

Shanaya Vanhooren

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Academic Appointments

Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Canadian Municipal Barometer Partnership

Sept. 2025 – Present

Education

The University of Western Ontario

Ph.D. Political Science

2025

Fields: Canadian Politics and Urban and Local Politics

Dissertation Title: Programmatic Polarization and Party Position Change
in Canadian Provincial Party Systems, 1945-2020

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Zack Taylor (Supervisor),
Dr. Laura Stephenson, Dr. David A. Armstrong

University of Waterloo

M.A. Political Science, Thesis-Based

2018

Wilfrid Laurier University

B.A. Honours History and Political Science with Research Specialization (Double Major)

2017

Research and Teaching Interests

Research: Canadian provincial parties; Public policy; Text-as-data; Local government

Teaching: Canadian politics; Public policy; Quantitative text analysis; Introduction to quantitative research methods

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

4. Horak, Martin and **Vanhooren, Shanaya**. 2024. "Somebody to Lean On: Community Ties, Social Exchange, and Practical Help During the COVID-19 Pandemic." *City & Community* 23(1): 3-25.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/15356841231159370>
3. Taylor, Zack and **Vanhooren, Shanaya**. 2021. "Local Election Campaign Finance Regimes in Canada: Toward a Research Agenda." *Canadian Public Administration* 64(1): 99-121.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/capa.12400>

2. Alcantara, Christopher, Longboat, Sheri, and **Vanhooren, Shanaya**. 2020. "Improving First Nations Water Security Through Governance" *Canadian Public Administration* 63(1): 155-176. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/capa.12363>
**Among top 10 most downloaded Canadian Public Administration articles 2019–2020.*
1. Henstra, Daniel, Thistlethwaite, Jason, and **Vanhooren, Shanaya**. 2020. "The Governance of Climate Change Adaptation: Stormwater Management Policy and Practice." *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 63(6): 1077-1096. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09640568.2019.1634015>

Policy Reports and Non-Referred Contributions

1. **Vanhooren, Shanaya**. 2019. "Beyond the Big City, Appendix A: Jurisdictional Scan." *Pathways to Prosperity Partnership*. Report for Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada and the Government of Ontario. 47 pages. https://ppforum.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/BeyondTheBigCity_AppendixA-JurisdictionalScan-PPF-July2019-1.pdf

Current Research

Manuscripts Under Review

Horak, Martin, Jack Lucas, Shanaya Vanhooren, and David A. Armstrong II. "Geographic Proximity Dampens Ideological Policy Disagreement in Urban Politics." Under review at *Nature Cities*.

Working Papers

Vanhooren, Shanaya. "Programmatic Polarization in Provincial Elections 1945-2020." (Manuscript available upon request)

Vanhooren, Shanaya. "Timing and Magnitude of Position Change Among Canadian Provincial Parties." (Manuscript available upon request)

Vanhooren, Shanaya, Jack Lucas, and Sandra Breux. "Municipal Issue Publics."

Works in Progress

Spicer, Zachary, Gabriel Eidelman, and Shanaya Vanhooren. "Strong Mayor Powers in Ontario."

Research Experience

Co-Principal Investigator 2025-
Canadian Agendas Project

Research Assistant 2024
Dr. Zack Taylor (The University of Western Ontario), Dr. Sandra Breux (INRS), Dr. Kristin Good (Dalhousie University), and Dr. Martin Horak (The University of Western Ontario), SSHRC Insight Development Grant.
Money and Local Democracy Project

Lead Research Assistant - Public Policy Pillar 2024-2025
Dr. Martin Horak (The University of Western Ontario)
Canadian Municipal Barometer Partnership

<i>Research Assistant</i>	2021
Dr. Martin Horak (The University of Western Ontario), Network for Economic and Social Trends (NEST) Community Ties and Mutual Aid During the COVID-19 Crisis	
<i>Research Assistant</i>	2020-2021
Dr. Jack Lucas (University of Calgary), Dr. Zack Taylor (The University of Western Ontario), Dr. Dave Armstrong (The University of Western Ontario), SSHRC Insight Development Grant Cities in Canadian Political Development	
<i>Research Assistant</i>	2019
Dr. Victoria Esses (The University of Western Ontario) Pathways to Prosperity Partnership	
<i>Research Assistant</i>	2016-2018
Dr. Daniel Henstra (University of Waterloo), SSHRC Insight Development Grant Multilevel Governance and Climate Change Adaptation Policy in Canada	

Awards, Grants & Scholarships

External

<i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)</i>	2020-2024
Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship (\$105,000 CAD)	
<i>Canadian Political Science Association</i>	2024
Congress Graduate Merit Award (\$500 CAD)	
<i>Ontario Provincial Government</i>	2020-2021
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000 CAD) <i>Declined</i>	
<i>Ontario Provincial Government</i>	2019-2020
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000 CAD)	

Internal

<i>The University of Western Ontario</i>	2025-2027
Western Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$70,000 CAD) <i>Declined</i>	
<i>The University of Western Ontario</i>	2024
Dr. Harold D. Clarke Graduate Quantitative Research Methodology Fellowship (\$5,000 CAD)	
<i>The University of Western Ontario</i>	2018, 2021
Research, Training and Development Fund (\$450 CAD)	
<i>University of Waterloo</i>	2017
Arts Graduate Senate Scholarship (\$1,500 CAD)	
<i>University of Waterloo</i>	2017
Teaching Assistant Excellence Award (\$1,000 CAD)	

Presentations

Conference & Workshop Presentations

<i>Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference (Toronto, Ontario)</i> “Programmatic Polarization in Canada’s Provinces.”	2025
<i>Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference (Montréal, Québec)</i> “Stable or Volatile? Provincial Party Positions in Canada, 1945-2020.”	2024
<i>Canadian Municipal Barometer Speaker Series (Virtual)</i> “Municipal Issue Publics.” (with Drs. Jack Lucas & Sandra Breux)	2025
<i>MapleMeth Regional Methodology Conference (London, Ontario)</i> “The Canadian Provincial Parties Manifestos Dataset: Leveraging RoBERTa for Classification.”	2023
<i>Western University Graduate Association of Political Science, Workshop Series</i> “Introduction to Regular Expression in R.”	2023
<i>Western University Graduate Association of Political Science, Workshop Series</i> “Introduction to R Workshop: Objects and Operations.”	2022
<i>American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference (Montréal, Québec)</i> “Canadian Provincial Party Systems 1945-2020: Evidence from Party Platforms.”	2022
<i>Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference (Virtual)</i> “Canadian Political Science as a Living Tree: Text Analysis of the <i>CJPS</i> 1968-2014.”	2021
<i>Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference (Virtual)</i> “Somebody to Lean On: Community Ties and Practical Help During COVID-19.” (with Dr. Martin Horak)	2021
<i>NEST COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Workshop (The University of Western Ontario, Virtual)</i> “Somebody to Lean On: Community Ties and Practical Help During COVID-19.” (with Dr. Martin Horak)	2021

Invited Speaker

<i>Career Night for Laurier Arts Scholars: Discussions with Alumni</i> Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario	2021
<i>Research Methods in Political Science (third year undergraduate course)</i> King’s University College, London, Ontario “Qualitative and Quantitative Text Analysis: Practical Uses in Political Science Research”	2021
<i>The Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC)</i> “Improving Water Quality in Indigenous Communities”	2020
<i>Issues in Local Government (MPA Graduate Course)</i> The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario “Profiling Municipal Issues: A Pilot Study of Southern Ontario”	2019

Advanced Methods Training

Quantitative Research Methods

- ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research*
Data Science & Text Analysis; Maximum Likelihood Estimation II 2020
- Department of Political Science, The University of Western Ontario*
Quantitative Methods; Machine Learning 2020
- Department of Knowledge Integration, University of Waterloo*
Fundamentals of Automated Text Analysis for Social Scientists 2018

Qualitative Research Methods

- Faculty of Social Science, The University of Western Ontario*
Using NVivo 12 for Qualitative & Mixed Methods Research 2019

Teaching

Instructor of Record

- Data Science for Politics* Winter 2025
University of Western Ontario, 3rd Year Undergraduate
(Enrollment: 69)
- Introduction to Public Policy* Winter 2022, Winter 2024
University of Waterloo, 3rd Year Undergraduate
(Enrollment in 2022, 2024: 24, 23)

Teaching Assistant

- Public Administration and Policy* 2018-19, 2019-20
The University of Western Ontario, 3rd Year Undergraduate

Pedagogical Training

- Decolonizing The Academy: Finding Your Role* 2022
The University of Western Ontario, Centre for Teaching and Learning, Future Prof Workshop Series
- 13th Annual Teaching and Learning Conference* 2022
University of Waterloo, Centre for Teaching and Learning
Workshops attended:
Fostering Student-Faculty-Staff Partnerships through Open Pedagogy
Partners in Failure, Partners in Learning: Modeling Failure Intervention Pedagogy in the Classroom
Support and Equity: Using Socially Shared Learning Regulation to Create Responsive and Accommodating Learning Cultures
Undergraduate Student Perspectives of Failure: How Can Instructors Foster Resilience and Encourage Help-Seeking?

Field Experience

- Halifax, Nova Scotia* October 2024
Municipal Election Candidate Interviews & Campaign Observation

Service

The University of Western Ontario, Department of Political Science

Executive, Graduate Association for Political Science 2020-2022

The Discipline

Co-Section Head, Local and Urban Politics 2026
Canadian Political Science Association Annual Conference Programme Committee

Book Review Editorial Assistant & Social Media Assistant (paid position) 2020-2023
Canadian Journal of Political Science. Cambridge University Press.

Community

Director, Vice-Chair 2022-present
Nature's Calling Environmental Education (Non-profit organization)

Professional Affiliations

Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA)
American Political Science Association (APSA)