

Quarterly Report to Members, Subscribers and Friends

Third Quarter, 2019



INSTITUT C.D. HOWE INSTITUTE

Essential Policy Intelligence | Conseils indispensables sur les politiques

Q3 Highlights: Impactful Policy Research & Outreach

Q3 Research

- ❖ **12** research papers
- ❖ **2** Monetary Policy Council releases

Q3 Policy Events

- ❖ **14** policy events and special meetings, including:
 - ❖ Toronto Roundtable – Shelby Austin, Inmar Givoni, Elissa Strome
 - ❖ Calgary Roundtable – Kevin Uebelein
 - ❖ Montreal Roundtable – Luc Godbout, Norma Kozhaya, Marie-France Paquet and Miville Tremblay
- ❖ **9** *Inside Access* conference calls featuring the authors of Institute research summarizing their work

Policy Outreach in Q3

- ❖ **162,824** website page views
- ❖ **5** policy outreach presentations
- ❖ **65** *National Post* and *The Globe and Mail* citations
- ❖ Citations in more than **800** media outlets
- ❖ **25** media interviews
- ❖ **21** opinion and editorial pieces
- ❖ **63** Intelligence Memos

**Commentary “[All’s Well that Ends Well: Addressing End-of-Life Liabilities for Oil and Gas Wells](#)”
by Benjamin Dachis, Blake Shaffer, Vincent Thivierge**

- ❖ Alberta announces intention to review of liabilities from abandoned oil and gas wells and adequacy of financial assurance.

**Commentary “[The Paradox of Productivity, Technology, and Innovation in Canadian Healthcare](#)”
by Åke Blomqvist and Colin Busby**

- ❖ Blue Ribbon Report on Alberta's finances recommends reforming physician compensation and allowing private competition. The Panel recommends that the government make greater use of alternative service delivery for services that do not have to be delivered in hospitals and could be delivered in private or not-for-profit facilities.

**Commentary “[What the Doctor ordered: improving the use and value of laboratory testing](#)” by
Chris Naugler and Rosalie Wyonch**

- ❖ Appropriateness working group recommends services to be de-listed from OHIP coverage.

Commentary: “[High Drug Prices, Big R&D Spenders and "Free Riders": Canada in the Topsy Turvey World of Pharmaceuticals](#)” by Rosalie Wyonch and Åke Blomqvist

- ❖ Federal government releases revised regulations for the pricing of patented medicines that includes cost utility and market size analysis, and improving transparency.

Commentary “[Innovation Policy in Canada: A Holistic Approach](#)” by Daniel Schwanen

- ❖ Government of Canada funds marketplaces to scale up health and biosciences companies.

E-Brief “Moving the Coal-Posts: Ottawa’s Wrong Turn on Carbon Pricing for Electricity Generation” by Grant Bishop

- ❖ Alberta maintains uniform product-based benchmark for output-based carbon pricing of power generation in proposal for TIER system.

Op-Ed “Why Ontario should hold a second cannabis retail lottery - Globe and Mail Op-Ed / Irvine, Wyonch - Moving Ontario’s Cannabis Retail Plan from Good to Great” by Rosalie Wyonch

- ❖ Ontario government to hold second auction of Cannabis retail licenses.

Q3 Publications

1. [Bumper to Bumper: Will the CUSMA Rules of Origin Make America's Auto Industry Great Again?](#) July 3, 2019 – Jon R. Johnson
2. [Inflation after the Crisis: What's the Story?](#), July 9, 2019 – Jeremy Kronick, Farah Omran
3. [Big Spenders: Canada's Senior Governments Have a Bad Budget Habit](#), July 11, 2019 – William B.P. Robson, Farah Omran
4. [Into the Unknown: Reflections on Risk, Uncertainty and Monetary Policy Decision-making](#), July 18, 2019 – Paul Jenkins
5. [Quantifying CUSMA: The Economic Consequences of the New North American Trade Regime](#), July 25, 2019 – Dan Ciuriak, Ali Dadkhah, Jingling Xiao
6. [Too TIER-ed? Alberta's Proposed Re-design of Carbon Pricing for Large Emitters](#), August 1, 2019 – Grant Bishop
7. [The Paycheck Blues: Why Extra Work is often Not Worth the Effort for Lower-income Families](#), August 22, 2019 – Alexandre Laurin
8. [Thin Capitalization: Weak Business Investment Undermines Canadian Workers](#), August 28, 2019 – William B.P. Robson

Q3 Publications

9. [Health Teams and Primary Care Reform in Ontario: Staying the Course](#), September 5, 2019 - Åke Blomqvist, Rosalie Wyonch
10. [Bad Fits: The Causes, Extent and Costs of Job Skills Mismatch in Canada](#), September 10, 2019 – Parisa Mahboubi
11. [Funding for Results in Higher Education](#), September 17, 2019 – Alex Usher
12. [The Quest for Sustainability in Contingent Pension Plans](#), September 26, 2019 – Barry Gros, Barbara Sanders

Our Website's Five Most-Visited Publications in Q3

1. [Quantifying CUSMA: The Economic Consequences of the New North American Trade Regime](#), July 25, 2019 – Dan Ciuriak, Ali Dadkhah, Jingliang Xiao
2. [From NAFTA to USMCA and the Evolution of US Trade Policy](#), June 25, 2019 – Dan Ciuriak
3. [Bumper to Bumper: Will the CUSMA Rules of Origin Make America's Auto Industry Great Again?](#) July 3, 2019 – Jon R. Johnson
4. [The Paycheck Blues: Why Extra Work is often Not Worth the Effort for Lower-income Families](#), August 22, 2019 – Alexandre Laurin
5. [Health Teams and Primary Care Reform in Ontario: Staying the Course](#), September 5, 2019 – Åke Blomqvist, Rosalie Wyonch

July Op-Eds

- ❖ [Sorry, 'Modern Monetary Theory' doesn't mean we can just run the presses and print off scads more cash](#) – National Post Op-Ed, July 11
- ❖ [There are better, cheaper ways to get Canadians the medications they need](#) – National Post Op-Ed, July 11
- ❖ [Facebook's Libra shows it's time for central banks to step up](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, July 12
- ❖ [The Bank of Canada missed an opportunity to raise rates](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, July 12
- ❖ [Canada needs to back up its ideals with real power. Here are two ways it can do that](#) – National Post Op-Ed, July 16
- ❖ [The Bank of Canada needs a plan for the next big recession](#) – and they should share it – National Post Op-Ed, July 18
- ❖ [Sidewalk Labs' proposed transit financing plan worth embracing](#) – Toronto Star Op-Ed, July 24
- ❖ [Is Canada ready for the next recession?](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, July 25

August Op-eds

- ❖ [Alberta's carbon pricing redesign risks diminishing comparative advantage for lower emission facilities](#) - Calgary Herald Op-Ed, August 3
- ❖ [Central banks need new toolkit in world where uncertainty seems to be increasing without bounds](#) - National Post Op-Ed, August 13
- ❖ [Governments and the energy industry should prepare for oil demand to plateau](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, August 22

September Op-Eds

- ❖ [Bank of Canada bucks the trend, but for how much longer?](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 6
- ❖ [Is giving parents money directly the best approach to child-care funding?](#) – Toronto Star Op-Ed, September 10
- ❖ [Why Canada's skills mismatch is cause for concern](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 12
- ❖ [The global refugee crisis persists – the business community can help](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 12
- ❖ [It's time for Canada to abandon one-man rule over monetary policy, as most other countries have done](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 15
- ❖ [Primary care should be key to Ontario Health Team planning](#) – Toronto Star Op-Ed, September 18
- ❖ [National Forest Week: Growing opportunity in Canada's forests](#) – Canadian Forest Industries Op-Ed, September 25
- ❖ [Five steps Canada should take to increase competitiveness](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 27
- ❖ [Regulating methane emissions will keep Canada's oil and gas sector competitive, not hurt it](#) – Globe and Mail Op-Ed, September 27

July Intelligence Memos

1. [Kronick, Robson – Senate Inquiry into Bank of Canada Act](#), July 2
2. [Rosalie Wyonch – Legal Cannabis and the Black Market](#), July 3
3. [Dan Ciuriak – Method to the Madness](#), July 4, 2019
4. [Jon Johnson – The Auto Industry’s CUSMA Challenge](#), July 5
5. [Rosalie Wyonch – Canada Selling Drugs to the US: Be Careful of the Price Trap](#), July 8
6. [Boadway, Perstieau – Why an Annual Wealth Tax is Unnecessary](#), July 9
7. [Glen Hodgson – Sustainable Finance: What Role for Crown Financial Institutions?](#) July 10
8. [Steve Ambler – The Myths of Modern Monetary Theory](#), July 11
9. [Robson, Omran – A Bad Budget Habit Afflicts Most Senior Governments](#), July 12
10. [Wyonch, Robson – A Second Opinion on Ottawa’s Pharmacare Report](#), July 15
11. [Peter Hicks – Let’s Get Going on Pension Reform](#), July 16, 2019
12. [Thorsten Koepl – Libra Could Kickstart Digital Currencies](#), July 17
13. [Ambler, Kronick – The Road Not Taken](#), July 18
14. [Lawrence Herman – Two Initiatives for Troubled Times](#), July 19
15. [Robson, Omran – Fiscal stabilization – the gap between theory and reality](#), July 22
16. [Bob Baldwin – The Pension Reform Toolbox](#), July 23
17. [Kronick, Omran – On the Hunt for 2 percent Inflation](#), July 24
18. [William B.P. Robson – LRT Financing a Feature of Sidewalk Labs’ Plan Toronto Should Embrace](#), July 25
19. [Paul Jenkins – Adding ‘Animal Spirits’ to Central Bank Modelling](#), July 26
20. [Ciuriak, Dadkhah, Xiao – Quantifying CUSMA: The Economic Consequences of the New NAFTA](#), July 29
21. [Glen Hodgson - The Next Recession: Where Does it Come From and is Canada Ready?](#) July 30
22. [Martin Eichenbaum – Planning for the Next Big Recession](#), July 31

August Intelligence Memos

1. [Nick Pantaleo – Improving Ottawa’s Changes to the Tax Treatment of Employee Stock Options](#), August 1
2. [Glen Hodgson – Climate Change Demands Better Risk Management](#), August 2
3. [William B.P. Robson - The “Factor of Nine” Crushes Retirement Saving Opportunities – Let’s Pension it Off](#), August 6
4. [Aaron Regent – Should We Regulate Big Tech?](#), August 7
5. [James Comey – The Regent Debate: For Regulating Big Tech](#), August 8
6. [Grant Bishop – Alberta’s New Big-Emitter Plan Tilts Towards Higher Intensity](#), August 9
7. [Robert Atkinson – Regent Debate: Beware of Overeager Regulation](#), August 12
8. [Melanie Aitken – Regent Debate: Tech Outstripped Competition Oversight](#), August 14
9. [Daniel Schwanen – The Brexit Endgame is in Sight: How Should Canada Play It?](#), August 15
10. [Bhatia, Falk – It’s Long Past Time for Virtual Healthcare in Canada](#), August 16
11. [Koepl, Kronick – Three Questions About Open Banking](#), August 20
12. [Parisa Mahboubi – Canada Must Put Emphasis on Economic Immigration](#), August 21
13. [Wyonch, Blomqvist – Drug Price Regulation Update](#), August 22
14. [Glen Hodgson – Peak Oil Returns – on the Demand Side](#), August 23
15. [Comey, Atkinson – Regent Debate: Should Governments Regulate Big Tech to Protect the Public Interest?](#)
August 26
16. [Alexandre Laurin – The Ugly Arithmetic of All-Inclusive Tax Rates, Part I](#), August 27
17. [Alexandre Laurin – The Ugly Arithmetic of All-Inclusive Tax Rates, Part II](#), August 28
18. [Ciuriak, Dadkhah, and Xiao – Quantifying CUSMA: The Economic Consequences of the New NAFTA](#),
August 29
19. [David Plouffe – Regent Debate: Beware of Overeager Regulation](#), August 30

September Intelligence Memos

1. [David Johnson - Class size and student outcomes: a mystery yet to be resolved](#), September 3
2. [Rosalie Wyonch - Drug Price Regulations and the Problem with External Referencing](#), September 4
3. [Aitken, Plouffee – The Regent Debate: Should Governments Regulate Big Tech in the Public Interest?](#)
September 5
4. [Waitzer, Sarro – Corporate Law Reform: Focusing on Issues that Matter](#), September 6
5. [Jon Johnson – Constitutional Challenge to Section 232: On to Appeal](#), September 9
6. [William B.P. Robson – Canada’s Lagging Investment Threatens Your Future](#), September 10
7. [Ambler, Kronick – Bank of Canada Holding Out Against Global Rate Cuts Trend](#), September 11
8. [Alesina, Gaverro, Giavazzi – Austerity and the Economy: Spending Cuts Versus Tax Increases](#), September 12
9. [Von Finckenstein, Mitchell – Machinery of Government Issues Arising from the Review of Broadcasting and Telecommunications](#), September 13
10. [Alexandre Laurin – Giving parents money directly is the best approach to financing childcare](#), September 16
11. [William B.P. Robson – Slow Growth in Canadians’ Incomes](#), September 17
12. [Jon Johnson – The Latest Moves on Softwood Lumber](#), September 18
13. [Grant Bishop – Finding the Exit Door for Alberta’s Crude Oil Curtailment](#), September 19
14. [William B.P. Robson – Does Accounting Drive Budget Decisions? The Strange Case of the Toronto Subway “Upload”](#) September 20
15. [Parisa Mahboubi – Canada’s skills mismatch challenge](#), September 23
16. [Brian Livingston – Contracting Enbridge Mainline could reshape Alberta’s oil production](#), September 24
17. [Scott Cameron – The PBO’s promising foray into campaign costing](#), September 25
18. [Martin Eichenbaum – Monetary Policy No Place for One-Person Rule](#), September 26
19. [Blomqvist, Wyonch – Ontario Health Teams: Primary Care Should Be Key](#), September 27
20. [William B.P. Robson – Six Months after Fiscal Year-End, It’s Time All Canada’s Legislators Saw The Numbers](#), September 30

Q3 Member Events & Special Meetings

1. Accelerating Ontario and Canada's Life Sciences Sector – Roundtable Luncheon with Jason Field, the Hon. Mary Ng and Durhane Wong-Rieger, Markham, August 29
2. Navigating the Opportunities and Challenges of Today's Investment Environment – Roundtable Luncheon with Kevin Uebelein, Calgary, September 5
3. Balancing Prosperity and Risk: Canada's Transition to an AI Economy – Roundtable Luncheon with Shelby Austin, Inmar Givoni and Elissa Strome, Toronto, September 6
4. When Innovation Meets Compliance: Supporting Canada's RegTech Community – Roundtable Luncheon with Tonya Blackmore, Pat Chaukos and Stuart Davis, Toronto, September 11
5. Reaching Higher: Where Investors Must Go When the Low-Hanging Fruit is Gone – Roundtable Luncheon with Ron Mock, Toronto, September 12
6. Risk and Returns: Using Leverage to Deliver Canadian Pensions – Roundtable Luncheon with Timothy Fong, Malcolm Hamilton and Jim Keohane, Toronto, September 18
7. Les Défis et Priorités Économiques du Québec/Quebec's Economic Challenges and Priorities – Roundtable Luncheon with Luc Godbout, Norma Kozhaya, Marie-France Paquet and Miville Tremblay, Montreal, September 18
8. Understanding Corporate Risk and the Value of Cyber Security – Roundtable Luncheon with Ahmed Etman, Vivek Khindria and Kirsten Thompson, Toronto, September 19
9. From Brain Drain to Brain Gain: Positioning Toronto as the New Centre of Global Tech Talent – Roundtable Luncheon with Ed Clark, Janet De Silva and Yung Wu, Toronto, September 24
10. Canada's State of Trade – Roundtable Luncheon with John Hannaford, Toronto, September 25

Q3 Selected Media Coverage

NATIONAL

BNN
Bloomberg

NATIONAL POST

THE GLOBE AND MAIL



QUEBEC

LE JOURNAL
DE MONTRÉAL

MONTREAL
GAZETTE



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JOURNAL



ONTARIO



WINDSOR STAR



Q3 Policy Outreach by Institute Staff

1. *Duncan Munn, Daniel Schwanen and Jeremy Kronick*, as well as Institute members and Fellows met with a six-person delegation from The Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Republic of Indonesia to discuss trade and investment relations, Toronto, July 16.
2. *Grant Bishop* made a submission to the province of Alberta's consultation on the TIER program – Edmonton, August 2
3. *Bill Robson* took part in a panel entitled *Factors Important to Credit Agencies When Assigning Government Ratings*, and participated in a discussion with Auditors General, at the Legislative Auditors & Public Accounts Committee Chairs Conference – Niagara-on-the-Lake, August 19
4. *Jeremy Kronick* presented his paper *Shadow Banking and Canada's Monetary Policy* with Professor Wendy Wu at the 10th RCEA Macro-Money-Finance Conference – Waterloo, September 13
5. *Bill Robson* took part in the City of Toronto/TTC Expert Advisory Panel – Toronto, September 17

Examples of Academics Using the Institute's Research in Their Courses

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**
14. *Thorsten Koepl*, Professor and RBC Fellow, **Queen's University**
15. *Anindya Sen*, Professor of Economics and Director of the Master of Public Services, **University of Waterloo**
16. *David Johnson*, Professor of Economics, **Wilfrid Laurier University**

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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.
- 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.
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