The School of Public Policy has always considered itself different. Somewhere between a think tank and a traditional research institute, we combine the agility and timeliness of a think tank with the scholarly rigour of peer-reviewed university research. Never has that model been more relevant, or called on, than during the COVID-19 crisis.

You might notice that our annual report is coming late this year. That is because we poured all our resources into providing research, commentary and advice not only on the pressing issues facing Canadians, but particularly on issues related to the COVID-19 crisis. The School’s research and publishing resources were directed immediately to best practices in health policy, economic recovery, assistance to vulnerable populations, and taxation and revenue. In addition, our experts were quickly called upon to lead COVID-19 response and recovery efforts at all levels of government.

From an already aggressive amount of research output, we leaned into the COVID-19 wind and worked harder than ever to provide the solutions that policy-makers and Canadians at large needed in this unprecedented time.

That is why support of the School of Public Policy is crucial – even though you might be reconsidering which organizations you support this year. The School is more than just ideas and papers, it is advice when advice is needed and action when action is needed.

We will continue to face Canada’s crucial problems boldly, with rigour, imagination, and the capacity to bring the best minds of the country together, from all sectors and all shades of opinion. Canada needs the School of Public Policy more than ever. I thank you in advance for considering support.
In addition to research, our experts were called upon to offer advice at the highest levels – including on responses to the COVID-19 crisis.
The Digital Divide and the Lack of Broadband Access During COVID-19
Katharina Koch

Northern Populism: Causes and Consequences of the New Ordered Outlook
Frank Graves & Jeff Smith

Robert Manuel, Niluhas Khanal & Trevor Tombe

Canada’s Food Security During the COVID-19 Pandemic
Kerri L. Holland

Social Policy Trends: COVID-19 Implications for Disability Assistance Clients
Craig Scott, Matthew Russell & Jennifer D. Zwicker

Michael Nesbitt

Considerations for Basic Income as a COVID-19 Response
David Green, Jonathan Rhys Kesselman & Lindsay Tedds

Economic Policy Trends: The Bank of Canada’s Response to COVID-19 and the Collapse in World Oil Prices
Scott Cameron

Economic Policy Trends: Unequal Burden: Learning from Canada’s Responses to the Influenza Pandemic of 1918-20
Shawn W. Brackett

Alberta’s Civil Society Pre- and Post-COVID-19: What’s Government Got to Do With It?
Aline Tuma & Carstoi Casamia Escamilla

Russian Geopolitical Objectives in the Current Oil Price Crisis and the Implications for Canada
Sergey Sukhankin

Social Policy Trends: Economic and Emotional Distress
Ronald Kwasbune

No Going Back: The Impact of ILO Convention 169 on Latin America in Comparative Perspective
Jose Aylew & Pablo Policarz

Economic Policy Trends: The Domestic Violence Crisis and COVID-19: Can Short-Term Rentals Help?
Daria Crisan

You Say USMCA or T-MEC and I Say CUSMA: The New NAFTA – Let’s Call the Whole Thing On
Eugene Beaulieu & Dylan Hafen

Economic Policy Trends: COVID-19 and Recent Post-Secondary Graduates
Christine Neil & Holly Foley

Economic Policy Trends: Post-Secondary Financial Aid and the Pandemic
Christine Neil & Holly Foley

Energy and Environmental Policy Trends: Power Demand in the Time of COVID-19
Blake Shaffer, Andrew Leahy & Nic Riems

Health Innovation and Commercialization Ecosystems and Public Health Emergency Response Systems
Craig Scott & Jennifer D. Zwicker

What is Holding Back Alberta’s Precision Health Innovation and Commercialization Ecosystem?
Craig Scott, Hubert Eng, Alexander Dubyk & Jennifer D. Zwicker

Energy and Environmental Policy Trends: Owed Landowners; The Status of Orphan Well Rental Recovery in Alberta
Victoria Goedkay & Braeden Larson

Fiscal Policy Trends: Bank Runs Can Occur in Uncertain Times, Including During a Pandemic, But They are Not Likely—Especially in Canada
Christos Shiamptanis

Primary Care Physician Compensation Reform: A Path for Implementation
Thomas Christopher Lange, Travis Carpenter & Jennifer D. Zwicker

Economic Policy Trends – Better in Theory? Why a Basic Income is Not the Right Policy for this Moment
Anna Cameron & Gillian Pellet

COVID-19 as a Tool of Information Confrontation: Russia’s Approach
Sergey Sukhankin

Social Policy Trends: Immigrant Physicians in Calgary
Robert Falconer

Energy & Environmental Policy Trends: Addressing the Threat of COVID-19 and the Oil Price War in the Petroleum Sector
Richard Mason & Jennifer Winter

Fiscal Policy Trends: Giving Cities and Municipal Taxpayers a Break During COVID-19 – A “How-To” Guide
Almos Tassonyi

Social Policy Trends: Vulnerable Populations and the COVID-19 Pandemic
Craig Scott, Jennifer D. Zwicker & Ronald Kneebone

Preferential Trade Agreements vs. Multilateralism: In the new Trump-world, Does Canada Face an Impossible Choice?
Judith Fabian

The 2019 Tax Competitiveness Report: Canada’s Investment and Growth Challenge
Philip Bazel & Jack Mintz

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Social Policy Trends: Life Expectancy and Social Policy
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On February 7, 2020, the School of Public Policy and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine announced the creation of the Simpson Centre.

Housed at the School of Public Policy, the Simpson Centre focuses on the public policies that facilitate the success of Canadian agri-food and agri-business. The goal is to make the Simpson Centre a locus of Canadian research that strengthens and supports the growth and sustainability of agri-food and agri-business – especially in Western Canada.

Extractive Resource Governance Program (ERGP)

The world is looking to Canada for expertise in resource extraction policy and the ERGP is delivering. Offering a one-of-a-kind program in the taxation, consultation, legal and social policy required for sustainable extractive resource development, the ERGP is in demand around the world.

The ERGP trained 214 officials from around the world in 2019 from countries including Panama, Peru, Colombia, Kenya, Mexico and ASEAN member countries.

Master of Public Policy (MPP)

Unlike traditional, theory-based graduate programs, the Master of Public Policy (MPP) enables students to solve a broad range of real-world policy problems. This practical, hands-on and intensive program is unlike any other policy program in Canada.

The MPP program graduated 46 students in the 2019-2020 cohort.

Master of Sustainable Energy Development (SEDV)

The Master of Sustainable Energy Development (SEDV) is a one-of-a-kind interdisciplinary approach to sustainable energy development that provides a comprehensive education in sustainable energy.

On April 1, 2019, the program moved to its new home at the School of Public Policy, where there are great synergies between SEDV and the Energy and Environment and ERGP groups. There is also tremendous opportunity to connect with the downtown community in the energy field.

The SEDV program graduated 20 students in 2019.

The Simpson Centre for Agricultural and Food Innovation and Public Education

On February 7, 2020, the School of Public Policy and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine announced the creation of the Simpson Centre.

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RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Social Policy and Health
Scientific Director, Ron Kneebone
The Social Policy and Health program improves the lives of Canadians by employing an objective, evidence-based approach to assessing existing and proposed public policies. Our research identifies practical solutions that cut through rhetoric designed to polarize debate and freeze policy-makers into inaction.

We apply this approach to programs in two policy areas:
• Health Policy
• Social Policy

Energy and Environmental Policy
Scientific Director, Jennifer Winter
Through disciplined research and analysis, the Energy and Environmental Policy research division provides practical solutions to Canada’s challenging energy and environmental problems. We do this by injecting evidence into policy debates, and by engaging with decision-makers, stakeholders and the public to create a forum for open and meaningful dialogue among different perspectives.

The research division has five priority areas for its research and outreach:
• Canadian Network for Energy Policy Research and Analysis
• Canadian Northern Corridor
• Energy for Life
• Energy Policy and Regulatory Frameworks
• Indigenous Policy

Fiscal and Economic Policy
Scientific Director, Lindsay Tedds
The goal of the Fiscal and Economic Policy area is to evaluate the fiscal and regulatory policies of the federal, provincial and municipal governments and propose policies that improve the lives of Canadians.

Its research programs provide evidence-based policy analysis and advice to governments, business and the public on how policies can be reformed to meet the challenges that we face today and in the future.

Fiscal and Economic Policy consists of five research programs:
• BC Basic Income
• Financial Markets Regulation
• Sustaining Prosperity
• Tax and Economic Growth
• Urban Policy

International Policy and Trade
Scientific Director, J.S. Rioux
A research program designed to evaluate policies and practices that maximize benefits for Canada by expanding trade and improving the security of our international relationships. Practical policy recommendations focus on the economics of international policy, particularly issues related to trade and Canada’s ties to emerging markets, and on improving Canada’s place in the world.

The School has three priority areas for its international policy work:
• International Trade
• Market Diversification
• Security and Defence
Combining Academic Rigour With Real-World Experience

OUR FELLOWS ARE A GROWING GROUP OF EXCEPTIONALLY EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS FROM BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIA. STUDENTS CAN ACCESS THEIR DEEP KNOWLEDGE, AND OUR RESEARCH PROGRAMS BENEFIT FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE IN THE PRACTICALITIES OF POLICY.

Distinguished Policy Fellows

Jim Gray
DISTINGUISHED POLICY FELLOW
Business and philanthropy

Stephen Harper
DISTINGUISHED POLICY FELLOW
Former Prime Minister of Canada

Nancy Southern
DISTINGUISHED POLICY FELLOW
Business and philanthropy

Blake Shaffer
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy and law

Brian Conger
RESEARCH FELLOW
Urban policy and land use regulation

Brendan Boyd
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

Carlos Ortiz-Gomez
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Geopolitics of energy

Dan Dutton
RESEARCH FELLOW
Social data and policy

Dan McCaffey
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Extractive resource governance

David Bercuson
RESEARCH FELLOW
Military policy and national defence

Fenner Stewart
RESEARCH FELLOW
Natural resource regulation and governance

Herbert Emery
RESEARCH FELLOW
Regional economics

Katrina Milaney
RESEARCH FELLOW
Public health

Leonardo Beltran
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy and climate change

Marcia Nelson
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Public-sector leadership and public policy

Matthew Foss
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy policy, taxation and economics

Michal Moore
RESEARCH FELLOW
Resource and energy economics

Michael Smart
RESEARCH FELLOW
Public finance and taxation

Norma Padron
RESEARCH FELLOW
Data analytics and AI

Peggy Garrity
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Strategic communications and brand development

Robert Skinner
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy policy-market history/geopolitics

Ron Wallace
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Environmental assessment and energy governance

Fellows

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EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Social policy and civil society

Almos Tassonyi
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Urban policy and municipal finance

Andre Turcotte
RESEARCH FELLOW
Public transport research, strategic communications

Andrei Sulzenko
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
National infrastructure and trade policy

Bev Dahlby
DISTINGUISHED FELLOW
Tax policy and fiscal federalism

Brian Bietz
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

Brian Livingston
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Alternative energy and up graders

Carol McAusland
RESEARCH FELLOW
International environmental economics

Colin Robertson
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Diplomacy, trade and security

Colum Smith
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Health networks and cancer policy

Deborah Archibald
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Community engagement and resource development policy

Ergete Ferede
RESEARCH FELLOW
Tax policy and fiscal federalism

Eddy Isaacs
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy and environmental technologies

Harrie Vredenburg
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

Hugh Stephens
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
International trade and Canada-Asia relations

Jack Mintz
PRESIDENCY’S FELLOW
Tax and economic policy

James Coleman
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy, trade and transport policy

Janice MacKinnon
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Fiscal policy and federal-provincial relations

J-F Wen
RESEARCH FELLOW
Taxation and social insurance

Jim Dilay
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Resource extraction policy

Joel Wood
RESEARCH FELLOW
Environmental economics

John Lester
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Tax, innovation and entrepreneurship

John Carruthers
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy, pipelines, regulation, engagement and negotiation

Kenneth McKenzie
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy, taxation and fiscal policy

Lana Wels
RESEARCH FELLOW
Social policy and violence prevention

Laura Dawson
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Economic policy and U.S.-Canada relations

Lawrie Savage
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Financial regulation, insurance and risk management

Leah Stokes
RESEARCH FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

Lucia Muehlenbachs
RESEARCH FELLOW
Water, resource and energy policy

Margaret Melhorn
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

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Michael Smart
RESEARCH FELLOW
Public finance and taxation

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Milan Vukov
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Energy and environmental policy

Nicholas Rivers
RESEARCH FELLOW
Environmental and renewable energy policy

Obena Robinson
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Sara Hastings-Simon
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Energy policy and public-sector governance

Ted Morton
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Federal-provincial relations, Alberta and U.S. policies

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RESEARCH FELLOW
Forecasting, fiscal and tax policy

Trevor Tombe
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
Trade, public finance and fiscal federalism

Uzi Arad
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
National security and defence policy

Vivian Bercovici
RESEARCH FELLOW
Middle East, foreign policy and Israel

Wayne Simpson
RESEARCH FELLOW
Basic income, labour markets and social policy

Wendy Dobson
EXECUTIVE FELLOW
International policy, trade and finance

Our Fellows are a growing group of exceptionally experienced professionals from business, government and academia. Students can access their deep knowledge, and our research programs benefit from their experience in the practicalities of policy.
Occasional lectures and seminars are offered in a variety of formats, including live streaming, broadcast, and video on-demand, to cater to the diverse needs of the students, faculty, and guests.

We aim to be an internationally leading centre for policy research and policy training. We will continue to rely on fact-based analysis, in our research and in our teaching. We will remain true to our roots and ensure that we are flexible, thorough and impactful.

— Pierre-Gerlier Forest, PhD, FCAHS

**OUR VALUES**

- **INDEPENDENCE**
  - Freedom to think boldly

- **DRIVE**
  - Getting things done

- **IMPACT**
  - Solving real-world problems

- **CONCERN**
  - Furthering the common good

- **RESPECT**
  - Holding ourselves to the highest standards

**OUR STRATEGIC GOALS**

1. Take the steps needed to continue to be Canada’s leading policy school.
2. Contribute original research that drives positive policy change.
3. Train the best, and most in-demand, policy analysts in Canada and around the world.
4. Achieve recognition as one of the world’s top policy schools.
5. Retain independence by diversifying funding sources.

**NECESSARY NEXT STEPS**

During its first 10 years, the School grew to become Canada’s leading policy school.

The School is a focal point for policy learning with its two professional master’s programs in public policy and sustainable energy development, international training and capacity-building programs in extractive resource governance, and focused research that is done to the highest standards of scholarship and objectivity.

In addition to the School’s traditional areas of expertise, it has recently expanded its focus to include a range of new initiatives.

**NEXT STEPS**

Join us – get connected – let us be your trusted source for public policy research and proposals.

**To learn more about supporting the School of Public Policy please contact**

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