Productivity Growth and Public Policy in OECD Countries: Insight from Recent OECD Research

Dan Andrews
4:00-5:30 PM
Thursday, May 26, 2016
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 May 24, 2016 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

The Achilles heel of Canadian economic performance has been productivity growth, which has been particularly weak in this country since 2000. Economists do not have a definitive explanation for this situation nor agree upon the prescription to boost productivity. A better understanding of both the causes of lagging productivity growth and the effectiveness of various policies to increase it is needed.

The OECD, the think tank for the developed countries, plays a key role in the productivity debate. In this presentation, Dan Andrews from the OECD will give an overview of recent productivity research at the OECD. He will highlight key lessons for Canada from OECD publication *The Future of Productivity*. In addition, he will present new research findings on the implications for productivity of skills mismatch as well as capital misallocation and zombie firms and discuss the relevance of these findings for Canada.

Dan Andrews is a Senior Economist in the Structural Policy Analysis Division of the Economics Department at the OECD. He currently leads the Department's *Productivity Workstream.* His research generally exploits micro-data to assess the impact of structural reforms on aggregate productivity, with a particular focus on resource misallocation, innovation and knowledge-based capital. He has also written extensively on housing markets and the links between income inequality, intergenerational social mobility and growth. Prior to joining the OECD in 2009, Dan worked at the Reserve Bank of Australia for a decade. He undertook graduate studies at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.