



**BRIAN MULRONEY**  
INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT



Cover photo by Katherine Starr



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

Wendy Langley  
StFX Director of Development  
902.867.5182  
wlangley@stfx.ca  
[mulroneyinstitute.ca](http://mulroneyinstitute.ca)

YEAR IN REVIEW | **2022**

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Despite the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and the various restrictions imposed on universities across Canada, the 2022 academic year proved to be exciting and rewarding for the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government. Over the past year, we have seen considerable growth in enrollment in the Public Policy and Governance Program (PGOV), the Institute's flagship program. Indeed, we witnessed a surge of 44% in the number of students taking PGOV courses in Fall 2022. More importantly, the quality of instruction, combined with generous scholarships and bursaries, has allowed us to recruit a number of high-calibre students. In the coming years, these truly exceptional students will serve as ambassadors for PGOV and the Mulroney Institute as they take on key leadership roles in government, in the non-governmental community, and in the private sector.

It is also worth noting that the Mulroney Institute has created more opportunities for our very best students to become engaged in our work. In the next few months, we will be launching a digital policy collection, developed by two of our senior students, which will be available on our website, [www.mulroneyinstitute.ca](http://www.mulroneyinstitute.ca). Under the guidance of Dr. Anna Zuschlag, the Institute's Program/Research Manager, Katherine Starr and Taylor Gorman have compiled an exhaustive inventory of key documents relating to several policy files, including Canada-US relations, Canadian-Indigenous relations, the Canadian response to COVID-19, and the Arctic. This repository of contemporary and historic documents will prove invaluable to students, researchers, journalists, and others interested in the evolution of key policy initiatives. Our students have organized an editorial board to launch a student-run journal, *Policy+*. The first issue is expected to be released in Fall 2023. In addition, the Institute-supported student society Our House Too (established last year as the Her House Society) has continued to organize events to bring attention to inclusivity in politics and public policy not only on campus but also in the broader community as well.

This past year has seen the Institute's Fellows Program expand to 15 scholars. Over the last several years, our Fellows have presented public lectures, published their findings in our occasional paper series, and helped to

expand the range of research topics explored by the Institute. In Fall 2022, we also inaugurated the Visiting Fellows Program. The purpose of the program is to bring well-known policy-makers and opinion leaders into the classroom to share their insights, experience, and knowledge with our PGOV students. The first class of Visiting Fellows was led by The Hon. Peter MacKay, who held several Cabinet positions in the Harper government. Mr. MacKay was followed by Senator Donald H. Oliver, the first Black male to be appointed to the Senate. Senator Oliver was appointed by Prime Minister Mulroney. The year ended with a visit from Stephen McNeil, former premier of Nova Scotia. In Winter 2023, the Institute is set to welcome Madeleine Redfern, former mayor of Iqaluit, and Elizabeth May, Member of Parliament and co-leader of the Green Party of Canada.

The Mulroney Institute has continued to strengthen its strategic partnerships with Environics Research and several other public policy institutes across Canada. This has resulted in the annual publication of the Confederation of Tomorrow Survey of Canadians. In 2022, we also worked closely with the Ottawa-based Institute on Governance on *Top of Mind*, an extensive survey of over 2,000 senior public servants across all levels of government in Canada. Available in French and English, this report also relied on elite interviews and a podcast series to highlight the key themes and challenges to the public sector identified by public servants. Prime Minister Mulroney was featured in the podcast's premiere episode.

Over the past year, the research undertaken at the Mulroney Institute has become even more extensive. Our series with McGill-Queen's Press, Studies in Leadership, Public Policy, and Governance, now boasts 11 titles, with three more books scheduled for publication in 2023. The Mulroney Papers in Public Policy and Governance occasional paper series and the Institute's newly launched Review Essay series are generating widespread interest as well.

To further extend our reach nationally and internationally, the Mulroney Institute hired a professional social media consultant this past year, and the results are already



paying handsome dividends. Our website is attracting considerably more traffic, and our publications are being downloaded on a far more regular basis. Upcoming events, publications, and other newsworthy items posted across the Institute's social media accounts have seen ever-increasing engagement, and we remain confident that our profile will only continue to grow. The Institute's increased exposure can also be attributed to the frequency with which our team of scholars share their expertise with major media outlets across Canada, the United States, and Europe.

Finally, I want to bring your attention to a major conference the Mulroney Institute will be hosting in early Summer 2023. The first Atlantic Economic Forum will take place in Mulroney Hall in June 2023. It will provide a unique opportunity for policy-makers, entrepreneurs, academics, journalists, and other opinion leaders to engage in high-level discussions about the challenges facing Atlantic Canada in various policy domains and how best to encourage the public and private sectors to address them in a thoughtful, methodical, and efficient manner. We very much look forward to supporting what will undoubtedly be a very exciting and promising initiative.

On behalf of my colleagues at the Mulroney Institute,

please accept my profound thanks and gratitude for your continued support. Your interest and engagement have allowed us to build a rewarding and engaging environment for students, researchers, and all those who believe in the importance of cultivating future generations of leaders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Abelson'.

**Donald E. Abelson, PhD**

Director, Brian Mulroney Institute of Government  
Steven K. Hudson Chair in Canada-US Relations

*The photographs appearing in the Year in Review were taken in compliance with provincial public health guidelines.*

## MULRONEY INSTITUTE ADVISORY BOARD



**THE RIGHT HONOURABLE BRIAN MULRONEY, PC, CC, LLD, AND MRS. MILA MULRONEY** have made Canada a better place through their political leadership, their international profile, and as champions of numerous charitable causes. Stepping away from a successful law career and into politics, Mr. Mulroney (a StFX graduate in 1959) served with distinction as the leader of the Conservative Party of Canada and as the nation's 18th prime minister. While in government, he championed, among many issues, free trade, environmental protections, and the end of apartheid in South Africa. Mrs. Mulroney has spent decades working to improve the lives of Canadians and people around the globe. As the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Canada's national chair, Mrs. Mulroney has helped raise millions of dollars for medical research. Her charitable pursuits include literacy projects and arts and cultural organizations. With nearly 50 years in public life, the Mulroneys continue to serve on many boards across many sectors. They remain committed to philanthropy and to creating opportunities for education and leadership for students. The Mulroney Institute is proud to be part of this legacy.



**JOHN I. BITOVE** has distinguished accomplishments across the corporate, sports, and community sectors. He was the founder and chair of what became SiriusXM Canada. In 1993, he launched the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club. He believes deeply in giving back to the community and sits on numerous boards. His S'Cool Life Fund has raised millions for public elementary schools. He holds a business (marketing) degree from Indiana University and a law degree from the University of Windsor.



**GARY CLEMENT** is director, Government Relations, TD Bank Group. Previously, Mr. Clement spent five years with the Government of Ontario and spent nearly a decade working in the federal government in political and bureaucratic positions. Mr. Clement has served on the board of several organizations, including the Canadian American Business Council and the Forum for Young Canadians. He holds a BA in Political Science from the University of Guelph.



**PAUL DESMARAIS III** is chair and CEO of Sagard. He is also chair of Diagram and sits on the Grayhawk board. Mr. Desmarais is the chair of Wealthsimple and Dialogue, a director of KOHO Financial, and he is a board observer of Nesto. He has held positions at Goldman Sachs, Imerys, and Great West Lifeco. Mr. Desmarais received a BA in Economics from Harvard College and an MBA from INSEAD (France).



**JAMES EATON** is a partner with JJR Private Capital. He is the president of Weatons Holdings, a Canadian private holding company. Mr. Eaton chaired the Invictus Games Toronto 2017. He is a founding director of the True Patriot Love Foundation and a trustee of the John David and Signy Eaton Foundation. He holds a BA from the University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2012, he was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal.



**MITCH FRAZER** is partner and chair of the Pensions and Employment Practice at Torys LLP. He is chancellor of Ontario Tech University. He has taught in the University of Toronto's Faculty of Law and at Osgoode Hall Law School. He has chaired several boards, including the North York General Foundation Board of Governors. Mr. Frazer has received numerous awards, including Western University Law School's Ivan Rand Alumni Award and a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.



**MARK MULRONEY** is vice chair, Corporate and Investment Banking, at Scotiabank. Previously, he was co-head of Equity Trading and head of Equity Capital Markets with National Bank Financial Markets. He has also held positions at Goldman Sachs and with RBC Capital Markets. An active community volunteer, he serves on several not-for-profit boards, including The BlackNorth Initiative, Boost Child and Youth Advocacy Centre, and the Sinai Health Foundation. Mr. Mulroney holds an undergraduate degree from Duke University.



**THE HONOURABLE LISA RAITT, PC,** is vice chair, Global Investment Banking, CIBC Capital Markets. In 2008, Ms. Raitt was elected to Parliament where she held three senior portfolios: Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Labour, and Minister of Transport. She was also Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition and the Conservative Party of Canada. Ms. Raitt holds a Bachelor of Science from StFX, an MA in Chemistry from the University of Guelph, and a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School.



**REGAN P. WATTS** is executive director of the Mulroney Institute's Advisory Board. He is the founder of Fratton Park Inc., an advisory firm providing public affairs services. Mr. Watts has extensive experience in the public service, serving in the Government of Canada across several departments, including Finance Canada and Transport Canada. His writing has appeared in the *Globe and Mail* and *Policy Options*. An active volunteer, he serves on the board of directors of Boost Child and Youth Advocacy Centre.

## FACULTY PROFILES



### PETER KIKKERT, PhD

Peter Kikkert, PhD, Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Arctic Policy and Associate Professor in Public Policy and Governance, has written extensively on safety, security, and sovereignty issues in the polar regions. His current research program explores how to strengthen disaster resilience in Canada, particularly in rural, remote, and northern communities.

Working closely with community organizations, Dr. Kikkert has continued to expand his research program examining how to strengthen search and rescue (SAR), disaster and emergency management capabilities, and disaster resilience in Canada's rural, remote, and northern communities. Through his research and teaching, Dr. Kikkert has had the privilege to live and teach in the North, sail the Northwest Passage, participate in training patrols with the Canadian Rangers, and travel on the land, ice, and waters of Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Alaska with community responders and Elders. He works extensively with Nunavut Emergency Management, Kativik Civil Security, the Canadian Coast Guard, the Canadian Armed Forces, and community-based response organizations.

Dr. Kikkert's work on search and rescue in the Arctic continued to expand in 2022. He is the lead investigator for the Nunavut Search and Rescue Project (NSAR), which was awarded a \$1.2 million grant by the new Canada-Inuit Nunangat-United Kingdom Arctic Research Programme in April 2022. This

project involves regional SAR meetings, community SAR exercises, and a preventative SAR program. In November and December 2022, Dr. Kikkert co-organized and facilitated the Qikiqtani, Kivalliq, Kitikmeot, and Nunavik Roundtables on Search and Rescue, which were held in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Yellowknife, and Montréal. These roundtables brought together over 100 Inuit community responders and 70 representatives from government, Inuit, and non-profit agencies to discuss SAR strengths, challenges, lessons learned, best practices, and future requirements.



### BAILEY GERRITS, PhD

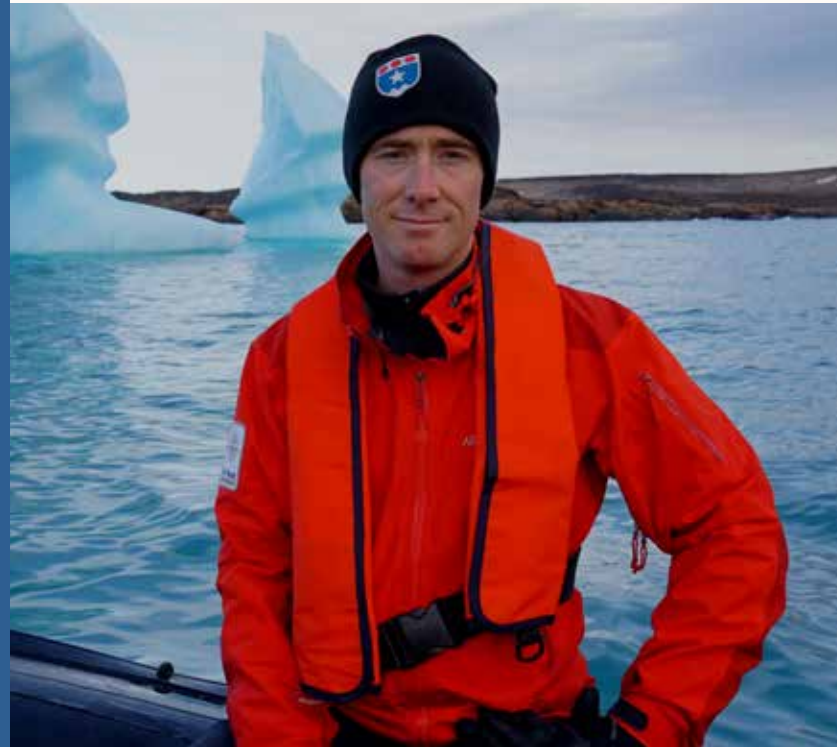
Bailey Gerrits, PhD, Mila Mulroney Research Chair in Women, Policy, and Governance Leadership and Assistant Professor in Public Policy and Governance, is an expert in gender-based violence discourse and policies. Her work has appeared in the *International Journal of Communication*; *Feminist Media Studies*; and *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture & Social Justice*.

Dr. Gerrits joined the Mulroney Institute as the inaugural Mila Mulroney Chair in Women, Policy, and Governance Leadership in July 2021. Her research examines stories told about gender-based violence and considers how they contribute to ending or facilitating the violence. The Social Science and Humanities Research Council awarded Dr. Gerrits an Insight Development Grant in 2022 to study the applicability of carceral feminism to Canadian federal anti-violence politics. Her other current projects include examining domestic violence news patterns in Canada, documenting how Canadian police frame gender-based violence on social media, and comparing gendered social media attacks against women in leadership positions in Canada and the United States.

Dr. Gerrits is on parental leave until January 2024.

## ADAM LAJEUNESSE, PhD

Adam Lajeunesse, PhD, is the Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Canadian Arctic Marine Security Policy and an Associate Professor at the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government. He is the author of the award-winning political history of the Northwest Passage *Lock, Stock, and Icebergs* (2016 Dafoe Prize); co-author of the 2017 monograph *China's Arctic Ambitions and What They Mean for Canada*; and co-editor of *Canadian Arctic Operations, 1941–2015: Lessons Learned, Lost, and Relearned* (2017).



During 2022, Dr. Lajeunesse continued two very active research projects focusing on Arctic maritime security and information operations in the Far North. Examining Russian and Chinese malign influence operations in the region, Dr. Lajeunesse published several articles with colleagues from Trent University and the University of Alaska in the *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs*, the *Journal of Peace and War Studies*, and *The Watch*. This work tracks the state-backed narratives of these authoritarian states to determine focus, objectives, and intent in the circumpolar region.

Dr. Lajeunesse's work in maritime security continues to examine the evolving security dynamic in the Arctic waters. With research published by the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, the *Canadian Military Journal*, and in the US Naval Institute Proceedings, Dr. Lajeunesse situates Chinese and Russian threats to the region into a broader security spectrum spanning safety, constabulary requirements, and defence.

This research has also fed into the public policy process. Over 2022, Dr. Lajeunesse was invited to

present evidence to the Canadian Senate Standing Committee on National Security and Defence as well as to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security, and the Standing Committee on National Defence. He was also a speaker at the Arctic Security Working Group in Yellowknife, where he discussed Chinese information operations. He also participated in the NATO Defence College Staff Course in Ottawa, where he discussed maritime security threats. He was also invited to Colorado Springs to present to NORAD/USNORTHCOM's inaugural Homeland Defence Awareness Symposium at the US Air Force Academy.

In July 2022, Dr. Lajeunesse became the Mulroney Institute's first Research Fellow.



## ACADEMIC INQUIRY WITH REAL-WORLD IMPACT



**The third year of the pandemic did not deter the faculty of the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government from continuing to publish their findings in top-tier journals and creating strategic partnerships for ongoing academic inquiry.**

The Institute's partnership with McGill-Queen's University Press (MQUP) on the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government Studies in Leadership, Public Policy, and Governance series had a banner year in 2022. The series focuses on critical issues facing Canada, at home and abroad, and the efforts that policy-makers have made to address complex policy concerns. The series compels readers to think critically about policy choices made by elected officials and how they can better

navigate an increasingly crowded marketplace of ideas.

Highlighting the success of the Mulroney Institute-MQUP series, eight of the series' books appeared on *The Hill Times*' "100 Best Books in 2022." Three Mulroney Institute-MQUP volumes appeared in the top 25, including Ryan Manucha's *Booze, Cigarettes, and Constitutional Dust-Ups*, which ranked at number eight.

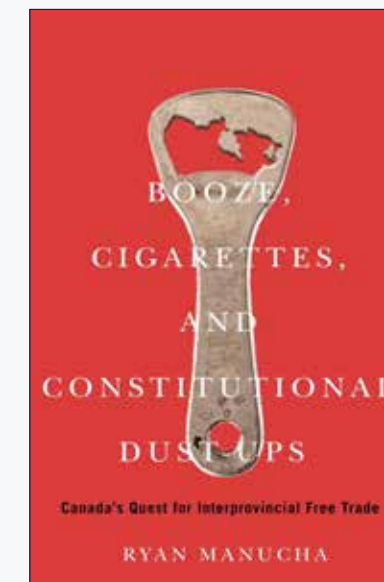
The Studies in Leadership, Public Policy, and Governance series continues to bring new scholars into the fold, and three titles are forthcoming in Spring/Summer 2023.

Dr. Adam Lajeunesse is the editor of an e-book series, Arctic Operational Histories, published by

the Mulroney Institute. Generated from firsthand accounts and official government narratives, each volume offers a unique window into the evolution of Canada's northern deployments and capabilities. The e-books further explore the challenges faced by the Canadian Armed Forces during its multi-generational effort to develop and maintain operational capabilities in the Arctic. Two issues appeared in 2022: *Canada's First Eastern Arctic Patrol, 1922*; and *Operation CANON: Rescuing Canon John Turner in the Canadian Arctic, 1947*.

Director Donald Abelson's *Transatlantic Relations: Challenge and Resilience* (Routledge) was released in March 2022. This co-edited volume explains how and why the transatlantic relationship has remained resilient in the face of differences in the inclinations, strategies, and policies of member states.

The Mulroney Papers in Public Policy and Governance released three issues over 2022. The occasional paper series examines how decisions made at municipal, provincial, national, and international levels advance or compromise the public interest. As part of their tenure with the Institute, Fellows publish papers on their research. In 2022, Dr. Yvon Grenier published a paper on Canadian foreign policy toward Cuba. Director Donald Abelson published two issues: one examining Prime Minister Mulroney's relationship with Canada's Jewish community and his fight against antisemitism, and another issue on the importance of friendship and personal connection between President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Mulroney. The Institute inaugurated a new publication series in 2022, the Mulroney Papers in Public Policy and Governance Review Essays, which provides a forum for scholars to take stock of the literature on various policy-related issues and to introduce readers to new and innovative approaches to thinking about how these topics relate to broader ideas about the nature of policy-making. The first issue, *Is there a Problem With Public-Private "Partnerships"?*, was authored by scholar M.A.E. MacDonnell.



In 2022, the Mulroney Institute marked its fourth year of partnership with the Institute for Research on Public Policy, the Canada-West Foundation, and the Centre D'Analyse Politique – Constitution et Fédéralisme in the publication of the Confederation of Tomorrow Survey of Canadians, which was conducted by the Environics Institute for Survey Research.

This survey, which provides meaningful representation from the nation's geography and population (including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples in Canada), assesses the evolution of Canadian attitudes toward, and satisfaction with, the nation's overall direction. Over 2022, six reports were released: *Atlantic Canada and the Federation, Relations With Indigenous Peoples, The Evolution of Prairie Discontent, Most Important Problem Facing Canadians Today, Provincial Identity and Autonomy, and Support for Equalization*.

The Mulroney Institute and the Institute on Governance partnered on *Top of Mind*, a two-part study designed to provide rare access into the thoughts and views of senior executive public service leaders. Released in spring 2022, the study examined the impact of negative forces that are sowing the seeds of social polarization and eroding trust in democratically elected governments from the perspective of public officials responsible for management at the municipal, provincial, territorial, and federal levels.

The *Canadian Naval Review*, published by the Mulroney Institute and edited by Dr. Lajeunesse, is a hybrid academic/professional journal examining a wide range of maritime security issues. The journal examines strategic concepts and policies, oceans policy, and marine affairs. It brings together members of the Canadian defence and academic communities to promote strategic thinking and good security policy.



## SELECTED 2022 PUBLICATIONS OF MULRONEY INSTITUTE FACULTY AND FELLOWS

**Donald E. Abelson.** *Do Think Tanks Matter? Assessing the Impact of Public Policy Institutes.* 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Arabic translation. Riyadh: Saudi Center for Research and Intercommunication Knowledge, 2022.

**Donald E. Abelson and Stephen Brooks, eds.** *Transatlantic Relations: Challenge and Resilience.* London: Routledge, 2022.

**Kelly M. Bradbury, Elaine Moody, Katie Aubrecht, Meaghan Sim, and Melissa Rothfus.** "Equity in Changes to Dementia Care in the Community During the First Wave of the COVID-19 Pandemic in High Income Countries: A Scoping Review." *Societies* 12, no. 2 (2022): 1–30.

**Douglas Brown.** *Atlantic Canada and the Federation.* Reports of the Confederation of Tomorrow Survey of Canadians. October. Toronto: Environics Institute, 2022.

**Sutapa Chattopadhyay.** *Politics of Development and Forced Mobility: Gender, Indigeneity, and Ecology.* Mobility Politics Series. London: Palgrave.

**Patricia Cormack and J. Cosgrave.** "Enjoy Your Experience: Symbolic Violence and Becoming a Tasteful State Cannabis Consumer in Canada." *Journal of Consumer Culture* 22, no. 3 (2022): 396–414.

**Yvon Grenier.** "Submission and the Possibility of Low-Intensity Totalitarianism in France." In *Decline and Submission: Michel Houellebecq, The Cassandra of Freedom*, ed. Michael S. Kochin and Alberto Spektorowski, 85–104. Leiden: E.J. Brill.

**P. Whitney Lackenbauer and Peter Kikkert.** "A 'Profound Change of Direction'? Co-Developing Canada's 'New' Arctic and Northern Policy Framework." In *Arctic Fever: Political, Economic & Environmental Aspects of New Regional Agendas*, ed. Anastasia Likhacheva, 241–76. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

**Adam Lajeunesse.** "Arctic Perils: Emerging Threats in the Arctic Maritime Environment." Canadian Global Affairs Institute. November 2022.

**P. Whitney Lackenbauer, Adam Lajeunesse, and Ryan Dean.** "Why China Is Not a Peer Competitor in the Arctic." *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs.* 3 October 2022.

**David Kemme, Bhavik Parikh, and Tanja Steigner.** "International Tax Evasion: Sources, Paths, and Destinations." In the *Handbook of Comparative Economic Systems*, ed. Bruno Dallago and Sara Casagrande, 538–60. London: Routledge, 2022.

**Lavinia Stan and Razvan Zaharia.** "Romania." *European Journal of Political Research: Political Data Yearbook.* May 2022.

**William Sweet.** "Bridging Divides, Building Relations, and the Proposal for Intercultural Theology." *Toronto Journal of Theology* 38, no. 1 (2022): 81–100.

**M.A. Williams and David C. Young.** "The Encouragement and Constraint of Distributed Leadership via Education Policy Reform in Nova Scotia Canada: A Delicate Balancing Act." *International Journal of Education Policy and Leadership* 12, no. 2 (2022): 1–18.

# THE BRIAN MULRONEY INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Mulroney Institute's Fellows Program, established in 2019, is a network of scholars at StFX whose research has implications for the conduct and implementation of public policy and/or issues relating to governance. During their three-year appointment, each Fellow presents a public lecture and contributes to the Institute's occasional paper series, the Mulroney Papers in Public Policy and Governance. The Fellows and Distinguished Fellows are recognized for their expertise across a range of disciplines (including

political science, philosophy, sociology, health equity and social justice, conflict resolution, finance, and education) and play a major role in enhancing the Institute's research capacity.

## DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS



**DOUGLAS M. BROWN, PhD**

Dr. Douglas M. Brown has recently retired from StFX's Department of Political Science. His research areas include intergovernmental relations in Canada, fiscal federalism in Canada, and Canadian regional politics with a focus on the Atlantic Provinces.



**PETER CLANCY, PhD**

Dr. Peter Clancy is Senior Research Professor in the Department of Political Science at StFX. His work centres on the interplay of economic and political interests in settings such as business politics and natural resource industries.

## FELLOWS



**KATIE AUBRECHT, PhD**

Dr. Katie Aubrecht is Canada Research Chair in Health Equity and Social Justice and Assistant Professor in Sociology. She leads an interdisciplinary research program mapping health services, social policies, and community resources related to marginality, mental health, and resilience.



**JAMES BICKERTON, PhD**

Dr. James Bickerton is Professor of Political Science at StFX. His research interests are in the areas of federalism, regionalism, and electoral politics in Canada.



**SUTAPA CHATTOPADHYAY, PhD**

Dr. Sutapa Chattopadhyay is Assistant Professor in Women's and Gender Studies and Development at StFX. Her areas of interest are gender justice, migrations, development politics, social movements, political ecology, and Indigeneity.



**YOUNGWON CHO, PhD**

Dr. Youngwon Cho is Associate Professor and Chair of the Political Science Department at StFX. His primary research areas revolve around the international political economy of money and finance, focusing on emerging market economies in general and East Asian countries, in particular.





**PATRICIA CORMACK, PhD**

Dr. Patricia Cormack is Full Professor in the Department of Sociology at StFX. She researches the place of the Canadian state in everyday life and the state's role in cultivating nationalism.



**YVON GRENIER, PhD**

Dr. Yvon Grenier is Professor of Political Science at StFX. His current work examines Canadian foreign policy toward Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela, with a focus on human rights and the promotion of democratic values.



**LOUIS GROARKE, PhD**

Dr. Louis Groarke is Full Professor in the Philosophy Department at StFX. His research focuses on political theory, moral philosophy, aesthetics, logic, Aristotle, and the history of philosophy.



**JAMIE LEVIN, PhD**

Dr. Jamie Levin is Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at StFX. His work focuses on the role of weapons in the resolution of civil wars.



**BHAVIK PARIKH, PhD**

Dr. Bhavik Parikh is Associate Professor of Finance at the Schwartz School of Business at StFX. His research focuses on international finance, tax evasion, and Islamic finance.



**LAVINIA STAN, PhD**

Dr. Lavinia Stan is Professor of Political Science at StFX. She is a comparative politics specialist widely recognized as an expert on Romania and the post-communist world.



**WILLIAM SWEET, PhD**

Dr. William Sweet is Jules Léger Research Chair in the Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor and Chair of Philosophy at StFX. His current research interests include ethics in governance, human rights and freedom of conscience in contemporary democracies, and health care policy and ethics.



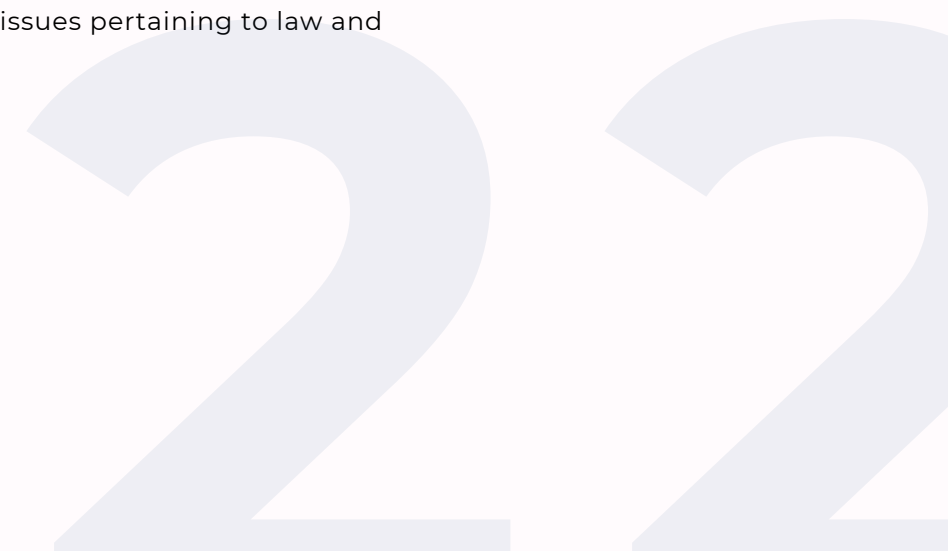
**GREG TKACZ, PhD**

Dr. Greg Tkacz is Professor of Economics and Jules Léger Research Chair in the Humanities and Social Sciences at StFX. He specializes in monetary policy and economic forecasting. He also spent 14 years as a researcher and manager at the Bank of Canada in Ottawa.



**DAVID YOUNG, PhD**

Dr. David Young is Full Professor in the Faculty of Education at StFX. Broadly, his research focuses on educational administration and policy; his current work deals with issues pertaining to law and education.





## VISITING FELLOWS PROGRAM

As part of its mandate to initiate conversations around key policy concerns, the Mulroney Institute of Government launched its Visiting Fellows Program in the fall of 2022 to bring former and current policy-makers, journalists, academics, and other experts in public policy to StFX to share their insights and expertise with students and faculty on a wide range of domestic and foreign policy issues. Visiting Fellows spend two days with the Institute, sitting in on PGOV classes, including large first-year courses and smaller upper-year seminars, with invitations extended to Political Science students and, on occasion, the campus community at large. Luncheons are hosted for each Visiting Fellow, allowing students and faculty to converse with them on a more personal level.

The Visiting Fellows Program welcomed The Hon. Peter MacKay as its inaugural fellow on 17–18 October. Mr. MacKay visited several PGOV classes during his time at the Institute. He spoke about his years as an MP and Cabinet Minister and his run for leadership of the Conservative Party. Students and faculty were particularly interested in Mr. MacKay's thoughts on the status of Canada's foreign and defence policy, especially regarding the war in Ukraine.

The Hon. Dr. Donald H. Oliver joined the Institute on 15–16 November. Senator Oliver was the first Black male to sit in the Upper House, appointed by Prime Minister Mulroney in 1990. As such, Senator Oliver had much to share with students and faculty, particularly on the

inner workings of Parliament, how business is done in the Senate, and his experiences with and thoughts on racism in Canada. The Institute was happy to be able to celebrate the Senator's 84th birthday during his visit with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" and a surprise cake.

Former Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil visited the Institute over 29–30 November. Mr. McNeil engaged with multiple PGOV classes, speaking to students and faculty about his time in the province's legislature and as premier. The Institute invited the campus and community at large to join PGOV 101 during Mr. McNeil's time at StFX; as a result, Premier McNeil spoke to a standing-room-only class, detailing his approach to dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, the tragedy of Portapique, and his decision to step down in 2020.

The Mulroney Institute thanks the inaugural class of Visiting Fellows in helping to make the program's first semester a tremendous success.





*An important component of the Mulroney Institute's commitment to engaging communities in debate and dialogue about the impact of public policy and governance is providing accessible knowledge and expertise on these subjects.*

## MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

An important component of the Mulroney Institute's commitment to engaging communities in debate and dialogue about the impact of public policy and governance is providing accessible knowledge and expertise on these subjects. As such, many of the Institute's faculty and fellows are regular contributors to local, national, and international media platforms, including print, radio, television, and podcasts. In 2022, the Institute's faculty and fellows approximately 100 media appearances, reaching an estimated audience of in excess of 40 million people.

The Institute's director, Dr. Donald E. Abelson, is a sought-after media contributor. He has appeared on CTV News Channel and in *US News & World Report* and *The Toronto Star*, among many others. Dr. Abelson is a frequent guest expert on talk radio. In 2022, Dr. Abelson made dozens of media appearances discussing Canada-US relations and the tumultuous state of American politics during the second year of the Biden administration.

Dr. Peter Kikkert, the Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Arctic Policy, has contributed opinion pieces for outlets such as Radio-Canada and the *Nunavut News* on Northern issues. Dr. Kikkert has been especially sought after for his

expertise on emergency response in the face of climate disasters across Canada. Dr. Adam Lajeunesse, the Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Canadian Arctic Marine Security and Policy, has appeared frequently on television and radio weighing in on American Arctic policy, Arctic sovereignty, and Canada's naval capabilities in the Arctic for outlets such as *The Hill Times*, *Toronto Star*, and *The National Post*. Throughout 2022, Dr. Lajeunesse spoke to media outlets on the state of NORAD and offered his thoughts on the war in Ukraine.

The Institute's Fellows are also in demand. Drs. Yvon Grenier and James Bickerton are regular guests on English and French Canadian media platforms as experts on Canadian politics. Both are in high demand during election cycles. Dr. Grenier is also a regular commentator for Radio-Canada, the CBC, and SaltWire Media, where he frequently shares his expertise on Latin American governments. During 2022, Dr. Grenier spoke often about the state of democracy and human rights in countries around the world and in Canada. Dr. Lavinia Stan appears regularly on European media platforms, speaking about transitional justice in post-Communist countries.

# BRIAN MULRONEY INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT



## STUDENT INITIATIVES



Our House Too



Policy+ Editorial Board

With its aim to prepare the world's future leaders and policy-makers, the Mulronev Institute pursues opportunities to engage students inside and outside the classroom. In 2022, the Institute supported several student-originated initiatives through faculty, staff, and funding assistance.

The Our House Too Society had a productive and exciting year, beginning with a name change with the aim to be more inclusive and then gaining official recognition as a ratified society by the Students' Union. Our House Too built out its executive team, adding five more students beyond founders and PGOV students Taylor Gorman and Katherine Starr. With the help of the Mulronev Institute and liaison Dr. Anna Zuschlag, Our House was able to host several speaker events. In March 2022, the Society organized a panel of campus and community experts to discuss the plight and strength of women in war zones. In December 2022, Our House welcomed three female vice-presidents from campus to share their experiences as women in leadership and the impact of gender in the workplace.

The Mulronev Institute's student journal, *Policy+*, launched in 2022. *Policy+* is an undergraduate, peer-reviewed journal. It provides a venue for undergraduate publications covering a wide array of interdisciplinary topics grounded in public policy and governance. The editorial board is comprised of PGOV students, and with the guidance and assistance of Drs. Zuschlag and Lajeunesse, the board created an ethics statement following the values and high expectations of the Mulronev Institute, a style guide for contributing authors, developed a web page, and prepared the journal's first call for papers. The premiere *Policy+* issue will be published in Fall 2023. The editorial board looks forward to sharing and highlighting the academic excellence of PGOV, Political Science, and other undergraduate students.

The members of the 2022 editorial board are Kaytland Smith, Jack Harding, Oscar Dewing, Grace Fillmore, Rory Jakubec, Nicholas Bremner, and Naomi Stobart.



## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

### Student engagement is the cornerstone of the Mulronev Institute's teaching philosophy.

As such, our chairs seek out and offer opportunities for students to gain skills and experiences that prepare them for real-world challenges. While other universities might rely on graduate students to conduct research, the unique emphasis that StFX and the Institute place on the undergraduate experience creates space for students to engage in important and progressive work.

Throughout 2022, Dr. Kikkert engaged multiple StFX undergraduates in his research. In August, PGOV student Grace Fillmore accompanied Dr. Kikkert to a Coast Guard SAR exercise in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut. PGOV students Rory Jakubec and Josh Kroker and Health student Kathleen Dolan travelled to Iqaluit, Nunavut, and Yellowknife, NWT, in November to support Dr. Kikkert's roundtables. In December, Margaret Ann Gillis journeyed to Montréal to provide assistance during the Nunavik SAR Roundtable.

In October 2022, the Mulronev Institute partnered with the Naval Association of Canada and the Royal Canadian Navy to host a two-day defence and security workshop on the North American maritime Arctic. A working-level event, participants from Canada, Denmark, and the United States came together to identify and explore common security concerns and develop recommendations to enable more effective cooperation in the Far North. PGOV students supported Dr. Lajeunesse at the event by taking notes and distilling the participants' conversations into an informative report.

The Institute's digital policy collection continued to take shape over the year and added a second research assistant to the team headed by Program/Research Manager Dr. Anna Zuschlag. Katherine Starr and Taylor Gorman have been gathering primary documents related to policy decisions in areas such as Canada-US relations, COVID-19, and free trade. The collection will be launched in summer 2023.

## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE



Josh Kroker



Rory Jakubec

My time in Yellowknife was exceptional! I was grateful Dr. Kikkert asked me to be one of his rapporteurs for the 2022 Kitikmeot SAR Roundtable. It was an exceptional opportunity to meet the many Arctic volunteers, stakeholders, and actors who operate and call the North their home. Canada's Arctic security and sovereignty policy is one of the most significant emerging wicked problems the next generation of policy-makers must tackle, and the Mulroney Institute of Government can play a critical role. This opportunity gave me a new understanding and empathy for the unique people and cultures that cover the region. I met Bobby of Cambridge Bay, who told nostalgic stories of his younger days surviving off the land and going for hunts with his father and grandfather. I spoke to Mercie of Kugluktuk, an Inuktitut translator, who explained the variation of language, culture, and traditions across Inuit communities. I am thankful they welcomed me to their region and helped make my experience so memorable and insightful.

When I was presented with the opportunity to travel to Iqaluit, I knew it was one that I could not say no to. I had learned a bit about the Arctic through my PGOV 101 course but knew that this would be an incredible opportunity to learn about SAR in the North. While in Iqaluit, I had the chance to explore the town, as well as talk to and learn from many of the community members that had travelled to attend the conference. One of my favourite moments of the conference took place at lunch on the last day. I was sitting eating lunch with a couple of the community members, and one of them started showing me photos of his kids after hunting trips, as well as drone videos that someone in his community had taken of belugas when they were in the bay near their community. Being shown those photos is a memory that I will treasure for the rest of my life. I am very thankful to Dr. Kikkert for giving me the opportunity to travel up North and have these unforgettable experiences.

Kathleen Dolan and Rory Jakubec are pictured with Elder Nancy Amaraulik of Resolute Bay, Nunavut.



# PGOV INTERNSHIPS

## J. Armand Bombardier Intern Scholarships in Public Policy and Governance

Created by the generous financial support of the Beaudoin family, the Bombardier Scholarships are intended to provide financial support for students in the PGOV Program to gain practical work and research experience in areas related to public policy, public service, and governance. Awarded through the Mulroney Institute, student applicants are selected through a competitive process. Four interns share their Summer 2022 experiences below.



### KYRA CAMPBELL

Through the PGOV Program, and with the assistance of the Bombardier Scholarship, I spent much of Summer 2022 with the Liberal Research Bureau's Caucus and Operations Department. Within my role, I created the entire constituency Youth Council Package for 2022-23 that MPs and MPs' offices use for their Youth Councils, which was really exciting. Along with this, I was able to sit in caucuses, such as the Women's and Human Rights caucuses. I also was able to research and write on a lot of interesting current issues. This work allowed me to see the intersection of politics and policy, and gave me the opportunity to take the skills I learned through the PGOV Program into my internship.

### MARGARET ANN GILLIS

During the summer of 2022, I was honoured to work in the office of MP Darrell Samson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence. I worked with MP Samson not only in Ottawa on Parliament Hill but also in his constituency office in Fall River, NS. My internship allowed me to utilize the skills that I have learned and enhanced throughout my time in the PGOV Program. I was able to continue to work throughout the school year with MP Samson as a communications assistant. It also opened my eyes to the ways that politics impacts the policy-making process as well as the opportunities and gaps in Canada's governance systems.

### WILL OUTHWAITE

I was fortunate to secure an opportunity with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada in the data governance policy area. My duties included policy development tasks, and my supervisor created opportunities for me to present to senior management within the branch. I was encouraged to learn about public service through participation in courses at the Canada School of Public Service. Through the Bombardier Scholarship, going forward, I am able to enrich my coursework in the PGOV Program through lived experience.

### KEGAN PALMER

Over the summer, I served as a regional advisor with the Minister's Regional Office under Canada's Privy Council. I assisted in planning ministerial tours, keeping the Prime Minister's Office and Minister's office up to date on Atlantic affairs, and advancing and preparing for the Prime Minister's visits to Atlantic Canada, which happened twice during my internship. Over the summer, I saw, in depth, the importance of how seemingly minor details keep government and policy running in Canada. My internship became a part-time, full position, which I was able to continue through my final year at StFX.



## RBC FOUNDATION INTERNSHIPS

### RBC Foundation Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Award Program

The RBC Foundation Undergraduate Summer Research Internship Award Program gives StFX students enrolled in bachelor programs the opportunity to be involved in the creation of new knowledge and to build on the knowledge that they have developed in their degrees through original research supervised by a faculty supervisor/mentor.

The summer research internships are supported by the Mulroney Institute through funding awarded by the RBC Foundation. The awards go toward student research projects that explore public policy and governance issues related to women's studies and

leadership, economics, trade and finance, Canada-US relations, global affairs, environmental issues and policy, Indigenous affairs and governance, underserved communities, social policy and government, and multiculturalism and linguistic diversity. Eight internships are awarded annually. Below are the experiences from several of the 2022 internship recipients.

### TEHYA BLAKE

Fourth-year Political Science student Tehya Blake's internship experience leads directly into her honours thesis work. Supervised by Mulroney Institute Fellow Dr. Yvon Grenier, Ms. Blake's project looked into the politics of international sanctions in Canadian foreign policy between 1992 and 2022. Working with several professionals from her field of study, she explored the broader topic of sanctions and the debates and consensus in the scholarship. The central line of her research focused on Canadian sanctions and whether the Canadian government has a cohesive sanction policy and how this may be influenced by democracy promotion and the protection of human rights. Ms. Blake noted that the RBC Foundation internship "allowed me to... continue to refine my research skills, time management, networking, and to extend my knowledge on a topic that I am passionate about."

### MALLORY LONG

Fourth-year Economics and Math student Mallory Long spent her Summer 2022 internship exploring possible pathways that Nova Scotia can take to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 – work that she is passionate about. Using an integrated Temoa-CGE model, Ms. Long "modelled various policies, such as carbon tax, phasing out coal and other non-renewable resources, increasing renewable energy generation, and implementing negative emissions technologies." This then enabled estimations of the economic and environmental impacts of these policies and created a variety of policy combinations to meet the province's emissions targets. Supervised by Dr. Patrick Withey in the Economics Department, Ms. Long was grateful to be able to build on previous research and to learn new skills: "I also got to contribute to the growing research on climate change policy, which is becoming increasingly important."

### CARLY MACDONALD

Carly MacDonald's research focus was on capturing the economic impacts and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through policies that increase electric vehicle penetration in Nova Scotia. The fourth-year Economics student said that she feels very fortunate to have the opportunity to do this level of research, especially as an undergraduate. Ms. MacDonald said that the RBC Foundation internship would be a definite highlight of her time at StFX. Supervised by Dr. Patrick Withey in StFX's Economics Department, Ms. MacDonald was grateful to have the chance to work with experienced faculty and colleagues: "I was fortunate to have other students working on similar projects which gave an added benefit of learning from one another as we progressed through our work. Summer research is a fantastic experience. There is so much to gain from working alongside faculty and students who share a common interest."





### **RAE MACLEAN**

Rae MacLean, a second-year Education student, conducted research exploring the policies that schools across Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have enacted to protect and support their non-binary and other gender-diverse educators. Working with Dr. Wendy Mackey, Assistant Professor, Culturally Relevant Pedagogy and Leadership, Rae MacLean was driven to do the research after seeing how 2SLGBTQIA+ teachers were treated by students and parents during their time in school in Newfoundland: “I wanted to compare the policies that would protect me personally depending on where I worked. I found that, at both the regional and provincial levels, each province has phrases where small changes in wording could be made to further include gender-diverse teachers.” Through the opportunity afforded by the RBC Foundation internship, Rae MacLean feels confident that they are better prepared to undertake an MA thesis in the future.

### **JOSIE MALLET**

The opportunity to pursue research in an area of her choosing while gaining valuable skills in areas such as critical thinking and data analysis drew Josie Mallett to the RBC Foundation internship. Ms. Mallett, a fourth-year Environmental Earth Sciences student, conducted research on the viability of coral reefs in a net-zero CO2 emissions scenario with supervisor Dr. Andrew MacDougall and two PhD students, which also gave her some insight into graduate school-level work. Being able to apply knowledge to a real-life problem was a bonus: “I looked to see if corals have a chance of revival in the future when carbon emissions cease. I used climate data provided from global sources, and I modelled the data using computer programs to look and see if future conditions will be viable for coral restoration. So far, the research looks quite hopeful!”

### **MITCHELL MOXON**

Mitchell Moxon, a fourth-year honours student in Sociology, spent Summer 2022 researching historical and contemporary approaches to dealing with unhoused people in rural Nova Scotia. Mr. Moxon noted that the internship, under the supervision of the Sociology Department’s Dr. Joel Garrod, meant that he did not have to rely on summer work in the retail industry, but instead, he was able to concentrate on his academic pursuits. Moreover, he said that “on a more personal level... this grant is a lasting reminder that I am capable of doing things that others view as worthwhile.” He is grateful for the opportunity to have extra time researching for his honours thesis: “Conducting research in a much less rushed manner than I’m used to has taught me how to be more critical on the work that I come across. I can be more picky and really dive into the nuances of what others have said on a given topic.”

### **MAËLLE WEBER**

Maëlle Weber’s internship experience was a sobering and joyous opportunity. Ms. Weber, a fourth-year honours student in Women’s and Gender Studies, supervised by Dr. Rachel Hurst, conducted research on menstrual poverty in Antigonish and Antigonish County. The work involved hosting a hybrid focus group, combined with a workshop. Participants discussed their experiences with menstruation and accessing menstrual health resources. Ms. Weber noted that “My research brought menstruation from the private sphere into the public sphere, which helped to combat the stigma around menstruation... These issues are often experienced alone... and in silence.” Instead, participants were able to discuss their experiences in a safe space, bringing further attention to the difficulties in accessing menstrual health resources.



## SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES FOR FUTURE LEADERS

When Prime Minister Mulroney began his efforts to raise funds for Mulroney Hall and the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government, he was determined that there be ample support for not just bricks and mortar but also scholarships and bursaries. The Prime Minister has spoken candidly about his family's modest roots – and about the work ethic imbued in him by his father, Benedict – and pledged to give students from similar backgrounds the opportunity of a university education.

With your support, the Institute's PGOV Program is able to leverage robust financial support to attract the finest students from across Canada and around the world.

In the 2023–24 academic year, these are the available scholarships (awarded based on academic merit) and bursaries (awarded based on financial need):

### NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

### PER STUDENT PER YEAR

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarships   <b>2 PER YEAR</b>	\$15,000
The Sobey Entrance Scholarships   <b>2 PER YEAR</b>	\$10,000
Irving Family Scholarships   <b>3 PER YEAR</b>	\$5,000
Mila Mulroney Scholarship for African Nova Scotian Students   <b>4 PER YEAR</b>	\$4,000
The Weston Family Scholarship for International Exchange   <b>6-8 PER YEAR</b>	\$6,000
Joyce Family Bursaries   <b>25 PER YEAR</b>	\$3,000
Samuel Wakim, QC Academic Scholarship   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$1,750
J. Armand Bombardier Student Internships   <b>6 PER YEAR</b>	\$6,000
Dahdaleh Scholarship for Indigenous Students   <b>4 PER YEAR</b>	\$4,000
Eldee Foundation – UN Service Learning Bursary   <b>4 PER YEAR</b>	\$4,000
Michael Mulroney Scholarship   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$1,750
Sister Peggy Butts Bursary   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$1,750
Thomas O'Shea Scholarship   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$1,750
Bogdanka Pivnički Scholarship   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$1,750
Guy R. Savard Bursary   <b>1 PER 4 YEARS</b>	\$12,500
Scotiabank Entrance Scholarship   <b>1 PER YEAR</b>	\$4,000

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Claire Morrison and Jacob Cruchet, recipients of the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarship, share their journeys from high school to the PGOV Program.

*"Both of my parents are alumni of StFX. This is where they met, and they even got married in the chapel on campus. There's a lot of family history here for me. My grandfather was a prof here for many years... So, I wanted to continue the family tradition, but it was the PGOV Program that solidified it for me."*

– Claire Morrison



## CLAIRE MORRISON

First-year PGOV student Claire Morrison became a climate activist in high school and looks forward to learning and expanding her impact on environmental policy as she starts her journey at StFX as a 2022 recipient of the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarship.

Claire, who graduated from Harry Ainlay High School in Edmonton in 2021, founded and ran Edmonton Youth for Climate, the local branch of the Fridays for Future movement, where she had the opportunity to improve her leadership skills, speak with government officials about climate policy, give speeches at protests, and to meet Greta Thunberg.

"This means so much to me," Claire says, on being named a recipient of the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarship. "I am so thankful to have my work in Edmonton acknowledged and rewarded. It is often a thankless job being a climate activist in Alberta where oil and gas are so important."

Additionally, she says the scholarship means she has

to think a lot less about paying tuition and housing fees, which takes a huge stress off. "I can focus on my academics and social life instead of worrying about money."

Claire says many reasons drew her to StFX and to the PGOV Program. "It appealed to me because it encapsulated a lot of what I was already doing with my climate work and what I was interested in. I was already talking about policy and having conversations within my community and with government officials about climate change. I thought it would be a great opportunity to learn more and develop my policy skills so I can make an even more significant impact on environmental policy in the future."

She says she's loved her time at StFX. "I have met so many new people and made so many new friends and connections. The profs have been great so far as well. They really enjoy what they are teaching, are there to help you, and want to see you succeed and do well."



*"It is, after all, more than just money. The scholarship comes with the expectation of helping people. It provides me with a reminder of what I should strive to achieve in this world. When it comes down to it, this scholarship gives me the opportunity to create positive change in the university, community, and beyond."*

– Jacob Cruchet

## JACOB CRUCHET

Jacob Cruchet has already witnessed the power of good governance and the positive change that can occur when a group of individuals come together through collective action, and he is looking forward to making an impact as a 2022 recipient of the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarship.

"I graduated from Madawaska Valley District High School [in Pembroke, ON] in a small class of around 70 people. There, I had the pleasure of serving as Student Council president and working with a fantastic group of people," he says. "As council president, I had the opportunity to participate in our school board's student senate, where I was appointed to chair of the Equity Committee. Through this position, I witnessed the power of good governance and the positive change that can occur when a group of individuals come together through collective action."

He says the opportunity that comes with the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney Scholarship means so much to him, especially as it will help him in this journey.

The PGOV Program particularly appealed to him for its combination of uniqueness and enthusiasm. "Without a doubt, there is a lot of excitement surrounding PGOV at the Mulroney Institute. Additionally, I believe that understanding policy, how it is formulated, and how it is applied is essential to understanding Canada's political culture and process."

As for a favourite moment so far? Meeting The Hon. Peter MacKay, former Minister of National Defence, was a highlight. "I had the opportunity to have a one-on-one discussion with him after class, and it was interesting to see his positions on specific topics – though we didn't agree on everything."



## EVENTS

As the COVID-19 pandemic entered its third year, the Mulronev Institute continued to apply lessons learned to plan and host interesting and thought-provoking events. The Institute was able to organize more and more in-person events, following public health protocols. All the Institute's 2022 events were streamed online to facilitate its goal of connecting the StFX community and the world at large.

The Institute's Distinguished Speakers Series had the pleasure of hosting several accomplished speakers over the course of the year. In March 2022, Dr. Abelson moderated a virtual discussion on the state of Canada-US relations, "American Backlash, Canadian Compromise: Are Canadians and Americans Converging or Diverging?," with Michael Adams, the founder and president of the Environics Institute for Survey Research. In light of the continuing social and political shifts in the US, this timely discussion explored whether Canadians and Americans are really that different, and if so, whether they are coming together or drifting apart in a world where relations between the two neighbours haven't quite returned to "normal," even after the Trump presidency. Also in March, Dr. Lajeunesse moderated a virtual discussion with The Right Honourable Brian Mulronev as part of the Distinguished Speakers Series. Prime Minister Mulronev spoke about the need for leadership and creativity in public policy, particularly at a time when geopolitical tension and social change have roiled international relations, and especially in light of the war in Ukraine. He also spoke passionately about how Canada can rise to these challenges.

On 22 September, the Distinguished Speakers Series was honoured to welcome The Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. Minister Fraser discussed his journey from Member of Parliament to Cabinet Minister, Canada's immigration strategy, and how today's youth can gain leadership skills to become the change-makers of the future. He spoke to a packed room of students and community members, and the event featured an energized Q&A session. Renowned Canadian journalist Jeffrey Simpson joined the Institute on 20 October. In his talk, "The Decline of the Liberal Party and the Re-shaping of Canadian Politics," Mr. Simpson discussed the status of the Liberal Party as a way to explore what has happened to Canada's

traditional political culture. Mr. Simpson also spoke to a third-year PGOV course on climate science policy.

The Mulronev Institute celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms on 6 April. The panel discussion, "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Reflecting on 40 Years of the Charter and the Patriation of the Constitution," delved into the effect of the Constitution Act, 1982 on Canadian democracy, judicial power, federalism, citizenship, and identity. The panelists included Institute Fellows Drs. James Bickerton and Yvon Grenier along with Political Science professors Drs. Rebecca Wallace and Ryan McKinnell.

On 18 May, the Mulronev Institute co-organized an event with the College of Europe. The virtual panel examined the fate and future of transatlantic relations. The event was moderated by Drs. Abelson and Stephen Brooks, editors of the newly published volume *Transatlantic Relations: Challenge and Resilience* (Routledge, 2022), and included the book's international contributors.

As part of the Mulronev Institute Fellows Lecture series, on 1 November, Dr. Greg Tkacz, professor in the Economics Department and Institute Fellow, spoke about inflation as a top concern on Canadians' minds. Dr. Tkacz discussed how the pandemic and current events impacted the surge in inflation and the likely evolution of inflation over the next several years.

Mulronev Hall was the site of many campus and community events over 2022. The state-of-the-art building is a community space, hosting conferences and special events. On 23-26 September, Mulronev Hall became a community and campus refuge after Hurricane Fiona battered campus and Antigonish. As one of few locations with power, Mulronev Hall opened its doors to students, faculty, and local families to charge devices and to find some respite from Fiona's wrath.



## STAFF



### CINDY MACKENZIE

Cindy MacKenzie is the spokesperson and Manager of Media Relations for StFX, overseeing external and internal media and stakeholder messaging. Previously the communications advisor to The Honourable Peter MacKay during his time as the Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Defence, Ms. MacKenzie has provided communications advice and support across Canada for funding announcements and for federal and provincial meetings. She has also participated in high-level foreign affairs and defence meetings with the US and Pakistani governments.

### ANNA ZUSCHLAG, PhD

Anna Zuschlag, PhD, is the Mulroneu Institute's Program/Research Manager. She is the managing editor of the Mulroneu Institute's publications, including the Mulroneu Papers on Public Policy and Governance and the new Review Essay series. She organizes the Institute's special events, Distinguished Speakers Series, and the Fellows and Visiting Fellows programs. She is overseeing the ongoing development of the Institute's digital policy collection and is the Institute's liaison with student groups such as the PGOV Student Society and Our House Too. Dr. Zuschlag also works closely with the editorial board of the newly launched *Policy+* student journal. Future projects for Dr. Zuschlag include cataloging and digitizing the Institute's collection of papers from Prime Minister Mulroneu. Dr. Zuschlag holds a PhD in American History from Western University.

