There are many unsolved policy problems in terms of gang wars, inner city decay, inadequate supply of health care, low take-up rate in youth education and failure to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Policy deadlocks in these areas are not a result of irreconcilable political conflicts, but rather a consequence of the lack of new, creative, and yet feasible, ideas and policy proposals. This predicament may explain the current surge of the innovation agenda in the public sector in most of the OECD countries. Recently, there has been a lot of focus on manager-, employee- and user-driven innovation in the public sector. This special issue will take a step further in exploring the huge potential for collaborative innovation based on interaction and mutual learning between relevant and affected stakeholders. As such, the special issue aims to expand the research agenda of the new theories of interactive governance by scrutinizing the role of governance networks in the production of policy innovations that can help to off-set the imbalance between the growing demands and expectations of the citizens and the lack of public resources. The special issue will welcome both theoretical and empirical papers. Papers may be submitted in English or French.

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