Quarterly Report to Members, Subscribers and Friends

Fourth Quarter, 2018

Institut C.D. Howe Institute

Essential Policy Intelligence | Conseils indispensables sur les politiques
Q4 Highlights: Impactful Policy Research & Outreach

Q4 Research
- 9 research papers
- 2 books
- 2 Monetary Policy Council releases

Q4 Policy Events
- 18 policy events and special meetings, including:
  - Toronto Roundtable – Bob Hamilton, Commissioner, Canada Revenue Agency
  - Montreal Dinner – Alain Dupont, Michel Dumoulin and Sylvain Durocher
  - Calgary Roundtable – Mary Ballantyne, Jeff Boyd, and Trevor Tombe
- 5 Inside Access conference calls featuring the authors of Institute research summarizing their work

Policy Outreach in Q4
- 234,667 website page views
- 9 policy outreach presentations
- 56 National Post and The Globe and Mail citations
- Citations in more than 800 media outlets
- 33 media interviews
- 5 opinion and editorial pieces
- 56 Intelligence Memos
Commentary “Unhappy Returns: A Preliminary Estimate of Taxpayers Responsiveness to the 2016 Top Tax Rate Hike” by Alexandre Laurin

Commentary “Hidden Beneficial Ownership and Control: Canada as a Pawn in the Global Game of Money Laundering” by Denis Meunier
❖ Senator Tkachuk references paper on Hidden Beneficial Ownership at Senate Finance Committee and referred to it as a "source of credible information“.

Op-Ed: “High minimum wages have minimum benefit: Globe and Mail Op-Ed” by Parisa Mahboubi
❖ The new Ontario government decided to halt planned minimum wage hike from January 1st.

❖ Fiscal update introduced immediate expensing for machinery and equipment.

Intelligence Memo: “Pantaleo, Laurin - US Tax Reform Requires Immediate Action” by Nick Pantaleo and Alex Laurin
❖ Fiscal Update introduced Accelerated Investment Incentive that will effectively suspend the half-year rule. Eliminating the half-year rule that would enable businesses to claim in the first year the maximum depreciation deduction otherwise available, as opposed to only one-half.
Report: “Retiring Employees, Unretired Debt: The Surprising Hidden Cost of Federal Employee Pensions” by William B.P. Robson and Alex Laurin
❖ Ottawa's financial results for the 2017/18 fiscal year reflected a more realistic measurement of the government’s unfunded pension liability.

Report: “The Rocky Road to Canada-wide Carbon Pricing?” by Tracy Snoddon
❖ The federal government opted to return majority of carbon backstop revenues to households.

Report: “High Standards: A Blueprint for the Marijuana Market in Canada” by Anindya Sen and Benjamin Dachis
❖ The Federal government will table a bill next year creating a new amnesty process for Canadians convicted of possession of under 30 grams of cannabis.
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<td>1</td>
<td>Wild Numbers: Getting Better Fiscal Accountability in Canada’s Municipalities, December 13, 2018 – William B.P. Robson, Farah Omran</td>
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<td>Pursuing Reconciliation: The Case for an Off-Reserve Urban Agenda, November 27, 2018 – John Richards</td>
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<td>Tales from the Crypt - How to Regulate Initial Coin Offerings, November 21, 2018 – Jeremy Kronick</td>
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<td>Show Us the Numbers: Grading the Financial Reports of Canada’s Municipalities, November 13, 2018 – William B.P. Robson, Farah Omran</td>
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<td>Assessing Active Labour-Market Programs: How Effective is Ontario Works?, October 31, 2018 – Jason Adams, Ken Chow, David Rosé</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>A Roadmap to Municipal Reform: Improving Life in Canadian Cities, October 17, 2018 – Benjamin Dachis</td>
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9. The Rocky Road to Canada-wide Carbon Pricing, October 17, 2018 – Tracy Snoddon


11. Piling On – How Provincial Taxation of Insurance Premiums Costs Consumers, October 2, 2018 – Alex Laurin, Farah Omran
1. Tooling Up: Canada Needs More Robust Capital Investment, September 13, 2018 - William B.P. Robson, Jeremy Kronick and Jacob Kim


4. The Rocky Road to Canada-wide Carbon Pricing, October 17, 2018 – Tracy Snoddon

5. Show Us the Numbers: Grading the Financial Reports of Canada’s Municipalities, November 13, 2018 – William B.P. Robson, Farah Omran
October Op-Eds
❖ Without easy retail access to cannabis, the black market will thrive - Globe and Mail Op-Ed, October 16

November Op-Eds
❖ Canada still has more work to do to restore tax competitiveness - Globe and Mail Op-Ed, November 22

December Op-Eds
❖ Initial coin offerings could provide badly needed funding for Canadian startups – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, December 12
❖ Ottawa must prioritize the well-being of off-reserve First Nations citizens – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, December 13
❖ The Bank of Canada needn’t overhaul its 2% inflation target. It’s a proven success - Financial Post Op-Ed, December 18
October Intelligence Memos

1. Kronick, Robson - The High Bar to Replace the Bank of Canada’s 2-percent target, October 1, 2018
2. Rosalie Wyonch - Regulation of Edible and Concentrated Marijuana Products, October 2, 2018
3. Daniel Schwanen - New trade agreement with the United States and Mexico, October 3, 2018
4. Laurin, Omran - Insurance Premium Taxation is Archaic and Counterproductive, October 4, 2018
5. Mahboubi, Sullivan - The Brain Drain Continues; Let’s Stop It, October 5, 2018
6. Lawrence Herman - The US-Mexico-Canada Trade Deal – Assessing the China Controversy, October 9, 2018
7. Andrew Roman - The Trans Mountain Appeal: delay is denial, October 10, 2018
8. William B.P. Robson - Pensions of Federal Employees are Way Underfunded – Including Yours, October 11, 2018
9. Grant Sprague - With no change in the decision-making process, how will Bill C-69 result in change?, October 12, 2018
10. Sen, Wyonch - Missing Out on Marijuana Taxes, October 16, 2018
11. Grant Bishop - Federal carbon-pricing backstop is new constitutional territory, October 17, 2018
12. Found, Tomlinson - Tax Barriers to Investment – Large Canadian Cities Edge Out US Competitors, October 18, 2018
13. Tracy Snoddon - How Should Ottawa Distribute its Carbon Pricing Revenues? October 19, 2018
14. Bill Robson - Ottawa Comes Part-Way Clean on its Pensions, October 19, 2018
15. Mahboubi, Schwanen - Translating population growth into the labour force, October 22, 2018
16. Debra Steger - Reform of the World Trade Organization, October 23, 2018
17. Jon Johnson - Clarity still needed on USMCA auto rules of origin, October 24, 2018
18. Farah Omran - What the Carbon Backstop Means for Households, October 25, 2018
October Intelligence Memos, Cont.

20. Daniel Schwanen - Canadian interest and possibilities in avoiding a “hard Brexit” (Part One), October 30, 2018
21. Daniel Schwanen - Canadian interest and possibilities in avoiding a “hard Brexit” (Part Two), October 31, 2018

November Intelligence Memos

1. Anna Stokke - What to Do about Canada’s Declining Math Scores, November 1, 2018
2. Andrew Dusevic - How the New Impact Assessment Act Could Block Canada's Nuclear Progress, November 2, 2018
3. William B.P. Robson - Stimulus is Over – Now Your Spending is Crowding Everyone Else Out, November 5, 2018
4. Grant Bishop - Foreign Investment Would Benefit from the End of Net Benefit, November 6, 2018
5. David Rosé - Skills Training Versus Job Placement: It’s Complicated, November 7, 2018
6. Parisa Mahboubi - How to speed labour market integration of immigrants and refugees, November 8, 2018
7. Christopher Sands - How U.S. Midterm Results Will Affect Congressional Approval of the USMCA, November 9, 2018
8. Grant Bishop - Should Calgary go for Olympic gold?, November 9, 2018
9. Don Drummond - Making Good on the Promise to Support Indigenous Languages, November 12, 2018
10. Kronick, Hui - The Path to Open Banking in Canada, November 13, 2018
11. Anita Anand - The Supreme Court Opens Door to a New Model of Securities Regulation, November 13, 2018
November Intelligence Memos, Cont.

12. Joe Oliver - The Regent Debate: Is Canada Facing an Existential Crisis in Competitiveness? November 19, 2018
13. Jonathan Fried - Anchoring Sustainable Growth in Disruptive Times, November 15, 2018
14. Parisa Mahboubi - The benefits of encouraging greater labour force participation of older workers, November 16, 2018
15. Kevin Milligan - It's Time for a Tax Reform Two-Step, November 19, 2018
16. Jeremy M. Kronick - Improving the Financial Services Sector, November 20, 2018
17. Omran, Bishop - Ottawa must clear the air on details of its carbon pricing backstop, November 21, 2018
18. William B.P. Robson - That Rainy Day You Should Be Saving For? It’s Getting Closer, November 22, 2018
20. Irvine, Wyonch - Pricing Cannabis on the Street, November 27, 2018
21. Robson, Omran - Grading the Financial Reports of Canada’s Municipalities, November 28, 2018
22. Alexandre Laurin - Retirement policy planning for Budget 2019, November 29, 2018
23. Grant Bishop - Alberta faces tough choices on discounted oil prices: could auctioning pipeline capacity be an option?, November 30, 2018
December Intelligence Memos

1. Alexandre Laurin - Let's Revisit that Tax Hike, December 3, 2018
3. Janet Ecker - The Regent Debate: Is Canada Facing an Existential Crisis in Competitiveness?, December 5, 2018
4. Dwight Duncan - The Regent Debate: Is Canada Facing an Existential Crisis in Competitiveness?, December 6, 2018
5. Kristen van de Biezenbos - Unpacking the Keystone XL Mess, December 10, 2018
6. The Regent Debate: Duncan, Duguid – Rebuttals, December 11, 2018
7. Rosalie Wyonch - Competitive Digital Taxation for Federal Budget 2019, December 12, 2018
8. The Regent Debate: Oliver, Ecker – Rebuttals, December 13, 2018
9. John Richards - Education the Critical Piece for an Indigenous Urban Agenda, December 14, 2018
10. Daniel Schwanen - Supporting Open and Fair Trade in Budget 2019, December 17, 2018
11. Blake Shaffer - You get what you pay for: Cost and value in renewables procurement, December 18, 2018
12. Koeppl, Kronick - How to Regulate Initial Coin Offerings, December 19, 2018
13. Jon Johnson - The Art of Breaking the Deal is Back on the Table, December 20, 2018
14. Wyonch, Omran - Budget 2019: Regulation of Edibles and Concentrated Marijuana Products, December 21, 2018
15. Alexandre Laurin - Canada's Two-Parent Tax Trap and How to Fix It, December 31, 2018
Q4 Member Events & Special Meetings

1. Provincial Taxations of Insurance Premiums: The Way Forward - Roundtable Luncheon with Alex Laurin, Jack Mintz and Sarah Noftell, October 3, 2018

2. The Innovation and Competitive Imperative: Seizing Opportunities for Growth: Roundtable Luncheon with Murad Al-Katib, Charles Dequiere, and Lorraine Mitchelmore, October 4, 2018

3. The US-Mexico-Canada Agreement: What Does it Mean? Roundtable Luncheon with Lawrence Herman, Caroline Hughes and Daniel Schwanen, October 10, 2018

4. Anchoring Sustainable Growth in Disruptive Times: Annual Sylvia Ostry Lecture with Jonathan T. Fried, October 15, 2018

5. Standing Against the Tide: Canada’s Place in a Strange New World: Annual Scholars' Dinner with Michael Ignatieff, President, Central European University, and Former Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, October 22, 2018

6. Fixing the Growth Capital Gap in Canada: Canadian Business Growth Fund: Roundtable Luncheon with George Rossolatos, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Business Growth Fund, October 23, 2018

7. Bob Hamilton, Commissioner, Canada Revenue Agency: Roundtable Luncheon, October 25, 2018

8. Weak Business Investment: Addressing a Grave Threat to Canada’s Economy: Roundtable Luncheon with William Robson, Hugh Swandel, and Peter van Dijk, October 29, 2018

9. Managing Expectations: Doing Trade with the Trump Administration: Roundtable luncheon with Mary Ballantyne, Jeff Boyd, and Trevor Tombe, October 30, 2018
Q4 Member Events & Special Meetings

10. The Value of a Good Pension: How to Improve the Efficiency of Retirement Savings in Canada: Roundtable Luncheon with Jim Keohane and Alex Mazer, November 1, 2018

11. Regent Debate: Is Canada Facing an Existential Crisis in Competitiveness? The Second Regent Debate, November 6, 2018

12. Special Policy Conference: Open Banking in Canada: The Time is Now, November 15, 2018

13. Unlocking Canada’s Potential: Roundtable Luncheon with The Hon. Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition & Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, November 26, 2018

14. Changing Markets Require Responsive Regulation: Annual Benefactors' Lecture and Dinner with Maureen Jensen, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC), November 29, 2018

15. Transforming Canada’s Healthcare System with a Value-Based Approach: Roundtable Luncheon with Melissa Farrell, Wendy Levinson and Christopher Naugler, December 3, 2018

16. Adopter l'approche de la fabrication additive: Le Québec, moteur de l'innovation mondiale / Taking the Additive Approach: Québec as a Driver of Global Innovation: Dîner/Dinner - Alain Dupont, Michel Dumoulin et/and Sylvain Durocher, December 6, 2018

17. Managing Risk in the Canadian Housing Market: Special Policy Conference, December 11, 2018

18. “Regulator” Reform: 2018 Annual Financial Services Conference, December 13, 2018
Q4 Selected Media Coverage

NATIONAL

THE GLOBE AND MAIL
NATIONAL POST
CBC
BNN BUSINESS NEWS NETWORK
CTV NEWS

INTERNATIONAL

Rolling Stone
NEW YORK POST
The Economist
Q4 Selected Media Coverage

ONTARIO

HAMILTON SPECTATOR

CityNews

Global NEWS

The London Free Press

WESTERN

THE VANCOUVER SUN

THE STAR EDMONTON

SUN

SUN

QUEBEC

MONTRÉAL GAZETTE

LE JOURNAL DE MONTRÉAL
1. *Bill Robson* was invited to appear before the Standing Committee on Government Operations during its review of public sector pension – Ottawa (via videoconference), October 2

2. *Alexandre Laurin* participated in the invitation-only Canadian Chamber of Commerce Tax Competitiveness Roundtable – Toronto, October 11


4. *Rosalie Wyonch* liaised with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada on the topic of indirect taxation of the digital economy – Ottawa (via phone), October 24

5. *Bill Robson* gave the keynote dinner speech at the Annual Senior Tax Practitioners’ Institute – Cambridge, October 25

6. *Bill Robson* participated in the Bank of Canada’s Annual Economic Conference on Inflation Targeting – Ottawa, November 1


8. *Alexandre Laurin* presented on tax issues affecting retirement at iAIC Wealth Management Conference – Montreal, November 8

9. *Jeremy Kronick* was invited to take part in the Bank of Canada Financial System Survey – Toronto, November 16
10. *Bill Robson* addressed the Canadian Forces College National Security Programme on long-term challenges to Canada’s economy and Canada’s place in the world – Toronto, November 19

11. *Bill Robson* participated in the closing panel discussion on Canada’s investment climate at the Tax Executives International Conference – Toronto, November 20

12. *Bill Robson* participated in a roundtable discussion on pension risks at the 2018 Pension Regulation Symposium hosted by OPTrust and HOOPP – Toronto, November 23

13. *Rosalie Wyonch* was invited to present on Digital Taxation at the Canadian Tax Foundation Annual Conference – Vancouver, November 27

14. *Rosalie Wyonch* was invited to take part in a panel discussion on home care and the future of aging at the SE Heath and Longwoods Healthcare Rounds – Toronto, November 29

15. *Daniel Schwanen* was invited to speak on “Trade Wars” at Cumberland Wealth Management – Toronto, December 4

16. *Parisa Mahboui* participated in the invitation-only Deloitte LLP roundtable on Canada’s AI opportunity – Toronto, December 5

18. *Grant Bishop* presented to the executive committee of Alberta Economic Development & Trade – Edmonton, December 10
19. *Grant Bishop* was appointed to serve on a Production Curtailment Issues Panel for the Alberta Energy Regulator and the Government of Alberta – Edmonton, December 10

20. *Grant Bishop* presented on a panel hosted by the University of Calgary School of Public Policy concerning “Oil Price Differential: Causes, Consequences and the Challenge Ahead” – Calgary, December 13
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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• 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.

• The Institute’s nationwide activities include regular policy roundtables and presentations by policy staff in major centres, as well as before parliamentary committees.

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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