



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

The Challenge of Housing Affordability: Searching for Solutions

Aled ab Iorwerth

3:30-5:00 PM

Thursday, February 15, 2024

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 February 13, 2024 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

No economic issue is more politically salient in Canada today than housing. Housing costs relative to income have risen very significantly over the last decade, fuelled by demand factors, such as low real interest rates and fast population growth, and supply factors, such as municipal zoning regulations and higher labour costs. This has made it very difficult for many people, particularly young people and immigrants to Canada, to achieve the goal of home ownership, something previous generations largely took for granted.

In this presentation, Aled ab Iorwerth, the Deputy Chief Economist of the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will look at the problem of housing affordability in Canada. He will explain why housing seems so unaffordable in Canada right now, and will discuss potential solutions, as well as why it seems so hard for governments at all levels to provide the affordable housing that so many Canadians are seeking.

Aled ab Iorwerth joined CMHC in 2016, bringing his strong analytical and research capabilities to bear on complex housing issues. He previously had a 15-year career at Finance Canada, in various research and analysis roles that included secondments to Environment Canada and the Council of Canadian Academies. Aled holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Western University and Master's degrees in European and International Relations (University of Amsterdam) and Economics (Carleton University). He speaks three languages: English, French and Welsh.