



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

“ For the financial sector, this is a pivotal moment to realign structures to ensure global capital flows toward solutions that will protect Canada’s economy and our prosperity for the long run.”

Sean Cleary, PhD, CFA
Chair, Institute for Sustainable Finance
Professor of Finance
Smith School of Business, Queen’s University





OUR MISSION

The Institute for Sustainable Finance is at the intersection of sustainability and finance.

Our mission is to align mainstream financial markets with Canada's transition to a prosperous sustainable economy.



The Institute for Sustainable Finance (ISF) is a multi-disciplinary network of research and professional development that brings together academia, the private sector and government to shape Canada's innovations in sustainable finance.

Housed at Smith School of Business, Queen's University, the Institute is the first of its kind in Canada to fill the gap of relevant data, expertise and business-oriented solutions for sustainable finance. By aligning financial knowledge and tools with climate change imperatives, we are fostering Canada's leadership in the shift to a low-carbon global economy.





“ I'd like to congratulate the ISF for putting sustainable finance on the map in Canada. Your team's impact is being felt in the exploding media attention on these issues, in the decisions of policy makers, and in training a new generation of business leaders to meet the opportunities and challenges of a prosperous low-carbon future.”

Jim Leech

Chancellor emeritus of Queen's University and former president and CEO of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan



DEFINING SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

The Canadian Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance defines sustainable finance as: *capital flows, risk management activities and financial processes that assimilate environmental and social factors as a means of promoting sustainable economic growth and the long-term sustainability of the financial system.*

In its simplest form, this means aligning our financial systems and services to promote long-term environmental sustainability and economic prosperity.



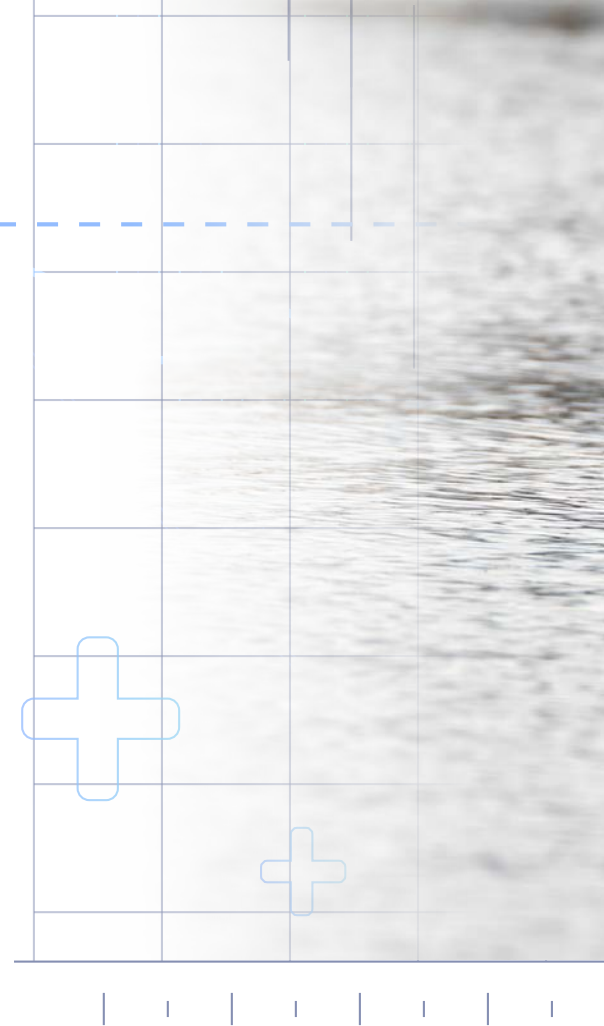
A PIVOTAL MOMENT

Canada is warming twice as fast as the rest of the world, according to the Federal Government's 2019 climate report. We are witnessing its effects with more flooding, forest fires, record heat days and other extreme weather events. Alongside the physical impacts, climate change is also affecting our financial system.



“Climate change is a clear and present danger to our country. It's not just hitting our industry; it's hitting Canadians' pocketbooks.”

Craig Stewart
Vice President of Federal Affairs
Insurance Bureau of Canada¹



By The Numbers

- A 2°C global warming scenario will trigger financial losses of roughly US \$4.2 trillion, a figure that grows to \$13.8 trillion under a six degree scenario²
- An estimated US \$26 trillion is set to be gained by shifting economies to avoid worst-case climate scenarios compared to business-as-usual³
- Greening the global economy is projected to generate 65 million new low-carbon jobs by 2030⁴

¹ Craig Stewart, Twitter, <https://twitter.com/SmithBusiness/status/1139551453629112322> (accessed July 18, 2019).

² The Economist Intelligence Unit, The Cost of Inaction: Recognizing the Value at Risk From Climate Change, 2015 (2)

^{3,4} Global Commission on the Economy and Climate, Unlocking the Inclusive Growth Story of the 21st Century: Accelerating Climate Action in Urgent Times, 2018 (8, 12)



A Critical Opportunity For Canada

We are at a pivotal moment where we can both protect our markets and investments from risk while refocusing them to tap into new and unprecedented opportunities.

The transition to a low-carbon economy is already underway. Global players are currently leading on sustainable finance, defining the tools and writing the rules that will determine how capital flows. Canada has the means and the opportunity to be an innovation shaper - not taker - to inform these decisions to benefit our economy.

The Canadian Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance's 2019 report makes a clear call for authoritative and decision-useful climate information and a supportive and climate-informed ecosystem of professional services providers.

Closing this innovation gap will ensure we catch up and protect Canada's economy from risks while capitalizing on increased opportunities for growth and prosperity.



“Major institutional investors and foreign energy players are increasingly leaving or avoiding Canada. To win capital back, Canada must do better and prove we are doing better.”

Andy Chisholm

Board Director, Royal Bank of Canada¹
Member, Canadian Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance



“If we want to attract global capital back to Canadian resources, it will take an industry-wide commitment to report more comparable and complete data on climate-related financial risks, consistent with TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures). While concerns about being early-movers on disclosure are understandable, the fact is providing this type of information is exactly the leadership that investors are seeking from our industry.”

Barbara Zvan

Inaugural President and CEO of University Pension Plan (UPP)²
Member, Canadian Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance

^{1,2} Tiff Macklem, Andy Chisholm and Barbara Zvan, “Opinion: Canada Must Accelerate Innovation, Transparency and Market Access to Win Capital Back,” The Globe and Mail, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/commentary/article-canada-must-accelerate-innovation-transparency-and-market-access-to/> (accessed July 18, 2019)

BUILDING CANADA'S CAPACITY TO LEAD

The Institute for Sustainable Finance is the first-ever cross-cutting and collaborative hub in Canada that fuses academia, the private sector and government with the singular focus of increasing Canada's sustainable finance capacity.

The Institute will accelerate Canada's finance innovation. By investing in education, professional training, research and partnerships, we will help create the critical conditions for Canadian leadership on sustainable finance – at home and abroad.



Key Objectives

RESEARCH: Generate innovative and relevant research on sustainable finance and disseminate this research to key stakeholders

COLLABORATION: Provide a platform for collaboration between government, academia and industry

EDUCATION: Develop educational opportunities and build professional capacity

OUTREACH: Be very visible in sustainable finance issues and to clearly and effectively communicate sustainability developments as it pertains to finance and investments

“The Institute will build the finance capacity that Canada needs for the transition to a more sustainable low-carbon economy. Canada's future competitiveness, and that of the finance sector, will be contingent on our ability to align capital flows with our sustainability aspirations.”

Bruce Lourie, PhD
President, Ivey Foundation



HARNESSING CANADIAN TALENT

The Institute for Sustainable Finance will harness a continuum of expertise from across Canada

Convening Canada's brightest thinkers and players in the field of sustainability and finance, the Institute is supported by its founding partners, the Ivey Foundation, the McConnell Foundation, the McCall MacBain Foundation, and the Chisholm Thomson Foundation, as well as an Advisory Board and Research Advisory Council of high-profile individuals from academia, industry and civil society.



Institute Leadership

Sean Cleary, PhD, CFA

Chair, Institute for Sustainable Finance

Dr. Sean Cleary is a Professor of Finance at Smith School of Business, Queen's University. He is the Chair of the [Institute for Sustainable Finance](#) based at Smith, and is a member of [Canada's 2023 Clean50](#). Dr. Cleary is the founder and Academic Director of the Master of Finance program, holds a Ph.D. in finance from the University of Toronto and is a CFA charter holder. He is a current member of the CFA Society Toronto Advisory Council, and is a former member of the Board of Directors for the Toronto CFA Society and the Atlantic Canada CFA Society (where he served as President).

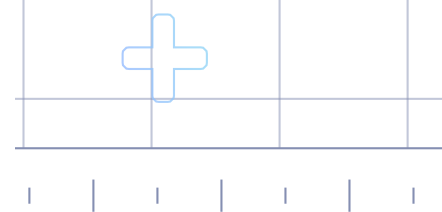
Dr. Cleary has authored 14 finance textbooks and has published more than 30 research articles, including several in top tier finance journals. His publications have been cited close to 5,000 times and he has received several major research grants. His most recent research and educational interests focus on the field of sustainable finance. He is an Associate Editor for two finance journals and frequently serves as a reviewer for many of the top finance journals. Dr. Cleary regularly serves as an expert witness on cost of capital and capital markets, and appears regularly in the media.



Ryan Riordan, PhD

Director of Research, Institute for Sustainable Finance

Ryan is a Professor and Distinguished Professor of Finance at Smith School of Business and a recent recipient of the Bank of Canada Governor's Award. He is the Research Director for the Institute for Sustainable Finance and was recognized by the Globe and Mail as a Changemaker for his work on climate finance. Ryan is also the head of the newly established Institute of Financial Innovation and Technology at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich Germany. Prior to joining Smith, Ryan was an Assistant Professor of Finance at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) and an Assistant Professor at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany. His work has been published in all of the leading academic finance journals including the Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, and Review of Financial Studies.



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Barbara Zvan
Inaugural President and Chief
Executive Officer, University
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FORGING CANADA'S PATH TO PROSPERITY

Developing world-class sustainable finance expertise to shape the financial system for Canada's future.



PROGRAMS AND OFFERINGS

RESEARCH

Addressing foundational business-oriented solutions, we produce policy and academic papers on focus areas that include:

- 1) Fiduciary Duty
- 2) Reliable Information Disclosure
- 3) Financial Regulation and Policy
- 4) Taxonomies and Classification Systems
- 5) Allocation of Capital and Management of Risks

ACTIONABLE POLICY GUIDANCE

Our research results provide clear and practical guidance for relevant stakeholders in the form of policy recommendations and discussion papers for government and industries, textbooks, as well as organizing and participating in conferences, workshops and roundtables.

CANADIAN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE NETWORK

As part of its mandate, the ISF established the Canadian Sustainable Finance Network (CSFN), an independent formal research and educational network for academia, industry and government to bring together a talented network of university faculty members and relevant members from industry, government and civil society. CSFN will be essential to sharing learnings and open the door to future research topics as well as creating partnerships with other entities from across Canada and globally.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Institute collaborates with its partners from academia, industry and government to develop training programs in order to grow both the short- and long-term capacity in sustainable finance among existing and future finance professionals and students. This includes industry-relevant executive education courses and programs, academic courses and specializations in PhD and MSc programs, and new specializations, diplomas, and degrees at the graduate and undergraduate levels.



SUPPORTERS

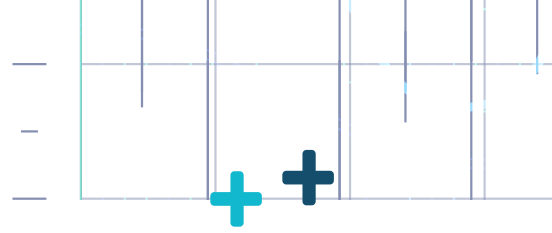
The Institute for Sustainable Finance is supported by several partners:

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