

## Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

## A New Role for Cost-Benefit Analysis in Transportation Infrastructure Investment in Canada

David Lewis and Ian Currie 4:00-5:30 PM Monday, March 14, 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 March 9, 2016 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Economists and political decision-makers of practically all political stripes agree that high quality infrastructure investment improves living standards. Yet Canadian governments at all levels are finding it increasingly difficult to find agreement on the construction of major capital projects.

In this seminar, David Lewis and Ian Currie explore the possibility of employing Cost-Benefit Analysis as part of a deliberative public process designed to find at least a degree of evidentiary consensus among stakeholders in the development of transportation and other infrastructure projects. Lewis and Currie will present a deliberative framework within which the techniques of Cost-Benefit Analysis can enable the public to weigh economic evidence into the formulation of their beliefs about the merits of alternative infrastructure projects and plans.

David Lewis founded the consulting firm HLB Decision Economics specializing in infrastructure policy and investment analysis. HLB was acquired by HDR Inc. in 2005. He holds a B.S. in Economics from the University of Maryland; an M.Sc. in Planning Studies from the London School of Economics; and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of London.

Ian Currie is an independent researcher who has worked on a wide range of topics, including trade agreements, science and technology strategies, competition policy, support for business R&D, and the digital economy. He holds an Honours BA (History) from the University of Toronto and a MA (Public Administration) from Carleton University.