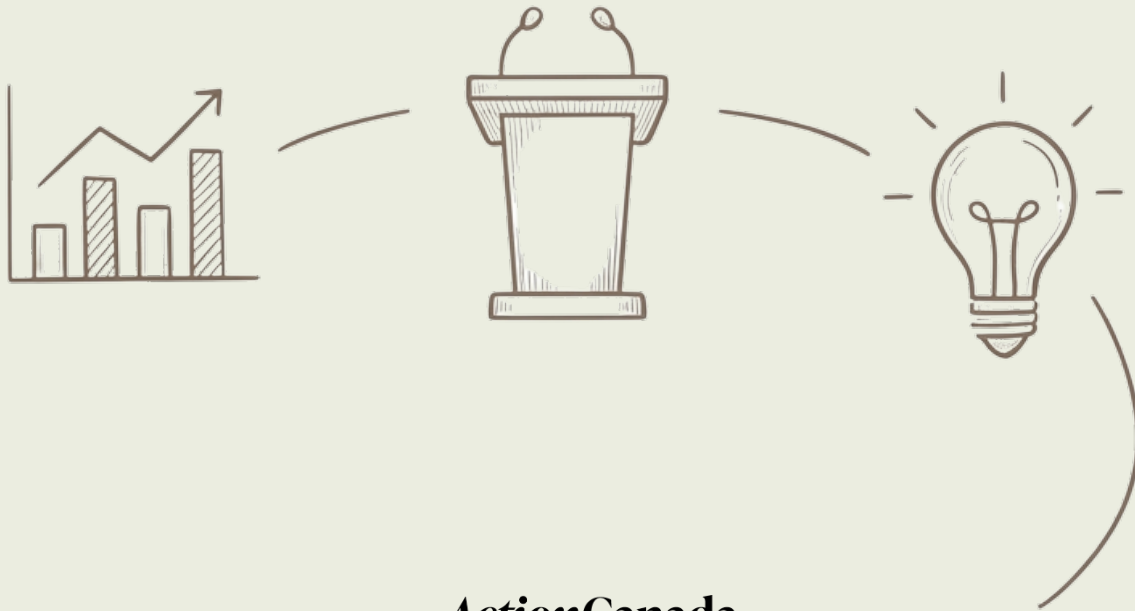




ActionCanada

Policy 101

Teacher's Guide

Module 11: Why is policy-making hard? - Extension Activity

Case Study – How Buffalo Airways Navigates the Impacts of Extreme Weather in the North



POLICY 101 VIDEO SERIES | TEACHER GUIDE

Module 11: Why is policy-making hard? - Extension Activity**CURRICULUM LINKS**

This video series fits within the following high school courses across Canada. Teachers are encouraged to explore further connections to other courses in their province or territory.

Alberta - Grade 9 Social Studies - Social Studies 10-1 / 10-2 - Social Studies 20-1 / 20-2 - Social Studies 30-1 / 30-2	British Columbia - Social Studies 10 - Social Studies 11 - Political Science 12 - Social Justice 12
Manitoba - Grade 9: Social Studies - Grade 12: Global Issues: Citizenship and Sustainability	New Brunswick - Social Studies 9 - Civics - Political Science 120 - Law 120
Newfoundland - Social Studies 9 - Social Studies 1201 / 1202 - Social Studies 2201 / 2202 - Social Studies 3201 / 3202 - Ethics and Social Justice 2106 - Career Development 2202	Northwest Territories - Grade 9 Social Studies - Social Studies 10-1 / 10-2 - Social Studies 20-1 / 20-2 - Social Studies 30-1 / 30-2
Nova Scotia - Citizenship Education 9 - Contemporary Canadian Studies 11 - Global Politics 12 - Advanced Global Politics 12 - Law 12	Nunavut - Grade 9 Social Studies - Social Studies 10-1 / 10-2 - Social Studies 20-1 / 20-2 - Social Studies 30-1 / 30-2
Ontario - Grade 10: Civics & Citizenship - Grade 11: Politics in Action: Making Change - Grade 12: Canadian and International Politics	Prince Edward Island - Grade 9 Social Studies - Canadian Studies CAS401A - Civics and Citizenship CIV421A
Québec - Monde contemporain - Sensibilisation à l'entrepreneuriat - Histoire du Québec et du Canada	Saskatchewan - Social Studies 9 - Social Studies 10 - History 30: Canadian Studies - Social Studies 30: Canadian Studies
Yukon - Social Studies 10 - Social Studies 11 - Political Science 12 - Social Justice 12	

Case Study – *How Buffalo Airways Navigates the Impacts of Extreme Weather in the North*

LEARNING GOALS

Upon completion of this Case Study, students will be able to:

- Investigate the many needs and perspectives to be considered when designing public policy, using a case study example.

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

This Case Study is an extension activity for Policy 101 [Module 11: Why is policy-making hard?](#) Ensure that you have watched the Module 11 video and explored all or some of the activities in the Teacher Guide before beginning this extension activity. The Case Study is designed for students to work through independently; simply give each student participating a copy of the included worksheet. However, you can also choose to facilitate small group or whole class discussions using the worksheet questions.

The Case Study consists of the following sections:

UNDERSTAND:

Students are asked comprehension questions to ensure they have fully understood the Case Study video.

CONNECT:

Students are asked questions that help them connect the Case Study video to the learnings from the Policy 101 Module.

APPLY:

Students are asked thinking deeper questions to help them apply their learning to a broader context. Note, this type of question is not always included.

MATERIALS

You will need the following materials to complete the Case Study:

- [Worksheets](#), one copy for each student engaging in the Case Study

Pre-Video Activity

Teachers can share the following background information with students (included in the worksheet below, if you want to print and distribute to students).

Where is Yellowknife?

Yellowknife is the capital, largest community, and the only city in the Northwest Territories, Canada. It is on the northern shore of Great Slave Lake, about 400 kilometres (250 mi) south of the Arctic Circle, on the west side of Yellowknife Bay near the outlet of the Yellowknife River. ([source](#))

What is Buffalo Airways?

Buffalo Airways is a Northern based airline operating primarily from Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada. Since 1970 Buffalo Airways has been operating as a family run business founded by Joe McBryan (aka Buffalo Joe). The airline operates scheduled passenger, charter passenger, charter cargo, firefighting and fuel service from their main base at Yellowknife Airport. ([source](#))

Keywords – Encourage students to listen out for the following words while watching the video

Weather systems: Patterns of weather in an area, like rain, snow, wind, and temperature changes.

Frost heaves: Bumps or cracks in the ground caused when water in the soil freezes and expands.

Permafrost: Ground that stays frozen for at least two years in a row.

Cargo: Goods or supplies moved by truck, plane, ship, or train.

Winter road: A road made usable in winter, often over frozen ground or ice, to reach remote communities.

Climate resilient: Able to handle and recover from the effects of climate change and extreme weather.

Fly-in community: A community that can only be reached by plane for part or all of the year.

Bottom line: The most important result, especially the final cost, profit, or main point.

* Use the bingo card as an activity sheet to support this activity.

Post-Video Activity – How Buffalo Airways Navigates the Impacts of Extreme Weather in the North

UNDERSTAND:

- What are the challenges faced by Buffalo Airways?
- What are the challenges faced by northern communities that Buffalo Airways serves?
- How does Buffalo Airways think that policy could help address their challenges?

CONNECT:

- What are some of the factors that might make it challenging for government to create policies that address the challenges faced by:
 - Buffalo Airways
 - Northern communities facing the impacts of extreme weather events

APPLY:

- What is a climate challenge impacting your family or your community?

- What might the government do to address that challenge? Specifically, think about policy solutions that could help.
- Why could it be difficult for the government to implement those solutions?

Answer Key for Teachers

Here are some examples of answers, the list is not comprehensive.

UNDERSTAND:

What are the challenges faced by Buffalo Airways?

- Challenges caused by extreme weather:
 - Difficult flying conditions
 - Runways damaged by frost heaves and permafrost melt

What are the challenges faced by norther communities that Buffalo Airways serves?

- Climate change:
 - Short season for the ice roads
 - More difficult to get goods, equipment, trucks into the communities

How does Buffalo Airways think that policy could help address their challenges?

- Investment from the government to upgrade weather systems and air strips

CONNECT:

What are some of the factors that might make it challenging for government to create policies that address the challenges faced by *(note: not all these answers are covered in the video, but please encourage students to imagine what some challenges might be, based on what they learned in Module 11)*:

- Buffalo Airways
 - The Northwest Territories is a big territory that is sparsely populated and there is limited money to go around
- Northern communities facing the impacts of extreme weather events
 - The number of extreme weather events are growing but they are unpredictable, which can make it difficult for government to create policies
 - Northern conditions plus the vastness of the North make policy solutions very expensive and governments have limited resources and need to make trade offs
 - The North is first to see some of the impacts of climate change, so governments are often addressing new challenges that don't have clear solutions

Further Connections

Buffalo Airways is in the Northwest Territories. Curious to learn more about the different orders of government and their responsibilities? Explore this topic in [Module 5: What does the government](#)

[do and how does it relate to public policy?](#)

ABOUT THE POLICY 101 VIDEO SERIES

The Policy 101 Series breaks down public policy into digestible content for students through engaging videos, podcasts, and teacher guides. These modules empower students to learn the basics of public policy and critically analyze its implications. The series aims to sow the seeds for a future where youth play an active role in shaping the policies that shape their lives.



Date:

Name:

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What are the challenges faced by Buffalo Airways?

What are the challenges faced by northern communities that Buffalo Airways serves?

How does Buffalo Airways think that policy could help address their challenges?

What are some of the factors that might make it challenging for government to create policies that address the challenges faced by:
1) Buffalo Airways ; 2) Northern communities facing the impacts of extreme weather events

What is a climate challenge impacting your family or your community?

- What might the government do to address that challenge?
Specifically, think about policy solutions that could help.
- Why could it be difficult for the government to implement those solutions?

BINGO

Policy 101

weather systems	airport	winter road	helicopter	tourism
ice road	frost heaves	climate resilient	pollution	renewable energy
renewable energy	healthcare	BINGO	economic development	profit
competition	expansion	fly-in community	permafrost	hospital
flooding	arctic	bottom line	mining	cargo

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