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Featured News

As the warm summer days come to an end, we hope you've all had time to relax, recharge and head into the fall with renewed energy. Meanwhile, the seasons may be changing, but Canada's focus on trade issues is not subsiding. The Canada West Foundation is advocating for smart, evidence-based policy solutions on a number of trade fronts.

Canada's best interests on trade

As NAFTA negotiators opened talks this month, Canada's controversial supply management system – a long-time trade irritant with the U.S. – was once again under the microscope. President and CEO Martha Hall Findlay is one of the leading voices for [proposing a transition away from the system](#) that is fair to all, including farmers. The [political debate](#) is heating up, but the issue is non-partisan, and [all politicians of all stripes](#) must do what is

right. [Her commentary](#) continues to [appear across the country](#), with more to come. The Foundation also partnered with NRG Research [for this poll](#) that shows that when push comes to shove in NAFTA talks, Canadians are willing to give up supply management. Carlo Dade, director of the Trade & Investment Centre, has been providing common sense analysis on overall NAFTA talks and issues of importance to the West and Canada. Meanwhile, he is also focusing on another key trade agreement for Canada, particularly the western provinces: the Trans–Pacific Partnership.

Carlo's report, [*The Art of the Trade Deal: Quantifying the benefits of a TPP without the United States*](#), has drawn significant global interest. Coverage of the report, which provided quantifiable evidence of the benefits of carrying on with the agreement without the U.S., appeared in publications including Politico, iPolitics and several international publications. It even drew a request for a copy directly from the White House. No wonder, considering the economic modelling shows the U.S. loses out by its withdrawal while Canada sees some of the biggest gains of all the countries still involved in the deal. This summer, Carlo launched a campaign challenging the government over its worrying silence on the issue, and urging Canada to ratify the deal as other signatory countries, including Japan, New Zealand and Malaysia, already have. That work continues this fall.

Capturing attention and making a difference

For a quick catchup on an incredibly busy year at the Foundation, take a look at our [2016 Annual Report](#). Through evidence–based policy solutions, our work changed the conversation on key national matters, including smart infrastructure spending, a better approach to job training and the forces driving how the public sees energy projects.

Of note, we publicly released 10 reports, 57 op–eds and had more than 1,600 media mentions across Canada, and in the Economist, the New York Times and BBC News – an important part of making sure the work we do gets noticed, is read and has real impact to effect change. Thank you to all our supporters for the financial, time and thought contributions that make this work happen.

A goodbye to a colleague, and a new opportunity

Some news to announce at the Foundation as Trevor McLeod, director of the Natural Resources Centre, is departing for an exciting new challenge in September. Trevor joined the Foundation in October 2014 and has invested

intelligence, passion and drive into championing the responsible development of the West's natural resources for the benefit of all. Under his guidance, the centre undertook a number of major projects including research that; challenged conventional thinking on public support for energy projects; drove the conversation on an integrated electricity grid in the western provinces; advocated for climate strategy that reduces global emissions. Trevor also became a trusted media commentator, and gave thoughtful – and thought-provoking – interviews in local papers, national tv programs and everything in between. And, he's shared his wit and wisdom over countless conversations on policy with all of us here at the Foundation – he's been an important part of our team and a mentor to many!

Trevor joins Enbridge September 12 as Senior Advisor, Public Policy, where he will continue his work on environment, Indigenous and competitiveness matters. Please join us in wishing him well!

Meanwhile, we have launched a search for the next Natural Resources Centre director to help the Foundation shape national policy discussions. [A posting will go up in the coming weeks on our website](#); please circulate it with your networks.

The untapped potential of seniorpreneurs

Our report, [*Seniorpreneurship: Don't retire – rewire*](#), finds that seniors have huge potential to revitalize the economy. Engaging more seniors – with their resources, experience and connections – in entrepreneurship can help create jobs and economic growth. It could also mean better health and well-being for more seniors. The report was commissioned by the [Top 7 Over 70](#) organization, a new awards program celebrating the older adults in the Calgary area. The awards will be announced at a gala in October.

Trade Forum 2017: Opportunities in an uncertain global economy

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade is holding its Trade Forum on October 27, 2017. Martha will be speaking at the event on the future of trade in the Pacific Rim. [Go here for ticket information and to register](#).

Must-read commentary

[Canada's supply management system for dairy is no longer defensible](#)
(Martha Hall Findlay, Globe and Mail)

[Digital provisions turn farmers into hackers](#)
(Jahangir Valiani and Carlo Dade, Policy Options)

[The TPP can fix Canadian farmers' beef with Japan's tariff](#)
(Eric Dalke, Carlo Dade and Daniel Pietikainen, Globe and Mail)

[TPP11 opportunity will sail into – or past – Vancouver](#)
(Carlo Dade, Vancouver Sun)

[TPP minus the U.S. gives Canada a leg up in Asia and in NAFTA talks](#)
(Carlo Dade & Hugh Stephens, Hill Times)

[Western silence will cost us on Asia-Pacific trade](#)
(Carlo Dade, The Province, Calgary Herald)

[Carbon tax won't reduce competitiveness; other policies might](#)
(Nick Martin, Edmonton Journal)

Featured op-ed

[If push comes to shove, Canadians will abandon supply management](#)
(Carlo Dade & Andrew Enns, iPolitics)

Canadians' support for supply management for dairy, eggs and poultry – which has been presented as rock-solid – evaporates when confronted with the tough choices that must be made in the coming renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

This is critical information for the Canadian government and Canadians themselves to understand as the country prepares for NAFTA negotiations where special interests will be spending massively to demonstrate public support for their particular 'ask' at the negotiating table.

[Read the rest of the op-ed online, here](#)

POLL: Winter Olympics or World Cup: Which world-class sporting event would you choose to host?

Canada is in the running to host the 2026 World Cup as part of a joint North American bid for the soccer games. If successful, the games would be hosted in a number of major Canadian cities. Meanwhile, Calgary is mulling a 2026 Winter Olympics bid of its own. But it's [not likely to be able to afford](#) hosting both soccer games and Winter Games. If it were your city and you got to choose, which sporting event would you prefer to see in your own backyard (tell us why in the comments)?

[Take our poll](#)

In our last poll, we asked you what's the most Canadian way to celebrate Canada 150. The majority of you chose *"Fighting off a raccoon that's trying to steal your maple bacon poutine-flavoured Canada Day cake,"* although *"Apologizing to your neighbours for any noise caused by your backyard celebration"* wasn't too far behind.

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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