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- Aboriginal Employment During the Economic Boom
- 4 Considering Attitudes Towards Nuclear Power in Saskatchewan
- 6 Recent Labour Market Trends
- 9 The 2012 PISA Results How did we Fare?

Aboriginal Employment During the Economic Boom



By Dale Eisler, Senior Policy Fellow, JSGS

The late Jim Sinclair, for decades a powerful voice for Aboriginal Canadians, often claimed that Aboriginal and Metis people were "recession proof." By this he meant that

native people were oblivious to downturns in the economy because as a group they live in a permanent state of economic recession. Based on decades of Canadian history and economic data, Sinclair was right. Persistently high unemployment and poverty rates are defining features of life in Canada for many First Nations and Aboriginal people.

For example, only 62.5% of Canadian Aboriginal people in the primary labour market age group (25 to 64 years) were employed in 2011, compared with 75.8% of the non-Aboriginal population. Another measure is the unemployment rate which was, in this same age group, 12.8% among Aboriginal people compare with 6.0% in the non-Aboriginal population.

In fact, it is not unreasonable to suggest – indeed it is demonstrably true – that the biggest failure of public policy in Canada has been its inability to address in a meaningfully positive way the grinding economic and social reality of life for many Aboriginal people. Progress at reducing Aboriginal poverty levels and unemployment rates has been a challenge that has eluded policy makers, whether at the federal, provincial or First Nations government levels, for generations.

The disconnect between employment rates for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians has been put to a new test in recent years. The rapidly expanding resource economies in Western Canada, particularly in Alberta and Saskatchewan, have provided an economic laboratory to compare the distribution of employment benefits between Aboriginal Canadians and the general population. What makes this comparative analysis even more relevant is that resource development often occurs in areas that are on or near areas of traditional Aboriginal land. As a result, non-Aboriginal governments like to talk about the potential economic and employment benefits that resource development offers to Aboriginal populations.

So, what do the data tell us? At one level, the evidence of improved employment outcomes for Aboriginal people is encouraging. But it is also less than conclusive when considered in the context of the four Western provinces, which have had significantly differing levels of employment growth, depending on the extent of the resource sector to their economies.

18% cumulative % change since 2006 16% 14% Alta Sask 12% Man B.C. 10% 8% 6% 4% 2% 0% 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

The data indicates the resource boom and employment expansion began in 2005 but it also shows that it has been largely limited to Alberta and Saskatchewan, with B.C. and Manitoba not sharing similar growth numbers largely because they do not have the same resource-intense economies. As Figure 1 shows, based on *Labour Force Survey* data, Alberta has led employment growth with a 15.4% increase from 2006 to 2013, followed by Saskatchewan at 12.8%. Manitoba and British Columbia have lagged at 7.6% and 7.5% employment growth respectively.

Figure 1: Employment in the West

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So the question is, how did Aboriginal people do in relative employment growth terms during the same period? Unfortunately, there are no comparative data covering the 2006 to 2013 period for Aboriginal employment. Employment numbers for Aboriginal people are based on the census points of 2001, 2006 and 2011, with the 2012 to 13 period missing from the data. While the Labour Force Survey provides current data to 2013, it collects labour market information for only the Aboriginal population living off reserve.





Figure 3: Comparison of Employment Growth by Province, Off-Reserve Only, Cumulative Percentage Change from 2007 to 2013



While there are encouraging aspects to the employment data for Aboriginal people, it is far from clear they are receiving a disproportionate share, or even a proportional share, of the employment benefits from rapid growth in resource development in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

With those *caveats*, one can conclude that Aboriginal employment in all four Western provinces has grown more rapidly than non-Aboriginal employment since 2006.

Based on census data (Figure 2), the average annual increase in employment for Aboriginal people from 2006-2011 was:

- 2.9% in Saskatchewan;
- 2.8% in B.C.;
- 2.6% in Manitoba; and
- 2.2% in Alberta.

The average non-Aboriginal employment growth during that same period was significantly lower at:

- 1.4% in Alberta;
- 1.2% in Saskatchewan;
- 0.7% in B.C.; and
- 0.4% in Manitoba.

Growth in the off-reserve Aboriginal employment is even more impressive. Based on *Labour Force Survey* data from 2007 to 2013, Saskatchewan leads the four Western provinces with employment growth of 17%, followed by Alberta at 14%, Manitoba at 11%, and B.C. virtually unchanged.

The research (Figure 3) supports a trend evident for years. Namely, that economic and employment outcomes are much more positive for Aboriginal people who live offreserve than those either on-reserve or for the non-Aboriginal populations. Given that, in many cases, reserves are located in rural and remote areas, often far from a significant population base, the fact that economic opportunity is greater for Aboriginal living off reserves is not surprising.

While there are encouraging aspects to the employment data for Aboriginal people, it is far from clear they are receiving a disproportionate share, or even a proportional share, of the employment benefits from rapid growth in resource development in Alberta and Saskatchewan. In fact, there appears to be no correlation between Aboriginal employment and the resource economy boom driven by global market forces that has so clearly benefitted Alberta and Saskatchewan since it started in 2005.

The evidence is that growth in Aboriginal employment across the West has not changed the employment rates over the decade of 2001 to 2011. As Figure 4 indicates, there has actually been a slight decline in the percentage of Aboriginal people employed from 2006 to 2011 in Alberta and B.C., while employment rates were virtually static in Manitoba during that period and only a marginal 0.7% growth in the Aboriginal employment rate in Saskatchewan. So, what can one conclude about the distributional impacts of the resource boom that Alberta and Saskatchewan have enjoyed in recent years? More precisely, have Aboriginal people gotten their fair share of the benefits of growth, namely through greater employment opportunities? Given the imprecision that comes with data sets that are not completely in alignment – specifically the *Census* versus *Labour Force Survey* numbers and the lack of on-reserve employment data employment in the *Labour Force Survey* – it is difficult to reach a definitive overall conclusion.

The good news is that Aboriginal employment has grown faster than non-Aboriginal employment across all four western provinces during the period 2006-11. Given the public policy starting point of persistently higher unemployment rates for Aboriginal Canadians relative to other Canadians, faster growth in Aboriginal employment is objectively a good outcome.

The bad news is that the resource boom, which has largely been experienced in Alberta and Saskatchewan, does not appear to have had a positive impact on Aboriginal employment rates in those provinces. What we have seen is a growth in Aboriginal employment but employment rates that have not changed dramatically since 2006, either growing or falling marginally regardless of whether the specific province is part of the resource boom. In other words, we have witnessed employment, at best, keeping pace with the rate of Aboriginal population growth.

Not the sort of results that have made a significant positive impact on a public policy challenge that for generations has defied a remedy.

Sources: Statistics Canada 2001 and 2006 Census, 2011 National Household Survey, 2007 to 2013 Labour Force Survey

Considering Attitudes Towards Nuclear Power in Saskatchewan





Research Assistant, Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan and Loleen Berdahl, Associate Professor, Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan

By Peter Bruce,

Taking the Pulse Survey

The University of Saskatchewan's Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan (TTP) survey was administered as a 15-minute telephone survey from March 5, 2012 to March 19, 2012.

The survey resulted in 1,750 completed interviews among randomly-selected Saskatchewan residents, 18 years of age and older. Results of the survey, which generated a response rate of 34.3%, are generalizable to the Saskatchewan population (18 years of age and older) \pm 2.34% at the 95% confidence interval (19 times out of 20). In this article, only statistically significant differences are reported.

Nuclear power is the third largest source of electricity in Canada. As of December 2013,

15% of Canada's electricity is generated from nuclear power, in comparison with 63% from hydroelectric and 16% from coal. None of the four western provinces produces nuclear power: sixteen of Canada's eighteen reactors are situated in Ontario, with the remaining two reactors located in New Brunswick and Quebec. The issue of nuclear power is occasionally raised in Saskatchewan and public opinion on the topic is divided. A 2008 proposal to establish a reactor in Saskatchewan was met with a lukewarm public reception and was considered economically unfeasible; however, the provincial government suggested nuclear power as a potential option for future developments. In 2011, the government announced a \$10 million dollar research deal with Hitachi Ltd. that includes



the development of small modular nuclear reactor technology. However, Premier Brad Wall also cautioned that "any decision on whether to pursue nuclear power in Saskatchewan is still many years away".

The OECD report on *Public Attitudes to Nuclear Power* finds that the development of nuclear energy requires a relationship between "policy makers, the nuclear industry, and society", and it is reasonable to assume that public attitudes will be an important consideration to any future nuclear power developments in the province. Respectively, the 2009 Future of Uranium Public Consultation Process recommended the creation of forums "to facilitate dialogue, debate, publication and information dissemination" and ongoing assessments of the public's knowledge, views, and information needs via surveys, focus groups and public polling. This emphasizes the need to consider the attitudes towards nuclear power in Saskatchewan.

What might explain and predict public attitudes towards nuclear power generation? International literature identifies a number of factors that influence attitudes, the most prevalent being perceptions of risk, concern for the environment, and knowledge. Mount Royal University Professor Duane Bratt asserts that "perception of risk" is one of the strongest determinants of nuclear attitudes in the Canadian context. He writes that the Canadian public's willingness to accept nuclear power is dependent on whether the public is "willing to accept the risks it believes are associated with nuclear power in order to reduce the risks of global warming," which for Bratt "must address nuclear power's traditional "gap between technical (or objective) assessment of the risk," and "subjective assessment, which is performed by the members of the local population and is influenced by a wide variety of moral, social, cultural, and political factors"."



I Would Support the Development of Nuclear

While issues of risk and environmental concerns are commonly identified as determining public attitudes towards nuclear power generation, these explanations, it must be noted, are not universally accepted; for example, Grove-White et al. argue that risk, environment, and decommissioning - what they deem as "new" factors - are of less importance in determining nuclear attitudes than pre-existing determinants such as concerns regarding "[the disposal of] radioactive waste,...trust-worthiness of government, industrial secrecy and nuclear proliferation". Public attitudes, in their opinion, are further formulated by a lack of trust in government or industry to take responsibility "should something go wrong".

Recent research conducted at the University of Saskatchewan's Survey and Group Analysis Laboratory (SGAL) and The Spatial Initiative (TSI) (both are part of the University's Social Sciences Research Laboratories (SSRL)) allows for a focused consideration of Saskatchewan attitudes towards nuclear energy. This analysis

will present information from the 2012 Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan survey (see box); additional and more in-depth survey data from the University of Saskatchewan's Nuclear Policy Research Unit's (NPRU) 2013 survey on nuclear attitudes will be made publicly available in spring 2014.

The TTP survey asked Saskatchewan residents whether they agreed or disagreed with the following statement: "I would support the development of nuclear power generation in Saskatchewan." Overall, the results suggest a divided public, with support and opposition being close to equal (see Figure).

A number of socio-demographic differences were found. For example:

- men were more likely than women to support nuclear power development;
- support for nuclear power development rose with income level; and
- visible minorities and foreign-born citizens were far less likely than other residents to support nuclear power development.

While the TTP survey provides some insights into the demographics of nuclear power attitudes in Saskatchewan, it does not reveal the determinants behind these attitudes. Of particular interest is how factors such as risk perceptions, knowledge, and trust influence public attitudes. Such questions are explored in depth in the Nuclear Policy Research Unit's survey. This survey, which was funded by the Sylvia Fedoruk Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, seeks to improve understanding of the attitudinal context and policy issues related to nuclear sector activities including medicine, uranium mining, energy production, and waste management. The survey results will allow for improved understanding of how knowledge, ideologies and worldviews, and trust in science influence Saskatchewan residents' opinions towards a full range of nuclear policy issues. Further, by using spatial analysis and mapping, the research will provide unique insight to how locational factors are related to public opinion in the province.

Public attitudes are an important part of the larger policy making context. For contentious policy issues such as nuclear power generation, it is important to understand how the public feels about the issue, how key socio-demographic groups vary in their attitudes, and what factors underlie public attitudes. The Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan survey provides some initial insights to the first two questions, while the forthcoming Nuclear Policy Research Unit survey will provide a clearer and more nuanced picture.

~ Please see page 12 for references.

WESTERN POLICY ANALYST

Recent Labour Market Trends



By Doug Elliot, Editor, Western Policy Analyst

After growing strongly in 2007 and 2008, employment in the West

dropped precipitously in 2009, losing a total of 116,000 jobs (see Figure 1). This was a huge decline but the labour market has bounced back since then, recovering the lost jobs by mid-2011 and growing since then, albeit it at a slower pace than in the mid 2000s. This article looks at that recovery from 2009 to 2013. Where is the growth, both geographically and by industry group? Who are the new workers and in what kinds of jobs are they employed?

Population and Labour Force

The adult population (taken as those 15 & older) in the West grew by an average of 1.6% per year from 2009 to 2013. Figure 2 shows that of the 8.8 million adult residents in the West, 65% were employed in 2013, 4% were unemployed, and the remaining 31% were "out of the labour market", that is, neither working nor looking for work. Just under one-half of those out of the labour force are seniors.

There were only minor changes in the labour force status of westerners over the period. From 2009 to 2013, the number of employed persons increased by 337,000 which works out to an average of 1.5% per year. Employment grew a bit more slowly than the population (1.5% vs. 1.6%) so the employment rate fell slightly from 64.8% to 64.7%. The unemployment rate fell from 6.7% to 5.4%. The size of the group that was out of the labour force grew by 2.5% per year with most of the increase among seniors.

Employment by Province

There is a good deal of provincial variation in the employment growth rates from 2009 to 2013 (see Figure 3). Compared with 1.5% overall, Alberta recorded the fastest growth with Manitoba and B.C. the slowest and, in fact, below the national average. Saskatchewan was midway between these extremes. The 2.2% average annual increase for Alberta was the second highest among the provinces after Newfoundland/Labrador.



Figure 1: Annual Change in Employment,

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

Figure 3: Average Annual Increase in Employment, 2009 to 2013



Looked at another way, Alberta was responsible for more than one-half of the employment growth in the West from 2009 to 2013.

Age and Sex

The employment growth from 2009 to 2013 was balanced, more or less, between men and women. Figure 4 shows that employment grew by an average of 1.6% for men and 1.5% for women.

The fastest growth, in percentage terms, was among older workers with the number of employed persons 55 years of age and older growing at an average of 4.9% per year. There were declines among those 45 to 54 years of age and also among those 15 to 24 years of age.



Figure 4: Average Annual Increase in Employment by Age Group and Sex, 2009 to 2013, Western Canada



Some but not all of the age-related changes are a consequence of simple demographics.

• Changes in size of the population fully explain the decline in employment of those 45 to 54 years and the increase among those 25 to 34 years of age.

• The increase among those 35 to 44 years is partly because of increases in the population and partly because the employment rate in this age group increased.

• The population 15 to 24 years of age fell slightly from 2009 to 2013 but most of the employment decline is because of lower employment rates, 58.7% in 2013 compared with 60.1% in 2009.

• Three-quarters of the employment growth among those 55 and older was because the population increased and one-quarter was because the employment rate grew. Figure 5: Average Annual Increase in Employment by Hours of Work and Job





WESTERN POLICY ANALYST

Regardless of the reasons for the employment change, there are now more older workers in the West – 19% of the total compared with 17% in 2009. There is no evidence of a causeand-effect relationship but it may not be a coincidence that employment among those 15 to 24 years of age is declining at the same time that employment among older workers is increasing.

Hours of Work and Job Type

Statistics Canada defines part-time employees as those who usually work fewer than thirty hours per week at their main or only job. Virtually all of the employment growth from 2009 to 2013 was among full- time employment (see Figure 5).

This disproportionate increase in full-time employment has affected average hours worked, increasing the average weekly hours of work from 32.5 hours in 2009 to 33.5 in 2013. Another factor was a 3.5% average annual increase in the number of those who reported that they worked long hours – more than forty hours per week. Aggregate hours worked increased by 2.3% per year over the period, suggesting that labour market demand is stronger than the 1.5% overall employment increase would suggest.

There was a decline in self-employment from 2009 and 2013. This was the net effect of a 1.2% decline in agricultural self-employment

compared with 81.8% in 2009. Permanent positions still dominate the labour market, accounting for 87% of employment in 2013, but the number of non-permanent jobs,

and a 1.1% decline in construction self-

employment offset by a 2.8% increase in the

number of self-employed professionals such

as consultants, accountants, and lawyers. In

2013, 82.9% of the employed were employees

Educational Attainment

increasing more quickly.

particularly term positions, is

The long-term trend to higher levels of completed education among those who are working was very much in evidence from 2009 to 2013. Employment grew among those with a postsecondary education, particularly a university degree, and fell among those with Grade 12 or less (see Figure 6). In 2013, 59% of the employed in the West were post-secondary graduates compared with 56% in 2009.

Sector and Industry Group

From 2009 to 2013, employment grew in all but one of the sixteen industry groups shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7: Employment Increase by Industry Group, 2009 to 2013, Western Canada



8 Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

WESTERN POLICY ANALYST

The highest growth rate was in the resource sector (including utilities) which recorded a 3.8% average annual increase from 2009 to 2013. There were also above-average increases in:

• construction;

• business services (e.g. building services, lawyers, accountants, head offices);

- health care and social assistance; and
- transportation.

At the other end of the scale there were several industry groups with growth significantly below the average including:

- public administration (i.e. government);
- agriculture; and

• the information, culture, and recreation group which includes the media.

Restated by sector, employment grew by an average of 1.7% per year in the private sector and by 1.0% in the public sector, broadly defined to include health, education, and crown corporations as well as government proper.

Cities

The bulk of the employment growth from 2009 to 2013 occurred among residents of the larger urban centres in the West. Employment grew by an average of 1.8% per year in cities with a population of 10,000 or more and by 0.4% in smaller centres and rural areas.

Among the larger metropolitan areas, Regina had the fastest growth rates (see Figure 8) with the smallest increases in Winnipeg and in B.C.'s four metropolitan areas.

Wage Rates

In 2013, the average wage rate in the West was \$25.34/hour which is 4.9% above the national average of \$24.15. From 2009 to 2013, wages increased by an average of 2.7% per year which is above the rate of inflation so the spending power of the average paycheque will have increased over the period.

Figure 9 shows that Saskatchewan employees had the largest increases and B.C. the lowest.

Summary

From 2009 to 2013, the labour market in the West recovered from the 2009 drop. The loss of employment was severe that year and the recovery pretty feeble, all things considered, with employment growth rates much lower than the ones we became accustomed to in the mid-2000s.

Overall employment growth from 2009 to 2013 averaged 1.5% per year but there were larger increases in some kinds of jobs and locations. Employment increased much more than average among:

- those 55 years of age and older or in the 25 to 34 age group;
- those with higher levels of education;
- residents of Alberta and Saskatchewan,
- particularly those in large urban areas;
- full-time workers and those in nonpermanent positions;
- employees rather than the self-employed;
- those working in the private sector,

particularly the construction and the resource sectors.



Figure 9: Average Annual Increase in Average Hourly Wage Rates, 2009 to 2013



The 2012 PISA Results - How did we Fare?



By Wynne Young, Executive-in-Residence, JSGS

In December 2013, the OECD released the results from the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

in mathematics with limited assessment in reading and science. PISA testing has gained international credibility as the tool by which countries' examine their relative position in education achievement.

From an international perspective, PISA 2012 results showed a notable shift from the recent status quo. Changes to the relative positioning of countries' scores was not just because of a decrease or increase in absolute test scores but also because of other countries positioning. Finland, which had dominated test results and had been much-examined by other countries, fell from 2nd in 2003 to 10th in 2012 with its score moving from 544 to 519. China, Singapore, Korea, and Japan have quickly risen to the top in mathematics (see Figure 1).

Internationally, Canada's math scores and their placement among other countries slipped although Canada remains one of the top performing countries (15th of 65 with a score of 518) and 24 points above the OECD average of 494. Comparing the math scores from 2003 to 2012, Canadian 15 year-olds' test scores declined 14 points. Not only did test scores drop but other countries, particularly China, have joined the PISA testing and have aggressively moved to a higher ranking than Canada and other countries.

Within Canada, all provinces participated although First Nations schools and the three territories did not participate. The results by province are consistent with the overall Canadian downward direction and show a wide range of results among the provinces and shifts in relative positions. PISA testing began in 2000 and takes place every three years. It covers three areas with varying degrees of focus depending on the cycle. For 2012, the major focus was on paperbased mathematics. A smaller portion of students and test items are assessed for the minor areas, namely reading and science for 2012. The test was administered in 65 countries to 15 year-olds, including 21,000 students in Canada.

Figure 1: PISA 2012 Scores for Mathematics, Selected Countries



Canada, including the western provinces, has been on a slow slide for the last decade in many of the areas that are measured, while other countries have moved passed Canada and displaced its top ten ranking.

In 2012, three province's scores were less than the overall OECD average compared with 2003 when all provinces were above this average. While Quebec stayed relatively constant, three provinces (Manitoba, Alberta, and Newfoundland/Labrador) dropped more than 5%. Alberta is notable because in the 2003 testing, they ranked 2nd in the world, behind only Hong Kong. For the western provinces, the largest change is Manitoba whose mathematics scores have gradually dropped from 2003 to 2012, from 36 points from 528 to 492. Alberta's score began at 549 in 2003 and dropped 32 points by 2012. British Columbia's scores was 538 in 2003 and dropped 15 points in subsequent years with almost all of the drop happening in the 2003-2006 period. Saskatchewan's 2003 score was 516; it has dropped the least of the four western provinces (10 points) and has been static since 2006.

This general trend repeats itself for reading and, to some extent, science albeit with less negative growth. Figure 3 shows, with the exception of British Columbia whose score did not change, reading scores also declined in the western provinces during that same time period. Science, the other minor area of testing, fared better with only Manitoba losing ground on its test results and two western provinces, British Columbia and Saskatchewan showing some improvement (see Figure 4).

Skill Level

Beyond the overall averages for mathematics, the PISA assessment also looked at the distribution of results by proficiency levels. Student results were group into six categories from those students scoring at the low end of the scale (Level 2 and below) to those scoring highest end of achievement (Level 5 and 6). Level 2 is considered the baseline level for proficiency. Data comparing 2003 to 2012 points to a growing proportion of students failing to achieve this baseline level in all western provinces (Figure 5). Particularly notable in this regard are the Manitoba and Alberta results that both took notable jumps in the percentage of students who failed to achieve the proficiency baseline as defined by OECD.

In total there is a rich bank of data to be analyzed and considered by educators and policy makers provincially, nationally and internationally.

The 2012 results also show that the number of students achieving the top end of the scale dropped in this same time period. While this western provincial trend is not inconsistent with both the Canadian and OECD trend, it is of concern not only because the percentage of students achieving the highest levels is shrinking but because those countries topping OCED results had over 30% of their students performing at this high level. If these countries are our economic competitors, the gap between their highest achievers to Canada's bears attention.

OECD also examined the equity results defined as the difference between high-performing and lowperforming students. Defined this way, Canada achieves more equitable results than the OECD average, that is, a smaller range from lowest to highest scores. While having increased equity of results is a laudable outcome, both western provinces and Canada as a whole will need to ensure that increases in equity do not result from an overall downward compaction of scores.

Figure 2: PISA Scores for Mathematics, Western Provinces, 2003 to 2012



Figure 3: PISA Scores for Reading, Western Provinces, 2003 to 2012









Source: The CMEC website (www.cmec.ca) has a comprehensive report on the 2012 results.



Figure 6: PISA Scores by Sex, Western

Gender Still Counts

PISA results were also examined by gender. The overall Canadian and OECD results show that males continue to outperform females in mathematics (523 versus 513). On reading scores, females outperform males by an even larger amount (541 versus 506), while in science males outperform females but by a much smaller amount (527 versus 524). The western provinces generally follow the Canadian and OECD results, although Saskatchewan has much closer results for mathematics than other provinces. These differences have changed little since testing began.

There are many other areas examined by PISA including assessment results by language and by sub-categories within mathematics, reading

and science. There is also a diverse range of data collected including features and policies of schools such as governance, autonomy, resources invested and the learning environment. In total there is a rich bank of data to be analyzed and considered by educators and policy makers provincially, nationally and internationally.

should be a warning sign for those who care about the educational attainment of our next generation. While Canada is still positioned well relative to many other countries, the trends are concerning. Canada, including the western provinces, has been on a slow slide for the last decade in many of the areas that are measured, while other countries have moved passed Canada and displaced its top ten ranking.

Reaction to Canada's scores has been mixed likely explained by whether you emphasized the downward trend or the relative position globally. Regardless of the early mixed reactions, there is good reason for additional examination of test results and considering what actions might be taken to preserve and potentially improve Canada's position internationally.

These first results from the 2012 assessments

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Upcoming JSGS Events



2014 Tansley Lecture: April 9, 2014 in Regina

John Manley, PC, OC is a Canadian lawyer, businessman, and politician. He served as liberal member of parliament for Ottawa South from 1988 to 2004, and was Deputy Prime Minister between 2002 and 2003. He is now President and CEO of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives.



Jocelyn Bourgon, Former Clerk of the Privy Council and President, Public Governance International

Featured Lecture Series: April 22, 2014



This conference will bring together academics and professionals from across human services sectors with citizens to explore issues, challenges and initiatives associated with the best interests of the children.

Best Interest of the Child Conference: May 8, 2014