



## The Public Policy Wiki: We Want to Hear from You!

### **What is the “Public Policy Wiki”?**

A “wiki” is a document or process on the Web that anybody can add to or alter. It aims to create a collaborative result, based on the idea that the knowledge of many is greater than the knowledge of a single person. Think of *Wikipedia*.

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the Dominion Institute and theglobeandmail.com launched a new initiative, the *Public Policy Wiki* (<http://policywiki.theglobeandmail.com>). The online, wiki community is asked to develop concrete policy proposals to deal with the most compelling public policy challenges currently facing Canada.

### **How does it Work?**

The first of four wikis is centred on the upcoming Throne Speech and federal Budget. It focuses on the current economic crisis and what the Canadian government should do about it.

Through the website (<http://policywiki.theglobeandmail.com>), you can submit their own policy proposals. You can read those posted by others and edit them to correct errors and add details.

The final product will be a series of briefing notes like those presented to Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers. Each briefing note must contain information on implementation, cost, background, expected short term and long term impact, political considerations, environmental impact, etc.

You really need to think like a policy maker.

The most popular briefing notes, as voted by users, will be submitted to Minister Flaherty on Budget Day.

### **We Need Your Help!**

Visit our website (<http://policywiki.theglobeandmail.com>) and take part in the process.

What do you think the federal government should do to deal with the current economic crisis?

Do we need tax cuts? EI reform? Infrastructure spending?

We need your help. We need your insight. After all, we are trying to solve problems that we all face together.

Watch out in the coming weeks for new wiki topics: international affairs, the environment, social policy, democratic reform.

For More Information:

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