



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Broadband Internet and Productivity: What's the Connection?

Tim Sargent
3:00-4:30 PM
Thursday, December 7, 2023
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 December 5, 2023 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

The widespread availability of broadband internet allows individuals to engage in a multitude of activities—from videoconferencing to streaming movies—that would have been difficult if not impossible with the dial-up internet access technology that preceded broadband. However, it is one thing for a technology to enrich people's lives, and another for it to have a pervasive impact on productivity across the economy.

Drawing on a CSLS report commissioned by TELUS, this presentation will look at whether there is evidence that broadband internet has had a broad-based impact on productivity, and what this might mean for policymakers going forward, given the prospective importance of bandwidth-intensive technologies such as big data analytics and cloud computing.

Tim Sargent is Deputy Executive Director at the Centre for the Study of Living Standards. He is also a Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation. Previously Tim spent 28 years in the Canadian federal government, where he held Deputy Minister and Associate Deputy Minister positions at Fisheries and Oceans, International Trade, Finance, and Agriculture and AgriFood, as well as senior positions at the Privy Council Office. Tim has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of British Columbia.

Seminar participants are invited to attend the annual CSLS holiday reception which will take place in the Laurier Room at the Rideau Club immediately after the seminar.