



*1999 Annual Report*

*The Fraser Institute is an independent Canadian economic and social research and educational organization. It has as its objective the redirection of public attention to the role of competitive markets in providing for the well-being of Canadians. Where markets work, the Institute's interest lies in trying to discover prospects for improvement. Where markets do not work, its interest lies in finding the reasons. Where competitive markets have been replaced by government control, the interest of the Institute lies in documenting objectively the nature of the improvement or deterioration resulting from government intervention. The work of the Institute is assisted by an Editorial Advisory Board of internationally renowned economists. The Fraser Institute is a national, federally chartered non-profit organization financed by the sale of its publications and the tax-deductible contributions of its members, foundations, and other supporters.*

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## Chairman's Report

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities of The Fraser Institute during its twenty-fifth year of operation. It has been a year full of new accomplishments, of reminiscence about the developments over the past quarter-century, and of sadness at the passing of one of the most important people who contributed to the early success of The Fraser Institute.

In writing this report it has given me considerable pleasure to revisit some of the Institute's previous annual reports. As I did so, I took note of a number of things which have happened in that time, including the growth in the Institute's resources, the number of employees, the growth in the use of the web site, and the number of stories about the Institute's work in newspapers, on television, and on radio stations across the country. A number of charts have been created that show developments with regard to these aspects of the Institute's operations, which I am sure you will find interesting. These graphs appear at different points throughout the annual report.

The last few years have been a time of some danger for the Institute in ways that might not be immediately evident. The first source of danger is the level of success the Institute has enjoyed in changing the focus of the debate about economic and social policy. Success has a way of inducing complacency; that we have enjoyed a measure of success might have led us to rest on our laurels. In the ideas business it is particularly important not to do this.

I'm happy to note that we have not permitted our success to lure us into complacency. In fact, 1999 was one of the strongest years of growth in the Institute's history. We pursued new program areas and expanded our most important educational programs, programs that are key to the fulfilment of our educational function. I shall report later on some of these developments.

A second threat that we have faced in the last several years was the audit of our activities by Revenue Canada. The process was conducted in January 1998, but by the summer of 1999 had still not been reported upon. When finally the Revenue Department did report on the audit, it indicated that the Institute was not complying with the requirements for charitable organizations. The implication of this finding was of great potential significance for the Institute.

The concern that the Institute has about its charitable status does not arise from the fact that the status enables us to provide a tax receipt for contributions made to the Institute by individuals. Rather, it is that such status makes us eligible to

receive contributions from private sector foundations established for the purpose of funding research activities and other charitable enterprises. The Institute is very dependent upon these organizations for its existence, particularly because we refuse contributions from the public sector. In this regard, The Fraser Institute is unique amongst large research organizations in Canada.

The Institute's anxieties about the potential implications of the Department's finding were amplified when the Department refused charitable status to several organizations across the country seeking to follow The Fraser Institute model. The interpretation placed upon this by some, including Members of Parliament, was that Revenue Canada was determined to shut down organizations like The Fraser Institute because it disagreed with the views these institutes expressed. Considerable discussion with the Department determined that the difficulty encountered by the groups seeking to follow The Fraser Institute model (and by the Institute itself) were not of this sort. Rather, they were a by-product of the Department's ongoing attempt to develop its own position regarding public policy research institutes in the context of a broader examination of its charitable sector policy.

Finally, in October 1999, the Institute received a letter from the Department indicating that, apart from a number of minor technical issues which the Institute would have to address, the Department would not be pursuing the file at this time. I suppose that is as close as one gets to a clean bill of health from the Revenue Department. It does not, however, mean that the Department will not at some future time return to this issue and to a contemplation of the appropriateness of The Fraser Institute's activities. The Institute will redouble its efforts to ensure that, while pursuing its mission, it continues to do so in the non-partisan, non-political ways which are permitted by our status under Revenue Canada's policy.

The Institute mounted several activities to mark its twenty-fifth anniversary year including a 25-year retrospective book about the Institute and a gala dinner at which those who had made a significant contribution to the Institute's founding and success were duly honoured. In all, 40 individuals were singled out for their contribution to the Institute and received a suitably inscribed memento of the occasion. We were very pleased that more than 300 members and guests were able to share this special occasion. Included amongst the guests were visitors from 24 countries including: Dr. Fernando Diego Alvarez (Argentina), Mr. Erwin Bendl (Austria), Prof. Subhash Kumar Sen Gupta (Bangladesh), Mr. Rodrigo Molina (Bolivia), Ms. Svetlana Alexandrova (Bul-

Premier Ralph Klein (centre left) accepts The Fraser Institute Fiscal Performance Award from Institute Chairman Raymond Addington, O.B.E. (centre right), Mr. William Siebens (left), and Executive Director Michael Walker following the 14th Annual Dr. Harold Walter Siebens Lecture, "The Alberta Advantage," at the 1999 Annual General Meeting Round Table Luncheon.



Gary Wildman

Kristin McCahon



Three of the Fraser Institute's founders reunite for the opening of the Institute's new premises on Burrard Street in Vancouver on June 3: Michael Walker (left), Sally Pipes, and Csaba Hajdu.

garia), Prof. Fan Gang, Dr. Xiaolu Wang, and Dr. Liwen Zhang (China), Dr. Rigoberto Stewart (Costa Rica), Ms. Dora Ampuero (Ecuador), Mr. Sigfrido Lee (Guatemala), Mr. Laszlo Urban (Hungary), Dr. Parth Shah (India), Dr. Rainer Adam and Dr. Anton Hermanto Gunawan (Indonesia), Mr. Giovanni Ronca (Italy), Mr. Young-Seok Yoo (South Korea), Mr. Paramjit Singh (Malaysia), Dr. Mahar Mangahas (Philippines), Dr. Andrzej Kondratowicz (Poland), Dr. Andrei Illarionov (Russia), Mr. Uwe Johannes (Singapore), Prof. Aleksandar Keseljevic and Mrs. Rotija Kmet (Slovenia), Mr. Håkan Borg and Mr. Mattias Bengtsson (Sweden), Dr. Nipon Poapongsakorn (Thailand), Prof. Guneri Akalin and Dr. Atilla Yayla (Turkey), and Dr. Abdiweli Ali, Dr. Alejandro Chafuen, Dr. James Gwartney, Dr. Robert Lawson, Dr. John Mukum Mbaku, and Prof. Walter Park (United States).

A feature of the gala celebration was the keynote address by Mr. Terence Corcoran, Editor of *The Financial Post*. In his wide-ranging discussion about the work of the Institute, Mr. Corcoran was generous in his assessment of our achievements.

We've come a very long way since then, thanks to you... The price control book was the first of an incredible 25-year record of production that has without doubt transformed the political and ideological climate in Canada.

From the campaigns against rent controls, to the path-breaking biennial *Tax Facts* reports that exposed the government's relentless expropriation of our wealth and income, to the pay equity work, the studies of union economics, the pioneering privatization publications, the government spending analyses, the free trade leadership, the speakers series and meetings that have brought the world's leading free market thinkers and politicians to Canada—these have all been instrumental in transforming the climate of ideas in Canada. There is no other institute in Canada that has made such a wide-ranging contribution, or had such a broad impact on the direction of public policy debate in Canadian life.

The work in health care has been especially important. Some of us probably take for granted the books on health care and the waiting list research. But when you think about it, who else in Canada would have taken on such a

brave project? Who else among the established and entrenched elites would have dared to take on the idea that nationalized health care socialism was anything other than Canada's defining achievement as a nation?

It has been fascinating to watch the turnaround in the major Toronto newspapers. The *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail* have been legendary in their dismissal and even ridicule of The Fraser Institute's health care work. Following the Institute's first book on the subject, *The Health Care Business*, the *Globe's* editorial called it "occult cynicism," that would leave the rich to get regular check-ups while the poor get pleurisy.

The *Toronto Star* was even worse back then. But now, the *Star* routinely quotes the waiting list statistics that it once dismissed as a right wing fabrication.

Mr. Corcoran went on in his remarks to note that, "In spite of the fact that the Institute has been in existence for 25 years, it has not become inured to its role in any way." He added that,

What is truly amazing to me is the fact that The Fraser Institute, after 25 years, has continued to maintain its intellectual sharpness and policy lead. The current work in the environmental area, especially in the areas of global warming and exposing the sinister spread of junk science throughout our culture, is a sign that the Institute is still a leader, still brave and bold, still able to take on the prevailing orthodoxies.

I was especially encouraged to see The Fraser Institute participate in the smoking and tobacco debate. These are taboo subjects in academic circles in Canada. But The Fraser Institute is there.

... I happen to consider the spread of junk science to be the greatest threat to freedom in the world today. If you and the Institute don't take on these campaigns against junk science and junk economics, I don't know who will.

I'm very pleased to note that the Institute had already risen to Mr. Corcoran's challenge and has in fact been in the process of creating a Risk and Regulation Centre which specifically focuses on issues related to junk science and their role in policy development. We had also, as Mr. Corcoran noted, taken the bold step of involving ourselves in the tobacco debate. Not, as some of our critics have attempted to maintain, because we favour or agree with the use of tobacco or the firms who produce it, but rather because of our concern that the debate about tobacco has been conducted in a "witch hunt" fashion with disregard for the evi-

Former Chairman of the Board, the late Mr. Alan Campney (left), and retired Trustee Mr. Bill Harrison, greet Alberta Premier Ralph Klein at the Institute's Annual General Meeting in Vancouver, May 1999.



Gary Wildman

dence on the subject. While those of us who do not smoke may have sympathy for a program which targets those who do (so we can be free of the irritation caused by their pesky habit), we have to recognize that in a free society the decision to remove others' freedoms should only be taken after very careful deliberation and on the basis of facts rather than hysteria. The reason it was important to enter the tobacco debate is because it is an example of public policy based on prejudice rather than sound science. Through the activities of the Risk and Regulation Centre we will continue to challenge policy makers to ensure that their policies are based on sound foundations.

While the Institute continues to innovate with new program areas, we have not neglected the projects in which the Institute has been engaged since its inception 25 years ago. For example, during 1999, Tax Freedom Day, the Institute's index of the tax burden borne by ordinary Canadians, received more press attention across the nation than it has in its history. For many journalists and public policy analysts, Tax Freedom Day is the touchstone from which discussion about fiscal issues departs.

Other Institute calculations designed to inform the public policy debate also received widespread attention during the year. These include the environmental indicators, which in 1999 were expanded to include Mexico and the United Kingdom. The annual survey of mining companies was expanded to include the United States as well as foreign jurisdictions and has become an important addition to the discussion of mining policy in Canada and the United States. The survey of investment managers continues to be closely monitored by governments across the country; it reflects the opinions on crucial public policy issues of the investment managers who are the principal purchasers of the debt of the provinces and the federal government. Of course, those debts and other Canadian government obligations are the subject of the Institute's annual Critical Issues Bulletin on Canadian government debt. The inclusion in the latter of the unfunded liabilities of provincial and federal governments has acquired an increasing amount of attention during 1999 as analysts begin to focus on The Fraser Institute's concern about the promises to pay for health care and pensions obligations into which governments have entered. The future burden of these promises is reflected in the accumulating unfunded liability.

As I have often mentioned in this Annual Report, measurement is the very stuff of The Fraser Institute's research program and during 1999 we ventured into some new areas of measurement. For example, in health care we published two studies which provided novel measurements of two critical aspects of the health care system. One of these was the first comprehensive survey of the use of alternative medicines ever conducted in Canada. This report has become the founda-

*Dr. Liwen Zhang (left) and renowned Chinese economist Dr. Fan Gang of the National Institute for Economic Research in Beijing, China, meet in Vancouver to begin collaboration with the Institute on the production of a marketization index of the 31 Chinese provinces.*



*Annabel Addington*

tion document for discussions of policies regarding the alternative health care sector and an important source document for commentators.

While alternative medicine is a challenging new area for public policy, the main focus of The Fraser Institute's research program in health care is in conventional medicine, and in particular, how Canada's socialized health care system functions. During 1999, the Institute added to the measurements that it makes of the health care system by issuing the first-ever comprehensive report on the availability of medical technology in Canada. This report compared the technologies available in Canada with those available in other OECD countries and reported on direct hospital comparisons between Canada and the United States. It is hoped that this technology survey will become a regular aspect of the Institute's health policy program.

One of the Institute's newest measurement projects has been the creation of report cards for all of the high schools in British Columbia. During 1999, we issued the second comprehensive report card on high schools in British Columbia and once again collaborated with the *Province* newspaper to ensure that the results of this measurement were conveyed to its 200,000 readers. Reaction to the report card continues to reflect the wide range of interests which are affected by it, but there is also increasing recognition of the importance of performance measurement and continuous improvement in our school system.

During 1999 we extended the report card measurement to include all of the high schools in Alberta. As an indication of the painstaking research which goes into Fraser Institute studies of this kind, in the case of both Alberta and British Columbia the report cards for each of the schools involves not only compiling the grades earned by every student in the school, but also measuring the socio-economic background from which each student of each school is drawn. The latter is derived by receiving from the Departments of Education the postal code of every student in a high school in each of the provinces and having Statistics Canada construct from its census measurement a socio-economic profile of each student, and therefore each school. The results of this analysis demonstrate quite clearly that some schools perform much better than the socio-economic characteristics of the student



*Left to right: Ms. Svetlana Alexandrova (Bulgaria), Ms. Dora Ampuero (Ecuador), Dr. Nipon Poapongsakorn (Thailand), and Mr. Sigfrido Lee (Guatemala) listen to the proceedings of the 1999 Economic Freedom Network annual conference held in the Institute's Vancouver head office.*



body would predict, while others do much worse. The implication is that some principals have, to a greater degree than others, been able to work out a successful recipe for their schools. These successful schools in British Columbia, Alberta, and also Quebec, will be the subject of a special investigation by the Society for Excellence in Education, led by Ms. Helen Raham.

One of the most interesting outcomes of the high school report card program has been the reaction of the principals of the ranked schools. Some have complained that the measurements treat them unfairly, others have welcomed the measurements as a helpful management tool. Others have suggested ways in which the measurements could be improved and the index made more accurate. But perhaps the most interesting insight into the importance of the report card exercise comes from the reaction of the principal of the British Columbia school which, in 1999, was ranked the worst school overall in the province. This principal, Mr. Michael McIndoe, was interviewed by *BC Business Magazine*, which did a cover story on British Columbia's CEOs—chief education officers. When asked by the magazine how he felt about being ranked dead last, Mr. McIndoe replied: "It was the greatest leadership experience of my life." In that interview, and in communication with The Fraser Institute, Mr. McIndoe noted that his school's very poor showing in the report card mobilized the community behind him, and empowered him to do things which otherwise would not have been possible. Mr. McIndoe, in his correspondence with the Institute, noted that, "I want to thank you in the way that a patient thanks a dentist for a root canal."

The Institute's events department was busy during 1999, hosting many events from coast to coast in Canada, and in Chile and Argentina.

Two of Canada's premiers and the governor of Oregon visited the Institute during 1999. Premier Ralph Klein provided the fourteenth Dr. Harold Walter Siebens Lecture at the

Institute's annual general meeting, during which he was very complimentary about The Fraser Institute's work.

It is an honour to be able to congratulate The Fraser Institute on 25 years of dedicated service on behalf of hard-working Canadians. You have made an important contribution to our country. Throughout your 25-year history, you have led the charge for fiscally responsible government and lower taxes. You have been the voice of reason, calling for a new way of governing and a break from the welfare state. You were the first to raise the call, and you have been diligent and vigilant in holding government feet to the fire. And it's great to see that your diligence is paying off. Thanks in part to your ideas, reports, and studies—and the relentless pursuit of your ideals—governments in Canada are on the right path. We may still have a way to go yet, but we are finally headed in a direction that makes sense.

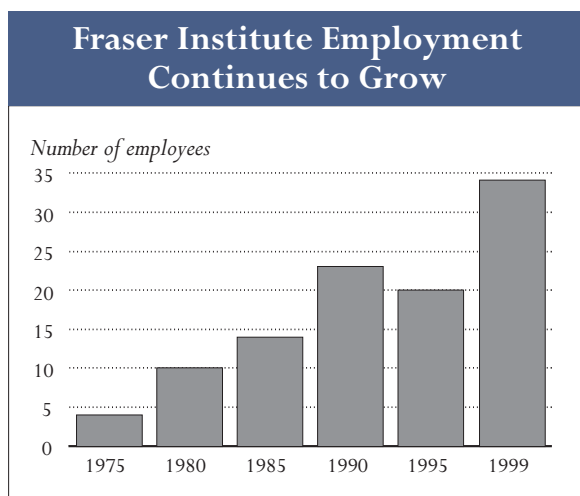


Kristin McCahon

In June, friends and supporters gather to celebrate the opening of The Fraser Institute's new Vancouver offices.

Premier Mike Harris also complimented the Institute on its work. Both premiers noted that the Institute's groundbreaking work had made it possible for them to pursue sensible economic policies; they could do so because the task of educating the general public had in many instances been done. It is important to note that The Fraser Institute is non-partisan and non-political in all of its activities, but the educational role that it plays makes a difference in how public discussion of policy change occurs.

In September, the Institute hosted the Mont Pelèrin Society meeting in Vancouver. This is the third time The Fraser Institute has hosted the Mont Pelèrin Society, and as with previous meetings in Vancouver, the members noted that the 1999 meeting set a new standard of performance for meetings of this sort. The Institute was pleased to welcome to Vancouver former US Secretary of State George Shultz; Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman; former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Vaclav Klaus; *Wall Street Journal* editor Robert Bartley; *National Review* editor-at-large John O'Sullivan; former Taiwanese Minister of Finance Ms. Shirley Kuo; International Monetary Fund Managing Director Stanley Fisher; former Chairman of Citicorp Walter Wriston; Mrs. Thatcher's personal economic advisor, Sir Alan Walters; President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Dr. Jerry Jordan; and the man who invented the Hong Kong currency board system, Mr. John Greenwood. While the speakers just noted are illustri-



ous, members of the Mont Pelèrin Society are leading intellectuals from around the world, and for this particular meeting some 300 of them gathered to be led in discussions by their distinguished colleagues.

During 1999, the Institute also hosted the meeting of the Economic Freedom Network. The Network is a group of 55 institutes in 55 countries that collaborates to produce the Economic Freedom of the World Index, which is the result of The Fraser Institute's 14-year research program. A happy coincidence of this year's meeting in Vancouver was the initiation of the collaboration of The Fraser Institute with the National Institute for Economic Research in Beijing, China, to produce a marketization index of the 31 Chinese provinces. This project, which has been funded by the Centre for International Private Enterprise, an affiliate of the American Chamber of Commerce, will see the construction over the next 5 years of a variety of indices that will ultimately enable market advocates in China to develop a comparative measurement of marketization in the Chinese provinces and document the effect of marketization. During the latter part of 1999, Dr. Liwen Zhang from the National Institute for Economic Research joined the staff of The Fraser Institute for training in the construction of indices of this type.

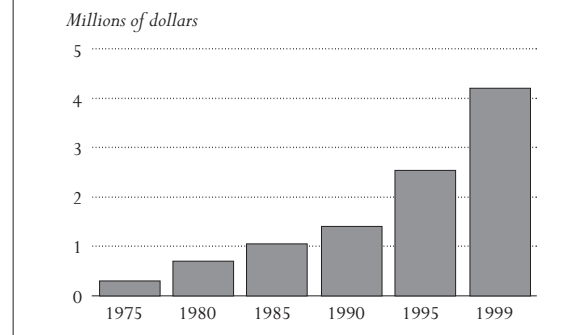
Since 1978, the Fraser Institute has been active in Latin America trying to convey to countries there the benefits of the Institute's research. Over the years, it has been our pleasure to collaborate with many research institutes in Latin America. Nineteen-ninety-nine was no exception; we collaborated with institutes in Argentina and Chile in hosting international conferences on intellectual property rights. These conferences were well attended by the highest public officials as well as a good cross section of interested parties in both those countries.

Nineteen-ninety-nine marked a new level of outreach for the Institute as we began distributing *Fraser Forum* on news stands in British Columbia. This test program is designed to help the Institute devise a more saleable format for *Fraser Forum* to eventually put us in the position to be able to sell advertising in the magazine to help fund the Institute's research program. There has, as yet, been insufficient experience with this program to judge whether news stand distribution is a viable option.

Nineteen-ninety-nine also saw the establishment of the Pharmaceutical Policy Research Centre under the distinguished direction of Dr. William McArthur. Dr. McArthur is a Senior Fellow in Health Policy Analysis with the Institute and has, for the last four-and-a-half years, been conducting important research on a wide variety of topics, but particularly ones related to pharmaceutical policy. A major project of the Centre is the study of pharmaceutical cost containment policies, and how, and to what extent, they have worked to reduce the cost of health care provision.

One of The Fraser Institute's principal concerns is to ensure that its research results are made available to the broadest possible audience. One way to extend the reach of the Institute's research is through our student programs, which are now conducted in 10 cities across Canada. The principal targets of these seminars are university students, of whom more than 1,000 participated last year. During 1999 a new form of seminar was targeted at high school students. Much to the surprise of the student programming staff, the experiment was a phenomenal success; nearly 400 high school students attended the first trial workshop in Vancouver.

## Fraser Institute Program Spending



Nineteen-ninety-nine was also a year of great sadness for the Institute with the passing of Mr. Alan Campney, the first Chairman of The Fraser Institute's Board of Trustees. Mr. Campney served the Institute as Chairman for 10 years during our early formative days when we frequently faced fundamental challenges. In the second year of our existence, one of the Institute's most significant supporters demanded that the Institute withdraw a book which was intended for publication on the grounds that he disagreed with its conclusions. In response to this demand, Alan Campney crafted what can only be regarded as a classic defense of the importance of independence for an organization like The Fraser Institute.

That letter served to establish once and for all the complete independence of the Institute's research program, and the practice—which continues to this day—that the Board of Trustees and the Institute's financial supporters do not receive copies of the Institute's publications until after they have been published. While Alan Campney has been immortalized in this policy of independence for the Institute, those of us who worked closely with Alan will remember him for his sage advice and his ever-present sense of humour. We shall miss Alan Campney, who remained a member of the Executive Advisory Board of the Institute until the very end of his life. In memory of his great contribution to the Institute we will be establishing the Alan F. Campney Internship, which will be occupied each year by a promising young student who will work on policy issues at the Institute.

Nineteen-ninety-nine has been a record year for the Institute in many departments, and is an appropriately high level from which to launch our end-of-millennium year in 2000. I hope that you will join me in helping the Institute accomplish its ambitious goals for the forthcoming year, and that you will continue to provide the financial support which is crucial to its success.

R. J. Addington, O.B.E.  
Chairman, The Fraser Institute

## Introducing The Fraser Institute

The Fraser Institute was founded in 1974 to redirect the attention of Canadians to the role of markets in providing for their well-being. Over the long term, ideas are the most powerful influence on public policy. The Institute, therefore, stimulates demand for economically sound public policy by conducting research and disseminating its findings to the general public and to policy makers.

The Institute is headquartered in Vancouver, but also has satellite offices in Calgary, Toronto, and Ottawa. The Institute has active research ties with similar independent organizations in 54 countries from around the world.

### Organization

The Fraser Institute is a federally chartered, non-profit research and educational organization, with tax-exempt status in both Canada and the United States. Membership is open to anyone making a donation in support of the Institute's activities. A Board of Trustees is responsible to the members of the Institute for the conduct of the Institute's affairs. The Institute's programs are administered by the Executive Director, and the Institute's performance is monitored monthly by an Executive Advisory Board drawn primarily from the Board of Trustees.

### Research

The objective of Institute research programs is to provide alternatives to well-intentioned but misguided views about the appropriate roles of governments. Research is carried out by Institute staff and by associated scholars from nearly 200 universities and other academic institutions around the world. Over 300 people have contributed to the Institute's work, including Nobel Laureates Gary Becker, James Buchanan, Milton Friedman, and Douglass North. Research is reviewed internally by an editorial committee, and, where appropriate, by associated policy experts or an Editorial Advisory Board of leading international economists.



Lucretia Cullen

Executive Director Michael Walker (left) shares some conversation with former US Secretary of State the Honourable George Shultz and Stanley Fischer, First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (right) before the two square off in a debate at the Mont Pelerin Society Regional Meeting held in Vancouver from August 29 to September 1, 1999.

The Institute's research agenda is decided by Institute staff at an annual planning session, and at a mid-year review. Ongoing projects are reviewed for their continuing relevance, and potential new projects assessed on the basis of importance and timeliness. The aim of the policy planning process is to produce a research and education plan that will maximize the Institute's contribution to improving public policy. Donors are not involved in this planning process.

### Funding and Independence

Throughout the year, funding is sought both for specific projects and for the Institute's overall activities. The majority of the Institute's revenues are derived from the donations of its members, and from research foundations. Revenue also is generated from the sale of publications, from Institute events, and from interest on invested endowment funds. The Institute avoids government funding, and strives to minimize its dependence on any single source of funding or group of supporters. The Institute is non-political, and does not undertake lobbying activities.

### Publications and Outreach

The Institute's products—its ideas—are packaged in a number of different formats to reach different audiences. The Institute's monthly magazine, *Fraser Forum*, its periodic *Critical Issues Bulletins* and *Public Policy Sources*, and its books are distributed to Institute members, the media, students, academics, policy makers, and politicians from all parties, across Canada and abroad.

Institute publications have been sold in over 50 countries and translated into 20 languages. Many titles are required reading in North American and European universities. The Institute makes a particular effort to reach students through seminars, *The Canadian Student Review* newsletter, and internships. Institute publications since 1994 are also available in full on our web site.

The Institute reaches a wide audience through the mass media. Institute staff write press releases, editorials, and articles, and conduct radio and television interviews. The Institute also offers a fax news broadcasting service to over 200 radio talk show hosts nationwide. Further, the Institute's National Media Archive monitors the media for balance in news and public affairs reporting.

Finally, the Institute holds conferences, luncheons, and seminars in major Canadian cities, and Institute staff make speeches and participate in public forums on a regular basis. Institute staff also regularly make submissions to parliamentary committees.

### Results

The Fraser Institute's efforts over the years have contributed to changing the conventional wisdom about many areas of public policy across Canada. The increasing scepticism Canadians feel about the efficacy of government solutions to economic problems is being reflected in the policy platforms of leaders across the political spectrum. The Institute has a well-deserved reputation for the quality of its work, which earns its research and recommendations the attention of policy makers around the globe.



## The National Media Archive

Media analysis at The Fraser Institute began in 1987 with the realization that what the media say about public policy issues frames the public debate. From its inception, the National Media Archive has been at the forefront of quantitative analysis of media content. Researchers at the NMA examine news content using a sophisticated method that examines every sentence, phrase, and even word to determine whether the Canadian media are balanced in their coverage of social, economic, and political issues. The Archive's comprehensive, scientifically-based research reveals the limitations, imbalances, and one-sided nature of many media reports.

In 1999, the Archive continued to examine television attention to issues such as bank mergers, productivity, and risk and the environment. It expanded its research activities to examine the online content of the national broadcaster. In its analysis of CBC's online web site it revealed that the public broadcaster emphasized the opinions of left-wing organizations in its in-depth news content. The analysis on the CBC web site was not limited to news content. During the year we also took a close look at the CBC4Kids site and examined its coverage of poverty.

During 1999, the National Media Archive, in the person of Kate Morrison, continued to assist the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) in Melbourne, Australia, in

establishing a media monitoring unit. After conducting several content analyses of the Australian federal election and of labour issues, Ms. Morrison returned to Canada to pursue a Master's degree in Communications.

The NMA maintains a video and text library of CBC and CTV's national news and public affairs programs, as well as the text of all major Canadian daily newspapers. These resources are made available to academics, students, and the general public in Canada and throughout the world for research purposes. The Archive is a member of the International Media Monitoring Association (IMMA), an organization dedicated to sharing research findings and methods, and conducting comparative studies. The collaborative work is published quarterly by the German Media monitoring unit.

Based in The Fraser Institute's Alberta office, National Media Archive Director Lydia Miljan presented the findings of the Archive during 1999 on a wide variety of television and talk radio programs, as well as in opinion pieces in major Canadian newspapers.



Kristin McCahon

A protester takes issue with the findings of The Fraser Institute-published book, *Passive Smoke: the EPA's Betrayal of Science and Policy*.



Gary Wildman

Eager media scrums question Alberta Premier Ralph Klein (above) and Ontario Premier Mike Harris (below) following their respective Fraser Institute speeches in Vancouver on May 10 and November 30.



Gary Wildman

An Adam Smith tie is a perfect fit! Michael Walker makes a presentation to Bank of Canada Governor Gordon Thiessen (left) of the Institute's new millennium tie following Mr. Thiessen's speech to an Institute Round Table Luncheon in December.



Gary Wildman

## Fiscal Studies Division

The most widely recognized work of any public policy institute in Canada is “Tax Freedom Day”—the day in the year when the average family has earned enough income to pay the total tax bill levied by the various levels of government. This calculation, which The Fraser Institute has been making for 22 years, is an important fixture in the debate about government spending and taxation in Canada. The Fiscal Studies division annually calculates Tax Freedom Day for Canada as well as for each of the provinces. A new variation was added in 1999. Now, anyone can log onto our web site at [www.fraserinstitute.ca](http://www.fraserinstitute.ca) and, by providing a few pieces of information, obtain their Personal Tax Freedom Day estimate, including the number of days worked for the government, and an estimate of how many of these days were required to pay for specific types of government spending.

*Tax Facts 11*, the Institute’s biennial book about the Canadian tax system, was released in 1999. *Tax Facts* provides a detailed province-by-province analysis of the total direct and hidden tax bill as well as an overview of taxation in Canada and an analysis of how Canada compares with other countries.

Two other studies related to taxation were released in 1999. “Using Cash Rebates for Tax Relief Without Risk” showed that there is a way for the federal government to give Canadians tax relief without risking a return to deficits. “The 20% Foreign Property Rule: Increasing Risk and Decreasing Returns on RRSPs and RPPs” discussed the problems with the foreign property rule and provided empirical examples of how the rule lowers retirement income for Canadians.

The Fraser Institute hosted the first in a series of symposia on capital gains taxation. The 1999 meeting brought together Canadian and American experts in the field for a productive one-day session.

In addition, the division provides federal and provincial budget analyses, basic background information on issues ranging from public sector employment to agricultural subsidies to international unemployment rates for *Fraser Forum*



David Somerville Chair in Canadian Fiscal Studies and former MP Herbert Grubel (left), former Governor of the Bank of Canada John Crow (centre), and Jason Clemens, Director of Fiscal and Non-Profit Studies at The Fraser Institute, participate in a panel discussion at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.

readers, as well as the compilation of both the Fiscal Performance Index and the Budget Performance Index. The Fraser Institute awarded Ralph Klein his third straight Fiscal Performance Award in 1999. The award is based on the semi-annual Fiscal Performance Index, which follows a model constructed by the Washington, DC-based CATO Institute. This index compares the performances of the provincial and state governments, relative to each other, on key taxation and spending measures from election through to the current year. The Budget Performance Index compares the recent taxation, spending, deficit, and debt performance of the provinces and the federal government.

The division researches many other important issues affecting Canadians. “Canadian Government Debt 1999: A Guide to the Indebtedness of Canada and the Provinces,” provides background information to help Canadians understand the size and nature of the nation’s public debt and obligations. This comprehensive measure of Canada’s obligations includes: the direct debt, debt guarantees, contingent liabilities, and contractual commitments of Canada and the provinces, the debt of taxpayer-supported Crown Corporations, total program obligations for the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans, the Old Age Security program, and the health care system. A thorough list of statistics such as interest burdens and foreign currency exposure by province is included. In addition, the report compiles the Severely Indebted Country list for 146 countries, along with the 10 Canadian provinces and two territories.

The quarterly Investment Managers Survey, based on the responses of senior investment officers who collectively manage over \$175 billion worth of assets, provides insight into such topics as provincial investment climates, budget recommendations, productivity, and the brain drain, and gives approval ratings for both the federal finance minister and the Bank of Canada governor.

Another area of focus is the implications of the size of governments in Canada and the provinces, and the related questions of how surpluses should be allocated. “Canadian Public Spending: The Case For Smaller, More Efficient Government” makes the case that the Canadian government sector is too large, that this has negatively affected rates of economic growth and living standards, and proposes a path to reduce government from 45 to 30 percent of GDP.

“The Case for the Amero: The Economics and Politics of a North American Monetary Union,” details how Canada’s flexible exchange rate regime has contributed to poor economic performance, high currency-exchange costs, and added a significant risk premium to Canadian interest rates. The paper explains how a monetary union among Canada, the United States, and Mexico would benefit all three countries.

“The Adequacy of Welfare Benefits” is a detailed analysis of the incomes available to welfare recipients. It examines how these incomes compare to basic needs and to the incomes of the working poor, and concludes that welfare incomes cover basic needs for all except those recipients who society expects to work.

The division will continue to have a diverse focus. It will cultivate an awareness of how and why tax and debt burdens differ among provinces. It will examine how Canadian governments spend and tax relative to each other, the United States, and other nations. In addition, it will look at what policy options will ensure a sound fiscal future for Canada.

## Non-Profit Studies

Last year marked the second full year of studies dedicated to the non-profit sector. A number of important projects were completed during the year, including the second annual Donner Canadian Foundation Awards, the first formal measurement of generosity, the completion of a study on the regulation of the charitable sector, and the publication of a number of articles in *Fraser Forum*.

The second annual *Donner Canadian Foundation Awards* were hosted and presented by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Hilary M. Weston, at a ceremony held at Queen's Park. Seven agencies were awarded a total of \$55,000, and were presented with formal recognition of their excellence in their particular service category. Recipients of these national awards were from British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario. Additional finalists were from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland.

The Department of Non-Profit Studies, with assistance from the National Center for Policy Analysis in Dallas, Texas, completed the first formal attempt to measure generosity in Canada. The *Private Charitable Generosity Index* calculates the generosity of the provinces based on financial giving and volunteering. In addition, a US-Canada index was constructed that calculates the financial generosity of the 10 provinces and 50 states. The study received considerable media exposure, including coverage on both national and local television news, coast-to-coast radio commentary, and over 30 print articles, including a prominent synopsis in the *Globe and Mail*.

Another study, *Preserving Independence: Does the Canadian Voluntary Sector need a Voluntary Sector Commission?* examined the future of regulation in the charitable sec-

tor. The study concluded that greater centralization and government control of the charitable sector would not achieve the objectives of the commission, and offered a number of voluntary mechanisms that would achieve greater accountability and improved performance. The study drew the attention of the working groups examining charitable legislation, and its findings were published in the *Canadian Not-for-Profit News*.

A number of other reports on the non-profit sector were completed during the year and released in the Institute's monthly magazine, *Fraser Forum*. These articles ranged from the regulation of charities, to the role of the United Way, to an examination of charitable giving in Canada. In addition, the June issue of *Fraser Forum* was devoted to the charitable sector. It featured articles completed by staff on taxes and donations, and public versus private charities, as well as articles by Professor Marvin Olasky from the University of Texas at Austin, and the Cato Institute's David Boaz.



From left to right, top: Winners in the second annual Donner Canadian Foundation Awards: Mary-Ellen Blizzard (Sarnia-Lambton Rebound), Rhonda Clarke-Bryun (Norfolk Association for Community Living), Paul O'Krafka (St. Joseph's Villa), Teri Basi (Wood's Homes Program), Andrew Johnston (AIDS Vancouver), Sister Maco Cassetta (Centre Youville Ottawa Carleton), R.J. Addington (Chairman, The Fraser Institute), the Honourable Hilary M. Weston, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Allan Gotlieb (Donner Canadian Foundation), and Lynn Figal (Representative from York Region Abuse Program).



Mr. John A. MacNaughton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, speaks to guests at an Economic Advisory Luncheon at The Fraser Institute's Head Office in Vancouver in November.



Mr. Walter Wriston, Citicorp, New York (left), Peter Cowley (centre left), José Piñera, Co-Chair of the Social Security Privatization Project, CATO Institute (centre right), and Dr. John Coqan, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.

Adele Waters



## Environmental Studies

In 1999, The Fraser Institute's environmental studies program expanded its focus to include the topics of risk and regulation. The Ottawa conference, *Junk Science... Junk Policy? Managing Risk and Regulation* marked the first foray into this new territory. At the conference, experts examined case studies in risk management and discussed a risk and regulatory reform agenda for Canada. The papers from this conference will be published in a book early in the year 2000.

The third edition of the *Environmental Indicators Critical Issues Bulletin* was published in April to help focus Earth Day (April 22) debates on trends in environmental quality. The study examines air quality, water quality, natural resource use, land use, and solid waste disposal. Contrary to popular public opinion, the indicators study shows that in many of these areas, environmental quality has improved significantly over the past 20 years. The third edition contained information on

the United Kingdom and Mexico. The fourth edition of this report, which was completed in the summer of 1999 with the help of a student intern, will be published in April of the year 2000.

With the assistance of another student intern, the Institute continued investigating market solutions to environmental problems. The results of this research, which compares the effectiveness of tradable emissions permits with that of command-and-control regulations for improving air quality, will be published in 2000.

The Fraser Institute also published the Canadian edition of the book *Facts, Not Fear* in 1999. The book reviews what children in primary and secondary school learn about the environment from their textbooks, teachers, and outside reading. It counters some of the irresponsible claims of environmental extremists and provides a more balanced view of popular environmental controversies. Another environmental education study focusing on what university students think about environmental topics is under way and scheduled for publication in 2000.

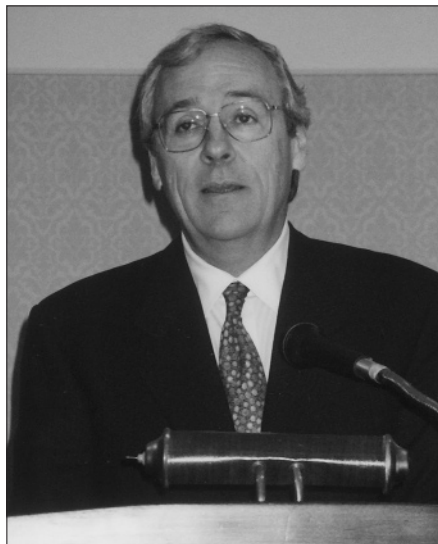
Following the successful 1998 conference on protecting endangered species, the Institute published the *Critical Issues Bulletin Crying Wolf? Public Policy on Endangered Species in Canada*. The report, which received national media coverage, concludes federal legislation is not the most effective way to protect Canada's endangered species.

The problems facing the mining industry were once again highlighted in *The Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies*. The survey asks companies to reveal how policy factors such as taxation, regulation, and uncertainty concerning land use affect their investment.

Pedram Panahi



Dr. Byeong-Ho Gong, President of the Center for Free Enterprise, South Korea (left), Laura Jones, Director of Environment and Regulatory Studies at The Fraser Institute, and Mr. Thomas Henriksen, Associate Director and Fellow of the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, gather after a session at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.



Three speakers at The Fraser Institute conference "Junk Science, Junk Policy? Managing Risk and Regulation" in Ottawa on April 29. From left, Professor Tammy Tengs, School of Social Ecology, University of California at Irvine, Mr. Terence Corcoran, Editor, *The Financial Post*, and Professor Peter Neumann, Center for Risk Analysis, Harvard University, Boston.

## Canadian Governance

### Canada and Aboriginal Projects

The Canada Project and the Aboriginal Project are both the work of Gordon Gibson, Senior Fellow in Canadian Studies at The Fraser Institute.

The Canada Project, commenced in 1994 with the book *Plan B: The Future of the Rest of Canada*, researches ways of improving Canadian unity and federalism. Its thrust is towards applying the concept of subsidiarity to the federation, implying a generally more decentralized and privatized system of governance. To this end, Mr. Gibson held meetings during the year with the past and present chairs of the Annual Premiers' Conference (Saskatchewan Premier Romanow and Quebec Premier Bouchard) as well as politicians and officials at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels.

In addition to numerous articles, Mr. Gibson was an invited speaker at the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Newfoundland joining Confederation; a major parliamentary reform conference in Edmonton sponsored by the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark and Ian McLelland, MP; and the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Study of Parliament Group in Ottawa.

In general, 1999 was a year of cross-currents, with declining interest in sovereignty in Quebec, an associated and unfortunate declining interest in reform of the federation in Ottawa, and a continued preoccupation of provincial governments with local matters, to the detriment of improved intergovernmental relations.

During 1999, the Aboriginal Project focused on the Nisga'a Treaty. Mr. Gibson wrote two major papers on the topic and arranged for a third by an outside consultant, Stuart Adams. The work also included articles published in *Fraser Forum*, in the newsletter of the Council for Canadian Unity, and in various columns on the topic.

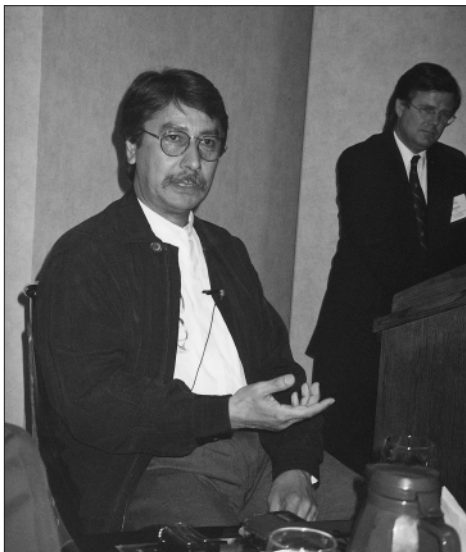
Mr. Gibson participated in The Fraser Institute Delgamuukw conference in Ottawa, addressed the Municipal Finance Authority on aboriginal matters, and maintained contact with federal, provincial, and native officials, and treaty negotiators.

Nineteen-ninety-nine saw the major treaty negotiations in BC reach an impasse. The year also saw substantial completion of Mr. Gibson's *Principles for Treaty Making* (published in 2000) which builds on the fundamental principle that while special and important Indian property rights undoubtedly exist, the political and citizenship rights of all Canadians should be the same. Failure to adhere to that principle for the past 130 years is the proximate cause of the tensions and unhappiness of today.

### Governance

Towards the end of 1999, The Fraser Institute decided to create a new department focused on governance. The Governance and Civil Society department will be part of the projects researched and initiated in the Institute's Alberta office. The unit will examine the long-term changes in Canada's governance structure. Topics to be examined will include the effects of globalization; the problems of federalism; economic diversification; demographic shifts; public-private sector relations involving all three orders of government, including aboriginal affairs; and Canada-United States cooperation. The main focus will be how the three orders of government in Canada are coping with a turbulent global environment.

The Governance and Civil Society department will examine more than just the structure of government; it will also look at how government affects private matters. Some of the research will expand and complement Gordon Gibson's excellent work. Notable scholars from the University of Calgary such as Barry Cooper, Tom Flanagan, Rainer Knopff, Ted Morton, Ken MacKenzie, Ron Kneebone, and David Bercuson will conduct the research. Lydia Miljan, who currently runs the National Media Archive out of Calgary, will be the administrative head of the department.



Satsan (Herb George), Hereditary Wet'suwet'en Chief and BC Regional Vice Chief, Assembly of First Nations (left), answers a question from the audience at the conference "The Delgamuukw Case: Aboriginal Land Claims and Canada's Regions," moderated by Dr. Owen Lippert, Director of The Fraser Institute's Law and Markets Project.



Following his Economic Advisory presentation "Social Union and Political Disunion," Bloc Quebecois MP and Foreign Affairs Critic Daniel Turp (left) takes questions from the audience as Gordon Gibson, the Institute's Senior Fellow in Canadian Studies, looks on.



## The Social Affairs Centre

The Social Affairs Centre recognizes that, increasingly, the problem areas of government are those associated with social policy. The problems, for example, of a failing education system and a growing dependency culture are acknowledged but unsuccessfully addressed by government. Therefore, the central question investigated by the Centre is whether or not government control of social policy is a better, more efficient, or fairer basis for meeting popular aspirations than the competitive market model.

During 1999, attention was primarily devoted to the issues of education and social regulation. Such was the institutional and grassroots influence of the inaugural *Secondary Schools Report Card for British Columbia* publication that the research data was refined, updated, and expanded in order to produce, in March 1999, a second British Columbia report card and an inaugural *Secondary Schools Report Card for Alberta*. In May, *The Centre* published *Boys, Girls and Grades: Is There Gender Inequality in BC's Schools?*—an empirical assessment of the relative success of female students in provincial high schools. The study found that, in British Columbia, gender-based differences in school performance are systematic, extensive, and persistent.

These publications, co-authored by education policy researcher Peter Cowley and Senior Fellow Prof. Steve Easton, further stimulated a public debate over the respective merits of the measurement of school performance.

Toronto-based Education Policy Analyst Claudia Rebanks Hepburn's comprehensive report entitled *The Case for School Choice* was published in September. Her study assessed the relevance to Canada of education policy reforms enacted in New Zealand, Sweden, Denmark, and the United States.

In May, the Centre organized a conference on the pros and cons of tobacco regulation, held in Ottawa. Featuring an array of leading academic, scientific, and legal experts, this

ground-breaking conference successfully publicized the economic, health, legal, and philosophical arguments surrounding the issue of tobacco regulation. The papers presented at this conference are to be published in serial form in the spring of 2000. This conference followed the April publication of a highly successful book on the issue of environmental tobacco smoke. Co-authored by Drs. Gio Gori and John Luik, *Passive Smoke: The EPA's Betrayal of Science and Policy*, debunked the major scientific myths surrounding second-hand smoke.

In August, Prof. David Finley authored a case study of a recent Simon Fraser University sexual harassment investigation. The report served as a cautionary tale for many universities, organizations, and societies who imagine that their own arrangements are satisfactory. As *The Trial of Liam Donnelly: Conviction by Prejudice* demonstrates, the issues reach far beyond the administrative foibles of one university.

During the second half of the year, extensive research was undertaken on a study assessing the costs and benefits of legalized gambling. The report, entitled *Gambling With Our Future?*, will be published in early 2000. A paper examining the international ideological phenomenon known as the "Third Way" was written in late 1999 and was published as *The Third Way: Marketing Mirage or Trojan Horse?* in January 2000.

Building upon these and other research projects, during 2000 the Centre will endeavour to provide a vigorous critique of problematic current and proposed social policies, while attempting to educate Canadians of the merits of a shift toward private, individual, and family-based solutions to social problems.



John O'Sullivan, Editor-at-Large, *National Review*, responds to an audience question at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting. Panel members include Fraser Institute Education Policy Researcher Peter Cowley (centre left), Richard Rahn, Chairman, Novecon Financial Ltd (centre right), and Dr. Andrei Illarionov, Director, Institute of Economic Analysis, Russia (recently appointed as Economic Advisor to Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin).



Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman (centre) makes a point during a panel discussion at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting. He is flanked by *Wall Street Journal* Editor and Vice President, Robert Bartley (left) and Dr. Stephen Easton, Fraser Institute Visiting Scholar.



Lorne Gunter, columnist with the *Edmonton Journal* (left), Robert Levy, Senior Fellow in Constitutional Studies at the Cato Institute in Washington, DC (centre), and the *Globe and Mail's* Rick Salutin share their views in *The Fraser Institute* conference, "Should the Government Butt Out? The Pros and Cons of Tobacco Regulation," held in Ottawa on May 13.

## Health Policy Research

Nineteen-ninety-nine was a year of great prominence for health policy issues and for the Institute as a commentator on those issues. Central to the Institute's role in the debate were its three major publications in health policy, which addressed the topics of alternative medicine use, medical technology availability, and waiting times for medical treatment. *Alternative Medicine in Canada: Use and Public Attitudes*, written by former Institute health economist Cynthia Ramsay, executive director Michael Walker, and former Institute researcher Jared Alexander, reported the Institute's survey of Canadians' experiences with, and views of, alternative therapies and treatments. The study found that 50 percent of the Canadian public use alternative therapies over the course of a year, while 73 percent do so over their lifetimes.

*The Availability of Medical Technology in Canada: An International Comparative Study*, written by Institute senior fellow William McArthur, Institute director of health policy research Martin Zelder, and former Institute researchers David Harriman and Jared Alexander, addressed the relatively limited availability of many basic and advanced forms of medical technology in Canada. In particular, the study found that although Canada is in the top sixth of OECD countries in terms of health spending, it ranks in the bottom third among that same group in terms of per person availability of technology, such as MRIs and CT scanners.

In *Waiting Your Turn: Hospital Waiting Lists in Canada* (9th edition), Fraser Institute executive director Michael Walker and director of health policy research Martin Zelder describe the lengthy waiting times for many important medical treatments. This report reveals that 8 of the 10 provinces experienced longer average waiting times than they had in the previous year, and that for certain treatments, such as elective cardiovascular surgery and orthopaedic surgery, waiting times exceeded 5 months.

The findings in each of these reports were prominently and extensively reported, appearing throughout Canada on television and radio and in major national newspapers, including the *Globe and Mail* and the *National Post*. Enhancing the Institute's profile on these issues, Zelder appeared as an invited speaker at

the highly-publicized Ontario Medical Association May summit on reform of the Canada Health Act, and delivered a major address at a November conference in Vancouver on the regulation of alternative medicine, as well as serving as a regular commentator on health issues on radio, television, and in print.

The Institute's work on health policy in 2000 will build on this growing foundation, with analysis of government health spending, the consequences of waiting times, and a blueprint for health care reform.



Courtesy of the Ontario Medical Association

In Toronto, Dr. Martin Zelder, Director of Health Policy Research (right), prepares to make his presentation in May at the Ontario Medical Association summit on the Canada Health Act.



Above: Dr. Francisco Gil Diaz, Former Deputy Governor, Bank of Mexico (left), Fraser Institute Education Policy Researcher Peter Cowley (centre) and Professor Arnold Harberger, Department of Economics, UCLA, on a panel discussion at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.



Pedram Panahi (both)

Below: Former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Dr. Vaclav Klaus (left) greets Mr. Ed Feulner, Jr., President of the Heritage Foundation, at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.



Vanessa Schneider

In Vancouver, Fraser Institute Director of Health Policy Dr. Martin Zelder leads a discussion with a break-out group of students at The Fraser Institute's Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues for high school students in October.

## Pharmaceutical Policy Research Centre

### Research Activities

The Pharmaceutical Policy Research Centre's (PPRC) major research thrust has been the development of a protocol for a detailed evaluation of reference based pricing as it is practised in British Columbia. Two protocols have been completed: one examines the patient outcomes with 800 patients with one disease at one site; the second, more extensive proposal will examine 3,200 patients with two diseases at two sites. With this work completed the project is now ready to move ahead to the data collection phase and numerous variations on the original protocols are possible. These protocols have been peer reviewed by outside scientists and found to be satisfactory.

The difference in the costs of pharmaceuticals among different countries is also under study. The reason for the differing costs is complex; other scientists studying this topic have found it almost impossible to achieve accurate, direct comparisons between drugs. Nevertheless, by the end of 1999,

The Fraser Institute established parameters for making useful comparisons between drug prices in the US and Canada. This work continues into 2000.

One research topic started by Dr. McArthur in 1998 was completed and published. This was the examination of modern medical technology in Canada compared with other countries. The results painted a bleak picture; this research has proved useful to medical practitioners in their battle to bring Canada back to acceptable world standards in this area.

### Education

In May 1999, Dr. McArthur in collaboration with Dr. Owen Lippert, Director of The Fraser Institute's Law and Markets Project, and others gave presentations in Santiago, Chile, and Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the topic of intellectual property rights and the pharmaceutical industry. These papers were published and distributed at the conferences and later in the year were published in The Fraser Institute book *Competitive Strategies for the Protection of Intellectual Property*.

Dr. McArthur spoke on pharmaceutical policy and intellectual property rights related to the industry on national and local radio and television programs across Canada. He also gave presentations on this topic to groups such as the Canadian Association of Health Executives, the BC Chamber of Commerce, and the America's Business Forum in Toronto.

### Collaboration

The PPRC maintained contact with many other external researchers during the year, including Professor Susan Horn at the University of Texas, Houston; Professor Ross Tsuyuki at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta; Dr. Panos Kanavos at the London School of Economics; and Dr. Carlo Marra at the University of British Columbia. These people are all participating in developing research programs together with The Fraser Institute.



Pedram Panahi

Top: Dr. Tristram Engelhardt, Jr., from the Center for Medical Ethics in Houston, Texas (left), Director of The Fraser Institute Pharmaceutical Policy Research Centre Dr. William McArthur (centre left), and Mr. Jason Clemens, Director of Fiscal and Non-Profit Studies at The Fraser Institute, all listen as Virginia Postrell, Editor of *Reason Magazine*, speaks at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.

Bottom: Mr. John Greenwood, founder of the Hong Kong currency board system (left) shares a joke with Professor Anne Krueger, Department of Economics, Stanford University, California, following their Mont Pèlerin speeches.



Pedram Panahi



Vanessa Schneider

Lieutenant-General George E.C. McDonald, Deputy Commander in Chief of North American Aerospace Defence Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado (left), accepts an Adam Smith tie from Fraser Institute Pharmaceutical Policy Research Centre Director Dr. William McArthur following McDonald's Economic Advisory Luncheon speech, "NORAD: Are We Prepared?"



## Law and Markets

The Law and Markets Project was active on both national and international projects during 1999. In April we held conferences on intellectual property rights and economic growth in Santiago, Chile, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. Presenters included Dr. Sylvia Ostry, University of Toronto; Professor Michael Ryan, Georgetown University; Professor Walter Park, American University; Robert Sherwood, American trade consultant and author; Ms. Jayashree Watal, fellow at the Institute for International Economics; Dr. Carsten Fink, World Bank; and Dr. Bill McArthur and Owen Lippert from The Fraser Institute. The book of the proceedings, *Competitive Strategies for the Protection of Intellectual Property*, was released in early 2000.

In May, we held a day-and-a-half conference in Ottawa on national implications of the Supreme Court's 1997 Delgamuukw decision on aboriginal land claims. A highlight of the event was a discussion between Chief Herb George (Satsan) and the Institute's Gordon Gibson. The book from the conference, *Beyond the Nass Valley*, will be published in the summer of 2000.

Over the summer of 1999, work began on a project comparing the impact of the judiciary on economic growth in Canada and Argentina. The project, funded by

the Tinker Foundation of New York, will wrap up this June. It is a collaborative effort with the FORES institute of Buenos Aires.

In November 1999, the Law and Markets Project and the Atlas Economic Research Foundation sponsored a mini-conference on trade and intellectual property rights as part of the Free Trade Area of the Americas summit held in Toronto.

With the help of Mischa Kowall, who is now based in Calgary, research continues on our study of the qualifications of Canada's judges.

In Spring of 1999, Owen Lippert testified at the Senate of Canada hearings into the accountability of the new Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency. This was part of an ongoing project examining Canada's legal environment for on-line businesses including the provision of tax services.

Media exposure of the Law and Markets Project includes clips and mentions on the CBC National, CTV News, Canada AM, CPAC, ROBTV, MSNBC, PBS, Newsworld, and CBC Radio, as well as *The Globe and Mail* and *The National Post*.

The Fraser Institute convened two conferences in South America entitled "Competitive Strategies for Intellectual Property Protection." The first was held on April 19 in Santiago, Chile, and the second in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on April 22. Ms. Jayashree Watal of the Institute for International Economics in Washington, DC (upper left) and Dr. Sylvia Ostry, Distinguished Research Fellow, Centre of International Studies, University of Toronto (seen in lower left with Director of Law and Markets at The Fraser Institute, Dr. Owen Lippert) spoke at both sessions.



Lorena Baran (all)



Top: Canadian Ambassador to Chile Larry Lederman (left) and Fraser Institute Director of Law and Markets Owen Lippert, seated with the luncheon speaker José Pablo Monsalve (right), currently head of the Chilean patent office, prior to Monsalve's speech at the "Competitive Strategies for Intellectual Property Protection" conference in Chile.

Below: Professor Walter Park, Department of Economics, American University, Washington, DC, speaks at the same conference in Argentina.

## Economic Freedom

The Fraser Institute's economic freedom project seeks to quantify objectively the extent of government restrictions on the ability of individuals to engage in economic activity. It has involved over 100 academics, researchers, and public policy analysts from all parts of the globe in its more than 15-year history. The project grew out of discussions held in 1984 at a meeting of the Mont Pèlerin Society, and has become the most comprehensive and objective index of its kind. The work of over 60 academics (including several Nobel Prize winners) culminated in the first release of the *Economic Freedom of the World* series in 1996. Since then, the number of components that examine the extent of government restrictions on economic freedom has grown from 17 to 23. The number of jurisdictions analyzed has expanded, and the number of years that the study covers has increased (data now goes back to 1970 where possible). These efforts ensure that this volume maintains its reputation for soundness in the eyes of journalists, academics, and other users of its results.

Most of the work for *Economic Freedom of the World: 2000 Annual Report* was undertaken in 1999, although the book was published in January 2000. A press conference was held in Hong Kong to release the book, thanks to gracious hosting by the Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research. An award was presented to the Chief Executive of the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, C.H. Tung, on behalf of the Economic Freedom Network, for Hong Kong's first place showing (this year tied with Singapore). Worldwide, each of the other institutes in the Economic Freedom Network released the book locally.

In 1999 the Economic Freedom Network held its annual meeting in Vancouver. The Fraser Institute was proud to be the host of this successful event, along with Germany's Friedrich Naumann Foundation and the Atlas Foundation from the United States. Over 40 participants from over 25 coun-

tries participated in this meeting. The annual meetings of the network provide a forum for network members to make comments and suggestions about the work in the hope of further improving it. In fact, the latest release of the *Economic Freedom of the World* incorporates several of the suggestions made at the 1998 meeting by network members. However, this is not the only forum network members have to influence the final composition of this volume. Network members are given the opportunity to review the work and its data before publication. Member institutes also write country reports for this book. In these ways, The Fraser Institute is committed to ensuring that this is a truly global project.

This year the project was featured prominently in *The Economist* magazine's examination of the twentieth century, and in a special by John Stossel on the ABC television network. The work has also received world wide media attention in such outlets as BBC Radio, *El Financiero*, *Reason Magazine*, *China Economic Times*, *Nassau Guardian*, *Hong Kong Standard*, *South China News*, *The Financial Express*, and the *Dominion*. A growing number of academic articles have been written using the data generated from this project. This work has appeared in prominent academic journals such as the *American Economic Review*, *Public Choice*, *Economic Inquiry*, and the *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*. The web site of the Economic Freedom Network, [www.freetheworld.com](http://www.freetheworld.com), continues to be an important focal point for journalists and researchers interested in the project. The web site contains all editions of *Economic Freedom of the World* in their entirety, along with other related publications and complete data sets.

The relevance of this work in a global context is not only demonstrated by the media attention this project receives worldwide and in the number of translations and reprints it has received, but also in the extension of its methodology into sub-national jurisdictions. The Fraser Institute's ongoing work in this area includes *Provincial Economic Freedom in Canada, 1981-1998*, which was released in 1999, and an examination of the level of economic freedom among the US states and Canadian provinces, which is an ongoing project. Another extension includes an index of marketization of the Chinese provinces, which is being undertaken by China's National Economic Research Institute. In order to prepare for this project, a Chinese scholar, Liwen Zhang, spent five months at the Institute to learn about our work and about index creation. In the future it is hoped that more institutes will use this project's methodology to help further policy discussions and debates in their respective countries.

*Participants in the Economic Freedom Network conference, held in 1999 in Vancouver at The Fraser Institute's Head Office on October 20-21 include: from front left, Dr. Michael Walker (Canada); Dr. Anton Hermanto Gunawan (Indonesia); Mrs. Rotija Kmet (Slovenia); Mr. Enrico Basilio (Philippines); Ms. Dora Ampuero (Ecuador); Mr. Sigfrido Lee (Guatemala); Mr. Rodrigo Molina (Bolivia); Prof. Guneri Akalin (Turkey); Dr. Rigoberto Stewart (Costa Rica); Dr. Nipon Poapongsakorn (Thailand); Ms. Svetlana Alexandrova (Bulgaria); Dr. Andrzej Kondratowicz (Poland); Dr. Andrei Illarionov (Russia); Mr. Young-Seok Yoo (South Korea); Prof. Aleksandar Keseljovic (Slovenia); Prof. Walter Park (USA); Dr. Abdiweli Ali (USA); Mr. Uwe Johannes (Singapore); Dr. John Mukum Mbaku (USA); Dr. Fernando Diego Alvarez (Argentina); Mr. Giovanni Ronca (Italy); Dr. James D. Gwartney (USA); Dr. Mahar Mangahas (Philippines); Dr. Robert A. Lawson (USA); Mr. Dexter Samida (Canada); Mr. Erwin Bendl (Austria); Dr. Rainer Adam (Indonesia); Mr. László Urban (Hungary); Dr. Atilla Yayla (Turkey); Mr. Mattias Bengtsson (Sweden); and Dr. Liwen Zhang and Dr. Xiaolu Wang (China).*



Annabel Addington



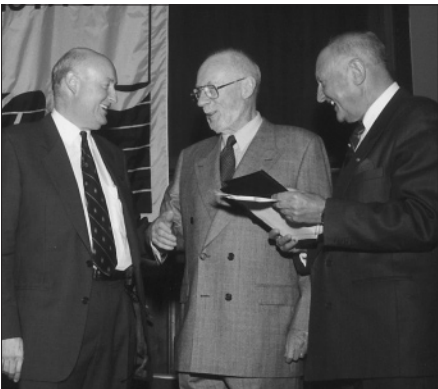
## Events and Conferences

The Institute's 25th anniversary was celebrated with a dinner held in Vancouver on October 21st. This festive evening honoured the many visionaries and supporters whose shared dream and courage resulted in the formation and success of The Fraser Institute.

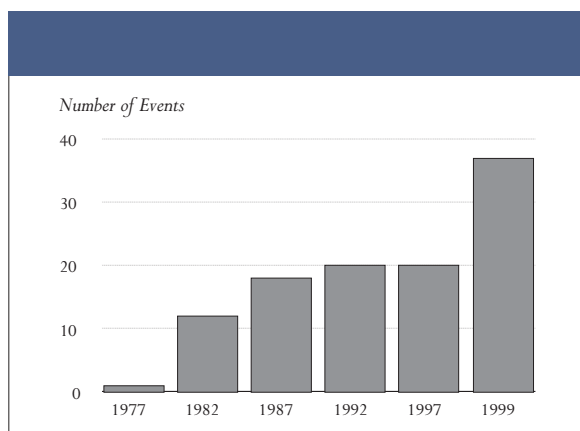
The Institute convened 21 events during the year in Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa, Toronto, Santiago, and Buenos Aires. Prominent speakers at our 25th anniversary round table luncheons included Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Jerry Jordan, The Honourable Mike Harris, Premier of Ontario, and The Honourable Ralph Klein, Premier of Alberta, who gave the 14th annual Dr. Harold Walter Siebens lecture at our Annual General Meeting. The year closed with a luncheon address by Bank of Canada Governor Gordon Thiessen.

A total of 2,800 people attended Institute events with an average luncheon attendance of 515, and an average conference attendance of 81. Conferences were convened on issues as diverse as intellectual property rights, junk science, tobacco regulation, the Supreme Court's Delgamuukw decision, capital gains taxation, and hemispheric free trade.

The changing face of technology is influencing the delivery and promotion of our event programs. In addition to mailing brochures, we regularly use fax broadcasting, have experimented with video conferencing, and are moving toward email distribution, web site links, newsgroups, and even net-casting as the technology becomes affordable and efficient.



Eight of the many guests honoured by Executive Director Michael Walker and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Raymond Addington at The Fraser Institute's Twenty-fifth Anniversary Dinner included: (top left) former British Columbia Premier Bill Bennett; (top centre) former Fraser Institute financial officer Mr. Keith Holman; (top right) Fraser Institute Founder Mr. T. Patrick Boyle; (mid left) Fraser Institute author, donor, and Trustee Mr. Raymond Heung; (mid centre) Fraser Institute trustee and donor Mr. Russell Morrison; (mid right) longest serving Fraser Institute Trustee Mr. Bill Harrison; and (bottom) Fraser Institute Trustee Mr. Fred Mannix, Chairman, Mancal Corporation; and Ms. Angela Webster, Lotte and John Hecht Memorial Foundation.



An increasing number of Institute members and their guests recognize the added bonus of regularly attending our events to discuss public policy ideas with informed opinion leaders.



Milton and Rose Friedman celebrate their birthdays in early September at the Regional Meeting of the Mont Pèlerin Society, hosted by The Fraser Institute.

Pedram Panahi

## 1999 Event Calendar

### January 21, Calgary

Round Table Luncheon with Jerry L. Jordan, Member, Open Market Committee, Federal Reserve Board, USA, speaking on "Economic Policies for Sustained Prosperity"

### February 26, Vancouver

Economic Advisory Luncheon with Daniel Turp, MP and Foreign Affairs Critic for the Bloc Quebecois, on "Social Union and Political Disunion"

### March 4, Vancouver

Round Table Luncheon with John Kitzhaber, MD, Governor, State of Oregon, on "Living and Dying in Oregon: News From the Frontier"

### April 7, Vancouver

Round Table Luncheon with Stephen Goldsmith, Mayor of Indianapolis (videoconference) on "Getting the Job Done in Cities and Towns"

### April 15, Vancouver

Economic Advisory Luncheon with Lieutenant-General George E.C. McDonald, Deputy Commander in Chief of North American Aerospace Defence Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, on "NORAD—Are We Prepared?"

### April 19, Santiago, Chile

### April 22, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Conferences: *Competitive Strategies for Intellectual Property Protection*

### April 26, Vancouver

Economic Advisory Luncheon with John Luik who released the Institute book *Passive Smoke: The EPA's Betrayal of Science and Policy*

### April 29, Ottawa

Conference: *Junk Science, Junk Policy? Managing Risk and Regulation*

### May 10, Vancouver

Annual General Meeting Round Table Luncheon and 14th Annual Harold W. Siebens Lecture with The Honourable Ralph Klein, Premier of Alberta, on "Alberta's Fiscal Revolution"

### May 13, Ottawa

Conference: *Should Government Butt Out? The Pros and Cons of Tobacco Regulation*

### May 26-27, Ottawa

Conference: *The Delgamuukw Case: Aboriginal Land Claims and Canada's Regions*

### June 3, Vancouver

Open House: Grand Opening of the Institute's New Offices

### June 18, Vancouver

Symposium: *Capital Gains Tax Symposium*

### August 29-September 1, Vancouver

Conference: *The Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting*

### October 20-21, Vancouver

Conference: *Economic Freedom Network Annual Conference*

### October 21, Vancouver

Dinner: 25th Anniversary Dinner Celebration. Honouring 25 years of influential ideas and 25 key supporters of the Institute.

### November 1, Toronto

Conference: *Creativity, Competition, Civil Society and the Free Trade Area of the Americas: A Hemispheric Workshop* (An Associated Special Event to the 5th Americas Business Forum)

### November 22, Vancouver

Economic Advisory Luncheon with John A. MacNaughton, President and CEO, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, on "A Growing Financial Presence: The Emergence of the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board"

### November 30, Vancouver

Round Table Luncheon with The Honourable Mike Harris, Premier of Ontario, on "The Competitiveness Challenge: Making Canadians More Secure in the 21st Century"

### December 6, Vancouver

Round Table Luncheon with Gordon Thiessen, Governor, Bank of Canada, on "Monetary Policy and the Canadian Economy"

## Student Programs

In 1999, The Fraser Institute continued to expand its student programming by offering seminars, colloquia, student newsletters, essay contests, event bursaries, and internships. Over the years, particular attention has been paid to the development of the student program, as the Institute and its supporters recognize the importance of encouraging the study of competitive markets among students and young people.

### *Student Seminars on Public Policy Issues*

In 1999, the Institute hosted 11 one-day seminars attracting nearly 1,500 registrants. The programs were held in Vancouver, Victoria, Prince George, Kelowna, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal. The objective of the student seminar program is to expose university, college, and senior high school students to structured discussions of economic policy issues and competitive markets, and to give them the opportunity to interact and debate with their peers on important themes.

A new program was launched in 1999 specifically designed for high school students. The one-day program held in Vancouver was an overwhelming success with nearly 400 high school students attending from the Lower Mainland Vancouver and Vancouver Island. The seminar was so successful that a new venue had to be secured to accommodate the large number of young scholars.

I am looking forward to next year's seminar and other opportunities to expand upon my knowledge of our economy and the forces that drive it.

—Mike Anthony, Kwantlen University College



Nearly 400 students and teachers from BC's Lower Mainland, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island secondary schools attend the Institute's first Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues designed specifically for high school students.

### *Student Leaders' Colloquium*

This annual weekend conference for advanced-level students focuses discussion and debate on complex economic policy issues. In the 1999 Colloquium, the 20 student participants were joined by Institute policy staff in a relaxed atmosphere where free, open, and thoughtful discussion was encouraged. Though there was a set agenda with six session topics, the direction of the conversation was determined by the interests of the participants themselves. The cross-Canada attendees were selected through a competitive process in which keen students

from the Institute's one-day Student Seminar program were invited to apply to the program. From the over 100 applicants, 20 top students were identified.

Garry T. Keller of Ottawa, Ontario writes,

the opportunity to debate important issues with other young people was both valuable and enjoyable.



Vanessa Schneider

### *Canadian Student Review*

This quarterly newsletter, which contains articles written for and by students, was sponsored in 1999 by the Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation. Each edition contains hard-hitting articles on various economic issues which are rarely, if ever, found in a typical campus newspaper. The nearly 50,000 copies printed annually are distributed free of charge on Canadian campuses through a network of professors and student organizations.

### *Student Essay Competition*

The topic for our annual student essay competition in 1999 was "What is Economic Freedom and Why Is It Important? The International Experience." The three prizewinners were:

- 1st place (\$1,000): **Chris Schlegel**, Bachelor's in Economics, Simon Fraser University
- 2nd place (\$500): **Lyndon Epp**, Master's in Public Administration, University of Victoria
- 3rd place (\$250): **Eli Schuster**, Phd candidate in Political Studies, Queen's University



### Student Internship Program

In 1999 The Fraser Institute hired nine university students and recent graduates to join its office for training as junior policy analysts. The interns worked on a variety of research projects. The internship program is designed to train these future decision makers by developing their understanding of economic principles and problem solving skills. The students were selected through a competitive hiring process which involved over 150 applicants from across Canada. Each student was responsible for producing a particular research study under the direction of a policy supervisor. The 1999 interns, who were sponsored in part by the Donner Canadian Foundation, were:

- **Ms. Jane Barrett**, BA Economics and Political Science (1999), Concordia University, Montreal, PQ
- **Mr. David Callum**, BA Economics (1999), Queen's University, Kingston, ON
- **Ms. Laura Griggs**, Honours BA Economics (1999), McMaster University, Hamilton, ON
- **Mr. Tony Hahn**, MA Political Science (2000), Carleton University, Ottawa, ON
- **Mr. Abu Islam**, PhD Economics (2000), Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC
- **Ms. Phaedra Kaptein Russell**, MSc Economic History (Dec. 1998), London School of Economics, London, England
- **Ms. Gwang-Soog Kee**, MA Economics (August 2000), University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- **Mr. Mischa Kowall**, BA Economics (1999), Boston University, Boston, MA, USA
- **Ms. Karen White**, MBA (2000), St. Mary's University, Halifax, NS

Annabel Addington



The 1999 Fraser Institute student interns. From left to right: Gwang-Soog Kee, Tony Hahn, Jane Barrett, Laura Griggs, Karen White, Mischa Kowall, Phaedra Kaptein Russell, David Callum



Gary Wildman

Students provide assistance at a range of Institute functions and events, such as the Round Table Luncheon with Gordon Thiessen, Governor of the Bank of Canada, on November 30.



Pedram Panahi

The Mont Pelerin Society is the legacy of Nobel Prize-winning economist Friedrich Hayek, and to honour that connection, Dr. Laurence Hayek displayed his father's memorabilia, including Friedrich Hayek's Nobel Prize, at the Society's Regional Meeting in Vancouver.



Pedram Panahi

Former Fraser Institute student intern and Ph.D. Candidate in History, Craig Yirush (centre right) listens while Dr. Vaclav Klaus, President, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic (right), gives his views in a panel discussion at the Mont Pelerin Society Regional Meeting. Dr. Richard Y.C.. Wong, School of Economics and Finance, University of Hong Kong, and Ms. Claudia Ross, Member, Editorial Board, *Wall Street Journal*, look on.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to spend the summer at the Fraser Institute. I really believe that it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that will continue to reward me throughout my career and life.  
—David Callum

An added benefit of the internship program is that some of the graduates of the program who have gone on to complete their degrees have returned to the Institute as full-time analysts. Jason Clemens, Director of Fiscal and Non-Profit Studies, and Dexter Samida, Research Economist, are both former summer interns.

### Student Bursaries

It is the Institute's aim to expose students to as many of our policy events as possible. To this end, at each of our round table luncheons and policy conferences we routinely offer student bursaries to local scholars who might otherwise find the registration fees prohibitive. In 1999, 78 bursaries were awarded across Canada with a total value of nearly \$7,500. Institute members who recognize the benefit of exposing students to these important policy events sponsored many of these students.

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank The Fraser Institute for offering such wonderful opportunities for students—such as the Gordon Thiessen



Vanessa Schneider

Senior Research Economist and analyst responsible for Tax Freedom Day Joel Emes (standing, centre) talks to a group of high school students at the Institute's a Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues in Vancouver on October 1.

luncheon and the student seminars. I greatly appreciate the value these experiences have provided me.  
—Tammy Nemeth, University of British Columbia



Annabel Addington

Fraser Institute Policy Analyst Claudia Rebanks Hepburn lectures to students on educational choice at the November 6 Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues in Toronto.



Pedram Panahi

Mr. John Blundell, General Director, Institute of Economic Affairs, London (left) speaks on a panel as Professor Victoria Curzon-Price, University of Geneva, Mr. Jason Clemens, Fraser Institute Director of Fiscal and Non-Profit Studies, and Mr. John O'Sullivan, Editor-at-Large, National Review (right) listen at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.

## 1999 Student Events Calendar

**Saturday, January 30, Edmonton, AB**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, February 13, Montreal, QC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Friday, March 5, Saskatoon, SK**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, March 6, Winnipeg, MB**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**May 7-8, Vancouver, BC**  
Eighth Annual Student Leaders' Colloquium

**Friday, October 1, Vancouver, BC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues for High School Students

**Friday, October 15, Prince George, BC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, October 16, Kelowna, BC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, October 30, Vancouver, BC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, November 6, Toronto, ON**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Thursday, November 11, Victoria, BC**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues

**Saturday, November 20, Ottawa, ON**  
Student Seminar on Public Policy Issues



## Publications

Under the direction of Kristin McCahon, and with assistance from Lindsey Martin, the Publications department continues to edit, design, typeset, and prepare for printing all of The Fraser Institute's written material.

### Books

The Fraser Institute published five books in 1999. They are:

#### ***Facts, Not Fear: Teaching Children About the Environment (Canadian edition)***

**by Michael Sanera and Jane Shaw, adapted for Canadian readers by Liv Fredricksen and Laura Jones**

Could global warming melt the polar ice caps and submerge coastal cities? Are the rain forests about to disappear? Does humankind face imminent starvation due to overpopulation? Such commonly-accepted "facts" about the environment are either exaggerated or false. *Facts, Not Fear* counters the irresponsible claims of environmental extremists, giving a more balanced view of the many environmental issues encountered today.

#### ***Passive Smoke: The EPA's Betrayal of Science and Policy*** **by Gio B. Gori and John C. Luik**

A 1993 US Environmental Protection Agency study concluded that second-hand cigarette smoke caused around 3,000 lung cancer deaths a year among non-smokers. Anti-tobacco activists used the report to secure full or partial bans on indoor smoking in the US and Canada. Recently, however, a US federal court declared the EPA's risk assessment of environmental tobacco smoke null and void, finding that the

agency acted illegally and corrupted science to engage in a campaign of public disinformation. If the science underpinning public policy is purposefully distorted, then the public's trust in regulatory decisions will be lost—with disastrous consequences. *Passive Smoke* raises fundamental questions about the endemic abuses of power by public bureaucracies.

#### ***Economic Freedom of the World: 2000 Annual Report***

**by James Gwartney and Robert Lawson with Dexter Samida**

*Economic Freedom of the World: 2000 Annual Report* builds on the findings of the ground-breaking *Economic Freedom of the World: 1975-1995* and *Economic Freedom of the World: 1998/99 Annual Report*. This project has been hailed as the most complete survey of economic freedom yet produced, and as the only one to measure governmental performance over time. *Economic Freedom of the World: 2000 Annual Report*, published in conjunction with 54 other institutes from around the world, gives updated figures for 123 countries, and backdates the components of the index, where possible, to 1970.

#### ***Tax Facts 11***

**by Joel Emes and Michael Walker**

This book is the latest edition of a biennial study that examines how the average tax bill has changed since 1961. Between 1961 and 1999, for example, the average Canadian family's tax bill rose from 33.5 to 49.5 percent of its income. *Tax Facts 11* includes a non-technical do-it-yourself manual for taxpayers to estimate how much tax they pay. This book does not attempt to look at the benefits Canadians receive from government in return for their taxes.

#### ***Competitive Strategies for the Protection of Intellectual Property*** **edited by Owen Lippert**

This book contains an up-to-date discussion of the global changes in intellectual property rights, including patents and trademarks. It discusses the critical trade and economic issues for the developing and developed countries involved in cre-

Participants in the 1999 Capital Gains Taxation Symposium held on June 18 at the Fraser Institute's Head Office (seated from left), Bruce R. Bartlett, Stephen Hynes, Mark Milke, John Dobson, and David Somerville. Middle row, standing, from left, George Zodrow, Thomas A. Wilson, Jason Kenney, MP, Herbert Grubel, Jonathan Kesselman, Jack Mintz, John Chant, Satja Poddar, Donald Drummond, Zane Spindler, Stephen T. Easton, and David B. Perry. Back row from left, Joel Emes, Michael Walker, Jason Clemens, William A. Niskanen, and Erwin Diewert.



Annabel Addington

ating this new international standard of intellectual property protection. The contributors discuss the implications of such agreements as the 1994 Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and the new “millennium round” of World Trade Organization talks.

### Fraser Forum

New and insightful research continues to be published in our monthly magazine *Fraser Forum*. Our marquee vehicle for disseminating market-based solutions to public policy problems, *Fraser Forum* was the focus of a face-lift in 1998. Thanks to a continuing support from the Lotte and John Hecht Memorial Foundation, *Fraser Forum* was placed on selected news stands in British Columbia on a trial basis in 1999. To give the publication “shelf-appeal,” we continued improving its appearance, and contracted with a professional designer to create the magazine’s cover each month. The remake will continue in 2000 as we begin to secure advertising to help fund the magazine, and increase the magazine’s distribution to more outlets across Canada.

### Critical Issues Bulletins

Nine of these single-issue, 32- to 108-page monographs were released in 1999.

- *Provincial Economic Freedom in Canada, 1981-1998*  
by Faisal Arman, Dexter Samida, and Michael Walker
- *The Adequacy of Welfare Benefits in Canada*  
by Joel Emes and Andrei Kreptul
- *Environmental Indicators for North America and the United Kingdom*  
by Steven Hayward and Laura Jones
- *The 20% Foreign Property Rule: Increasing Risk and Decreasing Returns on RRSPs and RPPs*  
by Jason Clemens and Fazil Mihlar
- *The Case for the Amero: The Economics and Politics of a North American Monetary Union*  
by Herbert Grubel
- *Waiting Your Turn: Hospital Waiting Lists in Canada* (9th ed.)  
by Michael Walker and Martin Zelder
- *The Case for School Choice: Models from the United States, New Zealand, Denmark, and Sweden*  
by Claudia Rebanks Hepburn
- *Crying Wolf? Public Policy on Endangered Species in Canada*  
by Laura Jones
- *Canadian Government Debt 1999: A Guide to the Indebtedness of Canada and the Provinces*  
by Joel Emes and Andrei Kreptul

### Public Policy Sources

The Fraser Institute’s short research or position papers called *Public Policy Sources* continued to be very popular in 1999. Seventeen PPSs were released in 1999:

- “Canadian Public Spending: The Case for Smaller, More Efficient Government” by William Mackness
- “Understanding the Nisga’a Agreement and Looking at the Alternatives” by Stuart Adams
- “Comments on the Draft Nisga’a Treaty” by Gordon Gibson
- “Using Cash Rebates for Tax Relief without Risk” by Herbert Grubel and Michael Walker
- “Fraser Institute Fiscal Performance Index, 1999” by Joel Emes
- “Alternative Medicine in Canada: Use and Public Attitudes” by Cynthia Ramsay, Michael Walker, and Jared Alexander
- “The 1999 Report Card on British Columbia’s Secondary Schools” by Peter Cowley, Stephen Easton, and Michael Walker
- “Liam Donnelly’s Conviction by Prejudice: Lessons for Harassment Policy” by David Finley
- “Boys, Girls, and Grades: Academic Gender Balance in British Columbia’s Secondary Schools” by Peter Cowley and Stephen Easton
- “A Principled Analysis of the Nisga’a Treaty” by Gordon Gibson
- “The Availability of Medical Technology in Canada: An International Comparative Study” by David Harriman, MD, William McArthur, MD, and Martin Zelder
- “The 1999 Report Card on Alberta’s High Schools” by Peter Cowley and Stephen Easton
- “A Hand Out Instead of a Hand Up: Where Foreign Aid Fails” by Dexter Samida
- “Preserving Independence: Does the Canadian Voluntary Sector Need a Voluntary Sector Commission?” by Brian April, Jason Clemens, and Johanna Francis
- “Avoiding the Maple Syrup Solution: Comments on the Restructuring of Canada’s Airline Industry” by W.T. Stanbury and Thomas W. Ross
- “The ‘Third Way’: Marketing Mirage or Trojan Horse?” by Patrick Basham
- “1999 Private Charitable Generosity Index” by Jason Clemens and Dexter Samida

The *Public Policy Sources* are proving so popular that in 2000, the Institute will break out the educational material and publish it in a similar format, but under the banner *Studies in Education Policy*.

## Communications

Nineteen-ninety-nine was an extremely eventful year for the Communications Department, and the sheer volume is convincing evidence: the department distributed 44 press releases on new publications and position papers, and 25 media releases for events and student programs; 64 opinion pieces were circulated to newspapers across Canada; guests were booked for 50 hour-long broadcasts of our weekly radio show on Vancouver station AM 1040, and in the midst of all this activity, our 25th anniversary retrospective, *Challenging Perceptions: Twenty-five Years of Influential Ideas*, was published.

Yet success cannot be measured by volume alone. The level of media attention received by The Fraser Institute shows how much impact our research has had upon public policy in Canada.

In a recent article in *Canadian Public Administration*, University of Western Ontario professor Don Abelson assessed the public visibility of Canadian public policy institutes based on their number of national media citations. Lydia Miljan of the National Media Archive has since updated those numbers for 1999, and ranked those same institutes according to the number of stories on CTV and CBC television, and in 10 major newspapers across the country including the *National Post* and the *Globe and Mail*.

The results show that The Fraser Institute is Canada's premier research organization in terms of media profile. The Institute's coverage has convincingly surpassed such recognizable institutes as the Conference Board of Canada, the C.D. Howe Institute, and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

One of our biggest successes this year was the annual release of Tax Freedom Day (falling nationally this year on July 1), and the accompanying online Personal Tax Freedom Day Calculator. To date, 245 media stories have been recorded on this release alone, more than a 200 percent increase over the previous year. Annual publications such as *Waiting Your Turn*, our yearly survey of hospital waiting lists, *Economic Freedom of the World*, and the series of provincial *Secondary School Report Cards* continue to be highly anticipated by the media and the public.

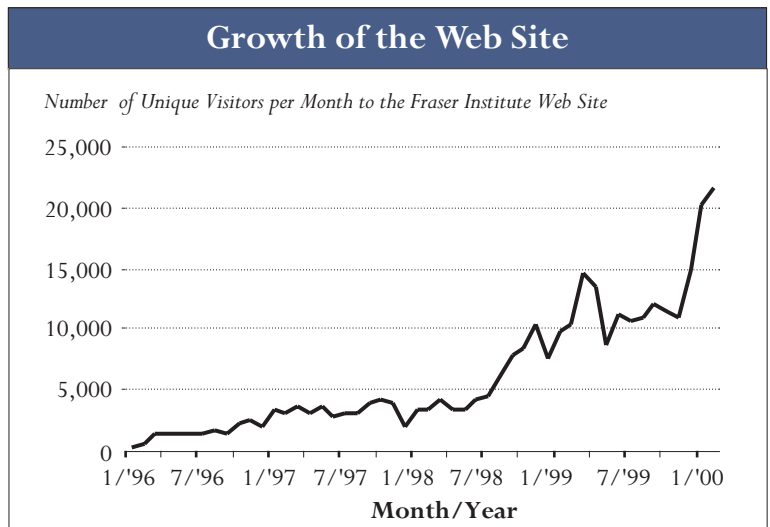
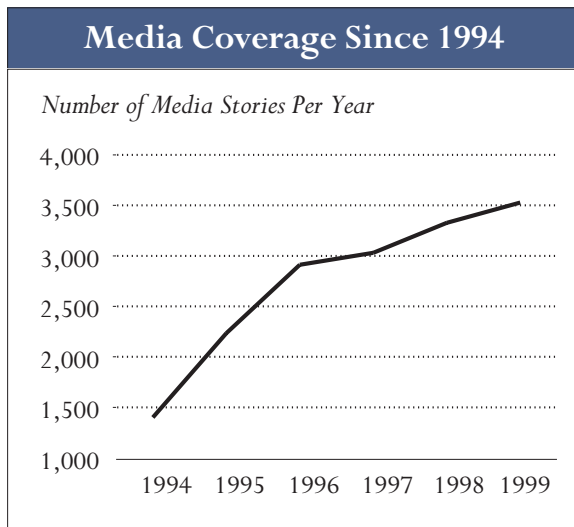
In our continuing efforts to make this research and expertise available to as broad an audience as possible, the Institute's online presence has become an increasingly crucial vehicle. Found at [www.fraserinstitute.ca](http://www.fraserinstitute.ca), users have access to all of our research published since 1994.

As a mirror of the growth of the Internet, the Institute's web site is currently averaging 60,000 "hits" per month, and remarkably, those numbers are doubling approximately every six months.

To further enhance our online presence, we will be completing a total redesign and restructuring of the web site by June of 2000. The goal of the enhanced site is to be fully responsive to our users' needs, make the research even more accessible, and incorporate advanced features such as a media room, secure e-commerce capabilities, and video streaming of selected events.

In the summer of 1999, initial plans were laid to expand the communications activities of The Fraser Institute. In the coming year, along with a new web site, members will see new communications vehicles, including a weekly research digest, delivered via email, containing briefs of current Canadian public policy issues. Building on the success of international releases such as *Economic Freedom of the World*—which was covered as far afield as *TASS* (the Russian news agency), the *South China Morning Post*, and the BBC—we will establish strategies to expand our coverage in the United States and abroad.

With subjects such as health care, poverty, education, and taxes placed firmly at the forefront of Canadians' consciousness, and with our proven expertise in these areas, The Fraser Institute is exceptionally well-positioned for another successful year of building on our profile and reputation.



## Finance and Development

The Fraser Institute is non-partisan, receiving no support from government and having no links with any political group. It does not engage in political or lobbying activity. The Institute enjoys registered charitable status in both Canada and the United States, and is funded entirely by the tax-deductible contributions of its members, foundations, and corporations, as well as by sales of publications, and revenue from events.

Fundraising on behalf of the Institute takes several forms, the most fundamental of which is membership. This past year the Institute revamped its membership structure and introduced six new membership categories:

**Fraser Friend:** \$25-\$99

**Research Circle:** \$100-\$349

**Scholars Circle:** \$350-\$999

**Executive Circle:** \$1,000-\$4,999

**Chairman's Circle:** \$5,000-\$9,999

**Founder's Circle:** \$10,000 and more

These changes were necessary for several reasons. As a result of increased output (34 books, monographs, and issues of *Fraser Forum* magazine in the previous year), and significant increases in publication and mailing costs over the past 25 years, the cost of benefits in some membership categories actually exceeded the member's contribution. Levels of contribution in each category now incorporate the true costs of all benefits offered, and guarantee the funds necessary to support the Institute's expanding program of research and education on key economic and social issues.

The Institute's new introductory membership category, Fraser Friend, should appeal broadly and help to grow our membership base. To further expand our outreach and ensure that as many people as possible have access to the Institute's cutting-edge policy research, all Institute publications are available free of charge on our web site at [www.fraserinstitute.ca](http://www.fraserinstitute.ca). While maintaining the web site is costly, the Institute presently provides unrestricted free access so that individuals worldwide can benefit from our work.

It is the Institute's belief that only through public education can lasting improvements to public policy be made and sustained. This necessarily requires patient, painstaking effort, because millions of individual minds must be convinced of the validity of our arguments. Institute analysts can only continue this never-ending process of public education with the generous financial commitment of Institute supporters.

### The 1999 Fundraising Program

#### Membership

Individuals and corporations are invited to support the Institute's work through tax-receptable contributions in one of six membership categories. The Institute closed the year with 2,146 members. Donations and annual dues received from members amounted to \$3,780,906.

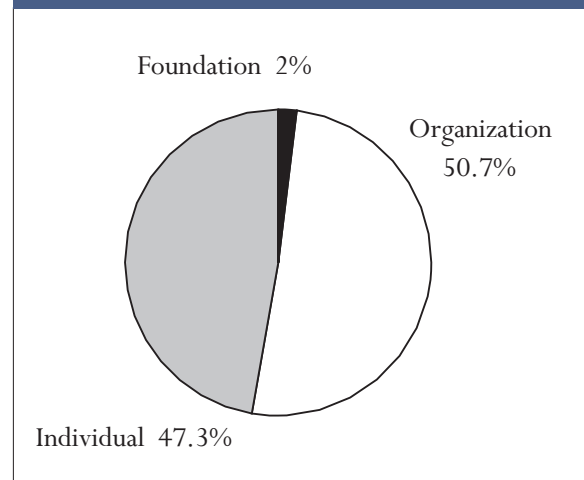
#### Special Projects

Throughout the year, the Institute approached members and other prospective donors to support some 50 specific projects, including student seminars across Canada, the BC and Alberta Schools Report Cards, a study of the 20% foreign property rule for RRSPs and RPPs, environmental studies, a venture capital study, the Institute's Social Affairs Centre, health care studies, the effects of gambling, the global warming issue, school choice, fiscal studies, managing risk and regulation, pharmaceutical research, and studies in law and markets.

#### Sponsorships

This past year, thanks to generous sponsors, the Institute was able to hold a 25th Anniversary Dinner, publish a 90-page 25th Anniversary retrospective, and present prominent speakers at round table luncheons and conferences across the country. Sponsors and/or advertisers are currently being approached for *Fraser Forum* and the Institute's web site.

#### Percent of Individual, Organization, and Foundation Members



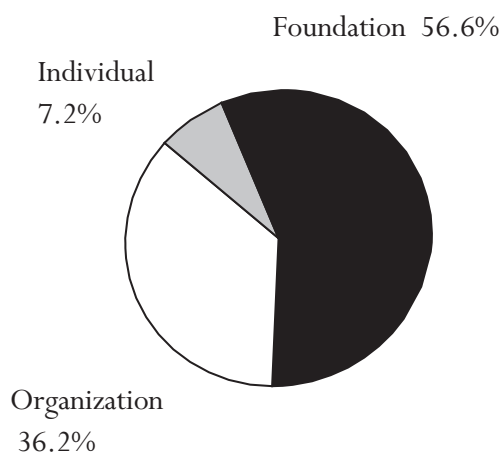
#### Sales of Publications

All Institute publications are available for purchase and these revenues go towards further research. Institute members enjoy a 40 percent discount on all books and monographs.

#### Capital Campaign

The Institute's campaign to raise funds for the new premises on Burrard Street in Vancouver achieved notable success through exclusive naming opportunities and a seat sale campaign. The funds raised to date in payments and pledges total

### Percent of Contributions from Individuals, Organizations, and Foundations



\$2,925,545. There remains a balance of \$439,455 to be raised through contributions and naming opportunities. For information please call Karen Morgan, Associate Director of Development, at (604) 714-4591.

#### Alberta Initiative

The Institute has launched an Alberta Initiative that will focus on economic issues of most concern to Albertans. The campaign target of \$1,080,000 has current payments and pledges of \$798,700. A generous matching grant for the Alberta Initiative has been made by an anonymous benefactor.

#### Bequests

Although the Institute has no formal bequests program, several long-time supporters have notified the Institute that they have made provision for the Institute in their wills. The Institute is a partner in the *Leave a Legacy* program, and encourages supporters to remember the Institute in their estate planning through bequests, remainder trusts, life insurance, or securities.

For information on how you can support the Institute's work, please call Sherry Stein, Director of Development, at (604) 714-4590.

### Financial Position, 1999

In 1999, the net assets of The Fraser Institute increased by \$395,830 to \$4,467,434.

Gross revenues amounted to \$4,315,499, representing an increase of 26% over 1998. Gross expenditures amounted to \$4,310,948, representing an increase of 25.9% over 1998. The net operating surplus amounted to \$4,551. The Institute's financial position is summarized as follows:

#### Statement of Operations for the Year Ending 1999

##### Income

Donations, Sales of Publications, Interest and Other Income	4,315,499
-------------------------------------------------------------	-----------

##### Expenses

Salaries, Office Costs, Projects and Publications	4,310,948
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets from operations	4,551

#### Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 1999

Current Assets	3,573,398
Investments	2,385,854
Capital Assets	<u>303,585</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,262,837</b>
Current Liabilities	1,795,403
Net Assets	<u>4,467,434</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,262,837</b>

Complete audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1999, are available on request.



## Fraser Faces

### *The Board of Trustees*

There were a number of changes to the Board during 1999.

**Alan F. Campney**, former Chairman of The Fraser Institute Board of Trustees, passed away during the year (please see In Memoriam below).

**Ronald J.J. Cathcart** of the Royal Bank of Canada and **David H. Race** of CAE Industries both retired from the Board in 1999 after many years of support to the Institute. **Warren Jestin** of The Bank of Nova Scotia and **Arnold Aberman** of Toronto resigned during the year.

**The Institute welcomed two new people to the Board in 1999: Brandt Louie**, of H. Y. Louie Co. Ltd., and **Gwyn Morgan** of Alberta Energy Co. Ltd.

### *In Memoriam*

**Alan F. Campney**, the Founding Chairman of The Fraser Institute Board of Trustees, passed away in September of 1999. His support and encouragement of the Institute, his willingness to commit time, funds, and energy to the establishment of the Institute are remembered with gratitude. All his friends at The Fraser Institute will miss his cheerful optimism and sparkling wit.

**Alex de Halmy**, a long-time member and generous supporter of Institute activities passed away in February of 2000. An active participant, Alex will be greatly missed at Institute events.

Vancouver Police Constable **Gil Puder**, who courageously spoke to Fraser Institute conferences and Student Seminars about the flaws in the current war on drugs, passed away suddenly in November of 1999. The Institute will miss both his energy and his commitment to principled, effective public policy.

### *Staff Changes in 1999*

In 1999, the Institute bid farewell to four staff members who went on to pursue other ventures: **Fazil Mihlar**, Director of Fiscal and Regulatory Studies; **Ryan**

**McBride**, Information Technology Manager; **Chris Howey**, Book Sales Co-ordinator; and **Johanna Francis**, Economic Researcher.

Six staff members were welcomed to the Institute in 1999.

**Peter Cowley** joined the Institute on a full-time basis in 1999, after working on contract for two years as co-author of the 1998 and 1999 *Report Cards on British Columbia's Secondary Schools*. He is continuing his work as Education Policy Researcher.

**Claudia Rebanks Hepburn**, Education Policy Analyst, has a BA in English from Amherst College, an MA in English from the University of Toronto, and a B.Ed. from the University of Toronto. She has taught in independent and public schools.

**Jozef Adamov**, Information Technology Manager, is an Electrical Engineer who has worked in mainframe and network environments and recently received an M.C.S.E. certification.

**Brian April**, who left in 1997 to travel in Europe, has returned to the Institute. Dr. April has a PhD. in History from Cambridge University and is working as a Research and Development Associate.

**Loretta Siebert** joined the Institute as Database Manager, and **Lucretia Cullen** took on the task of Book Sales Co-ordinator.

**Linda Levar**, part-time Librarian, recently received her Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of British Columbia.

**Adele Waters**, Assistant to the Director of Events and Conferences, has a BA in Pacific and Asian Studies from the University of Victoria and a Diploma in Events and Conferences from Camosun College.



Kristin McCahon

*Hong Kong's Chief Secretary for Administration, Dr. Anson Chan (seated, centre) poses with Fraser Institute trustees and staff following her earlier presentation to the audience on the effectiveness of the One China, Two Systems policy.*



Kristin McCahon

*The late Constable Gil Puder (left) speaks with Fraser Institute Senior Fellow Stephen Easton at a celebration marking the opening of the Institute's new premises on Burrard Street in Vancouver.*

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Pedram Panahi



Fraser Institute Development Associate Dr. Brian April (right) listens to Margaret Thatcher's chief economic advisor, Sir Alan Walters (centre), while Mr. Daniel Gressel, President of Teleos Management LLC, looks on at the Mont Pèlerin Society Regional Meeting.



Gary Wildman

Fraser Institute staff. Back row, from left: Jozef Adamov, Stephen Easton, Peter Cowley, John Graham, Joel Emes, Martin Zelder, Dexter Samida, and Patrick Basham. Middle row from left: Lindsey Martin, Pauline Collyer, Vanessa Schneider, Sherry Stein, Annabel Addington, Lucretia Cullen, Karen Morgan, Agnes Vabre, Adele Waters, Marie Morris, Debbie Roque, Debbie Chan, Suzanne Walters, and Michael Hopkins. Front row from left: Herbert Grubel, Kristin McCahon, William McArthur, Lorena Baran, Michael Walker, Laura Jones, Jason Clemens, Loretta Siebert and Dick Robertson. Missing: Lydia Miljan, Claudia Rebanks Hepburn, Owen Lippert, Gordon Gibson, Margaret Kerr, and Brian April.

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