



Policy Commons Introduction

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SEARCHING

- Do you ever seek out information by and from other nonprofits?
 - If **yes**, where do you usually go when you search?
 - If **no**, where do you search for information for work generally? Google? Community Scholars Portal?
- Why is that your go -to? What are the advantages of using it?

AGENDA

In this workshop:

- Overview of Policy Commons
- Compare scholarly and “grey” literature
- How to access Policy Commons
- Examine features of Policy Commons
- Try out a search

By the end of this workshop, you will be able to:

- Identify features of the Policy Commons database
- Define grey literature
- Explain why grey literature in the Policy Commons database might be useful

WHAT IS



Policy
Commons



- New database - released in November 2020
- Research from policy experts, nonpartisan think tanks, IGOs and NGOs - “grey” literature
- The founder reports that “[s]ome of the content is exclusive to Policy Commons, including the complete historical output of organizations dating as far back as 1920” (Announcement quoted in Cambridge Ejournal)
- Directory of organizations
- Ability to contribute

[⚙️ Advanced Search](#)

Try: [Ukraine NEAR NATO](#) [Russia AND sanctions](#) [vaccination](#) [climate change](#) [+](#)

23,910⁺

Organizations

3,283,937⁺

Publications

3,376⁺

Topics



WHY MIGHT



Policy
Commons

BE USEFUL?

- Sources disappear from the web, broken links
- One unified place to search
- Can be tough to find information for nonprofits,
by nonprofits
 - Google is limited, predictions may not fit our unique
needs

About 524,000,000 results (0.81 seconds)

Recipes

**Easy Three-Ingredient Tomato Soup**

Inspired Taste

4.9 ★★★★★ (367)

45 mins

Fresh tomatoes, low sodium, sea salt

**Classic Tomato Soup**

Cookie and Kate

4.9 ★★★★★ (249)

55 mins

Great northern beans, brown sugar, tomato basil, tomato

**Creamy Tomato Soup with Buttery Croutons**

Food & Wine Magazine

5.0 ★★★★★ (3.8K)

30 mins

Celery seed, heavy cream, red pepper, olive oil, sugar



Show more

<https://www.inspiredtaste.net> › easy-tomato-soup-recipe**Easy Three-Ingredient Tomato Soup - Inspired Taste**

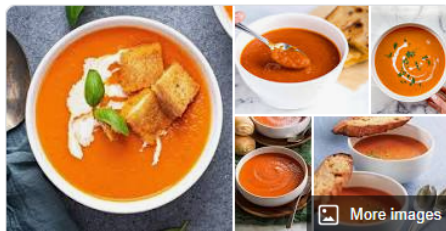
Here's how to the best (and easiest) **tomato soup** : Combine butter, onion, and tomatoes. Grab a Dutch oven or pot, place it over medium heat and melt the butter.

★★★★★ Rating: 4.9 · 367 reviews · 45 mins

<https://natashaskitchen.com> › Soup**Easy Tomato Soup Recipe - NatashasKitchen.com**

Aug 6, 2021 — Ingredients ; 4 Tbsp unsalted butter ; 2 yellow onions, (3 cups finely chopped) ; 3 garlic cloves, (1 Tbsp minced) ; 56 oz crushed **tomatoes**, (two, ...

★★★★★ Rating: 5 · 148 votes · 30 mins

[More images](#)**Tomato soup**

Food

Tomato soup is a soup with tomatoes as the primary ingredient. It can be served hot or cold, and may be made in a variety of ways. It may be smooth in texture, and there are also recipes that include chunks of tomato, cream, chicken or vegetable stock, vermicelli, chunks of other vegetables and meatballs. [Wikipedia](#)

Creator

Shelf life

Different brands

Nutrition Facts

Tomato soup ▾

Sources include: [USDA](#)**Amount Per 100 grams** ▾

About 4,460,000,000 results (0.70 seconds)

Pizza Restaurants ⋮



Rating ▾

Pizza ▾

Price ▾

Hours ▾

Goldies Pizza

4.8 ★★★★★ (59) · Pizza

848 Powell St

Dine-in · Takeout · Delivery



Straight Outta Brooklyn NYC Pizza

4.1 ★★★★★ (234) · \$ · Pizza

648 Main St · In Golden Crown Centre

Dine-in · Takeout · Delivery



Mordimi bite of Italy

4.8 ★★★★★ (84) · Pizza

1123 Venables St

Dine-in · Takeout · Delivery



More places

People also ask ⋮

Is pizza healthy to eat?



Pizza



Dish

Pizza is a dish of Italian origin consisting of a usually round, flat base of leavened wheat-based dough topped with tomatoes, cheese, and often various other ingredients, which is then baked at a high temperature, traditionally in a wood-fired oven. A small pizza is sometimes called a pizzetta. [Wikipedia](#)

Origin: Italy

Season ▾

Baking time ▾

Quotes ▾

Nutrition Facts

Pizza, 14" regular crust ▾

Sources include: [USDA](#)

SCHOLARLY VS. GREY LITERATURE

SCHOLARLY:

- Journals – written by faculty/researchers/scholars
- Technical or scholarly language
- Full citations
- Information about the authors
- Often peer -reviewed or refereed
- Published by academic organizations

GREY:

- Outside traditional publishing and distribution channels
- Ex. reports, policy literature, working papers, newsletters, govt documents, speeches, white papers, urban plans
- “On the ground” organizations – govt agencies, nonprofits, industry
- Not beholden to same processes as journals:
 - Can be more current, detailed
 - Not usually peer -reviewed so quality needs to be assessed

ASSESSING GREY LITERATURE

- Authority

- Who is the creator? What kind of authority is useful/respected in your context?

- Value

- Monetary, influence, education
- What value does the work you create have to your organization?
- How might the way a work is valued affect its creation?

ASSESSING GREY LITERATURE

- Creation process
 - Clues in the documents to creation process
 - Vs. academic journals - detail on process
 - Take a few minutes to **consider** then **discuss**:
 - What do you know about how documents are created in your organization?
 - Where does the information in those documents come from?
 - Who does the writing? Editing? Designing?
 - Where do those documents go once they've been created?
 - Do you think these elements of the creation process affect the final product? If so, how?

Questions

Check for updates + details
on Library services.

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Community Scholars Program: Home

THE COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

LIBRARY SEARCH



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In partnership with Vancouver Island University, the University of Northern British Columbia, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, and the University of British Columbia, the Simon Fraser University Library coordinates a program to provide staff of charitable and non-profit organizations in British Columbia with access to the latest research and knowledge in their fields.

The current phase of the Community Scholars Program connects 500 individuals to seven publishers' materials through an enhanced search interface. It enhances the access provided during the pilot phase in 2016, supported by [United Way of the Lower Mainland](#) and [Mindset Social Innovation Foundation](#). The current collaboration is supported via a grant from the [McConnell Foundation](#) through the [BC Collaborative on Social Infrastructure](#).



Community Scholars Portal

Have an account? Search for articles and books now.

Background: The challenge of access

Many researchers in Canada and around the world are studying social problems and possible solutions and publishing their findings in peer-reviewed journals. These journals are mostly inaccessible to the more than 170,000 non-profit and charitable organizations in Canada doing critical work on social issues including poverty alleviation, homelessness, education, and health care -- unless they are affiliated with a university.

Library: Sign In



You are accessing a resource that is restricted to the Simon Fraser University Community Scholars. You will need to log in before you can proceed.

Barcode

Password

Sign In

[\[Forgot password\]](#)

Most electronic resources are governed by license agreements which restrict use to the SFU community and to individuals who use the Libraries' facilities. It is the responsibility of each user to ensure these products are used for individual educational or research purposes only. Systematically downloading, distributing, or retaining substantial portions of information may result in loss of access to these resources for the entire SFU community.

If you are unable to log in, please contact the SFU Library Systems Division at 778.782.4706 or libhelp@sfu.ca

policy commons



ADVANCED SEARCH

Need help with your search?



Contact your Community Scholars Librarian for help with searching in the Portal or to request a consultation or workshop for you or your team.



Community Scholars Search Guide: Find articles and books: Community Scholars Program.



View upcoming workshops and visit our past workshops page for materials to help with your research.

Video tutorial for using the Portal

This video introduces searching, filtering, citing, and saving.



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Oxford University Press
Sage Publishing
Springer-Nature
Taylor & Francis
Wiley

The Community Scholars Program is based at Simon Fraser University and respectfully acknowledges the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwəw̓7mesh űw̓umíw (Squamish), selilwata7 (Tsleil-Waututh), qíčay (Katzie), kʷíkʷələm (Kwikwetlem), Qaygayt, Kwanlen, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen peoples on whose traditional territories our three SFU campuses reside.

The Community Scholars Program acknowledges the many Indigenous territories where program participants and partners live and work. We invite you to **locate yourself** in relation to these lands.

policy commons



ADVANCED SEARCH

Refine results

Expand My Results

Sort by Relevance ▾

Availability ^

Online access (2,932,492)

Peer-reviewed (1,937,943)

Open Access

Resource Type ^

Articles (2,098,032)

Book Chapters (652,338)

Reviews (75,398)

Show More

Subject ^

Science & Technology (863,575)

Life Sciences & Biomedicine (576,490)

Social Sciences (567,270)

☐ 0 selected PAGE 1 2,932,492 Results



1



DATABASE
Policy Commons.
2020]-



Online access >

2



BOOK
A food policy for Canada : report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food / Pat Finnigan, chair.
Canada. Parliament. House of Commons. Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food author, issuing body Pat Finnigan 2017



OPEN ACCESS

Online access >

3



ARTICLE
Environmental policy integration in the EU's common agricultural policy: greening or greenwashing?



Alons, Gerry

Journal of European public policy, 2017-11-29, Vol.24 (11), p.1604-1622

“ ... into the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) debate. This article investigates the extent to which this has contributed to Environmental Policy Integration (EPI) in the CAP...”

PDF REVIEWED OPEN ACCESS



DATABASE
Policy Commons.
20201

[Online access](#)  >

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TRY IT YOURSELF

Try a search relevant to your work!

Use a few:

- Filters
- Tabs

When we return:

- Did you find any features or articles that seem useful?
- Did you find anything that surprised you?
- Did you encounter any issues?

Questions

THE COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Lower Mainland:

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References:

- https://ejournalcambridge.wordpress.com/2020/11/03/policy____-commons/
- https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/research____-assistance/format____-type/grey____-literature____
- https://guides.library.ubc.ca/greyliterature____
- https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/research____-assistance/format____-type/scholarly____-journals____
- https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/research____-assistance/finding____-evaluating____-resources#evaluating____-sources____
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4L1oCJI9_VA____
- https://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/ilframework____

THE COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM
