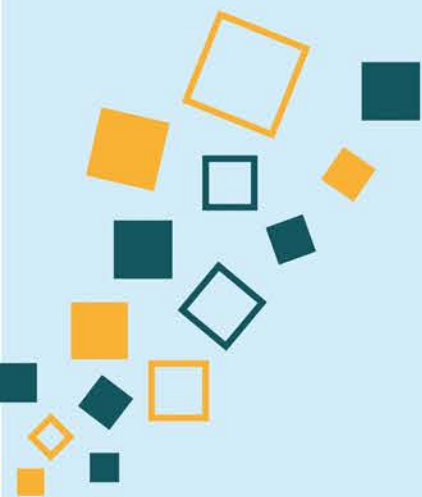


Theme 1 / Cohabitation in governance: a need for new policy approaches?

Thème 1 / La cohabitation en gouvernance : vers de nouvelles approches en politique publique?



STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY RESEARCH IN CANADA
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Issues and Challenges



- Climate change is an **urgent issue**
- Long-term **durability and resilience** to changing governments is key
- **Federalism** presents challenges for policy coordination
- Climate change is a **cross-cutting issue** requiring coordination and collaboration across many policy areas
- There is a need for more **inclusive processes**
- **Integration** across mitigation, adaptation, and clean growth is hard



Research Ideas: Four Themes



1. “Top-down, Bottom-Up, and Everything in Between”
2. Institutional Innovation and Institutions *of* Innovation
3. Knowledge Mobilization
4. Governance in the Context of Natural Resources



Research Ideas: *Top-Down, Bottom-Up, and Everything in Between*



- **Top-Down**

- Is there a need for more centralization? If so, what federally-led agreements have worked and why?
- What changes can be made at the federal level to improve coordination *within* government?

- **Bottom-up**

- What is the role of community engagement in policy development?
 - What are the most effective models of community/citizen-led policy development?
- What other players need to be involved to ensure the success of climate action (industry, NGOs, academia, youth, etc)?



Research Ideas: *Top-Down, Bottom-Up, and Everything in Between*



- **Multi-level Cooperation and Coordination (*Everything In-Between*)**
 - What are the best mechanisms for collaboration between multiple orders of government?
 - How can governance processes better recognize and support government-to-government relationships with Indigenous governments?
 - What is the role of municipalities in climate policy and decision-making?
 - Is it better to encourage policy harmonization? Or rather decentralization with overarching goals and missions?
 - What incentives (carrots and sticks) exist to encourage cooperation between governments?



Research Ideas: *Institutional Innovation and Institutions of Innovation*



- “What kind of **public sector** do we need for a low-carbon transition?”
- How can government institutions shift to an **innovative culture**, rather than one that’s risk-averse, fostering innovation inside and outside government?
 - E.g. Regulatory sandboxes, mission-oriented innovation, incubator approach
- What lessons can we learn from governments’ response to **COVID-19**?



Research Ideas: *Knowledge Mobilization*



- How can we effectively **mobilize and leverage the information and knowledge** that already exists?
- How can we learn from **best practices**?
 - Both in and outside of climate policy
 - Both in Canada and internationally



Research Ideas: Natural Resources

- **Shifting jobs and resources**
 - How to design pivot plans for small communities dependent on natural resource extraction?
 - What will be the role of rare earth minerals in Canada's natural resource sector?
 - What role will land use play in a low-carbon transition? What are the opportunities and trade-offs?
 - What types of energy will we use in the future and how do we prepare our infrastructure?
- **The circular economy**
 - What are the lifecycle impacts of biomass?
 - What innovation (both in terms of policy and technology) exists for waste diversion and management?

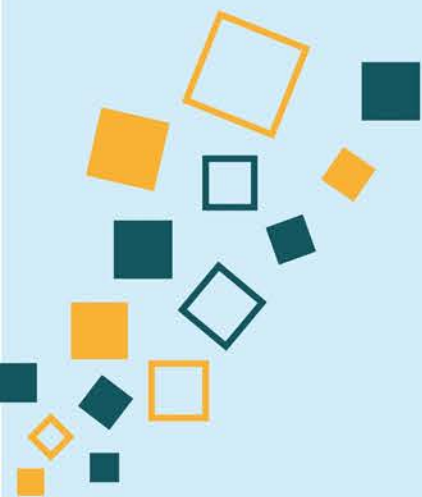
Theme 2 / Social and equity dimensions of low-carbon transitions and adaptation to a warming world

Thème 2 / Les dimensions sociales et d'équité de la transitions vers une société sobre en carbone et adapté à un monde plus chaud



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Select Equity Issues in Climate Policy & Research

- Both climate change policies and the impacts of climate change can exacerbate inequalities across Canada
- Perception of climate impacts are often disconnected from the lived experience of people
- Science has not shifted structurally to meet communities and co-generate knowledge
- Climate change policy and research is currently falling short



Major Themes



- Improving how research is conducted
- Wellbeing as a policy outcome
- Supporting action of practitioners and communities



Improving How Research is Conducted

- **Research questions developed in collaboration with people that are most impacted**
 - What are the right conditions to foster the trust and collaboration?
 - How are local case studies scalable?
 - What structures inhibit ability to listen?
- **Both western science and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge systems are used to inform policy**
 - How do we better braid knowledge systems to improve policy?
- **Interdisciplinary teams**
 - How do we better integrate adaptation, mitigation, and clean growth?



Wellbeing as a Policy Outcome



- **Framing the issue differently**
 - Solution-oriented
 - Setting GHG reductions and adaptation in broader context (such as SDG)
 - Forward looking research – defining future pathways based on a common vision
- **Focusing on issues that are compelling to people**
 - Health, food, housing, etc. are interconnected with climate change
 - Effects on wages, human capital, labor, etc.
- **Asking ‘what are the social justice implications?’**
 - What are the economic, social, and environmental costs of inaction?
 - How were disenfranchised groups meaningfully involved in research?



Supporting action of practitioners and communities



- **Supporting behavioral change**
 - What are the main drivers of behavioral change and factors that sustain changes over time?
 - How can we build initiatives that demonstrate benefits (e.g. agriculture extension model)?
- **Information is out there!**
 - Inventory and analysis of recommendations stemming from existing expert reports
 - Synthesizing to identify common and complementary actions
 - Learning from community-based research
- **Storytelling approaches to engage various groups**
 - Find ways to provide a voice through different medium (film, photography, art, ...)
 - Applied spatial planning (participatory map-making, etc.)



Reflections in the Context of the Natural Resources Sector



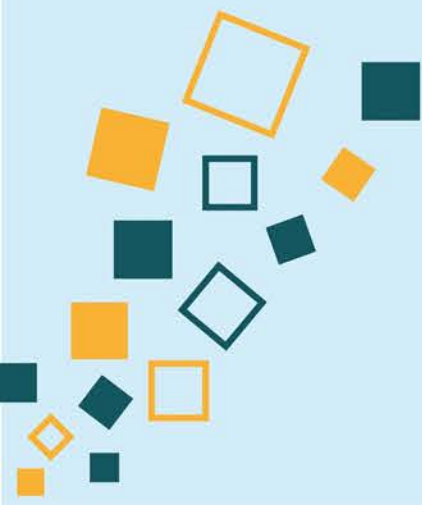
- 'Natural resources' should be defined broadly
- Natural resources are interconnected with health and the land
- Historically marginalized and disenfranchised groups should be meaningfully involved in the development of research questions and policies
- Researchers should start by listening

Theme 3 / Integrative strategies – realizing transformations through the successful implementation of climate policy

Thème 3 / Les stratégies intégratives – réaliser les transformations par la mise en œuvre réussie de politiques climatiques



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Issues and challenges (1/4)



Incremental versus disruptive change

- *Transformation* is required; small fixes aren't enough, we need systems change
- But aggressive change also risks a counter-reaction that can lead to backsliding
- Need to work at different time scales, squaring more incremental near-term action with the more fundamental transformation required in the long-term

Technical versus social innovation

- Easier to invest in "technological innovation" than in "social innovation"
- But societal transformation (for example, changing humans' relationship with nature) might prove critical
- How to drive social innovation at scale, in time?
- How to harness the energy that exists in youth-led movements on climate change?



Issues and challenges (2/4)



Thinking about financial, technological and behavioural dimensions requires:

- Acknowledging how power structures play a role
 - There are powerful institutions that will work against particular changes
 - Need a clear-eyed view of the way in which the fossil fuel sector, for example, engages on climate policy
- Grappling with complexity
 - A lot of players involved by definition, but also due to increasing complexity
- Regional realities
 - Transformation cannot and must not look the same everywhere
- Also thinking about other environmental challenges
 - Where to land on the spectrum of exclusive focus on climate vs. simultaneously considering impacts on biodiversity, air pollution, water quality, etc.



Issues and challenges (3/4)

Meaningful change will require:

- Integrated approaches
 - Need integrated approaches that include regulation, incentives, training, int'l cooperation, etc.
 - This does not often come naturally to governments because it requires breaking down silos
- Greater policy certainty, consistency
 - Need a stable, predictable policy landscape to drive change and investment
 - Need to address “protect” reactions on the part of industry that can act as barriers to policy change
 - *Across governments*: Need to achieve better harmonization without closing off space for governments to develop tailored solutions
 - *Within governments*: Need to better align policy and objectives across gov't departments and agencies



Issues and challenges (4/4)

Canada is ready for a “grown up” conversation

- We need to establish a social consensus that there is a problem and we need to act
- But this is also not enough
- The Canadian mindset is ripe for a conversation about "what do we want to be when we grow up". Do we want to be champions, leaders, and innovators - and how does climate change integrate with that?
- ...We need to be more intentional about what we want to achieve

Context matters in this conversation

- Considering equity, fairness
- Reflecting Canadian complexity
 - Federalism
 - Different politics across the country
 - Different sector-level challenges, opportunities



Research ideas



Grouped under five themes:

- *Measurement and indicators*
- *Setting (and acting on) priorities*
- *How to drive behavioural change*
- *Financial instruments, innovations*
- *Transformation pathways for Canada's natural resource sectors*



Research ideas: *Measurement and indicators*

- Consumption based GHG accounts for Canada
 - Not considering this could cause you to overlook the GHG emissions you're outsourcing to others
- Indicators for adaptation
 - Lack of data a big enough problem, we also lack consensus on what we need to measure, where our priorities are, what targets for the future should be
- Data barriers to measuring progress
 - Addressing data gaps, issues in what gets counted and how
- An integrated GIS showing health impacts from emissions, climate risks; include demographic and socioeconomic lenses



Research ideas: *Setting (and acting on) priorities*

- Priorities we need to act on now
 - Start with sectoral mapping, identify priorities, and do a deep dive on behavioural/tech/finance barriers and how to overcome them
 - *And/or* take a systems-level approach
 - e.g., what change do we want to drive in the natural gas energy ecosystem, for example, and how?
- Winning the long game through innovation
 - Develop a framework for assessing climate policies based on their ability to drive reductions or meaningful adaptation at home *and* abroad
 - Look for co-benefits: how can Canada create an industrial cluster around these areas that aligns with specific capacities or resources that exist in the country
 - The *how*: sandboxes, mission-driven innovation, portfolio approach



Research ideas: *How to drive behavioural change*

- Identify: What are the behavioural nudges that need to happen and how big do they have to be in a given area to unleash a given solution / remove barriers?
 - Mitigation: Recognize that making people feel guilty and responsible does not inspire, need to incentivize people to get involved
 - Adaptation: Information is power
- A realistic picture of behavioural change and technology adoption is necessary
 - Early vs late adopters
 - Risk perception and tolerance
 - ...Experiments can help reveal real-world behaviours, and what works



Research ideas: *Financial instruments, innovations*



- Realizing tax code changes for encouraging private sector investment in clean innovation
 - CCA, tax credits , flow-through shares (SP)
- Mortgage approvals that consider full costs of ownership
 - e.g., considering the impact of lower operating costs due to greater energy efficiency
- Public sector as green loan underwriter
 - Federal gov't could use its borrowing power to make green loans more accessible, acting as an underwriter like it does with CMHC



Research ideas: *Transformation pathways for Canada's natural resource sectors*



- How to transform the current fossil fuel sector into a clean hydrocarbon sector
 - Identify pathways for natural resources to be not only a source of emissions, but becoming part of a solution
 - Could we use fossil fuels other ways than burning them? Potential to use carbon fiber in vehicles, in concrete, etc. But costs are a barrier
 - How to support sub-sectors with high capex, thin margins and high GHGs?
- Provide clarity around challenges, barriers, investment needs
- *...And* the alternatives to this kind of transformation