



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

The National Poverty Reduction Strategy: An Overview

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos
3:00-4:30 PM
Thursday, December 13, 2018
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 10, 2018 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Note: The seminar will be immediately followed by the CSLS Holiday Reception in the Laurier Room. All seminar participants are cordially invited to stay for this event.

There is broad agreement that a high poverty rate is inconsistent with an inclusive society where economic growth benefits all Canadians. Yet Canada has historically suffered from a high poverty rate, at least in terms of relative poverty compared to other OECD countries. Canada has never had an official poverty measure, not has the federal government ever articulated a poverty reduction strategy.

This changed on August 21, 2018 when the Government of Canada adopted an official poverty measure, the market basket measure, and launched its first poverty reduction strategy, with the target of reducing poverty 50 per cent by 2030.

In this seminar the minister responsible for the poverty reduction strategy, the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, will provide an overview of the strategy. He will review the rationale for this policy initiative, the consultation process that led to the creation of the strategy, the poverty targets, and the policies and programs that have been and will be developed and implemented to meet the targets. He will also discuss what he sees as possible challenges to the attainment of the poverty reduction target.

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos is Minister of Families, Children and Social Policy. Until he was elected a Member of Parliament for the riding of Québec in 2015, he was Professor of Economics at Université Laval. He attended the University of Alberta, where he earned an undergraduate degree in economics, followed by graduate studies in economics at the London School of Economics. He formerly headed the economics department at Université Laval, and was, prior to his election to the House of Commons, the president-elect of the Canadian Economics Association. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2014.