

CSLS-ICP Conference on the Implications of Happiness Research for Public Policy in Canada, December 1, 2010, Adam Room, Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa

In recent years, there has been a burgeoning of the happiness literature, both on the determinants of happiness and of the implications for public policy of these findings. The objective of this conference is to take stock of this new research from the point of view of public policy in Canada. Key findings from this new research are that mental health, physical health, sense of belonging, unemployment, and stress are major influences on happiness. The conference will explore the role public policy can in improving the situation in these areas.

9:00-9:10 AM	Opening Remarks, Ian Stewart, Chair, Centre for the Study of Living Standards and Jim Milway, Executive Director, Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity
9:10-10:00	Opening Presentation John Helliwell (University of British Columbia and Canadian Institute for Advanced Research) and co-author of <i>Well-being for Public Policy</i> “Measuring, Understanding and Using Subjective Well-being”
10:00-11:00	Session 1 The Determinants of Happiness Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) “Does Money Matter? Determining the Happiness of Canadians” Eric Noel (Oxford Analytica) “The Determinants of Subjective Well-being at the International Level”
11:00-11:15	Break
11:15-12:15	Session 2 Public Policy and Happiness David Gyarmati (Social Research Demonstration Corporation) “Utilizing Measures of Life Satisfaction in Policy Research” Aileen Simkins (UK Office of National Statistics) “Happiness and Public Policy in the United Kingdom”
12:15-1:30	Lunch Roger Martin (Rotman School, University of Toronto) “Happiness in Organizations”
1:30-2:30	Session 3 Specific Public Policies to Promote Happiness “Policies to Improve the Mental Health of Canadians” Patrick Dion (Mental Health Commission of Canada)

“Should We Have a National Strategy to Bolster the State of Matrimony?”
Sue Johnson (University of Ottawa)

2:30-2:45

Break

2:45-3:45

Session 4 Is Rising Income Needed for Sustaining and Increasing
Happiness?

Dan Sacks (University of Pennsylvania)

Jason Rentfrow (University of Cambridge)

3:45-4:55

Session 5 Panel on Happiness as an Objective of Public Policy

Alan Nymark (former Deputy Minister)

Don Drummond (former Associate Minister of Finance)

Mel Cappe (Institute for Research in Public Policy and former Clerk of the
PCO)

4:55-5:00

Closing Remarks