

School of Public Policy and Administration

NEWSLETTER

September 2023 – Volume 11, Issue 16

The SPPA community welcomes Professor Bobbi-Jo Virtue!



[Bobbi-Jo Virtue](#) is an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Policy and Administration at York University. She uses she/her pronouns. She is Ininew (Cree) from St. Peter's/Peguis Community in Treaty 1 territory.

She earned a Master's of Public Administration from Queen's University and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Lake Superior State University. She has more than fifteen years of work experience in various levels of government, including Indigenous governance.

In order to ensure that she has wholistic knowledge, Bobbi-Jo has been working as a helper with traditional knowledge carriers and Elders for most of her life. To honour her gifts and responsibilities she honours reciprocal relationships with her community, both locally and back home. She is a strong advocate and an active grass-roots community member.

Research Interests:

Public administration, politics and government, policy, Indigenous pedagogy, anti-colonial education, Indigenous governance, justice, Indigenous justice, law, criminal justice, Indigenous language revitalization, gendered based violence and Indigenous Matriarchs.

MENTORSHIP CIRCLES – CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Dear students and alumni,

We are pleased to announce the call for participation in the 2023-2024 mentorship circles at SPPA.

Circles have 3 members (3 of the 4 categories represented in each circle):

Level 1: 1 Upper year BPA, MPPAL student or recent graduate at entry-level position

Level 2: 1 Analyst/Advisor

Level 3: 1 Manager

Level 4: 1 Senior Executive e.g.: Director, ADM, DM

Where possible, each group will consist of a Level 1, 2 and 3 or a Level 2, 3 and 4.

The minimum commitment is to hold two meetings for each grouping by end of March 2024, and preferably one more by the end of April or May, with the aim to advance the professional development and careers of participating members.

If you are interested in participating or have questions about the mentorship circles, please contact Prof. Naomi Couto, SPPA Director, via email at naomi@yorku.ca no later than **Thursday, October 19, 2023 - by 11:59pm.**

Please see the list of confirmed lead mentors on the next page. More to come!

MENTORSHIP CIRCLES – CALL FOR PARTICIPATION (continued)

Confirmed lead mentors include:

Fuad Abdi – Assistant Deputy Minister of Infrastructure at the Ministry of the Solicitor General

David Au – Assistant Deputy Minister, Employee Relations and Negotiations Division, Centre for Public Sector Labour Relations and Compensation, Treasury Board Secretariat

Sutha Balasingham - Director, Employment and Social Services, City of Toronto

Jim Cassimatis – Chief Operating Officer, Bereavement Authority of Ontario and former Assistant Deputy Minister, Enterprise Business Services Division at Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

Wendy Chen – Manager, Corporate Court Services, Services Support Unit, Ontario Ministry of Attorney General

John Chua – Acting Supervisor, Compliance Business Licensing & Regulatory Services, Municipal Licensing & Standards, City of Toronto

Judith D’Souza – Senior Director, Schedule II, Case Management Division, WSIB Ontario

Rocco Fasano – Senior Advisor, Distribution and Consumer Assistance Policy Branch, Ministry of Energy

Irwin Glasberg – Fairness Commissioner, Office of the Fairness Commissioner, OPS

Nathan Gomes – Senior Intergovernmental Affairs Economist, Economics, Justice and International Relations Policy, Ontario Cabinet Office

Ryan Hamilton – Detective Sergeant, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

Trevor J. Howard – Justice of the Peace at Ontario Court of Justice

Ezra Isaacson - Director, Funding Unit, Sector Support Performance & Accountability, Ontario Health

Ana Kapralos – Director, Program Modernization and Appointments, Policy Division, Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General

Michael Kehinde – Special Advisor/EA, Anti-Racism Directorate, Citizenship and Multiculturalism, OPS

Asare Kester-Akrofi – Acting Manager, Program and Strategic Support to Deputy City Manager of Corporate Services, City of Toronto

Ajay Nandalall – Manager, AI/Machine Learning Governance & Strategy, TD

Fausto Natarelli – Educator, mentor, and advisor. Former career public servant with positions spanning the Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx and York Region Rapid Transit Corporation

Nancy Sanders – Career public servant and former Assistant Deputy Minister, Solicitor General of Ontario

Victor J. Severino – Former Assistant Deputy Minister, Pandemic Response Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Joseph Silva – Treasurer and Director of Financial Services, City of Markham.

If you are interested in participating or have questions about the mentorship circles, please contact Prof. Naomi Couto, SPPA Director, via email at naomi@yorku.ca no later than **Thursday, October 19, 2023 - by 11:59pm.**

Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Ian Greene Book Prize Winners!



Melodie De Marinis



Lisa Reinhardt



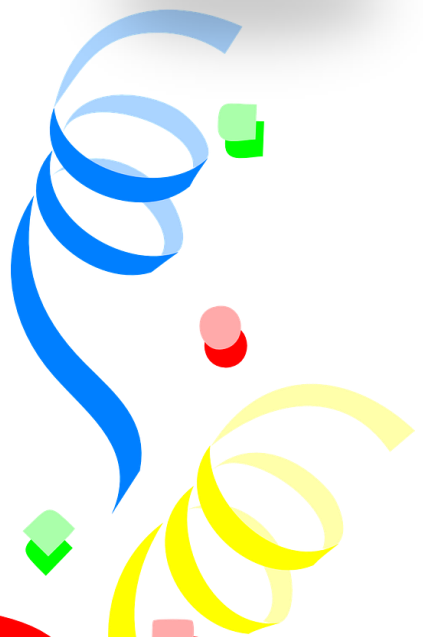
Liana Mischianti



Kelly Larkin Conway



Lauren Dranitsaris



SPPA's 2023 High School Essay Contest

Please share with any High School students or teachers you know!

TOPIC:

MAINTAINING INTEGRITY: HOW INFLUENCES OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND CHAT-GPT HAVE AND WILL PAVE THE PATH FORWARD IN YOUR SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS

The School of Public Policy & Administration at York University and its undergraduate student association, the [PPASA](#), invite high school students to submit essays for its 2023 competition. We ask that you reflect on this topic statement and how it applies to your generation. Don't forget to follow us on [Twitter!](#)



Eligibility Criteria

High school students in **grades 10-12** are invited to participate. Individual submissions or co-authored essays by up to 3 authors will be considered. The essays should be **500-1000 words** (1-2 pages) in length.

Process

A group of faculty, current students and alumni from the School of Public Policy & Administration will review the essays and nominate 3 winners. Essays can be submitted online **no later than Monday October 16, 2023**.

[Submit Application here](#)

Find out more about past winners and essay topics [here!](#)

Information Sessions: Master of Public Policy, Administration and Law (MPPAL)

Come and join MPPAL Graduate Program Director Prof. Ken Ogata to learn more about the MPPAL program at one of our upcoming information sessions. The MPPAL program is primarily a part-time program designed to provide entry level to mid-career professionals in the broader public service with the skills needed for effective public administration and public policy analysis, with an emphasis on law, social justice, program evaluation, leadership and public sector management.

We are also launching a new MPPAL stream in [Municipal Government](#) at our Markham campus location this Fall 2024. You could be part of our first cohort!

**Register for one of our upcoming Fall 2023
information sessions below:**

**Monday [November 6](#) , at 6:00pm – In person, Downtown
Toronto**

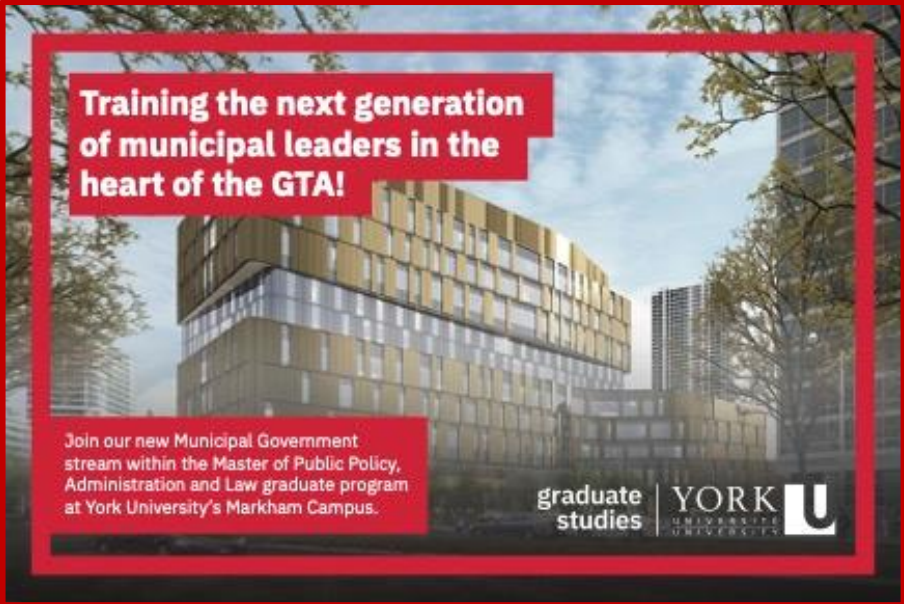
**Saturday, [November 18](#), at 1:00pm – In person, York-U, Keele
Campus**

To register, please use links on dates above.

To learn more about MPPAL, please visit:

<https://www.yorku.ca/gradstudies/ppal/>

The MPPAL program application deadline is January 15, 2024



**Training the next generation
of municipal leaders in the
heart of the GTA!**

Join our new Municipal Government
stream within the Master of Public Policy,
Administration and Law graduate program
at York University's Markham Campus.

graduate
studies | YORK
UNIVERSITY

We are Looking for JUNIOR AMBASSADORS!

If you are looking to elevate your undergraduate journey through a rewarding experience, this opportunity is for you. Apply to become a junior ambassador for the PPASA.



As a Junior Ambassador, your responsibilities will include:

- Becoming a representative for the PPASA
- Planning and attending networking events and professional development events
- Building close connections with students, faculty, and professionals
- Becoming involved in the community
- Transitioning to become an executive member of the PPASA

Deadline for [Application](#) submissions: OCTOBER 6, 2023

To learn more about the PPASA, please visit our [website](#).

York University's Writing Centre Services

The Writing Centre is providing writing support for all York University students.

Students can register for **one-to-one writing support with university writing instructors** at our Centre here:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/writing-centre/sign-in/>

In addition to individual writing instruction, the Writing Department offers **several workshops on specific aspects of writing**. Simply browse through our calendar and select the event you wish to attend for more details:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/writing-centre/workshops/>

Research Methods – Thursday September 28th at 1:30pm – 3:00 pm - How do you verify a reliable source? Join our workshop and find out: [Click here to join the session.](#)

Construct an Argument – Thursday October 3rd at 1:30pm – 3:00 pm – Is your thesis disappearing into your argument? Learn to clarify your thesis in our workshop: [Click here to join the session.](#)

All students are welcome! No RSVP required.

Do you have a quick question about your writing? Ask one of our writing experts at our **drop-in sessions, through our easy-to-access Zoom links**. No need to register or make an appointment, just click and go:

Drop-in session Fall 2023 schedule available here:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/writing-centre/writing-support/drop-in-sessions/>

For further information, please visit <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/writing-centre/> and/or email us at lapswrit@yorku.ca

Student Opportunities:

Student Paper Competition - The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada

We are seeking undergraduate and graduate student papers that recommend an evidence-based solution to an existing problem in Canada's financial ecosystem. In line with the competition's theme, proposed solutions should be directed at finding ways to encourage Canadians to take positive financial actions. Papers should include a relevant literature review, and a proposal for a study that could be conducted to test the effectiveness of the solution.

Deadline for submissions: April 30, 2024

Student Article Contribution – Excalibur Publications, York University

We are currently looking for student contributors for our paper. At Excalibur, we aim to report and cover stories that matter to students and members of the York community. We also publish creative pieces written by students and even photo essays. Your published contributions will be shown to a wide readership consisting of York students, alumni, community members, and members of the public. Whether you are a first-year student studying communications and political science, or a mature student working on an MBA, Excalibur is the platform to have your voice shared! If any student wishes to contribute, please feel free to contact us at editor@excal.on.ca, asstnews@excal.on.ca, or excal.news.editors@gmail.com.



Events and Conferences:

Emerging Leaders Conference – IPAC Toronto Region

Thursday, October 12 – 8:30am to 4:00pm – 333 Bay Street, Toronto, ON

The Emerging Leaders Conference aims to equip early-to-mid career public sector professionals with the skills and practical know-how, in particular through hands-on workshops & networking, to successfully navigate the changing nature of the public sector. In-person attendees will be served breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. Early-bird ticket sales will run until September 27, 2023. The early-bird rate for in-person participation is \$76. The regular price is \$96. IPAC members receive a 30% discount! To obtain the discount, use the promo code provided in a recent IPAC Toronto newsletter, or contact IPAC Toronto to obtain the promo code.

DARE Research Poster Session and Celebration – Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University

Tuesday, October 4, 12:00 to 2:00pm - Scott Library's Collaboratory

This year's DARE Research Poster Session and Celebration features diverse projects from students enrolled in the programs that cross the entire spectrum of LA&PS. This event is open to the public and no registration is required. Light refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please reach out to the LA&PS Research Office (lapsrsc@yorku.ca).

2023 National Forum on AI and Literacy: Threat or Opportunity? – United for Literacy

Thursday, October 5 at 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

How can we use AI effectively and ethically? What basic skills—like reading, writing, and math—do we need to use AI impactfully? Can AI help to eliminate education inequities, or will it deepen the divide? Can it be used to advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion in our increasingly polarized world? Join us on for an important forum discussion with a special appearance from ChatGPT.

York Circle Lecture series – York University Alumni

Saturday, October 14 at 9am to 1pm – Life Sciences Building, Keele Campus

Presented in partnership with our York Circle Chair, Jennifer Steeves (BA '94, MA '96, PhD '01), Associate Vice-President Research (AVPR), we are excited to welcome you back to Keele campus for the York Circle Lecture series. Hear from York's leading faculty members on a wide range of interesting topics that speak to some of the key themes that define York University.

[Manager, Business Planning & Financial Reporting - Nuclear Waste Management Organization](#)

Reporting to the Director, Business Planning & Enterprise Risk Management, this position will be accountable for supporting the development of the short- term and long- term strategy of the business, including managing the annual planning cycle and delivering financial, performance and business reporting and analysis to key stakeholders. Must be eligible to work in Canada and must be able to meet security clearance requirements. NWMO currently operates in a hybrid work model of 3 days in the office (Tuesdays being universal) and 2 days working from home.

[Developmental Student – Communications - Nuclear Waste Management Organization](#)

We are currently seeking an enthusiastic Developmental Communications Student placement. The successful candidate’s primary responsibility will support communications activities across the department. The Communications team operates in a fast-paced, creative environment and interacts with teams across the business. We are a not-for-profit organization implementing a large long-term national environmental infrastructure project that will last multiple generations. Students must be returning full-time to their program at their university following the completion of their work term or be full-time students requiring the work term or co-op placement to graduate.

[Developmental Student - Communications \(Bilingual\) - Nuclear Waste Management Organization](#)

We are currently seeking an enthusiastic Developmental Communications Student placement. The successful candidate’s primary responsibility will support communications activities across the department. The Communications team operates in a fast-paced, creative environment and interacts with teams across the business. We are a not-for-profit organization implementing a large long-term national environmental infrastructure project that will last multiple generations. Students must be returning full-time to their program at their university following the completion of their work term or be full-time students requiring the work term or co-op placement to graduate.

[Executive Director - Transparency International Canada](#)

As Executive Director, you will bear overall responsibility for leading the work of TI-Canada, including in terms of representing the organization publicly, delivering on its vision and strategic plan, managing its workforce, ensuring its financial stability and appropriate financial reporting, maintaining its networks and relationships, and overseeing the delivery of its projects and other work. This position will be hybrid in terms of working arrangements, with the location of the head office to be determined in due course. We are looking for someone who is or will be based in the Montreal-Toronto corridor.

[Execute Director – Lead Dog Consulting](#)

The Executive Director (ED) is an experienced senior leader who will support the KGSGNS Board and provide leadership to Secretariat staff. This is a full-time position located in Fort Good Hope, however flexible and part-time arrangements will be considered. The ED must be comfortable working independently and being the point of contact for the Secretariat Office in Fort Good Hope.

[Program Manager, Policy Research – Centre for International Governance and Innovation](#)

As part of the Program Management team, the Program Manager will be involved in the management and coordination of CIGI research programs and the continual improvement of CIGI’s program management tools and processes. *This position is based at CIGI’s Waterloo office where employees have a hybrid work environment.*

Manager, Fare Policy and Planning - Toronto Transit Commission

Reporting to the Head, Strategy and Foresight, the Manager, Fare Policy & Planning is responsible for the leadership of strategies, business cases and initiatives relating to TTC fare policy development and fare collection modernization. This position will oversee the implementation of enhancements that will deliver value for money for the TTC and ensure that TTC customer fare policies and payment methods meet the highest standards of transit worldwide. As a change manager and strategic thinker who can develop concrete actions from policy goals, the Manager will work on delivering key projects within expected timelines to ensure strategies are fully integrated with the City of Toronto, Metrolinx and the neighbouring transit agencies. The Manager, Fare Policy & Planning will also lead the innovation and continuous improvement efforts for the TTC.

Manager, Government Relations – CSA Group

This position is primarily responsible for driving and closing business opportunities with government departments and agencies that have been identified in the Government Relations strategic plan for Canada, in support of CSA Standards. The position will also contribute to ensuring visibility and understanding of CSA Standards' business activities and capabilities with government departments and agencies, advocating its relevant public policy positions, and developing new areas of business opportunity. The position will also bring first-hand knowledge, insight and intelligence to the strategic planning process of the Government Relations group.

Associate Professor in health policy or social policy – Johnson Shoyama School of Public Policy

The Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS) is recruiting for a tenure-stream position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, starting July 1, 2024. The position will be based at our University of Saskatchewan (USask) campus in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The successful candidate is expected to develop and maintain a highly productive research program, teach courses, supervise graduate students, participate in public engagement and outreach, and contribute to administrative activities. The Assistant or Associate Professor will teach across JSGS's academic programs (master's and PhD programs and several graduate certificates)

MANAGER POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY – City of Toronto

The Manager provides strategic leadership to drive the Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy implementation, across City divisions and agencies, including establishing broad policy and program directions, strategic priorities and key performance metrics.

Senior Policy Communications Editor & Writer — Blueprint ADE

As our Senior Policy Communications Editor & Writer, you will play a pivotal role in building awareness of Blueprint, our evidence generation approaches and our insights as a leading evidence organization in Canada. As a senior member of the Public Affairs and Communications team, you will marshal your experience and skills to collaboratively develop outstanding public-facing reports and translate research insights into compelling briefing materials and other communication products for an audience of senior Canadian decision makers.

Government Relations Officer - Office of the President, York University

Reporting to the Government and Community Relations (ADGCR), the Government Relations Officer will be responsible for supporting the advancement of York University's strategic government relations strategic plan by ensuring opportunities are developed and long-term relationships are cultivated and maintained between the University and its key stakeholders which support the university's efforts to advance our institutional strategic priorities.

[Director, Public Affairs – Centre for International Governance and Innovation](#)

The Director is responsible for the development and execution of CIGI's communications and government relations strategy. This position leads the Communications and Events, Digital Media and Publications teams in delivering a range of products and services including creative design, digital marketing, editorial content, media relations, multimedia, public relations, publishing, social media and web programming. The Director is also an ambassador for the organization who acts as a corporate spokesperson, builds relationships with news media and leads government relations.

[Policy Advisor – Ontario Ministry of Labor, Immigration, Training and Skills Development](#)

The Policy Advisory will develop strategic advice, policy and legislative options on employment and labor relations matters that directly affect the terms and conditions of employment in Ontario. They will provide policy analysis, advice and technical expertise to senior management, the Deputy Minister and the Minister on a broad range of employment issues; plan and participate on cross-cutting project teams from other divisions to plan the development and implementation strategies of policy products; and consult with key stakeholders to ensure policy proposals balance competing interests.

[Senior Researcher - Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer](#)

Reporting to the Research Manager, the Senior Researcher will play a substantive role in ONCAT's research projects and activities. In particular, the Senior Researcher will assume responsibility for ONCAT's Longitudinal Study of Transfer Students, a multi-year project that tracks and analyzes learner motivations, behaviors, and experiences. Tasks associated with this project will include conducting interviews and interpreting data, as well as producing multiple publications and presentations.

[Manager of Policy - Canadian Centre for Housing Rights](#)

The Manager of Policy leads CCHR's policy team and contributes to its comprehensive approach to advancing the right to housing in Canada. This role will be responsible for maintaining an up-to-date understanding of the policy and political landscape; reviewing, analyzing, and developing positions on existing and proposed public policy; and leading advocacy to advance policy positions with a range of government, public, and community agencies, including maintaining relationships with policymakers at the municipal, provincial, federal, and international levels.

[Senior Policy Advisor - Ministry of Finance](#)

The Financial Services Policy Division provides the Ministry of Finance with policy research, analysis and advice regarding Ontario's interest in, and regulation of, the financial services sector, including credit unions, co-operatives, mortgage brokers, the insurance industry and capital market participants. The Senior Policy Advisor will plan, lead and manage the development of capital markets regulatory policy.

[Corporate Planning Advisor – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#)

Reporting to the Team Lead, Strategic Planning, you will help craft our planning process through various corporate planning documents. To achieve these aims, you will communicate with stakeholders from across the organization to remain informed about current projects and initiatives. In addition, you will support GBA throughout the organization by helping bring a GBA lens to new policies and initiatives. This position can be done remotely.

Executive Director, Capital Services Branch - Ministry of Health - BC

The successful applicant will provide strategic leadership and vision within the ministry and to health authorities in the management of provincial health capital infrastructure, including hospitals, long-term care homes, community care facilities, medical and diagnostic equipment, and the largest ambulance fleet in North America. The position is responsible for leading the development and implementation of a capital policy framework to ensure best practices in planning, managing and financing health infrastructure needs. The successful applicant will lead the evaluation and oversight of significant and diverse health authority capital projects and makes recommendations with respect to health authorities' overall capital plans and specific project approvals.

Manager, Public Affairs - Canada Infrastructure Bank

The Manager, Public Affairs will be responsible for managing stakeholder relations and public affairs, working across departments to develop a stakeholder strategy that supports CIB projects and builds champions and supportive coalitions. In partnership with the Manager, Media Relations and Issues Management, the Manager, Public Affairs will monitor the parliamentary calendar, support responses to access to information requests, and engage with the Government of Canada.

Sr. Manager Public Policy - Rogers

The Rogers Corporate Affairs team is looking for an experienced public policy professional to provide policy research advice, opinions and communications reporting to the Senior Director of Environmental Social and Governance (ESG), on a broad range of public policy issues impacting Canadians and Rogers federally, provincially and municipally. The successful candidate will manage public policy activities for Rogers on several files (including but not limited to affordability, closing the digital divide, climate, jobs and the economy) and focus on building Rogers reputation as a trusted source on these topics.

Senior Advisor, Government Relations & Advocacy – Ontario Medical Association

The Senior Advisor, Government Relations and Advocacy is responsible for providing strategic advice and executing strategies to advance the government relations and advocacy goals of the Ontario Medical Association. This position identifies opportunities and develops and implement plans to influence key decision-makers in government and stakeholders. The Senior Advisor will monitor legislation, triage emerging issues for resolution, foster partnerships within and outside government (including with physician networks), and develop briefing notes, key messages, and written materials on advocacy-related content.

Promoting sustainable mining practices in Malaysia, Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development (EDM) - Cowater International, Funded by Global Affairs Canada

The technical expert(s) will prepare a written report on current sustainable mining practices, standards, policies, reporting requirements and performance indicators in Malaysia; international best practices in sustainable mining practices, including methodologies for monitoring, evaluating and reporting mining practices, with particular attention to those of Canada; measures that can be taken by public and private sector stakeholders to better promote the use of sustainable mining practices in Malaysia and the capacity-building needs of NRECC and other national and state-level government agencies.

[Manager, Housing Policy and Research – SHS Consulting](#)

The Manager, Housing Policy and Research position involves leading research and analysis to design and deliver housing policy recommendations to federal, provincial, and local governments and advance housing programs at the community level. The Manager, Housing Policy and Research, will possess proven analytical abilities and be skilled in evaluating, interpreting, and presenting data and policy options to the public and policymakers. Project managing an interdisciplinary team, the Manager, Housing Policy and Research, must have strong leadership and communication skills with a high degree of accountability and significant organizational and prioritization skills.

[Investigator, Public Interest Disclosure Act - Manitoba Ombudsman](#)

The Investigator's main function is to conduct investigations and reviews under *The Ombudsman Act* and *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* (PIDA) on behalf of the Ombudsman. The PIDA Investigator reviews public body compliance with the act; conducts assessments on disclosures of wrongdoing; develops and directs the investigation and audit plans; conducts research and interviews; collects and analyzes voluminous and complex information, legislation, policy and standards; integrates relevant evidence obtained in the investigation to make a finding regarding wrongdoing; and prepares comprehensive reports and recommends corrective action for the Ombudsman's consideration. All applicants are encouraged to apply, however first consideration for this competition will be given to Indigenous people, visible minorities, and persons with disabilities.

[Economist, Policy, Practice & Research - Registered Nurses Association of Ontario](#)

Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) is seeking a Economist/Health Analyst to join their Policy, Practice & Research Department. The primary function of the Economist/Health Analyst is to gather information and conduct economic and policy analysis of health care trends to support the strategic direction of RNAO. They will be expected to develop regular reports on key budgetary and economic issues in the health care sector, provide economic forecasting of labour market trends for nursing and other related fields, and assist in planning, coordinating, and marketing of conferences or workshops. The ideal candidate has a strong knowledge of health and social policy issues and at least two years in policy economic analysis and a comprehensive knowledge of economic trends.

[Senior Analyst - Pembina](#)

The Pembina Institute is seeking a highly motivated Senior Analyst to join its Buildings Program, to pursue strategies to accelerate low-carbon buildings through good policy development and regulatory reform, and to support supply chain growth. Reporting to the Buildings Program Director, the successful candidate will also collaborate with staff from other Pembina Institute teams, such as the Electricity, Oil and Gas, Renewables in Remote Communities and Equitable Transition programs. Candidates with technical expertise in research and project management are especially encouraged to apply.



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<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3908927>

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