



## Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

### **Building Good Societies and Lives with Quality of Life Measurement**

Alex Michalos  
4:00-5:30 PM  
Monday, March 16, 2020  
Karsh Room, Rideau Club  
99 Bank Street, 15th floor  
Ottawa, Ontario

(please note that the Rideau Club dress code requires men to wear a jacket)

To attend, please RSVP by March 12, 2020 to [andrew.sharpe@csls.ca](mailto:andrew.sharpe@csls.ca).

The recent mandate letter from the Prime Minister to the Minister of Finance asked him “to better incorporate quality of life measurements into government decision-making and budgeting, drawing on lessons from other jurisdictions such as New Zealand and Scotland.” This request reflects the growing importance for public policy of metrics of well-being that go beyond GDP.

In this seminar, Alex Michalos, a world pioneer in research on quality of life issues, will draw on his many years of experience to discuss the design and use of quality of life measurement in the building of good societies and lives. He will review a number of composite quality of life measures and identify which aspects of quality of life are most important for well-being. He will also identify which countries do best in quality of life measurement and explain why. In his overall quality of life ranking, Canada is 12<sup>th</sup> out of 105 countries.

**Alex Michalos** is Professor Emeritus of political science and former chancellor at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), where he served as the founding director of the Institute for Social Research and Evaluation. Before joining UNBC, he taught at the University of Guelph from 1966 to 1994. He served as Director of Research for the Canadian Index of Wellbeing and as President of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies. He is the founder or co-founder of seven peer-reviewed journals including *Social Indicators Research*, the first international journal devoted to quality of life issues and Editor of the 12 volume [Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research](#). He received the SSHRC Gold Medal for Achievement in Research in 2004 and was named a member of the Order of Canada in 2010.