# NEWS RELEASE

*Ontario 360* launches its 30-on-30 initiative – 30 big policy ideas for Ontario in 30 days

April 1, 2018

For immediate release

TORONTO—Today the *Ontario 360* project, housed at the University of Toronto's School of Public Policy and Governance (SPPG), officially launched its 30-on-30 initiative to put forward 30 public policy ideas for Ontario over next 30 days. The goal is to produce an "open source" inventory of evidence-based policies for Ontario's political parties to draw from for their respective platforms, and to ultimately inform the incoming government's policy agenda.

*Ontario 360* is drawing on a diverse group of 30 policy experts to produce clear, actionable policy recommendations covering 30 different topics over the month of April. These recommendations will come in the form of short, accessible "transition briefings" on a wide range of policy areas including taxation, homelessness, artificial intelligence, poverty, transit, and affordable housing.

The result will be a series of evidence-based policy recommendations that can form the basis of a comprehensive governing agenda irrespective of which political party forms Ontario's next government.

The first 30-on-30 briefing on April 1st explores youth unemployment by SPPG alumni and chair of the federal government's Expert Panel on Youth Employment, Vass Bednar. The second is on natural resource development by Vic Pakalnis, the president & CEO of MIRARCO Mining Innovation at Laurentian University. Subsequent topics and authors will be released each day.

"The 30-on-30 initiative exhibits SPPG's capacity to bring policy expertise to bear in the public interest," said Peter Loewen, SPPG's director. "I am thrilled that several SPPG faculty members and other University of Toronto's scholars

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are able to use the *Ontario 360* platform to contribute to Ontario's public policy conversation."

Contributing experts have full independence to determine the right policy recommendations in their respective fields. The only conditions are that their recommendations have a reasonable probability of broad-based political support and are actionable in the next, four-year mandate. Contributors will include: Tiff Macklem (Rotman School of Management) on economic competitiveness; Jamison Steeve (Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity) on innovation; Linda White (University of Toronto) on early childhood education; Alison Smith (University of Toronto) on homelessness; Matti Siemiatycki (University of Toronto) on infrastructure; Janet Mason (University of Toronto) on affordable housing; and many more.

"We see *Ontario 360*'s principal role as contributing to a constructive and positive policy dialogue through the campaign and the post-election transition," said Sean Speer, *Ontario 360*'s director. "The 30-on-30 initiative will set out evidence-based policy recommendations that can find support across the political spectrum and ultimately form the basis of the next government's policy agenda."

*Ontario 360* will be present on social media and in traditional media, host events and roundtables, and carry out other activities to share and disseminate its inventory of policy recommendations through the election and post-election transition. Those interested can sign up to *Ontario 360*'s mailing list to receive our daily transition briefings and get weekly updates.

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*Ontario 360* is a project of University of Toronto's School of Public Policy and Governance. Its purpose is to scan Ontario's challenges and opportunities and develop evidence-based public policy ideas for dissemination in advance of the Ontario election and during the post-election transition. *Ontario 360* is independent, non-partisan, and fact-based. It provides a neutral platform for policy experts to put forward clear, actionable policy recommendations to promote a growth and opportunity agenda for Ontario. Our advisory council, authors, and SPPG faculty, students, alumni, and supporters do not necessarily endorse or affirm the policy recommendations advanced by the different contributors.

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