Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

The Future of the Media in Canada: What Role for Government?

James Baxter
4:00-5:30 PM
Wednesday, March 28, 2018
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 26, 2018 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

The media landscape in Canada is rapidly changing. Newspaper print circulation is down significantly. Numerous community newspapers have closed. The financial health of many big-city daily newspapers is precarious and their future is in question. The 2018 federal budget recognized this situation and has responded by providing financial support for local news outlets in "underserved" communities. The government has also indicated an openness to charitable status for media companies and a commitment to explore new business models in consultation with the media industry.

In this seminar James Baxter, founding editor and publisher of *iPolitics,* will address the future of the media in Canada. He will first review the many well-known changes that have transformed the media industry and assess the financial viability of the sector if current trends continue. He will then outline what actions he believes media companies must take to ensure their survival and give his perspective on what the government role should be in this evolution.

James Baxter is founding editor and publisher of *iPolitics.* He has been an award-winning sportswriter, political journalist, bureau chief and editorial writer for over 25 years. A third-generation public affairs journalist, James's work covering politics, first in Ottawa and then in Alberta, resulted in him being awarded in 2008 a prestigious Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. His studies at Harvard focused on the future of media businesses and the role of the press in democracy. Born and raised in Ottawa, he holds degrees in international relations, journalism, and media administration.