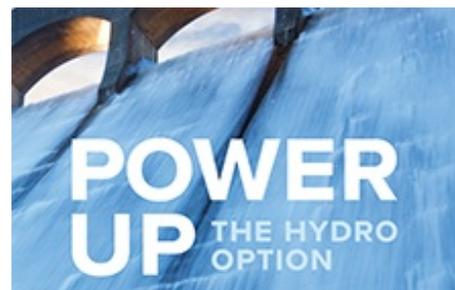


An update from the West's think tank

Visit our website

Powering up the hydro debate

When it comes to keeping the lights on, Canada has one of the cleanest electricity grids in the world. But, as the country works toward ambitious GHG reduction goals, there's still opportunity to reduce emissions in the electricity sector – without shifting them elsewhere, and without compromising the competitiveness of western Canada's trade-exposed economies.



Our latest report from the Centre for Natural Resources Policy points to hydro as the leading contender to make the change. [*Power Up: The hydro option*](#), recommends that hydroelectricity gets a closer look as a clean, cost-effective way to power a united western electricity grid. Alberta and Saskatchewan are looking for reliable, zero-emissions electricity to replace coal; Manitoba and B.C. have plentiful hydro resources. Western Canada prospers when the four provinces work together (read our op-eds in the West [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Our report has changed the conversation on reducing electricity emissions [just as](#)

Three Amigos news helps our experts reach millions



The North American Leaders Summit, which brings the leaders of Canada, United States and Mexico together, was held in Ottawa this week. The "Three Amigos" discussions were wide-ranging – including many issues of particular relevance to the West: climate policy, North American trade, and softwood lumber. If you caught some of the extensive coverage of the summit, chances are you'll have seen our research director Carlo Dade, an expert on North American relations, who was in high-demand to speak to the meeting's significance.

Carlo kicked off coverage with thought-provoking op-eds on why the West must pay attention to this relationship, [published in western papers](#) and the [Globe and Mail](#). Another highlight: He spoke to the Economist for the magazine's in-depth piece, [Three amigos and two spectres](#). Meanwhile, you may have caught him on multiple national news and current affairs programs, including [CTV's Power Play](#), [BNN](#), CBC's the National and the Exchange, across the Global TV network, in the National Post and in regional papers across the country. An interview with Reuters [carried Carlo's comments around the world](#), from India, to the UK, to Argentina. Our softwood lumber expert Naomi Christensen also weighed in on the softwood lumber discussions with the U.S., [speaking to the Vancouver Sun](#) and CBC News, and writing a blog for our website.

For the Foundation, this was an opportunity to ensure a western viewpoint remains front and centre amid high-profile international news.

A western view on TPP



The Trans-Pacific Partnership is the biggest trade deal Canada has been part of. The Pacific Rim trade deal has many potential benefits for the West, our paper, [The TPP: The West wants in](#), shows. We can't afford to be left out, says the Centre for Trade & Investment Policy paper. Yet, ratification is far from certain. That's why it's important to have a Plan B for how Canada can retain some of the benefits from the negotiations if the TPP does not come into effect.

The paper captured attention at home and across the border, including [in U.S. politics website Politico](#), on a call-in segment featuring the report on News Talk 770 in Calgary, and in the Regina Leader Post.

Human Capital looks at innovation in Vancouver

The Centre for Human Capital was in British Columbia in June to host an event at the Vancouver Club. The event partnered with SHAD, a program that encourages high-potential youth to bring their best selves to solving the world's problems.

At this Roger Gibbons Policy Innovation Fund event, a focus group of SHAD alumni offered thoughts about what Canada can do to encourage youth to be innovative and entrepreneurial. In the weeks to come, we will be developing policy recommendations that will increase youth entrepreneurship and innovation and harness the incredible energy that can bring to the economies of the West.

New research fellow brings cultural policy know-how

Please welcome our newest research fellow, Angie Gélinas. Angie is an arts management professional and cultural policy specialist, former Government of Saskatchewan deputy minister and, most recently, managing director of Calgary Opera. We're delighted to have her join our team of distinguished senior fellows at the Foundation. You can [read more about Angie, here](#).

Poll: How will you sing O Canada tomorrow?

This month, MPs passed a Commons vote [to make the national anthem more gender neutral](#). The change has provoked much discussion [in favour of the change](#), [questioning why it was made](#), and noting [the differences of the French lyrics](#). How will you sing our national anthem?

Take our one click poll: <http://poll.fm/5mqsj>

Last month, we asked you if a carbon tax is the most effective way to curb emissions. 52 per cent of you said we should let the private sector work on its own to find solutions, while 42 per cent agreed with implementing a carbon tax.

We welcome your comments

Want to talk about anything you read in this newsletter? Have an idea you would like to share? Send your comments to: feedback@cwf.ca



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