

## CANADIAN ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION • ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

**DATE HELD:** Sunday May 24, 2020: 12:00–13:00 ET

**LOCATION:** Zoom video conference

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**In Attendance:** See Registration Report (enclosed on page 10).

**Chair of Meeting:** M. Scott Taylor, CEA President

Notice has been given to start the meeting. The required quorum of at least 15 members was present at the start of the meeting.

1. **Approval of the agenda**  
**Motion to approve the agenda**  
Moved: Ana Ferrer / Seconded: Werner Antweiler **CARRIED**
2. **Approval of the minutes from previous meeting**  
**Motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2019 meeting**  
Moved: Scott Taylor / Seconded: Ana Ferrer **CARRIED**
3. **Report of the President (Scott Taylor)**

This has been a tumultuous but very rewarding year at the CEA. There has been a tremendous amount of activity, and more importantly, progress, on several important fronts.

**CEA Board Members:** With the new governance structure, our 16-member Board of Directors is refreshed with four new members every year. One of the new members is designated to be in the Presidential stream, while the others are members at large although they may be asked to undertake certain roles on the Board. This year we are very happy to welcome as new members: **Janice Compton** (University of Manitoba), **Byron Lew** (Trent University), and **Brandon Schaufele** (Western University). Both Janice and Byron have previous administrative and committee experience we hope to tap in the coming year; while Brandon's Business school credentials will both round out the Board's academic resume and prove useful in matters of treasury and finance.

We are also delighted to announce that our Presidential stream member is **David Green (UBC)**. David is a well-known labor economist, former editor of the Canadian Journal of Economics, and former Head of the Vancouver School of Economics. He brings a wealth of administrative and academic expertise to the Board. We are all looking forward to working with David over the next four years.

At the same time, we have to say goodbye and thank our outgoing board members **Guy Lacroix, Krishna Pendakur** and **Maurice Roche**. All of them have served

admirably over the last four years, most recently on the Nominating and Budget committee and the Future Meetings committee. Scott thanked Guy, Krishna and Maurice for their service.

In addition, the Board loses our Past President **Anji Redish**. Anji has done a fantastic job helping guide the organization, was a very active President, and played important roles in earlier years as Vice-President and Deputy Vice President on the Board. Anji was also the Program Chair for the very successful meetings in Montreal at McGill University, and was at the helm when the organization initiated several important IT upgrades and publishing changes. In this last year she has provided very wise counsel to me on several occasions and made my job so much easier. Her Presidential Address delivered in Banff entitled: **“Treaty of Paris vs. Treaty of Niagara: Rethinking Canadian economic history in the 21st century”** was a thought-provoking and critical review of Canadian economic history. It highlighted the lack of research and discussion of resource ownership issues especially with regard to indigenous peoples. I found it extremely interesting and informative, and the audience left with a far better appreciation of the existing treaties and ongoing land claims. At the same time, Anji highlighted related and recent work in economics as a guide to future scholarship. Partly in response to her address, and because of the growing call for reconciliation, a group of economists in Canada and the United States formed a new economics study group focussing on indigenous issues under the auspices of the CEA. Anji’s excellent leadership and good cheer on the Board will be missed by all. Thank you Anji.

**CEA Initiatives:** In addition to our regular business of planning annual academic meetings, awarding prizes, managing finances, and managing journals, we undertook several new projects this last year and brought to completion several others. In no particular order, I would like to draw your attention to the following items.

**Study Group Funding Model:** The board undertook a review of the funding model for study groups. The CEA provides funding for Study Group activities to both reward their very important participation in the annual meeting and to help groups develop research networks of like-minded academics working in important areas. After a review, the Board instituted a new funding model which continues to reward smaller study groups for their important work in fostering research in Canada while rewarding some of the larger groups differentially to account for their outsized role in managing submissions for our annual conference. The rules were adopted in December 2019 and were to be implemented this year starting with the 2020 meetings. Details can be found on the association’s website. Given the cancellation of the Toronto meetings, we have postponed the implementation until 2021.

**IT Changes:** There was a tremendous amount of work done on IT issues this year. In particular a transition of the CJE to a new Wiley platform – ScholarOne in the

fall of 2019; the transition of our website to a new Association Management System – Silkstart – starting in the fall of 2019; and the migration of conference management to a specialty organization called Ex ordo – in the spring of 2020. The individuals in charge of these transitions - Kate Cuff, Werner Antweiler and Nicole Fortin – deserve a great deal of thanks and praise for their efforts. The IT committee in general has carried a large load this two last years. In addition, Sonya Marion our CEA Executive Officer played a major role in the AMS transition and migration of materials; while Paula Emery was critical to our transition to Ex Ordo in time for our (ill fated) Toronto meetings.

**Climate Survey:** As you are probably aware, in the fall of 2019, the Canadian Women Economists Committee of the Canadian Economics Association administered a workplace climate survey for economists using the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago. The survey went out to 5,000 practicing economists in Canada, and includes most academic PhD holders in Canada, most masters and PhD students, and PhD economists in federal departments. The CEA provided initial financial support, while Board member and CWEC Chair **Beth Dhuey** did all of the heavy lifting working on the survey instrument, finding additional funding (the Bank of Canada is the lead sponsor), and implementation. Beth, and the CWEC sub-committee working on the survey, deserves a tremendous amount of credit for ensuring it took place. In Beth's absence, I doubt that it would have happened this year. The survey closed early in the year, and CWEC had planned several events at the Toronto meetings to discuss and highlight preliminary findings. These events will now be moved to 2021. Eventually, the data collected by the survey will be available to researchers (with application) and a follow up survey in five years is contemplated.

**Code of Conduct:** Perhaps inspired by the climate survey, the Board chose this year to develop a professional Code of Conduct for its members. Similar codes have recently been adopted by think tanks (the NBER), and major academic organizations (AEA). Working with these as starting points, and with input from the rest of the Board, I would like to thank **Ana Ferrer, Beth Dhuey, Vicky Barham, and Pierre-Carl Michaud** for their efforts in developing our Canadian Economics Association Code of Conduct. The preamble to the code's provision's reads as follows:

The Board adopted the Code of conduct in December of 2019. The full code is available on our website (<https://www.economics.ca/cpages/code-of-conduct>)

**Annual Meetings:** As you are also aware, this year's meetings in Toronto had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Cancelling sounds simple, but of course it is not. The Board and executive struggled with the decision given information at the time, but clearly made the right decision and fortunately quite early. I can happily report that the CEA had minimal financial losses from the cancellation. The meetings themselves were shaping up to be a fantastic. The local organizers, **Beth Dhuey** and **Gillian Hamilton**, did a fantastic job working

with the University of Toronto in booking prime venues for key events. The conference organizer, **Nicole Fortin**, had lined up a great set of speakers for our State-of-the-Art lectures, Purvis lunch, and Innis Lecture. As well, Nicole had spent considerable time selecting, developing and working on an electronic conference management system which we launched for Toronto. Some of the events from 2020 will be moved to Vancouver 2021, and in this coming year we will be developing plans in case our year of Covid related restrictions stretches into two. One major event did take place this year: the Purvis luncheon address by Anne Case. In addition, the CEA-Bank of Canada Undergraduate Poster Session will proceed online. Thank you to the **Bank of Canada** and to the poster committee members. Thanks go to Paula Emery and Sonya Marion for all of their work on the conference and implementation of the Ex Ordo system.

**New Fellows:** Turning to more pleasant things, one of the most significant duties of the Board is the election of new Fellows of the CEA. The Board puts out a call for nominations to all members. Fellowship recognizes “achievements and contribution to the discipline of the most prominent economists who have spent a significant portion of their career in Canada”. We have named only a handful of fellows, and the rigorous selection process we have adopted whittles the many nominations down to a select two or three each year. I would like to thank all the members of this year’s Nomination committee for their hard work in making this year’s selection. This year we are happy to announce the election of **Nancy Gallini, Lars Osberg** and **Craig Riddell**. A short citation to their work will appear on the CEA website and be published in the CJE this fall. Congratulations to our new fellows.

**Appointments:** We would also like to announce the reappointment of **Mike Veall** to managing editor of Canadian Public Policy for five more years. Mike has done and continues to do an excellent job and we are lucky to have him at the helm. In the spring of this year, we were fortunate to be able to reappoint **Gregor Smith** as the CEA’s representation to the NBER Board of Directors for another five-year term.

**Prizes:** The Association is also happy to award prizes for a number of outstanding contributions to the discipline and I would like to thank those who served on the selection committees and who made some difficult choices!

**The Doug Purvis Memorial Prize** is awarded annually to the authors of a highly significant, written contribution to Canadian economic policy. This year’s winner is the special issue of the Journal of Labour Economics entitled “Small Differences II: Public Policies in Canada and the United States”, edited by **David Card** and **Philip Oreopoulos**. Thanks go to Jen Baggs for chairing the committee, and Lars Osberg, Ken McKenzie, John Hoicka and Joseph Macaluso for serving. I would like to recognize Fred Purvis, whose generosity has made possible an increase in the value of the Purvis Prize to \$15,000.

**The John Rae Prize** is awarded every second year to the Canadian economist with the best research record during the last five years. This year's winner is **Yoram Halevy** of the University of Toronto for his work investigating deviations from standard rationality. I would like to thank the prize committee Arthur Robson(chair), Siwan Anderson and Fabian Lange.

**Economists Remembered:** The CEA recognizes the passing of Canadian economist over the past year. Scott took a moment to recognize the passing of **Sylvia Ostry** who died recently at the age of 92. The CEA will look into a way to honouring her as a pioneering female economist in Canada.

**Thank you:** The CEA runs on the goodwill and community-minded service of many people, not only those on this year's current Board. On behalf of the entire Board, I would like to thank former board members for their continued support and counsel. **Nancy Gallini** and **Frances Woolley** have offered advice on occasion, as has **Bob Dimand** as former Secretary-Treasurer. **Jim Brander** has taken part in the Journal Committee and the negotiations with Wiley. **Randall Morck** and **James MacKinnon** have advised us on the investment management.

One of the strengths of the Association is that it can rely on a pool of expertise and knowledge beyond the current Board members and Executive. It was a pleasure and honor to serve as your President.

#### 4. **Report of the Treasurer (Werner Antweiler)**

Werner thanked the members of the Finance & Budget Committee and the members of the Investment Committee.

**Membership:** Membership numbers were strong in 2019 with the Banff conference; the year ended with 1,984 members. Total membership is presently at 1,165 with the conference cancellation. The board of directors approved a motion at their last meeting to keep membership rates for 2021 the same as for 2020. Renewals commence at the end of 2020.

**2019 Financials:** Our 2019 financial statements were prepared by our external accountants, Truster Zweig LLP. For 2019, there was a \$61K drop in revenue for 2019. This is due a decrease in revenue from the SSHRC grant (\$30K) as we are no longer eligible for it, a small decrease in conference revenue (\$14K) and a larger decrease in royalties from Wiley (\$21K). This was offset slightly by increased income from memberships, investment, and other sources (\$4K). There were one-time direct costs in 2019 for the IT transition in 2019 of about \$28.7K. The 2019 *Net deficiency of revenue over expenses* for was \$58K, while the 2018 *Net excess of revenue over expenses* was \$42K. Hence, the two-year combined deficit is \$16K. The net assets remain strong, and overall, the Association is in a healthy state; however, Werner has identified that there appears to be a structural deficit in our

budget that will need to be addressed by the budget committee.

**2020 Financials & Challenges:** The conference was cancelled just over two months before it was scheduled to take place. Although the cost of the room booking was avoided, there has been over \$50K spent on conference expenses (software, conference organizers, conference coordinator) with no matching revenue. At the same time, there is a change in the timing of the CJE royalty payment with the transition to the new Wiley contract; we are now paid the total royalty for the year in the following period with no advancement paid. Therefore, the CEA will have to divest some money from their investment account to fund the remaining 2020 operating expenses.

**Compliance Reporting:** the CEA has filed all of their required reporting to date including sales taxes with the CRA and Revenue Quebec. The CEA does not pay corporate taxes but files a T2 return.

5. **Motion to appoint Trustee Zweig LLP as the Public Accountant pursuant to section 13.1 of the Bylaws**

Moved: Werner Antweiler / Seconded: Ana Ferrer

**CARRIED**

6. **Report of the Secretary (Ana Ferrer)**

**Distinguished Service Award:** The CEA Distinguished Service Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to the Canadian Economics Association and to the community of academic economists in Canada. The CEA is pleased to present this award to **Frances Woolley** for her contributions to the CEA including the substantial task of writing the new bylaws during the professionalization of the CEA.

**Future Meetings:** SFU is to host CEA2021 with **Francisco Ruge-Murcia** (McGill) as the program chair and **Steeve Mongrain** (SFU) as the local organizer. Prior to last year's AGM, the Board voted to hold the CEA2022 Meetings at Carleton University.

For the CEA2023 Meetings, the Future Meetings Committee evaluated two proposals from the Universities of Manitoba/Winnipeg and from the University of Edmonton. The Board voted in December 2019 in favour of holding the CEA2023 meetings at the convention centre in Winnipeg. Information on how to host a future CEA Annual Meeting can be found on the CEA website, here: <https://www.economics.ca/cpages/future-annual-meetings>

What is the CEA not moving the cancelled Toronto 2020 conference to 2021? To hold the meeting space, there are typically contracts in place two to three years in advance that typically have penalties to break. Hence, the CEA is keeping with the

current schedule and will tentatively return to Toronto for CEA2024 (to be approved by a future board).

7. **Election of New CEA Directors (Ana Ferrer)**

The new directors are elected to the board by acclamation following section 5.7 of the Bylaws. The newly elected directors are **Janice Compton** (University of Manitoba), **David Green** (University of British Columbia), **Byron Lew** (Trent University), and **Brandon Schaufele** (Western University). The board appoints the officers of the corporation including the incoming deputy-vice president. David Green is the director recommended for the presidential cycle and to serve as the chair for the 2022 conference.

8. **Report of the CWEC chair (Elizabeth Dhuey)**

**Climate Survey of the Economics Profession in Canada:** The data from the NORC survey has arrived. The analysis is forthcoming, and we look forward to sharing the results.

**COVID-19 Response:** A general survey to members for impact of COVID-19 on academic workloads will be circulated next week.

**Media Engagement Workshop:** CWEC has a proposal from *Informed Opinions* to run a media engagement workshop with Shari Graydon. There will be five sessions. Empirically, we know that women are saying no to media requests. This training would help to address this issue.

9. **Report of the Managing Editor of CJE/RCE (Katherine Cuff)**

Katherine thanked the members of the editorial board (co-editors, data editor and editorial advisors), our journal manager and copy-editor, our numerous referees and contributing authors, and the CEA Board. A special thank you was given to the two outgoing co-editors **Hiro Kasahara** and **Fabian Lange**.

**Updates on journal activities since June 2019:** Our CJE archive now available to CEA members on [Wiley Online Library](#). There is a New journal website ([www.economics.ca/cpages/cje-home](http://www.economics.ca/cpages/cje-home)). A New contract with Wiley was signed; changes include the use of Wiley Author Services for copyright transfer agreements, and the adoption of ScholarOne as our new peer review management system. The co-editor remuneration schedule and the data availability policy were both revised.

The journal's submissions are up from 2018 (300 vs 256). The median time to first decision was unchanged (75 days), and the mean is down (75 vs 84). The

journal published 51 articles in 2019 (up from 45 in 2018). Published articles include four Viewpoint articles (MacKinnon, Williamson, Fortin, and Restuccia), the Presidential Address (Redish) and the Innis Lecture (Nunn). Further, the journal published citations for new CEA Fellows. There were some publication delays with last two issues (August 2019 and November 2019), but these production issues have been resolved.

**Recent and forthcoming publications:** There will be a special section with papers in honour of W. Craig Riddell guest edited by David Green (UBC) and Michael Baker (Toronto) published in our February 2020 issue. Our special issue on '**Immigration in OECD Countries**' will be published in **November 2020** and will be guest edited by Arthur Sweetman (McMaster) and Hillel Rapoport (Paris School of Economics). *Thank you very much to these guest editors for their contributions!*

### **Canadian Journal of Economics Paper Prizes**

**Harry Johnson Prize** is awarded for the best paper published in the CJE the preceding year (*45 papers*). This year's winners are **Lauren E. Jones** (Ohio State University), **Kevin Milligan** (UBC) and **Mark Stabile** (INSEAD) for their paper "**Child cash benefits and family expenditures: Evidence from the National Child Benefit**" published in the November 2019 issue.

**Robert Mundell Prize** is awarded to a "young" author or authors of the best paper published in the CJE the previous two calendar years (*21 papers*). This year's winner is **Brock Smith** (Montana State University) for his paper "**Dutch disease and the oil boom and busts**" published in the May 2019 issue.

Many thanks to the 2019 Prize committee **Decio Coviello** (Chair, HEC Montréal), **Sergei Severinov** (UBC) and **Michelle Alexopoulos** (Toronto).

The complete CJE Annual Report has been posted to the CEA's website.

#### **10. Report of the Managing Editor of CPP/Adp (Michael Veall)**

The journal is running smoothly and is in sound financial position. Thank you to the CPP/ Adp journal manager, **Olivier Lebert**. The Canadian Public Policy(CPP)/Analyse de politique (Adp). Until June 15, CPP/AdP is providing expedited review and publication of COVID papers, with 2-week final decision turnaround.

### **CPP/Adp announced the following honours for 2019**

**Referee of the Year:** The Board of Editors selected **Jonathan Rhys Kesselman** of



Simon Fraser University as the The Referee of the Year.

**The John Vanderkamp Prize** is awarded annually by the Canadian Public Policy for the best paper in the preceding year. This year's winners are **Tracy Snoddon** of Wilfrid Laurier University and **Trevor Tombe** of the University of Calgary for their paper, "**Analysis of Carbon Tax Treatment in Canada's Equalization Program**" published in the September 2019 issue.

The Vanderkamp Prize committee of Philippe Barla (Laval University), Nicole Denier (University of Alberta), Greg Tkacz (St. Francis Xavier University) and Mike Veall (McMaster University) selected as the runner-up "**Employment and Job Search Implications of the Extended Weeks and Working While on Claim Pilot Initiatives**" in the June 2019 issue by **Stéphanie Lluis** of the University of Waterloo and **Brian McCall** of the University of Michigan".

**11. Concluding remarks from Nicole Fortin, Conference Chair**

Nicole thanked the CEA2020 local organizers, **Beth Dhuey** and **Gillian Hamilton**. The Purvis Lecture given by Anne Case was held on Friday and the Undergraduate poster sessions will proceed on Monday. Some of this year's speakers will be moved to next year or the following year in Ottawa. The format for the 2021 conference is in question, but the present consensus is to prepare for a hybrid model, follow the progression of online conferences over the summer, and re-assess as the situation evolves.

**11. Other Business**

None.

**Motion to adjourn**

Moved: Nicole Fortin / Seconded: Ana Ferrer

**CARRIED**

Registered Attendees:

| <b>Last Name:</b> | <b>First Name:</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Abdul             | Kingsley           |
| Aguirregabiria    | Victor             |
| Akbulut-Yuksel    | Mevlude            |
| Amano             | Isabelle           |
| Asiamah           | Henrietta          |
| Aziz              | Nusrate            |
| Bajona            | Claustre           |
| Baker             | Michael            |
| Baldwin           | Andrew             |
| Barham            | Vicky              |
| Bokana            | Koye Gerry         |
| Boyer             | Marcel             |
| Chapman           | James              |
| chen              | zhen               |
| Chiparawasha      | Francis            |
| Compton           | Janice             |
| conner            | william            |
| Connolly          | Marie              |
| Cuff              | Katherine          |
| Cyrus             | Teresa             |
| Dammert           | Ana                |
| Das Gupta         | Amlan              |
| Davidson          | Russell            |
| Dhuey             | Elizabeth          |
| Dimand            | Robert             |
| Ding              | Weili              |
| Dogra             | Rajni              |
| Emery             | Paula              |
| Ferrer            | Ana                |
| Fortin            | Nicole             |
| Ghosh             | Madanmohan         |
| Green             | David              |
| Halevy            | Yoram              |
| Hamilton          | Gillian            |
| Huynh             | Kim                |
| Jin               | Zeyang             |
| Jones             | Lauren             |

|             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Kabore      | Philippe              |
| Karnizova   | Lilia                 |
| Khan        | Hashmat               |
| Lacroix     | Guy                   |
| Lahiri      | Sajal                 |
| Lew         | Byron                 |
| Liaqat      | Zara                  |
| Liu         | Beizhan               |
| Luitel      | Hari                  |
| MacLean     | Brian                 |
| Mansour     | Poles                 |
| Marion      | Sonya                 |
| Mihajlovic  | Radmila               |
| Milligan    | Kevin                 |
| Mohnen      | Pierre                |
| Mutascu     | Mihai                 |
| Nana        | Aymar Berenger Ismael |
| Nikpoor     | Somaieh               |
| Oladunni    | Sunday                |
| Otchere     | Dan                   |
| Ouazad      | Amine                 |
| Pendakur    | Krishna               |
| Pohler      | Dionne                |
| Redish      | Angela                |
| Robson      | Arthur                |
| Ross        | Thomas                |
| Ruge-Murcia | Francisco             |
| Schaufele   | Brandon               |
| Schroeder   | Adrian                |
| Smith       | Brock                 |
| Smith       | Gregor                |
| Stabile     | Mark                  |
| Tapp        | Stephen               |
| Taylor      | Scott                 |
| Uzum        | Jim                   |
| Vavra       | Jim                   |
| Veall       | Michael               |
| Wang        | Feicheng              |
| Woolley     | Frances               |
| Yamazaki    | Akio                  |