



Centre for the
Study of Living Standards
Centre d'étude des
niveaux de vie

Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Toward a Blueprint for Restoring Middle Class Prosperity

Frank Graves

4:00-5:30 PM

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Laurier Room, Rideau Club

99 Bank Street, 15th floor

Ottawa, Ontario

To attend, please RSVP by February 28 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Many indicators show that progress for the middle class in Canada has stalled, with inclusive prosperity eroding and the middle class dream out of reach for many Canadians. Indeed, the Liberals came to power in 2015 on the promise of improving the well-being of those in the middle class and assisting other Canadians in joining the middle class. How dire is this situation and what can be done about it?

In this seminar, Frank Graves will provide a comprehensive diagnosis of the challenges facing the Canadian middle class. Drawing on his recent book (with Graham Lowe) *Redesigning Work: A Blueprint for Canada's Future Well-being and Prosperity* (University of Toronto Press, 2016), he will document the stall in middle class progress, including trends in job insecurity and quality of life, and discuss the factors behind this situation, including the break-down of incentive systems and rising inequality. He will then outline a blueprint for restoring middle class prosperity. Among paths forward, he will examine preferred areas for investment, top infrastructure priorities, and ways to rethink workplaces.

Frank L. Graves is President of EKOS Research Associates, a social research firm he founded in 1980. He has directed hundreds of large scale studies of Canadian attitudes to a vast array of issues, including the economy, immigration, defense and security, health care, the environment, national unity and Canada-U.S. relations. His analysis and advice have been sought by senior decision makers in both the private and public sectors. Mr. Graves has published widely in academic and mainstream publications and is a frequent commentator in Canadian and American media. Mr. Graves graduated from Carleton University with a B.A. in Social Anthropology and an M.A. in Sociology and has completed doctoral coursework in Sociology.