
New research for uncertain times: Circular economy, corporate sustainability and just transitions

*February 27, 2026, uOttawa campus, Alex Trebek Alumni Hall
157 Séraphin-Marion Private - Room 116*

10:00 – 10:15 | Opening Remarks

- Dr. Geoffrey McCarney, Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute and Director, Institute of the Environment, uOttawa
- Derek Hermanutz, Director General, Economic Analysis Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada

10:15 – 11:00 | Circular Economy Policy: Insights from Across Canada

- Nubi Afolasade (uOttawa) - *Building a circular and low-carbon construction industry*
- Katharine Mullock (uOttawa) - *Insights from a circular economy policy inventory for Canada*

Audience Q&A

11:00 – 11:15 | Break

11:15 – 12:15 | Environmental Policy in Uncertain Times: An Armchair Discussion

- **Keynote:** Stephanie Cairns, Senior Director, Strategy and Foresight, Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (uVic) - *From side stage to main stage: recasting climate policy to step into the spotlight*
- **Armchair discussion:** *Emerging policy priorities*
 - Stephanie Cairns, Senior Director, Strategy and Foresight, Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (uVic)
 - Derek Hermanutz, Director General, Economic Analysis Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Audience Q&A

12:15 | Lunch



13:15 – 14:15 | **Climate Policy: Entity-level Outcomes**

- Dr. Amr ElAlfy and Tia Driver (uWaterloo) - *Assessing Canadian firms' readiness for climate disclosure*
- Dr. Felix Fosu (Queens) - *The external impact of green energy policy: Evidence from imported inputs at Canadian firm level*
- Anil Gogebakan (uCalgary) - *Energy efficiency and productivity in Canada*

Audience Q&A

14:15 – 14:30 | *Break*

14:30 – 15:15 | **A Just Energy Transition: The Role of Policy**

- Piper French (SFU) - *Critical justice: Indigenous Peoples and critical mineral development*
- Sarah Ozog (SFU) - *Reconciliation and decarbonization policy integration: Opportunities in the Haida Gwaii energy transition*

Audience Q&A

15:15 – 16:00 | **Closing Reflections**

- Derek Hermanutz, Director General, Economic Analysis Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Dr. Geoffrey McCarney, Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute and Director, Institute of the Environment, uOttawa

Audience reflections