



# CSIP INNOVATION FORUM

*Science, technology and innovation policy is essential in shaping our future. Translating the narrative into clear options, strategies and outcomes is necessary, but far from simple.*

**Thursday, March 11**  
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (CST)

Delivered by Zoom.

[Click here to register and a link will be emailed to you.](#)

[www.scienceandinnovationpolicy.ca](http://www.scienceandinnovationpolicy.ca)

## *Water Policy: Drowned by Bounded Rationality*

**PRESENTED BY:** Dr. Lori Bradford, Assistant Professor, Ron and Jane Graham School of Professional Development, College of Engineering, and School of Environment and Sustainability, University of Saskatchewan

While the goal might be to maximize the use of evidence in policy-making, policy-makers themselves are human and succumb to the “background flux of emotions, inadequate information and the ever-present tides of social pressure” (R. Harre). As a result, policy-makers can disregard scale (where the action is), and bias (disproportionate weight or inclination towards someone or something) for multilevel policymaking for water policy in Indigenous communities. Uncertainty and the problems of scale and bias, can be reduced when evidence is supplied in a variety of media so both our rational and irrational thinking around water policy is harnessed.

**Dr. Bradford’s** primary research interests are examining how social psychological forces influence policy and practices related to water and wastewater in Indigenous and rural communities. Her methodological expertise assists her to gain more complete understanding of complex environmental problems where contention arises between individual goals and social group pressures for water management. She also explores how access to safe drinking water and social determinants of health are interrelated.

*The Centre for the Study of Science and Innovation Policy (CSIP) invites all students, faculty, researchers, and citizens interested in the study of science, technology and innovation policy to participate in a bi-weekly forum.*

