



# Fraser Institute Annual Report 2009



Guiding public policy for more than 35 years

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Our vision is of a free and prosperous world where individuals benefit from greater choice, competitive markets, and personal responsibility. Our mission is to measure, study, and communicate the impacts of competitive markets and government interventions on the welfare of individuals.

Founded in 1974, we are an independent research and educational organization with locations throughout North America and international partners in over 70 countries. Our work is financed by tax-deductible contributions from thousands of individuals, organizations, and foundations. In order to protect its independence, the Fraser Institute does not accept grants from government or contracts for research.

Notre vision est celle d'un monde libre et prospère, où chaque personne bénéficie d'un plus grand choix, de marchés concurrentiels et de responsabilités individuelles. Notre mission consiste à mesurer, à étudier et à communiquer l'effet des marchés concurrentiels et des interventions gouvernementales sur le bien-être des individus.

Fondé en 1974, l'Institut existe en tant qu'organisme de recherche et d'éducation indépendant. Nous avons des bureaux en Amérique du Nord ainsi que des associés internationaux dans plus de 70 pays. Notre œuvre est financée par la contribution déductible d'impôt de milliers de personnes, d'organismes et de fondations. Pour protéger son indépendance, l'Institut Fraser n'accepte ni subvention gouvernementale ni contrat de recherche.

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# 2009 Annual Report



Hassan Khosrowshahi  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

The Fraser Institute entered 2009 filled with optimism and promise and indeed, we had much to be proud of as the year marked our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Over the course of the past 35 years, through the dedication and hard work of the many people associated with the Institute, we built an organization that was viewed not only as Canada's leading public policy think tank, but increasingly, as a global trend-setter for free market ideas and principles.

From our first pioneering and influential publication on rent controls in 1974, the Institute has since built an impressive catalogue of research, articles, and commentaries. We've gone on to host events that consistently reinforce the benefits provided to society at large by free markets, in which people are allowed to make choices based on their own personal well-being. If asked to summarize the philosophy that underpins the Fraser Institute's work, I would suggest it is freedom: freedom to choose, freedom to trade, and freedom to move.

We can look back at our accomplishments over the past 35 years with pride, knowing that we helped influ-

ence decision makers and in many cases, convinced them to choose policies that increase people's economic freedom.

Yet in 2009, so much of what we had worked so hard to achieve suddenly seemed to be in doubt. As the global economy faltered, many governments turned away from the idea of freedom and rushed to expand government control of the economy. What began in late 2008 with a collapse of the US housing market quickly spread to manufacturing and other sectors, most significantly, international banking and finance. Panic ensued and many pundits across the political spectrum were soon referring to the looming financial black cloud as the greatest fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. Around the world, cries went out for governments to do something ... anything. And naturally, politicians were happy to oblige through bailouts of banks and automakers, increased expenditures, and massive deficits as governments attempted to spend their way out of the economic doldrums in the name of stimulating national economies.

We were told that capitalism is dead. Keynesian economics was back in

vogue. Governments would prime the pumps of the economy and grow us back to prosperity. All around us, governments seemed bent on returning to the policies and conditions that we had shown, time and again over the past 35 years, simply do not work.

And so, while we at the Fraser Institute celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009, the year also re-emphasized the importance and necessity of our work. Now more than ever, we must again show policy makers that prosperity does not come from government intervention, but rather by creating an environment that breeds economic freedom where markets prosper and people have the freedom to choose, to compete, and to grow.

At the same time, 2009 was also one of the most successful for the Institute on many fronts. Elsewhere within this year's annual report you will find detailed summaries of the many activities and successes of all departments across the Institute.

Certain high points, however, deserve to be singled out. Our annual mining survey has become a world-wide success and in 2009 received more mentions in the news media than any

# The Fraser Institute entered 2009 filled with optimism and promise

other report released by the Institute. Increasingly, we are seeing the mining survey referenced by companies seeking to raise capital for new ventures in jurisdictions ranked highly within the survey, a sure sign of growing respect for the survey within the mining sector.

The ongoing health care debate in the US saw many of our research studies, such as *Waiting Your Turn*, *How Good Is Canadian Health Care*, and *Paying More Getting Less* cited by Americans arguing against the need for government-run, single payer health care.



Peter Brown receiving the T. Patrick Boyle Founder's Award in Vancouver.

These few examples show the importance and potential reach of our ongoing research.

The past year also saw us set an all time high for media mentions and our website traffic grew significantly; both indications of a growing audience for

our research and opinions. We embraced social media through Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube; we employed video and humour to explain Tax Freedom Day and to question the notion that human activity may be causing global warming. We again hosted a number of world-class speakers at events across the country and we held gala banquets in Toronto, Calgary, and Vancouver to honour a trio of Canadians for their dedication to free markets and economic freedom.

Yet, amid this success, we also dealt with internal change at the Institute in 2009. Dr. Mark Mullins, the Institute's Executive Director since 2005, left the organization midway through the year to pursue other opportunities. Dr. Mullins is a notable economist who played a major role in some of the Institute's key projects and helped grow the Institute significantly during his four years at the helm. We wish him much success in the future.

Following Dr. Mullins' departure, the board of trustees convened a committee to undertake a search for his replacement. In December, we were pleased to announce that the successful candidate was Dr. Brett J. Skinner, the Institute's Director of Health and Insurance Policy Research and Manager of our Toronto office.

The board also recognized that the Institute had outgrown its previous executive structure and consequently it was reorganized to include a greater division of responsibilities, improve reporting and accountability, and allow for ongoing sustainability of the organization. Under this new structure, Dr.

Skinner will hold the role of President, rather than Executive Director. Peter Cowley, the Institute's Director of School Performance Studies, was appointed Senior Vice President, Operations, with Niels Veldhuis, Director of Fiscal Studies, and Fred McMahon, Director of the Centre for Trade and Globalization Studies, both being named as Vice Presidents of Research.

I believe this new structure will enhance the Institute's operations while allowing us to meet the challenges created by the economic slowdown. We will build on the success we had in 2009 and continue to show policy makers that increasing government intervention in the lives of citizens around the globe will ultimately fail to increase prosperity or make people better off.

I wholeheartedly encourage you to join with me in supporting the essential, on-going efforts of the Fraser Institute in the year ahead. ■

Hassan Khosrowshahi  
Chairman, Board of Trustees





**F**riends: Last year marked another winning season for the Fraser Institute team, and our achievements continue to get well-deserved recognition.

The University of Pennsylvania recently published the 2009 edition of its annual Global Go-To Think-Tank Rankings, an index of more than 6,300 think-tanks worldwide. According to the report, the Fraser Institute is the number one think-tank in Canada. In addition, the Fraser Institute is recognized as one of the top think-tanks in the world, ranking sixth in the world for health policy research, eighth for domestic economic policy research, and eighth for international economic policy research.

These gratifying results were achieved by the unwavering dedication of our highly talented staff who produce quality, innovative research and take every opportunity to bring the findings of that research to the public's attention.

In the coming months, we will continue building on our successes by expanding our existing areas of research

and undertaking several exciting new initiatives. One of those initiatives is a new International Trade Policy Research Centre. The genesis for this centre was the events surrounding the 2008 US Presidential election, during which we heard a lot of misguided political rhetoric challenging the value of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). If rhetoric had become policy, it could have been disastrous for both the Canadian and American economies. We intend to build on the Institute's history of research on the benefits of trade to become the leading advocate of free trade and open markets for Canada.

Another initiative we're planning is a new Innovation and Intellectual Property Research Centre. The Institute has published research in the past that demonstrates the economic value of protecting intellectual property rights. Currently, Canada does not have a strong reputation as a protector of these rights. The new centre will study intellectual property rights and their link to innovation; the driving force behind technological advancement—a key engine of economic growth.

We also hope to lay the groundwork for another significant initiative: the establishment of a Fraser Institute School of Market Economics and Public Policy, modeled on the compressed-learning structure of Executive-MBA programs. Designed for executives, professionals, and graduate students, the program will comprehensively review key economic literature and economic history, and read intensively through the Institute's public policy research. Combining rich lectures from

experts, group interaction and field experiences, participants will apply the principles of market economics to real public policy issues. The program's objective is to disseminate and preserve vital economic knowledge.

These are just a few of the many exciting projects that the Institute hopes to pursue in 2010.

The Fraser Institute is a true Canadian success story and remains one of the most important institutions in Canadian society. The Institute provides an important public service by objectively assessing government performance and promoting sound public policies based on a proper understanding of the economic and social benefits produced by free, competitive markets.

We look forward to earning your continued and enthusiastic support for our vital mission. ■

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett Skinner". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light background.

Dr. Brett J. Skinner (PhD)  
President,  
Fraser Institute

# ABOUT THE FRASER INSTITUTE

The Fraser Institute is Canada's leading economic research and public education organization. Founded in 1974, the Institute's mission is to measure, study, and communicate the impact of competitive markets and government interventions on the welfare of individuals. Inspired by famed economist Milton Friedman, the Institute envisions a free and prosperous world where individuals benefit from greater choice, competitive markets, and personal responsibility.

The Fraser Institute's activities are administered by its President with the assistance of the Senior Vice President

John Micklethwait, editor-in-chief of *The Economist* discusses the world financial crisis at a Fraser Institute dinner in Vancouver.

of Operations; the Vice President of Research, Canadian Policy; the Vice President of Research, International Policy; the Chief Financial Officer, and the Chief Development Officer. The Institute's overall performance is monitored by a Board of Trustees and an Executive Advisory Board composed of selected trustees who meet monthly.

The Fraser Institute has registered charitable status in both Canada and the United States and the majority of its revenues are derived from donations from individuals, organizations, and foundations. Revenue is also generated from the sale of publications, paid attendance at events, and interest on invested endowment funds. The Institute does not accept government funding or contract

research and it 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.

## Research

The Institute maintains an independent research agenda, determined by Institute staff at an annual planning session and later confirmed during a mid-year review. Donors are not involved in this planning process or in any other research activities.

Ongoing projects are reviewed for their continuing relevance and potential new projects are assessed on the basis of importance and timeliness. The aim of this planning process is to produce a research and education plan that will maximize the Institute's contribution to improving public policy.

Research is carried out by Institute staff and associated scholars, academics, economists, and policy analysts from around the world. The Institute's list of researchers has grown to include more than 350 authors (including six Nobel Laureates) from 22 countries. All new research is subject to an extensive peer review process with final recourse being provided by the Institute's Editorial Advisory Board of leading international economists.

The fundamental objective of all Institute research programs is to show the benefits of market-based alternatives to well-intentioned but misguided and conventional views about the appropriate roles of government.



*The Institute's research and recommendations now command the attention of policy makers around the globe*

## *Public Outreach*

The Institute's products—its ideas—are packaged in a number of different formats to reach the public, the media, students, academics, Institute supporters, policy makers, and politicians from all parties across Canada and abroad. The Institute's 300-plus publications have been sold in more than 50 countries and translated into 22 languages. Most publications are posted on our website, [www.fraser-institute.org](http://www.fraser-institute.org), and can be downloaded free of charge.

The Institute also works hard to reach students and provide them with a broad understanding of economic principles. Many of our publications have been adopted for courses at colleges and universities in Canada and around the world. The Institute conducts seminars for students, workshops for teachers, publishes the *Canadian Student Review* newsletter. It also offers internships for post-secondary students interested in public policy research or helping run one of the Institute's many programs or outreach initiatives.

The Institute promotes its research and policy ideas to a wide audience through the mass media. Institute staff members write news releases, commentaries and articles, and conduct radio and television interviews throughout the year. The Institute also 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 make regular



Dr. Michael Walker, Fraser Institute senior fellow, answers questions at the Economic Freedom Conference in Wroclaw, Poland.

submissions to government committees on a variety of policy issues.

## Results and Impact

When the Fraser Institute was founded in 1974, many Canadians believed that government should be the principal source of growth and development in the economy. The Institute has since helped bring about a considerable shift in public opinion in recognition of the importance of market competition. Many of the Institute's innovative ideas about market solutions to economic problems are now the consensus view on topics that are crucial for the economic well-being of Canadians. Indeed, the current public policy agenda in Canada reads like an index of past Fraser Institute publications. As the Institute's reputation for quality work has grown, its influence has

also grown internationally. Its research and recommendations now command the attention of policy makers around the globe.

## Where we are

In order to support the activities of Institute staff and senior fellows who work across Canada, the US, and around the world, we maintain offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal. Office addresses are listed on the inside front cover of this report.



# FISCAL STUDIES

The Fraser Institute's Fiscal Studies department includes Niels Veldhuis, director, senior economist Amela Karabegović, senior research economist Milagros Palacios, and economists Charles Lammam and Alex Gainer. The department had another strong year in 2009, publishing 12 studies that were referenced in more than 2,000 news stories published and broadcast across North America.

## Federal and Provincial Government Budgets

With the economic downturn and the doomsday predictions of another depression or "great" recession, 2009 posed numerous challenges. As a result of widespread fear, many Canadian governments implemented drastic, though in most cases ineffective, policy measures that resulted in large increases in government spending and deficits.

The Institute's Fiscal Studies team was one of the few voices of reason during this time, consistently pointing out to the public and politicians the failure of stimulus packages in the past, both in Canada and internationally. Specifically, the fiscal team continued its long-standing tradition of publically offering pre-budget advice for various governments and following up with responses to those budgets including the federal government, and the governments of

British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and New Brunswick.

Our budget recommendations and commentaries garnered nearly 250 news stories and were mentioned by nearly every major Canadian media outlet. In addition, department director Niels Veldhuis was invited to provide his recommendations for the federal budget at Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty's pre-budget roundtable in Victoria, BC.

Stimulus packages implemented by both the federal and Ontario governments included a host of bailouts for specific industries. To help educate Canadians about the pitfalls of bailouts and corporate welfare, the Fiscal

vincial, and local governments spent \$202.7 billion on subsidies to business over the past 13 years. The report, which generated more than 200 news stories, became an important part of the debate in Canada on both the level of government subsidies and its effectiveness.

## Taxes

Tax Freedom Day, the day in the year when the average family has earned enough money to pay the tax bill imposed on it by all levels of government, continues to be a hallmark release for the Fiscal Studies department. Tax Freedom Day received significant media attention with nearly 300 news stories in 2009.

To mark the occasion and to reach a younger and increasingly fragmented audience, Fiscal Studies and the Institute's Communications department produced a new, light-hearted song and music video about Tax Freedom Day. The catchy tune and video points out the many types of taxes Canadians pay and how long they work to pay their total tax bill. You can find the video on YouTube (search Tax

Freedom Day in Canada) and at [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org).

In addition to the Tax Freedom Day publication and video, the study *Taxes versus the Necessities of Life: The Canadian Consumer Tax Index, 2009*,



The *Tax Freedom Day* video on YouTube struck a humorous chord with tens of thousands of Canadian taxpayers. To find the video search Tax Freedom Day in Canada or visit [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org).

Studies department released *Corporate Welfare Breaks the \$200 Billion Mark: An Update on 13 Years of Business Subsidies in Canada*, which received extensive media coverage in both Canada and the United States. Specifically, the study found that Canada's federal, pro-



## *The department published 12 studies which were referenced in more than 2000 news stories across North America*

was also published during the year. It measured the total tax bill paid by a Canadian family with an average income. The index tracked the changes in the total tax bill over the past 47 years and compared it to the proportion of income an average Canadian family spends on the basic necessities: food, shelter, and clothing. *Taxes versus the Necessities of Life* generated nearly 120 news stories in 2009.

### Provincial Investment Climate

The Institute's Centre for Entrepreneurship and Markets, under the Fiscal Studies department, released the 2009 edition of the *Provincial Investment Climate Report*, which objectively

evaluated public policies that create and sustain positive investment climates. The study was covered by news media across Canada including the *Edmonton Sun*, *Calgary Herald*, Saskatchewan's *StarPhoenix*, the *Winnipeg Free Press*, and the *Montreal Gazette*. In total, the study was referenced by nearly 80 news stories, an increase of 78 percent over the previous edition of the report.

As part of our ongoing provincial series of studies, the department released *Saskatchewan Prosperity: Building on Success*, a study that examined tax, labour, and many other policy areas in Saskatchewan and provided guidance on how the province can create an improved economic environment for lasting prosperity that will

continue to attract people back to the province. The study was covered in nearly 50 news stories in Saskatchewan.

### Commentaries

Staff in the department continued to write an exceptional number of commentaries during the year, which both leveraged the Institute's research and provided sage policy advice. The department completed 43 opinion pieces, nearly the double the previous year's total of 22. Commentaries written by the fiscal studies team were published 135 times in 60 different newspapers including the *National Post*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, the *Vancouver Sun*, the *Calgary Herald*, the *Montreal Gazette*, the *Winnipeg Free Press*, and many others. ■

## LABOUR MARKET STUDIES

Staff from the Institute's Centre for Labour Market Studies, which is overseen by Niels Veldhuis, continued to command attention in 2009 by releasing several studies and writing high-profile commentaries. In addition, many organizations throughout North America are increasingly using the centre as a resource, which further enhances its profile.

In January, the centre released *The Economic Effects of Increasing British Columbia's Minimum Wage*, a study assessing how increasing BC's minimum wage to \$10 per hour would affect employment. Increasing minimum wages has been an issue pushed by labour unions in British Columbia and across Canada. The study received extensive media coverage—mentioned

in nearly 70 news stories—across Canada including in the *Vancouver Sun*, the *Globe and Mail*, and the *Montreal Gazette*.

In late August, the centre released the 2009 edition of *Labour Relations Laws in Canada and the United States*, which evaluates the extent to which labour relations laws bring flexibility to the labour market while balancing the needs of employers, employees, and unions in the 10 Canadian provinces and 50 US states.

The centre also released the 2009 edition of *Measuring Labour Markets in Canada and the United States*, an empirical assessment of labour market performance in the 10 Canadian provinces and 50 US states. These two

labour studies received substantial media coverage, with 120 news stories referencing the study including those in the *Globe and Mail*, the *Vancouver Sun*, and the *Calgary Herald*.

The centre's research team also placed several influential commentaries in newspapers across the country, including comments on issues such as the minimum wage and Employment Insurance. For instance, the commentary on the proposed changes to Employment Insurance was published in 17 different newspapers across Canada. In addition, members of the team have given numerous presentations in Western Canada to various audiences on the need for more flexible labour markets. ■

# NON-PROFIT AND SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES



The largest initiative that the Centre for Non-Profit and Social Policy Studies undertakes is the **Donner Canadian Foundation Awards for Excellence in the Delivery of Social Services**, Canada's largest and most prestigious awards program for non-profit organizations.

In 2009, non-profit organizations from across Canada submitted a total of 582 applications for evaluation by the Fraser Institute. The award recipients were selected based on a ranking of their performance in 10 key areas, including management and governance, the use of staff and volunteers, innovation, program cost, and outcome monitoring. The winning non-profit agencies shared \$60,000 in prize money along with nine awards.

The 20 finalists for this year's Donner Awards received both local and national recognition in the media. Specifically, the *Globe and Mail* profiled all 20 finalist organizations in an article entitled "Honouring performance in providing help," published on October 2, 2009. The Donner Awards generated nearly 60 additional news stories in media outlets across Canada.

The Donner Awards program culminated with a celebratory luncheon at the Marriott Hotel in Toronto in October where friends and supporters of Canada's non-profit sector celebrated the success of the 2009 Donner Awards recipients. During the luncheon, the awards were presented by Robert Spencer, one of William H. Donner's great-grandsons. **Sarnia Lambton Rebound: A Program for Youth** located in Sarnia, Ontario, received the \$20,000 *William H. Donner Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Social*

*Services*, the award for the highest performing agency overall.

The \$5,000 *Peter F. Drucker Award for Non-Profit Management* was presented to **Community Living Campbellford/Brighton** of Campbellford, Ontario. Each year, this award is given to a non-profit organization with a consistent record of excellence and innovation in the management and delivery of services. Vahan Kololian, representing the Friends of Peter F. Drucker, presented the award.

## Poverty and Generosity

The Centre for Non-Profit and Social Policy Studies also published two prominent commentaries in newspapers across Canada, including the *National Post*, on the ineffectiveness

and dangers of using relative measures of poverty for policy-making purposes.

The centre ended the year with the release of the *2009 Generosity Index*, which measures both the extent and the depth of generosity in Canada and the United States. In 2009, the index garnered an all-time high of 175 news stories, more than double the media coverage from any previous year, and was covered by virtually every major newspaper in Canada including the *Globe and Mail*, the *National Post*, the *Vancouver Sun*, *Edmonton Journal*, *Calgary Herald*, *Star Phoenix*, Regina's *Leader Post*, the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, and the *Montreal Gazette*. ■

Pacific Assistance Dogs Society, Burnaby, BC was among the 582 non-profit programs evaluated by the 2009 Donner Canadian Foundation Awards for Excellence in the Delivery of Social Services.



# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT CARDS

The School Performance Studies department, under the direction of Peter Cowley, is responsible for producing the Fraser Institute's many report cards ranking and comparing school performance. In 2009, the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the report cards' publication, the department published report cards for elementary and secondary schools in British Columbia (Yukon secondary schools are included in the BC edition), Alberta, Ontario, and elementary, middle, and high schools in the state of Washington. In total, the school report cards rated 7,645 public, separate, private, and charter schools serving nearly 4 million students.

Each Fraser Institute school report card collects a variety of relevant, objective indicators of school performance into one easily accessible public document that allows anyone to analyze and compare the performance of individual schools. By doing so, the report card assists parents when they choose a school for their children and encourages and assists all those seeking to improve their schools. By comparing a school's latest results with those from earlier years, we can see if the school is improving.

Comparisons are the key to improvement: comparing schools is made simpler and more meaningful by the report card's indicators, ratings, and rankings. By comparing a school's results with those of neighbouring schools, or of schools with similar school and student characteristics, we can identify more successful schools and learn from them. Reference to overall provincial results places an individual school's level of achievement in a broader context.

Due to a significant delay in the availability of data from the Ministry of Education, Leisure, and Sport, we were unable to publish a report card on Quebec's secondary schools in 2009. Publication of this very popular report card will resume in the fall of 2010.

## What's New?

After successfully converting to an advanced sequel server-based data processing system in 2008, the department took advantage of the new system's features to dramatically improve the website presentation of the report cards' findings.

The Washington school report cards were introduced on the new website [www.compareschoolrankings.org](http://www.compareschoolrankings.org) in 2009. Throughout 2010, all other report cards will be moved to this site. Compareschoolrankings.org enables visitors to quickly get information on the school of their choice or to locate schools using either a geography-based rankings list or a Google maps application. In addition, visitors can compare the results of schools on any of the performance indicators and produce easily understood charts of the results.

## Highlights of 2009

During 2009, results from the department's nine report cards appeared in almost 1,500 news stories across Canada and Washington. This continuous and extensive media attention has kept the report cards uppermost in the minds of parents in the jurisdictions in which the report cards are published.

Parents and educators flocked to the Institute's website to get the results of schools in their areas. In total, during 2009, visitors to the Fraser Institute website requested more than 1.2 million individual school results tables.

## Ontario

The seventh edition of the *Report Card on Ontario's Elementary Schools* was

released in February. The *Toronto Sun* and the *Ottawa Citizen* each produced both print and on-line special features on the day of the release. This report card generated a total of 207 news stories.

April saw the release of the third edition of the *Report Card on Ontario's Secondary Schools*. Again, the *Toronto Sun* and *Ottawa Citizen* published both school results and thought-provoking articles. The secondary report card generated 198 print and on-line news stories.

## Alberta

The eighth annual edition of the *Report Card on Alberta's Elementary Schools* was published in March. This publication, and the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Report Card on Alberta's High Schools*,



which was published in June, provided the province's parents with detailed comparative data on academic performance at almost 1,000 Alberta schools. Both publications enjoyed strong support from the *Calgary Herald* and *Edmonton Sun* newspapers. The *Edmonton Sun* also produced an interactive on-line feature for each report card to complement their print presentations. The extensive media coverage and free-of-charge, year-round access to the complete report cards on the Institute's website ensures that the vast majority of parents and educators in Alberta have easy access to the report cards' valuable information.



## Fraser Institute People



Annabel Addington  
*Human Resources*



Gerry Angevine  
*Energy Policy*



Denise Barnfield  
*Administration*



Miguel Cervantes  
*Trade and Globalization*



Martin Collacott  
*Senior Fellow*

## British Columbia

The seventh edition of the *Report Card on British Columbia's Elementary Schools* was published in February followed by the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Report Card on Secondary Schools in British Columbia and Yukon* in June. Again in 2009, the *Vancouver Sun* and the *Victoria Times-Colonist* acted as lead media, publishing special features for the two releases.

The province's teachers' union continued its vigorous campaign to encourage parents to withdraw their children from the provincial Foundation Skills Assessment tests in an effort to make it impossible for the Institute to continue producing its very popular elementary schools report card. The union focused this year on parents of Asian and South Asian descent. Parents from these groups have been

particularly strong supporters of the report cards' program over the years. Despite this pressure from the teachers' union, visitors to the Institute's website in 2009 requested almost 200,000 individual results tables for BC elementary schools.

## Washington State

We introduced elementary, middle, and secondary school report cards in the State of Washington in 2009. These report cards are produced by the Fraser Institute with the sponsorship of the Evergreen Freedom Foundation, a Washington-based think tank. The introduction of these three report cards is a test of our ability to produce popular report cards for any jurisdiction. Success in Washington will be the basis for expansion of this project to other states. ■



## SCHOOL CHAIN SHOWCASE

**S**chool Chains Showcase, a project within the School Performance Studies department, is the Fraser Institute's multi-lingual and interactive website [www.schoolchains.org](http://www.schoolchains.org) that profiles a wide variety of successful school chains from around the world that are eager to expand.

Among the school chains found on the site are those that serve specific types of students including girls, autistic children, generally under-achieving children, children in extreme poverty, and children of recent immigrants. Some school chains specialize in serving inner cities or rural populations while other school chains offer a particular focus such as bilingual education and trades and technical training.

Parents, educators, investors, and policymakers can easily zero in on the kinds of schools they are interested in, and then directly contact the representative responsible for the expansion program of any school chain of interest.

By encouraging the expansion of these successful school chains into Canada, the School Chain Showcase website helps bring the benefits of greater school choice to families across the country.

Research efforts to identify school chains worldwide continued throughout 2009. By the end of the year, profiles of 105 school chains could be found on the site. ■



# THE GARFIELD WESTON AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

The Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education honour school teams—teachers, administrators, and support staff—who have made an outstanding contribution to their students’ academic success. Award ceremonies are held in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec.

Generously supported by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, the program encourages educators to recognize the benefits of productive competition among schools and the identification and public celebration of success as two key drivers of school performance improvement.

The Fraser Institute analyzes objective student results data based on provincial exams to determine the top 30 schools to be honoured each year in several different categories of academic performance. The Garfield Weston Awards winners are selected from this list.

The Weston Awards program is overseen by Lisa-Diane Fortier and in 2009, it honoured 1,123 educators from 192 schools in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec.



In 2009, the Weston Awards galas celebrated the success of 1,123 outstanding Canadian educators.

After each of the events, we heard sentiments like those found in a thank you letter from Mickie Oakes, Principal of St. John Vianney School in Barrie, Ontario: “Thank you for a night that

has become a highlight in our teaching career ... the incentive to forge ahead has been incredible.”

The Weston Awards website [www.forexcellenceineducation.org](http://www.forexcellenceineducation.org) offers participants important information about the program and the individual awards and provides an historical list of the school teams honoured in each of the award categories. The photo gallery records the excitement and glamour of previous awards events.

The Weston Awards program continues to generate strong media attention with 253 stories published or broadcast during 2009. ■

## 2009 Garfield Weston Award Winners

Overall Academic Achievement	Seneca Hill Public School	Toronto	ON
Improvement in Academics	St. John Vianney School	Barrie	
Determination in Academic Achievement	Seaforth Public School	Seaforth	
Overall Academic Achievement	Collège Saint-Sacrement	Terrebonne	QC
Improvement in Academics	École secondaire Natagan	Barraute	
Determination in Academic Achievement	École Rivière-des-Quinze	Notre-Dame-du-Nord	
Improvement in Academics—Elementary	Almadina Language Charter Academy	Calgary	AB
Improvement in Academics—High School	Warner School	Warner	
Determination in Academic Achievement—Elementary	St. Bonaventure Elementary School	Edmonton	
Determination in Academic Achievement—High School	Vauxhall Jr. and Sr. High School	Vauxhall	BC
Determination in Academic Achievement—Elementary	Khalsa School	Vancouver	
Determination in Academic Achievement—Secondary	L. V. Rogers Secondary School	Nelson	
Improvement in Academics	Frank J. Mitchell Elementary School	Sparwood	

FI People  
continued



Pauline Collyer  
Office of the President



Heather Corbett  
Events



Sébastien Côté  
Development



Peter Cowley  
School Performance



Alan Dowd  
Senior Fellow



## CHILDREN FIRST: SCHOOL CHOICE TRUST

Children First: School Choice Trust is the Fraser Institute's award winning program that enables parents in financial need to send their children to an independent school of their choice.

Launched in Ontario in 2003 and in Calgary, Alberta, in 2006, the program helped more than 800 children in Ontario and 80 children in Calgary attend private schools in 2009. The program is generously supported by a growing number of donors and through the leadership gifts provided

by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation and the Hunter Family Foundation.

Children First grants are worth 50 percent of tuition, up to an annual maximum of \$4,000.

Demand for the program remained high in 2009 with a waitlist of more than 5,700 children.

The program is overseen by Michael Thomas, Director, Children First: School Choice Trust, and Alexandra McGregor, Program Manager. ■

### Children First: School Choice Numbers 2009

<b>48,497</b>	Unique visitors to our website
<b>\$34,027</b>	Average household income of participating families
<b>5,989</b>	Applications received from economically disadvantaged families for 770 spaces in Ontario and Alberta
<b>\$5,991</b>	Average tuition at participating Ontario private schools
<b>\$3,233</b>	Average tuition at participating Alberta schools
<b>1,540</b>	Phone and e-mail inquiries about the program
<b>892</b>	Children served across Ontario
<b>194</b>	Ontario schools participating
<b>87</b>	Children served in Calgary
<b>19</b>	Calgary schools participating

# HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH

In 2009, the Fraser Institute's two departments covering health research underwent significant change.

Nadeem Esmail, director of health system performance studies, chose to leave the Institute and join his family's business. Nadeem will remain affiliated with the Institute as a Senior Fellow.

As a result, the Institute merged Health System Performance Studies with the department of Bio-Pharma and Health Policy Research, creating a single Health Policy Research Centre with Dr. Brett J. Skinner as director, and Mark Rovere as senior policy analyst.

In 2009, the Institute's health policy research agenda included annual updates to many of our well-referenced studies, including *Access Delayed, Access Denied, 2009: Waiting for New Medicines in Canada; Paying More, Getting Less, 2009: Measuring the Sustainability of Government Health Spending in Canada; Waiting Your Turn: Hospital Waiting Lists in Canada*, 19<sup>th</sup> edition (which included the National Psychiatry Waiting List Survey, 2009); and hospital report cards for the provinces of British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta.

New research published by the department includes Dr. Skinner's book *Canadian Health Policy Failures: What's wrong? Who gets hurt? Why nothing changes?* as well as the two studies: *Health Insurance and Bankruptcy Rates in Canada and the United States*, and *A Comparative Analysis of Mortality Rates Associated with Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) Surgery in Ontario and Select US States*.

*Canadian Health Policy Failures* is a comprehensive, in-depth analysis of why Canada lags behind its international counterparts in the supply of

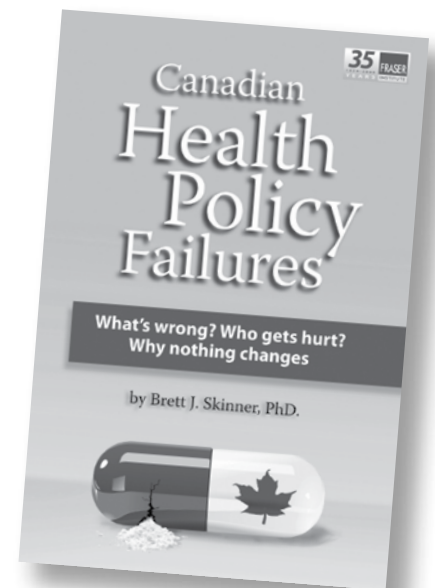
medical resources and timely access to quality health care. It includes numerous examples of how and why the Canadian health care system is financially unsustainable and provides solutions for policymakers to improve the way in which health care is financed.

In July, the study *Health Insurance and Bankruptcy Rates in Canada and the United States* also received a great deal of attention due to its relevance in the American health reform debate. The study was based on specific research that implicitly assumed that a single-payer health care system (such as Canada's) could significantly reduce personal bankruptcy rates in the United States. These assumptions became a contentious issue among health care reformers in the United States, who used the medical bankruptcy argument to push for more government intervention in American health care. The study compared bankruptcy rates between the two countries and found that, contrary to the assumptions of some health care reform activists, available data revealed that the personal bankruptcy rate in Canada was higher than in the United States.

Dr. Skinner provided a summary of the study in a commentary piece for *The American*, a widely circulated magazine published by the American Enterprise Institute. Consequently, the department's analysis on Canadian and American bankruptcy rates had a profound impact on the American debate. On July 28th, the research was referred to and discussed during a US congressional hearing on medical debt.

In February, Dr. Michael Walker, Maureen Hazel, and Nadeem Esmail published *A Comparative Analysis of Mortality Rates Associated with Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) Surgery in Ontario and Select US States*. Based on 2004 data, the study exam-

ined the differences in mortality rates associated with coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery among Ontario hospitals that perform such surgeries; and compared mortality rates associated with that surgery in Ontario with those in the US. The research found significant hospital-by-hospital variation in risk-adjusted mortality rates in Ontario. Furthermore, the comparison of mortality rates associated with CABG in Ontario and 32 US states (where data were available), found



that the risk of patient death could be minimized if the surgery was performed in all but five of the 32 US states instead of having the surgical procedure performed in the province of Ontario.

## Other research activities

In addition to updated annual reports and new studies, the department also provided the core articles for one health care-focused issue and one pharmaceutical-focused issue of *Fraser Forum*. Articles in these issues discussed the true cost of Canadian



## FI People continued



Stephen Easton  
Senior Fellow



Kendal Egli  
Communications



Raeann English  
Communications



Nadeem Esmail  
Senior Fellow



Lisa-Diane Fortier  
Education Programs

medicare and the benefits of health care reform, a review of cost sharing for medically necessary services in Canada, the risks of electronic medical health records, the value of preventative medical services, American health care reform, the delay of new medicines in Canada, a comparison of generic drug prices in Canada and the United States, and the impact of federal and provincial drug policies on prescription drugs prices. The department contributed a total of 23 articles to *Fraser Forum* throughout the year.

he department's research was mentioned in more than 2,400 news stories, more than double the total amount of media coverage for the department's work in 2009. Additionally, the department published numerous commentaries in daily newspapers across Canada and the United States. One particular commentary by Nadeem Esmail, which warned the United States about moving towards a single-payer health care system such as Canada's, was published in the *Wall Street Journal*. The commentary rapidly became one of the most read articles on the *Journal's* website.

In addition to articles and commentaries, the department gave over 28 health policy related presentations at briefings and conferences across Canada and around the world.

Skinner also co-published a study in the peer-reviewed journal *Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. The study analyzed the impact of British Columbia's therapeutic substitution policy for proton pump inhibitor (PPI) drugs. In an attempt to reduce government health expenditures, the policy required patients to stop taking prescribed medication for their acid-related diseases, and forced them to switch to the cheapest brand or risk losing public reimbursement for the drug costs. Skinner and his co-authors found that drug switching caused by the therapeutic substitution policy did

not reduce public health expenditures, but was instead associated with higher overall health care use, thus increasing public spending.

The findings of the study are important because provincial governments are increasingly trying to curb public health care expenditures by using central planning interventions to interfere with the choices patients make in conjunction with the expert advice of their physician. ■

## INSURANCE POLICY

Overseen by director Brett J. Skinner, the Institute's department of Insurance Policy Research published a successful update to its interprovincial comparison of the cost of automobile insurance in 2008, *The Personal Cost and Affordability of Automobile Insurance in Canada*, which generated considerable media attention.

The study showed that three of the four most expensive provinces in which to obtain automobile insurance in 2007 were British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Each of these provinces also happens to have a government-run auto insurance monopoly. The Institute also produced a short video on *FraserTV* to highlight the main findings.

During the year, the department commissioned work on several new projects, including an international comparison of home mortgage insurance market regulation in Canada and elsewhere. This study was released in early 2010 and is especially relevant following the turmoil in global financial markets, which was precipitated by government interference in mortgage lending markets in the United States. ■



## ECONOMIC FREEDOM

*This year's report included a chapter on the impact of the global financial crisis*

The Fraser Institute continues to be a powerful force for increasing economic freedom globally through its internationally renowned *Economic Freedom of the World Annual Report* and Index. The foundations of economic freedom are personal choice, voluntary exchange, the right to keep what one earns, the rule of law, and property rights.

Overseen by Fred McMahon, this year's version of the economic freedom report was released in September and included a chapter examining the impact of the global financial crisis on economic freedom along with a chapter discussing the effects of American recession-fighting policies on economic freedom. The 2009 report was mentioned in 236 news stories around the world.

Over the years, the report has been translated into many languages including Arabic, Spanish, and Chinese. It has inspired a number of regional and sub-national reports including the *Economic Freedom of the Arab World* (published by the International Research Foundation of Oman, the Fraser Institute, and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty, Cairo office), *Marketization Index of Chinese Provinces* (National Economic Research Institute of China), *Economic Freedom for the States of India* (Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies), *Economic Freedom Index of Argentinean Provinces* (*Indice de Desempeño Provincial*, Fundación Libertad, Argentina), *Index of Economic Freedom of the European Union and Italian Regions* (*La libertà economica nel mondo, in Europa, in Italia*, Centro Einaudi, Italy), and the *Economic Freedom of North America* (Fraser Institute), among others.

Work on a new economic freedom index of Latin America began in 2009, co-sponsored by the Fraser Institute, RELIAL (an organization of free market groups across Latin America), and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation's Latin American office.

The world index was launched in 1986 when Michael Walker, then the Institute's Executive Director, and the late Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman and his wife, Rose Friedman, initiated a comprehensive research project on

freedom. In conjunction with the Adam Smith Research Centre (ASRC) of Poland, we organized the Economic Freedom of the World Network Annual Conference, September 30 to October 2 in Wroclaw, Poland.

The meeting commemorated two important dates: the 20th anniversary of the Polish Solidarity-led political victory that ended communism in Poland and paved the way for the subsequent fall of the Berlin Wall, and the 20th anniversary of the Adam Smith



Fred McMahon, Vice President of Research, International Policy, answering reporters' questions at the Economic Freedom audit in Cairo, Egypt.

economic freedom and its consequences. About 60 leading scholars, including three Nobel laureates, participated in the project.

In addition to the *Economic Freedom of the World Annual Report*, the Fraser Institute also was involved in organizing several important meetings around the world devoted to economic

freedom in times of crisis." Research Centre, the first independent think tank in Eastern Europe following the fall of communism. The conference theme was "Economic freedom in times of crisis."

The relationship between economic freedom and social justice was the theme of this year's Economic Freedom of the Arab World Conference

## FI People continued



Kristin Fryer  
Publications



Nachum Gabler  
Environment



Alex Gainer  
Fiscal Studies



Gordon Gibson  
Senior Fellow



Trisha Girard  
Events

held in Marrakech, Morocco, November 13 to 15. The event was again co-organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty's Cairo Office, the Fraser Institute, and the International Research Foundation of Oman. The Moroccan Centre des Jeunes Dirigeants d'Entreprise joined as local partners.

On November 12, 2009, the Fraser Institute in cooperation with the Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) of the Egyptian cabinet and the

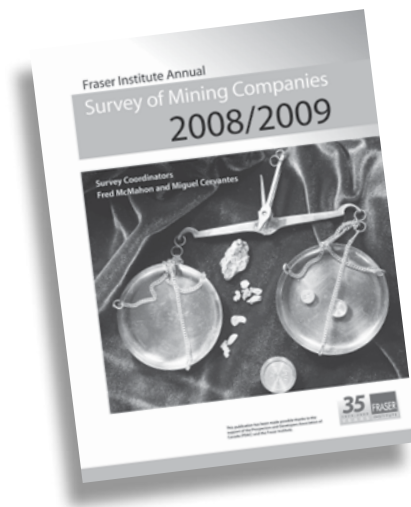
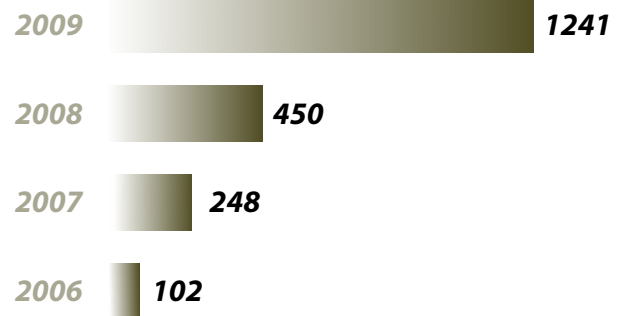
Atlas Global Initiative for Free Trade, Peace, and Prosperity, held an economic freedom audit in Cairo to design strategies to increase the economic freedom of Egyptians. The IDSC, one of the most influential and powerful groups in Egypt and at the forefront of researching and making public policy, published a booklet on economic freedom in Egypt entitled, *Economic Freedom in Egypt: Present and Future*. Well over a hundred top decision makers and leaders attended the full-day seminar. ■

## MINING STUDIES

The Fraser Institute's Global Centre for Mining Studies was launched in the spring of 2008 with the task of providing straight answers to difficult questions about mining. To do so, it undertakes fact-based research on policy frameworks that can deliver the greatest economic and social benefit while maintaining a profitable industry that continues to invest and create opportunity. The centre published a series of research papers in 2009.

The Fraser Institute's *Annual Survey of Mining Companies* continues to hold policy makers accountable by revealing to the public the impact of their policy decisions on creating prosperity and jobs in the mining industry. The worldwide impact of the survey grew in 2009 thanks to a dramatic increase in global media coverage of the survey. ■

### Media mentions for the Mining Survey and other research



# ENERGY POLICY

With sizable reserves of oil and gas, coal, uranium, and hydro-electricity facilities, Canada ranks as an energy superpower. A vibrant energy sector is thus vital to Canada's economy and the well-being of all Canadians.

The Fraser Institute's Energy Policy Research Centre, under the direction of Diane Katz, identifies unwarranted government interference in the domestic energy market and analyzes the impact of public policies on wholesale and retail energy markets. Throughout 2009, public officials, industry executives, and the media turned to the centre for expertise in crafting sound energy policy.

Among the centre's most notable publications in 2009 was the *Global Petroleum Survey*, which ranked 143 jurisdictions worldwide on the barriers to investment in the exploration and production of oil and gas. This was a substantial expansion from the 2008 survey, in which 81 jurisdictions were ranked. Gerry Angevine, senior economist, and Miguel Cervantes, research assistant, calculated the responses of 577 managers and executives in the petroleum industry.

The centre also produced a report on revamping Alberta's electricity transmission policy to ensure proper planning for new power generation. The study, *Alberta Electricity Transmission Policy for the Next Generation*, exposed the flaws of the province's "zero congestion policy," and concluded that without reform, future transmission costs will become a much greater burden on Alberta's ratepayers.

Significant progress was also made in 2009 on the centre's Continental Energy Strategy project. This collection of papers analyzes current trends in major energy markets and recommends policy reforms to eliminate obstacles

to investment and increase energy security across North America. Publication is scheduled for 2010.

Energy also was the focus of the March 2009 issue of *Fraser Forum*, with articles addressing the trade in carbon allowances; the costs of "green" job subsidies; the benefits of competitive energy markets; and the challenges of producing electricity-powered vehicles. In the October issue of *Fraser Forum*, Diane Katz analyzed the economic and environmental drawbacks of the "Cash for Clunkers" program, in "A Clunker of an Idea."

Several articles by Katz and Angevine were also published in *Perspectives*, the Fraser Institute's French-language public policy magazine. Articles included "Le déclin des prix du pétrole: les leçons à tirer de la diminution du prix à la pompe" (with Ben Lieberman); "Stratégie continentale de l'énergie"; and, "Améliorer les politiques énergétiques canadiennes."

The centre produced a number of commentaries that appeared in major newspapers across Canada. For example, the announcement by the Alberta government that it would postpone some royalty rate hikes generated an opinion piece in the *Calgary Sun* on Nov. 28. In "Royalty 'discount' not enough to prevent investment from fleeing Alberta," Ralph Klein and Gerry Angevine argued for even greater rollbacks of royalty rates to encourage petroleum industry investment and production. The *Calgary Sun* published Katz's commentary, "Bill 50



Gordon Diamond and Humphry Koch stand next to one of the gigantic tires used on vehicles in the Alberta oil sands. In 2009, the Fraser Institute hosted a policy excursion to the oil sands that included meetings with energy policymakers and a tour of oil sands operations.

will zap Albertans with higher electricity rates," on the misguided legislative proposal to empower the provincial government to control power line construction. Three newspapers—the *Halifax Chronicle Herald*, the *Fredericton Gleaner*, and the *Kitchener Record*—ran her commentary, "President Obama: You need Canuck Oil," which outlined the strategic importance of Canada's oil reserves to America's security. Gerry Angevine's commentary, "NB power deal more politics than economics," about Hydro-Québec's proposed purchase of New Brunswick Power's generating capacity, was printed in the *Miramichi News Leader*.

Several events were also hosted by the centre in 2009, including a policy briefing by geophysicist Henry Lyatsky, on BC's moratorium on offshore oil exploration, and a presentation by Senior Fellow Wilf Gobert, on the economics of the Alberta oil sands.

As a source of independent, high-quality scholarship, the Energy Policy Research Centre made important contributions to energy policy debates throughout 2009. ■



# RISK, REGULATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Centre for Studies in Risk, Regulation, and the Environment is a recognized source of credible and constructive research and analysis relating to some of Canada's most contentious policy issues. Under the direction of Diane Katz, the centre's reports and commentaries and the media attention they generate counter the popular myths and fear-mongering that distort civic discourse around environmental and regulatory issues.

As in previous years, particular attention was paid in 2009 to the issue of global warming. Indeed, the centre's role as a defender of fact grows more pivotal in direct proportion to the misinformation and outright deceit about global warming that masquerades as scientific "consensus."

Expanding upon the *Independent Summary for Policymakers* published in 2007, the centre published in March a supplement entitled *Critical Topics in Global Warming* that features detailed discussions on seven technical issues relevant to global warming, including climate modeling, temperature measurement, statistical analysis, and meteorology. Edited by Institute Senior Fellow Ross McKittrick, and with contributions from an international team of climate experts, the supplement provides compelling evidence that popularized notions about the causes and consequences of global warming are more fiction than fact.

To counter the alarmist propaganda so prevalent in high schools, the centre also released *Understanding Climate Change: Lesson Plans for the Classroom*.



The high school curriculum includes lessons on the scientific method, the difference between correlation and causation, the science of climate, data interpretation, and the economics of global warming policies. The lesson plans have been distributed to high schools across Canada.

Teens were also the intended audience for our series of humorous and irreverent videos examining the claims of global warming alarmists. A year in the making, the videos were designed for online dissemination via YouTube and social networking sites. Thousands of viewers have so far tuned into the message to "Question the Hype" surrounding global warming.

Also challenging popular misconceptions was Diane Katz's critique of British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve. The *BC Agricultural Land Reserve: A Critical Assessment* documents how Canada's most stringent land use controls have failed to sustain family

farms as intended, and instead have helped make the Vancouver housing market one of the most expensive in North America. The study also counters claims that a local food supply is both inherently healthier and safer, and environmentally beneficial.

Katz also addressed a broad range of environmental, risk, and regulatory issues in a variety of articles and commentaries. Among them, her commentary in the *Toronto Star*, "The Man Who Fought the Neo-Luddites," paid homage to Norman Borlaug, whose modernization of agricultural techniques rescued a billion people worldwide from starvation. A commentary commissioned by the *National Post*, *DDT: Banned Lifesaver*, addressed the tragic deaths of millions from malaria that would be prevented if modern environmental ideology permitted the use of DDT to eradicate the disease. And Katz's article, "The Grocery Bag Dilemma," examined a question posed to millions of consumers every day:





“Paper or plastic?” Her analysis of the merits and drawbacks of various bag types was reprinted in no less than 15 newspapers across Canada.

The centre also hosted several high-profile events in 2009, including Lord Nigel Lawson, former UK Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Energy, speaking on “The Really Inconvenient Truth About Global Warming”; Stephen Moore, member of the editorial board and senior economics writer for the *Wall Street Journal*, addressing “The Green Dream of Cap and Trade: A Red Ink Nightmare”; and a presentation by Christopher Monckton, former policy advisor to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, on “Apocalypse Cancelled: The Overheated Hype About Global Warming.” ■

## ADDINGTON CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF MEASUREMENT

The Addington Centre was established in 2008 with a donation from the late Ray Addington, former chairman of the Fraser Institute Board of Trustees. The centre commemorates Mr. Addington with an annual prize for a paper or video that best identifies issues in economics and public policy that should be measured, exemplifying the Institute’s motto, “If it matters, measure it.”

In 2009, cash prizes went to five papers and one video from across Canada and the US. The papers can be read on our website at:

[www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org)

1st Prize (\$1,000)

### **Index of Government Activism**

By Russel J. Lyster  
(Exshaw, Alberta)

Runner-up (\$500)

### **Occupational Licensing Index**

By David B. Skarbek  
(Fairfax, Virginia)

Runner-up (\$500)

### **Motivation and Characteristics of High-Level Entrepreneurs (video)**

By Arthur M. Diamond  
(Omaha, Nebraska)

Runner-up (\$500)

### **Measuring the Effectiveness of For-Profit Daycare Centres**

By Peter S. Taylor  
(Waterloo, Ontario)

Runner-up (\$500)

### **Measuring Curiosity in Schools**

By Cedar Riener  
(Oakland, California)

Runner-up (\$500)

### **Health Care Freedom Index**

By Nimish Adhia  
(Chicago, Illinois)

## FI People *continued*



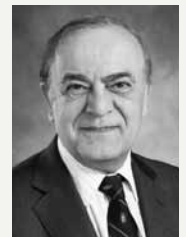
Wilf Gobert  
Senior Fellow



Samantha Gonzales  
Human Resources



Herbert Grubel  
Senior Fellow



Csaba Hajdu  
Senior Fellow



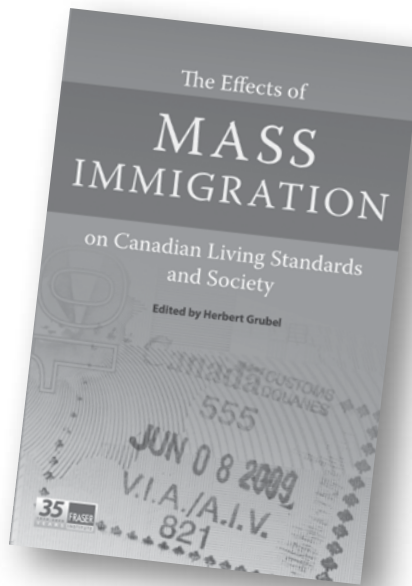
Melissa Holoday  
Donner Awards

## IMMIGRATION POLICY

The Fraser Institute's work on immigration examines the economic, demographic, and social impacts of immigration policy on Canadian society, related security threats, and issues of citizenship, multiculturalism, and national identity. The aim of this research is to promote a reasoned, fact-based national debate on these vital issues, one that is respectful but free of political correctness.

In 2009 the Institute published the book, *The Effects of Mass Immigration on Canadian Living Standards and Society*. This book, based on the proceedings of our 2008 conference in Montreal and edited by Fraser Institute Senior Fellow Herbert Grubel, addressed a range of issues from an empirical standpoint. It concluded that recent mass

immigration has adversely affected Canadian living standards and is challenging the country's existing national identity, culture, and social fabric. The book recommended significant changes to Canadian immigration policy including changes to the selection process that would limit the number of immigrants.



In the course of 2009, Grubel and Senior Fellow Martin Collacott published articles related to immigration and refugee issues in major national daily newspapers across Canada, and gave numerous interviews on radio and television.

In October, Collacott testified before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration about reforms needed to the refugee determination system. Collacott also briefed parliamentarians from all parties on aspects of immigration policy, as well as senior officials from the office of the minister of immigration. He also made a significant contribution to a documentary film on immigration in Canada and the United States, produced by the Emmy Award-winning MediaLab at Pacific Lutheran University. ■

## CANADIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS

The Institute's Centre for Canadian-American Relations analyzes the economic and political relations between the two countries. In 2009, the centre's research encompassed the full range of issues affecting the pivotal partnership between the United States and Canada: trade and terrorism, regulation and "border-thickening," alliance issues and domestic politics, Arctic security, and Afghanistan operations.

The centre published one major research paper, *Measuring Parliament's Attitude towards Canada-US Cooperation* by Alexander Moens and Nachum Gabler. Additionally, Senior Fellows Alexander Moens and Alan Dowd

published commentaries in leading newspapers, magazines, and journals on both sides of the border, including *Vanguard*, the *Windsor Star*, the *Calgary Herald*, *Policy Review*, *Military Officer*, the *American Legion Magazine*, the *Weekly Standard Online*, *World Politics Review*, the *Sacramento Bee*, the *Detroit News*, and our own *Fraser Forum*.

Moens also served as coordinating editor for a special issue of *Fraser Forum* focused on the evolving Canada-US relationship—and how issues as disparate as the global recession, trade, elections, terrorism, health care, and energy are forcing Canadians and Americans increasingly to look to each other for support, innovation, solutions, and security.

Over the course of the year, the centre's research publications and commentaries generated 66 news stories in news papers, radio and TV across North America. ■



# THANK YOU TO OUR COLLEAGUES

*We wish them the best ...*

**W**e would like to acknowledge some of our longer-serving colleagues who left the Institute during 2009 to pursue other interests. For the many years they were with us, they contributed greatly to the Institute's success. They include:



**Nadeem Esmail,**

whose department produced the yearly *Waiting Your Turn: Hospital Waiting Lists in Canada* survey, and who was responsible for dozens of newspaper commentaries and creative research on health care in Canada.



**Keith Godin,**

a senior policy analyst in the department of fiscal studies, who contributed significantly to our research on labour markets, entrepreneurship, and taxation.



**Tasha Kheiriddin,**

an ardent defender of free markets in Quebec, who launched our Montreal office and directed the Institute's French language activities.



**Mark Mullins,**

who as Executive Director managed the Institute during a four-year period of rapid growth and outreach and who fostered many new successful initiatives.



**Mer Roberts,**

who cheerfully and expertly worked behind the scenes to implement a sound information technology structure that will serve the Institute for years to come.



**Darlene Savoy,**

a data analyst, whose dedication and expertise produced nearly 50 error-free school report cards between 2000 and 2009.



**Vanessa Schneider**

who for over 10 years brought quality economics education to students, teachers, journalists, and the business community across Canada.

We miss them all, and wish them all the best in their new endeavours. ■



## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Education Programs department, which oversees the Institute's outreach programs for students and teachers, continued to offer seminars, workshops, conferences, e-newsletters, essay and video contests, event bursaries, and internships to encourage students, teachers, and others to develop their understanding of economics and competitive markets.

The department also underwent several staff changes in 2009. Lisa-Diane Fortier took over as department director when former director Vanessa Schneider left the Institute to pursue an opportunity working with the government in Ottawa. Before assuming her new role, Lisa-Diane was the Institute's associate director of outreach programs, responsible for the Weston Awards, a responsibility she retains. She is joined in the Education Programs department by Lindsay Mitchell, who was promoted to associate director, Courtenay Vermeulen, promoted to coordinator, and Annabel Addington as program advisor.

### Student seminars

The student seminar program has university, college, and senior high school students in structured discussions of economic policy issues and competitive markets, providing them the opportunity to debate and interact with their peers on important topics.

During 2009, the Institute hosted 11 one-day seminars attracting more than 1,200 participants. Our post-secondary *Explore Public Policy Issues* student seminars featured presentations from



Karen Knelson, Cheryl Hunter, and Kate Jackman-Atkinson attend the 2009 Journalism Program in Vancouver.

leading policy experts. Seminars were held in Edmonton, Montreal, Vancouver, Victoria, and Prince George, with two shorter programs held in Toronto.

The high school student seminars *Why Do People Behave the Way They Do?* and *An Introduction to Economic Reasoning* were held in Victoria, Surrey, Vancouver, and Calgary. The programs feature a combination of short lectures, activities, and simulations that help students learn about economic principles and how to apply them to decision making. Approximately 200 students from local high schools attended each seminar.

For the fourth year, the Institute offered travel bursaries to students from outside our BC seminar locations so they could attend the Vancouver *Explore Public Policy Issues* seminar. The bursary provides air travel, two night's hotel accommodation, breakfast before the seminar, and a reception with the presenters after the seminar. This year, 45 students from high schools, colleges, and universities in all regions of British Columbia took advantage of the bursaries, double the number from 2008.

The seminars were made possible through the support and sponsorship of the Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation, ConocoPhillips, and EnCana Corporation.

### The Fraser Institute and Liberty Fund, Inc. co-sponsored Colloquia

The Fraser Institute and Liberty Fund, Inc. held a series of conferences for students and professionals in the third year of a joint co-sponsorship program. These colloquia follow a Liberty Fund-developed format of intense discussions based on a series of readings. In all, 32 advanced-level students, and 28 professionals from business, the media, academia, and other fields, participated in these programs. Topics explored in 2009 included public choice economics, Canadian liberalism, property rights, and the environment.

### Canadian Student Review

The *Canadian Student Review* is a quarterly student publication which provides a platform for up-and-coming writers to develop skills of communication and economic analysis and is a source for viewpoints on economic and public policy issues that are unlikely to be found in the typical campus newspaper. In 2009 more than 19,000 copies of each issue of *Canadian Student Review* were distributed to print and digital subscribers, as well as distributed on university and college campuses through a network of professors and student organizations.



## Fraser Institute Interns, 2009

### Student internship program

The Fraser Institute hired nine student interns to train as junior policy analysts and junior program staff in 2009. The students were selected through a competitive hiring process that attracted more than 300 applicants from across Canada and the United States. Paired with Fraser Institute analysts and program directors, the young scholars were given the opportunity to make a tangible and worthwhile contribution to the Institute's work. The interns represent a growing network of people who are informed and passionate about ideas and who are willing to translate the knowledge they have gained into a force to be reckoned with by policy makers and opinion leaders.

### Ask the Professor

An interactive web feature on [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org), *Ask the Professor* examines a new topic every month through the lens of economics, philosophy, history, and political thought. Following the release of a monthly article, students and others can participate in a live online chat with the professor, who answers questions and offers insights on topics such as the Great Depression, globalization, why socialism fails, and spontaneous order.



Vancouver interns: Breanna Bishop, Nachum Gabler, Patrick Gervais, and Carlos A. Murillo.

**Bacchus Barua,**  
Health Policy Studies

**Breanna Bishop**  
School Performance Studies

**Matt Brown,**  
Energy Policy Studies

**Miguel Cervantes,**  
Petroleum Survey

**Nachum Gabler,**  
Canada-US Relations

**Patrick Gervais,**  
International Centre for  
Entrepreneurship in Education

**Carlos A. Murillo,**  
Addington Centre; Fiscal Studies;  
Donner Awards

**Gillian Nation,**  
Children First: School Choice Trust

**Nevena Pencheva,**  
Energy Policy Studies

The program featured a long list of experts in 2009 including Don Boudreaux, Chairman of the Department of Economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia; Lawrence Reed, President of the Foundation for Economic Education in Irvington, New York; and William Watson, Chairman of the Department of Economics at McGill University in Montreal.

### Student essay contest

The annual essay contest challenges students to consider the role of economics in understanding and creating solutions for real world challenges while offering them the opportunity to be published in a national magazine. The topic of the 2009 student essay contest was "Economic Freedom and Global Prosperity." The contest garnered more than 130 entries from students at universities and high schools across Canada, the United States, and around the world. The contest was sponsored by the Manning Centre for Building Democracy. Entries were judged on several criteria, including an understanding of competitive markets,

originality of ideas, understanding of the issue, and clear expression of ideas.

The winners were:

**1st Place** (\$1,000):

Nikhil Joseph,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

**2nd Place** (\$500):

Michal Grzadkowski,  
Guelph, Ontario, Canada

**High school category** (\$250):

Mohamed Ilham B. Mohamed Salleh,  
Singapore

### Student video contest

The video contest is aimed at students who not only have an interest in public policy and economics, but who also have an interest in creative video production. We challenge these students to be "the next great documentary filmmaker" by researching, planning, and producing their own three-minute video. This year, young filmmakers were encouraged to explore the question, "What is the appropriate role of government in the economy?" This topic elicited 62 video submissions from 130 university and high school students across Canada and the United States, an increase of more than 300 percent over 2008. The contest was sponsored by the Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation.

A special Viewer's Choice award was awarded in each category to the videos with the highest rating on YouTube. All of this year's winning videos can be viewed at [www.YouTube.com/FraserInstitute](http://www.YouTube.com/FraserInstitute).

The winners were:

Post-Secondary Category

**1st Place** (\$2,000)

and **Viewer's Choice Award** (\$750):  
Mark Meranta and Terra Strong

**2nd Place** (\$1,500):

Brendan Conway-Smith

**3rd Place** (\$750):

Ty Mills, Kasper Woiceshyn,  
Robert Wensley, and Marc LeClair

### High School Category

**1st Place** (\$1,500): Lance Knight

**2nd Place** (\$1,000): Travis Knight

**3rd Place** (\$750): Jason Killion

**Viewer's Choice Award** (\$750):

Lucas McEachern, and Craig Draeger

## Student Bursaries

The Fraser Institute attempts to reach as many students as possible through our policy events. Consequently, the Institute offers bursaries for many of our events and conferences to local scholars who might otherwise find the registration fees prohibitive. Institute members who recognize the benefit of exposing students to these important policy events sponsor many of these students. This year \$21,255 in event bursaries enabled 81 students to participate in our programs.

## Programs for Teachers

Beginning in 2000, the Fraser Institute has offered school teachers a series of workshops on economic principles along with a teacher resource section on the Institute's website.

The Institute held three workshops for secondary school teachers in 2009 where 87 teachers received training and education on a variety of topics including basic economic principles, trade, and globalization.

With the Washington Council on Economic Education (WCEE), the Fraser Institute co-sponsored the annual teacher training workshop at the Canada-US border in Blaine, Washington, with both Canadian and American teachers in attendance. This year, the program focused on "The Wide World of Trade," seven short lectures providing teachers with resources which they can use to teach concepts of global interdependence, resources and trade, Canada-US trade, and challenges and obstacles in global commerce.

The popular Teacher Training Workshop

on Economic Principles was held in Victoria, BC, and the workshop reached a new market of eager teachers in Abbotsford, BC, selling out in June. This workshop is intended for new and experienced economics teachers, as well as those who want to incorporate economic principles into other courses. It provides participants with a number of lesson plans they can use to teach economics effectively. Many of the lessons incorporate games, simulations, and other ways to make economics fun and interesting for students. The teacher workshop program was supported through sponsorship from the Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation, the London Drugs Foundation, and the Washington Council on Economic Education.

## Teaching Resources

Use of the "For Teachers" section under the "Education Programs" tab of [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org) continues to grow. In 2009 it drew approximately 600 unique visitors each month for a yearly total of more than 7,000. Teachers and the general public can find economic glossaries, lesson plans, video/DVD recommendations, and other teaching tools in the "Classroom Resources" section. Strong endorsements of the site have come from educators who find the format and content useful.

## Journalism Program

In 2009, the Institute held its third journalism program: *Economics and Markets*. Sixteen emerging Canadian journalists with an interest in honing their economic reporting skills attended the week-long program in Vancouver. Through lectures and discussion within the small group, participants engaged in a forum of learning, questioning, and critical analysis of free-market thinking. The program was supported by sponsorships from Carter Management Co. and other donors. ■

## 2009

# Education Programs

### Student seminars:

#### **Explore Public Policy Issues**

January 31, Edmonton  
February 7, Montreal  
October 1, Toronto  
October 16, Victoria  
October 24, Vancouver  
November 4, Toronto  
November 20, Prince George

### High school seminars:

#### **Why Do People Behave the Way They Do? An Introduction to Economic Reasoning**

February 12, Victoria  
February 24, Vancouver  
September 23, Calgary  
October 2, Vancouver

## The Fraser Institute and Liberty Fund, Inc. co-sponsored colloquia

#### **January 22-25, Vancouver:**

"Liberty and Canadian Liberalism"  
(Professional Colloquium)

#### **March 26-29, Ottawa:**

"Liberty and the State: Understanding Government Failure"  
(Professional Colloquium)

#### **May 7-10, Montreal:**

"Liberty and Public Choice"  
(Student Colloquium)

#### **July 9-12, Vancouver:**

"Property Rights and the Environment"  
(Student Colloquium)

## Teacher workshops

#### **June 22, Abbotsford:**

"Economic Principles"

#### **October 22, Blaine WA:**

"The Wide World of Trade"

#### **November 13, Victoria:**

"Economic Principles"

## Economics and markets journalism seminar

**April 20-24, Vancouver**

## EVENTS

*A banner year, staging 132 events  
and hosting a record 7,886 guests*

The Fraser Institute Events department produces high quality events that promote and support the vision and mission of the Fraser Institute. The department is managed by Fiona Marshall White and supported by Heather Corbett and Trisha Girard.

The department had a banner year in 2009, staging 132 events and hosting a record 7,886 guests. These events included policy briefings, an influential speaker program, our specialty dinner programs (Illuminismo and Dialogues), our Behind the Spin cocktail speaker series, fundraising dinners, gala dinners, awards celebrations, and three unique policy excursions.

### Policy Briefings and Influential Speakers

Our cross-country Policy Briefings and Influential Speakers series events are the backbone of our events programming, providing a forum for a wide spectrum of public policy ideas. These events feature knowledgeable and well-respected experts and leaders presenting their ideas to an attentive, intimate audience. Topics in 2009 included the global economic crisis and the financial road ahead, health care, aboriginal policy, property rights, global warming and carbon taxing, the international rule of law, foreign affairs, international trade, and taxation in Canada.

### Behind the Spin

In 2009, Behind the Spin programs were available in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal. This program provides attendees with the opportunity to hear remarks from a topical speaker while chatting informally with others about the policy



Harley Hotchkiss, OC, and his wife Rebecca at the T. Patrick Boyle Founder's Award Gala in Calgary. Mr. Hotchkiss was honoured for his outstanding contributions to the energy sector, professional hockey, and health care philanthropy.

issue and networking over cocktails. An optional private dinner with the speaker follows at which time more in-depth debates are encouraged.

The topics discussed in 2009 included: parliamentary paralysis, the economic meltdown, Quebec's new political culture, Alberta's oil sands, labour challenges in Canada, free speech in Canada, this country's role in Afghanistan, the condition of Canada's health care system, the HST debate, and the future of Ontario's auto industry. The impressive line-up of speakers included journalists Paul Wells, Andrew Coyne, and Jonathan Kay, the Fraser Institute's Mark Mullins, Wilf Gobert, and Michael Walker, free speech advocate Ezra Levant, ethicist Margaret Somerville, Senator Mike Duffy, television personality Kevin O'Leary, and US ambassador David Wilkins.

### Illuminismo and Dialogues

The Vancouver Illuminismo conversation series and the Calgary and Toronto Dialogues conversation series are dinner events that provide an intellectually stimulating atmosphere where the audience can hear and ask

questions of esteemed speakers, enjoy a fine meal, and network with other guests in an intimate setting.

Speakers in 2009 included John Howard, former Australian prime minister; John Micklethwaite, editor-in-chief of *The Economist* magazine; and Lord Nigel Lawson, Britain's former chancellor of the exchequer.

### Other significant events

The TP Boyle Award galas are held to honour Canadians who exemplify the mission and philosophy of the Fraser Institute to an outstanding degree. Award recipients are recognized for their initiative and support of free markets and personal choice. In 2009, T.P. Boyle Awards were presented to Mr. Anthony Fell, former Chairman of RBC Markets; Mr. Peter Brown, Chairman of Canaccord Financial; and Mr. Harley Hotchkiss, OC.

In September we held the Alternative Medicine health care conference where experts in the field of alternative health care discussed best practices and the future of their industry.

October's highlight was a gala event hosted in Montreal to support the free trade



## FI People continued



Amela Karabegović  
Fiscal Studies



Diane Katz  
Environment & Energy



Margaret Kerr  
Development



Greg Krewski  
Development



Charles Lammam  
Fiscal Studies



Quebec Premier Jean Charest is congratulated by Mike Harris and Guy Tremblay after his presentation on Canadian-European trade at the Fraser Institute Montreal Gala.

initiative between Canada and the European Union. The event featured Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec and advocate of Canada-Europe free trade, as its keynote speaker.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canada Strong and Free gala dinner in Ottawa featured Lord Nigel Lawson discussing his book *An Appeal to Reason*. Lawson uses his book to examine the economics behind global warming and rebut the alarmist claims that man-made greenhouse gas emissions are causing the earth's temperature to rise precipitously.

### Policy excursions

Our popular policy excursion program began in February 2009 with our annual visit to Ottawa where we met with Canadian politicians and bureaucrats who shape policy. In June, attendees on the Institute's annual pilgrimage to Washington, DC, heard first-hand about the issues that are shaping the policy of the new US government just months into its mandate. The excursion included meetings at the US Federal Reserve, the US Supreme Court, the Pentagon, the US

Department of Energy, and the Canadian Embassy. In the fall we organized an excursion to Alberta's oil sands to see and hear first-hand the issues and challenges facing Canada's energy industry. We visited oil extraction and refining sites, and heard from industry experts and government officials. ■

Ezra Levant discusses his book, *Shakedown: Is Free Speech in Canada under Attack?* during a Behind the Spin event in Vancouver.



# 2009 EVENTS

CALGARY		
January 13	Dr. Henry Lyatsky, President, Lyatsky Geoscience Research & Consulting Ltd.	Should the Moratorium on BC Offshore Exploration be Lifted?
January 21	Mark Mullins, Executive Director, Fraser Institute Jack Mintz, School of Policy Studies, University of Calgary Frank Atkins, Department of Economics, University of Calgary	The New Financial Picture
February 19	Mark Mullins (in Edmonton)	Canada's Economic Relations with China (colloquium)
February 24	Wilf Gobert, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Alberta Oil Sands: What if the Engine Stalls?
March 16	Stephen Easton, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Measuring the True Costs of Crime
April 7	Ezra Levant, author and former publisher, <i>Western Standard</i>	Shakedown: Is Free Speech in Canada Under Attack?
April 8	Niels Veldhuis, Director of Fiscal Studies, Fraser Institute	Alberta Budget 2009: The Right Course?
April 29	Paul Hunt, Canada's Ambassador to Brazil	Canada-Brazil Relations
May 12	Michael Walker, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	In Defence of Capitalism
June 4	Nadeem Esmail, Director, Health System Performance Studies, Fraser Institute	Shuffling Deck Chairs on the Titanic? A Look at Health Care Reform in Alberta
June 24	Gerry Angevine, Senior Economist, Fraser Institute Centre for Energy Policy Studies	Global Petroleum Survey 2009 (survey release)
July 22	Nadeem Esmail	Alberta Hospital Report Card 2009 (study release)
September 9	Steve Moore, senior economics writer, <i>Wall Street Journal</i>	The Green Dream of Cap and Trade: A Red Ink Nightmare
September 13		Oil Sands Policy Excursion
September 23	Mercedes Stephenson, journalist and political analyst	Kandahar and the Home Front
October 6	Lord Nigel Lawson	The Really Inconvenient Truth About Global Warming
November 3	Nadeem Esmail	Dollars and Sense: How Health Care Cuts can Help Alberta's Flatlining Economy
November 5	Peter Cowley, Director of School Performance Studies, Fraser Institute	Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education
November 30	Harley Hotchkiss, OC	TP Boyle Founders Award Gala, Calgary
MONTREAL		
January 22	Simon Potter, Lawyer, McCarthy Tetreault	Milking the Canadian Consumer
February 12	Mark Mullins	Market Meltdown: Understanding 300 Years of Credit Crises
February 18	André Pratte, Editor-in-chief, La Presse	Towards a New Political Culture in Quebec
March 11	Serge Godin, Founder and Executive Chairman of the Board, CGI, and Judith Woodsworth, President and Vice-Chancellor, Concordia University	"Help Wanted" Labour Challenges in Quebec and Canada
March 31	Jean-François Minardi, Senior Policy Analyst, Fraser Institute, and Diane Katz, Director of Risk, Regulation, and the Environment, Fraser Institute	Assessing the Environment: The Good, the Bad, and the Dubious
April 22	Peter Cowley	Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education
May 5	Charles Sirois, Chairman and CEO, Telesystems, and Mr. Robert Calderisi, former World Bank Spokesman for Africa	Enabling Africa: From Dependency to Self-Reliance
May 7	Edward J. Lopez, Associate Professor of Law and Economics, San Jose State University	Why Good Economics is Often Bad Politics
October 1	Jean Charest, Premier, Province of Quebec	Toward a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Canada and the European Union (Gala Dinner)
October 22	Ezra Levant	Shakedown: Is Free Speech in Canada Under Attack?
October 27	Nadeem Esmail	Canada's Failing Medicare System and What We Should Do to Fix It
November 18	Djemila Benhabib, author, and Julius Grey, law professor	Multiculturalism and Displays of Religious Symbols: Is there a Concern?

OTTAWA		
February 9-11		Ottawa Policy Excursion
February 11	Mark Mullins	Market Meltdown: Understanding 300 Years of Credit Crises
March 25	Nigel Hannaford, journalist, <i>Calgary Herald</i> and Ezra Levant	Is Free Speech in Canada Under Attack?
April 22	Dr. Robert Ouellet, Executive Director, Canadian Medical Association	Condition Critical: The Future of Canadian Healthcare
May 12	Mark Mullins and Neils Veldhuis	Economics 101 (A seminar for MPs and their staff)
October 5	Lord Nigel Lawson and Mike Harris, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Canada Strong & Free: The Really Inconvenient Truth About Global Warming
October 29	United States Ambassador to Canada, David Wilkins, and Alex Moens, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Obama: The Year in Review
November 18	Mayor Zehr, Mayor of Kitchener and Mayor O'Brien, Mayor of Ottawa	Mayors' Mission: Promoting Prosperity in Big Canadian Cities
December 2	Colonel D. Michael Day, Commander of Canadian Special Operations Forces (CANSOFCOM)	Tackling Terrorists: A Look Inside Canada's Special Operations Forces
TORONTO		
January 20	Paul Wells, columnist, <i>Maclean's</i>	Canada's Minority Meltdown
February 4	John Howard, former Prime Minister of Australia	Grand Chessboard: Global Politics and Policy
February 13	Mark Mullins	Market Meltdown: Global Threat or China's Next Great Leap Forward?
February 17	Andrew Coyne, national editor, <i>Maclean's</i> and Jonathan Kay, columnist, <i>National Post</i>	Ontario: Safety State or Nanny State?
March 31	Dr. Margaret Somerville, Professor, McGill University and Tim Caulfield, Professor, University of Alberta	Ethical Debate on the Merits of Embryonic Stem Cell Research
April 7	Peter Cowley	Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education
May 27	Tony Fell, former Chairman, RBC Capital Markets	TP Boyle Founders Award Gala, Toronto
June 25	Gerry Nicholls, Senior Fellow, Democracy Institute	Loyal to the Core
September 29	Kevin O'Leary, Board Member, Genstar Capital	Slightly Right of Attila the Hun
October 1	Nadeem Esmail	Student Seminar
October 2	Nadeem Esmail	Dollars and Sense: How Health Care Cuts can Help Alberta's Flatlining Economy
October 16	Karina Wood, Program Manager, Donner Awards Program, Fraser Institute	2009 Donner Canadian Foundation Awards for Excellence in the Delivery of Social Services
October 20	Fred McMahon, Director of the Centre for Globalization Studies, Fraser Institute and Sarah Kutulakos, Executive Director, Canada China Business Council	Economic Freedom of the World Annual Report book release
November 4	Ezra Levant and Stephen LeDrew, former President of the Liberal Party	Is Free Speech in Canada Under Attack?
December 2	Dennis DesRosiers, auto industry analyst	Left in the Dust: The Future of Ontario's Auto Industry
VANCOUVER		
January 15	Preston Manning, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Canada's Budget 2009: A Fork in the Road?
January 19	Mark Mullins	Market Meltdown: Global Threat or China's Next Great Leap Forward?
February 2	John Howard	Grand Chessboard: Global Politics and Policy
February 3	John Howard	Grand Chessboard: Global Politics and Policy (Breakfast Briefing)
February 23	Doug Hyndman, Chair, BC Securities Commission	Reforming Canadian Securities Regulations: Opportunities and Risks
March 6	Ted Malloch, Chairman and CEO, The Roosevelt Group, and Chairman and Founder, Spiritual Enterprise Institute	Free to Choose: The Link Between Economics and Religion



VANCOUVER 2009 Events continued

March 31	Ezra Levant	Shakedown: Is Free Speech in Canada under Attack?
April 2	Brigadier-General Denis Thompson, Commander of the Canadian and NATO Forces, Kandahar	The Struggle for Kandahar: Are Canadians Making a Difference in Afghanistan?
April 21	David Emerson, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mark Mullins	Canada China Trade Relations
April 27	John Micklethwaite, Editor in Chief, <i>The Economist</i>	An Evening with the Editor in Chief of <i>The Economist</i>
May 7	Michael Walker	Fraser Institute AGM Luncheon: The Great Collapse of 2009
June 3	Michael Walker	In Defence of Capitalism
June 16	Ross Hornby, Canada's Ambassador to the European Union	Is Free Trade with Europe on the Horizon?
June 24	Mike Duffy, Senator, Canadian Parliament	Are the Conservatives being "Conservative"?
July 9	Jason Clemens, Director of Research, Pacific Research Institute	Assessing Obama's First 6 Months: What Does the Future Hold?
September 3	Commander Craig Baines, Canadian Navy	Patrolling for Pirates: Canada's Role in Securing International Waters
September 10	Erin Chutter, Political Commentator, and Moe Sihota, former New Democratic Party MLA	Boiling Point: The HST Shake-up in BC and the Employment Insurance Debate in Ottawa
September 26	Nadeem Esmail	Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Canada (conference)
October 6	Christopher Monckton, Viscount Monckton of Brenchley	Apocalypse Cancelled: The Overheated Hype behind Global Warming
October 7	Lord Nigel Lawson	The Really Inconvenient Truth About Global Warming
October 16	Calvin Helin, aboriginal lawyer	Dances with Dependency
October 16	Michael Walker	The Great Collapse of 2009
October 23	Jock Finlayson, Executive Vice President of Policy, BC Business Council, and Niels Vieldhuis	The Bottom Line: Is the HST Good for BC?
October 29	Herbert Grubel, Senior Fellow, Fraser Institute	Immigration Nation: Weighing the Consequences of Mass Immigration
November 2	General Walt Natynczyk, Chief of the Defence Staff	The Canadian Forces Today and Tomorrow: An Evening with the Chief of the Defence Staff
November 10	Phelim McAleer, Producer, <i>Not Evil Just Wrong</i>	Film Release: <i>Not Evil Just Wrong: The True Cost of Global Warming Hysteria</i>
November 18	Michael Walker	Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education
November 23	Peter Brown, Chairman of the Board, Canaccord Capital Corporation	TP Boyle Founders Award Gala, Vancouver
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>		
June 2 - 4	Washington DC	2009 Washington Policy Excursion
Sep 30 - Oct 2	Wroclaw, Poland	"Economic Freedom in Times of Crisis": Economic Freedom of the World Network Annual Conference
November 13-14	Morocco	"Economic Freedom and Social Justice": Arab Economic Freedom of the World Conference



Lord Lawson (centre) and Fraser Institute supporters Tony Sessions and his daughter Amber at a Vancouver Illuminismo event.

# PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Fraser Institute's Publications department is responsible for turning research projects into clear, attractive documents that look good in print and on the computer screen. The department handles all the necessary editing, typesetting, and design for the wide variety of materials the Institute produces. Our goal is to ensure that each publication has a consistent Fraser Institute brand and is produced as cost-effectively as possible.

In 2009, the department, under the direction of Kristin McCahon and with the assistance of Lindsey Martin, production editor, Kristin Fryer, managing editor of *Fraser Forum*, Kendal Egli, editor/typesetter, and Bill Ray, art director, produced 67 publications, including 10 issues of the Institute's policy magazine, *Fraser Forum*, two issues of our French-language magazine *Perspectives*, and four issues of *Canadian Student Review*. David Zheng capably handled book sales and shipping, and staffed our book display at Institute events.

## Fraser Forum

*Fraser Forum* is the Institute's monthly magazine of critical thought and public policy. It continues to serve as one of our main vehicles for communicating with the policy community, supporters, and the news media. Policy analysts from within the Institute, as well as external writers, contribute the 12 to 15 articles that make up each issue. Each *Fraser Forum* issue has a specific focus and contains three to six articles

on the focus topic, which in 2009 included pharmaceutical policy, green energy, Canada-US relations, taxation, health policy, the environment, the labour market, Canada's road to economic recovery, economic freedom, and education policy.

Many of the articles contain original research and are frequently reprinted by news media outlets across Canada. About 6,500 copies of *Fraser Forum* are printed monthly and are distributed to our supporters, the media, academic exchanges, politicians, and selected

material from *Fraser Forum*, and adds in articles pertinent to our Quebec and francophone audience. About 4,000 copies of the magazine were created, printed, and distributed in the spring and fall of 2009.

## Fraser Frontline

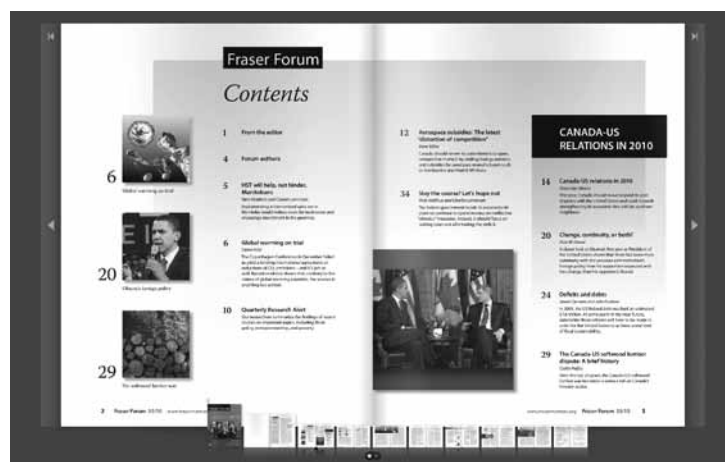
Each year, the Institute produces four issues of *Fraser Frontline*, a newsy update that shows supporters how their donations are helping the Institute influence public policy. The four-page newsletter profiles significant research successes, introduces key analysts, and highlights the impact our work has had on public policy in Canada and around the world. To obtain a copy, contact Evan Rodwell, manager of annual giving, at (604) 688-0221 ext. 587.

## Insight

Another newsletter distributed quarterly is *Fraser Insight*, overseen by Alan Dowd, Fraser Institute senior fellow and editor of [www.fraseramerica.org](http://www.fraseramerica.org). The newsletter is produced in digital format only and is e-mailed to US residents interested in Fraser Institute work. *Fraser Insight* summarizes pertinent research of interest to an American audience, offering public policy solutions from an independent voice.

## 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Fraser Institute marked its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009 with a commemorative full-colour book entitled *35 Big*



The new look of *Fraser Forum* online.

news stands in British Columbia. In 2009, Kristin Fryer and Bill Ray revitalized the appearance of *Fraser Forum* by adjusting the typeface, adding graphics, and making it available on our website in a new reader-friendly format.

## Perspectives

*Perspectives* is the Institute's French-language public policy magazine. Launched in 2008, *Perspectives* is an attractive, full-colour magazine that contains French translations of some of the best and most applicable mate-

## Our goal is a consistent Fraser Institute brand and cost-effective production

*Ideas*, designed by art director Bill Ray. The book provides highlights from the Institute's 35-year history of remarkable policy ideas. Printing costs were raised through the sale of advertisements and the book was distributed to Institute audiences throughout the year.

### Implementing new technologies

Technology continues to evolve, constantly influencing and changing the way we communicate and share ideas. The Publications department is constantly seeking ways of keeping up with these advances in technology

by using the new tools available to produce our documents in diverse formats. In 2009 we implemented a "page turn" version of *Fraser Forum* on [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org).

But while technological change can be rapid, it is often fraught with uncertainty. Witness the recent growth in popularity of electronic book readers such as the Kindle. While the Publications department is monitoring these technologies with an eye to making our research publications available through them, we must also remain cognizant of the market forces at work to ensure our resources are expended wisely and that we select the dominant technology in the marketplace.

### Information technology

None of the Fraser Institute's research or outreach would be possible without a vibrant IT department. All of the technical needs of our offices are smoothly managed by Oliver Wu, senior systems administrator. During 2009, Oliver upgraded our computing power and implemented a new phone system to replace our obsolete and inadequate equipment. The upgrades have enabled us to improve the efficiency of our operations while reducing long-distance telephone costs. ■

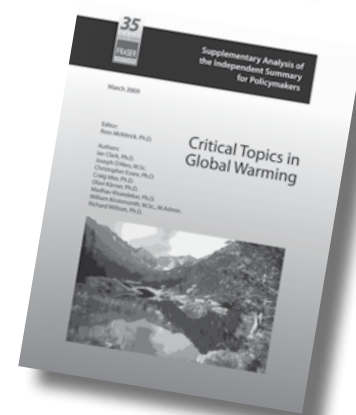
## Publication List 2009

### Books

January 9	A New Look at Canadian Indian Policy	Gordon Gibson
September 14	Economic Freedom of the World 2009	James Gwartney and Robert Lawson, assisted by Joshua Hall
September 21	Canadian Health Policy Failures	Brett J. Skinner
September 30	The Effects of Mass Immigration on Canadian Living Standards and Society	Herbert Grubel
November 15	Economic Freedom of the Arab World: 2009 Annual Report (published in digital form only)	Fred McMahon, Amela Karabegović and Salem Ben Nasser Al-Ismaily

### Monographs

January 7	The Economic Effects of Increasing British Columbia's Minimum Wage	Niels Veldhuis and Keith Godin
February 9	A Comparative Analysis of Mortality Rates Associated with Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) Surgery in Ontario and Select US States	Michael Walker, Nadeem Esmail, and Maureen Hazel
February 12	Myths and Realities of TILMA	Robert Knox and Amela Karabegović
February 18	Check the Numbers: The Case for Due Diligence in Policy Formation	Ross McKittrick and Bruce McCullough
February 19	Saskatchewan Prosperity: Building on Success	Niels Veldhuis, Milagros Palacios, Charles Lammam, and Alex Gainer
February 19	Canada's Economic Relations with China	Raaj Tiagi and Lu Zhou







March 3	Alberta Electricity Transmission Policy for the Next Generation	Gerry Angevine and Andrew Boik
March 12	Hospital Report Card: Ontario 2009	Nadeem Esmail and Maureen Hazel
April 21	Critical Topics in Global Warming	Ross McKittrick, editor
May 6	Official Language Policies at the Federal Level in Canada: Costs and Benefits in 2006	François Vaillancourt and Olivier Coche
May 23	Hospital Report Card: British Columbia 2009	Nadeem Esmail and Maureen Hazel
May 28	The Economic Well-Being of Canadians: Is there a Growing Gap?	Christopher Sarlo
June 15	Measuring Parliament's Attitude towards Canada-US Cooperation	Alexander Moens and Nachum Gabler
June 18	Hospital Report Card: Alberta 2009	Nadeem Esmail and Maureen Hazel
July 8	Institutions, Economic Growth, and the "Curse" of Natural Resources	Amela Karabegović
July 20	The Regulation of Health Claims in Advertising for Functional Foods and Natural Health Products in Canada and United States	Mark Brosens
August 17	Access Delayed, Access Denied: Waiting for New Medicines in Canada 2009	Brett J. Skinner and Mark Rovere
August 25	Labour Relations Laws in Canada and the United States, 2009 Edition	Niels Veldhuis, Amela Karabegović, and Alex Gainer
September 3	Measuring Labour Markets in Canada and the United States 2009 Edition	Niels Veldhuis, Amela Karabegović, Milagros Palacios, and Alex Gainer
September 10	Unnatural Regulation: Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy in Canada	Cynthia Ramsay
October 19	The BC Agricultural Land Reserve: A Critical Assessment	Diane Katz
October 22	Economic Freedom and the "Resource Curse" An Empirical Analysis	Louis-Philippe Beland and Raaj Tiagi
October 29	Waiting Your Turn: Hospital Waiting Lists in Canada, 19th Edition	Nadeem Esmail
November 30	Paying More, Getting Less: 2009 Report	Brett J. Skinner and Mark Rovere
December 3	Canadian Provincial Investment Climate: 2009 Report	Niels Veldhuis, Milagros Palacios, Charles Lammam, and Alex Gainer
December 17	Development in US States, Economic Freedom, and the "Resource Curse"	Joab Corey

### School Report Cards

February 7	Report Card on British Columbia's Elementary Schools 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
March 1	Report Card on Ontario's Elementary Schools 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
March 8	Report Card on Alberta's Elementary Schools 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
April 19	Report Card on Ontario's Secondary Schools 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
May 6	Report Card on Washington State's Elementary Schools 2009	Diana Cieslak, Peter Cowley, and Stephen T. Easton
June 14	Report Card on Alberta's High Schools 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
June 17	Report Card on Secondary Schools in British Columbia and Yukon 2009	Peter Cowley and Stephen T. Easton
September 3	Report Card on Washington's High School 2009	Diana Cieslak, Peter Cowley, and Michael Thomas
September 3	Report Card on Washington's Middle Schools 2009	Diana Cieslak, Peter Cowley, and Michael Thomas

## FI People *continued*

Short digital publications (Fraser Alerts)		
February 10	What does the Future Hold for Quebec Agriculture?	Jean-François Minardi
April 28	Taxes versus the Necessities of Life: The Canadian Consumer Tax Index, 2009	Niels Veldhuis and Milagros Palacios
June 6	Canadians Celebrate Tax Freedom Day on June 6	Niels Veldhuis and Milagros Palacios
July 7	Health Insurance and Bankruptcy Rates in Canada and the United States	Brett J. Skinner and Mark Rovere
November 27	Corporate Welfare Breaks the \$200-billion Mark: An Update on 13 Years of Business Subsidies in Canada	Mark Milke
December 14	Generosity in Canada and the United States: The 2009 Generosity Index	Niels Veldhuis, Charles Lamnam, and Alex Gainer
Surveys		
February 28	The Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies: 2008/2009	Fred McMahon and Miguel Cervantes
June 24	Global Petroleum Survey 2009	Gerry Angevine, Miguel Cervantes, and Matthew Brown
Other significant publications		
	2008 Annual Report Climate Science Lesson Plan 35th Anniversary book	

All of the publications listed above are available free of charge on our website. Print editions of selected publications can also be purchased through the website. To find a research publication, go to [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org). Choose the “Research and Publications” tab. Select “Research topics” and either select the relevant topic, or search for a specific publication using the “Find Publications” button on the right-hand side of your screen.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Communication is central to the Fraser Institute’s mission. Our continuing success hinges on our ability to connect local, national, and global audiences with the Institute’s first-class research—and to evolve these efforts using the latest available tools.

Publicizing the Institute’s ideas and research is the responsibility of the Institute’s Communications department. Led by Dean Pelkey, communications director, the team consisting of Kendal Egli, media relations coordinator; Raeann English, media relations specialist; Wendy Mills, Internet content manager; and Cheryl Rutledge, web publisher, had a banner year in 2009, setting all-time highs for the amount of news media coverage of the Institute, the number of commentar-

ies placed, amount of traffic to Fraser Institute websites, and use of new social media tactics such as Twitter and Facebook.

As in past years, our primary focus remained on engaging the news media with our research and events. The mainstream media continues to be one of the most effective vehicles for spreading our critical ideas on public policy not only to policy makers and politicians, but also millions of ordinary people worldwide. At the same time, we are seeing a shift in consumer habits as more and more people choose to obtain their news via the Internet and we are adjusting our focus accordingly.

In 2009, the Communications department wrote and distributed 264 news releases and media advisories about



Fiona Marshall White  
*Events*



Lindsey Martin  
*Publications*



Olga Mazo  
*School Performance*



John Maus  
*Development*



Kristin McCahon  
*Publications*

## FI People continued



Alexandra McGregor  
*Children First:  
School Choice Trust*



Fred McMahon  
*Trade & Globalization*



Wendy Mills  
*Communications*



Jean-François Minardi  
*Trade & Globalization*



Lindsay Mitchell  
*Education Programs*

*More than 900 Twitter users—including senior politicians from all parties—are following the Fraser Institute and receiving daily updates on our ideas and research*

the Institute's research and activities—the equivalent of sending one item to the news media every 1.38 days. These efforts resulted in a huge increase in media coverage over previous years, making 2009 our all-time best for media engagement.

In total, the Institute was mentioned in 10,933 news stories on TV, radio, in newspapers, and on various websites. Of this total, 5,995 media mentions—approximately 55 percent—came from various websites. Altogether, our number of media hits increased an astounding 51 percent over the number generated in 2008 and is the equivalent of about 30 news items mentioning the Fraser Institute appearing in print, broadcast, and online every day of the year.

Our efforts to better optimize news releases for Internet search engines also led to an unprecedented hike in the number of visitors to our websites. The Institute's 11 different websites garnered more than 9.6 million page views, an increase of more than 50 percent compared to 2008. Additionally, our websites attracted 806,929 unique visitors in 2009. Our efforts to optimize all news releases for the Internet as well as our interactions with audiences on the "social media" networks Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube—all invaluable platforms for spreading ideas to Internet users worldwide—contributed to the increased interest in Fraser Institute websites in 2009.

Popular with people of all ages, the Twitter micro-blogging application allows individuals to share information with customized networks made up of people and organizations around the world. In 2009, more than 900

Twitter users—including a number of senior politicians from all parties across Canada—were receiving daily "tweets" (concise text-based updates) about the Institute's latest ideas and activities, and sharing these notices with their own networks of Twitter users.

On Facebook, more than 630 users joined the Institute's "fan page" in 2009 to connect with our research and interact with other friends of the Institute worldwide. This popular social networking site allows us to share information about upcoming events, student seminars, recent research, and videos. Every day, Facebook users comment on Institute activities and alert their own Facebook friends about our ideas, events, and multimedia projects.

In addition, our YouTube channel grew considerably in 2009, offering more than 70 Institute-produced videos which, in total, have been viewed in excess of 70,000 times. These concise, educational programs include Fraser TV reports on Institute research, as well as one-on-one interviews with notable figures such as Preston Manning, Lord Nigel Lawson, John Howard, and Ezra Levant, among others. Additionally, audio transcripts and slideshows from some Institute events in 2009 are available at: [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org).

Because of our social media and Internet-focused efforts, more people around the world are discussing and sharing Institute ideas than ever before. The total online audience of all internet mentions of the Fraser Institute was estimated at 4.4 billion in 2009. Within Canada, our print, radio, and TV media coverage reached a total audience of 249 million people and is the equivalent of buying \$8.4 million in advertising.





In 2009 we produced a series of videos on YouTube that poke fun at climate change alarmism and encourage people to Question the Hype around global warming.



Alexander Moens  
Senior Fellow

Newspaper commentaries—or op-eds, as they are known in the trade—continue to play an indispensable role in sharing our ideas with the public and pointing out poor policy decisions made by governments of all stripes. In 2009, we placed 328 op-eds in newspapers across Canada and the United States—an increase of 65 items over 2008. This is the equivalent of having a Fraser Institute commentary published in a newspaper almost every day of the year. A number of these articles were also posted on a variety of media websites, including such heavily trafficked sites as **www.nationalpost.com**, **www.torontostar.com**,

**www.vancouversun.com**, and **www.ottawacitizen.com**, among others.

Our electronic newsletter, *Fraser Update*, continued to garner strong support from subscribers, whose numbers grew to more than 6,700 in 2009. This newsletter is sent monthly via email and offers subscribers a convenient summary of the Institute’s latest research, events, and activities. Its new easier-to-read design was introduced in fall 2009. Anyone can subscribe at **www.fraserinstitute.org** to receive Fraser Update every month, free of charge. ■



Clare Olmstead  
Development



Milagros Palacios  
Fiscal Studies

## 2009 Media Mentions

### by Research Department

Health Care	2,278
Fiscal Studies	2,023
School Performance Studies	1,947
Trade and Globalization	1,721
Senior Fellows	737
Miscellaneous	593
Events	404
Energy	339
Environment, Regulation, & Risk	318
Pharmaceutical Policy	204
Montreal	153
Education Programs	125
Measurement Centre	111
Foreign Clippings	85
Education Policy	25
Insurance	15

### Fraser Institute websites

**www.fraserinstitute.org**  
**www.fraseramerica.org**  
**www.institutfraser.org**  
**www.compareschoolrankings.org**  
**www.schoolchains.org**  
**www.forexcellenceineducation.org**  
**www.hospitalreportcards.ca**  
**www.freetheworld.com**  
**www.irfoman.org**  
**www.childrenfirstgrants.ca**  
**www.donnerawards.org**



Dean Pelkey  
Communications

### Fraser Institute social networks

**www.twitter.com/fraserinstitute**  
**www.facebook.com/pages/The-Fraser-Institute/123235041462**  
**www.youtube.com/fraserinstitute**



Michael Perri  
Finance & Accounting

# 2009 FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

Total income for the Fraser Institute including donations, sales of publications, interest, and other income for the year 2009 amounted to **\$12,814,746**.

## General Support

As of December 31, 2009, the Institute recorded 3,691 supporters from Canada, the US, and around the world. Individuals and organizations are invited to support the Institute's work through tax-receiptable contributions in one of six support categories. Donors in our top giving circles receive special invitations for excursions, private dinners, and other events.

Donors of \$100 or more receive *Fraser Forum*, the Institute's monthly magazine of critical thought. Throughout the year all donors are informed of upcoming events in their area and receive our quarterly newsletter, *Fraser Frontline*, which shows how their contribution is helping the Institute improve public policy in Canada and internationally.

## Special Project Support

During the year the Institute approached prospective donors to support hundreds of specific projects in various policy areas as well as education programs across the country.

## Sponsorships

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available for special Institute events including dinners, policy briefings, special events, *Fraser Forum*, and *Canadian Student Review*.

## Publications

In 2009, the Institute released 67 publications in print and digital format.

Our publications are available free of charge on the Institute's website at [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org). Print versions of Institute publications can also be purchased through the Institute's website with all revenues going towards further research. Special large volume discounts are available for stores, libraries, and universities. For details call David Zheng at 1-800-665-3558 ext. 580, or e-mail [sales@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:sales@fraserinstitute.org).

## Direct Mail Campaigns

The Institute conducts a direct mail acquisition program to explain our work to prospective new supporters. In 2009 this program brought in 782 new supporters whose gifts totaled \$120,979.

## Fraser Frontline

In 2009 the Institute published four editions of *Fraser Frontline*, a periodic newsletter for supporters that demonstrates how their support of the Institute is helping to improve public policy in Canada and around the world. Institute friends generously contributed an additional \$240,564 in support of programs highlighted in *Frontline*.

## Bequests

To discuss how you can make a contribution to the Fraser Foundation or set up a special fund, please contact Anthony Stewart, Development Associate, at 604-688-0221, ext. 557.

## How You Can Help

For information on how you can make a donation to support the Institute's research, please e-mail:

[development@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:development@fraserinstitute.org) or call toll free 1-800-665-3558 ext. 590, or directly call:

**Sherry Stein**,  
Chief Development Officer,  
604-714-4590

**John Maus**, Director,  
Business Development,  
Ontario, 416-363-6575, ext. 232

**Clare Olmstead**,  
Business Development Manager,  
Alberta, 403-216-7175, ext. 227

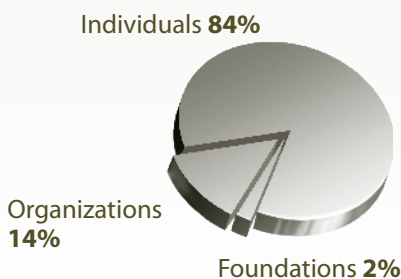
**Anthony Stewart**,  
Business Development Manager,  
British Columbia, 604-688-0221, ext. 557

**Sebastien Côté**,  
Business Development Manager,  
Quebec, 514-281-9550, ext. 305 ■

*Charitable receipts given in accordance with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and United States (IRS) guidelines.*

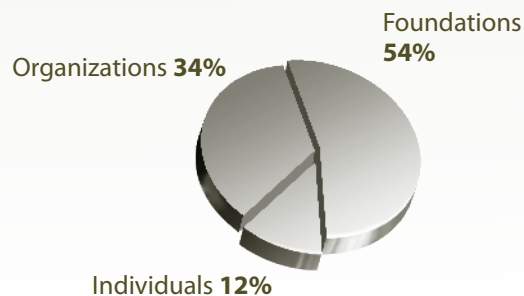
### Fraser Institute Supporters

December 31, 2009



### Fraser Institute Dollar Contributions

December 31, 2009



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2009

- The Fraser Institute's net assets position as at December 31, 2009 was **\$1,029,414**.
- Gross revenues for 2009 amounted to **\$12,814,746**, representing a decrease of 7.6% over 2008.
- Gross expenditures for 2009 amounted to **\$12,808,690**, representing a decrease of 7.4% over 2008.
- The net operating surplus was **\$6,056** for the year.

The Fraser Institute's financial position and operating results for the 2009 year are as follows:

## Statement of Financial Position – summary as at December 31, 2009

	\$
Current assets	2,163,691
Investments	1,032,053
Property and equipment	1,026,207
	<b><u>4,221,951</u></b>
Liabilities - current and long term	3,192,537
Net assets	1,029,414
	<b><u>4,221,951</u></b>

## Statement of Operating Results – summary for the year ended December 31, 2009

	\$
Revenues	
Donations, sales of publications, annual dues, interest and other income	12,814,746
Expenses	
Salaries, office costs, projects, Publications and other net expenses	12,808,690
Increase in unrestricted net assets from Operations	<b><u>6,056</u></b>

## FI People *continued*



Bill C. Ray  
*Publications*



Evan Rodwell  
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*Health Policy*



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Michael Thomas  
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School Choice Trust



Niels Veldhuis  
Fiscal Studies

## INSTITUT FRASER

### Au service du grand public francophone

Depuis son ouverture en 2007, le bureau de l'Institut Fraser à Montréal a joué un rôle essentiel dans la communication de nos études et de nos idées au Québec. Il a également accueilli certains des événements les plus populaires de l'Institut.

En 2009, Sébastien Côté a pris la relève de la direction du bureau à titre de directeur associé, Québec et la Francophonie. L'équipe de Montréal est complétée par Jean-François Minardi, analyste sénior des politiques publiques et Miguel Cervantes, économiste.

En octobre, lors du dîner de gala annuel du bureau de Montréal, plus de 320 personnes ont écouté Jean Charest, premier ministre du Québec, traiter de l'importance pour le Canada de signer un accord de libre-échange avec l'Union européenne. Le premier ministre a salué l'Institut Fraser, qui a été premier à affirmer l'importance de conclure un accord de libre-échange avec les États-Unis au début des années 1980.

Parmi les autres programmes et événements marquants de 2009, on compte également la deuxième remise des prix Garfield Weston, qui soulignent la performance exceptionnelle d'écoles québécoises. Plusieurs séances d'information ont porté sur des enjeux stratégiques, dont l'examen de la crise financière par Mark Mullins, Ph. D., et l'analyse de l'avenir du secteur agricole du Québec par Me Simon Potter. Notre série de conférences à Montréal, Ça se discute, a également attiré nombre de participants. L'une des plus populaires de la série a été le débat entre Robert Calderisi, auteur, économiste et ancien porte-parole pour l'Afrique à la Banque mondiale, et Charles Sirois, président et chef de la direction de Telesystem et

cofondateur d'Enablis, sur l'échec de l'aide étrangère en Afrique.

Les travaux de l'Institut dans le domaine de la fiscalité ont continué à attirer beaucoup d'attention partout dans la province, le Québec ayant été la huitième province canadienne à atteindre sa journée de l'affranchissement de l'impôt en 2009. Nos études sur les soins de santé et l'exploitation minière au Québec, qui soulignaient l'importance de ces secteurs sur la société québécoise, ont également retenu l'attention.

Selon la 19<sup>e</sup> étude annuelle de l'Institut sur les temps d'attente dans les hôpitaux, *Waiting Your Turn*, le Québec s'est classé troisième parmi les provinces canadiennes quant au délai le plus court entre le moment où un patient est vu par un médecin généraliste et celui où il est traité par un spécialiste. Par ailleurs, le Québec offre le meilleur environnement au monde pour l'investissement minier, comme l'a souligné notre sondage mondial des sociétés minières. Enfin, nous avons publié une étude sur les coûts et les avantages des politiques fédérales en matière de langues officielles.

Les événements que nous avons organisés et les études que nous avons publiées ont continué de susciter l'intérêt des médias québécois. ARGENT, chaîne de télévision par câble francophone spécialisée en affaires et en finance, a couvert la présentation de Mark Mullins sur la récession économique, et plusieurs journaux, dont *Le Devoir* et *Le Journal de Montréal*, ont suivi de près nos travaux en 2009. Les études et les événements du bureau de Montréal ont totalisé plus de 200 mentions dans les médias (écrite et électronique) et sur le Web.



Grâce au soutien de Quebecor Media, nous avons également publié deux numéros exceptionnels de *Perspectives*, notre magazine de langue française traitant d'enjeux publics. Le numéro d'automne contenait notamment la transcription d'un entretien avec Pascal Salin, économiste libéral français et professeur émérite d'économie à l'Université Paris-Dauphine.

L'Institut Fraser tient à communiquer avec le public québécois, qui représente un cinquième de la population du Canada. Ses taux d'imposition étant parmi les plus élevés en Amérique du Nord et son secteur public, proportionnellement le plus important au pays, le Québec a beaucoup à gagner des études de l'Institut sur la liberté économique, et sur les avantages découlant du libre marché et de la réduction de l'intervention gouvernementale. ■

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**T**he Fraser Institute's Montreal office opened in 2007 and continues to play an integral role in communicating our research and ideas to Quebec as well as hosting some of the Institute's most successful events.

In 2009, Sebastien Cote took over as associate director of Quebec and la Francophonie. The Montreal office is rounded out by Jean-François Minardi, senior policy analyst, and Miguel Cervantes, economist.

In October, the Montreal office hosted its annual gala dinner, attracting more than 320 guests to hear Quebec Premier Jean Charest discuss the importance of a free trade agreement between Canada and the European Union. Premier Charest lauded the Fraser Institute for being the first to assert the importance of a free trade agreement with the United States in the early 1980s.

Other successful programs and events in 2009 included the second ever Garfield Weston Awards honouring outstanding Quebec schools, and numerous policy briefings on critical issues. Among the highlights were an examination of the financial crisis with Dr. Mark Mullins, and a look at the future of Quebec's agricultural sector with Simon Potter. Our cocktail speaker series, *Ça se Discute*, garnered strong support in Montreal with one of the most popular topics being a debate on the failure of foreign aid in Africa between Robert Calderisi, author, economist, and former World Bank spokesperson for Africa; and Charles Sirois, chairman and CEO of Telesystem and founder of Enablis.

The Institute's work in the field of taxation continued to garner strong attention across the province, with Quebec experiencing the third-latest Tax Freedom Day among all Canadian provinces in 2009. Equally important for Quebec, studies in the areas of health care and mining garnered significant attention and highlighted how these important topics were affecting Quebec society.

The Institute's 19<sup>th</sup> annual *Waiting Your Turn* survey showed that, among all the provinces, Quebec had the third-shortest total wait time between referral from a general practitioner to receiving treatment from a medical specialist. Quebec also boasts the world's most attractive investment climate for mining, as detailed in the Institute's international survey of mining companies. We also published a report scrutinizing the costs and benefits of Canada's official languages policies.

Our events and research continued to attract the attention of Quebec media. Canal Argent, a cable TV channel focusing on business and finance, covered Dr. Mullins' presentation on the economic downturn, plus several newspapers including *Le Devoir* and



French libertarian Pascal Salin during an interview for *Perspectives* magazine.

*Le Journal de Montreal* closely followed our work through 2009. In total, the Montreal office's research and events generated more than 200 media hits in print, broadcast, and online.

With the support of Quebecor Media, we also produced two outstanding issues of *Perspectives* magazine, our French-language public policy magazine, which included an exclusive interview with Pascal Salin, libertarian French economist and emeritus professor of economics at the Université de Paris Dauphine.

The Fraser Institute is devoted to reaching the Quebec audience, which makes up one fifth of the population of Canada. With tax rates among the highest in North America and a public sector that is proportionally the largest in Canada, Quebec has much to gain from the Institute's research into economic freedom and the benefits of free markets and reduced government intervention. ■

## FI People *continued*



Courtenay Vermeulen  
*Education Programs*



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Insurance Policy	<b>Dr. Brett J. Skinner</b>
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Risk and Regulation	<b>Diane Katz</b>
School Performance Studies	<b>Peter Cowley</b>
Tax and Budget Policy (formerly Fiscal Studies)	<b>Niels Veldhuis</b>
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Fiscal Studies, Senior Economist	<b>Amela Karabegović</b>

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# Numbers tell the 2009 Fraser Institute story

<b>4,400,000,000</b>	audience on the internet viewing news stories about Fraser Institute
<b>248,704,401</b>	Canadian audience for TV, radio, and print media coverage of Fraser Institute
<b>44,531,561</b>	US audience for newspaper coverage of Fraser Institute
<b>9,641,779</b>	page views from all Fraser Institute websites
<b>8,371,394</b>	advertising value in dollars of all Canadian media coverage
<b>3,960,000</b>	students attending 7,645 schools rated in Fraser Institute School Report Cards
<b>806,929</b>	unique visitors to Fraser Institute websites
<b>135,000</b>	views of Fraser Institute videos
<b>79,200</b>	copies of Institute magazines <i>Fraser Forum &amp; Perspectives</i> distributed
<b>57,874</b>	views of 62 student video contest entries
<b>57,125</b>	print & digital copies of <i>Canadian Student Review</i> distributed at over 1,000 campuses
<b>16,228</b>	inquiries from around the world handled by Fraser Institute staff
<b>14,991</b>	students from 1,350 schools around the world reached by Education Programs
<b>10,933</b>	news stories about the Fraser Institute in print, on line, and broadcast around the world
<b>7,886</b>	people attended 132 Institute events in Canada, the US, and overseas
<b>7,830</b>	high school students influenced by their teachers' participation in Institute workshops
<b>6,700</b>	subscribers to <i>Fraser Update</i> e-mail newsletter
<b>6,047</b>	applications from low income families for 1,465 Ontario & Alberta Children First grants
<b>3,691</b>	Fraser Institute supporters from 12 countries
<b>1,210</b>	students attended 11 student seminars across Canada
<b>1,113</b>	educators from 192 schools honoured by Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education
<b>782</b>	new Fraser Institute supporters in 2009
<b>582</b>	non-profits applying for Donner Canadian Foundation Awards for Excellence in the Delivery of Social Services
<b>350</b>	authors from 22 countries have contributed to Institute research
<b>334</b>	applications received for eight student intern positions
<b>328</b>	newspaper commentaries published across North America
<b>283</b>	news releases & media advisories issued
<b>141</b>	states rated in <i>Economic Freedom of the World Report</i>
<b>139</b>	<i>Fraser Forum &amp; Perspectives</i> articles on wide variety of public policy issues
<b>98</b>	presentations given around the world by Fraser Institute staff
<b>80</b>	formal requests from around the world to link to or reprint Fraser Institute material
<b>75</b>	members of the world wide Economic Freedom Network coordinated by the Fraser Institute
<b>67</b>	publications released in print & digital format
<b>64</b>	full and part-time staff and 25 Senior Fellows
<b>22</b>	languages in which Fraser Institute books have been published
<b>4</b>	Fraser Institute office locations to best influence the North America policy debate
<b>3</b>	global ranking as an <i>international economic policy think tank</i> of 5,465 think tanks ranked by <i>Foreign Policy</i> magazine
<b>1</b>	of the most influential think tanks in the world