

# 2011 Annual Report 2012 Rapport Annuel



AIMS Annual Report 2011/2012

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# The People Behind AIMS 2011/2012 L'équipe de l'AIMS 2011/2012

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Charles Cirtwill, President and CEO Juanita Spencer, Manager of Research and Operations Lori Peddle, Operations Manager Don McIver, Director of Research Paige T. MacPherson, Communications Officer Jamie Newman, Policy Analyst Alanna Newman, Summer Intern Collette Deschenes, Operations Assistant

# Message from the Chairman



This has been my third year in the role of chairman of AIMS, and I am proud to say that it has been a good year. The Institute, as it has for the past 16 years, continues to play an important role in the public policy debate regionally, nationally and internationally. By pushing policy makers and the public on important issues including education, health care, trade and equalization (among many others), AIMS played and continues to play a critical role.

Friedrich A. Hayek, 1974 Nobel Prize winning economist, once wrote, "I strongly feel that the chief task of the economic theorist or political philosopher should be to operate on public opinion to make politically possible what today may be politically impossible", AIMS has demonstrated in the last year, and the previous 15, that it does just that.

In the following pages you will see a sampling of some of the work and accomplishments of the Institute in the past year. A highlight was the special AIMS Luncheon featuring insights from Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney. The event brought over 600 guests to the Cunard Centre in Halifax to

hear remarks from AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill, myself, and a keynote from Governor Carney. According to Cunard Centre staff, it was one of the largest luncheons they had ever hosted and AIMS did a wonderful job organizing the event.

This year we also secured funding for the AIMS on Campus project. It is the newest, boldest student program designed to connect, inform and empower students who wish to learn more about liberty and the market economy, and share that knowledge on campus. It uniquely bridges academia and awareness to provide a fantastic student experience. We believe this program is critically important to our future.

AIMS plays an important role in the shaping of public opinion by offering alternative and effective policy solutions to everyday problems. AIMS on Campus helps us to bring those alternatives to a university setting. We are very excited to see the program grow and develop in coming years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize our hard-working staff. President & CEO Charles Cirtwill continues to keep AIMS focused on its core function, the examination of public policies that are relevant and important. He is supported by the hard-working staff; Manager of Research and Operations Juanita Spencer and Operations Assistant Collette Deschenes.

I would also like to thank deeply our many funders – those corporations, foundations and individuals – whose support allows AIMS to do the critically important work it does so well. We are truly indebted to them.

Of course, I also want to thank all of my fellow Board members for their hard work and support. Their knowledge, insight and advice are a valuable asset to the Institute. I thank them for the faith they have placed in me and look forward to another interesting and challenging year. A special note of thanks to those who are leaving the Board this year: George Cooper, Brian Crowley and Vaughn Sturgeon. Brian and George, of course, have been with AIMS since the very beginning, and have the battle scars to show for it. Vaughn has been with us for these past seven years and served for many of those as our New Brunswick Vice Chair. These individuals have set a high standard for those of us who continue on with their work.

John Risley Chair

# Rapport du president du conseil d'administration



Ma troisième année comme de président de l'AIMS a pris fin, et je suis fier d'affirmer que ce fut une bonne année. Comme il l'a fait au cours des seize dernières années, l'Institut continue de jouer un rôle important dans le débat sur la politique publique sur les scènes régionale, nationale et internationale. En rappelant constamment les questions importantes comme l'éducation, les soins de santé, le commerce et la péréquation (pour ne nommer que celleslà) à l'attention du public et des responsables des politiques, l'AIMS a joué et continue de jouer un rôle essentiel.

Friedrich A. Von Hayek, lauréat du Prix Nobel d'économie 1974, écrivait : « Je crois fermement que la tâche du théoricien économique ou du philosophe politique ne peut être que d'influer sur l'opinion publique ... Et il ne remplira sa tâche avec efficacité que s'il ne se préoccupe pas de ce qui est aujourd'hui possible politiquement parlant... ». L'AIMS a démontré, au cours de l'année dernière et au cours des 15 années précédentes, que c'est exactement ce qu'elle fait.

Vous trouverez, dans les pages qui suivent, des exemples du travail et des réalisations de l'Institut au cours de la dernière année. Un point saillant a été le dîner au cours duquel nous avons pu entendre Mark Carney gouverneur de la Banque du Canada. L'événement a attiré au Centre Cunard de Halifax plus de 600 invités venus entendre Charles Cirtwill, président et chef de la direction de l'AIMS, moi-même et, évidemment, Monsieur Carney. Selon le personnel du Centre Cunard, il s'agit de l'un des plus grands dîners jamais tenus à cet endroit, et l'AIMS en a fait un véritable succès.

Nous avons également réussi, au cours de l'année, à obtenir du financement pour le projet appelé « AIMS on Campus ». C'est le plus nouveau et le plus ambitieux programme étudiant conçu pour connecter, informer et encourager les étudiants qui souhaitent en apprendre plus sur la liberté et sur l'économie de marché et partager ces connaissances sur le campus. Il établit un lien unique entre le monde universitaire et la sensibilisation pour faire vire aux étudiants une expérience formidable. Nous croyons que ce programme a une grande importance pour notre avenir.

L'AIMS joue un grand rôle pour ce qui est de former l'opinion publique en offrant des solutions de rechange efficaces aux problèmes de tous les jours. AIMS on Campus nous aide à présenter ces solutions de rechange dans un milieu universitaire. Nous sommes enthousiasmé à l'idée de voir le programme croître au cours des prochaines années.

Je voudrais aussi profiter de l'occasion qui m'est donnée pour saluer les membres du personnel de l'Institut. Charles Cirtwill, président et chef de la direction, continuera à garder l'AIMS focalisé sur sa fonction primordiale : l'examen des politiques publiques pertinentes et importantes. Il peut compter sur le soutien d'un personnel dévoué : Juanita Spencer, directrice de la recherche et des opérations et Collette Deschenes, adjointe aux opérations. J'exprime également notre profonde gratitude à nos nombreux bâilleurs de fonds – sociétés, entreprises, fondations et particuliers – dont le soutien permet à l'AIMS de poursuivre l'importante tâche dont il s'acquitte si bien. Nous leur devons beaucoup.

J'adresse aussi mes remerciements à tous mes collègues membres du conseil d'administration pour leur travail et leur soutien. Leurs connaissances, leurs idées et leurs conseils sont de précieuses ressources pour l'Institut. Je les remercie pour la confiance qu'ils m'ont accordée, et j'envisage avec plaisir une autre année intéressante et stimulante.

J'ajoute ici un merci spécial à ceux qui quittent le conseil cette année : George Cooper, Brian Crowley et Vaughn Sturgeon. Messieurs Crowley et Cooper ont fait partie de AIMS depuis ses débuts, et ils portent les cicatrices qui le prouvent. Monsieur Sturgeon a été membre du conseil pendant les sept dernières années, dont plusieurs en tant que vice-président pour le Nouveau-Brunswick. Ces trois hommes ont placé la barre très haute pour ceux d'entre nous qui poursuivront leur travail.

John Risley Président du conseil

# Message from the President



AIMS' success, like that of any good public policy think tank, should be measured by the policy changes that it encourages. Of course, these changes will almost always be subtle and occur over time, but AIMS has seen some clear success this year as it has in many past years. Uncounted, however, will be our influence on public opinion that will eventually sway decision makers and opinion leaders to champion policies that will make us all better off.

With the expiration of the Federal Fiscal Arrangements Act coming in March of 2013, we returned once more this year to our continuing concerns with the severe negative consequences of the way Canada has chosen to pursue equalization among our citizens. Author Juanita Spencer published two papers exploring the idea of shifting to a federal to individual rather than federal to provincial transfer. Author Don McIver published several papers warning us of the unintended consequences of the current equalization formula and advised on ways we could change it. We look forward to further exploration of this subject and we hope that work in this field will result in real reform in 2013.

Don McIver's two commentaries on fiscal restraint including his Atlantic Canadian analysis of Ontario's Drummond Report had a profound influence on regional government spending. Representatives from AIMS, along with our special guest Don Drummond himself, met with political parties of all stripes across the region to discuss the report and fiscal reform more broadly. Since then, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have both demonstrated at least some spending restraint. We hope that our meetings and commentaries will continue to have lasting effects on government spending in the region.

This year we produced our ninth annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian high schools and our second annual one on Western Canadian high schools. We produce these report cards to keep our education providers thinking about progress using good evidence to guide the way, and we believe that it is working. When parents, students, teachers or school administrators learn from the success, and failures, of other schools, educational outcomes improve. If schools can see what is working or not working in similar programs, they can more easily make changes that will help students. Parents use the Report Cards as evidence in their discussions with schools to push for educational improvements. We plan to continue this important work into the future.

This and the other publications and events outlined below are all part of what AIMS does. As a think tank we do not exist just to have ideas but to share them. But not just to share them, but to encourage their use, to push policy makers and individual citizens to think, then do, then measure, and think again. Unlike political parties, we are not interested in what is popular today, we are interested in finding the ideas that the evidence shows are the right ideas. As our Chairman did in his message, let me too draw on the words of F.A. Hayek: Those who have concerned themselves exclusively with what seemed practicable in the existing state of opinion have constantly found that even this had rapidly become politically impossible as the result of changes in a public opinion which they have done nothing to guide.

AIMS takes this lesson to heart and concerns itself not with what is currently politically possible but what is just politically out of reach. By taking that extra step, we give public opinion-setters, who Hayek called intellectuals or

second hand dealers in ideas, the ideas and the evidence and, through these, the power to shift opinion and the resulting public policy in a direction that will improve outcomes for all of us.

In the pages that follow you will get more detail on the many areas where AIMS is seeking "tomorrow's public policy ideas, today". AIMS is, after all, a full service think tank, and few issues pass us by unnoticed. In total, AIMS published 50 papers and commentaries through fiscal 2011-12. Our staff and authors were featured in hundreds of news stories in print and broadcast across the country. Op-eds written by our staff and authors appeared in the Globe and Mail, the National Post, the Calgary Herald, as well as all the major newspapers in Atlantic Canada. According to the reach of these media outlets alone, AIMS comment and analysis was read, viewed or listened to by millions of people through the year.

Our online presence continues to grow, with our website drawing over 36,500 unique visitors this year and our social media presence being now required reading, and debating, for regional, national and international policy thinkers and commentators, as well as everyday people worried about their future. Throughout these tumultuous economic times we have continued to have committed supporters, willing to invest in evidence based independent policy thinking right here in Atlantic Canada. Donations of \$50, \$500, \$5,000 or \$50,000 are all appreciated by the AIMS team, and each makes a needed contribution to our work. We simply cannot thank our donors often enough for laying the foundation for our success. AIMS' work would also not be possible without dedicated and committed staff, Directors, authors and researchers.

I want to echo the thanks offered to the AIMS team by our Chairman John Risley, and I want to offer my special thanks to colleagues who departed AIMS this year: Operations Manager Lori Peddle, Director of Research Don McIver, Communications Officer Paige T. MacPherson, Policy Analyst Jamie Newman and Summer Intern Alanna Newman. I also want to welcome some new colleagues: Research and Operations Manager Juanita Spencer and Operations Assistant Collette Deschenes.

My thanks as well go out to our Chair, John Risley, and his colleagues on our Board of Directors. Rarely a week passes where someone does not comment on the consistent quality of the people we have and have had as Directors here at AIMS. I believe their commitment drives our success and our success attracts their commitment, a virtuous circle that we work hard every year to sustain.

In closing I will highlight and thank some of the most critical players on the AIMS team, the external authors and researchers who do most of our research, writing and peer reviewing. This includes our active Research Fellows like: David Zitner, David MacKinnon, Harry Koza, Michael Zwaagstra and Angus McBeath, and our Research Advisory Board under the chairmanship of Robin Neill, a group that sees all of our material after it is peer reviewed and before it is published. The many individual authors of our research reports and commentaries are too numerous to name here, but you will find them listed throughout this publication.

Being able to attract the very best minds on specific subjects ensures that we are consistently presenting you with the very best ideas. That way you in turn can engage in full and informed debate about the issues that matter to you. So, on that note, allow me to offer one final thank you; to you, our readers. Thank you for your continued attention and for your willingness to use our ideas to inform, shape and test your own.

**Charles Cirtwill** 

President

# Rapport du president



Les réussites de l'AIMS, comme les réussites de tout bon groupe de réflexion sur la politique publique, se mesurent à l'aune des changements de politiques préconisés par le groupe. Évidemment, ces changements sont presque toujours subtils et graduels, mais l'AIMS a enregistré cette année certaines réussites incontestables, comme d'ailleurs au cours de bien d'autres années. Ce qui n'est pas comptabilisé, cependant, c'est l'influence qu'elle exerce sur l'opinion publique qui finira par toucher les décideurs et les leaders d'opinion et les inciter à se faire les champions de politiques qui seront favorables à tous.

La Loi sur les arrangements fiscaux entre le gouvernement fédéral et les provinces venant à expiration en mars 2013, nous avons une fois de plus cette année ressassé nos préoccupations face aux graves conséquences de la façon dont le Canada a choisi d'appliquer la péréquation entre les citoyens. L'auteure Juanita Spencer a publié deux articles traitant de la possibilité de passer d'un transfert du fédéral aux particuliers plutôt que d'un transfert du fédéral aux provinces. Don McIver a pour sa part publié plusieurs articles pour nous prévenir des conséquences non voulues de l'actuelle formule de péréquation et suggéré des modifications qui pourraient y être apportées. Nous sommes impatients de poursuivre notre examen de cette question et espérons qu'en 2013, une véritable réforme résultera de ce travail.

Les deux textes publiés par Don McIver sur les restrictions financières, notamment son analyse d'une perspective canadienne-atlantique du Rapport Drummond en Ontario ont eu une profonde influence sur les dépenses de fonds de l'administration régionale. Des représentants de AIMS et Don Drummond lui-même, notre invité spécial, ont rencontré les partis politiques de toutes les allégeances dans la région pour discuter du rapport et de la réforme fiscale en termes larges. Depuis, la Nouvelle-Écosse et le Nouveau-Brunswick ont resserré un peu les cordons de la bourse. Nous espérons que ces rencontres et les articles que nous publions continueront d'avoir un effet durable sur les dépenses du secteur public dans la région.

Cette année, nous avons publié notre neuvième bulletin annuel sur les écoles secondaires au Canada atlantique et notre deuxième bulletin annuel sur les écoles secondaires de l'Ouest canadien. Nous préparons ces bulletins pour que les établissements d'enseignement restent vigilants en leur présentant des éléments de preuve convaincants, et nous croyons que notre façon de faire est fructueuse. Quand parents, étudiants, enseignants ou administrateurs d'établissements scolaires sont informés des réussites et des échecs d'autres écoles, les résultats scolaires s'améliorent. Si les écoles peuvent voir ce qui fonctionne et ce qui ne marche pas dans des programmes similaires, il leur est plus facile d'apporter des changements qui aideront les élèves. Les parents utilisent le bulletin pour étayer leurs discussions avec les directions d'écoles et demander des améliorations. Nous prévoyons poursuivre cet important travail.

Le bulletin ainsi que les autres publications et activités dont il est question ci-dessous sont la raison d'être de l'AIMS. En tant que groupe de réflexion, nous n'existons pas uniquement pour générer des idées, mais pour les partager. De fait, nous ne voulons pas uniquement les partager, mais encourager les gens à les invoquer, à inciter les responsables des politiques et les particuliers à réfléchir, à mettre leurs idées en pratique, à mesurer les résultats et à réfléchir encore. Contrairement aux partis politiques, l'AIMS ne cherche pas ce qui est populaire ou en vogue aujourd'hui; nous sommes à la recherche d'idées qui s'avèrent être les bonnes idées. Comme l'a fait le président du conseil dans son message, je me permets de citer aussi F.A. Hayek :

« Ceux qui se sont souciés exclusivement de ce qui semblait réalisable dans tel état de l'opinion se sont constamment rendu compte que tous leurs projets devenaient politiquement impossibles en raison de l'évolution d'une opinion publique qu'ils n'avaient rien fait pour guider. »

L'AIMS attache une grande importance à cette leçon et se soucie non seulement de ce qui est politiquement possible

actuellement, mais également de ce qui est tout juste hors de portée politiquement. En faisant cette démarche additionnelle, nous apportons à ceux qui forment l'opinion, ceux que F.A. Von Hayek qualifiait d'intellectuels ou de marchands d'idées recyclées, des idées et des preuves – et conséquemment le pouvoir – qui les incitent à influer sur les opinions et sur la politique publique et à les orienter de façon telle que les résultats seront meilleurs pour chacun de nous.

Dans les pages qui suivent, vous trouverez de plus amples renseignements sur les nombreux domaines où l'AIMS cherche aujourd'hui les idées qui sous-tendront la politique publique de demain. L'AIMS est, après tout, un groupe de réflexion dont les préoccupations sont universelles, et très peu de questions échappent à son attention. En tout, l'AIMS a publié 50 articles et commentaires au cours de l'exercice 2011-2012. Des membres de son personnel et ses auteurs ont été mentionnés dans des centaines d'articles et reportages diffusés partout au pays. Des articles d'opinion rédigés par le personnel et les auteurs de l'institut ont été publiés dans de grands journaux : Globe and Mail, National Post et Calgary Herald, ainsi que dans tous les principaux journaux du Canada atlantique. Si on se fie uniquement au lectorat de ces médias, les commentaires et les analyses de l'AIMS ont été lus, consultés ou écoutés par des millions de gens tout au long de l'année.

Notre présence en ligne continue de prendre de l'ampleur. Notre site Web a attiré plus de 36 500 visiteurs cette année, et notre présence sur les médias sociaux est maintenant devenue lecture obligée pour les penseurs et les commentateurs politiques régionaux, nationaux et internationaux qui veulent en débattre et pour tous ceux et celles qui s'inquiètent de leur avenir.

Pendant cette période économique tumultueuse, nous avons pu continuer à compter sur le soutien de nos alliés désireux d'investir dans une réflexion politique indépendante fondée sur des données factuelles, ici même, au Canada atlantique. Les dons de 50 \$, 500 \$, 5000 \$ ou 50 000 \$ sont appréciés de l'équipe de l'AIMS, et chaque don est une contribution à notre travail. Nous ne pouvons tout simplement pas remercier nos donateurs assez souvent d'être là pour appuyer et étayer nos réussites.

Le travail de l'AIMS ne serait pas possible sans la détermination de son personnel, de ses directeurs, de ses auteurs et de ses chercheurs.

Je souhaite joindre mes remerciements à ceux qui ont été offerts à l'équipe de l'AIMS par John Risley, président, et offrir en particulier ma reconnaissance aux collègues qui ont quitté l'AIMS cette année : Lori Peddle, directrice des opérations; Don McIver, directeur de la recherche; Paige T. MacPherson, agente des communications; Jamie Newman, analyste de politiques et Alanna Newman, stagiaire d'été. Je veux aussi souhaiter la bienvenue à nos nouveaux collègues : Juanita Spencer, directrice de la recherche et des opérations, et Collette Deschenes, adjointe aux opérations.

Je tiens à remercier également John Risley, président du conseil, et ses collègues du conseil d'administration. Il s'écoule rarement une semaine sans que quelqu'un ne souligne la grande qualité de tous ceux qui travaillent et qui ont travaillé en tant que directeurs de l'AIMS. Je suis convaincu que c'est leur détermination qui mène à nos succès, et les succès remportés alimentent leur détermination, cercle vertueux que nous nous efforçons continuellement de maintenir.

En terminant, je tiens à souligner le travail de certains des plus importants membres de l'équipe de l'AIMS, des auteurs et des chercheurs externes qui s'acquittent de la plus grande partie de nos recherches, de la production écrite et de l'examen par des pairs, et je veux les en remercier. Il s'agit notamment de chercheurs très actifs, et je suis heureux de nommer David Zitner, David MacKinnon, Harry Koza, Michael Zwaagstra et Angus McBeath, de même que notre conseil consultatif de recherche sous la présidence de Robin Neill, groupe qui revoit tous les documents produits par l'AIMS après l'examen par des pairs et avant leur publication. Les auteurs de nos rapports de recherche et de nos commentaires sont beaucoup trop nombreux pour que je les nomme ici, mais vous trouverez leurs noms dans ce rapport.

Notre capacité d'attirer les meilleurs cerveaux et des spécialistes en diverses matières nous assure de toujours vous faire part des meilleures idées pour vous permettre, à votre tour, d'être bien informés et de participer de manière éclairée aux discussions sur les enjeux qui comptent pour vous. Sur cette note, permettez-moi de clore en vous offrant à vous, chers lecteurs, mes remerciements pour votre attention soutenue, pour votre façon d'adopter nos idées et de les faire vôtres.

**Charles Cirtwill** 

Président

# Papers and Publications Mémoirs, Rapports, et Publications

#### Selling ourselves on self-interest

October 17, 2011 Don McIver In this commentary, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver argues that the proposed Canada-European Union trade pact (CETA) is in Canada's best interests.

#### Till the End of Time

October 19, 2011 Don McIver In this commentary, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver asks, just how long should we be willing to keep MLAs in the style to which they have grown accustomed?

#### Get Understanding

October 25, 2011 John Risley In this commentary, AIMS Board Chair John Risley reflects on the importance of understanding among Canadians and political leaders of growth, particularly pertaining to industrial policy.

#### Spending on Public Health Programs

October 27, 2011 Livio Di Matteo In this commentary, Livio Di Matteo discusses the implementation of public health programs across the country, assessing the regional impacts of these policies.

#### **Sticky Fingers**

November 2, 2011 Don McIver In this commentary, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver shows how shared cost programs and federalprovincial transfers serve to increase total government spending levels

### The Future of Canada's Political System

November 4, 2011 Stéphane Dion In this commentary, Stéphane Dion, Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent-Cartierville, discusses the realignment of federal political parties, the possibility of an elected Senate, and the re-balancing of representation in the House of Commons.

### The Real Costs of Public Debt

November 10, 2011 Ali Nadeem This commentary, written by Dalhousie University economics graduate student Ali Nadeem, asserts that the growing public debt in Nova Scotia is eroding the capacity for government to fund programs we consider essential.

# AIMS Ninth Annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian High Schools

November 11, 2011 Jamie Newman, Rick Audas, Charles Cirtwill The Atlantic Institute for Market Studies is pleased to present its Ninth Annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian High Schools.

#### Nova Scotians Without Borders

November 24, 2011 Don McIver In this paper, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver asserts that industrial strategies are not a legitimate role of government and when they are attempted, they waste resources that could be better used to serve citizens.

#### A New Plan for N.B. Power

November 28, 2011 Gordon L. Weil In this commentary, AIMS contributor Gordon Weil reviews the positive aspects and drawbacks in the proposed New Brunswick Energy Action Plan, offering solutions where potential problems arise.

#### AIMS Submission to the House of Commons respecting CETA Negotiations

December 1, 2011

Don McIver

This commentary outlines an AIMS submission to the Standing Committee on International Trade of the House of Commons, wherein AIMS strongly endorses the objectives of trade liberalization between Canada and the European Union.

# Doin' the PRPP Walk

December 6, 2011 Harry Koza AIMS Research Fellow Harry Koza argues that, while the PRPP is a timid step to be sure, it is at least a step in the right direction.

# Health Cuts

December 8, 2011 Bill Black Bill Black of New Start Nova Scotia argues the Health Minister should show real courage and find 3% of the public savings she is requiring of the regional health authorities.

# Up, Down or Sideways

December 15, 2011 John Risley AIMS Board Chair John Risley predicts politicians in

the US and UK will unfortunately wait until things get worse before they attempt to remedy the current economic crisis.

# **Stadium Studies**

December 15, 2011 Bill Black

In this commentary, Bill Black of New Start Nova Scotia looks at the Halifax Regional Municipality's Stadium Analysis Report, and finds considerable challenges facing the potential stadium in Halifax. Most importantly, there doesn't seem to be a viable business case for it.

#### The Effectiveness of the Common Drug Review in Canada's National Drug Strategy December 20, 2011

Amir Attaran

This paper examines the degree to which provincial drug plans reflect the results of the Common Drug Review, ultimately finding that the review has NOT resulted in consistent availability to pharmaceuticals across the provinces.

# Chasing the Jobs

December 21, 2011 Bill Black In this commentary, Bill Black of New Start Nova Scotia explains how the Nova Scotia government could more wisely spend money on economic development.

# Maine's Unrealized Human Potential

January 4, 2012 Perry Newman Perry Newman tells the story of a Jewish immigrant who escaped the Holocaust and found success in the US, to highlight the importance of welcoming new immigrants into our communities.

# **Power Plays**

January 10, 2012 Bill Black

In this commentary, Bill Black of New Start Nova Scotia argues that Nova Scotia's Renewable Electricity Plan must be flexible enough to protect consumers and avoid excessive costs.

# Young Love

January 17, 2012 John Kennedy

In this paper, AIMS Research Intern John Kennedy argues that attracting and retaining Gen Y may be the key to economic growth in Atlantic Canada – and offers some insight as to how to get them here (to stay).

## Good for you, if you have a job (and keep it)

January 19, 2012 Andreas Korfmann AIMS Research Intern Andreas Korfmann explains how raising the minimum wage can have unintended consequences such as higher prices and unemployment rates.

### The Way We'll Get By

January 24, 2012

Perry Newman

Perry Newman suggests people independently dig a little deeper into their pockets and their hearts to help their neighbours get through these tough economic times.

#### **Healthy Alternatives**

January 26, 201

David Zitner

AIMS is pleased to provide a forum for fresh perspectives on the Canadian public health care system. AIMS Health Policy Fellow David Zitner and AIMS Board Director George Cooper offer their points of view on what can be done to fix a system in need.

# **Budget Season**

January 31, 2012 Bill Black Bill Black of New Start Nova Scotia offers his thoughts on what are the most important issues that need to be addressed in the budget.

# Perspectives, Perceptions and Priorities

February 2, 2012 Don McIver AIMS Director of Research Don McIver shares his thoughts on the future of aquaculture in Nova Scotia, from the perspective of a macroeconomist.

# The Post-Secondary Education Bubble

February 7, 2012 Andreas Korfmann

Amidst a flurry of calls for decreased tuition and more accessible post-secondary education, AIMS Research Intern Andreas Korfmann considers the effects these policies have on value in the education system.

### The 99% Solution

February 15, 2012 Don McIver AIMS Director of Research Don McIver argues that the same economic forces that stimulate wealth generation in advanced countries also foster a more equitable income share for developing countries.

### A Provincial Lifeline

February 23, 2012

Paul W. Bennett Paul W. Bennett of Schoolhouse Consulting makes the case in this AIMS research paper that Nova Scotia's Tuition Support Program for special needs children should be expanded.

# Let's Get Started

February 29, 2012 John Risley John Risley presents his next great idea for rural development: an Atlantic Canadian town could become the healthiest community in the world.

# An Atlantic Canadian Perspective on the Drummond Report

March 14, 2012 Don McIver This commentary identifies some of the recommendations in Ontario's Drummond Report that could be applied towards achieving a dramatic improvement in Atlantic Canada's fiscal circumstances.

# **Missed Opportunities**

March 20, 2012 Bill Black Bill Black argues that selling liquor is not a core service in Nova Scotia, and the option of privatizing sales should be explored by the government.

# **First Things First**

April 2, 2012 Don McIver AIMS Director of Research Don McIver calls for all levels of government to cut spending and get their expenditure in order, then pursue tax reform.

# Financial Reality is Needed in Maritime Canada

April 4, 2012 David MacKinnon

David MacKinnon, AIMS Fellow in Common Sense in Confederation, The Ontario Perspective, takes issue with the approach the federal government has been taking in relation to the regional subsidies, proposing changes that could lead to Maritime prosperity.

# Home of the Brave?

April 20, 2012 John Risley AIMS Board Chair John Risley asks the bold question: are Canadians brave enough to allow our First Nations to be a truly independent community within Canada?

# **Robbing Peter to Pay...Peter?**

May 1, 2012

Don McIver

AIMS Senior Fellow Don McIver describes the distortions of Canada's equalization program, highlighting that low-income federal taxpayers in "have" provinces indirectly contribute revenues that benefit high income earners in recipient provinces.

# Incidental Findings in Genomic Research

May 14, 2012

Ma'n Zawati

This paper, originally published in GenEditorial (2011) 9:1 GenEdit 1, explores the balancing of competing priorities - personal health and personal liberty - a necessity if we are to realize on the promise that genome mapping offers.

# Nova Scotia Universities

May 17, 2012

Juanita Spencer

In the face of the demographic shift, universities in Nova Scotia will deal with increased demand at a time of reduced government capacity. Juanita Spencer proposes a new funding model that will allow post-secondary institutions to be more sustainable and independent.

### Put Our Money Where Our Mouths Are

May 23, 2012 Juanita Spencer In Put Our Money Where Our Mouths Are, AIMS Author Juanita Spencer considers a model of equalization that would strengthen municipalities and make people, not provinces, the recipients

### **Missing the Mark**

May 29, 2012 John Risley

AIMS Board Chair John Risley suggests that 'occupiers' are missing the point: capitalism has resulted in more wealth creation, social programs and increased opportunity than any system yet.

# **Fishing for Change**

June 6, 2012

John Risley

AIMS Board Chair John Risley argues that reform to the current Fisheries Act and entire Canadian fishing industry is needed if we are to maintain the industry and create jobs.

# **Building a Bigger Tent**

June 14, 2012 Paul W. Bennett In this paper, AIMS Author Dr. Paul W. Bennett calls for a review of New Brunswick's public education system, with the goal of creating a truly inclusive environment for all learning disabled students.

# Second Annual Report Card on Western Canadian High Schools

June 29, 2012

Rick Audas, Charles Cirtwill, Jamie Newman AIMS and FCPP have released the second annual Report Card on Western Canadian High Schools (Manitoba and Saskatchewan edition), which ranks high schools from Manitoba and Saskatchewan based on the AIMS model.

#### Too Rural for Our Own Good

July 19, 2012 Don Mills

Nova Scotia has been dead last in Canada for most of the last 20 years in terms of economic growth as measured by GDP. Addressing critics of the Federal Government's recent EI reforms, Mills argues seasonal jobs are not the way forward. He supports urbanization as a better path; leading to fewer seasonal jobs, more permanent employment and economic growth.

# Health care for Nova Scotia: It's about government, not patients

July 30, 2012

David Zitner

AIMS Board Member David Zitner argues that the draft Health Services and Insurance Act does not address the key problems afflicting medicare in Nova Scotia. Instead, it continues the heartrending story of delayed care, lack of accountability and failed governance, including tolerance for errors leading to unnecessary discomfort, disability and death.

# Eye on the Economy

July 31, 2012

Don Mills

In this commentary, AIMS Board Member Don Mills examines the impact that a large public sector has on Nova Scotia. He discusses affordability, sustainability, and the impact this has on the tax payers.

# Eye on the Economy: Success depending on leveraging our towns

August 20, 2012

Don Mills

In this commentary, AIMS Board Member Don Mills discusses how a strategy must be developed to leverage towns in Nova Scotia.

#### Canada's Brand: Shining or Tarnished

August 24, 2012 John Risley AIMS Board Chair John Risley examines Canada's brand and looks specifically to the development of the Alberta oil sands.

# Eye on the Economy: Health Care monopoly 'under fire'

September 6, 2012

In this commentary, Eye on the Economy: Health care monopoly 'under fire', AIMS board member Don Mills examines the possibility of an alternative system worth considering — the introduction of privately delivered, but publicly funded health care in Canada.

# Chasing the Jobs

September 11, 2012 Bill Black

In Chasing the Jobs, Bill Black offers a comprehensive regional overview of the current economic development policies being pursued by the Nova Scotia government and suggests a focus on aggressive immigration strategies, a sustainable private-sector and embracing resource-based industries for future prosperity in Nova Scotia.

#### **Budget Season**

September 27, 2012

Bill Black

Bill Black offers his thoughts on what are the most important issues that need to be addressed in the budget. The most important issues to address, Black says, are Nova Scotia's ageing population and the economic implications of it, and the need to re-evaluate public sector pensions.

# Selected AIMS Special Events Événements Spéciaux



Mark Carney at the AIMS luncheon on June 21, 2012

On Thursday, 21 June 2012, AIMS hosted a special luncheon featuring insights from Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney. The event brought over 600 guests to the Cunard Centre in Halifax, to hear remarks from AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill, AIMS Board Chair John Risley, and an important keynote from Governor Carney. This was followed by an informative open Question & Answer session with the audience and Governor Carney. The event was covered by news media from across the world.

# Selected Talks and Speeches; AIMS' Events; AIMS as Invited Guests Discourse choisis de AIMS



AIMS Luncheon Briefing with Stéphane Dion, Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent-Cartierville "The future of Canada's political system" November 3, 2011

AIMS hosted a Luncheon Briefing with Stéphane Dion, Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent-Cartierville. Dion discussed the future of Canada's political system. Dion suggested that as a consequence of the last federal election, several new realities have emerged. The realignment of federal political parties, the federal government's intention to establish an elected Senate, and the re-balancing of demographic representation in the House of Commons: these new realities raise serious questions regarding the future of our political life in Canada. For example, given the present demographic trends, what weight will the Atlantic Provinces carry in Ottawa in the future? Dion discussed these topics and welcomed questions.



#### AIMS on Campus Inaugural Maritimes Tour with Michael Zwaagstra What's Wrong With Our Schools? (And How We Can Fix Them) March 26, 2012

AIMS on Campus kicked off its first speaking tour in the Maritime provinces from Monday, March 26th to Thursday, March 29th. The tour featured award-winning teacher and author Michael Zwaagstra, who discussed his book, What's Wrong With Our Schools (And How We Can Fix Them). Zwaagstra's book exposes some of the flaws in the current practices of education and provides parents, teachers and other interested citizens with practical ways to help reform public education. Zwaagstra spoke to students at open events at the University of Prince Edward Island and Acadia University in Nova Scotia. While in the Maritimes, Zwaagstra will also meet with educators and decision makers in New Brunswick.

# Edmonton Public Schools – Strengthening Student and Parent Choice and Accountability for Results Featuring Angus McBeath, AIMS Fellow in Public Education Reform

April 26, 2012

Angus McBeath, AIMS fellow in Public Education Reform, spoke as part of an AIMS on Campus event at the University of New Brunswick. As superintendent of the public schools in Edmonton, Mr. McBeath lead the ongoing effort to improve student achievement in that city's public school system. A published author, consultant, and educator for more than 30 years, MacBeath is praised internationally for his contribution to the Edmonton Model of education. MacBeath spoke at the UNB campus about

the process of changing Edmonton's public school system.



# 19

# Selected AIMS Commentary Commentaires divers de AIMS

The following is a sampling of the op-eds written by AIMS staff and authors that appeared in newspapers across the country. The sampling includes material prompted by AIMS' research and written by independent columnists and newspaper editors.

# MLA Platinum Pensions: Till the end of time?

October 26, 2011 In this op-ed, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver recommends the elimination of MLA pensions or replacing them with fixed-contribution plans or an RRSP allowance.

### After Hydro-Quebec, NB Power returns to its past

October 28, 2011 In this op-ed, AIMS contributor Gordon L. Weil explains how New Brunswick's provincial power policy is looking inward after Hydro-Quebec, abandoning a past emphasis on power exports and regional cooperation.

### MP should take course in Economics 101

November 2, 2011 In this op-ed, AIMS Board Vice Chair Dianne Kelderman suggests that a local MP - and anyone who thinks exporting our workforce to Alberta is good for Nova Scotia's economy - may need a lesson in Economics 101.

# Truly life-changing program

March 1, 2012 In this op-ed, Kevin Burrell explains how the Nova Scotia Tuition Support Program enabled his learning disabled son to academically flourish at Bridgeway Academy.

# Why the Bridgeway model works for students with learning disabilities

March 1, 2012 In this op-ed, Bridgeway Academy Founder Lucinda Low applauds AIMS for its latest research paper calling for the expansion of the Nova Scotia Tuition Support Program.

# Rescuing kids with learning disabilities: Extending the lifeline

March 1, 2012

In this op-ed, AIMS Author Paul W. Bennett makes the case for expanding the Nova Scotia Tuition Support Program, which serves as an educational lifeline for learning disabled kids in the province.

#### Two tier healthcare foisted on Canadians

March 8, 2012

AIMS Health Policy Fellow David Zitner argues that the two-tiered system of government funded healthcare that currently exists in Canada is likely not what Tommy Douglas had in mind.

#### Stop N.B.'s fiscal insanity

May 12, 2012 In this op-ed, AIMS Fellow David MacKinnon writes that as New Brunswick is at a fork in the road, and needs bold ideas and leadership to end the province's addiction to money that comes from others.

#### EI: what's left to do

June 25, 2012

The angst over an assault on seasonal industries has been overblown since towns with a high percentage of seasonal work would be almost totally unaffected by the new rules.

#### Time to consider health-care lodgers

June 28, 2012

In this op-ed, AIMS Senior Fellow Don McIver makes the case for Canada to actively encourage inbound medical tourism to help curb some of the financial pressures facing our public healthcare system.

#### Power Pool may be Atlantic Answer

August 2, 2012

In this op-ed, AIMS Author, Gordon L. Weil, examines a solution to regional power authorities: a power pool. An Atlantic Canadian power pool, modeled after New England, would enable each utility to continue to own and control its own generators and transmission lines. Utilities would be able to share reserve power and increase overall power reliability as well as reduce the cost that Atlantic Canadians pay

#### Keep no-zero policies out of schools in Nova Scotia

August 30, 2012 In this op-ed, AIMS Fellow in Common Sense Education Michael Zwaagstra argues to keep no-zero policies out of schools in Nova Scotia. Zwaagstra discusses how research evidence that strongly supports no-zero policies is flawed.

#### Want to kill equalization as we know it? Pit People and Towns against Provinces

September 12, 2012

In this op-ed, Juanita Spencer argues that shifting equalization funds from provinces to people would achieve our constitutional commitments and goals, and provide incentives encouraging local governments to meet local demands.

# Sampling of AIMS in the media AIMS dans les Médias

The following are just a small sampling of the distinct news articles written in the past year quoting AIMS staff or our research. We continue to be in demand to explain public policy issues and our research is often used to generate discussion on key issues. In addition, AIMS is increasing its presence on social media and blogs.

### Pension turmoil: What is a small business to do?

Pension issues remain a key challenge facing small businesses today. AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill thinks pooled registered pension plans (PRPPs) are an interesting option to look into.

### How Europe plans to save Canada from itself

AIMS Director of Research Don McIver writes about Canada's potential CETA with the EU. Canada will need to negotiate skillfully, but even the peripheral consequences of reaching an agreement may provide some valuable benefits to Canadians.

### Halifax think tank recommends taxing pensions for N.S. politicians

The Atlantic Institute for Market Studies is recommending that pensions for members of the Nova Scotia legislature be eliminated or drastically transformed.

### Highway tolls still a good idea, ex-minister says

Former NB Liberal Transportation minister says tolling the highway between Fredericton and Moncton is still a great idea to raise provincial revenue. AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill says although they were a good idea when province couldn't fund it, changing their mind one more time is ill-advised.

# High school rankings: A useful mirror

AIMS is commended for its firm belief in AIMS' Annual Report Card on Atlantic Canadian High Schools, which provides educators and parents with a useful yardstick to measure how schools are doing and where they can improve — even those ranked near the top.

# Public policy in Nova Scotia must put people first

AIMS Director of Research Don McIver argues that a sensible expansion policy should seek to achieve comprehensive education and skills development for all Nova Scotians — including our frequently disadvantaged communities.

# Nova Scotia health care system weakest link

This article references an op-ed by AIMS Health Policy Fellow David Zitner regarding the secrecy in Nova Scotia's public healthcare system.

#### Investing in children

Providing structured early childhood education is socially and economically beneficial, yet does not top the education agenda. AIMS contributor Paul W. Bennett considers whether government should offer universal childcare programs or target support where it will do the most good.

#### Demanding more money – again

AIMS Research Fellow David MacKinnon argues that PEI needs to ensure they approach other Canadians for financial support in an informed way, showing understanding of the circumstances of the people they are seeking money from - none of which is present in the PEI government's recent appeal to Ottawa.

#### Universities should cut at administrative level, think-tank urges

Nova Scotia universities should make cuts at the administrative level to deal with reduced government funding, says AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill.

#### Health Plan Slammed

As NS Premier Dexter opposes the federal plan to pay health transfers to the provinces on a per capita basis, AIMS points out there is already unequal health care, but this plan will create more divergence.

#### Medicare malaise: a remedy

Tommy Douglas dreamed of a world where rich and poor alike had access to worthwhile and high-quality care. AIMS Health Policy Fellow David Zitner writes that instead, Canadian rich and poor pay the same amount for care — nothing — but the care they receive is different.

#### Choosing a brighter future

AIMS' reference to equalization as "the help that hurts" is brought up in this op-ed suggesting change and leadership is needed to revamp Canada's approach to regional subsidies.

#### Defining "High Performance" at NB Liquor

AIMS Director of Research Don McIver argues that alcohol merchants in New Brunswick should be focussed on providing optimum product variety at an economic and reasonable price—and that is best accomplished by privatization.

#### Census 2011 makes history: population in the West surpasses that in the East

For the first time, the population in Western Canada has surpassed that in Eastern Canada. Don McIver comments on the trends in Atlantic Canada and warns against regional development efforts.

#### Putting kids before agendas

AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill says the changes to school board governance are meant to fix governance without addressing the fundamental problem — communities lack true ownership of their schools.

#### Private special ed advised

Every regional school board in Nova Scotia needs at least one special education school, where tuition would be subsidized by the provincial government, says AIMS author.

### NSTU fiddles with education 'facts'

AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill separates 'truth' from perception in the latest NSTU advertisements. He concludes that simply spending more on education is not the answer - we need to spend more wisely.

#### Businesses welcome promised tax cut in N.S. budget

As NS prepares for the provincial budget, AIMS Director of Research Don McIver said the original increase in the HST put the province at a competitive disadvantage and sends the wrong message.

### Maritimer becomes champion for Ontario taxpayers

PEI native and AIMS Fellow in Common Sense in Confederation - The Ontario Perspective David MacKinnon has become an unlikely champion of Ontario's new sense of injustice over EI and federal transfers.

#### Tories set to reveal new EI rules

As the Conservative government plans to introduce more stringent rules as to what kind of jobs EI recipients should be prepared to accept, AIMS President Charles Cirtwill is concerned the measures will be aimed at punishing employees, not employers.

### Economic development: Too many tentacles?

As Ottawa plans to pull funding from 50-odd regional development organizations, an AIMS report questions if they are necessary, or if there is a better way to provide localized investment advice.

#### Uniformity isn't the answer

A proposed streamlining of local service districts would see rural areas in New Brunswick amalgamated with larger districts, but AIMS Senior Fellow Don McIver warns that amalgamation doesn't always result in cost savings.

# Atlantic premiers expanding joint buying

Atlantic Canadian premiers are looking to cooperate on purchasing so they can save money, but AIMS President Charles Cirtwill doubts the commitment of the premiers to saving with bulk purchasing over the long run.

#### Standardized exams: We learn by testing twice

The Chronicle Herald Editorial Board agrees with AIMS Fellow in Common Sense Education Reform Michael Zwaagstra that standardized testing must occur in both grades 10 and 12.

#### Grading the schools that grade the students

We all know how it works when students are graded and marked for competency within their respective schools, but what happens when the public attempts to get grading and competency reports on the schools themselves? Well, thanks to the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS) and the Frontier Centre for Public Policy (FCPP) that have carried out some detailed surveys and studies ... those marks for Western Canadian high schools are now available.

### School size debate tackles primary views

The trend of closing smaller schools and building supersized facilities in their place is ill-advised says AIMS President and CEO, Charles Cirtwill.

### Why should location affect education?

In this article, AIMS President and CEO Charles Cirtwill comments on the open boundary public school model and notes that the adoption of an open boundary system in Halifax would lead to less division along socio-economic lines than Halifax already has.

# AIMS on the Web AIMS sur l'Internet

#### AIMS Website Statistics October 1, 2011-September 30, 2012



Traffic Sources Overview

#### Social Media Sources Overview

48,352 people visited this site



and the second second second	Social Network	Vielle
62.33% Search Traffic 30,140 Vists	1. Facebook	1,315
16.46% Referral Traffic	2. Twitter	725
7,960 Visits	3. WordPress	100
19.82% Direct Traffic 9,583 Visits	4. Linkedin	8
1.38% Campaigns	S. Blogger	30

#### **Content Overview**

Page	Pagestern	%.Pageriers	
5. Archonseldefault.expx	21,401	6.77%	
2 Anthonebboukuljubsperings.augu	10,408	3 3 39%	
Anthonehopoloads/weiencese/barbigheite-dropoloard.args	6.004	2.00%	
Instrumentskyperfotueinansitelauf.ager	6,216	1.00%	
Anthonalhypotoards/ACH0700709 augus	6,400	1,79%	
hettomsleunsistanten	4782	1.51%	
7. Anthonsis-estal pointing web any	4710	1.695	
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9. AndronellineyResylding.equ/1	4301	1.30%	
10. Anthony Albada and Albada and Anthony ange	4,180	1.30%	

#### Location of Visitors Overview



	Visits	Pages / Visit	Avg. Visit Du	ration	% New Visits	Bour	Bounce Rate	
	<b>48,352</b> % of Total: 100.00% (48,352)	6.55 Site Avg: 6.55 (0.00%)	00:02:0 Site Avg: 00:02:05				<b>59.99%</b> Site Avg: 59.99% (0.00%)	
	Country / Territory		Visits	Pages / Visit	Avg. Visit Duration	% New Visits	Bounce Rate	
1.	Canada		40,391	6.79	00:02:18	70.59%	57.35%	
2.	United States		3,792	6.26	00:00:59	87.37%	72.94%	
3.	United Kingdom		455	5.12	00:01:04	87.47%	69.45%	
4.	India		384	5.47	00:01:01	93.23%	74.22%	
5.	(not set)		207	6.37	00:00:43	92.27%	75.36%	
6.	Australia		188	3.49	00:01:37	84.04%	79.26%	
7.	Germany		181	1.74	00:01:00	87.29%	74.59%	
8.	Indonesia		175	1.18	00:00:09	96.00%	88.00%	
9.	China		152	7.40	00:01:52	88.16%	67.11%	
10.	Philippines		150	1.39	00:00:49	92.67%	80.00%	

Rows 1 - 10 of 155

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# Auditor's Report on the summarized Financial Statements Rapport des vérificateurs sur les états financiers condensés

To the Directors of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies

The accompanying summarized balance sheet and statements of revenue, expenditures and fund balance are derived from the complete financial statements of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies as at September 30, opinion without reservation in our report dated November 29, 2012. The preparation of summarized financial statements from the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the entity's financial position, results of operations, changes in general fund equity and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

To the Directors of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies

The accompanying summarized balance sheet and statements of revenue, expenditures and fund balance are derived from the complete financial statements of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies as at September 30, 2012 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an 2012 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated November 29, 2012. The preparation of summarized financial statements from the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

> In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

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Halifax, Nova Scotia 29 November 2012

Grant Thornton LLP

Grant Thornton LLP Chartered Accountants

Halifax, Nova Scotia **29 November 2012** 

Grant Thornton LLP

Grant Thornton LLP Chartered Accountants

# 2011 Financial Position 2012 Rapport financier

Summarized Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and General Fund Equity/ État des revenus, dépenses et surplus du fonds de fonctionnement Year ended September 30, 2012/ Pour l'exercice terminé le 30 septembre, 2012

Revenue/Revenus						
Donations/Dons						
Foundations	\$	329,261				
Corporate and Individual		227,506				
Events/Events		70,162				
Interest/Intérêts		0				
Other/Autres		0		\$	626,929	
Expenses/Dépenses						
Salaries and Benefits/ Salaires et benefice	Salaries and Benefits/ Salaires et benefices			355,624		
Contract Fees/Frais de contrats	Contract Fees/Frais de contrats			98,631		
Other/Autres		4	223,886		<u>(678,141)</u>	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures/						
Excédent les revenues seu des dépenses			1	\$	(51,212)	
Fund balance, beginning of year /						
Surpus du fonds de fonctionnement, début de l'e	xercice		1	\$	(19,515)	
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures /						
Excédent les dépenses sur des revenues					<u>(51,212)</u>	
General Fund Equity, End of year/						
Surplus du fonds de fonctionnement, fin de l'exer	rcice			<u>\$</u>	(70,727)	

#### Balance Sheet /Bilan

September 30, 2011/ le 30 septembre, 2011

Assets/Actif	\$ 81,796
Liabilities/Passif	<u>(152,523)</u>
Fund Balance/Solde de fonds	\$ (70,727)

# 2011 AIMS Donors 2012 Les Donateurs de AIMS

AIMS relies on the generosity of people in Atlantic Canada and beyond to support our work, spread our research, and act on the evidence we bring to bear.

We want to take this opportunity to thank those who read and use our work, but who have taken the extra step of helping us fund and disseminate it. Without your help, the progress AIMS has contributed to simply would not have happened. Your support makes a difference in the lives of individual Canadians through better, affordable, and sustainable public investment and activity.

Andrew Oland Astra Zeneca Canada Inc. Atlantic Cooperative CED Institute Ltd. Atlantic Diversified Transportation Systems Aurea Foundation Bank of Montreal Bell & Grant Insurance Canadian Petroleum Products Institute **CE** Ritchie Clearwater Fine Foods Inc. Comeau's Sea Food **Commercial Properties Limited** Dennis Covill Donald Glendenning Donald Sobey Foundation Edward Lapierre Empire Company Ltd Gerald Pond Hyndman and Compay Ltd. Ian Munro Imperial Manufacturing Group Intact Financial Corporation James Gogam

Jason Hannon Jim Spatz **KPMG** L.W MacEachern Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation Mary Himsl McCain Foods McInnes Cooper Merck Frosst Canada Moosehead Breweries Ltd. Municipal Enterprises Ltd Pfizer Canada Pirie Foundation Purdy Crawford **Questerre Energy** Ritchfam Holdings Ltd. Robert Campbell Robert Deegan Scotiabank Troy Lanigam Ultramar Ltd. Wadih M. Fares Family Foundation

AIMS Rapport Annuel 2011/2012



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