

Abstracts

Emma Adalkha- Impact of climate change on Agriculture in Nova Scotia.

My topic is the impact of climate change on agriculture in Nova Scotia. It is an empirical analysis of the effects climate change will have on the value of farmland in Nova Scotia. Using the Ricardian method, climate variables, including precipitation and temperature, will be regressed on farmland value to determine their impacts on the value of farmland.

Ethan Purdy- Analyzing the carbon tax in British Columbia

In 2008 British Columbia adopted the first revenue neutral carbon tax in North America as part of their aggressive climate policy. A carbon tax is imposed with the intention of eliminating the deadweight loss associated with externalities by forcing private costs to the same level as social costs. Carbon taxes are useful for the economy as they increase economic efficiency and encourage a shift away from carbon based energies, something that has become central topic in the 21st century. Carbon taxes can be useful for the environment and the economy and we should hope to see expansion throughout Canada and the rest of the world as we move forward.

Robyn Zajac- The Price of Water

Canadians are the world's second largest per capita users of water with the average household consuming approximately 360 liters per day. Water is used in all sectors of society including industry, agriculture, transportation, energy, and recreation. The real cost of water should reflect the cost of supplying, distributing, and treating it. By paying the full price of water, we can ensure that the lakes and rivers that supply our water are well maintained and protected.

Megan Mahoney- A review of Canadian Returns to post secondary Education

Over the last 40 years there has been an increase in the emphasis put on getting an undergraduate or college degree, due to the increased shift towards globalization and increases in technological advances. This emphasis can be seen in the increased positive relationship between attaining post secondary and undergraduate educations and labour market earnings. Returns to attaining post-secondary education have increased for both males and females since the 1980's, but will they continue to do so in the future?

Jeff Turney- The Current state of the Canadian Pension system

I will be presenting my paper on the current state of the Canadian Pension system, which was written for my Labour Economics course. The presentation will take look at the current structure of the system and some of the serious issues that may be looming in its' future. Focusing mainly on the second tier, suggested solutions to these problems, and the current plan of action by the Canadian Government will also be examined for both private and public divisions.

Nick Broz- Overheating in the Canadian Housing Market: Bubble?

Articles regarding a potential asset bubble in the Canadian housing market have been appearing in economic journals since the burst of the US housing bubble and subsequent financial crisis in 2008. This presentation will attempt to judge whether the current run up in housing prices in the Halifax market are the result of a housing bubble or if the market has been able to maintain a stable equilibrium. The presentation will use methods developed by Himmelberg, Meyer and Sinai of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to analyze average housing prices from 1992 to 2010.