and Manager of the National Campaign of the Conservative Party of Canada (2004).

Shaun Fluker
Professor Fluker practiced law as a Barrister and Solicitor with private firms for six years before joining Alberta Securities Commission as Legal Counsel, Market Regulation in 2005. In 2007 he joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Calgary as Assistant Professor. He has published widely on legal aspects of regulatory, energy, environmental and ecological issues. Professor Fluker’s teaching includes courses on Natural Resources Law; Law, Legislation and Policy; Environmental Law and Ethics; Legal Perspectives; Administrative Law; Law of Species and Spaces; and Environmental Law.

Rainer Knopff
Dr. Knopff is Professor of Political Science and the author, co-author, or co-editor of a number of books, including Human Rights and Social Technology: The New War on Discrimination (with T. E. Flanagan), Federalism and the Charter: Leading Constitutional Decisions (with Peter H. Russell and F. L. Morton), Charter Politics (with F. L. Morton), Parameters of Power: Canada’s Political Institutions (with Keith Archer, Roger Gibbins, and Leslie A. Pal), and The Charter Revolution and the Court Party (with F. L. Morton). Current projects include Courting Controversy, a book that explores the rhetorical strategies used by courts to manage highly contentious public issues.

David Taras
Professor Taras has written extensively on the Canadian mass media and on Canadian politics. He is the author of The Newsmakers: The Media’s Influence on Canadian Politics, Power & Betrayal in the Canadian Media and co-author of The Last Word: Media Coverage of the Supreme Court of Canada. He is also co-editor of How Canadians Communicate and A Passion for Identity: Canadian Studies for the 21st Century among other works.
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Darrel R. Reid
Executive Fellow
Executive Director, Manning Centre for Building Democracy and former Director of Policy, Acting Chief of Staff and Director of Policy in Research in the Office of the Prime Minister of Canada

Stephen Richardson
Executive Fellow
Former Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Finance, Government of Canada

Cameron Ross
Executive Fellow
President, HCR Security International Ltd., former President of Emergo Security Ltd. and former Major-General, Canadian Armed Forces (including Director General for International Security Policy and UN Assistant Secretary General and Force Commander)

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For specific information or requests regarding The School and its programs, please contact the individuals listed below:

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
Laura Fitterer, Program Manager
Master of Public Policy
Phone: (403) 210-6110
E-mail: lfittere@ucalgary.ca

DEVELOPMENT
Courtney Murphy, Director of Development
Phone: (403) 210-7201
E-mail: cdmurphy@ucalgary.ca

EVENTS AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAMMING
Christine Verdonck, Manager, Executive Programs and Outreach
Phone: (403) 220-6836
E-mail: verdonck@ucalgary.ca

MEDIA REQUESTS
Morten Paulsen, Director of Communications
Phone: (403) 399-3377
E-mail: morten@paulsengroup.ca