

## 2023 FALL IMPACT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Sep. to Nov. 2023

### Flying to Flin Flon

Most every western resident has heard of it, but not many people can say they've visited Flin Flon. CWF's Janet Lane and Stephany Laverty can now pin their maps, for both visited in October where they met with stakeholders interested in attracting and retaining young talent. Stephany returned two weeks later where she gave the opening presentation at a University College of the North Linkages conference. She presented using survey and secondary research data from the [Manitoba youth talent attraction and retention project](#).

### Priming the premiers

In November, Gary Mar briefed the premiers of our two prairie neighbors about CWF's solutions to challenges facing the West. In mid-November, Gary along with Perrin Beatty, Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Mary Van Buren, Canadian Construction Association, and Chris Lorenc, Manitoba Heavy Construction Association, met with Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew to discuss trade and trade infrastructure. The next week found Gary in Saskatchewan where he met with Premier Scott Moe to discuss the multiple ways in which CWF work supports Saskatchewan's growth agenda.

### Optimizing regulatory systems

Both provincial and federal governments have been concerned about inefficient and sluggish approval processes for major projects. CWF has stepped in with analysis and advice. In August, Marla Orenstein addressed federal and provincial Ministers of Energy and Mines in Quebec City, with recommendations for how to optimize regulatory systems to achieve clean and sustainable growth. In November, Marla organized a roundtable in Ottawa for high-level personnel from the Privy Council Office, the Impact Assessment Agency, the Canadian Energy Regulator, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, DFO, NRCAN and ECCC to discuss regulatory efficiency. And Marla was invited to address the federal government's Ministerial Working Group on Regulatory Efficiency for Clean Growth Projects in December.

### Rapid response team

When the Supreme Court of Canada handed down its decision on the constitutionality of the *Impact Assessment Act*, we were ready – releasing same day op-eds and interviews. The result was an op-ed in the *Globe*, [Round two of Canada's boxing match over emissions goes to the provinces](#), another in the *Calgary Herald*, [Co-operative federalism is not unilateral federalism](#), and interviews with the *Globe and Mail*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and CBC's *Homestretch*, *Radio Active* and *Daybreak Alberta*.

### Western hospitality

Canada West Foundation is a popular stop for dignitaries touring through the West. This fall we hosted Arthur J.E. Child Pop-up Policy talks for [Paul Thoppil](#), Canada's Indo-Pacific Trade Rep, and [Mairead Lavery](#), President and CEO of Export Development Canada. We also entertained, or were entertained by, foreign dignitaries including Japan's ambassador to Canada, China's ambassador to Canada, the British High Commissioner to Canada and Australia's High Commissioner to Canada.

### Goodness of fit

In today's rapidly changing workplace, employers don't always have a true understanding of the skills they are looking for and candidates have trouble describing how and why they are a good fit. Janet Lane's report [Matching People with Jobs and Jobs with People](#) suggests moving to a competency-based system will alleviate the discrepancies and ensure people and jobs are better matched..

### Generating interest

[Electricity Systems Across the West: A Landscape Analysis](#), by Brendan Cooke and Marla Orenstein, drew significant interest from people across the West. Both Marla and Gary gave public and private talks to industry and government stakeholders in Alberta, B.C. and Manitoba.