



**Economics Society of
Northern Alberta**

Economic Outlook 2016: Alberta's Fiscal and Environmental Challenges

*A One Day Conference of Industry and Economic
Perspectives*

Thursday December 3rd 2015

Chateau Lacombe Hotel

1011 Bellamy Hill

Edmonton, AB

To Register please visit ["Purchase Your Ticket"](#) link until December 2, 2015.

We gratefully acknowledge our sponsors:



ATB *Corporate
Financial Services*[®]



Economic Outlook 2016 Conference Program	
7:15 - 8:15	Registration and Hot Breakfast
	Macroeconomic Outlook
8:20 - 8:45	Craig Wright - "Economic Outlook: an uncertain, uneven and underwhelming outlook:"
8:45 - 9:10	Catherine Rothrock - "Alberta's Economic Outlook"
9:10 - 9:20	Q&A
9:20 - 9:35	Break
	Energy and the Environment
9:35 - 10:00	Marc Jaccard - "Climate Challenge and Canadian Responses: Is Coherence Possible?"
10:00 - 10:25	Eric Axford - "Principles of Policy Design for Climate Leadership"
10:25 - 10:35	Q&A
10:35 - 10:50	Break
	Alberta's Fiscal Challenges
10:50 - 11:15	Ron Kneebone - "Getting Off, and Staying Off, the Royalty Addiction"
11:15 - 11:40	Mike Percy - "It Could be Worse..."
11:40 - 11:50	Q&A
11:50 - 12:50	Lunch
12:50 - 1:10	ESNA Scholarship and Annual General Meeting
	Keynote Speaker
1:10 - 1:40	Peter Tertzakian - "How Energy Companies Compete Through Disruptive Change"
1:40 - 1:50	Q&A
1:50	Closing Remarks
2:00	President's Wine and Cheese Reception

Speaker Biographies (In order of appearance)



Craig Wright
Senior Vice President & Chief Economist
RBC Economics Research

As chief economist, Craig leads a team of economists providing economic, fixed income and foreign exchange research to RBC clients. Craig is a regular contributor to a number of RBC publications and is a key player in delivering economic analysis to clients and the media through the Economics Department's regular economic briefings.

A graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Toronto, Craig was appointed Chief Economist in 2001 having joined RBC 1994 after working at another financial institution for seven years. Craig is a participant in a number of the key RBC internal committees and is a member of the CD Howe Monetary Policy Council, Wilfrid Laurier School of Business and Economics Dean's Advisory Council and the British Columbia Economic Forecast Council.

Craig and his wife Susan live in Toronto with their three children Emily, Bradley and Jacob.



Catherine Rothrock
Acting Chief Economist, Government of Alberta

Catherine Rothrock is the Acting Chief Economist for the Government of Alberta. Her team analyzes economic trends and develops forecasts to support budget and fiscal planning for the Government of Alberta.

Catherine started her career in the energy sector in Calgary, working as an analyst for Enron, UBS Warburg Energy, and Purvin & Gertz, an oil and gas consulting firm. After spending three years working with NGOs in Mozambique, Catherine joined Alberta Energy as a senior analyst, where she studied oil markets and developed the oil price forecast. In 2011, she moved to Alberta Treasury Board and Finance to be a manager in the Economics, Demography, and Public Finance branch. Catherine holds a Master's degree in economics from the University of Guelph and a Bachelor of Commerce with Distinction from the University of Alberta.



Mark Jaccard
Professor of Sustainable Energy
Simon Fraser University

Mark has been professor in the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, since 1986 – interrupted from 1992-97 while he served as Chair and CEO of the British Columbia Utilities Commission. His PhD is from the Energy Economics and Policy Institute at the University of Grenoble.

Internationally, Mark has been involved in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, and the Global Energy Assessment. Mark's research and applied focus is on the design and application of energy-economy models, especially for assessing the cost and effectiveness of climate policies.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Research Fellow with the CD Howe Institute, and in 2009 was named BC Academic of the Year by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations. In 2006, his book, *Sustainable Fossil Fuels*, won the Donner Prize for best policy book in Canada. Since 2013, he holds a distinguished chair as University Professor at SFU.



Eric Axford
Executive Vice President, Business Services
Suncor

As executive vice president, Business Services for Suncor Energy, Eric Axford is accountable for a range of central functions critical to the company's business success. His current responsibilities include environment, health and safety; sustainability and communications; government relations; information and process management; and enterprise technical.

Since joining Suncor in 1996, Eric has held a number of senior upstream, downstream and corporate roles across the company. Before joining Suncor, Eric held senior policy positions with the Alberta government. Eric is an active supporter of the United Way and is on the board of directors of the Woods Homes Society and Calgary Economic Development.

Eric has a bachelor of arts degree in economics from the University of Calgary and a master of business administration from the University of Alberta. He is also a member of the University of Calgary Senate and Alberta School of Business Advisory Council.



Ron Kneebone

***Director, Master of Public Policy Program, and Area Director,
Economic & Social Policy***

School of Public Policy, University of Calgary

Ron Kneebone is a Professor of Economics and Director of Economic & Social Policy in The School of Public Policy, both at the University of Calgary. His published research has dealt with issues pertaining to government budget financing in a federal state, the political economy of government deficit and debt reduction, the history of government fiscal and monetary relations in Canada and the characteristics of Canadian federal, provincial and municipal fiscal policy choices.

His most recent research has been in the areas of poverty reduction, the economics of homelessness, and health policy. Professor Kneebone is a co-author of two undergraduate textbooks in economics; a best-selling economics principles text with co-authors Gregory Mankiw and Ken McKenzie and an intermediate level text with co-authors Andrew Abel, Ben Bernanke, and Dean Croushore. For joint work with Ken McKenzie he was awarded the *Doug Purvis Memorial Prize* for the best published work in Canadian public policy in 1999. From 2002-2006, Professor Kneebone was an associate editor of *Canadian Public Policy*, Canada's foremost journal examining economic and social policy.



Mike Percy

Academic Director, ICD Program

University of Alberta

Mike Percy has a Ph.D. and M.A in economics from Queen's University and B.A. from the University of Victoria. He has published extensively in the areas of economic policy, trade and regional economic development.

He was a member of the Economics Department at the University of Alberta from 1979 to 1997. He was Liberal finance critic in the Alberta Legislature from 1993 to 1997. From 1997 to 2011 he was Dean of the Alberta School of Business.

He has served on a number of boards including Epcor, ATB, K-Bro Linen Inc, Matrikon, Timber Investments, and Sawridge. He has served on a variety of government panels including the Federal Expert Panel on Equalization and Territorial Funding Financing (2005), and as Chair of the Provincial Energy Strategy Committee (2009).

From September 2014 to May 2015 he served as Chief of Staff to Premier Jim Prentice. He is currently Academic Director of the ICD program at the University of Alberta.

Keynote Speaker



Peter Tertzakian

***Chief Energy Economist and Managing Director
ARC Financial Corp.***

Peter Tertzakian is Chief Energy Economist and Managing Director at ARC Financial Corp.

Peter's two best-selling books, *A Thousand Barrels a Second* (McGraw-Hill, NY 2005) and *The End of Energy Obesity* (John Wiley & Sons, NY 2009) provide insight into the dynamic world of energy transitions through a thoughtful examination of economic, environmental and geopolitical pressures.

Peter has a degree in Geophysics from the University of Alberta, a graduate degree in Econometrics from the University of Southampton UK, and a Master of Science in Management of Technology from the Sloan School of Management at MIT.