Quarterly Report to Members, Subscribers and Friends

First Quarter, 2018
Q1 Highlights: Impactful Policy Research & Outreach

Q1 Research

- 14 research papers
- 2 Monetary Policy Council releases

Q1 Policy Events

- 24 policy events and special meetings, including:
  - Toronto Roundtable – The Hon. James Moore, former Minister of Industry
  - Montreal Roundtable – Mayor Valerie Plante, City of Montreal
  - Calgary Roundtable – Jim Ellis, President and CEO, Alberta Energy Regulator

- 16 Inside Access conference calls featuring the authors of Institute research summarizing their work

Policy Outreach in Q1

- 152,470 website page views
- 7 policy outreach presentations
- 58 National Post and The Globe and Mail citations
- Citations in more than 300 media outlets
- 56 media interviews
- 9 opinion and editorial pieces
- 63 Intelligence Memos
Q1 Policy Influence

❖ National Research Council launches a trial to explore the use of blockchain technology to publish funding and grant information in real time. The Institute’s report recommended that the government ought to start working with blockchain platforms for improved delivery of government services.

Report: “All’s Well that Ends Well: Addressing End-of-Life Liabilities for Oil and Gas Wells” by Benjamin Dachis, Blake Shaffer, Vincent Thivierge
❖ The Institute’s paper was cited in many of the factums brought to the Supreme Court of Canada concerning the Redwater case. The upcoming decision is expected set the precedent for bankruptcy policy across Canada.

Report: “How to Restore Public Trust and Credibility at the National Energy Board” by Lesley Matthews
❖ Several modernization reforms announced by the National Energy Board are designed by the recommendations from the Institute’s paper. Specifically, reforms pertaining to the regulator’s independence, conflict of interest rules and transparency.


3. **Headed for the Poorhouse: How to Ensure Seniors Don’t Run Out of Cash before They Run Out of Time**, January 23, 2018 – Bonnie-Jeanne MacDonald


5. **Death by a Thousand Cuts? Western Canada’s Oil and Natural Gas Policy Competitiveness Scorecard**, February 1, 2018 – Benjamin Dachis

6. **Understanding the Volatility of the Canadian Exchange Rate**, February 8, 2018 – Martin Eichenbaum, Benjamin K. Johannsen and Sergio Rebelo


11. **Inflated Expectations: More Immigrants Can’t Solve Canada’s Aging Problem on Their Own**, March 13, 2018 – William B.P. Robson and Parisa Mahboubi


13. **Faulty Transmissions: How Demographics Affect Monetary Policy in Canada**, March 27, 2018 – Steve Ambler and Jeremy Kronick

1. **Death by a Thousand Cuts? Western Canada’s Oil and Natural Gas Policy Competitiveness Scorecard** – February 1, 2018 – Benjamin Dachis


3. **Fiscal Soundness and Economic Growth: An Economic Program for Ontario** – March 21, 2018 – Benjamin Dachis


5. **Headed for the Poorhouse: How to Ensure Seniors Don’t Run Out of Cash before They Run Out of Time** – January 23, 2018 – Bonnie-Jeanne MacDonald
January Op-Eds

- The post-NAFTA world is starting to take shape – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Jan. 12
- Where does the Bank of Canada go after the latest rate hike? – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Jan. 18
- Hold on – the Canadian labour market has not fully recovered yet – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Jan. 26

February Op-Eds

- Getting to the heart of the Western energy debate – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Feb. 8
- The ripple effect of Ontario’s minimum-wage increase – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Feb. 18
- Budget confirms that deficits are a feature for this government – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, Feb. 28

March Op-Eds

- Immigration alone can’t keep Canada young – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, March 19
- Demographic challenges are key to solving Canada’s inflation riddle – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, March 30
January Intelligence Memos

3. Parisa Mahboubi - Dissecting Income Inequality, Jan. 4
4. Rosalie Wyonch - Don’t Let the Dealer Run Dry: Legal Marijuana Supply, Jan. 5
5. Jon Johnson - Your Convention, President Trump and a Sign of High Regard, Jan. 8
6. Ben Dachis - How to Judge the King Streetcar Lane Pilot, Jan. 9
8. Alexandre Laurin - Canada’s Two-Parent Tax Trap and How to Fix It, Jan. 11
10. Laurin, Milligan - Tax Options for Childcare that Encourage Work, Flexibility, Choice, Fairness and Quality, Jan. 16
11. Kronick and Omran - China and Australia, Lessons for Canada’s Financial Sector, Jan. 17
12. Benjamin Dachis - Keep Clean Fuel Standard in Low Gear, Jan. 18
16. Robson and Kronick - Slumping Money Growth May Prefigure a Slumping Economy, Jan. 23
18. Benjamin Dachis - Don’t Limit Airline Competition behind Closed Doors, Jan. 25
20. Colin Busby - Bad to Worse in Healthcare: How the Provinces Rank Internationally, Jan. 29
22. Benjamin Dachis - Bring Cities Back to the Table at Metrolinx, Jan. 31
February Intelligence Memos
2. Adam Found and Peter Tomlinson - The Best (and Worst) Big Cities for Business Investment in Canada, Feb. 2
4. Jeremy Kronick - Ottawa’s National Housing Strategy Misses the Biggest Target, Feb. 6
5. Fenner Stewart - Oil Well Reclamation and the Redwater Decision, Feb. 7
10. Jeremy M. Kronick - The Importance of Changes to Financial Advice, Feb. 14
11. Kevin Milligan - Ottawa’s Corporate Taxation Opportunity, Feb. 15
12. Eichenbaum, Johannsen, Rebelo - Commodity Prices Not Best Predictor for the Loonie, Feb. 16
14. Omran, Kronick - Could the Eleventh Try Be the Charm for a Canada-India Trade Deal?, Feb. 21
17. Robson, Laurin, Wyonch - Righting the Course: A Shadow Budget for 2018, Feb. 23
18. Robson, Laurin, Wyonch - Budget 2018: Here’s How to Help Seniors, Feb. 26
19. Branko Bošković - Bold Steps to Save Alberta’s Caribou, Feb. 27
20. Budget 2018: Our First Take, Feb. 28
March Intelligence Memos

1. Alexandre Laurin - Employment and Pay (In)equality: The Big Childcare Issue Unaddressed in the Budget, March 1
2. David Rosner - It’s Time to Reform Canada’s Merger Notification Rules, March 2
3. William B. P. Robson - New Accounting May Reveal Government Pension Liabilities, March 5
4. Blake Shaffer - To Change or not to Change? The Daylight Savings Debate Won’t Die, March 6
5. Bernard and Kichian - The Effects of the B.C. Carbon Tax on Diesel Demand, March 7
6. Lawrence Herman - On Tariffs, There are Rules. And Here's One, Mr. Trump, March 8
7. Rosalie Wyonch - An International Comparison of Gender Balance, March 8
9. Jon Johnson - With National Security now for Sale, Congress Must Take Charge of Trade, March 9
10. Robson, Kim - Let’s Get You the Tools You Need to Succeed, March 12
12. Daniel Schwanen – Maximizing de Minimis in NAFTA, March 14
13. Dachis, Kim - How contracting waste services can improve municipal services, March 15
14. Richards, Mahboubi - Let’s Get Serious about Indigenous student outcomes, March 16
17. Benjamin Dachis - An Economic Program for Ontario, March 23
19. Robson, Mahboubi - Later Retirement versus Higher Immigration as Remedies for an Aging Population, March 27
20. Jon Johnson - Stand Up For Trade, March 28
21. Omran, Robson - Are Governments Jamming You with Their Budgets? March 29
1. 2018 Financial Outlook: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Rahim Hirji, Benjamin Tal, and Barbara Zvan, Jan. 10

2. NAFTA in the New Year: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with The Honourable James Moore, Jan. 24

3. The Best Healthcare System: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Dr. Bob Bell, Jan. 25

4. 2017 Commonwealth Fund Rankings: Toronto Executive Access Briefing with Colin Busby, Jan. 25

5. OSFI Stress-Testing: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Tim Hudak and Gregory Klump, Jan. 30

6. Canada’s 2018 Foreign Policy Agenda: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Ian Shugart, Feb. 2

7. Blockchain 2.0 – Applying Blockchain to Capital Markets: Webinar, with Usman Sheikh and Fredrik Vos, Feb. 7

8. The Automotive Industry in 2018: Potholes or Smooth Sailing? Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Dennis DesRosiers and Jon Johnson, Feb. 8

9. Canada’s Energy Sector Policy Competitiveness Index: Calgary Executive Access Briefing with Ben Dachis, Feb. 9

10. Advancing Canada’s Interests at the WTO: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Stephen de Boer, Feb. 12
11. Building and Maintaining Ontario’s Place in the New Global Economy: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with The Honourable Steven Del Duca, Feb. 15


13. Keeping Canada Tax-Competitive in the Era of President Trump: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Dr. Jack Mintz, Feb. 21

14. The Election is Coming: What the Ontario Budget Should Be: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Ben Dachis, Rocco Rossi, and Douglass E. Turnbull, Feb. 22

15. Calgary Roundtable Luncheon with Jim Ellis, Feb. 27


17. 2018 Post-Budget Briefing: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Paul Rochon, March 6

18. ESG: The Way forward for Institutional Investments? Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Ron Mock, March 8

19. Executive Access Briefing with Johan Beerlandt, March 14

20. A Conversation with Mayor Valerie Plante: Montreal Roundtable Luncheon, March 19

22. Northern Lights, Camera, Action: Strengthening Canadian Television Content: Ottawa Roundtable Luncheon with Lawson Hunter, Ken Engelhart, and Peter Miller, March 27

23. Canada’s Trade Agenda: Toronto Roundtable Luncheon with Timothy Sargent, March 28
Q1 Selected Media Coverage
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ONTARIO

Hill Times
Ottawa Citizen
Toronto Star

QUEBEC

Le Devoir
La Presse

WESTERN

Calgary Herald
Edmonton Journal
The Province
Regina Leader-Post
The Vancouver Sun
Winnipeg Free Press
1. *Ben Dachis* served as a panelist on GTA Movement of People & Goods Panel Discussion at the Toronto Real Estate Board’s Market Year in Review & Outlook Event – Toronto, Jan. 30, 2018

2. *Alexandre Laurin* delivered his annual tax policy lecture for the graduate students of the School of Public Policy & Governance at the University of Toronto – Toronto, Jan. 25, 2018

3. *Rosalie Wyonch* presented on artificial intelligence and inclusive growth as part of the NRCan Speakers Series – Ottawa, Jan. 29, 2018

4. *Bill Robson* gave a keynote address on “*Canada: A Trading Nation in a Protectionist World*” at the 40th anniversary of the international relations program at the Trinity College – Toronto, Feb. 2, 2018

5. Ben Dachis participated in an IMFG and Canadian Tax Foundation symposium on municipal taxation, “*Funding the Canadian City – a National Dialogue on Municipal Taxation and Fees*” – Toronto, Feb. 7, 2018

6. *Jeremy Kronick* testified on the impact of interest rates on international competitiveness before the Banking, Trade and Commerce Committee at the Senate of Canada – Ottawa, Feb. 14, 2018


8. *Ben Dachis* discussed his work on importance of budgets and financial statements in municipal policy at Civic Tech Hack Night – Toronto, Feb. 20, 2018
9. Alexandre Laurin served as a guest speaker at KPMG’s budget day briefing webcast, “Federal Budget 2018: A First-hand Look” – Ottawa, Feb. 27, 2018

10. Bill Robson made a presentation to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Medical Association on “More Gray; Less Green: Ontario’s Demographic and Fiscal Challenges” – Toronto, March 3, 2018

11. Parisa Mahboubi presented her immigration report at the “Future Directions: Navigating Changes in the Field of Employment Services for Newcomers” conference organized by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada – Calgary, March 19, 2018
1. John Richards, Professor, School of Public Policy, Simon Fraser University
2. Carolyn Tuohy, Professor Emeritus, School of Public Policy & Governance, University of Toronto
3. Ian Irvine, Professor, Economics, Concordia University
4. Paul Jenkins, Senior Distinguished Fellow, Faculty of Public Affairs, Carleton University
5. Jonathan Rhys Kesselman, Professor, School of Public Policy, Simon Fraser University
6. Kevin Milligan, Professor, Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia
7. Ugurhan Berkok, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Wilfrid Laurier University
8. Pierre Siklos, Professor, Department of Economics, Wilfrid Laurier University
9. Zachary Spicer, Assistant Professor, Brock University
10. William Watson, Professor, Department of Economics, McGill University
11. Jim Davies, Professor, Department of Economics, Western University
12. Patrick Fafard, Associate Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa
13. Joerg Wittenbrinck, Lecturer, Ryerson University

Institute Staff Teaching Positions
1. Bill Robson teaches public finance at the School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Toronto
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