

MIPCC

MCGILL INTERNATIONAL
PORTFOLIO CHALLENGE
2021 – 5th EDITION
(VIRTUAL)



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



McGill International Portfolio Challenge

C\$50,000 in
cash prizes

14+ leading
sponsors

Key Dates

June 30th
Early Bird Registration

Sep 12th
Standard Registration

Sep 13th
Case Release

Oct 3^d
1st Round Submissions

Oct 11th
1st Round Decisions

Nov 4th & 5th
Finals Round

www.mipc.ca

A global university challenge where
hundreds of students meet with industry
leaders and propose financial solutions
to complex societal issues.

2017

Solvency of
Corporate
Defined
Benefit Plans

2018

America's
Pension Crisis

2019

Climate
Change

2020

The Rise of
Protectionism
and Social
Inequalities

2021

Ultra
Low
Yields



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WHAT IS MIPC?



A grand challenge that brings together hundreds of students from all over the world to solve a complex social issue

An initiative that bridges the disconnect between academia and finance industry practitioners

A forum that aims to share sustainable finance solutions with the broader community

An opportunity for student teams to win C\$50,000 in cash prizes

PAST PARTICIPANTS



93+ Teams
56+ Leading Universities
18+ Countries
5 Continents

GRAND CHALLENGES



The MIPC aims to address complex societal issues in which large, institutional investors play a critical role. Our cases center on solving these issues through innovative portfolio strategies that satisfy the needs of a broad range of stakeholders.

[View full MIPC cases >](#)

2017

Solvency of Corporate Defined Benefit Plans

The combination of high longevity and low interest rates has made it challenging for corporate pension plans to remain solvent. Should plans pursue riskier strategies in the hope of increasing returns? Is there a portfolio strategy that delivers the promised pensions while minimizing the need for future cash injections from plan sponsors?

2018

America's Pension Crisis

The majority of U.S. public pension plans are severely underfunded. How can these plans invest their way back to fiscal health? Is there a long-term portfolio solution that solves the underfunding while meeting the needs of municipalities, state governments, taxpayers, and plan members?

2019

Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most urgent global challenges of our time. How do asset managers manage the transition from traditional to sustainable investments? What are some constructive ways we can make a positive environmental impact through our investments?

2020

The Rise of Protectionism and Social Inequalities

We are now seeing countries seeking independence as protectionist narratives are being revived and geo-economic dynamics are changing. How should long-term asset managers invest in the midst of rising protectionism and social inequalities? Can we find innovative portfolio solutions that are both profitable and have a positive social impact?

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1st Round: Written Report
Teams are required to submit a written proposal to the case. The top 25 proposals move on to the semi-final round.

Semi-final Round: Revised Written Report & Recorded Presentation Live Q&A
10 min presentation and 15 min Q&A. The top 5 proposals move on to the finals round.

Final Round: Live Presentation and Q&A
Finalist teams are invited to present their proposal live to our panel of high-caliber finalist judges, as well as respond to their questions.

The Three Rounds

Evaluation Criteria

Quality and Professionalism
Judges look at the overall presentation of the proposal, including clarity, readability, design, and conciseness.

Analytical Rigor
Judges look at assumptions made, if the numbers "make sense," how robust and realistic the analysis is.

Response to Case Details
Judges look at how proposals respond to the case and to what extent it addresses the needs of all stakeholders.

BEYOND THE COMPETITION



Mentorship Program: Returning to MIPC this year, we offer a mentorship program for our semi-finalist teams. Each student team will be matched to a mentor from one of our sponsors, who will meet with them to give a third-party, independent review of the proposal and offer some advice from their professional perspective.

Sponsor Info-Sessions: We hold numerous events with our sponsors in a group setting, ranging from traditional recruiting sessions to more creative, thought-provoking events.

Symposium: Every year, we host a panel of C-Suite and other high-profile executives to engage the broader community on how finance can benefit society as a whole, and not just the few through the lens of institutional investors and of practitioners. Participants get a chance to learn from leaders in institutional finance as well as a live Q&A session.

Speaker Series: Our Speaker Series is composed of TED-style talks by senior leadership from many of our sponsors. Participants can also ask speakers live Q&A and engage in small-group discussions on the topic.

Individual Networking Opportunities: In a variety of formats, students have chances to engage with our sponsors on a one-on-one basis, helping them to form deep connections.

PRIZES

Top Proposal

Up to 3 teams, if proposals are of equal merit
\$30,000 split up to three teams, \$25,000 if only one proposal

Runner-Ups

The remaining of the top 5 teams
The remainder of the \$40,000 finalist prize pool is distributed equally

Best Speakers (5x) \$500 each

Specialty Prizes

For proposals that offer unique a unique perspective, such as best considerations for risk management or best quantitative analysis
\$1,500 - \$2,500 each

Top 5 Teams
\$40,000

Top 25 Teams
\$10,000

PAST SPEAKERS



Jean Charest

Former Premier of Québec



Heather Munroe-Blum

CPP Investments,
Chairperson of the Board



Josée Guibord

Evolugen by Brookfield Renewable,
Chief Executive Officer



Marlene Puffer

CN Investment Division,
Chief Executive Officer



Geoffrey Rubin

CPP Investments,
Chief Investment Strategist



Patrick Odier

Lombard Odier,
Managing Partner

2020 FINALS JUDGES



Scott Lawrence

CPP Investments,
Managing Director,
Head of Infrastructure



Marcia Moffat

BlackRock,
Managing Director,
Country Head of Canada



Patrick Odier

Lombard Odier,
Managing Partner



Bernard Augustin

CIBC Asset Management,
Director, Quantitative Research,
Multi-asset & Currency Management



Francois Scheepers

CFA, Validus Risk Management,
Founding Partner



Mohamed Mokhtari

KPMG,
Canadian National Leader,
Financial Risk Management Advisory



Martin Chapados

CFA, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec,
Senior Portfolio Manager,
Global Equities



Carl Robert

CFA, PSP Investments,
Vice President,
Total Fund Investments



Steve Saldanha

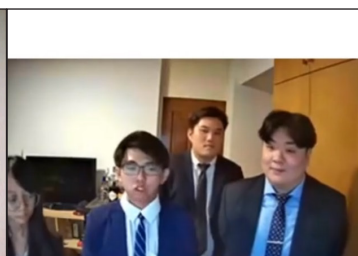
CFA, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan,
Managing Director,
Portfolio Management & Asset Allocation

... in addition to 40+ semi-finals judges.

IN-PERSON (2017-2019)

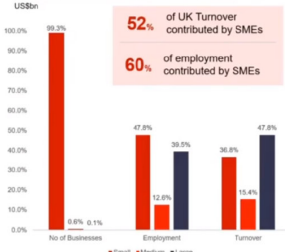


VIRTUAL (2020 - 2021)



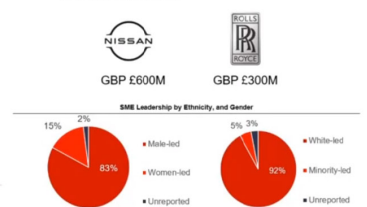
SMEs make an outsized contribution to UK's Economy

Contribution of Different Sized UK Business in 2019



COVID-19 support for UK businesses

53 big companies borrowed £16.2bn from UK's COVID loan scheme



"Diversity and Inclusion in the Financial Industry"

October 30th, 10:00 - 11:00 AM EDT



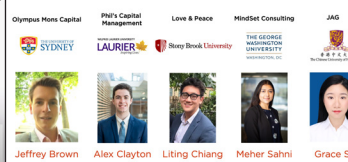
Brexit: A challenging economic transition

No Capital "Passporting"
Licenses granting free capital flows to and from the EU could be revoked

Loss of EU Labor
Many industries could lose access to labor they currently heavily rely on

Trade Barriers
Goods and services between the EU and the UK could be subject to taxes and tariffs

Best Speaker Winners



WHAT TO EXPECT FROM MIPC 2021?



We're very excited to host everyone virtually this year for the 5th edition of the McGill International Portfolio Challenge (MIPC). The MIPC, serving as an international platform, connects students with industry leaders, enhances their critical thinking skills, and catapults them towards future opportunities, making it an incomparable experience.

This year, we want you to join us in exploring the Grand Challenge of ultra-low yield environments. For long-term asset managers, the combination of ultra-low interest rates and high valuations in equity and real estate markets around the world is creating a strenuous challenge. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, how can they design sustainable investment strategies that deliver adequate returns without taking on excessive amounts of risk?

Recreating the MIPC in a virtual format last year was no easy feat, and I'm grateful to have been a part of the team who successfully rose to the challenge. A virtual MIPC entails live as well as asynchronous elements. The case competition consists of a report, a pre-recorded presentation for the Top 25 Teams and a live Q&A session with our esteemed judging panel. Our other live elements such as the mentorship program, speaker series, and sponsor recruitment booths are designed to be interactive and held through video conferencing.

A virtual event platform and our social media serve as the community space for our participants. A small registration fee allows us to make this grand opportunity accessible to students from many universities and countries. This year, we look to improve last year's virtual elements, including further leveraging our use of technology and recruitment opportunities.

The MIPC extends beyond the walls of a classroom and we sincerely hope that you'll be able to experience that this Summer and Fall.

– **Grace Francoeur**, 2021 Executive Director

Executive Team



Oriane Gerfaux
Managing Director
Communications



Angel Miao
Managing Director
Corporate Relations



Ferhat Gherbi
Managing Director
Operations



Mia Tran
VP External



Nabil Anouti
VP Media



Frederic Lapointe
VP External & Sponsorship



Greta Horn
VP External & Logistics



Claudio Cichi
VP External



Samuel Moses
VP External

With the guidance of...



Omer Juma
Faculty Liaison and Project Manager



Sebastien Betermier
Faculty Director
Associate Professor, Finance



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IN THE NEWS

"Should universities abruptly divest from fossil fuel industry stocks?"

The Voice for Clean Capitalism
Corporate Knights

"Are university pension plans the next battleground in the climate-change debate?"

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

"Brexit, equality and COVID-19: Finance students tackle topical case study"

McGillREPORTER

"Le McGill International Portfolio Challenge prend de l'ampleur"

Avantages

"Canadian students up to the task of devising a pension fix"

Pensions & Investments

"Who will solve the pensions crisis?"

Institutional Investor

"Practicing what we preach"

LOMBARD ODIER
LOMBARD ODIER DARIER HENSCHE

"Des étudiants à la rescousse des régimes de retraite"

LA PRESSE

"Students pave the way for a greener tomorrow"

McGillREPORTER

"MIPC on the Importance of Impact Investing"

Pension Pulse

"Students show how to integrate impact"

top1000funds.com

"2 student teams master McGill portfolio-building competition"

Pensions & Investments

THE MCGILL INTERNATIONAL PORTFOLIO CHALLENGE

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