



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Improving How Canada's Public Sector Works: Taking on the Difficult and Uncomfortable Issues

Michael Wernick
4:00-5:30 PM (coffee available from 3:45)
Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Laurier 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 April 17, 2023 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Canadians pay attention to what the public sector does, but far less attention to how the public sector works. Indeed, there is almost no supply chain in Canada to generate actionable ideas about management and governance of the public sector.

In this presentation, Michael Wernick, former Clerk of the Privy Council, will make the case that this must change. He will argue that we need to rebuild the supply chain of ideas around better government to ensure that we have the capacity to deliver programs and services and to be responsive to the needs of Canadians, whatever the political orientation of our elected leaders. He will identify and address what he sees as the difficult and uncomfortable issues in this era of rising expectations, rapid change, and demands for more inclusion in shaping policies and services.

Michael Wernick is Jarislowsky Chair in Public Sector Management at the University of Ottawa. He had a long and distinguished career in the federal government, serving as Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to Cabinet from 2016 to 2019 and as Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada from 2006 to 2014. He holds a MA in economics from the University of Toronto.