Queen’s International Institute on Social Policy

The Millennials’ Challenge: Young Adults and Intergenerational Fairness

August 24 - 26, 2015
Kingston, Ontario

QueensSPS #QIISP15

Queen's University | Policy Studies
Monday August 24

5:30 – 7:30 pm  **Opening Welcome Reception**  
Battery Park*  
Residence Inn by Marriott, Kingston Water’s Edge, 7 Earl St, Kingston

Tuesday August 25

7:30 - 8:30  Conference Registration

8:30 - 8:45  **Welcome and Introduction**  
*A. Scott Carson*, Stauffer-Dunning Chair and Executive Director, School of Policy Studies, Queen’s University  
*Keith Banting*, Stauffer-Dunning Fellow in the School of Policy Studies and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Studies, Queen’s University

8:45 - 10:15  **Session 1: Overview: young adults in an international perspective**  
Moderator: *Benoit Robidoux*, Associate Deputy Minister, Employment and Social Development Canada  
*Claire Keane*, Economist, Social Policy Division, OECD  
*John Myles*, Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Senior Fellow, School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Toronto

10:15 -10:45  **BREAK**

10:45 -12:30  **Session 2: Economic prospects: education, employment, incomes**  
Moderator: *Marie-Lison Fougère*, Acting Deputy Minister, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Ontario  
*Harry Holzer*, Professor of Public Policy, Georgetown University, Washington DC  
*René Morissette*, Assistant Director, Research, Social Analysis Division, Statistics Canada  
*Sevaun Palvetzian*, Chief Executive Officer, CivicAction, Toronto

12:30 -1:30  **LUNCH**, Battery Park

1:30 - 3:00  **Session 3: Social transitions and family policy**  
Moderator: *Janet Menard*, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ontario  
*Dan Woodman*, TR Ashworth Senior Lecturer and Head of Discipline for Sociology, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne, Australia  
*Pierre Fortin*, Professor of Economics, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)

3:00 - 3:30  **BREAK**
3:30 - 5:15  Session 4: **Aboriginal young adults**  
Moderator: **Deborah Richardson**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Ontario

**Andrew Sharpe**, Executive Director, Centre for the Study of Living Standards, Ottawa  
**Jason Ryle**, Executive Director imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, Toronto  
**Jessica Bolduc**, Executive Director, 4Rs Youth Movement

6:15  **Reception**, Battery Park  
7:15  **Dinner**, St. Lawrence Ballroom

### Wednesday August 26

8:30 -10:15  Session 5: **Marginalized young adults**  
Moderator: **Anita Biguzs**, Deputy Minister, Citizenship and Immigration Canada

**Mark Courtney**, Professor, School of Social Service Administration and affiliated scholar at Chapin Hall, University of Chicago  
**Monica Boyd**, Canada Research Chair in Immigration, Inequality and Public Policy and Professor of Sociology, University of Toronto  
**Loralee Gillis**, Coordinator of Research and Policy, Rainbow Health Ontario

10:15 - 10:45  **BREAK**

10:45 - 12:15  Session 6: **Intergenerational equity: the contours of the social contract**  
Moderator: **Patricia Walcott**, General Manager, Employment and Social Services, City of Toronto

**Marco Albertini**, Associate Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna  
**Paul Kershaw**, Founder of Generation Squeeze, and Professor of Policy, School of Population Health, University of British Columbia

12:15 - 1:15  **LUNCH**, Battery Park

1:15 - 3:00  Session 7: **The attitudes and expectations of young adults, and the politics of policy responses**  
Moderator: **Margaret Biggs**, Skelton-Clark Fellow, School of Policy Studies, Queen’s University

**Paul Taylor**, Former Executive Vice President, PEW Research  
**David Coletto**, Founding partner and CEO, Abacus Data, Ottawa

3:00  **CONFERENCE ENDS**

**Things to know:**

- Weather permitting, lunches will be served in Battery Park, located on the waterfront outside of the hotel. In case of inclement weather, lunch will be served in the foyer outside of the St. Lawrence Ballroom.

- Check-out time at the hotel is 12:00 PM and it is recommended that you check-out in the morning on your date of departure. The hotel will be happy to store your luggage for you until you are ready to leave.

- Taxis can be ordered in advance for guests needing transportation to the airport or train station. These can be ordered by visiting the conference registrations table or the hotel reservation counter.

- **Please ensure that you take time to fill out the pink QIISP Evaluation Form** that you received inside your conference agenda. Once it is filled out, please leave it and your name badge at the conference registration table when you leave on the final day.
Overview: young adults in an international perspective
8:45 – 10:15

**Benoît Robidoux** was appointed Associate Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development in July 6, 2015. He previously held the position of Assistant Deputy Minister of the Economic and Fiscal Policy Branch at Finance Canada since September 2010. He was responsible for overseeing the analysis and forecast of the country’s economic and fiscal situation—including the co-ordination of the Budget Plan and the Economic and Fiscal Update.

He has published his research in the Department of Finance Working Paper series and in economic reviews such as the *Journal of Monetary Economics* and the *International Productivity Monitor*. Born in St-Donat, Quebec, Mr. Robidoux received a bachelor degree in economics in 1984 and an MA in economics in 1985, both from the Université du Québec à Montréal. Mr. Robidoux joined Finance in 1985 as a junior economist in the Economic Studies and Policy Analysis Division. In 1993, he moved to the Economic Analysis and Forecasting Division as Co-ordinator of Policy Analysis and Modelling. He was then appointed Chief of the Canadian Forecasting in 1996 and Senior Chief of Forecasting and Modelling in 1998. He moved back to the Economic Studies and Policy Analysis Division as Director in 2002.

**Claire Keane** works as an economist in the area of youth in the Social Policy Division at the Education, Labour and Social Affairs Directorate of the OECD. Her work focuses on the NEET—Not in Employment, Education or Training—group of youths across OECD countries. This research involves examining the characteristics of NEETs in different countries, dynamic analysis to examine if NEET status is a long or short-term phenomenon and examining benefit receipt and poverty rates amongst NEETs. Her research also looks at the role of the educational system and social policies in helping NEETs. Claire holds a Ph.D. in economics, specialising in the area of labour and social affairs from University College Dublin and has published in journals such as the *European Economic Review*, *IZA Journal of European Labour Studies* and *Labour*.

**John Myles** is Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Senior Fellow in the School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Toronto. Until 2012, he was Canada Research Chair in the Social Foundations of Public Policy. He has written widely on the comparative politics of the welfare state and on topics related to income inequality and poverty. He is an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Leuven (Belgium) for his contributions to old age security policy. His recent publications include *Inequality and the Fading of Redistributive Politics* (UBC Press, 2013), co-edited with Keith Banting.

Economic prospects: education, employment, income
10:45 – 12:30

**Marie-Lison Fougère** was appointed Interim Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities in April 2015. Her responsibilities encompass a significant portfolio that supports Ontario’s economy. Under her leadership, the ministry delivers both employment and training programs that meet the changing needs of the province’s labour market, and a high-quality, accessible postsecondary education system that is globally competitive. Prior to this appointment, Fougère served for almost seven years as Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Programs Division, at the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities. In this role, she was responsible for strategic policy development and program design for both postsecondary education and labour market skills training.

Fougère was Assistant Deputy Minister of the Office of Francophone Affairs (OFA) where she led the transformation of French-language services in the Ontario Public Service (2005-07). She also has ten years of progressive experience at the Ministry of Education, where she held a variety of policy/program director portfolios. She studied political science and German literature at Dalhousie University (Halifax) and Heidelberg University in Germany. She also holds a Master’s degree from York University in Toronto. She is fluent in French, English, and German.
Harry J. Holzer is Professor of Public Policy at the McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University; an institute fellow at the American Institutes for Research; and a nonresident fellow at the Brookings Institution. He is a former Chief Economist at the US Department of Labor; a former (founding) director of the Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality and Public Policy; and a former professor of economics at Michigan State University. His research interests focus primarily on the low-wage labor market and on policies to improve employment outcomes of low-income workers. He is the author or editor of 11 books and over 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He has a B.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University.

René Morissette is a senior economist in the Social Analysis and Modelling Division of Statistics Canada. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Université de Montréal. Over the last 25 years, he has conducted numerous studies on a wide range of issues related to the Canadian labour market such as poverty, income and wealth inequality, worker displacement, youth employment, and changes in the Canadian wage structure. He has published papers in several peer-reviewed journals including the European Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, Review of Income and Wealth, International Migration Review, and Canadian Journal of Economics. In 2008-2009, he took a one-year leave to teach applied econometrics and macroeconomics at the Ethiopian Civil Service University in Addis Ababa, as a volunteer for VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas). After returning to Statistics Canada in March 2010, he has focused his research on the impact of job displacement on various workers’ outcomes and the impact of changes in the wage structure on school enrollment decisions and youth geographic labour mobility.

Sevaun Palvetzian is CEO of CivicAction, a not-for-profit that brings together established and rising leaders from all sectors to tackle urban challenges facing the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. Before joining CivicAction, Palvetzian held several roles within the Ontario Government including leading the Ontario Place Revitalization project. Passionate about youth development, she launched the Youth and New Professional Secretariat and the award-winning Learn and Work Program for at-risk youth. Prior to joining the Ontario Public Service, Palvetzian worked in Washington D.C. for civic education organization Presidential Classroom and the World Bank Group. Palvetzian has an M.A. in history from the University of Western Ontario and is a graduate of the Ivey Executive Program at the Richard Ivey School of Business.

Social transitions and family policy
1:30 – 3:00

With more than 30 years of experience in the field of human services, Janet Menard’s career has included progressive roles with Toronto, the Province of Ontario, Halton and Peel Regions. She joined Peel Region in 2001 and was named Commissioner of Human Services in July 2009. She joins the Ontario Public Service as the Deputy Minister effective August 17, 2015.

Career highlights include: The integration of Peel’s Human Services (social housing, early learning and child care, and Ontario Works) through the development of an integrated Human Services Plan, service delivery model and organizational structure, extensive not-for-profit board involvement with a range of human service organizations including Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), the Ontario Non-Profit Association (ONPHA), as well as community participation and leadership roles in organizations such as Peel Newcomer Strategy Group, Peel Poverty Reduction Committee, and Peel Children & Youth Initiative.
Dan Woodman is the T.R. Ashworth Senior Lecturer and Discipline Chair of Sociology in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He is Vice-President of the Australian Sociological Association and also Vice-President for Australia, New Zealand and Oceania of the Research Committee for the Sociology of Youth within the International Sociological Association. He is associate editor of *Journal of Youth Studies* and on the international editorial board of *Journal of Sociology*. His work focuses on the sociology of generations, social change, and the impact of insecure work and variable employment patterns on people’s relationships. His recent books are *Youth and Generation* (Sage), *Youth Cultures, Transitions, and Generations* (Palgrave) and the four-volume collection *Youth and Young Adulthood* (Routledge).

His research draws upon the Life-Patterns Project, a 24-year and ongoing longitudinal study following approximately 2000 Australians from the end of secondary school into middle age. He is also a chief investigator on a current study into the impacts of different working time patterns on people’s health practices and relationship quality.

Pierre Fortin is Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University of Quebec at Montréal, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a member of the National Statistics Council, and a past president of the Canadian Economics Association. He has published mainly in the areas of economic fluctuations, economic growth, labour economics and public policy. He was awarded the Gold Medal of the Governor General of Canada, the Prize of the French Canadian Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Douglas Purvis Memorial Prize for the best published book or article on Canadian economic policy. He was also recognized as “the most distinguished Quebec economist” by membership vote of the Quebec Association of Professional Economists. He was once a member of the Economic Council of Canada, and chief economic adviser to a Quebec Premier. He is a three-time winner of the Gold Medal of the National Magazine Awards Foundation for the best regular column in a Canadian magazine (*L’actualité*). He holds a B.A. in classical humanities from Laval University, an M.Sc. in mathematics from the University of Montréal, and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley.

Aboriginal young adults
3:30 – 5:15

Deborah Richardson obtained her undergraduate degree in Sociology and Law from Carleton University and her Bachelor of Laws at the University of Ottawa before being called to the Bar in 1996. She worked in business banking before becoming the Manager of Diversity for the Royal Bank of Canada and was appointed Executive Director of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto (1999). She then served as Director of Operations and Business Development for the OI Group of Companies.

Richardson joined the federal public service as Associate Regional Director General for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Affairs Canada (2004) and was appointed Regional Director General responsible for the federal department’s largest regional organization (2007). In 2008, she was recognized as a Top Leader under 40 and selected for the Governor General’s Leadership Program. The same year she was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister for the Aboriginal Relationships and Ministerial Partnerships division of the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. Deborah served as Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ring of Fire Secretariat at the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines in 2012 before taking a two-year leave to work with Ishkonigan Inc. as a member of the Executive team where she has led First Nations and Mètis engagement with 198 communities for a national energy project.
Andrew Sharpe is founder and Executive Director of the Ottawa-based Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS). Established in 1995, CSLS is a national, independent, non-profit research organization whose main objective is to study trends and determinants of productivity, living standards and economic well-being. He has held a variety of earlier positions, including Head of Research at the Canadian Labour Market and Productivity Centre and Chief, Business Sector Analysis at the Department of Finance. He holds a M.A. and Ph.D in economics from McGill University, a maîtrise in urban geography from the Université de Paris-Sorbonne, and a B.A. from the University of Toronto. He is also founder and Editor of the *International Productivity Monitor*, co-developer (with Lars Osberg) of the composite Index of Economic Well-being, a consultant to the World Bank on labor market issues, and Executive Director of the International Association for Research on Income and Wealth, an international research association dedicated to the advancement of knowledge relating to income and wealth.

Jason Ryle is Executive Director at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, the world’s largest showcase of film, video, audio and digital media created by Indigenous artists. Jason oversees all aspects of the organization including programming, operations, finance, and the annual Festival. He sits on the Board of Directors for Vtape, an independent video distributor, and is a script reader for The Harold Greenberg Fund, which provides financial aid to Canadian filmmakers. As an award-winning writer, Ryle has written for the Smithsonian Institution and has numerous publications throughout North America. He made his first short film in 2005 and has been programming alongside imagineNATIVE’s Programming Team since 2002.

Jessica Bolduc is Executive Director of the 4Rs Youth Movement, a collaboration between YMCA Canada and thirteen national organizations working with youth to create capacities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people to come together to cultivate understanding and action in support of a better Canada. Bolduc is of Anishinaabe-European heritage from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and is from the community of Batchewana First Nation. She is a board member of Community Foundations of Canada and the National Youth Representative for the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples. She received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her volunteer contributions to the advancement of Aboriginal people across Canada.

In her community, Jessica is working with other young leaders to foster arts-based economies, social infrastructure and hub spaces for change makers. She has a degree in Economics from Carleton University. She hopes her experience, and these initiatives will be a catalyst in the development of a more sustainable place to call home by strengthening inclusion and capacity of under-appreciated communities of people such as youth and Indigenous nations. In her spare time, Bolduc enjoys playing guitar, hosting and promoting live music shows, and being on the land, taking care to appreciate its richness.

Marginalized young adults
8:30 – 10:15

Anita Biguzs was appointed Deputy Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada in September 2013. She previously served as Associate Deputy Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Associate Deputy Minister of Transport, Communities and Infrastructure. Biguzs also served as Associate Secretary of the Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) (2009-12), where she was responsible for the provision of strategic advice and support on the management of the government’s resources and oversight of the financial management functions in departments and agencies.

Before joining TBS, Biguzs held numerous senior management positions in various federal departments and central agencies including Assistant Secretary of the Operations Secretariat supporting the Cabinet Committee on Operations and Director of Operations in the Economic and Regional Development Policy Secretariat of the Privy Council Office, Executive Director in the Social and Cultural Policy Sector of the Treasury Board Secretariat, Director General for Multiculturalism and Human Rights in the Department of Canadian Heritage and senior positions in policy and international affairs in the Department of Health and Welfare. In addition, she spent a two-year executive interchange assignment in the pharmaceutical sector. She is a graduate of Queen's University in Kingston and the Sorbonne University in Paris, France.
Mark E. Courtney is Professor in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. His fields of special interest are child welfare policy and services, the connection between child welfare services and other institutions serving families living in poverty, the transition to adulthood for vulnerable populations, and the professionalization of social work. He is a faculty affiliate of Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, which he served as Director from 2001 to 2006. He has also served on the faculties of the University of Wisconsin (1992-2000) and University of Washington (2007-2010). Courtney is an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Career Achievement Award from the Society for Social Work and Research and the Peter W. Forsythe Award for leadership in public child welfare from the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators. Courtney received an A.B. in Social Science from the University of California at Berkeley, and M.S.W. and Ph.D. degrees from the School of Social Welfare there. Before moving into academia, he worked in various capacities providing group care to abused and neglected adolescents.

Monica Boyd is Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto where she held the Canada Research Chair in Immigration, Inequality and Public Policy. Previously she was the Mildred and Claude Pepper Distinguished Professor at Florida State University and professor at Carleton University. She has held Visiting Scholar appointments at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, at Harvard University, and at Statistics Canada. In addition to her numerous contributions in advisory and consultant capacities to non-governmental organizations, Canadian government departments, the United Nations and the OECD, Boyd has served as Vice President of the Royal Society of Canada, as President of the Canadian Sociological Association and the Canadian Population Society and recently as Chair of the International Migration section of the American Sociological Association. Trained as a demographer and sociologist, Boyd has written numerous articles, books and monographs on the changing family, gender inequality, international migration (with foci on policy, on immigrant integration and on immigrant women) and ethnic stratification. She recently completed a SSHRC funded project on the “new” 1.5 and second generation (the children of immigrants) in Canada, and she currently is a co-PI on the SSHRC funded multi-nation project “Gender, Migration and the Work of Care.”

Loralee Gillis is responsible for supporting the development of LGBT health research in Ontario and for encouraging public policy that supports LGBT health and a network of 40 researchers across Ontario. She hosts networking and skills-building opportunities relating to research and public policy for the network, as well as service providers and community members. Previous sessions have focused on: getting funding for LGBT health research; best practices in LGBT health methods; developing effective knowledge transfer strategies, and understanding public policy.

Gillis is a co-investigator on several large team grants, which focus on different aspects of LGBT health. She also works with a team of research assistants and community partners to produce fact sheets which summarize the literature about particular areas of LGBT health research. She leads RHO’s policy initiatives, and writes policy briefs about issues that affect LGBT communities in Ontario. Gillis hosted the LGBTQ Public Policy Institute. Twenty LGBTQ activists from across Ontario attended monthly educational sessions about the policy process, each applying participant applied their learning to a public policy issue related to LGBTQ health. At the end of the course each activist presented a policy brief to an audience of community members, policy makers and their peers.
Intergenerational equity: the contours of the social contract
10:45 – 12:15

Patricia [Pat] Walcott joined the City of Toronto in 2013 as the General Manager of Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS). Previously, in a long and successful career with the Federal Government, as a Senior Executive Director she managed 2,700 staff for the Ontario Region with responsibility for oversight and service delivery of Pensions, Employment Insurance and Call Centres. She held a series of progressive positions in both Service Canada and Human Resource Development including Director General Benefits Processing for Employment Insurance and Director General Service Delivery for Toronto/York. In the latter position she had responsibility for Employment Assistance Programs, Skills Development, Youth Programs and Homelessness. In 2009 Walcott received the Lieutenant Governor’s Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario’s highest honour for public service.

Walcott has significant experience in leading organizations through change, particularly leading strategic initiatives that result in customer service improvement and enhance organizational performance. With the goal of developing accessible, responsive and innovative programs for Torontonians, TESS will continue to focus on both modernizing the delivery of social assistance in Toronto and advancing the City’s Workforce Development Strategy.

Marco Albertini is Associate Professor of Sociology at the Department of Political and Social Sciences of the University of Bologna. He is a member of the Roundtable on Welfare Innovation of the Fondazione Alma Mater and of the Scientific Committee of the Research Institute Carlo Cattaneo. Since 2008 he has been member of the Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility of the International Sociological Association. Albertini’s current research interests lie in the study of intergenerational relations, the consequences of separation and divorce, inequality and stratification, long-term care policies and ageing.

He received his Ph.D. in Sociology and Political Science from the European University Institute (Firenze). Between 2003 and 2007 he worked as a Research Consultant and Project Manager in Italian Public Health Institutions. He subsequently was a Research Assistant at the EUI, Visiting Professor at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona), and Junior Researcher at the Center For Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences of the Juan March Institute (Madrid). He has been Visiting Scholar and Sunstrat Guest Researcher at the Swedish Institute for Social Research of Stockholm University (2011-12).

Paul Kershaw is a University of British Columbia professor, public speaker, volunteer, and regular media contributor. As the Founder of the Generation Squeeze campaign, Kershaw is one of Canada’s top thinkers about generational equity with Canadian Family magazine describing him as “the ‘Generation Squeeze’ guru.” Twice the Canadian Political Science Association has awarded Kershaw national prizes for his research. “Armed with a laptop and a raft of statistics, The Vancouver Province describes Kershaw as “a one-man road show trying to change BC one talk at a time.” Since Kershaw knows a one-man show will never be enough, he’s suiting up and spreading out with thousands across the country to ensure Canada works for all generations. At the University of British Columbia, Kershaw is Associate Director of the Human Early Learning Partnership in the School of Population and Public Health.
The attitudes and expectations of young adults, and the politics of policy responses
1:15 – 3:00

Margaret Biggs is the Skelton-Clark Fellow in the School of Policy Studies at Queen’s University. She was President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) responsible for overseeing Canada’s international development and humanitarian assistance efforts world-wide (2008-13). In this role, Biggs spearheaded Canadian initiatives on maternal and child health, education, sustainable economic growth, and food security. In this capacity, she also contributed to the horizontal management of major foreign policy priorities such as the whole-of-government mission in Afghanistan. Biggs previously served as Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet and Assistant Secretary, Priorities and Planning, in the Privy Council Office. As an Assistant Deputy Minister she was responsible for policies and programs in the areas of social development, labour markets, skills and learning. Biggs has an extensive background in federal-provincial relations and played a key role in the creation of Canada’s National Child Benefit.

Biggs has represented Canada in numerous international fora and has served as Canada’s Alternate Governor to the World Bank, as International Executive Co-chair of the China Council on International Cooperation on Environment and Development, and on the Board of Governors for the International Development Research Centre. She is a graduate of the University of British Columbia and the Norman Patterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University.

Paul Taylor is an expert on demographic change and author of The Next America: Boomers, Millennials and the Looming Generational Showdown (2014). He helped launch the Pew Research Center, a non-partisan “fact tank” that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world. As Executive Vice-President (2003-14), he oversaw its demographic, social and generational research. He has given presentations on generational change to universities, think tanks, trade and professional associations, elected officials, government executives, media organizations, chambers of commerce and businesses and appears frequently on television and radio public affairs programs and has written for leading national print publications.

Prior to his work with Pew, he served as president and board chairman of the Alliance for Better Campaigns, a public interest group that sought to reduce the cost and improve the content of political campaign communication on television. He is a former newspaper reporter, with the last 14 of 25 years at The Washington Post. He is also the author of See How They Run (1990), and co-author of The Old News Versus the New News (1992). He has a B.A. from Yale University and twice served as the visiting Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton University.

David Coletto is CEO and a founding partner of Abacus Data, a full-service market research and public opinion research firm based in Ottawa. Five years ago David started Abacus which has grown into one of Canada’s most respected market research firms.

David is the lead researcher for Abacus Data’s Canadian Millennials Practice and has advised organizations and corporations on how to engage and manage generational change. His clients include the LCBO, the Canadian Medical Association, the Canadian Bankers Associations, Credit Union Central of Canada, the Calgary Police Service, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He earned a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Calgary in 2010 and is Adjunct Professor at the Arthur Kroeger College of Public Affairs at Carleton University.