

A large, empty conference room with a long, polished wooden table. The table is surrounded by grey chairs. On the table, there are several sets of microphones and water glasses on small silver trays. In the background, there are two Canadian flags and a whiteboard. The room has wood-paneled walls and a drop ceiling.

# The StFX PGOV Public Policy Case Competition

2023-24

Welcome!

# The StFX PGOV policy case competition

What is it?

An applied exercise in public policy development

Who can participate?

Any past or present PGOV course participant, plus a friend from another program

What do we actually do?

In teams of three, you research, plan and write a Memorandum to Cabinet or MC

What is the policy subject?

All teams will write on the same policy question, which will be announced in November

# A case competition: what is it?

Our program explores the world of public policy and governance

Take on the challenge of developing actual policy

- Working in small groups
- Working in a real-world policy framework
- Translating a policy problem into a realistic public sector response

# The Memorandum to Cabinet or MC

This is how ministers bring departmental proposals to Cabinet for approval

The MC is prepared by policy staff (bureaucrats) in the Minister's department

You and your team are the policy staff

All MCs must follow a designated format, that is set out by the Privy Council Office

What is the policy question (the 'case') for this competition?

The Policy Case scenario will be released later in the Fall 2023 term

It will be based in a significant federal (Government of Canada) issue

The question has not yet been resolved but is clearly on today's policy agenda

Teams will prepare an MC in response to the question, following a federal MC format

# The calendar of events

September 2023 – Orientation meeting

October 2023 – ‘What is an MC?’ meeting

November 2023 – Release of the policy scenario and question

January 2024 – Research, writing and revising of your MC submission

Submission of MC's. Deadline is Friday 2 February at 6 pm

February 2024 – Assessment and announcement of top three teams

# For the top three MC teams

## Money prizes

1st: Share \$700

2nd: Share \$500

3rd: Share \$300



## Policy Case Plaque

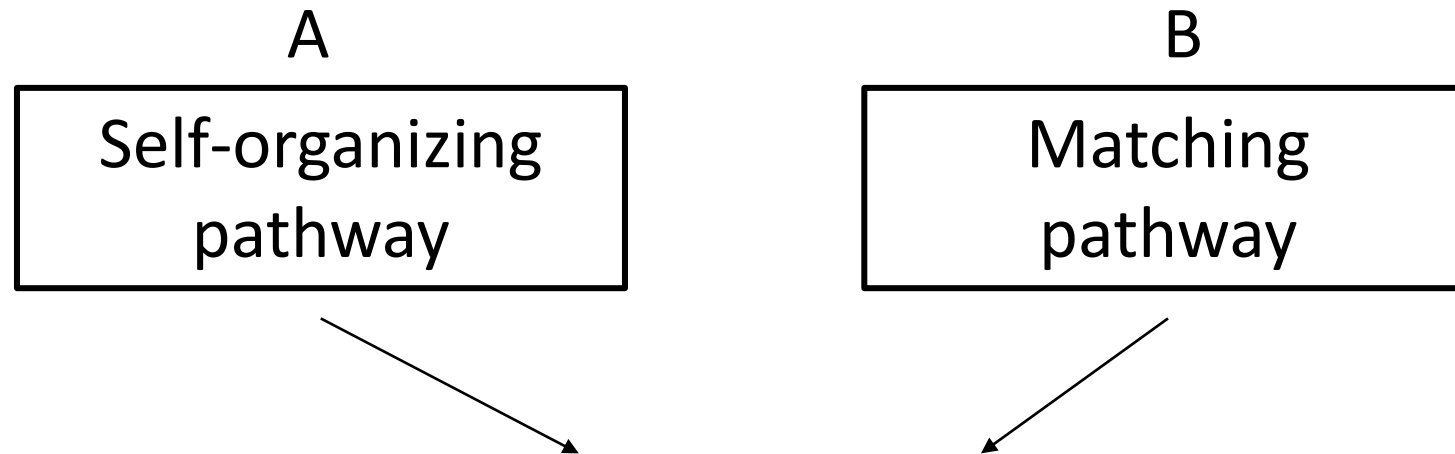


# Where do we start?

Forming a team of three

Two members must be past or present PGOV course members

The third member can be drawn from any disciplinary major



Register your team – [pclancy@stfx.ca](mailto:pclancy@stfx.ca)



# Case Competition resources

The 2023-24 Handbook

Writing a Memorandum to Cabinet (October)

The Policy Scenario (November)



**Public Policy  
& Governance**

<https://www.stfx.ca/departments/public-policy-governance>



<https://www.mulroneyinstitute.ca/policy-competition>

For any questions or points of clarification:

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