

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 2016 – Volume 4, Issue 28

### SPPA News

#### School of Public Policy & Administration and Chancellor Greg Sorbara host breakfast with the Hon. Deb Matthews, Deputy Premier of Ontario

As part of its annual tradition, the **School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA)** brings together its students and alumni in the Ontario Public Service (OPS) for a morning of stimulating discussion on the contemporary challenges facing public policy-makers and administrators.



Chancellor Sorbara introducing the Hon. Deborah Matthews

The 2016 OPS breakfast took place on October 4<sup>th</sup> and was co-hosted by **Chancellor Greg Sorbara** who introduced the event's distinguished guest, the **Honourable Deborah Matthews**, currently serving as the Chair of Cabinet, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development, Minister Responsible for Digital Government and Deputy Premier of Ontario. **Rhonda Lenton**, Vice-President Academic and Provost and **Alice Pitt**, Vice-Provost Academic also welcomed Minister Matthews.

The early start of the event at 7:30am at the downtown location of the Osgoode Professional Development Centre did not deter over 80 enthusiastic participants – students, faculty and alumni – who were eager to hear the Deputy Premier's thoughts on **Female Leadership in Government** as the designated theme of this year's OPS breakfast.

**Professor Alena Kimakova, SPPA Director** opened the event by highlighting that the inspiration for the theme of this year's breakfast was the School's own exceptional female student leaders at the undergraduate and graduate level, who are also keenly aware of the remaining challenges to gender parity in our society, but welcomed the federal government's move towards a gender-balanced cabinet and the further changes this move can bring about.



Professor Dagmar Soennecken and Minister Matthews

**Professor Dagmar Soennecken, Director of the School's Master of Public Policy, Administration and Law (MPPAL) program**, moderated the questions to the Deputy Premier, who offered her very frank and insightful reflections on the topic as well as her personal experiences. Minister Matthews covered a range of issues including women's involvement in elected office, their impact on public policy decisions and the interaction with the non-partisan professional public service. Passionate about female leadership, but also keenly aware of the over-representation of women and children in poverty, Minister Matthews reflected on recent policy developments in this area in Ontario and her extensive parliamentary career, which included serving as Minister Responsible for Women's Issues and Minister of Children and Youth Services between 2007 and 2009; and as Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy between 2014 and 2016.



The School's alumni enthusiastically embraced the theme of the breakfast and showed their support by participating in large numbers before returning to their desks at the OPS.

## 2016 OPS Breakfast Cont'd...

In terms of more recent initiatives, Minister Matthews emphasized the importance of evidence-based decision-making and program evaluation expertise. In response, Professor Alena Kimakova, SPPA Director, highlighted the alignment of the School's curriculum with this trend in the discipline by including program evaluation courses in our Bachelor's, Master's and certificate programs for professional development. At the same time, Minister Matthews, Professor Kimakova and Vice-Provost Academic Alice Pitt each emphasized the importance of diversity, stakeholder involvement and the enduring challenge for improving the quality of data and methods of analysis for informed public policy decision-making.

Each year, the SPPA OPS breakfast serves as an intellectually stimulating event that kick-starts the academic year and brings together senior public sector officials with our faculty, students and alumni in the public service to reflect on current challenges and future trends in public policy and administration.



Minister Matthews with our undergraduate student leaders



From left to right: Professor Alena Kimakova, Professor Soennecken, Minister Matthews and Vice-Provost Academic Alice Pitt



Minister Matthews with SPPA alumna Tanya Waugh, Advisor at Cabinet Office (BPA class of 2013, MPPAL class of 2015)



Lindsey Ushtchenko, Manager of Policing Standards (MPPAL class of 2015) with Professor Soennecken, MPPAL Director, and Minister Matthews



Guests enjoyed a stimulating and informative Question and Answer period with Minister Matthews

## As Canada turns 150, what is your vision for the next 150 years?

### ESSAY CONTEST

The School of Public Policy and Administration & Public Policy and Administration Student Association invite high school students to submit essays that reflect on Canada's 150-year history and the issues that society, communities and governments face now and looking into the future. We would like to hear your ideas about what the priorities for public policy and administration should be, and how you would go about implementing them as future leaders.

**Eligibility criteria:** High school students in grades 10 to 12 are invited to participate. Individual submissions or co-authored essays by up to 3 authors will be considered.

**Essays can be submitted online at:**

<http://bit.do/SPPAessay> by Monday October 31, 2016.

**Prizes available:** The authors of the three highest ranked essays, along with their parent(s) or other designated guest(s), **will be invited to the School's annual Student, Alumni, and Community Recognition Awards Dinner on November 17, 2016** and will also receive a **monetary reward:** \$150 for the 1st place, \$100 for the 2nd place and \$75 for the 3rd place.

**Please help spread the word widely. A kind request to re-tweet our SPPA tweet about the essay contest, including these hashtags: #EssayContest #Canada150 #LeadersInTheMaking.** Printed posters about the contest are available for distribution upon request. If you can, consider a visit to your high school!

## Ottawa Trip 2016



The **Public Policy & Administration Student Association, Business and Society Student Club,** and **UPSC** invite you to attend the 2016 Ottawa Trip!

**October 27 – 29, 2016**

Come and enjoy the nation's capital for three days and two nights for just **\$150.**

Transportation, accommodation, and admissions are **ALL** included! Enjoy visiting Parliament Hill, Ottawa Law School, The Supreme Court of Canada and more!

PPASA & UPSC will be collecting money for the Ottawa trip during the following office hours in Room 168 Founders College starting October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Monday:** 12:00pm- 4:00pm

**Tuesday:** 12:00pm- 3:00pm

**Thursday:** 1:00pm-3:00pm

**Tickets can also be purchased online by visiting the PPASA Facebook page at:**

<https://www.facebook.com/ppasaYork/events/>



**PUBLIC POLICY &  
ADMINISTRATION  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION**



**McLAUGHLIN COLLEGE**

**Presents a Lunch Talk featuring:  
MPPAL class of 2010, Piragal Thiru**



**Getting Involved: Why I Became Politically Active and Ultimately a Candidate for Elected Office**

**Tuesday, November 1, 2016**

**12:00pm – 1:30pm**

**140 McLaughlin College**

Piragal arrived in Scarborough as a refugee at the age of 11 with his mother and brother and moved into an apartment building across from Neilson Park, where he began his life in Canada.

He is a recipient of the Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Ontario Volunteer Service Award. Piragal is driven by a passion to build up his community. He has served in many roles within charitable and non-profit organizations, including advocating for refugees and New Canadians, promoting inclusion and acceptance of newcomers.

Piragal works in the public sector, specializing in transit planning. He wants to put his experience to work for the people of Scarborough — to give back to the community that first welcomed him as a New Canadian and help it thrive for commuters, families and seniors.



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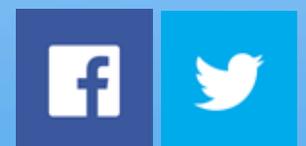
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Thank you.



## Director, Communications Branch, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, Government of Ontario

Are you an experienced communications executive looking to be a part of the MAESD team and support our ambitious agenda? Are you looking for an opportunity to lead and develop the modernization of MAESD's Communications Branch? Are you up to the challenge of leading the deployment of strategic and creative communications campaigns using social media communication platforms/tools and services within a complex environment? Do you want to work with a team that is intent on making a difference for the people of Ontario? If so, consider the role of Director, Communications Branch.

Please click here to view details: <http://www.ipac.ca/Director-11073E>

## Assistant or Associate Professor, University of Ottawa

Public Finance Position (Short description) - Start date: July 1, 2017

The Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ottawa is accepting applications for one (1) tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in the area of Public Finance. The successful candidate will be attached to the unit most appropriate to their discipline. The University of Ottawa is a bilingual institution and all professors in the Faculty of Social Sciences must be actively bilingual (French-English) to obtain tenure.

### Applicants must submit:

- A letter of application summarizing research objectives and outlining teaching experience and philosophy
- A full curriculum vitae
- An indication of their French and English language abilities
- A selection of recent peer-reviewed publications (if possible)
- A selection of teaching evaluations
- Three letters of recommendation sent by separate institutional email

**Application Deadline:** The selection process will begin on November 15, 2016 and will continue until the position is successfully filled. All information (one pdf document) to be addressed to Dr. Rose Anne Devlin, Vice-Dean, Research, and sent by email to [sletouze@uottawa.ca](mailto:sletouze@uottawa.ca)

JOE listings (Job openings for Economists): <https://www.aeaweb.org/joe/listings.php>

## Policy Advisor, Ontario Ministry of Transportation

The Ministry of Transportation, Transportation Policy Branch is seeking a dynamic individual to undertake policy analysis and research related to the development and implementation of policies, and delivery of programs to support high-profile transportation initiatives and government priorities. Consider this exciting opportunity to join a team of dedicated policy professionals. Please click here to view details: <http://www.ipac.ca/PolicyAdvisor-11859>

## Director, Regulatory Coordination Branch, Ministry of Finance, Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO)

Are you a strong leader looking for an opportunity to lead the planning, strategic direction and ongoing management of secretariats for national inter-jurisdictional regulatory bodies and associations including the Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators (CCIR), the Canadian Association of Pension Supervisory Authorities (CAPSA), the General Insurance Statistical Agency (GISA) and the Mortgage Broker Regulators' Council of Canada (MBRCC)? The successful candidate will direct/oversee the establishment and management of linkages among the members of regulatory associations and bodies, and across a broad variety of stakeholder groups to ensure effective stakeholder engagement and technical leadership of initiatives supporting the development, implementation and communication of coordinated regulatory approaches across Canada. Please click here to view details: <http://www.ipac.ca/Director-11072>

## Senior Manager, Program Design and Implementation, Ministry of Finance

Are you an influential leader with the ability to inspire others to deliver? The Benefits Transformation Branch of the Ministry of Finance is seeking an energetic senior manager to guide the design, development and operationalization of our Benefits Transformation initiatives. We need a leading professional who will define our business needs, drive solutions-based projects and enhance benefits delivery across the Ontario Public Service (OPS). Benefits Transformation is a multi-ministry initiative, led by the Ministry of Finance that is focused on improving the delivery of Ontario benefit programs.

Please click here to view details: <http://www.ipac.ca/SeniorManager-11075>