



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

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

### **Policies to Encourage University-Business Collaboration in Canada: Lessons from International Experience**

Ian Currie

4:00-5:30 PM  
Thursday, October 7, 2010  
Borden Room, Rideau Club  
99 Bank Street, 15th floor  
Ottawa, Ontario

To attend, please RSVP by October 5 to [andrew.sharpe@csls.ca](mailto:andrew.sharpe@csls.ca).

A key characteristic of the Canadian economy, documented in many studies, is the weakness of innovation in the business sector, as evidenced for example, by low business sector R&D intensity (BERD). In contrast, Canada's higher education sector has one of the highest R&D intensities (HERD) among OECD countries. This suggests that increased collaboration between universities and businesses may spur the business sector innovation effort.

In this presentation, which is based on a forthcoming CSLS research report, Ian Currie first examines the state of university-business (U-B) collaboration in this country, finding that while Canada is not performing that badly in this area, improvement is still possible. He then surveys current public policies to encourage this collaboration in Canada as well as policies in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Based on this international experience, he puts forward a set of actions to increase U-B collaboration in Canada.

Ian Currie is an Ottawa-based economic consultant and a senior research associate at the Centre for the Study of Living Standards. He received an Honours BA in history from the University of Toronto in 1980 and a MA in Public Administration from Carleton University in 1983. He earned a certificate in international studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1997. Mr. Currie was formerly a senior policy analyst with Finance Canada and Industry Canada. Between 1986 and 1988, he was a member of the Canadian negotiating team for the Canada-US free trade agreement. Since leaving the public service in 2000, Mr. Currie has provided policy research services to a large number of federal government organizations.