



THE SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC POLICY

# Student Profiles

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MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY  
2019/2020

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Canada's Leading Policy School



# Master of Public Policy Class of 2019

The goal of the Master of Public Policy program is to train policy professionals who will find leadership positions across government, private and not-for-profit sectors.

# Mungunzul Amarbayan

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BSc, Biology, Minor in Sociology, University of Calgary

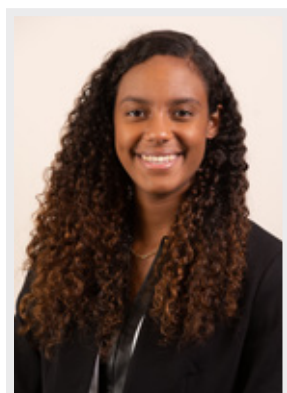
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Research Assistant, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019-present
- Math and Reading Instructor, Kumon Learning Centre, 2017-present
- Volunteer, Alberta Children's Hospital, 2015-present

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

How healthcare policies ensure quality patient care in the Intensive Care Unit.

# Alexa Atherly

**Hometown:**

San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Sociology and Family Studies, University of British Columbia
- Work/Volunteer Experience:
  - Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia
  - Accreditation and Outcome Support Assistant, Aspen Family and Community Network Society, June 2018 – August 2018
  - Summer Program Leader, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, June 2017 – August 2017
  - Executive Committee Member, Alpha Phi International Women's Fraternity
  - Volunteer, Feed the Hungry
  - Volunteer, Operation Smile Nairobi

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining the relationship between disability and autonomy in regards to income security and disability policy prevent access to employment.

# Taylor Berezowski

**Hometown:**

White Rock, BC

**Educational Background:**

- BSc, Earth Sciences, Simon Fraser University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Geologist, Whitecap Resources, 2017-present
- Geologist, Cenovus Energy, 2010-2017
- Co-Chair, Industry Judge, various roles, SIFT Committee, Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, 2011-2017
- President, Earth Science Student Union, Simon Fraser University, 2008-2010

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Exploring energy and environmental policy around how technology can decrease environmental footprints and increase production in the petroleum industry.

# Anna Bogatyrev

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, International Relations, Minor in French Language & Culture, University of Calgary
- BA, Spanish, University of Calgary
- Study Abroad Program, Seville, Spain
- Study Abroad Program, Puebla, Mexico
- Explore Program, Laval, QC, Canada

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Student Advisor and Student Support Coordinator, Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary, 2016-present
- Commissioner For Oaths in and for Alberta, 2014-present
- Immigration Legal/Administrative Assistant, Athabasca Immigration, 2013-Present
- Community Helper, Mental Health First Aid and QPR Suicide Intervention Training

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Investigating the feasibility of including social (human) service recipients and front-line staff in the policy-making process to ensure adequacy of services and ease of access, focusing on low income families, people with disabilities and newcomers to Alberta.

# Anthony Byamukama

**Hometown:**

Kampala, Uganda

**Educational Background**

- MSc, Procurement and Supply Chain Management, Specialization in Humanitarian Operations, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda
- BBA, Specialization in Procurement & Management, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

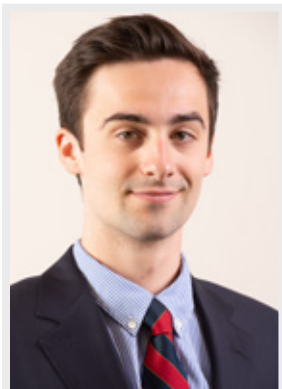
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Compliance Officer, Uganda Revenue Authority, 2018-current
- Project Delivery Manager, Rukungiri Women Integrated Development Foundation, Uganda, 2014-current
- Coordinator, Uganda Volunteers-Oxford Africa Conference, 2014
- Co-founder, Universities Together Empowering Development-UniTED, 2013

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

A comparative study of challenges and opportunities in health policy and pharmaceutical supply chain.

# Joseph Calnan

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA and BSc Honours, Western Society and Culture, Concordia University

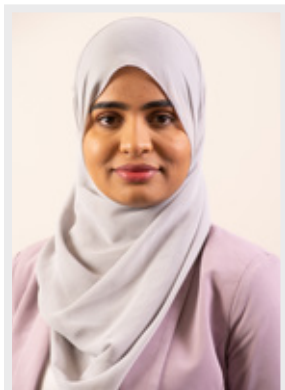
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- FQA/CQA Tester, Keywords Studios, 2019
- General Assistant, Am-Tec Solutions Inc., 2017-2018
- Legal Secretary, Shea Nerland LLP, 2016
- Actor, various theatre productions, 2014 - present
- Financial Coordinator, Liberal Arts Society, Liberal Arts College of Concordia

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Studying the political realities which shape discussion around carbon taxes, pollution regulations, and the balancing of short-term needs with long-term goals, including the housing market and food sustainability.

# Haiqa Cheema

**Hometown:**

Sialkot, Pakistan

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Political Science and Economics, University of Alberta

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Constituency Manager, Legislative Assembly of Alberta, 2017-2019
- International Visitor Leadership Program Intern, United States Department of State, 2016
- Diversity Consultant, United States Department of Agriculture, 2016
- Alberta's 2018 Top 30 Under 30

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Integration of newly arrived immigrants into Alberta's labour market.

# Jacky Chow

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- MSc, Physical Therapy, University of Alberta
- BSc, Software Engineering, University of Calgary

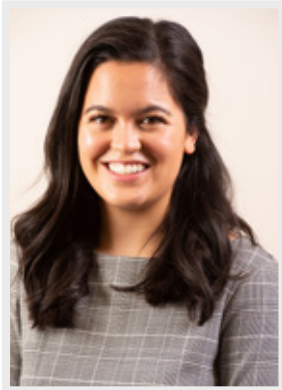
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Physical Therapist, Foothills Medical Center, 2008-current
- Assistant Manager of Allied Health, Foothills Medical Center, 2011
- Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, University of Alberta, 2011-current

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Financial sustainability of the Canadian healthcare system.

# Emma Dizon

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BSc Honours (with Distinction), Plant Biology, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Undergraduate Researcher, Plant Biochemistry, University of Calgary, 2016-2017
- Office Manager, Cibo, 2015-present

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Review of governance models for resource/infrastructure development, focusing on integration of Indigenous Peoples.

# Ryan Dormer

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Education:**

- BA, Political Science, Minor in Economics, University of Calgary

**Volunteer/Work Experience:**

- Delivery Operations Specialist, Tesla Inc., 2016-current
- Youth Court Volunteer, Calgary Court Centre

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Investigating the impact of climate change policy on the fossil fuel industry and how other electricity sources could benefit from similar policies.



# Deborah Blanca Esquivias

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Education:**

- BSc, Business Administration, University of Philippines

**Volunteer/Work Experience:**

- Finance and Investment Specialist, Esquivias, Lim & Co, 2012-2019
- Manager, FTI Consulting, Inc., 2007-2012
- Financial Analyst, Ernst & Young Transaction Advisory Services, 2005-2007

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

I intend to leverage my unique situation of having knowledge of the social and economic structures of developing countries in the East such as the Philippines and, to some extent, of developed countries in the West such as Canada in bridging each country's interesting idiosyncrasies to espouse effective social policies that will benefit both ends of the spectrum. The disparity in these two countries' population structure and density is a start that I strongly believe presents unique opportunities for collaboration similar to the trade of goods and services that fuel the global economy. I believe the juxtaposition of Canada's aging population and the Philippines' youth bulge, as well as, their respective social policies offer opportunities for powerful socio-economic and fiscal synergies.

# Laura Flinkfelt

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, History, Minor in Philosophy, University of Calgary
- BA, Political Science, Focus in Economics, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Administrative Assistant, University of Calgary, 2017-present
- Mentor, Scholar's Academy, University of Calgary, 2019-present
- External Advocacy Committee, Graduate Students' Association, University of Calgary, 2019-present
- Member, Education Sector Conference Planning Committee, Local 052, Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, 2019-present
- Member, Youth Engagement Committee, Local 052, Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, 2019-present
- Member, Communications Committee, Local 052, Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, 2019

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining how social, environmental and economic policy can be shaped at each level of government to support stable, long-term, and sustainable welfare goals.



# Brenda Flores Cabrera

**Hometown:**

Mexico City, Mexico

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Economics, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico

**Work/Volunteer Experience**

- Undergraduate Research Assistant, Tecnológico de Monterrey, 2017-2018
- Volunteer Math and English teacher, Learning Centre of Deportivo Tolentino, 2016

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Cleaner alternatives for mobility in Mexico City.

# Nicholas Godwin

**Hometown:**

Toronto, ON

**Education:**

- BSc (Honours), Earth System Science, Queen's University

**Employment Experience:**

- Environmental Advisor, TC Energy, 2014-current
- Environmental Technician, LandSolutions LP, 2011-2014

**Volunteer/Additional Achievements**

- Emergency Responder, Canadian Red Cross, 2017-current
- President, Queen's Alumni Branch in Calgary, 2016-2018

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

An examination of the need for a national energy strategy that ensures the export competitiveness of Canada's energy industry.

# Lisa Goodman

**Hometown:**

Vancouver, BC

**Educational Background:**

- Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours), University of Calgary

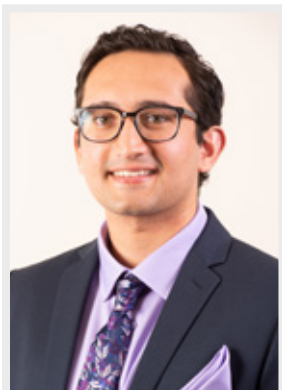
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Vice-President Human Resources, MPP Student Council, 2019-present
- Medical File Editor, Precision Medical Monitoring, 2018-present
- Scientific Evidence Presenter, Reforming Education on Drugs (RED), 2017-2018
- Physical Literacy Volunteer, Taking Strides, 2017-2018
- Alberta SPOR Support Unit Summer Institute, 2017
- Research Assistant, O'Brien Centre for Public Health, 2016-2017
- Poster Presentation, Campus Alberta Student Conference on Health, 2016
- Medical Office Assistant, Lonsdale and 19<sup>th</sup> Medical Clinic, 2013-2015

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining how global health or neuroscience are impacted by health policy.

# Arman Grewal

**Hometown:**

Cranbury, New Jersey, USA

**Educational Background:**

- BSc (with Distinction and Honours), Kinesiology, Queen's University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Vice-President Internal, MPP Student Council, 2019-present
- Research Assistant, Ophthalmic Microbiology Laboratory, University of Pittsburgh, 2014-2016
- Undergraduate Honours Thesis, Cardiovascular Stress Response Laboratory, Queen's University, 2017 - 2019
- Ophthalmology Office Assistant, Somerset Ophthalmology Associates, 2016-2018
- Vice President, Global Brigades, Queen's University, 2016-2019
- Vice President, Best Buddies, Queen's University, 2016-2019

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Comparing the health policy potential of New Jersey to Pennsylvania

# Chris Hamilton

**Hometown:**

Edmonton, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Justice Studies, Royal Roads University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Police Officer, Calgary Police Service 2015-present
- Combat Engineer, Canadian Armed Forces, 2005-2014

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining procurement in the Department of National Defence.

# Celeste Hayward

**Hometown:**

Smithers, BC

**Educational Background:**

- Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies, University of Regina

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Executive Director, Alberta Community Council on HIV, 2009-present
- Program Director, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centre, 2008-2016
- Assistant Executive Director, Rainbow Youth Centre, 2007-2008
- Assistant Executive Director, Native Friendship Centre of Montreal, 2001-2005

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Youth access to opioid agonist therapy.

# Eloise Hirst

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA Honours, Political Science, Minor in Canadian Studies, Minor in Women and Gender Studies, University of Toronto

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Vice-President External, MPP Student Council, 2019-present
- City Lead, Youthful Cities, 2018-2019
- Graduated with High Distinction, 2018
- Editor-in-Chief, Imaginations (Canadian Studies Undergraduate Journal), 2017-2018
- Placement Student with Toronto City Councillor Mike Layton, 2017-2018
- Dean's List Scholar, 2013-2018
- Academic All-Canadian, 2013-2015

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

An investigation of a municipal policy issue.

# Rider Kahl

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA Honours, Sociology, Western University
- BA Honours, Criminology, Western University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Vice-President Communication, MPP Student Council, 2019-present
- Residence Don, Western University, 2017-2019
- Administrative Assistant, 5 Elements Martial Arts, 2015-2017
- SAFETALK Mental Health Training
- Dean's List, 2015-2019

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Social media's impact on public policy, the election cycle, and public perception.

# Dylan Kelso

**Hometown:**

Nanaimo, BC

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Religious Studies, Trinity Western University
- Certificate, Leadership and Applied Public Affairs, Laurentian Leadership Centre, Trinity Western University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Research Officer, BC Liberal Caucus, 2018- 2019
- Legislative Assistant, BC Liberal Caucus, 2017-2018
- Special Assistant, BC Liberal Party, 2016-2017
- Student Leader, Resident Assistant, Event Planner, Freshman Mentor, Trinity Western University
- Four-time Winner, Academic All-Canadian Award, Canadian Interuniversity Sport/U Sport

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

How can Canadian jurisdictions implement policy that achieves the shared goal of economic prosperity for interested Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples while considering environmental concerns?

# Jessica Kohek

**Hometown:**

Whitby, ON

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Psychology, Western University
- BA, English Language and Literature, Western University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Contributing Writer, Organization for Autism Research, 2019
- Behaviour Therapist, Morneau Shepell, 2018
- Outreach Volunteer, Connect for Mental Health, 2017

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Evaluating how health and social policies influence access to mental health resources.

# Stephen Machua

**Hometown:**

Nairobi, Kenya

**Educational Background:**

- MSc, Global Urban Development and Planning, University of Manchester
- PGDip, Global Social Sustainable Enterprise, Colorado State University
- BComm, Finance, Technical University of Kenya

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Silver Award, Urban Sustainability Innovation, UNLEASH, Denmark, 2017
- Emerging Community Champion, UN-Habitat, Kenya, 2016
- Silver Award, Presidents Awards Scheme, Kenya, 2008
- Research Support, British Council Kenya
- Program Support, Change Mind Change Future (CMCF) Kenya

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

The influence of smart city technologies on economic sustainability.

# Joaquin Magnaye

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Psychology, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- President, AIESEC Calgary, 2019-present
- Vice-President of Marketing, AIESEC Calgary, 2018
- Marketing Coordinator, Arc Reactions Inc.

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

What is the role of government and business on user-data information collection, use and distribution? What are the implications for each stakeholder, and who is responsible for the information at various levels?



# Jasmine Mian

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- MSc, Psychology, University of Calgary
- BA Honours, Psychology, Brock University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Management Team, Wrestling Canada Lutte, 2018-present
- Director, Wrestling Canada Lutte Board of Directors, 2016-present
- Coordinator, Scholars Programs, University of Calgary, 2018-2019
- Academic Development Specialist, University of Calgary, 2017-2018
- Chair, Wrestling Canada Lutte Athlete Council, 2017-2019
- 2016 Olympian, Wrestling

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining Canadian sport policy with particular interests in safe sport, gender and high performance.

# Dean Milo

**Hometown:**

Tel-Aviv, Israel

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Public Administration, Academic Center for Law and Science, Israel

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Senior Adviser to MK (Knesset Member) Michal Shir, 2018 - August 2019
- Member, Debate Club, Academic Centre for Law and Science, 2015-2016
- Research Assistant, Enforcement and Collection Authority Jerusalem, 2016-2017
- Served in the Israeli Air Force (IAI) as F-16 technician at the Flight Test Center, 2012-2015

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Investigating the lack of competition among the cellphone providers in Canada.

# Vanessa Morin

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- Bachelor of Business Administration, Marketing, SAIT
- Diploma, Business Administration, Marketing, SAIT
- Certificate, Emergency Medical Responder, SAIT

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- President, MPP Student Council, 2019-present
- Director - External Relations, Women in Trades and Technology, 2019 - present
- Administrative Assistant, Alberta Children's Hospital, University of Calgary, 2019 - present
- Research Assistant, SAIT & Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, 2018-Present
- Committee Member, Calgary Youth Justice Committee, 2017-Present
- Valedictorian, SAIT Spring Convocation, 2019
- Vanier Business Case Competitor, 2017
- Catalyst Award, International Women's Day—Women In Trades & Technology Event

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Gender representation in different industries

# Jordon Neff

**Hometown:**

Langley, BC

**Educational Background:**

- BA Honours, Economics, University of Calgary
- BHSc, Health Science, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Compliance Analyst, Alberta Electric System Operator, 2014-present

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

How might the implementation of new transmission connection tie lines between Alberta and its neighbouring jurisdictions impact the economic and social objectives of the Alberta government?

# Pantea Niksirat

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- MSc, Chemistry, University of Calgary
- MSc, Chemistry, University of Tabriz (Iran)
- BSc, Chemistry, University of Tehran (Iran)

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Quality Assurance Specialist, Maxxam Analytics, 2014-present

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

What are the impacts of international standards and policies on trade and business?

# Halie Osmar

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Policy Studies, Mount Royal University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- TransCanada Pipelines Ltd. — Canadian Regulatory Compliance
- TransCanada Pipelines Ltd. — Canadian Regulatory Compliance
- Ministry of Justice — Legislative Assembly of British Columbia  
Victoria, BC
- Ministry of Finance — Legislative Assembly of British Columbia  
Victoria, BC
- Big Brothers and Big Sisters
- Youth Coordinator Volunteer

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

How poverty is linked to other social problems such as violence towards women and racism.

# Kristine Ritchie

**Hometown:**

Winnipeg, MB and Edmonton, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BSW (with Distinction), Social Work, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Research Analyst, Alberta Health Services, 2019
- Project Consultant, Addiction & Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network, Alberta Health Services, 2018-2019
- Field Placement Student with the Honourable Lori Sigurdson, Office of the Minister of Seniors and Housing, Government of Alberta, 2017-2018
- Certified Crisis Worker & Community Resource Specialist, Canadian Mental Health Association – Edmonton Region, 2014-2018
- Research Assistant, Vocational Abilities Innovation Lab, University of Calgary, 2016-2017
- Partnership Education Leader, Schizophrenia Society of Alberta, 2015-2016
- Research Assistant, Medical-Psychiatric Lab, University of Alberta 2013-2015

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Evaluate social innovation by developing and analyzing a social return on investment for health and social services through a federal social impact bond.

# Nicholas Schumacher

**Hometown:**

Red Deer, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BSc (with Distinction), Biological Science, Minor in Economics, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Science Camp Coordinator Red Deer College, 2018-2019
- Activity Lead, Central Alberta Kids Festival, 2019
- Emergency Room Volunteer, Red Deer Regional Hospital, 2014-2015
- Marathoner and Physical Literacy Advocate

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

The potential role of predictive medicine in improving cost-efficiency and patient outcomes in the Canadian public healthcare system—ethics and cost-benefit analysis.

# Seth Scott

**Hometown:**

Terrace, BC

**Educational Background:**

- BA (with Distinction), Political Science, Simon Fraser University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Policy and Fundraising Manager, Coquitlam Councillor Steve Kim Campaign, 2018
- Policy Intern, Senate of Canada, 2017
- President, Burnaby North-Seymour Electoral District Association
- President and Co-founder, SFU Conservative Association
- Vice-President Finance, SFU BC Young Liberals
- Director-at-Large, Political Science Student Union, SFU
- Youth Campaign Chair, Michael Lee BC Liberal Leadership Campaign
- Member, Monarchist League of Canada

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

How can municipalities better facilitate energy projects through more comprehensive community consultation processes?

# Cheryl Selinger

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA, Geography, University of Regina

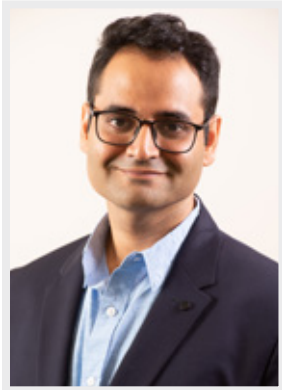
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Affordable Housing Research Analyst, City of Calgary
- Presenter, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's National Housing Conference, 2018
- Author, Housing in Canada's Big Cities
- Co-author, Housing in Calgary: An Inventory of Housing Supply, 2015/2016
- Co-creator, Multi-criteria Site Selection Analysis for Prioritizing Land for Affordable Housing Development, City of Calgary

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

An examination of the systemic roots of homelessness and the barriers that vulnerable people face in accessing housing and remaining housed. How do public policy and social programs impact vulnerable persons, such as low-income families or persons with disabilities, in respect to affordable housing tenant outcomes and affordable housing economic return on investment?

# Ashish Seth

**Hometown:**

Mumbai, India

**Educational Background:**

- Master of Science, Telecom Business Management, Northeastern University, Boston
- Diploma, Youth Development and Social Change, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Program Manager, Disabilities and Livelihood, Sujaya Foundation, 2016-2019
- Senior Consultant, Research, Centre for Civil Society, Mumbai, India, 2015-2016
- Volunteer, MLA Joe Cici, Legislative Assembly of Alberta, October 2019- Present
- Resident Volunteer, International Fellowship House, Boston, 2007-2010

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

My potential interest area is to explore Bill C-81, Canada Accessibility Act to ensure a barrier-free Canada for vulnerable groups including Persons with Disabilities.

# Jagdev Shahi

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB and Ladysmith, BC

**Educational Background:**

- BSc, Environmental Planning, University of Northern British Columbia
- BSc, Natural Resources Management, University of Northern British Columbia
- Diploma, Forest Resources Technology, Vancouver Island University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Senior Project Manager, Strategy & Regulatory Division, Alberta Energy Regulator, 2015-present
- Senior Land Use Planner, Operations Division, Alberta Energy Regulator, 2013-2015
- Associate + Environmental Planner, Government Sector, Dillon Consulting Limited, 2008-2013
- Land Use/Policy Planner, Strategic Planning & Policy Division, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, 2004-2008

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

A comparative analysis of national and transnational environmental policy and strategies for effective implementation.



# Michelle Spolnik

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, University of Calgary, Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Junior Research Officer, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, May 2018- Present
- Co-op Research Student, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, 2017
- Special Projects Assistant, Van Horne Institute for International Transportation and Regulatory Affairs, 2016

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Social policy and immigration.

# Michael Patrick Stewart

**Hometown:**

Edmonton, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA (with Distinction), Political Science, Minor in History Minor, University of Alberta

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Best Delegate Winner, High School Model United Nations, 2012

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining the financial well-being and efficiency of the health care system by looking at the main drivers of health costs (doctor pay, hospital treatments, and prescription drugs) and determining how to solve existing shortcomings.

# Roger Straathof

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- ICD.D, Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary
- MBA, Rotterdam School of Management (RSM), University of Rotterdam
- BA Economics, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Managing Director National Client Group, Royal Bank of Canada 1982-2017
- Committee Member for TimberMart, 2018-present
- Board of Trustees for Heritage Park, 2017-present
- Board of Directors of Vertigo Theatres, 2003-2009

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Looking at public policy initiatives that aim to balance economic development with progressive environmental stewardship through technology innovation and smart regulation.

# Andrew Taylor-Kerr

**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BN, Nursing, University of Calgary

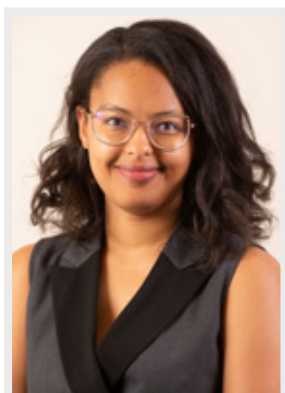
**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Registered Nurse, Alberta Health Services, Calgary Young Offenders Centre, 2011-2018
- Youth Program Coordinator, St Thomas United Church, 2015-2018
- Volunteer Leader, Zambia Youth Exposure Tour, 2016-2017

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Assessing the effectiveness of our current healthcare system and looking for ways policy can improve health outcomes and costs.

# Bethlehem Tesfay

**Hometown:**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- JD Candidate, University of Calgary, 2020
- BA, Sociology, University of Calgary
- BComm, University of Calgary

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Administrative Assistant, Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre, 2018-2019
- Student Caseworker, Student Legal Assistance, 2018-2019
- Research Lead, DirectHer, 2019

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Examining access to justice issues in Alberta.

# Dana Van Baren

**Hometown:**

Vancouver, BC and Calgary, AB

**Educational Background:**

- BA English, Summa Cum Laude, St Mary's University

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Recipient, Father Rupert MacLellan Scholarship, Academic Achievement, 2018
- Recipient, O'Leary Undergraduate Degree Program Scholarship, Highest GPA English, 2016

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

Assessing the lack of effective road-side testing for drug impairment (specifically cannabis), the inconsistent application of existing tests, and the implications of both on driver safety.

# Bill Yang

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**Hometown:**

Calgary, AB and Edmonton, AB and Fort McMurray, AB

**Educational Background:**

- Bachelors of Arts (Economics Major and Sociology Minor), University of Alberta

**Work/Volunteer Experience:**

- Heritage Interpreter, Parks Canada, Cave & Basin, 2019
- Senior Peer, University of Alberta International Student Services, 2016-2019
- Student Economist, Western Economic Diversification Canada, 2017-2018

**Potential Direction of Capstone:**

For my potential capstone project, I would like to merge a relationship between the well-reviewed quantitative aspects of Canada's labour market with its qualitative sides, such as the current state of job quality, job satisfaction, labour market segmentation, and new managerial paradigms.

Labour market analysis from an economics and sociology perspective was my primary focus during my undergraduate studies at the University of Alberta and Western Economic Diversification Canada. I would be interested to continue diving deeper into this topic for my capstone project.

## Marisa Makin

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## Guy Serrat

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

**[sppcareers@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sppcareers@ucalgary.ca)**



## THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

University of Calgary, Downtown Campus  
906 8th Avenue S.W., 5th Floor  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 1H9  
Phone: 403 210 3802

[www.policyschool.ca](http://www.policyschool.ca)