

## CSA Emerging Experts Advisory Committee

Consultation by Science & Policy Exchange / Dialogue Sciences & Politiques

**Prepared by:** Shawn McGuirk, Vanessa Sung, and Tina Grusso

**Students consulted (from Science & Policy Exchange):** Neha Bhutani, Mary-Rose Bradley-Gill, Liam Crapper, Marie Franquin, Sara Ferwati, Sam Garnett, Tina Grusso, Patrick Julien, Shawn McGuirk, and Vanessa Sung

**Others consulted:** Kristiann Allen, Chief of Staff of the Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand, and Madison Rilling, PhD student at Université Laval and Vice-President of the student advisory committee (CIÉ) of the Chief Scientist of Québec

### Group mandate

To advise the Chief Science Advisor on priority issues, including but not limited to:

- Increasing public trust in science
- Adapting to changing job markets for graduates
- Improving science literacy
- Improving teaching methods for science in Canada
- Promoting a culture of science in Canada

We recommend marketing the participation in this committee as a professional development opportunity for emerging experts at the interface of science and policy. This approach could incentivize employers and supervisors to support participation, allowing committee members to devote working time or travel for this initiative. This has proven to be important for the success of the New Zealand model, where the office of the Chief Science Advisor issued letters endorsing the value of this activity.

### Composition

We recommend that the advisory committee be made up of a diverse group with balanced representation across geography, gender, and education. Minorities, people with disabilities, and non-Canadian citizens should also be represented. Because of the breadth of topics that will be covered by the committee, it should include enough members to capture the requisite range of expertise. We envision two scenarios:

1. Several smaller committees of 20-30 members localized by region similar to the New Zealand model (see Appendix), which can be piloted in Ottawa and extended to other provinces incrementally.
2. A unified Canada-wide committee with 50-60 members, which can be divided into smaller working groups based on the assigned priorities by the Chief Science Advisor

We recommend a unified committee. To ease regional constraints, the CSA office would need to provide online communication tools such as video calling (e.g. Webex, Skype) and a platform for messaging and file sharing (e.g. Slack). A strong IT support to facilitate the communications are present in both the CIE and the New Zealand model. Meetings of the larger committee could occur quarterly, while individual working groups can meet on a more frequent basis. Diversity and equity should be ensured at the working group level as well, and members should be provided training on the fundamentals of science advice and on how to communicate evidence to policymakers.

In some situations, recruiting additional experts from outside the committee may be required. It may therefore be of interest to launch an open call to assemble a database of experts and stakeholders that can be called upon to consult on specific topics. Or, members of the advisory group could be given a clear mandate to consult with the communities that they represent to inform what they present to the CSA.

### **Coordination**

The CSA office should have a dedicated position for managing this group, as we believe it is better not to have a hierarchy within the volunteer members. This person would assist the group wherever required and chair meetings, as well as be the central point of communication between the group and the CSA. This coordinator would be in charge of the logistical support for the advisory committee to facilitate their efficient communication. Ideally, in addition to have a staff member of the Chief Science Advisor office coordinating the group, appointing a mentor to each working group would help guide their discussions. These could be senior stakeholders on the issue, or alternatively this could be included in the mandate of future departmental science advisors.

### **Committee Membership**

Members should be engaged in science, policy, or communication, but not necessarily have a formal education in their subject. The selection process should favour a breadth of knowledge, with members coming from both the supply side (scientists and science communicators from academia, the private sector, public sector scientists, and the general population) and demand side (public sector and non-profits). See Appendix for a full list of sectors to consider. International applicants living and working or studying in Canada should be eligible.

### **Recruitment**

We recommend a short announcement which describes the central mandate of the group, the time commitment expected, and the eligibility requirements. The ad circulated by the New Zealand Science Policy Exchange is a good model for this (see Appendix). This should be circulated on social media, throughout universities, and throughout stakeholder communities. To facilitate the selection of candidates, we suggest an online application. This should include submission of a CV and answers to short questions such as:

1. Please describe the qualities you possess that make you the ideal candidate to fulfill the advisory committee mandate.
2. Select one aspect of the mandate (e.g. increasing public trust in science) and identify 3 key challenges and potential solutions.
3. Explain what your motivations are for participating in this committee and the value you see in this activity.

### **Deliverables**

Deliverables should be reports on issues within the committee's mandate which identify challenges and recommend both solutions and suggestions for their implementation. Reports would be submitted to the Chief Science Advisor within a defined timeframe.

**Version 2 Start.**

## **CSA Emerging Experts Advisory Committee**

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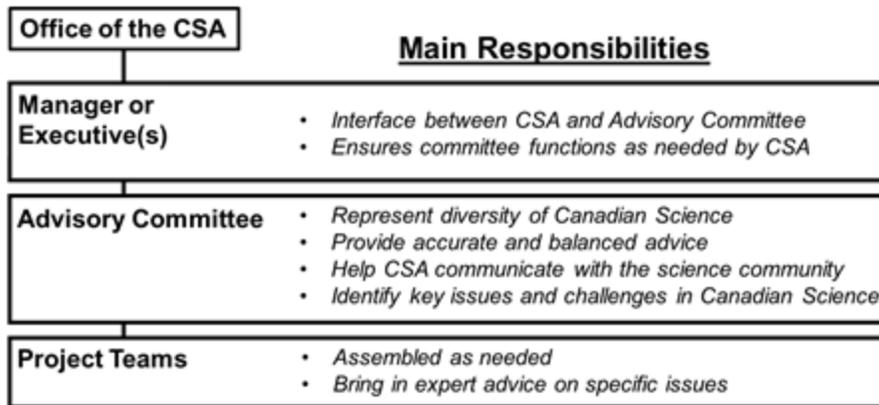
**Committee Mandate:**

We envision a dual mandate for this committee: 1) to provide accurate and balanced advice to the Chief Science Advisor (CSA) on science related issues, and 2) identify and inform the CSA on key issues and challenges facing the Canadian science community. Examples include:

- Increasing public trust in science and improving science literacy.
- Adapting to changing job markets and improving teaching methods for science.
- Understanding the effects of potentially disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence, or personalized medicine.

**Committee Composition and Functions:**

Given the challenge associated with balancing the need for a body which represents the diversity of Canadian science, and the need for expertise in a wide range of topics, we recommend a structure for the advisory committee with three levels:



*Executive Level*

Effective communication between the office of the Chief Science Advisor the advisory committee is critical for success. We therefore recommend that the committee is lead by either a manager from the CSA office, or has a small executive team whose function is to 1) ensure effective and efficient communication with the CSA, 2) effectively communicate the needs of the CSA to the advisory committee, and 3) ensure that the structure and work of the advisory committee meet the needs of the CSA. This person would assist the group wherever required and chair meetings and be in charge of the logistical support for the advisory committee to facilitate their efficient communication. Ideally, in addition to have a staff member of the Chief Science Advisor office coordinating the group, appointing a mentor to each working group would help guide their discussions. This position could either be appointed by the CSA or elected from the advisory committee.

*The Advisory Committee*

We recommend that the advisory committee be made up of a diverse group with balanced representation across geography, gender, education, and sector. Minorities, people with disabilities, and non-Canadian citizens should also be represented. We envision two potential structures for the advisory committee:

1. A unified Canada-wide committee with 50-60 members, which can be divided into smaller working groups based on the assigned priorities by the Chief Science Advisor.
2. Several smaller committees of 20-30 members localized by region similar to the New Zealand model (see Appendix), which can be piloted in Ottawa and extended to other provinces incrementally.

We recommend a unified committee. To ease regional constraints, the CSA office would need to provide online communication tools such as video calling (e.g. Webex, Skype) and a platform for messaging and file sharing (e.g. Slack). A strong IT support to facilitate the communications are present in both the CIE and the New Zealand model. Meetings of the larger committee could occur quarterly, while individual working groups can meet on a more frequent basis. We believe having a diverse advisory body would enable this committee to:

- Identify key challenges facing Canadian science.
- Be a forum to raise concerns by stakeholders in Canada's science ecosystem.
- Effectively represent the diversity of Canadian science and catalyze discussions between various organizations and stakeholders.
- Disseminate information from the CSA to relevant stakeholders.
- Provide the CSA with information and recommendations which are accurate, balanced, and representative of different and possibly conflicting perspectives.

#### *Project Level*

In some situations, recruiting additional experts from outside the committee will be required. We therefore suggest that the advisory committee create projects and teams on an ad hoc basis. The mandate, duration, and requirements for such projects would be determined by the advisory committee or CSA directly. It may be of interest to launch an open call to assemble a database of experts and stakeholders that can be called upon to consult on specific topics. Or, members of the advisory group could be given a clear mandate to consult with the communities that they represent to inform what they present to the CSA.

### **Committee Membership**

#### *The Advisory Committee*

Members should be engaged in science, policy, or communication, but not necessarily have a formal education in their subject. The selection process should favour a breadth of knowledge, with members coming from both the supply side (scientists and science communicators from academia, the private sector, public sector scientists, and the general population) and demand side (public sector and non-profits). International applicants living and working or studying in Canada should be eligible. Ensuring the representation of different sectors is critical to ensuring accurate and balanced advice. To be effective, we believe that the advisory committee must build connections to the different sectors and organizations already working in the areas of science and science policy. Utilizing existing networks will be critical towards generating advice and maximizing the impact of the CSA. We therefore suggest committee members, who are actively involved with organizations in the Canadian science ecosystem. Please see Appendix for a full list of sectors and organizations to consider.

#### *Project Level*

Teams working on specific projects should consist of both members of the advisory committee as well as experts in the specific topic. Diversity and equity should be ensured at the working group level. Members should be provided training on the fundamentals of science advice when running projects which seek out advice from experts in specific fields who may be unfamiliar with how to effectively communicate evidence to policymakers.

### **Recruitment**

We recommend marketing the participation in this committee as a professional development opportunity for emerging experts at the interface of science and policy. This approach could incentivize employers and supervisors to support participation, allowing committee members to devote working time or travel for this initiative. This has proven to be important for the success of the New Zealand model, where the office of the Chief Science Advisor issued letters endorsing the value of this activity.

We recommend a short announcement which describes the central mandate of the group, the time commitment expected, and the eligibility requirements. The ad circulated by the New Zealand Science Policy Exchange is a good model for this (see Appendix). This should be circulated on social media, throughout universities, and throughout stakeholder communities. To facilitate the selection of candidates, we suggest an online application. This should include submission of a CV and answers to short questions such as:

1. Please describe the qualities you possess that make you the ideal candidate to fulfill the advisory committee mandate.
2. Select one aspect of the mandate (e.g. increasing public trust in science) and identify 3 key challenges and potential solutions.
3. Explain what your motivations are for participating in this committee and the value you see in this activity.

### **Deliverables**

Deliverables should be reports on issues within the committee's mandate which identify challenges and recommend both solutions and suggestions for their implementation. Reports would be submitted to the Chief Science Advisor within a defined timeframe. We suggest having major reports approved by the advisory committee before being sent to the CSA, to minimize bias. Projects which are very time sensitive should be assembled with the assistance of the advisory committee report directly to the CSA.

**Version 2 END.**

## Appendix

### Sectors to consider

- All disciplines of academia, with emphasis on early career scientists and ensuring that the social sciences are well represented
- Teachers of all levels (elementary to university), perhaps also adult education
- Science communicators, including
  - Science journalists
  - Nonprofits (e.g. Let's Talk Science)
  - Science museums
  - Independent engaged individuals (e.g. those popular for #scicomm on social media, participants of Soapbox Science, popular bloggers from Science Borealis, representatives from the SWCC etc.)
- Contributors to think tanks and advocacy groups (e.g. from Science & Policy Exchange, Council of Canadian Academies, IRPP, ScienceMetrix, Evidence for Democracy)
- Student consortiums/associations (e.g. Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, Canadian Federation of Students, and provincial groups)
- Academic consortiums (e.g. Canadian Association for Neuroscience, CSMB, Association for Early Career Researchers, etc.)
- Federal scientists
- Public sector / policy analysts with a science background
- Young professionals from the private sector
- Engaged citizens / citizen scientists / community leaders

Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows should be well represented and, in general, there should be a representation of most scientific careers open to Canadian science graduates. If specific mandates could lead to conflicts of interest, certain people or groups can be excluded.

### The Quebec Model

The Chief Scientist of Quebec appointed a student group called the Comité Intersectoriel Étudiant to consult on matters directly related to students, such as the changing job market and the bringing value to the doctorate degree.

### Structure of the CIÉ

The CIÉ is composed of 10 students. While they first started as a direct advisory group for the Chief Scientist, they are now officially incorporated in the FRQ institutional system and advise the board of directors of each tricouncil funding agency.

### Recruitment

Recruitment campaign recur once per year, where applicants submit their candidature online to be:

1. Considered for appointment to the CIÉ

2. Added to a database of students with diverse expertise who can be called upon for subcommittees or as volunteers.

The recruitment process is very descriptive and values multidisciplinary research. Applicants are asked to provide a 250-word letter of intent, as well as to describe :

- Their research topic in 250 words
- Their experience in university advisory committees
- Volunteer experience
- Professional experience
- 5 key words describe their research interests
- 5 key words on their research expertise and governance involvements
- 5 key words on what they would like to work on as part of the CIÉ

### **Coordination**

While the CIÉ itself is responsible for fulfilling their mandate at large, specific consultations are achieved through subcommittees. Up to two members of the CIE committee take charge of each specific project and establish a working group with relevant stakeholders, often choosing subcommittee members in their database of applicants. A dedicated employee of the FRQ is assigned to coordinate the CIÉ and acts as a point person for communication between the group and the FRQ.

Each year, the CIÉ selects 6-8 topics of interest to the Chief Scientist of Québec and the FRQ. While many topics may be resolved by targeted consultations, some are year-long mandates.

At the beginning of the year, the CIÉ meets in person at a retreat, where they discuss plans for the upcoming year and make headway on a number of the selected projects. Since members are spread across Québec, all other meetings occur over videoconferencing. The FRQ provides this service, including IT support and meeting rooms in each region. Meetings typically occur just prior to meetings of the tricouncil board of directors. Between official meetings, CIÉ members communicate on a monthly basis through Skype and phone calls.

The FRQ covers all costs of communications as well as travel and accommodation of CIÉ members for conferences related to their advisory activity.

### **The New Zealand model**

Shortly after a meeting between Sir Peter Gluckman, Rémi Quirion, and SPE members in the FRQ office in December 2015, the office of the Chief Science Advisor in New Zealand launched a call to assemble their own “Science Policy Exchange” - a dedicated group of young talent at the interface of science and policy. We have reached out to their Chief of Staff Kristiann Allen for feedback on the success of their group, and to get more information on its membership and structure. Unlike the Quebec CIÉ and Science & Policy Exchange, the New Zealand Science Policy Exchange is not restricted to students.

## **Premise**

Sir Peter Gluckman wanted emerging scientists represented in the science advice mechanism of their government, which already includes a collection of 12 departmental science advisors. This group was framed as a two-fold opportunity:

1. It is a mentorship and professional development opportunity for those selected, to nurture those at the interface of science and policy who wouldn't otherwise get this professional development and mentorship in their academic training programs.
2. Early career scientists, including students, and policy professionals bring their expertise to governmental policy-making, becoming valued partners.

## **Application process**

They launched a public call for applications ([www.pmcsa.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/SPE-Auckland\\_Wellington\\_2016\\_final.pdf](http://www.pmcsa.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/SPE-Auckland_Wellington_2016_final.pdf)), and advertised this through normal channels as well as social media. They specified details on the two regional groups as well as the expected volunteer time commitment of 6-8 meetings per year over a two-year period. Applicants were invited to submit a CV and cover letter for consideration.

For the selection committee, they drew from high profile scientists and policymakers. Two reviewers graded each application, simply as yes/no, and worked organically from there. When reviewers disagreed, a third reviewer broke the tie. 30 members were chosen for each regional group.

## **Structure and membership**

Although they would have preferred a unified group or collection of groups across the country, they settled on two separate groups with approximately 30 members each, as a pilot and to keep the process manageable. One group was in Wellington (near government) and the other in Auckland (near research-intensive universities). They tried to balance demand and supply side expertise, although this was difficult due to regional challenges.

The 60 members represent diverse fields, from ecology to engineering to aboriginal studies. Although some students are included, many members already work at the interface of science and policy, including in-house government scientists or liaisons and scientists who work in organizations similar to our National Research Council. Members had to be at minimum a doctoral candidate or no more than 8 years post-PhD; public policy experts under the age of 35 could also apply.

It was made clear to members that all discussions were in-house and strictly non-partisan so that trust was maintained on all sides. There was no advocacy for specific policy positions, only advocacy for inclusion of science advice in decision-making. As part of their training as expert brokers, they were taught not to show animosity even if policymakers do not take advice, to maintain the trust relationship.

To help members justify their involvement with the group, particularly if it required them to travel or miss work to attend meetings, the office of the Chief Science Advisor provided letters to employers. These letters thanked employers for allowing their student or employee to participate in the Science Policy Exchange, highlighting that this is a great opportunity for professional development.

### **Coordination**

Although the office had a very limited budget for the initiative (just enough to provide food and coffee at meetings), they were able to hire a professional fellow to coordinate the group. His salary was covered by a special fellowship. He connected the groups with mentors, helped with scheduling meetings, and would identify and invite VIP stakeholders to attend meetings.

Within the group, some members did more work than others, but they did not intervene since this was an after-hours volunteer commitment.

### **Meetings and mandates from the first year**

The two groups had meetings every two months, which were scheduled well in advance. The first few were dedicated to clarifying their mandate and the framework within which science advice is incorporated into policy, as well as some basic training in knowledge brokerage. There was some interaction between the groups via teleconferencing, but for the most part they worked independently.

The Chief Science Advisor's office selected priority areas where new ideas were sought, and from this they developed 6 projects for each group; the groups split up into teams based on their personal interests. Groups were assigned a mentor, generally the departmental science advisor for whom the issue was most relevant or a top ministry executive.

Topics covered included:

- Conservation
- Synthetic meat and dairy
- Science system
- Justice system (social science group)
- AI and automation
- Climate change
- Overcrowding in prisons and sentencing

In-person meetings focused on brainstorming, and later on included presentations with VIP stakeholders to communicate key ideas and findings.

### **Deliverables and next steps**

At the end of 2017, members gave their impressions on their progress at "SPE in the Pub". Many had already experienced significant professional advancement as a result of the program. They resolved that next year they would spend more of the regular meeting time on group work and ensuring departmental science advisors are present if needed.

The groups are now preparing policy papers that will likely be published as a series in the New Zealand Policy Quarterly, which will give great exposure to the members. Several members have also presented their findings and ideas to department chairs.

The next major goal is to formalize connections of individual members to individual departmental advisors, so that they become a direct link to the emerging science policy community. They intend to concretize these links ahead of the upcoming change in government, so that the Science Policy Exchange endures irrespective of changes in priorities and administration.

## **SPE meeting notes**

### **Background and key questions**

#### **Notes from our meeting with CSA Mona Nemer and her assistant Shahad:**

They are consulting with SPE, SHAD, Let's Talk Science, Global Shapers, and CASA, from whom they would like to hear recommendations on how to best set up a diverse advisory group composed primarily of young scientists. No age limit was specified, though Mona said she wants to be the oldest person in the room. A large part of this group's mandate will be to help with the CSA's priority of increasing public trust in science and doing public outreach of science in general. She also would like input on specific issues, for instance on the changing job market for graduates, how we teach science in Canada, and how to improve science literacy. These discussions will go beyond just making recommendations for what kind of programs should be funded to support this, it includes coming up with new ways to promote a culture of science in Canada.

#### **Goals of the advisory group:**

1. Advise on key issues
2. Outreach to public and promote a culture of science

#### **How should such a pan-Canadian group be set up? Some key questions:**

1. How many members should be included?
2. What disciplines/backgrounds should be represented?
3. What kind of structure should it have?
  - a. How should members be recruited?
  - b. How can they communicate effectively?

### **Recommendation**

We recommend that the advisory committee be made up of a large and diverse group that has balanced representation across geography, gender, and education. Because of the breadth of topics that will be covered by the committee it should be big enough to capture the requisite

range of expertise. Members should be engaged in science, policy, or communication, but not necessarily have a formal education in their subject, and the selection process should favour a breadth of knowledge, members should come from both the supply side (scientists and science communicators from academia, the private sector, public sector scientists, and the general population) and demand side (public sector and non-profits). The members of the larger committee should be selected through an open call. The members of the committee should be given a clear mandate to consult with the communities that they represent to inform what they present to the CSA.

Smaller sub-committees can be formed to address specific issues as they arise. In some situations, recruiting additional experts from outside the committee may be required. An organizing body or executive committee including (or made up of) members of the CSA office will recruit and coordinate the sub-committees

## Broader Notes from group discussion from Feb 01, 2018

### Members

- To ensure a diverse group, we recommend at least 100 members. We suggest that the following sectors be included:
- All disciplines of academia, with emphasis on early career scientists and ensuring that the social sciences are well represented
- Teachers of all levels (elementary to university), perhaps also adult education
- Science communicators, including
  - Science journalists
  - Nonprofits (e.g. Let's Talk Science)
  - Science museums
  - Independent engaged individuals (e.g. those popular for #scicomm on social media, participants of Soapbox Science, popular bloggers from Science Borealis, representatives from the SWCC etc.)
- Contributors to think tanks and advocacy groups (e.g. from Science & Policy Exchange, Council of Canadian Academies, IRPP, ScienceMetrix, Evidence for Democracy)
- Student consortiums/associations (e.g. Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, Canadian Federation of Students, and provincial groups)
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- Federal scientists
- Public sector / policy analysts with a science background
- Young professionals from the private sector
- Engaged citizens / citizen scientists / community leaders

Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows should be well represented and, in general, there should be a representation of most scientific careers open to Canadian science graduates. If specific mandates could lead to conflicts of interest, certain people or groups can be excluded.

## **Structure**

There are three ways this group could be structured, assuming 100 people are selected.

1. An unstructured pool of knowledgeable people from a diverse set of backgrounds and disciplines, who can be called upon to form subcommittees with specific mandates when necessary. This effectively gives the CSA office a large resource of expertise, but the effectiveness of each subcommittee will depend on the people chosen to take part. A dedicated position in the CSA office would have to be created to manage these discussions, to ensure good communication and teamwork between subcommittee members, and to bring their findings or recommendations back to the CSA in a timely manner.
2. A structured group of 100 people, with elected internal positions (President(s), secretary, etc.) who can call subcommittees internally to address specific issues. Subcommittees would present their findings to the larger group for discussion. This is the most inclusive option but is logistically the most complex, as communication between so many members is hard to manage.
3. A diverse group of 10-25 people with internal positions as above, plus a large pool of interested parties and people that can be picked to form subcommittees (as well as external experts where deemed necessary). We prefer and recommend this option since this retains a central group as well as more diverse expertise when required.

## **Considerations**

- Diversity
  - All regions and provinces should be represented
  - All backgrounds should be represented, including indigenous peoples.
  - International applicants living and working or studying in Canada should be eligible
- Gender balance
  - Gender should not be a factor in selecting members, the final group should be gender balanced.
- Motivation
  - Participants should be motivated to support and cultivate the culture of science in Canada. The emphasis must be on advancement of society, not the individual. It must be clear to all participants that this is a nonpartisan group.
- Career stage
  - Each subgroup should include a student, and ideally people from all career levels with some expertise on the issue.

### **Terms and time commitment for participants**

All members should be active throughout the year, including participation in at least one consultation or subcommittee.

### **Applications**

This should be an open call, ideally through an online application. Participants should be selected on their engagement in science rather than their level of education. A more stringent application process should be given to those applying for the central group; those participating in the larger pool could be given a more general application.

### **Concerns**

- Does the CSA office have the capacity to screen all these applications?
- There should be a specific coordinator for the group, since managing such a large number of people with a vast mandate is not a trivial task. This person could also take care of some outreach for the CSA office.
- what are the norms for consultations without compensation?

**Info from Kristiann Allen, skype meeting at 6pm 6/2/2018 (12pm 7/2/2018 Auckland time)**  
(notes summarized above)

*Based on SPE, although this is not student-run. It has an increasing element of that however. There is a collection of 12 departmental science advisors + chief statistician + chief defence scientists + chief scientist for funding system + president of royal society (academy).*

*These are the established scientific faces, and they are becoming more diverse (gender, background), but Gluckman wanted emerging scientists represented.*

*Framed as:*

- 3. It is a mentorship and professional development opportunity for those selected, to nurture those at the interface of science and policy who wouldn't otherwise get this professional dev and mentorship in their academic corners.*
- 4. Students get to bring their voice to the table.*

*It was very novel... students are emerging experts in their own right... in their own field and gaining expertise at the interface → they are become expert brokers for this interface. This idea got traction where otherwise there was resistance (since students were NOT considered experts by rest of government).*

**NO BUDGET**

*Did Wellington (close to govt) and Auckland (research intensive collection of universities) but would have liked to do all of NZ rather than two cohorts. They drew from high profile scientists and policymakers for the committee, selected emerging policymakers and scientists (both sides of supply and demand).*

*This was a regional challenge since different regions have different balance of demand vs supply side. Tried to get many from each region.*

*The way cities operate independently from govt (more acute decision) is a black hole for science advice, this group was thus in part meant to help link city-level decisions to science advice.*

*Many members already work at the interface, e.g. scientists who work at NRC. Many are in-house government scientists or work in liaison roles.*

*Many meetings over course of a year, though not frequent. Every 2 months or so. First few meetings were didactic, to clarify parameters and definitions. THEN, launched a series of projects they worked on in groups. This immediately gave them something to get together around. 6 priority areas were represented in 6 projects, selected by Gluckman, to get fresh new*

*ideas from emerging brokers in NZ-SPE. This revealed areas in the policy questions that “the establishment” had not thought about.*

*Now, the government has changed, hopefully its priorities will align with those 6 projects and package them as policy papers. Likely they will be published as a series in the NZ Policy Quarterly (great exposure for members). Many members have had much success in individually presenting to chairs within the system.*

*EG - they drop poisons from airplanes into forests to get rid of predators like rats that feed on Kiwis... SPE subgroup looked at this and connected with NGOs, and made presentations to the science advisor and other stakeholders.*

*This year => formalize connections of individual members to individual departmental advisors, so they become a direct link to the emerging science policy community. When there is a new science advisor appointed hopefully this will all be cemented enough to carry on to the next administration.*

*Members gave impressions at the end of the year at “SPE in the Pub”, many had significant professional advances as a result of the program.*

*It was low-profile for the first year, and it was clear that discussions were in-house so that trust was maintained on all sides. Cannot have any partisan ideals or show animosity even if policymakers do not take advice, to maintain the trust. There is no advocacy for specific policy positions, there is only advocacy for inclusion of science advice.*

*Q: The application process:*

- Advert through twitter and normal tunnels. It was a one-page description with criteria and a time commitment allocation for the next two years, made it clear there is no remuneration. Stressed that this is professional development so employers would support travel to meeting... the office would send letters to employers to help with this and show appreciate of their support of professional development of the member.*
- A short essay with 3 questions around who they are, what work they have done at the interface, and what drives them. + reference letter*
- Two reviewers per application, setting applications into yes/no/maybe, and working organically. Ensured there were the right people on the selection committee.*
- 60 people: two cohorts of 30. This is the basic group, and they met as two separate groups bimonthly (every other month) and split into 6 projects (6 and 6 separated by cohort)*
  - Conservation*
  - Synthetic meat and dairy*
  - Science system*
  - Justice system (social science group)*

- *AI and automation*
- *Climate or something like that.*
- *Overcrowding in prisons, sentencing*

*The cohorts did not work too much together although admins connected the two groups over skype (virtual meeting space). In-person meetings were brainstorming and digging into issues*

*Latter part of the year were presentations with VIP guests. VIPs were invited like the chief justice, etc. to take their comments on board.*

*Q: Administering the group*

- *When the 2 cohorts agreed what the projects would be (w/ the CSA), they self-assigned themselves to projects and were assigned a mentor, generally the departmental science advisor for this (dept science advisor for justice, etc.) or a top ministry executive.*
- *Received some help from professional fellow and assigned him to the SPE project through special funding (like an intern). He hooked mentors up with the groups, helped with scheduling meetings. Would identify and invite the VIPs.*
- *Some members did more work than others, but they just let that be. Next time would spend more of the regular meeting time on group work and ensuring departmental science advisors are present if needed. It is volunteer and after hours.*

### **Notes as call with CIE**

The CIE is composed of a group of 10 students. These students are now student advisors that are officially incorporated in the FRQ institutional system. Each board of director of the tricouncil has 1 member of the CIE. The CIE are not only the students advisors of the Chief Scientist of Quebec but they also are the advisor committee of the 3 fundings agencies.

Changement entrain de devenir un comité statutaire - comité des 3 conseils d'administration. Integration a la structure de gouvernance.

Intégré de façon institutionnelle.

Permet plus d'échos au sein des CA du FRQ - tri council

Porter attention soucis indépendance. Aussi membre CA tri council

SI CIE va parler au ministre, passe au dessus des fonds = conflit sd'intérêt = bonnes pratiques de gouvernance

Structure de sous comité - stagiaires post doctoraux 2 membres puis personnes qui sont appliquées. Représentants étudiants.

Les priorités sont discutés entre les FRQ et le CIE lui même. Dossiers ponctuels vs long dossiers. 6-8 dossiers par an.

1 rencontre statutaire avant chaque CA de conseil = Visio tous ensemble. Bureau des fonds. Facilite les ressources des fonds de recherche. Ils mettent aussi en place le Webex. 1/ mois appel avec comité dans le dossier. Téléphone. Skype. 1 2 fois par an on se deplace tous. "Retraite" - 3 jours - UdeM. Planification 3 jours par an t productif.

FRQ finance déplacements et subventionne 3 jours de retraite. Service de cuisine.

Pas de support avec superviseurs.

Très bon dev professionnel et bon réseautage

Temps à investir = comité aviseur = étude du dossier et rédaction d'un avis. Organisation évènement ? 1 journée par semaine = 8h

Consultations uniquement ciblées aux étudiants ?