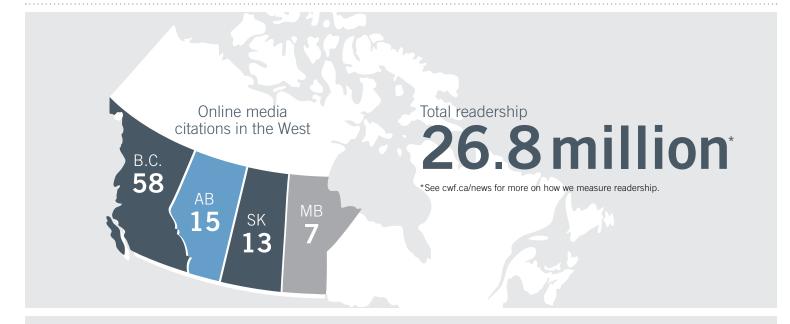
CANADA WEST FOUNDATION

# IN THE NEWS

Q2 2016

IN THE NEWS COMMENTARY MEDIA SNAPSHOT

#### CANADA WEST FOUNDATION MEDIA REPORT 🗷 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2016



#### RESEARCH FOCUSED MEDIA READERSHIP



POWER UP The hydro option

324,000

THE TPP The West wants in

355,000

LOOK OUT Toward a climate strategy that reduces global emissions

### 419,000

A SMOOTHER TRACK FOR EXPORTS

A framework for Alberta rail policy

12,500

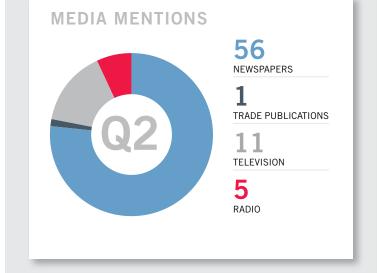
FAIR ENOUGH Assessing community confidence in energy authorities

180,000

Estimated readers

Op-ed media readership 723,000

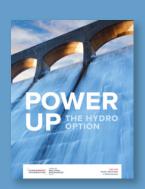
MEDIA MENTIONS Q2



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### IN THE NEWS







FXPORIS

**APRIL 2016** 



**JUNE 2016** 

**JUNE 2016** 

MAY 2016

**APRIL 2016** 

Bold, fact-based policy research can change the conversation about things that matter to people's everyday lives. This is reflected in second-quarter media results.

Look Out: Toward a climate strategy that reduces global emissions was released in May. It argued the West needs to reduce its emissions in a way that doesn't just shift emissions to other jurisdictions around the world while hurting our economy. The report was followed by *Power Up: The hydro option*, which recommended that hydroelectricity get a closer look as a way to power a united western electricity grid. Hydro is as reliable as coal and cheaper than wind. Manitoba and B.C. have plentiful hydro resources and Alberta and Saskatchewan are looking for dependable, zero-emissions electricity. The report recommended that any new rules do not disadvantage hydroelectricity. Both reports were picked up by media in the West and across the country; Alberta's Environment Minister responded to the report by saying hydro will be on the table.

The TPP: The West wants in laid out how western provinces could benefit from the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement – the biggest trade deal Canada has ever been part of. Business-owners told us they appreciated the paper's western approach. Its Plan B option presented ideas on how to harvest benefits from the negotiations should other partners fail to ratify the deal.

We also took on the issue of trust in regulators. Canada has developed a sophisticated regulatory framework to lay the ground rules for resource development. Yet have made it clear that some people just don't trust the mandated authorities. Our Centre for Natural Resources Policy is seeking to understand why, and what can be done about it.

In Fair Enough: Assessing community confidence *in energy authorities*, author Michael Cleland teamed up with Laura Nourallah and Stewart Fast from the University of Ottawa to explore the issues behind the trust gap. They talked to a diverse group of leaders, including environmentalists, energy regulators, policymakers, Indigenous leaders and senior executives from energy companies. Leaders said while they do not ensure individuals and communities feel they have been better heard. Phase 2 of the research, field studies

How well is the freight rail system working in western Canada? Questions were raised after the "grain surge" of 2013-14 pushed railways in western Canada beyond their ability to deliver products to ports on time. The Government of Alberta asked the Centre for Trade & Investment Policy to explore how the freight rail system can become more responsive, while staying efficient. The resulting report, A Smoother Track for Exports: A framework for Alberta rail policy, found that the rail system is efficient and affordable when compared against other systems, but there is also room for improvement. It made 25 recommendations to improve logistics, co-ordination, information sharing and safety. The report will inform policy makers in not just Alberta but also across the West.

Media exposure for the guarter extended well beyond the western region. We also appeared in notable international publications, including Politico.com and The Economist magazine. Commentary by Carlo Dade, Director of the Centre for Trade & Investment Policy, on the Three Amigos summit in Ottawa appeared not only in The Economist, but also in numerous other online, print and television outlets.

### COMMENTARY

#### HIGHLIGHTED OPINION ARTICLES IN MAJOR NEWSPAPERS



B.C. could help Alberta and Site C at the same time

Naomi Christensen Vancouver Sun June 30, 2016

British Columbia has a problem. Alberta has a different, but related, problem. Maybe they should talk.

B.C. is building a massive hydro-electric dam in the northeast corner of the province, even though critics say internal demand for the power is overestimated and external customers are unsecured.

Alberta, meanwhile, has committed to breaking the coal habit. It will end all coalfired electrical generation by 2030 and replace two-thirds of it with renewables. The problem with the current favoured replacement, wind, is that it doesn't provide the baseload that will assure the province's industries keep turning. Oh, and has anyone looked at what happened to the cost of winddriven power in Ontario?

Enter hydro. As constant and reliable a source of electricity as coal. And, of the power sources that emit no GHGs, it is the most cost-effective, according to an analysis we did for our new report, *Power Up: The Hydro Option*....



thestarphoenix.com

### Can't afford to ignore North American market

Carlo Dade and Shachi Kurl Winnipeg Free Press, Saskatoon Star Phoenix and Vancouver Sun June 27, 2016

The leaders of North America meet, and Western Canada shrugs.

Given our most important trading relationships will be on the agenda when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau sits down Wednesday with U.S. President Barack Obama and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto at the North American Leaders Summit in Ottawa, it may be difficult to understand why.

There's a case to be made Western Canada through its almost singular focus on pursuing trade with Asia — has by default left the big conversations about trade in North America to those in the boardrooms of Toronto and cabinet tables of Ottawa.

This is worrying because so much is at stake — in fact, nothing less than our most important export market: the United States.

Over the two decades since the North America Free Trade Agreement was signed, hanging onto market share in the U.S. has become much tougher as others vie for a bite of our lunch....



How the West can lead on climate and energy

Trevor McLeod and Shafak Sajid Globe and Mail May 13, 2016

While all eyes have been drawn to the devastating wildfires around Fort McMurray, a significant warming of relationships among the western premiers passed by with barely a blip on the radar.

The Western Premiers' Conference in Vancouver on May 5 and 6 provided an early signal that Western leaders intend to put regional squabbles behind them and bury the hatchet in an effort to address larger regional concerns, such as energy-market access and climate change.

Canadians are used to provinces fighting over energy and the environment. The debate is fuelled by pipeline politics, climate strategy, ideological differences and questions about who should benefit. At times, the deepest divisions appear to be in the West.

... While news coverage touched on disaster assistance, softwood-lumber trade and the need to bring Manitoba into the New West Partnership...the premiers found common ground on two of the most crucial, contentious areas: energy and the environment. . . .

### MEDIA SNAPSHOT

**HIGHLIGHTED ARTICLES** 

### Three amigos and two spectres

### The Economist

June 25, 2016

When Ronald Reagan, running for president in 1979, proposed doing away with trade barriers between the United States, Canada and Mexico, he did so with his usual hyperbole. It would show that Americans were still capable of "dreaming up fantastic deeds and bringing them off to the surprise of an unbelieving world", he declared. The North American Free-Trade Agreement (NAFTA) signed by his successor, George H.W. Bush, and by his Canadian and Mexican counterparts in 1992 could not live up to such hype. But the benefits were still substantial, especially in the early years. Trade among NAFTA countries nearly quadrupled in nominal terms after the treaty took effect in 1994 (see chart). Northern Mexico industrialised. Productivity jumped in Canada, which had signed a free-trade deal with the United States six years earlier.

But when the "three amigos", as the leaders of the NAFTA countries call themselves, gather for one of their annual summits in Ottawa on June 29<sup>th</sup>, the mood will be uneasy rather than celebratory....

The three amigos will proclaim undying friendship, predicts Carlo Dade of the Canada West Foundation, a think-tank. But, he fears, this month's reunion may be the last. . . .

## Alberta should explore importing hydro from other provinces

### Chris Varcoe

Calgary Herald June 28, 2016

As Alberta and Saskatchewan move away from burning coal, there are looming questions ahead on how the two provinces can fill the power vacuum.

Should we turn to natural gas to create more electricity? Is momentum finally blowing behind wind? Is the spotlight now on solar?

How about hydro?

A new report by the Canada West Foundation says hydroelectricity is often overlooked, but "is the most cost-effective renewable energy source as the provinces work toward reducing electricity-based emissions."

It also might have the added benefit of helping Alberta negotiate a deal with British Columbia to get an oil pipeline built to the West Coast.

"This is an important conversation for Albertans, the cost associated with moving away from coal," says report co-author Naomi Christensen.

"We just really want to see people talking about all the different options." . . .

### CWF study says grain transportation backlog a 'perfect storm'

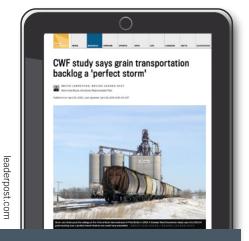
### Bruce Johnstone Regina Leader-Post

April 20, 2016

With the notable exception of the grain backlog in 2013-14, which cost western farmers billions of dollars in lost income, the rail transportation system is working well, according to the Canada West Foundation (CWF).

But a CWF study released Wednesday says "there's room for improvement" and makes 25 recommendations to improve safety, efficiency, service levels and flexibility in the rail transportation system.

However, the study authors concede no transportation system could have handled the "2013-14 surge," the record 76.3-million-tonne crop harvested by western farmers, which combined with extremely cold weather, lack of rail and grain handling capacity and logistics co-ordination led to the grain backlog. . . .



READ THE FULL ARTICLES AT *cwf.ca*