# EMERGING PERSPECTIVES
FPA Graduate Conference

Hosted by the Faculty of Public Affairs, Carleton University

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## DAY 2 – TUESDAY, MARCH 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2020

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>9:00-10:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Professional Development Breakfast Session: How to Get Published</strong>&lt;br&gt;Featuring: Graeme Auld, Christina Gabriel, Hashmat Khan</td>
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<td>10:30-11:45 am</td>
<td>14 - The Healthy End of Life Project: Demystifying Death and Dying by Building Community</td>
<td>15 - Privacy and Online Behaviour</td>
<td>16 – Sex Work, Law, and Taboos</td>
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<td>11:45-1:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Networking Lunch with prizes!</strong></td>
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<td>1:00-2:15 pm</td>
<td>17 - Boundaries and Bodies</td>
<td>18 - Gender, Development, and Intergenerational Transfers</td>
<td>19 - Environmental Decision-Making</td>
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<td>2:15-2:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Health Break</strong></td>
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<td>2:30-3:45 pm</td>
<td>20 – Refugees &amp; Migration</td>
<td>21 - Fostering Indigenous Small scale fisheries for Health, Economy, and food Security</td>
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Events will take place in Richcraft Hall, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, ON. Specific rooms are identified.
EMERGING PERSPECTIVES
FPA Graduate Conference

IMPROVED GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY. STRONGER SOCIETIES. INFORMED CITIZENSHIP.
In the Sustainability Transitions strand of research, the last decade has seen community energy (CE) emerge and grow as a topic of inquiry. Sustainability Transitions is a prominent systems-based lens used to understand energy transitions, while acknowledging the co-evolution of technologies and society. Among other benefits, CE has been regarded by transitions researchers as a locus of both technological and social innovation, and a potential mechanism to spur low-carbon energy transitions. This literature review examines CE within transitions literature with two overarching goals. First, using a systematic literature review methodology, it aims to provide better clarity to the topic of CE in the transitions research field. To this end, analytical/conceptual approaches are highlighted, and empirical examples of CE are broken down to present social, technological, and geographical characteristics, as well as broader institutional and political contexts in which CE initiatives are situated. Second, this paper seeks to ascertain the extent to which the existing research on CE in the transitions literature is applicable to various contexts e.g. other jurisdictions, as this literature review represents the first part of a major research paper looking at energy transitions at the community level in Northwest Territories, Canada.

In order to mitigate climate change and achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets made in international agreements, such as the 2015 Paris Agreement, there is a need for a clean energy transition towards low-carbon technologies and solutions, across numerous sectors of the economy (IEA 2016). Energy transitions, understood to mean “structural changes in the way energy is supplied, distributed and used” are inherently complex, and there is wide ranging agreement that a variety of policy instruments, combined in a policy mix, are needed to foster such transitions (Smil 2010, Rosenow, Kern & Rogge 2017). An important component of energy transitions is the acceleration of technological change, i.e. the development and commercialization of cost-effective low-carbon technologies and solutions (Rogge & Reichardt 2016). Government science, technology and innovation (STI) programs
Panel 1: Sustainability and Climate Change

are typically designed and implemented to help overcome barriers and accelerate such technological change. Government STI programs can be combined with other policy instruments, in policy mixes, to tackle issues such as the development of cost-effective clean energy technologies to reduce GHG emissions, in various sectors of the economy. This thesis proposes to specifically examine and analyze policy mixes, which include government STI programs, combined with other policy instruments, to develop and advance clean energy technologies to reduce GHG emissions, in various industry sectors, in Canada. The thesis will focus specifically on government STI programs as a cornerstone instrument, within such policy mixes, as well as interactions of government STI programs with other policy instruments.

Verna Yam (MA, International Affairs), “Validity of industry claims of leakage and competitiveness loss due to carbon pricing”

The Canadian federal government’s carbon pricing plan grants emissions-intensive and trade-exposed (EITE) industrial sectors greater support than other sectors on the basis that carbon pricing and the resulting phenomenon of carbon leakage will especially negatively impact EITE sectors’ competitiveness. However, there is limited evidence of leakage and competitiveness losses under carbon pricing schemes and proposed carbon pricing regulations do not clearly define EITE sectors. As such, the paper recommends that the Canadian federal government provide additional support for EITE sectors only for the short term and eliminate differentiated treatment across sectors in the long term. This will mitigate risks of leakage and competitiveness loss, and improve implementation efficiency.
Panel 2: Regulation and Diverse Populations

Nahya Awada (PhD, Public Policy), “Access to Drugs for Rare Diseases (DRDs) in Canada: Integrating Patient and Policy Perspectives”

Access to Drugs for Rare Diseases (DRDs) in Canada depends mainly on the province in which a person resides and their specific disease. Each region has its drug review process to determine which DRDs are covered. The fragmented nature of this drug review system has led to disparities in DRDs’ coverage, as well as delays accessing treatment and aggravating the challenges faced by patients living with rare diseases that seek to access lifesaving treatments. Canada is one of the few developed countries that has not yet adopted orphan drug legislation or a national strategy for DRDs. In 2018, the Canadian government announced its intention to establish a national strategy for high-cost DRDs, which aims to organize access to treatment in a fair, consistent, and timely manner. However, a detailed plan for this strategy has not yet been developed. This research project seeks to address gaps in the existing knowledge base, in terms of the lived experiences of patients with rare genetic LSDs, including their disease management and navigation of healthcare systems. Besides, the project evaluates the performance impact and operational efficiency of specific programs that target DRDs, which have been implemented in five provinces: Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan. These programs have not yet been formally evaluated. This research is comprised of two parts. The first part will examine the experiences of Canadian patients living with LSDs, as well as their families, to assess their disease management and navigation of healthcare systems in Canada. The second part of this research examines and compares existing programs that specifically target DRDs in the five provinces in which they have been implemented. This project addresses gaps in the current literature, through both the comparative study of specific programs that target DRDs and a focus on the experiences of patients living with LSDs. Ultimately, the findings of this study provide a valuable resource for the development of a patient-focused national strategy for high-cost DRDs, and, thus, could improve the quality of patient care for the 2.8 million Canadians living with rare diseases.

Derek Mikola (PhD, Economics)

This study investigates the effects of opening a SCS on the level of crime in surrounding neighbourhoods. The policy evaluation uses daily-level crime data from Toronto made available through Toronto Police Service Public Safety Data Portal. Combining the
crime data with opening dates of SCS defines a clear difference-in-difference estimation strategy, which quantifies the impact of opening a SCS on local crime levels relative to a hypothetical state of a neighbourhood were the site not opened. This research addresses issues surrounding endogeneity and confounding policies via robustness checks and placebo tests to rule out other possible channels. These tools, data and perspective, will bring new light to the research on harm reduction policy and their potential impacts on local communities sought after by policymakers and community members.

Benjamin Faveri (Master of Public Policy and Administration) “Canadian public policy options for addressing child gambling through loot boxes: an analysis of Australia, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom”

What are loot boxes? Think of it like buying a 50/50 ticket during a local hockey game; a person must purchase the hockey game ticket first, and once inside the game, can then purchase a chance to win a prize through the 50/50 ticket. This is precisely how loot boxes work. A person must purchase a videogame first and can then purchase loot boxes from within the videogame for a chance to win a prize. Sure, 50/50 tickets are typically harmless. But what if millions of these tickets were sold every year? What if the companies selling them were left unregulated? What if they were the only form of gambling some people had access too? What if many purchasers were children? Would that get policy makers attention?

In Canada, millions of loot boxes each year, are not considered a form of gambling, are sold without regulation and are largely purchased by children. Australia, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom have each taken a different public policy approach to address the loot box issue. This paper aims to answer the question: What public policy options can Canada use to address the growing issue of child gambling through loot box purchases?
Panel 3: Labour and the Public Sector

Michelle Laing (PhD, Economics) “The Implications for Sectoral Assignment for Wages: Longitudinal Evidence for Canada”

Knowledge on sector switching is important for understanding how to retain and attract employees in the public and private sectors in Canada’s labour market. Yet, empirical work on sector switching using Canadian data is virtually non-existent. To fill this gap in the literature, I use longitudinal data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics to explore wage differentials across sectors as well as between those who switch and remain in the same sector of employment. My empirical approach involves the use of a switching regression model with endogenous switching. Consistent with the extant literature, I find that the public sector has a wage premium. New evidence also suggests that sector switchers have an earnings advantage over those who stay in their sector of employment.

Jungroan Lin (PhD, Public Policy) “Programs, platforms and persuasion: recruitment and talent management for Canada’s public service”

Though the problem of poor elite talent recruitment in the Canadian government has been consistently articulated in literature, there remains a dearth of empirical work evaluating the state of affairs in the Government of Canada (GC) and comprehensive investigation into the factors which have led to this possible systemic problem. This paper thus looks to answer two broad questions which I argue are critical to understand for renewing talent in the public service. Firstly, what is the state of talent management in the GC. Secondly, what are the factors which affect the career decisions of prospective elite candidates regarding public service employment?

Hasanuzzaman Zaman (PhD, Public Policy)

The present PhD study’s motivation is to fill a critical knowledge gap. There is a large volume of work covering public service delivery innovation experiences of high-income, developed countries, and how political history, coupled with individual and organizational values, embedded innovation within their public administration system. There is, however, no such study from a low-middle-income, developing country’s perspective like Bangladesh which has been described as a “development surprise” or “paradox” by World Bank. While the development experience has been well documented by both scholars and international agencies, research on public
administration have been on broad, institutional areas. Only a few scholars have focused on the administrative culture and its relation with corruption and control but not on the conditions and factors which may be reducing corruption and nudging public sector bureaucrats to implement new ideas for introducing new innovation in public service delivery. The present study is the first attempt to document Bangladesh’s experience with public service delivery innovation, and it will fill a critical knowledge gap on how administrative behaviour and experiences may be related to innovation process and outcomes, from a developing country’s perspective.
Panel 4: Northern Resources and Governance

Robert Hammitt (PhD, Public Policy) “A Survey of Sovereign Wealth Funds in the Arctic”

Economic development for Arctic communities is particularly difficult because of low population densities. Because of the small population in much of the region and enormous land and sea territory, resource extraction of various types is likely to be a critical component of Arctic economies. However, the harms of resource extraction have been amply demonstrated. These harms include not just environmental damage, but also economic vulnerability through dependence on international commodity markets, multinational companies, and boom-and-bust cycles which distort local economic conditions and prevent stable development. One common response in many resource-dependent regions is the Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF), or other forms of collective revenue management. The Arctic has several national and sub-national Sovereign Wealth Funds already established, such as the Government Pension Fund of Norway or the Alaska Permanent Fund. This paper examines the status of Sovereign Wealth Funds in the Arctic, including traditional SWFs and alternate collective revenue programs, such as Native Corporations. The paper categorizes collective revenue management in the circumpolar Arctic and evaluates which conditions and types of programs provide the most benefits for Arctic communities.

Olivia Lassaline (MA, International Affairs)

The Arctic has become a new ‘final frontier’ for states, as climate change establishes new trade routes, resource races, and borders in the region. As a result, the small, regionalized Arctic Council -- an international organization governing the area -- is being thrust into the limelight. While it currently exists to promote cooperation among Arctic states, it is becoming increasingly difficult to ignore the escalating security dilemma in the region and the impact that it stands to have on cooperation. This paper will therefore ask, what gaps exist in the current Arctic governance model? What concerns exist that are presently being ignored? And, what genre of institutional evolution must occur so that the Arctic Council can manage new challenges in the region? Through an in-depth exploration of these points, this paper will argue that a significant evolution of Arctic Council priorities must take place in order for regional cooperation to continue.
Molly Stollmeyer (MA, Institute of Political Economy)

This research is concerned with the intersecting, yet often contradictory strategies devised to resolve issues of food security in northern Canada. Safe and secure access to locally procured foods in Denendeh is impacted by a host of factors including changing climate, extractivism, contamination, and the over/under regulation of policy. These hindrances have clear but distinct impacts on how and by whom foods can be harvested, caught, grown or raised locally. Civil society organizations have brought forward frameworks that take a comprehensive food systems approach, one that includes a multiplicity of food practices. Despite these inclusive frameworks, policymakers at territorial and municipal levels have responded with agri-centred food strategies and incentives. What does exclusion of certain (Indigenous, traditional) food practices reveal about the politics of inclusion in food systems work? In this paper, I situate these tensions within broader critical food scholarship, Indigenous resurgence, and multispecies and ontological politics.
Antoine Genest-Grégoire (PhD, Public Policy) “Measuring Tax Evasion with Lists: A Canadian Experiment”

Better understanding of the individual and social roots of illegal actions to reduce individual’s tax payments is very valuable to governments trying to design interventions to raise compliance. However, the validity of such behavioral models and interventions cannot be assessed without tackling the question of tax evasion measurement. This paper presents an experimental method to try to measure the propensity to evade taxes, despite the sensitivity bias of such a subject. By using list experiments, it provides individual measures of the prevalence of tax evasion amongst different groups of the population. Using this method from political science research, we find that income tax is evaded by 13 percent of the Canadian population and consumption taxes by 29 percent. These estimates are robust to various changes in model specification and they are of a comparable magnitude to estimates done using audit data (Kleven et al., 2011). The estimated propensities are lower for women or older respondents, higher for non-native Canadians but not statistically different for the self-employed. Higher income is associated with less income tax evasion and more consumption tax evasion. Our results provide a test of the usefulness of list experiments to measure both income and consumption tax evasion (Fergusson et al. 2017). The technique should provide researchers with a method to test recent theories about individual causes of evasion such as tax morale (Luttmer and Singhall, 2014) or trust and authority (Kirchler et al. 2008).

Shafiullah Qureshi (PhD, Economics), “Forecasting Canada GDP using Google Trends and Features Selection with XGboost Model”

In predicting Canada’s GDP with google trend data and official data, we compare different method for variable selection and out of sample forecast. We found that XGboost model performed better both for the google trend data as well as for the official data. Out of sample forecast is much better than the existing studies.
Florian Richard (PhD, Economics), “Simulation-based multiple testing for many non-nested multivariate models”

Applied researchers often face the problem of misspecification when estimating a model, particularly when many competing models are available. In a univariate framework, specification tests are available, but the properties of their multivariate counterparts have been generally overlooked in the literature. In this paper, we propose a multivariate extension of exact tests for non-nested models and an extension allowing for multiple non-nested alternatives. Our test yields valid results even when the design matrix does not have full column rank. Non-Gaussian models are also considered via bootstrap methods. We present applications in asset pricing and find that the prominent five-factor Fama and French (2015) model is statistically indistinguishable from many other asset pricing models, using both Monte Carlo p-values and a model confidence set approach. Finally, empirically relevant simulations demonstrate that the test enjoys good size and power properties.
Panel 6: Openness and Accountability

Ian Bron, (PhD, Public Policy)

Why, when whistleblowers are (in principle) lauded and protected by democratic governments, are responses to whistleblowing so variable, with many whistleblowers suffering much and reported wrongdoing not being addressed? Previous research has used psychological and sociological theories to explain whistleblowing. What has not been examined is the role of institutions, which constrain behaviour, affect choices, and shape the preferences of individuals. This research blended rational choice institutionalism and historical institutionalism and was conducted in two phases. The first phase involved consultation with experts in whistleblowing and Westminster systems. Step 2 of the research involved examining the way individual whistleblowing cases were addressed in Canada and Great Britain. Preliminary findings suggest that there exists a gap between the understandings of the role of public servants in a Westminster government in civil society groups, senior levels of the public service, and working levels of the public service. Besides, whistleblowing may be an adaptive response by individual public servants to the decay of some Westminster institutions and norms, which may have come about as a result of incentives favouring the suppression of all bad news. The result has been whistleblowing regimes that have failed to win the trust of public servants or to uncover any significant misconduct or mismanagement, ultimately resulting in political embarrassment and high costs when programs fail.

Michael Campbell, (PhD Political Science) “Regulating Democracy: The Effects of Political Finance Regulations on Democratic Quality and Political Corruption”

The most recurrent form of political corruption in democracies is associated with campaign finance. In response, all democracies have implemented campaign finance regulations: rules controlling the collection and spending of campaign funds. However, there is no consensus over which campaign finance regulations are most active. This paper systematically analyzes the effects of different campaign finance regulations and regulatory strategies on levels of political corruption and different dimensions of democratic quality: confidence in electoral processes, and political competition, participation, and equality. The research question is: which campaign finance regulations, or regulatory strategies, decrease occurrences of political corruption and stimulate democratic quality? This research uses an original dataset that incorporates data from 42 democratic countries. OLS regression is employed to assess relationships
Panel 6: Openness and Accountability

between the independent and dependent variables, while factor analysis is utilized to generate different forms of regulatory strategies. I conclude that financial reporting requirements produce the most favourable outcomes.

Carly Dybka, (PhD, Communication Studies), “Technological affordance, semiotic habit and audience-making in online civic engagement: Case Study of the Government of Canada’s cannabis legalization campaign”

In revising its communications policy, the Government of Canada aimed to increase its use of online tools and innovative methods to have an “open dialogue” with Canadians. Such a commitment is reflective of an era in which some argue that governments are becoming increasingly media-oriented and that strategic communication is becoming pervasive in government decision making. Despite this, little is known about how the Government of Canada discussions are planned or managed. By drawing from a case study of the Government of Canada’s conversations around the legalization of cannabis in 2018, this research aims to discern how the Government of Canada defines different audiences and constructs spaces in which those audiences can participate in civic engagement activities. In gaining an understanding of how communication limits or enables citizen engagement in digital space, we can then assess if such practices fulfill the objectives of the 2016 Policy on Communications and Federal Identity.
Panel 7: Security, Community, Technology

Fahad Ahmad, (PhD, Public Policy), “Securitization and the Muslim Civil Society in Canada”

Concerns of domestic terrorism have prompted western states, including Canada, to develop counter-radicalization policies that rely on community-level interventions to prevent future acts of political violence. These policies are criticized for relying on a vague understanding of “radicalization,” primarily targeting Muslim communities, fostering pre-criminal activity to police future “risk,” and essentially enabling widespread securitization. In Canada, Muslim civil society organizations, which are agents that connect Muslims to state institutions, are approached by security agencies to reach out to their constituents. In this article, I use semi-structured, qualitative interviews with policymakers and leaders of Muslim civil society organizations to assess the impact of securitization on these organizations as counter-radicalization activity intensifies. My work adds to the research on the securitization of Muslims in Canada and offers new insights on the constraints and modalities of power available to Muslim civil society organizations facing a securitized policy environment.

Zaheed Kara (MA International Affairs)

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning capabilities are rising at an unprecedented rate. In a matter of years, human societies and many facets of human life will be changed significantly. The potential benefits to humans are numerous; aside from the apparent positive features of advanced AI algorithms such as fraud detection and vehicle automation, widespread AI could promote task expedition, heightened coordination, and a more leisurely society for humans overall. However, while the potential benefits of AI in society are numerous, they are matched by equally abundant risks, such as those to digital and physical security, biased algorithms, privacy, and access to information, to name a few. My research examines the best way to promote international coordination and cooperation on the development of AI. Which global institutions, frameworks, or practices would best encourage the cooperative development of AI in order to mitigate potential risks? What best forward-looking methods exist to form institutions that will be functional persistent over time? How can states overcome the value alignment problem inherent in cooperation? What can national and sub-national governments do to encourage the safe development of emerging technologies?
Alexander Rudolph (PhD, Political Science) “Building a Strategic Theory of Cyberspace: structural explanations of cyber conflict”

Although we are over 40 years since cyber conflict was first theorized, there is a distinct lack of consensus on what this means for existing conceptions of power. Contemporary literature does not explain how to understand the role of power in cyberspace and its relation to reality. How do we understand power in cyberspace when actors have similar levels of capacity to inflict violence? To understand this requires problematizing the existing literature, which overlooks how cyberspace functions to constrain actors. Reconceptualizing cyber power begins by understanding cyberspace not as a tool of actors, but a region of operation in which actors work within. As a region, it has unique constraints that create structural impediments on actors in it. Understanding cyberspace as a structure revolutionizing our understanding of how actors exist in this realm. It will be shown how reframing interaction with cyberspace as structural provides greater explanatory and predictive power.
Hassan Faryaar, (PhD, Economics) “Markups and Labour Share in Canada”

In the literature, the estimated average markup of publicly traded firms is used as a proxy for the aggregate economy, but that may suffer from selection bias. In this paper, I examine the evolution of markup using the T2-LEAP database that has the universe of Canadian firms, and hence, the estimated profit will not suffer from the selection bias of only publicly traded firms. The paper finds that the average gain of the universe of Canadian firms increases moderately from around 27% in 2002 to approximately 40% in 2014. Moreover, the paper argues that while the evolution of average markup can explain the behaviour of firm-level labour share firmly, it only partially can describe the behaviour of aggregate labour share in Canada. Recent studies show that profit and hence, market power is increasing globally. Increasing profit can be associated with some macroeconomic trends such as labour share decline. In this paper, I estimate the evolution of profit and study its relationship with the behaviour of the labour share of income in Canada.

Nusrat Jahan (PhD Economics) “Corporate Bond Credit Spreads, Default Risk and the Canadian bond market”

This paper explores the determinants of corporate credit spreads in Canada. Using a panel dataset on Option-adjusted Spread (OAS) of corporate bonds issued by Canadian firms, the paper estimates a fixed effect OLS regression model to identify how firm-specific variables, individual bond characteristics, and macroeconomic variables affect the defaults risk in the Canadian bond market. A variance decomposition analysis further explores which factors are the primary drivers behind the movements in credit spreads.

Robin Shaban (PhD, Public Policy) “Competition policy: goals and their determinants”

Using the new Comparative Competition Law Dataset and the OECD’s Structural Analysis Database, I will undertake an econometric study that compares 37 OECD countries to determine which forms of merger regulation best mitigate market power. By taking advantage of differences between the merger regulation systems of countries within the sample, my fixed-effects model will identify the types of merger review systems that result in lower average national markups, my measure of market power which I will calculate using the method developed by Roeger (1995).
Panel 9: Policy Change and Marginalized Populations


This presentation reports on findings from a critical discourse analysis study investigating the operation of ableism in Canadian social work education. Grounded in critical disability theories and informed by anti-oppressive practice frameworks, the study examined student experiences in Canadian social work education and the role of disability in the training of future practitioners. I completed individual, exploratory, semi-structured interviews with 5 social work students from post-secondary institutions in Western Canada. The data analysis process was informed by Siegfried Jäger’s (2001) approach to critical discourse analysis. Findings from the study demonstrate how social work students question and challenge role narratives about social workers through the illustration of a ‘Social Worker Complex’ – the archetype social worker that students are trying to avoid becoming, whose assumed expertise about service users’ experiences maintains and supports systems of oppression like ableism. In this presentation, I will share the key findings from my theorizations about the ‘Social Worker Complex’ and discuss the implications of these findings in social work education and practice.

Margaret Janse van Rensburg (Master of Social Work), “Autistics’ Perspectives of Autism Funding in Ontario”

The refurbished Ontario Autism Program has been described in the news a lot recently. My current research first reviews available literature from The Ottawa Citizen and determines that the voices of autistic people are not represented. Rather, opinions of parents of autistic children and service providers of Applied Behaviour Analysis - a key therapy for autism, and policy makers - are portrayed. In asking the question “what policies do autistic people want to see funded by the Ontario government?” My paper presentation reviews the results of qualitative interviews with six autistic adults and the themes that portray heir priorities surrounding autism funding and services in Ontario. This research uses critical autism studies and structural social work to challenge policy makers and media outlets to incorporate autistic voices when developing policies surrounding autism.
February 2009 marked the official closure of the Huronia Regional Centre, the last remaining institution for persons with disabilities in Ontario. Despite this, institutions remain a critical part of housing infrastructure for both aging and disabled populations.

Institutions in this paper are defined as a housing unit of 8+ individuals, residing for more than 6 months, where one or more of their decisions are made on their behalf. Thereby, institutions in this context include: forensic psychiatric institutions, long term psychiatric institutions, long term care institutions, and group homes.

This paper works to explore the ways in which aging populations and persons with disabilities represent critical data gaps, which present dynamic policy challenges amidst the growing aging population, and the landmark Accessible Canada for All legislation.

Currently, StatsCan does not administer the long form census to collective dwellings such as hospitals, long term care facilities and correctional institutions. Further, Ontario municipalities collect a registry of group homes on a voluntary basis. This paper works to address these data gaps through quantitative methods and policy analysis of current data collection methods.
Panel 10: Self-Determination and Colonialism


Concluding the latest Parliamentary session and leading up to the 2019 Canadian Federal election, many private member bills were not given royal assent upon being heard in the Senate. One prominent Bill included Bill C-262 (An Act to Ensure that the Laws of Canada are in Harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Many MPs regarded UNDRIP as an aspirational declaration widely because many stipulations it held were assumed to be at odds with Canadian constitutional law. The presentation argues that not only is UNDRIP compatible with the Constitution, but that compatibility is primarily premised upon Canada already containing the ideal legal framework on which UNDRIP can be appropriately situated. This is especially clear when evaluating the links between the Honour of the Crown and state obligation in UNDRIP as well as the connections between Indigenous and treaty rights and the right to Internal Self Determination.

Kevin O’Meara (MA Political Science) “A Critique of Settler-State Reason: Foucault and a History of Canadian Governmentalities”

Michel Foucault’s lectures on governmentality, presented in the late 1970s but not available in English until ten years ago, represented a watershed moment in the history of political philosophy. By tracing the genealogies of different governmental logics used by states to reproduce themselves from Medieval ages to present day, Foucault reshaped our understandings of the political force of Christianity, the rationales behind enlightenment liberalism(s), and the roots of neoliberal thought. Although the field of governmentality studies has flourished in tracing the development of European states, no author has yet evaluated Foucault’s theories in the context of the founding and development of the Canadian settler-colonial state. This paper will provide an outline for understanding Foucault’s model in the context of how the Canadian state has justified its existence and transitions of governmental practice from New France’s pastoral disciplinary form, to its transformation into a semi-autonomous Constitutional Monarchy under the United Kingdom’s crown, and finally into the neoliberal matrix of power relations that “Canada” has become.
Ariel Root (PhD, Public Policy), “First Nation youth mental health programming: Federal, provincial, and regional agencies’ approaches to youth engagement”

This project investigates the ‘youth engagement’ practices integrated into mental health program development by federal, provincial, and regional agencies regarding First Nations youth in northwestern Ontario. With increasing mental health concerns for First Nations youth living on-reserve, agencies who deliver mental health programming have experienced a surge in advocation for ‘youth engagement’, ‘youth voice’, or ‘youth council’, indicating that youth should be included in the decision-making that effects their lives. While youth are seemingly more involved, the engagement methods to seek and include youth perceptions, as well as benefits and challenges are unclear. This dissertation seeks to determine practices used by agencies at different levels of governance, and the ways in which these practices align or conflict with each other. Preliminary findings from regional and emerging patterns from federal and provincial data will be shared, as well as challenges in researching this region.
Panel 11: Deterrence in International Affairs

Kevin Budning, (PhD, International Affairs), “Symbolic Politics, Framing Theory, and Counterterrorism Resource Allocation in Canada: Why Right-Extremism is Treated Differently than Islamic Inspired Terrorism”

Violent right-wing extremism in Canada is not a new phenomenon. Overshadowed by 9/11 and the “Global War on Terror,” right-wing attacks have often been pushed to the periphery, handled as secondary and less imminent threats to the state. Yet, recent attacks such as the Quebec City mosque shooting, the Moncton shooting, and the Toronto van attack remind us that these pernicious threats are more common than generally understood. In fact, recent studies have shown that Canadians are more likely to be attacked by a right-wing extremist than by an Islamic inspired terrorist. Despite these troubling statistics, the Canadian government and its security apparatus continue to allocate far more resources targeting foreign threats than domestic ones. This paper critically questions why this is the case and what mechanisms are used to legitimize such a seemingly non-rational counterterrorism policy. It is argued that through the use of symbolic politics and framing theory, the political elite – with the help of the news media – purposely espouse oversimplified, dichotomous, and polarizing narratives that paint foreign threats as more dangerous than domestic ones. The population is thus fed an incomplete and often inaccurate picture of the security landscape, resulting in the support of questionable counterterrorism policies. This theory is tested in the Canadian context, specifically by examining the political rhetoric, resource allocation, and policies adopted in both the immediate and prolonged aftermath of the September 11 attacks. The results affirm the hypothesis, demonstrating that the tools used to influence the public’s threat perception relied largely on the background of the attacker, rather than the nature of the attack itself. This research contributes to the growing body of literature that suggest psychological based theories provide a more suitable explanation than rational choice for how and why decision-makers adopt some policies over others.
Panel 11: Deterrence in International Affairs

Mark Haichin (PhD, International Affairs) “Authoritarianism and Nuclear Deterrence Effectiveness: The Case of North Korea”

Scholarship has long viewed nuclear weapons as the ultimate deterrent for states. In reality, some nuclear weapon states seem to experience a greater reduction in armed attacks than others, suggesting additional variables need to be considered. This paper investigates this issue by theorizing that political accountability mechanisms influence state sensitivity to nuclear deterrence costs. I hypothesize that deterrence threats made by non-democratic nuclear weapon states are more credible than those made by democracies, and thus are less likely to be attacked by other states. This increased credibility is caused by their being accountable solely to a small elite audience, allowing these governments to pass down the anticipated domestic and international costs to the public. I illustrate this argument with conflicts and crises involving North Korea before and after it acquired a nuclear deterrent, with process tracing being used to explain decisions made by the North Korean government and its opponents.

J. Marshall Palmer (PhD, International Affairs), “Foreign Electoral Intervention; Political warfare; Russian foreign policy”

Does foreign electoral intervention work? If an intervening state lifts a challenger into power or secures the support of an incumbent, is it reasonable to expect that the aided victor will work to improve interstate relations? For decades, policymakers have answered these questions in the affirmative, making foreign electoral intervention a mainstay of the foreign policy toolkit. My paper formally theorises the pro-intervention argument and evaluates it against a least-likely case of success—Russia’s intervention in the 2016 presidential election. Using four criteria of intervention success (hard and soft power policy convergence, changes in domestic polarisation in the United States, and a counterfactual thought experiment, which considers how these outcomes would change under a Clinton presidency.) I find that Russia successfully achieved most of its goals, giving ground to the conclusion that foreign electoral intervention can work.
Panel 12: Trade, Remittances, Economic Growth

Vincent Lo Monaco (PhD, Public Policy) “Supply Management Institutionalism”

The Supply Management system in Canada is remarkable as “managed” sector of the Canadian economy with a long and established historical tradition. In many respects, it can be considered an economic outlier in the sense that Canada has long prided itself as an advocate of a liberalized global trading system, as exemplified by our long-standing membership in the WTO and its antecedent, the GATT and by our enthusiasm for membership in numerous free trade agreements.

Samuel MacIsaac (PhD, International Affairs)

In 2018, global remittances reached $689 billion USD of which $529 billion USD flowed to low- and middle-income countries according to the World Bank. Remittances, defined as funds sent by migrants, and even more established diaspora members, to individuals or groups in their region of origin or “home”, have received additional attention in light of Canada’s increase in immigration flows. In the presence of a plethora of international development targets aimed at promoting remittance, such as the sustainable development goals aimed at transfer cost reductions (SDG 10c), attempts to formalise remittance transfers are quite extensive. Despite these efforts to promote remittances, informal remittances that are not captured because they are not flowing through banks or other formal remittance service providers (RSPs) continue to flourish among certain population segments. This paper seeks to shed light on the micro-determinants of remittance channel choice using surveys of over 22,000 individuals in Canada.

Hanna Williams (MA, International Affairs) “Labour Policy or Politics: The Impact of Canada’s Progressive Trade Agenda on Canadian Free Trade Agreements”

This paper evaluates the effect of the Trudeau government’s Progressive Trade Agenda (PTA) on Canadian trade agreements as they relate to their labour chapters. This was done through the development of an index to measure and score the quality and strength of the labour provisions of Canada’s trade agreements. The results of the index demonstrate the continued, albeit inconsistent, importance that labour provisions have had for Canadian negotiators prior to and during the Trudeau government. It also shows that, other than reinforcing an existing Canadian trend, the PTA has not brought any significantly new or progressive changes to this aspect of Canadian trade policy.
Louise Cockram, (PhD Political Science), “From Candidate to Elected Member: How does formal and informal institutional learning shape the careers of MPs in the UK and Canada”

In my dissertation research, I ask: how does organized and informal orientation shape the roles of newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) in Canada and the UK? Organized orientation refers to structured training delivered by the Canadian and UK Houses of Commons, party caucuses and groups like the Hansard Society. Informal orientation refers to the social aspects of direction - e.g. “learning on the job” (Rosenblatt, 2006), “copying the behaviour of colleagues,” and informal mentorship by senior MPs. The UK House orientation cultivates legislative roles for MPs but is poorly attended by new MPs (Fox and Korris, 2012). The House orientation in Canada focuses on the administrative aspects of an MP’s role (e.g. claiming expenses), but not the legislative issues (Dobell, 1980). My project starts from the premise that MPs must learn how to perform their statutory role somewhere; if they do not attend formal orientation sessions in the UK and do not receive much training beyond the administrative aspects of their role in Canada, then they may look to political parties and informal orientation for their parliamentary education. My research draws upon 68 interviews I conducted with MPs in Canada and the UK. My findings suggest that in both countries, new MPs rely on informal mentorship from senior MPs in their party, as well as ad-hoc advice from the Party Whip and the House Leader’s office.

Noah Schwartz (PhD, Political Science), “Quick Draw Community: the NRA Annual Meeting, the power of narrative and the great gun debate”

It is increasingly clear that ideas matter in political science, and nowhere is this truer than in the debate over American firearms policy. Despite being well known for its lobbying, the majority of the National Rifle Association’s (NRA) budget actually goes towards providing services like firearms training, putting on its annual meeting and disseminating communications material. Why does the NRA devote so many resources to its educational and cultural production work, when its lobbying is apparently so successful? My paper examines the role that points of contact between the NRA and its membership, like the Annual Meeting and firearms safety classes play in the organization’s larger political strategy. Drawing on the literature on the role of ideas in the policy process, I argue that the NRA uses these points of contact in order to work towards the social construction of the gun culture in America, which it can then draw
Panel 13: Fieldwork and Politics Growth

on for political support. This article is a part of my dissertation project which examines the NRA’s use of narrative to build a community of gun owners, and how it mobilizes this community to influence policy. This project involved three months of ethnographic fieldwork in the US, including participant observation at the Annual Meeting and firearms safety courses, and semi-structured interviews with NRA officials and ordinary gun owners. Aside from contributing to our understanding of this important collective actor, my paper will add to the broader material-ideational debate in the policy literature.

Gabriel Senecal (Master of Public Policy and Administration) “Echoes of Amalgamation: Voting Patterns and Divides on Ottawa City Council”

The Chateau Laurier fiasco in summer of 2019 highlighted a division on Ottawa City Council emblematic of the main political divide in the municipality, between urban councillors in wards that made up the City of Ottawa prior to amalgamation, and suburban and rural wards that surrounded it. By analyzing voting records in Ottawa City Council, this paper creates a model of the divisions, or voting blocs, on city council. A multivariate analysis can be applied to the voting blocs to determine which characteristics of the councillor or the ward most influence the councillor’s voting behaviour. The groupings in the voting blocs model can be confirmed by other statistical approaches. The paper examines the implications of regionalism within Ottawa for its governance, compares Ottawa’s governance to other Canadian cities, and builds the ability of assessing municipal governance through statistical methodologies.
Panel 14: The Healthy End of Life Project: Demystifying Death and Dying by Building Community

Angie Mason (Master of Social Work), Hayley Miloff (B.A.Sc., MSc), Project Coordinator, HELP, Emerald Pringle (Master of Social Work), Kylie Schibli, (Master of Social Work)

The Healthy End of Life Project (HELP) Ottawa is a community-based participatory action research study aimed at moving end-of-life care into our communities. Additionally, this research project seeks to enable people with a life-limiting illness to live in their homes and community for as long as possible. Furthermore, the HELP Ottawa aspires to de-stigmatize talk of death and dying and grief and increase caregiver’s capacity to care for their friends, family, and neighbours with palliative care needs in their community. Based on the framework initially developed by La Trobe University Palliative Care Unit in Melbourne, Australia (Grindrod & Rumbold, 2018), HELP aims to facilitate a collaborative culture to promote palliative and end-of-life care in the home or community. HELP Ottawa will explore community strengths through the process of asset mapping at four research sites, two Community Health Centres and two faith-based communities in Ottawa. In this panel discussion, we plan to discuss the role of community-led participatory action research in supporting individual capability and community capacity and share the preliminary findings from the HELP Ottawa study. Central to the discussion will be the importance of addressing the stigma around death, dying, and bereavement. Panel members will include: Community members from the research sites; HELP research team members; and MSW students engaged in the research process (as part of a course requirement).
Panel 15: Privacy and Online Behaviour

Hannah Delaney, (MA, International Affairs), “Piecing the Puzzle Together by Reimagining Preventative Action for Domestic Radicalization”

The focus of the research essay will be to elaborate on the catalyst of domestic radicalization: cyberspace. The article will explore the role creative and strategic cyber efforts can play in effectively preventing the process of radicalization. Specifically, the research essay will investigate the potential for internet capabilities and social media to provide an alternative discourse to radicalized online recruitment efforts. By employing creative tactics that target vulnerable individuals, messages can reach a pool of specific individuals who fall victim to specialized messages spread by terrorist organizations. Ultimately, the essay will argue that online profiling measures to address potential victims of radicalization, need to mirror the strategy used by terrorist organizations. The solution to domestic radicalization is creating a national security initiative that refutes traditional defence and surveillance mechanisms; we need entrepreneurs, artists, tech-savvy specialists, and storytellers to develop actions that interrupt and prevent online radicalization. The solution is not black and white; it requires a unique and creative answer. It is time to identify that traditional defence efforts are failing to prevent and eliminate the threat of radicalization because terrorist organizations have adapted to modernization and revealed the future of warfare. Cyber platforms, specifically social media, are the tools that drive the process of radicalization; it has been weaponized by terrorist organizations to pinpoint a particular group of the population and disseminate alluring and manipulative messages. But what if the same social media platforms could combat the process of radicalization by transmitting an alternative discourse? The above question provides a framework to guide the purpose of the research essay.

Deborah Komarnisky (PhD, Legal Studies), “Let’s Make a Deal: A Case Study on Privacy, Surveillance and Consumer Loyalty Reward Points Cards in Canada”

Do you know what happens to the information retailers collect when you use a customer loyalty rewards points card? Everything from a consumer’s age, gender, income, and location to what was purchased, the cost of purchase, when it was purchased and where it was purchased is collected by a simple swipe of a rewards card. In exchange for this wealth of information, companies provide consumers with the promise of discounts and advertisements to entice further consumption. Many consumers have at least one customer loyalty rewards card from a major retailer. Whether it is a PC Optimum Card, the Triangle Rewards Program from Canadian Tire
Panel 15: Privacy and Online Behaviour

or a Starbucks Reward card, each has a similar function – to collect information about the consumer. I argue that the collection of consumer point of purchase information is a central form of contemporary surveillance and call it “loyaltyveillance”. When consumers participate in loyaltyveillance, are they getting a fair deal? My primary research question asks: does the current regulatory regime sufficiently protect consumer information within the online marketplace? My secondary research question asks: does the current regulatory regime privilege corporations? Specifically, I examine how the consumer is regulated in the postmodern society and how brand culture through the use of loyalty cards acts as a means to perpetuate the dominant neo-liberal ideology in the online marketplace.

Student (Master of Public Policy and Administration) “Cyber Intimate Partner Abuse of Women: Traditionally Violent Patterns Inflamed in Online Spaces”

The impact of information communication technology revolution has permeated many aspects of our everyday lives. We now dial into a conference from a distance, we cyber-hail a taxi, and we are even exposed to new avenues of crime and violence in the new cyberspace. What takes place in the virtual world is not disconnected from reality, and manifests itself in the real world with real people, sometimes with detrimental effects. This paper aims to argue that, similarly to the way women are disproportionately affected by offline violence, they are also disproportionately affected by online violence and abuse. One of the prevalent forms of online violence that takes place in the cyberspace against women, is perpetuated by a current or previous intimate partners, referred to in this paper as cyber intimate partner abuse (CyberIPA). CyberIPA can be defined as any use of technology by abusers in order to exert control and violence over victims within current or previous intimate relationships (Neves, Forte, Correia, & Ferreira, 2019). In this paper, we examine the policy issue of combating cyberIPA from a policy analysis framework in the Canadian context, identifying the main policy drivers, ideas, and actors within and outside government. CyberIPA has public health and safety repercussions with severe and long-term negative consequences on its victims and survivors, that in some extreme cases include homicides, or what feminists refer to as “femicides.” This paper reflects on the different policy ideas held by feminist organizations in requesting more government action on cyberIPA, and provides evidence that the government has taken some—but not enough—strides towards the requisite actions. This paper also reviews the issue from a policy process framework identifying gaps in the first stage of defining the problem. There is no official,
Panel 15: Privacy and Online Behaviour

A consensual and unified definition of cyberIPA, nor for its different direct and indirect forms. Various approaches and definitions of cyberIPA by all the different actors, domestically and internationally, have diluted the severity of the issue and weakened its urgency in demanding a quick and urgent government response. The research paper concludes with considerations for policy analysts who are dealing with cyberIPA. These considerations include (1) the importance of training stakeholders, especially law enforcement departments on the best tools to combat this CyberIPA, (2) the necessity of having an intersectional approach around the social context in which women with intersecting identities are targeted, and (3) the need for further research to inform evidence-based decision making in this emerging policy area.
Panel 16: Sex Work, Law, and Taboos

Delphine DiTecco, (MA, Women's and Gender Studies), “Using a sex-positive framework to address sex work stigma in sex robot academic scholarship”

As robot technology evolves, humankind faces a new set of moral dilemmas. The development of sex robots in particular demands that we address unfamiliar intersections of technology, sexuality, and law. Especially difficult is the attempt to understand the potential effects of sex robots on Canadian sex workers; as sex-negativity towards sex work and sex, robots prevent thorough research which considers the needs of individuals in both populations. Locating myself in a specifically Canadian context, I propose a multidisciplinary framework of positive sexuality to effectively study potential relationships between the development of sex robots and the lives of Canadian sex workers. Through its eight-core dimensions, this theory acknowledges the individual experience and prioritizes empathy and peacemaking. By stimulating open communication between sex robot users and developers, sex workers, and researchers, a multidisciplinary framework of positive sexuality can encourage the development of informed and inclusive legislation.

Tessa Penich (MA, Legal Studies) “Sexual Danger, Pornographic Contagion, and Criminal Sanctions: Interrogating Feminist Responses to the ‘Rough Sex’ Defence”

Following the high-profile murder case of Grace Millane, who was strangled during what the accused claimed was consensual kinky sex, anti-violence advocates have expressed concern that use of this ‘rough sex’ defence to domestic and sexual violence is on the rise. This paper critically analyzes the narratives of sex and violence that underpin feminist responses to the ‘rough sex’ defence, focusing on the UK-based We Can’t Consent to This campaign. I argue that feminist responses to this defence retrace moralistic narratives of ‘good’ and ‘bad’ sex by positioning non-normative sex as inherently injurious to women and blaming s/m pornography for the ‘dangerous’ spread of consensual choking. I critique the law reform agenda tackling the ‘rough sex’ defence, arguing that harsher criminal punishments fail to rectify gendered violence. Ultimately, I contend that while gendered violence remains worthy of political engagement and activism, how feminists understand violence and approach law reform matters, and must be critically analyzed.
Andrew Pett (BA, Law and Legal Studies) “A Memo of Canadian Perspectives of Sex Work Clients: A John, a Man, or a Monster”

My paper is a memo reviewing the differing Canadian perspectives of sex work clients and the role of stereotypes and attitudinal barriers in regard to obstacles of legal progress. Reviewing published dialogues of Canadian sex workers and clients, I found that the pervasiveness of hardened stereotypes of fear and disgust of sex work, is still founded in Canadian society and our legal system by extension. Decades of negative stereotypes of sex work created a mold of the Canadian perceptions of its actors, which further hinders sex work legislation. This is demonstrated through the hypocrisy of post-Bedford sex work legislation, and the ongoing risk of violence and legal sanction to its actors.
Panel 17: Boundaries and Bodies

Taryn Hepburn (PhD Legal Studies) “PERMISSION (NOT) GRANTED: Regulation Through Spaces as Coding Machines”

The space of an elementary school is expected to regulate the bodies of the children within its fences. While the space of the school does this expected, it also exerts regulation on adults inside and outside of the school space. I engage in a formal participant observation of a public street and public school over three days, alongside an immersive ethnography. I rely on Deleuzian concepts of coding machines, facialization, and affect to address how space codes and recodes bodies, through their interactions with boundaries and “leaking” affect (Manning 2009). I pose the school space as leaky and argue that the space touches bodies inside and outside of its boundaries and is affectively touched by those bodies in return. In this presentation, I argue that members of the neighbourhood and general public who pass by the school are in a constant negotiation of permissions for their gaze; some may look into the yard, while others, particularly adult men, must look down or away.

Desirrea Meney (MA Political Science) “The Concept of the “Other”: Reframing the Perspective of “Man” and “Woman” as a Political and Existential Crisis”

In 1949, Simone de Beauvoir asserted that “when two human categories find themselves face-to-face...a reciprocal relationship is created, either hostile or friendly, but always tense”. A starting point for second-wave feminism, this has surprising similarities to Carl Schmitt, a controversial conservative thinker, infamous for the friend-enemy distinction. Although not often read together, I will use The Concept of the Political and The Second Sex in a practical method, to theorize a better understanding of the relationship between “man” and “woman.” Unable to be solved in current political structures through technical or social means, I will reframe this conflict as a political and existential crisis; where man’s identity has been partially constructed as a friend-enemy distinction through Beauvoirian “othering”, and the women is then positioned as a threat to man’s identity. Beyond the theoretical, women’s subordination manifests itself in her political position; in the suppression of reproductive freedom, and the underrepresentation of women in political leadership.
Panel 17: Boundaries and Bodies

Daphne Wang (MA, International Affairs)

Child service agency practices and policies often adopt a narrow definition of the rights of children that predominantly focuses on the right of protection from neglect or negligent treatment and does not prioritize protecting indigenous children’s rights to their community and culture. Therefore, these practices also effectively dispossess indigenous families and communities their right to care for their children. As a result, these practices are seen as illegitimate from Indigenous nations’ perspectives. Provincial and federal jurisdiction can overpower delegated aboriginal authorities in defining and enforcing the rights of children through an asymmetrical plural regime. Although Indigenous children hold both Canadian and Indigenous citizenship, poorly defined and enforced indigenous sovereignty undermine indigenous nations’ right to self-determination through child welfare. This allows Canadian jurisdictions and policies to claim rights over children as state property.
Panel 18: Gender, Development, and Intergenerational Transfers

Robyn Hoogendam (PhD Public Policy) “Reacting to the Rise in Accountability Requirements: A Case Study of Status of Women Canada’s Women’s Program”

This research will explore the implications of government accountability on non-profits, focusing on gender-based organizations. It is looking to further conceptualize the influence of accountability through funding mechanisms, looking specifically at Status of Women Canada’s funding program. This research is using a mixed methods approach, including discourse analysis of government documents, quantitative analysis of grants and contracts and interviews with non-profit leaders which will allow for assessing the organizational, network and sub-sector effects of changes in accountability requirements on women’s organizations over several decades.

Leigha McCarroll (PhD, Public Policy)

The inauguration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) marked a departure from the rhetoric of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in that the SDGs introduced an explicit focus on the universality of issues such as gender inequality, poverty, and the degradation of the environment. This new focus has been accompanied by a broadening of the spatial framing of “development” as a concept in that the SDGs urge development actors to focus not only on countries in the Global South, but on all countries as necessary sites for development. The SDGs’ stance on universality has opened the doors for new actors to engage in development, bringing into focus subnational entities and other potential development actors outside of the traditional international development sector that have turned their attention, both in discourse and practice, to the SDGs. This paper will focus on a particular contingent of these “unusual suspects” in the international development space: community foundations, and will explore how the shift in the spatial framing of development that accompanied the establishment of the SDGs has influenced the knowledge management and discourse of Canadian community foundations related to cross-border policy issues, and whether this process has in turn influenced their grant making practices.
Household savings in China have increased dramatically from 16 percent in 1990 to 36 percent in 2016 and exhibits a U-shaped savings pattern that the high savings are driven by younger and older household. Using data from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study, I find that there exists substantial inter-vivos transfers between parents and children. Moreover, children’s income status has a large impact on inter-vivos transfers. I then use a general equilibrium life-cycle model, in which overlapping generations are altruistically linked, to quantify the impact of permanent and temporary income shock on inter-vivos transfers and household savings. The findings provide insights on what explains the high savings rate in China and how much individuals relies on families to ensure themselves against income shocks.

Environmental pollution has long been in the abstract sense. Talk of GHGs in the atmosphere and harmful compounds all around us and the environment as a whole. While consciousness about environmentalism has skyrocketed, the link between daily human activities to global climate change is muddled. What can people do? Or more importantly, what should we do? All levels of government grapple with the immense issue of climate change, but by looking at the visible and tangible waste produced in Canada, it helps to make it easier to understand this phenomenon at the individual level. My idea is looking at post-consumer waste, more specifically, food waste. My background is in hospitality/tourism, and I have first hand seen and worked in an inherently wasteful industry. Quality assurance procedures (food quality, customer/company expectations and standards) and waste management/diversion are significant issues within service industries. A National Food Waste Policy for Canada aims to connect how such a policy could assist Canada in meeting various national and international environmental commitments (ex. Paris Agreement, SDGs, Global Methane initiative, etc.). Food is something everyone connects with, we need it to survive, but the standard disposal methods are contributing to GHGs and environmental degradation. The paper looks at examples in other countries for learning and ideas that could be adopted, such as those in Paris and Japan. Also, a brief analysis of Canada’s regional disparities and challenges that affect the adoption of environmental policies that would change the current systems.


The paper measures the benefits of a home energy report program. Under the plan, households in Medicine Hat, Alberta were provided visual information on heat loss from their houses or the comparison of their energy consumption with that of similar homes. The first step of the program’s evaluation reported results using daily energy consumption data so that the hourly distribution of the energy savings was not evaluated. The paper re-estimates the program’s results with hourly electricity consumption data. In particular, the study examines the program’s impact across peak demand hours, and it estimates the value of electricity savings, which depends on when these savings take place.

Amanda Klassen, (PhD Political Science), Blake Barkley (PhD Political Science, Salma El
Panel 20: Refugees and Migration Panel

Rafaei (PhD Political Science, Veronica Overlid (PhD Law and Legal Studies)

This panel brings together various approaches in the field of Refugee and Migration studies to examine; the methodologies used in refugee research; the factors that influence and explain variation in the implementation and adoption of global refugee policy and norms in local contexts; and the way that particular resistance movements such as the migrant caravan challenge the central conceptions of borders, displacement, and agency in international refugee law and policy. Each of the papers brings a unique critical perspective, exploring various geographical locations; Central and North America, the Middle East, East Africa and South Asia.
Jacqueline Chapman (PhD Biology) Commercial fishery development across the north, focusing in on the Gjoa Haven harvest study

Jamie Desautels, (Master of Public Policy and Administration), “Food insecurity in Nunavut and programs in the community that work towards increasing access to country food”

Benjamin Faveri, (Master of Public Policy and Administration), “Projects in Nunavut, Nunavik, and on Great Slave Lake relating to health, economy, the six fish species, and food (in)security”.

Panellists include an interdisciplinary mix of students who have worked as research assistants on the FISHES and Towards a Sustainable Fishery for Nunavummiut (TSFN) projects (funded by Genome Canada) and the Food Security and Sustainable Fishery Development (FSSFD) project (funded by Polar Knowledge) with supervisor Dr. Stephan Schott. Panelists will each provide a short presentation followed by a discussion and questions. Benjamin will begin by presenting on projects in Nunavut, Nunavik, and on Great Slave Lake relating to health, economy, the six fish species, and food (in)security. Genevieve will then provide a broad overview of hunter and food support programs in Nunavut, Nunavik and on Great Slave Lake, and will identify potential gaps in programs for specific regions and a framework on how to evaluate the impacts of various food support and health programs. Jacqueline will follow with a presentation on commercial fishery development across the north, focusing in on the Gjoa Haven harvest study. Jamie will complete the presentation portion of the panel by presenting on food insecurity in Nunavut, specifically speaking to the drivers of access to country food in Gjoa Haven, followed by a description of some of the programs in the community that work towards increasing access to country food. Following the presentations, a discussion will be moderated by Dr. Stephan Schott, concluding with an opportunity for questions from the audience.
Yusuf Ali (Master, Sustainable Energy), Grace Hamilton-Burge (Master of Engineering, Sustainable Energy), Jessica Leis (Master of Arts, Sustainable Energy), Funto Oshunmakinde (Master of Engineering, Sustainable Energy)

“Is Ottawa on the Right Track? Analyzing Stage 2 of the Ottawa Light Rail Transit System Through a Climate Lens”

Leo Khoushinsky, (Master of Public Policy and Administration) “Analysis of Four Solutions to Electronic Waste – A Governmental, Consumer, and Corporate Approach”

Most Western economic models are aimed at increasing social welfare by continuous growth in products and sales. This market orientation creates a growing problem of electronic waste. The overall aim of the study is to determine whether alternative solutions can provide the right setting and public mindset to reduce electronic waste, as well as to provide a recommendation for policymakers. This paper examines the ecological impact (CO2 equivalent) of 4 types of electronic products: (1) Smartphones, (2) Laptops and Desktops, (3) Screens and Monitors, (4) Tablets. Four solutions for reducing electronic waste are observed in literature: (1) Steady-state economics and degrowth policy, (2) minimalism as a lifestyle, (3) Environmental handling fees, and (4) obsolescence controls. Textual analysis is conducted on consumer reviews from Amazon (web scraping) to determine purchase intent and motivation, brand associations with electronic waste and potential for the previously mentioned solutions. The results are then backed up by a survey that attempts to contrast consumer sustainability intentions with actual purchasing behaviour. This paper allows testing the acceptance and viability of theoretical solutions to electronic waste.

Venus Mosadeq, (MA, Political Science) “Navigating Muslim and Middle Eastern Immigrant’s Integration Experiences in Canada’s Social-Political Context”

As the world has watched millions flee their homes in search of refuge, a large number of these refugees are Muslim, which has heightened anti-immigrant anxieties among many host countries. This development begs the question as to how Canada assists refugees with resettlement and whether the Canadian nationalist discourse plays a role in relocation? Many scholars approach the topic by creating the narrative that Muslims will not be able to integrate as well as other immigrants, based on their religious
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affiliation and the political climates of their home countries. This paper attempts to address these questions by examining how Canada’s political and economic policies and frameworks shape the experiences that refugees have with political and economic integration. Using various Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) data-sets to explore the political and economic outcomes of Muslim refugees, this paper may help illustrate a more accurate portrayal of Muslim refugee’s political and economic resettlement and integration experiences.

Loubna Stitou (PhD, Geography, Environmental studies and Geomatics) “Towards Healthy Neighbourhoods – Assessing Walkability in Ottawa using CNN models”

This research aims to examine which neighborhoods in Ottawa are the most walkable. A Siamese Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model was trained to assess perceived walkability in Ottawa. A dataset of 3006 human-assessed paired images from 2007-2017 Google Street View (GSV) imagery was used for the training phase. The Siamese CNN model learned the perceptual differences between pairwise comparisons and ranked new individual images. The most walkable neighborhoods were selected considering five criteria including 1) Walking/cycling space, 2) Safety, 3) Green space, 4) Neighborhood aesthetics, 5) Proximity to amenities and attractions. Walkability scores were attributed to the 13,106 Ottawa GSV images. The results obtained showed that average or high walkability scores in Ottawa are located in urban and suburban areas. Moreover, the majority of Ottawa neighborhoods average walkability scores. Neighborhoods with the highest walkability scores are close to downtown and have a population density over 30 people per hectare. Finally, the most walkable neighborhoods in the city of Ottawa are 1) Parkwood Hills - Stewart Farm, 2) Centretown, and 3) Byward Market. These are close to downtown and have green spaces, well-maintained sidewalks both sides of the road, well-lit streets and signalization, and diversified visual infrastructures.

This paper seeks to make contributions to the study of computational propaganda in Canada. Internet robots (bots) on platforms such as twitter and facebook have been instrumental in shaping saliency of certain issues and spreading misinformation online. Research on the impact of bots on politics and public discourse has mostly centred in the context of the United States. This research seeks to contribute to the study of political bot presence in Canada by studying the presence of bots in the recent 2019 Federal Elections. Using a mix of content and network analysis of Twitter content, this study first seeks to detect bot presence in the discourse surrounding the election. If bots are present, it will explore how bots engage in political discourse online, the strategies they employ and the perceived influence these bots might have had in shaping political discourse in Canada.

Haowei Tang, (PhD Economics) “Basel Liquidity Regulation and Bank Lending in the U.S”

This paper uses the Difference-in-Differences methodology to study causal effects between the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) and bank lending behaviour. To comply with the LCR requirement, banks can either adjust the asset-side of their balance sheets by increasing the ratio of high-quality liquid assets (HQLA), or the liability-side of balance sheets through switching to more stable funding sources. I focus on the adjustments to the asset-side. Individually, I assess whether the growth of total loans and the ratio of total loans to total assets are affected by the regulation on liquidity. I address this question on both international (macro) and within-country (micro) levels. First, I analyze the G20 group of countries. Next, I focus on the U.S., in which case I study heterogeneity among banks. My objective is to assess if banks with different characteristics, such as size, liquidity cushion, capital cushion, and mortgage specialization, respond to the LCR differently. Basten (2019) investigates that Swiss banks with mortgage specialization or lower capital cushion raise higher prices after Basel III capital requirements implemented. Similar heterogeneous effects of liquidity regulations have not yet been studied empirically. Research has mostly focused on
the impact of the LCR on banks at an aggregate level. Sarkar, Shachar and Roberts (2019) show that LCR banks have lower liquidity creation but higher liquidity resilience comparing to non-LCR banks. OFR (2014) shows that the liquidity requirements decrease bank lending, but EBA (2013) suggests no such effects for the European banks. There are also studies on pre-LCR liquidity regulations, Haan and van den End (2013) investigate the Netherlands experience and found that banks tend to hold other liquid assets than required. Banerjee and Mio (2018) documented the impact on British banks and found no effect on lending. My paper has two contributions. First, I examine whether the liquidity requirement from the Basel III Accord affects bank lending among G20 countries. Second, I identify the different effects of the LCR on the U.S. banks with different characteristics.


“Gentrification: The Experiences of Business Owners in West Centretown/Dalhousie”.

Exploring the experiences of businesses in the West Centretown/Dalhousie neighbourhoods of Ottawa, this paper highlights the upscaling effects of gentrification and its impacts on the community’s economic and cultural diversity. This student research study will focus on how the Somerset West Community Health Centre (SWCHC) can better understand, support, and include businesses in their community building and advocacy work. In examining processes of gentrification as they impact business owners, this study also seeks to explore the sites of social interaction that businesses provide, and the availability of goods and services in neighbourhoods. Finally, this work aims to expand on SWCHC’s efforts to maintain affordable, diverse and healthy areas where everyone has the right to stay in their community and shape how it changes.


The cost associated with climate change is skyrocketing, with continued government support behind fossil fuel subsidies (FFS) undermining global warming mitigation.
FFS has been the backbone of the fossil fuel industry; the G20 spent a total of $147 billion in 2016 on FFS (Gerasimchuk, 2018), and Federal FFS in Canada peaked at CAD 1 billion (Corkal, 2019a). Canada and other G7 countries have committed to phasing out inefficient FFS by 2025 (Gerasimchuk, 2018). This financial investment in FFS undermines climate mitigation, and handicaps clean energy substitutes that offer long-term environmental and economic development. Ways to help tackle climate change include encouraging beneficial policy instruments, such as renewable energy incentives, along with discouraging the fossil fuel industry through taxation and FFSR. This paper analyzes how fossil fuel subsidy reform (FFSR) impacts Canadian sustainability goals. Specifically, the enhancement of renewable energy by redistributing the FFS financial resources toward renewable energy options.