

Andrew Eckert

Department of Economics
8-14 HM Tory Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada
T6G 2H4

Phone (W): 780 492 3959
(H): 780 439 9020
email: aeckert@ualberta.ca

Education:

Ph.D. (Economics) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, 1994-1999
Title of Thesis: A Study of Canadian Retail Gasoline Pricing
Supervisor: Kenneth Hendricks

M.A. (Economics) University of Western Ontario, London, ON, 1993-1994

B.A. (Economics) University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, 1989-1993

Positions Held:

Professor, Department of Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, July 2016 – present

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, July 2006 – June 2016

Visiting Scholar, Alberta Utilities Commission, Calgary, AB, June 2014-February 2015

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, 2000 – June 2006

Economist, Competition Bureau, Gatineau, QC, 1999-2000

Fields:

Industrial Organization, Energy Economics, Competition Policy

Publications:

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

"Strategic Interaction between Wholesale and Ancillary Service Markets," with David Brown and Douglas Silveira, *Competition and Regulation in Network Industries*, 2023, 24(4): 174-198.

"Information and Transparency: Using Machine Learning to Detect Communication Between Firms," with David Brown, Douglas Silveira and Daniel Cajueiro, *Stanford Computational Antitrust*, available at <https://law.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Information-And-Transparency.pdf>

"Screening for Collusion in Wholesale Electricity Markets: A Literature Review," with David Brown and Douglas Silveira, *Utilities Policy*, 2023, 85: 101671

"Evaluating the Impact of Divestitures on Competition: Evidence from Alberta's Wholesale Electricity Market," with David Brown and Blake Shaffer, *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2023, 89: article 102953.

"Procurement Auctions for Regulated Retail Service Contracts in Restructured Electricity Markets," with David Brown and Derek Olmstead, *Energy Economics*, 2022, 116: article 106387.

"Determinants of Locational Patenting Behavior of Canadian Firms," with Long Zhao and Corinne Langinier, *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*, 2022, 31: 268-291.

"Pricing Patterns in Wholesale Electricity Markets: Unilateral Market Power or Coordinated Behavior?" with David Brown, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, 2022, 70: 168-216.

"Analyzing Firm Behaviour in Restructured Electricity Markets: Empirical Challenges with a Residual Demand Analysis," with David Brown, *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2021, Volume 74, Article 102676.

"Imperfect Competition in Electricity Markets with Renewable Generation: The Role of Renewable Compensation Policies," with David Brown, *The Energy Journal*, 2020, 41: 61-88.

"Information and Transparency in Wholesale Electricity Markets: Evidence from Alberta," with David Brown and James Lin, *Journal of Regulatory Economics*, 2018, 54: 292-330.

"The Effect of Default Rates on Retail Competition and Pricing Decisions of Competitive Retailers: The Case of Alberta," with David Brown, *Energy Policy*, 2018, 118: 298-311.

- “Carbon Pricing with an Output Subsidy under Imperfect Competition: The Case of Alberta’s Restructured Electricity Market,” with David Brown and Heather Eckert, *Resource and Energy Economics*, 2018, 52: 102-123.
- “Analyzing Electricity Market Structure Changes and Mergers: The Importance of Forward Commitments,” with David Brown, *Review of Industrial Organization*, 2018, 52: 101-137.
- “Electricity Market Mergers with Endogenous Forward Contracting,” with David Brown, *Journal of Regulatory Economics*, 2017, 51: 269-310.
- “Electricity Markets in Transition: Market Distortions Associated with Retail Price Controls,” with David Brown and Heather Eckert, *The Electricity Journal*, 2017, 30:32-37.
- “An Equilibrium Selection Theory of Monopolization,” with Xuejuan Su and Tilman Klumpp, *Southern Economic Journal*, 2017, 83: 1012-1037.
- “An Empirical Analysis of Tenant Location Patterns Near Department Stores in Planned Regional Shopping Centers,” with Zhen He and Douglas S. West, *Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services*, 2015, 22: 61-70.
- “A Survey of the Economics of Patent Systems and Procedures,” with Corinne Langinier, *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 2014, 28: 996-1015.
- “Daily Price Cycles and Constant Margins: Recent Events in Canadian Gasoline Retailing,” with Benjamin Atkinson and Douglas S. West, *Energy Journal*, 2014, 35: 47-69.
- “Regional Patterns in Gasoline Station Rationalization in Canada,” with Heather Eckert, *Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade*, 2014, 14: 99-122.
- “An Empirical Examination of Clustering and Dispersion within Canadian Shopping Centers,” with Zhen He and Douglas S. West, *Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services*, 2013, 20: 625-633.
- “Empirical Studies of Gasoline Retailing: A Guide to the Literature,” *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 2013: 27:140-166.
- “Proliferation of Brewers’ Brands and Price Uniformity in Canadian Beer Markets,” with Douglas S. West, *Review of Industrial Organization*, 2013, 42:63-83.
- “The Geographic Distribution of Environmental Inspections,” with Heather Eckert, *Journal of Regulatory Economics*, 2010, 37: 1-22.

“Exclusive Dealing in On-Premise Sales of Beer in Edmonton,” with Douglas S. West, *Antitrust Bulletin*, 2009, 54: 401-434.

“Price Matching and the Domino Effect in a Retail Gasoline Market,” with Benjamin Atkinson and Douglas S. West, *Economic Inquiry*, 2009, 47: 568-588.

“Radius Restrictions and the Similarity of Neighboring Shopping Centers,” with Douglas S. West, *International Journal of the Economics of Business*, 2008, 15: 281-300.

“Firm Survival and Chain Growth in a Privatized Retail Liquor Store Industry,” with Douglas S. West, *Review of Industrial Organization*, 2008, 32:1-18.

“Environmental Liability for Transboundary Harms: Law and Forum Choice,” with Henry van Egteren and R. Todd Smith, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, 2008, 24: 434-457.

“Environmental Liability and Harmonization in the Presence of Transboundary Effects and Hidden Assets,” with Henry van Egteren and R. Todd Smith, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, 2006, 22: 143-163.

“Exit and Upgrading in Response to Entry: The Case of Gasoline Retailing,” with Douglas West, *International Journal of the Economics of Business*, 2006, 13: 351-372.

“Rationalization of Retail Gasoline Networks in Canada,” with Douglas S. West, *Review of Industrial Organization*, 2005, 26: 1-25.

“Price Uniformity and Competition in a Retail Gasoline Market,” with Douglas S. West, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2005, 56: 219-237.

“An Alternating Move Price-Setting Duopoly Model with Stochastic Costs,” *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2004, 22: 997-1015.

“Retail Gasoline Price Cycles Across Spatially Dispersed Gasoline Stations,” with Douglas S. West, *Journal of Law and Economics*, 2004, 47: 245-274.

“A Tale of Two Cities: Price Uniformity and Volatility in Gasoline Retailing” with Douglas S. West, *Annals of Regional Science*, 2004, 38: 25-46.

“Retail Price Cycles and the Presence of Small Firms,” *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2003, 21: 151-170.

“Predatory Pricing and the Speed of Antitrust Enforcement,” *Review of Industrial Organization*, 2002, 20: 375-383.

“Retail Price Cycles and Response Asymmetry,” *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 2002: 35: 52-77.

“Predation in the Airline Industry: The Canadian Antitrust Approach” with Douglas S. West, *Antitrust Bulletin*, 2002, 47: 217-242.

Book Chapters:

"Electricity: Markets, Regulation, and Competition Policy" (with David Brown), invited contribution to the Elgar Encyclopedia on the Economics of Competition and Regulation.

“Introduction,” with Gregory Dow and Douglas S. West, in *Industrial Organization, Trade, and Social Interaction: Essays in Honour of B. Curtis Eaton*, Ed. Gregory Dow, Andrew Eckert and Douglas S. West, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010, 3-15.

“The Spatial Evolution of Alberta’s Privatized Liquor Store Industry,” with Douglas S. West, in *Industrial Organization, Trade, and Social Interaction: Essays in Honour of B. Curtis Eaton*, Ed. Gregory Dow, Andrew Eckert and Douglas S. West, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010, 60-83.

“Predation in Airline Markets: A Review of Recent Cases,” with Douglas S. West, in *Advances in Airline Economics, Volume 1*, Ed. Darin Lee, Elsevier: Amsterdam, 2006, 25-52.

“Testing for Predation by a Multiproduct Retailer,” with Douglas S. West, in *The Pros and Cons of Low Prices*, Einar Hope, Ed., Swedish Competition Authority: Stockholm, 2003, 39-69.

Books:

Canadian Supplement for Industrial Organization (2nd Edition), with Douglas S. West, Pearson Education Canada Inc.: Toronto, 2005, 166 pages.

Book Editing:

Industrial Organization, Trade, and Social Interaction: Essays in Honour of B. Curtis Eaton, forthcoming, Ed. Gregory Dow, Andrew Eckert and Douglas S. West, University of Toronto Press: Toronto, 2010.

Other Contributions:

“Energy and Environmental Policy Trends: Why Are Power Prices So Darn High,” with Blake Shaffer and David Brown, University of Calgary School of Public Policy report, April 20, 2022.

“Pricing Patterns in Wholesale Electricity Markets: Unilateral Market Power or Coordinated Behavior?” with David Brown, *IAEE Energy Forum*, 2019, Special Issue: 27-28.

Comment on “Options for Enhancing the Design of the Regulated Rate Option (RRO),” with David Brown, submitted to the Alberta Market Surveillance Administrator, May 19, 2017.

“Patent Systems and ICT: A Synthesis of Knowledge and Comparison of Canadian and U.S. Practices,” with Corinne Langinier, report prepared for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, 2010.

Working Papers / Work in Progress:

“Evaluating the Role of Information Disclosure on Bidding Behavior in Wholesale Electricity Markets,” with David Brown, Douglas Silveira and Daniel Cajueiro.

Research Grants:

Operating Grant, “SSHRC 4A – Retail Gasoline Price Dispersion and Volatility,” 2001-2002, with Douglas S. West.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Standard Research Grant, 2002 – 2005, “Retail Gasoline Price Dispersion and Volatility,” with Douglas S. West.

University of Alberta SSHRC 4A Grant, 2005-2006, “Empirical Studies of Retail Location,” with Douglas S. West.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Standard Research Grant, 2006– 2009, “Empirical Studies of Retail Location,” with Douglas S. West.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Knowledge Synthesis Grant on the Digital Economy, 2010 - 2011, “Patent Systems and ICT: A Synthesis of Knowledge and Comparison of Canadian and U.S. Practices,” with Corinne Langinier.

Support for the Advancement of Scholarship (SAS) Grant, 2011, “Causes and Consequences of the Evolution of the Canadian Retail Gasoline Industry”, with Heather Eckert.

Faculty of Arts SSHRC 4A Grant, 2012, “Sales and Locations of Government Liquor Stores, with Douglas S. West.

University of Alberta Vice-President (Research) Small Operating Grant, 2014, “Bidding Strategies and Dynamics in Alberta’s Wholesale Electricity Market.”

Environment and Climate Change Canada’s Economics and Environmental Policy

Research Network Grant, 2016-2017, “Quantifying the Impacts of Carbon Pricing in Alberta's Restructured Electricity Market: The Role of Market Power and Emission Allowance Allocation Methods” with David Brown and Heather Eckert.

Worldwide Universities Network Research Development Fund, 2018, “Facilitating International Research Collaboration between Economists Working on the Integration of Renewable Generation into Electricity Markets,” Co-investigator (David Brown, principal investigator).

Future Energy Systems Research Grant, 2017-2022, “Market Design for Increased Wind Generation,” Principal Investigator (David Brown, co-investigator).

Future Energy Systems Research Grant, 2017-2022, “Regulation and Integration of Solar PV into Electricity Markets,” Co-investigator (David Brown, principal investigator).

Conference Presentations and Seminars:

Stanford Computational Antitrust: Applying Antitrust 3.0, online conference, panel member, 2023.

56th Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economics Association, Ottawa ON, 2022

53rd Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economics Association, Banff AB, 2019

Workshop on Renewable Energy and Market Power, University of Auckland, Auckland NZ, 2018.

52nd Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economics Association, Montreal QC, 2018.

Workshop on Canadian Electricity Policy and Markets, Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario, London ON, 2017.

CIRANO-GERAD Workshop on the Applications of Industrial Organization, McGill University, Montreal QC, 2017.

Department of Economics, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge AB, 2017.

Canadian Law and Economics Association Meetings, Toronto, ON, 2016.

50th Annual Meetings of the Canadian Economics Association, Ottawa ON, 2016.

50th Annual meetings of the Western Regional Science Association, Monterey, CA, 2011.

North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International, Denver CO, 2010.

Conference on Beeronomics, Leuven, Belgium, 2009.

Conference in Honor of Curtis Eaton, Vancouver, BC, 2008.

46th Annual meetings of the Western Regional Science Association, Newport Beach, CA, 2007.

Canadian Competition Bureau, Gatineau, QC, 2007.

45th Annual meetings of the Western Regional Science Association, Santa Fe, NM, 2006.

Department of Marketing, Business Economics and Law, School of Business, University of Alberta, 2006.

5th Annual Economics Research Symposium, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, 2005.

39th Annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, Hamilton, ON, 2005.

International Industrial Organization Conference, Atlanta, GA, 2005.

Strategic Business and Economics Division, Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, 2004.

Book launch of *The Pros and Cons of Low Prices*, Stockholm, Sweden, 2003.

North American meetings of the Regional Science Association International, Philadelphia, PA, 2003.

Department of Economics, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, 2002.

Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, 2001.

North American meetings of the Regional Science Association International, Charleston, SC, 2001.

Canadian Law and Economics Association annual meetings, Toronto, ON, 2001.

Awards:

Elsevier Prize for Most Innovative Paper, 21st European Institute of Retailing and Services Studies Conference on Recent Advances in Retailing and Consumer Services Science, 2014. Awarded to “An Empirical Analysis of Tenant Location Patterns near Department Stores in Planned Regional Shopping Centers”, with Zhen He and Douglas S. West.

University of Alberta Faculty of Arts Research Award for Associate Professor, 2011

Teaching:

Courses Taught (University of Alberta):

- Economics 281, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory I
- Economics 299, Quantitative Methods in Economics
- Economics 379, Criminal Law and Economic Incentives
- Economics 384, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory II
- Economics 400, Honors Essay (administrator)
- Economics 471, Strategic Behavior of the Firm
- Economics 472, Market Power: Theory and Policy
- Economics 484, Game Theory and Economic Applications
- Economics 505, Microeconomic Theory II
- Economics 570, Strategic Behavior of the Firm
- Economics 571, Market Power: Theory and Policy
- Economics 999, Directed Research Project

Supervision:

- Supervisor for Economics 400 Honors Essay of Renze Nauta.
- Acted as supervisor for the Economics 900 projects of Toby Schneider and James Wolcott.
- Acted as co-supervisor with Douglas S. West of Economics 900 (Masters) projects by Chad Hudson, Mary Day, Brad Russell, Kevin Birn, Andriy Maslo, Andre Boik and Cal Schafer.

- Acted as Ph.D. co-supervisor (with Douglas S. West) for Benjamin Atkinson. Thesis defended September 2007.
- Acted as Ph.D. co-supervisor (with Douglas S. West) for Zhen He. Thesis defended September 2011.
- Acted as member of Ph.D. Committee of James Lin. Thesis Defended September 2016.
- Acted as Ph.D. co-supervisor (with Corinne Langinier) for Long Zhao. Thesis defended 2020.
- Acted as Ph.D. co-supervisor (with David Brown) for Boris Ortega Moreno. Thesis defended 2023.
- Currently co-supervisor (with David Brown) of PhD theses of Yiang Guo and Bonnie Luo.
- Currently co-supervisor (with David Brown) of Postdoctoral Fellow Douglas Silveira.
- Currently member of Ph.D. committee of Arjang Nikbakht, University of Alberta School of Business.
- PhD External Examiner:
 - Kent Fellows, University of Calgary Department of Economics, 2015
 - Gang Li, Carleton University Department of Economics, 2013
 - Fang Wu, University of Alberta School of Business, 2011
 - Eng Kooi Lim, University of Ottawa Department of Economics, 2007
 - Saif Ullah, University of Alberta School of Business, 2008
 - Runhong Niu, University of Alberta School of Business, 2008
 - Wenzhao Huang, University of Alberta Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, 2008
 - Afshin Honarvar, University of Calgary Department of Economics, 2007
 - Junaid Bin Jahangir, University of Alberta Department of Economics, 2005 (candidacy exam)
 - Michael Yingtao Shen, University of Alberta School of Business, 2005 (candidacy exam)
 - Chun Qiu, University of Alberta School of Business, 2005 (candidacy exam)
 - Sun Chul Choi, University of Alberta School of Business, 2003

Service:

Administrative Positions

Associate Chair (Undergraduate Programs), Department of Economics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, July 2008 – June 2010

Committees

Economics Department

- Tenure Committee Department Representative, current year
- Departmental Liason, 2015-present
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2007-2010, 2015-present
- Microeconomics Comprehensive Exam Committee, 10 years, 2001-present
- Assisted in design of ECON 109, design and grading of writing assessments, 2019-2021
- Graduate Appeals Committee, 2013-2014, 2015-2016
- Graduate Program Committee, 2003-2006, 2012-2013
- Hiring Committee, 2005-2006, 2007-2008, 2011-2012
- Research Committee, 2011-2012
- Scholarships and Awards Committee, 2007-2010
- Undergraduate Advising Committee, 2001-2003, 2007-2010
- Chair Selection Committee, 2008-2009
- Coordinator of Microeconomics Seminar Series, 2007-2008
- Industrial Organization Comprehensive Exam Committee, 2002-2005
- Committee to Review Program Quality and Resource Constraints, 2002-2003

Faculty of Arts

- Arts Representative to Kinesiology, Sport and Recreation Faculty Council, 2019-present
- Parkland Institute Research Advisory Board, 2018-2021
- Academic Affairs Committee, 2016-2019
- Economics Solutions Committee, 2012-2013
- Faculty of Arts Honors Committee, 2007-2010
- Arts Representative to School of Business Faculty Council, 2005-2006

University

- FGSR Graduate Scholarship Committee, 2020-present (3 year term)

Beyond University

- Member, Aid to Scholarly Publications Program Committee of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, 2006 – 2012.
- Editorial Advisor, Canadian Journal of Economics, 2010-2013.
- Member, Planning Committee, Institute for Public Economics Conference on Renewable Energy and Electricity Markets, Edmonton AB, May 24, 2018.
- Member, Planning Committee, Van Horne Institute Renewable Electricity Conference, Calgary AB, May 28, 2015.
- Member, Planning Committee, Van Horne Institute Restructured Electricity Markets Conference, Calgary AB, May 29, 2014.

- Co-organizer (with Douglas West), 4th Alberta Industrial Organization Conference, Edmonton AB, October 12-13, 2007
- Co-organizer (with Douglas West), Alberta Industrial Organization Conference, Calgary AB, November 29-30, 2002.

Refereeing

Reviewed articles for the following journals: *American Economic Review*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Canadian Competition Law Review*, *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Canadian Public Policy*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Journal*, *Empirical Economics*, *Energy Economics*, *Energy Journal*, *Energy Studies Review*, *International Journal of Business and Economics*, *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, *International Journal of the Economics of Business*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Economics and Management Strategy*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Managerial and Decision Economics*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *RAND Journal of Economics*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Industrial Organization*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Utilities Policy*

Reviewer: Vehicle Fuels Study prepared by Civic Consulting for the European Commission

Reviewed grant proposals for:

- University of California Energy Institute
- Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research
- U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation

Media

Provided commentary on competition policy and the airline and retail gasoline industries to Global News, CBC / Radio-Canada, CHED 630 Radio.