

# Quarterly Report to Members, Subscribers and Friends

*First Quarter, 2016*



INSTITUT C.D. HOWE INSTITUTE

*Essential Policy Intelligence | Conseils indispensables sur les politiques*

## *Q1 highlights: effective and efficient policy research & outreach*

### ***Q1 research***

- ❖ 15 research papers
- ❖ 2 Monetary Policy Council releases

### ***Q1 policy events***

- ❖ 17 policy events and special meetings, including:
  - ❖ Toronto Roundtable – General Jonathan Vance, Chief of Defence Staff, Canadian Armed Forces
  - ❖ Calgary Roundtable – Evan Siddall, President and CEO of the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Association
  - ❖ Toronto Roundtable – Christine Hogan, Deputy Minister of International Trade

### ***Policy Outreach in Q1***

- ❖ 115,797 website pageviews
- ❖ 12 policy outreach presentations
- ❖ 74 *National Post* and *Globe and Mail* citations
- ❖ Citations in more than 300 media outlets
- ❖ 68 media interviews
- ❖ 18 opinion and editorial pieces

### ***Ontario Government Announces the New Ontario Student Grant***

- ❖ The Institute has argued for the replacement of non-refundable tax credits with refundable ones, since the former go disproportionately to relatively well-off families and only "kick in" after a student graduates, and has enough taxable income.
- ❖ Report: "[What you Don't Know Can't Help You: Lessons of Behavioural Economics for Tax-Based Student Aid](#)"

### ***Ontario Government Proposes Amendment to the Immunization of School Pupils Act***

- ❖ After the Institute exposed the province's failure to meet vaccination thresholds, the government proposed an amendment to the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* that would require parents seeking non-medical exemptions for their children to attend an information session held by their local public health unit.
- ❖ Report: "[A Shot in the Arm: How to Improve Vaccination Policy in Canada](#)"
- ❖ Op-Eds: Booster shot for Ontario's vaccination policies: [Toronto Star Op-Ed](#), Busby and Chesterley: Alberta must do more to ensure kids get vaccinated: [Calgary Herald Op-Ed](#), Complacency is the culprit when it comes to vaccinations: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#)

### ***Alberta Government Adopts Recommendations from the Royalty Review that Take Into Account the Cost of Production***

- ❖ The government's decision takes into account the cost of production, which is consistent with the Institute's widely cited research that called for the conversion of royalties to a cash-flow tax.
- ❖ Report: "[Drilling Down on Royalties: How Canadian Provinces Can Improve Non-Renewable Resource Taxes](#)"
- ❖ Op-Ed: True test of Alberta royalty review will be its real world application: [Edmonton Journal Op-Ed](#), A better way for Alberta to collect royalties: [Calgary Herald Op-Ed](#)

## *Q1 publications*

1. [The Future of Canadian Energy Policy](#) - January 7, 2016 - [Benjamin Dachis](#)
2. [Getting More Buildings for our Bucks: Canadian Infrastructure Policy in 2016](#) - January 13, 2016 - [Benjamin Dachis](#)
3. [Shifting Towards Autonomy: A Continuing Care Model for Canada](#) - January 19, 2016 - [Ake Blomqvist](#) and [Colin Busby](#)
4. [Challenging Vested Interests: National Priorities for Healthcare in 2016](#) - January 20, 2016 - [Ake Blomqvist](#) and [Colin Busby](#)
5. [Students in Jeopardy: An Agenda for Improving Results in Band-Operated Schools](#) - January 28, 2016 - Barry Anderson and [John Richards](#)
6. [Job One is Jobs: Workers Need Better Policy Support and Stronger Skills](#) - February 2, 2016 - [Craig Alexander](#)
7. [Looking for Liquidity: Banking and Emergency Liquidity Facilities](#) - February 9, 2016 - [Jeremy Kronick](#)
8. [The High Cost of Getting Ahead: How Effective Tax Rates Affect Work Decisions by Lower-Income Families](#) - February 11, 2016 - [Alexandre Laurin](#)
9. [The National Energy Board's Limits in Assessing Upstream Greenhouse Gas Emissions](#) - February 18, 2016 - [Benjamin Dachis](#) and Grant Bishop
10. [Learning from Mistakes: Improving Governance in the Ontario Electricity Sector](#) - February 24, 2016 - George Vegh

## *Q1 publications cont.*

11. [At the Global Crossroads: Canada's Trade Priorities for 2016](#) - March 3, 2016 - Daniel Schwanen
12. [Moving Parts: Immigration Policy, Internal Migration and Natural Resource Shocks](#) - March 10, 2016 - Michel Beine, Robin Boadway and Serge Coulombe
13. [Where the Bucks Stop: A Shadow Federal Budget for 2016](#) - March 16, 2016 - [Alexandre Laurin](#) and [William B.P. Robson](#)
14. [Tapping the Land: Tax Increment Financing of Infrastructure](#) - March 29, 2016 - [Adam Found](#)
15. [Mounting Evidence: Findings from Natural Experiments in Inflation Targeting](#) - March 31, 2016 - Michael Parkin

## *The five most-visited publications on the Institute website in Q1*

1. [Job One is Jobs: Workers Need Better Policy Support and Stronger Skills](#) - February 2, 2016 - [Craig Alexander](#)
2. [Challenging Vested Interests: National Priorities for Healthcare in 2016](#) - January 20, 2016 - [Ake Blomqvist](#) and [Colin Busby](#)
3. [Getting More Buildings for our Bucks: Canadian Infrastructure Policy in 2016](#) - January 13, 2016 - [Benjamin Dachis](#)
4. [The Future of Canadian Energy Policy](#) - January 7, 2016 - [Benjamin Dachis](#)
5. [Students in Jeopardy: An Agenda for Improving Results in Band-Operated Schools](#) - January 28, 2016 - Barry Anderson and John Richards

### ***January Op-Eds***

- ❖ Canada needs policies that encourage business investment: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 4
- ❖ On growth, Stephen Poloz could use a little help: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 9
- ❖ More angst than mystery in the loonie's decline: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 12
- ❖ How should Canada see the TPP? Depends on how we see the world: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 16
- ❖ Blomqvist & Busby: Crafting a better health accord: [National Post Op-Ed](#), January 18
- ❖ Ontario's proposed pension plan is just a notion with major holes: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 19
- ❖ If infrastructure is Canada's solution, let's at least do it smartly: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 21
- ❖ Will money make or break a new health accord?: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), January 25

### ***February Op-Eds***

- ❖ Amid avalanche of lost jobs, confusion reigns about EI eligibility: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), February 8
- ❖ True test of Alberta royalty review will be its real world application: [Edmonton Journal Op-Ed](#), February 9
- ❖ Two blessings and a curse facing Alberta's oil industry: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), February 10
- ❖ We should be thankful Stephen Poloz understands monetary policy's limits: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), Feb 2

### ***March Op-Eds***

- ❖ Federal stimulus is a pretty proposition, but what if it doesn't work? [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), March 17
- ❖ The problems in Canada's job market aren't what the headlines tell us: [Financial Post Op-Ed](#), March 17
- ❖ Ottawa needs to build on recent immigration reforms: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), March 18
- ❖ Liberals' 2016 Budget Opts For Big Spending Over Restraint: [Huffington Post Blog](#), March 22
- ❖ A deficit can be stimulus, but debt can be a burden: [Globe and Mail Op-Ed](#), March 23
- ❖ No luck for Edmonton in employment insurance lottery: [Edmonton Journal Op-Ed](#), March 24

## *Q1 member events & special meetings*

1. [Bob Bell, Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, January 18, 12:00 – 1:30pm
2. [Jos Schmitt, CEO, Aequitas Innovations](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, January 20, 12:00 – 1:30pm
3. [Paul Godfrey, CEO, Postmedia Group](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, January 26, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
4. [Lou Eccleston, CEO, TMX Group](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, January 28, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
5. [General Jonathan Vance, Chief of Defence Staff, Canadian Armed Forces](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, February 4, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
6. [Diane Craig, President & CEO, Ford Motor Company of Canada](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, February 9, 12:00 – 1:30pm
7. [Malcolm Hamilton, Senior Fellow, C.D. Howe Institute; and Jim Keohane, President and CEO of HOOP - Leverage in Canadian Pension Funds](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, February 10, 12:00 – 1:30pm
8. [Brian Jean, Leader of Alberta's Official Opposition](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, February 22, 12:00 - 1:30pm
9. [John Ruffolo, CEO, OMERS Ventures](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, February 23, 12:00 -1:30pm
10. [Ian Russell, President and CEO, IIAC; Wendy Rudd, Senior VP, Market Regulation and Policy IIROC; and Raj Kothari, Partner at PriceWaterhouseCoopers; Hugh Moncrieff, Senior Vice President, Great-West Life - The Role of Regulation in Retail Financial Services](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, March 1, 12:00 - 1:30pm



## *Q1 member events & special meetings cont.*

11. [John Stackhouse, Senior Vice President, Office of the CEO, RBC](#) - *Mass Disruption: Thirty Years on the Front Lines of Media*: Toronto Evening Event, March 3, 5:00 –6:30pm
12. [William Charnetski, Chief Health Innovation Strategist, Ontario](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, March 7, 12:00 -1:30pm
13. [James Hinds, former Chair, Hydro One; Jim Hinds, Director, Hydro One; and Bob Huggard, President and CEO, OEA](#) - *The New Reality: Energy Prices in Ontario*: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, March 9, 12:00 - 1:30pm
14. [Evan Siddall, President and CEO of the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Association](#): Calgary Roundtable Luncheon, Web conference to Toronto, March 14, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
15. [Gaeton Caron, Executive Fellow, School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary; James Coleman, Assistant Professor, University of Calgary; Chris Bloomer, President and CEO of CEPA](#): Calgary Roundtable Luncheon, March 22, 12:00 – 1:30 pm
16. [Christine Hogan, Deputy Minister of International Trade](#): Toronto Roundtable Luncheon, March 30, 12:00 – 1:30pm, sponsored by [Barrick Gold Corporation](#)
17. [Frances Woolley, Professor at Carleton University; David Gray , Professor at the University of Ottawa](#) - *Employment Insurance Reform*: Ottawa Roundtable Luncheon, March 31, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

## *Q1 selected media coverage*

### **National & International**

24News.ca  
Benefits and Pensions Monitor  
Benefits Canada  
Bloomberg  
Business News Network  
Canada.com  
CanadianBusiness.com  
Canadian Press  
CBC – The Current  
CBC News – The Exchange  
CTV News  
Financial Post  
Globe and Mail  
Global News  
The Economist  
The Guardian  
Huffington Post Canada  
iPolitics  
La Presse Canadienne  
Maclean's  
Money  
National Newswatch  
National Post  
New York Times  
Wall Street Journal

### **Ontario**

Global News  
Hamilton Spectator  
Hill Times  
London Free Press  
Ottawa Citizen  
Ottawa Star  
Ottawa Sun  
The Sudbury Star  
Toronto Star  
Toronto Sun  
Waterloo Region Record  
Windsor Star

### **Atlantic**

Chronicle Herald  
CTV Atlantic News  
Telegram

### **Quebec**

Affaires  
CTV Montreal News  
Le Devoir  
Le Journal de Montréal  
Le Journal de Québec

La Presse  
Le Huffington Post  
Montreal Gazette  
Radio Canada  
QMI

### **Western**

Calgary Herald  
Calgary Sun  
CBC Manitoba  
CBC News British Columbia  
CTV Winnipeg  
Global BC  
Edmonton Examiner  
Edmonton Journal  
Edmonton Sun  
Province  
Regina Leader Post  
Star Phoenix  
Times Colonist  
Vancouver Sun  
Winnipeg Free Press  
Winnipeg Metro  
Winnipeg Sun



## *Q1 policy outreach by Institute staff*

1. *Bill Robson* presented “Outside Perspective on Priorities for the New Government” to the **Ontario Federal Council** – January 26, Toronto
2. *Alexandre Laurin* lectured on tax policy at the **University of Toronto** – January 28, Toronto
3. *Colin Busby* presented to the **The Healthcare Ecosystem** – January 29, Mississauga
4. *Daniel Schwanen* provided expert testimony on “The Causes and Effects of the Recent Decline in the Canadian Dollar Exchange Rate” before the **Senate Standing Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce** – February 17, Ottawa
5. *Alexandre Laurin* provided expert testimony regarding the federal budget before the **House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance** – February 19, Ottawa
6. *Ben Dachis* participated in a panel on municipal government at the **Manning Centre Conference** – February 26, Ottawa
7. *Bill Robson* participated in a panel entitled “The Grey Tsunami: Preparing for Canada's Aging Population” at the **Manning Centre Conference** – February 27, Ottawa
8. *Daniel Schwanen* participated in a panel for the RBC Schulich Enterprise Forum at the **Schulich School of Business** – March 3, Toronto
9. *Colin Busby* provided expert testimony on the “Impact of Recent Changes to Employment Insurance and of Access to the Program” to the **Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities** – March 9, 2016
10. *Ben Dachis* presented “Silver Bullets for Growth: Infrastructure” to the **Canadian Association for Business Economics** – March 10, Ottawa
11. *Bill Robson* presented The David Dodge Lecture entitled “Getting Ponzi out of Public Programs: Fiscal and Pension Sustainability in Canada” at **Queen’s University** – March 10, Kingston
12. *Bill Robson* participated as a judge in the national finals of the Governor's Challenge at the **Bank of Canada** – March 13, Ottawa



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- It is Canada's most trusted source of essential policy intelligence: its rigorously refereed work is evidence-based, timely, constructive, and authoritative.
- It has an established public policy track record: its work helped lay the foundation for such key initiatives as continental free trade, inflation control, balanced budgets, more sustainable pensions, lower tax rates, and immigration reform.
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- The Chairman of the Institute is [Hugh MacKinnon](#), Chairman & CEO of Bennett Jones; [William B.P. Robson](#) is President & CEO.
- For more information about the Institute, please visit its website: [www.cdhowe.org](http://www.cdhowe.org)