



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Do We Need a Macdonald Commission 2.0 on Canada's Economic Future?

John Curtis
3:00-4:30 PM
Thursday, December 10, 2015
Karsh Room, Rideau Club
99 Bank Street, 15th floor
Ottawa, Ontario

The CSLS holiday reception will take place immediately after the seminar.

(please note that the Rideau Club dress code requires men to wear a jacket)

To attend, please RSVP by December 7, 2015 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Royal Commissions play a key role in Canadian governance. In the economic area the Gordon Commission in the 1950s and the Macdonald Commission in the 1980s provided detailed analysis and policy recommendations that set the direction for the Canadian economy. It has been 30 years since the 1985 release of the Macdonald Commission report. Has the time come for a new inquiry on Canada's economic future?

In this seminar John Curtis will make the case for a comprehensive inquiry on Canada's economy along the lines of the Macdonald Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Union and Development Prospects. He will identify the topics that could be the focus of the inquiry, including areas where Canada has performed poorly, such as productivity and innovation, and areas where a better understanding of future developments is needed, such as the impact of growing inequality. He will also outline his vision for the how such an inquiry should be structured, including the role of public consultations.

John Curtis is currently Senior Fellow, C.D. Howe Institute; Senior Fellow, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development; Executive Fellow, School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary; Adjunct Professor, Queen's University; and teaches international economics at the Norman Paterson School, Carleton University. In the public service of Canada for 35 years, Dr. Curtis was the founding Chief Economist of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Dr. Curtis has an undergraduate degree from the University of British Columbia and holds a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.