OLIVIER GAGNON

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Economist (PhD in Economics, McGill University, defence scheduled for December 2026) with experience in applied economic research, data science and policy analysis. Uses causal inference, econometric and predictive modelling to answer applied questions with administrative, survey and operational data. Communicates results clearly to technical and non-technical audiences. Bilingual (French and English).

EDUCATION

McGill University — *Montréal, QC*
PhD in Economics (labour economics, applied econometrics; defence scheduled for December 2026) — 2020–Present
- Thesis: Essays in Labour Economics (Supervisors: Nicolas Gendron-Carrier, Fernando Saltiel)

Queen's University — *Kingston, ON*
MA in Economics — 2017–2018
- Supervised research: Assessing Inflation Forecasting in Canada Using High Dimensional Factor Models

Université de Montréal — *Montréal, QC*
BSc in Economics (Honours) — 2014–2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PhD Candidate, McGill University — **2020–Present**
- Led three research projects in labour economics, from formulating the question and designing the empirical strategy to interpreting and presenting the results (Stata, Python).
- Found that recent immigrants lose 21% of their earnings one year after a mass layoff, against 26% for established immigrants, using employer-employee tax data linked to immigration records (BEAM, IMDB).
- Showed that displaced workers' interprovincial migration responds to the gap between local and outside labour demand, measured with provincial indicators and an export demand shock built from product-level trade data.
- Specified and estimated a structural model of sectoral choice to quantify the sources of wage gaps among recent US graduates working in jobs related or unrelated to their field of study.
- Applied difference-in-differences, event studies and propensity score matching to longitudinal administrative data.

Research Assistant, McGill University — **Apr.–Oct. 2026**
- Analyzed the match between Canadian workers' cognitive skills and personality traits and the requirements of their occupations, using PIAAC survey data and the OaSIS classification.
- Lead analyst on the project: data preparation, methodological choices and production of results, discussed with the faculty team to guide the research.
- Co-authored a report for the Future Skills Centre (publication expected in 2027) and prepared a conference presentation.

Developer, Data Science, Bell — **2018–2020**
- Built predictive models (logit, PCA) on hourly data for millions of IPTV customers linking network sensors to call rates, to create a scoring system used to prioritize network improvements (Python, SQL).
- Designed and analyzed field trials testing process improvements in cable repair operations and measured their impact post-deployment using difference-in-differences.
- Automated recurring analyses in Python to support operational decisions.
- Managed the business unit's annual budget, including expense tracking and billing validation.

Research Assistant, CPQ, Queen's University and McGill University — **2017–2023**
- Conseil du patronat du Québec (CPQ): international trade analysis (NAFTA renegotiation) using import and export data and Statistics Canada public tables.
- McGill: econometric analyses of public policy (immigrant labour market outcomes, environmental impacts of a bus rapid transit service) using difference-in-differences and spatial econometrics; synthesized studies for a chapter published in a labour economics reference volume.

Teaching Assistant, McGill University and Queen's University — **2017–2018, 2020–2025**

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

Awards: Emerging Scholars Award, Canadian Research Data Centre Network (2024); Graduate Excellence Award (2020–2023)
Presentations: Canadian Economics Association (2025); CIREQ (2023, 2025); McGill PhD Alumni Seminar (2026)

SKILLS

Data: Statistics Canada (BEAM, LAD, IMDB, public tables), PIAAC, import-export, migration flows
Tools: Python (pandas, NumPy, scikit-learn, statsmodels), SQL, Stata, Git, LaTeX, Excel, Claude Code
Methods: Causal inference, panel data, discrete choice, time series and forecasting, machine learning
Languages: French (native), English (fluent), spoken and written