



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Reconstructing Social Assistance in New Brunswick: Lessons for Canada

Ken Battle

3:00-4:30 PM

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

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 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

The seminar will be followed by the annual CSLS Christmas reception in the Laurier Room. Seminar participants are invited to stay for this event.

Reforming social assistance has always been one of the greatest challenges for social policy in this country. In 2009, the Government of New Brunswick commissioned the Caledon Institute of Social Policy to help reform the province's social assistance system as part of its comprehensive poverty reduction strategy. In this seminar Ken Battle will discuss the work that he and his colleagues have done for New Brunswick on this file and lessons for other provinces. He will argue that the current welfare system is broken and throwing more resources at it is not enough. He will put forward a vision of a social assistance system that rewards works and helps the working poor while at the same time providing better income support for those who are in need. He will also place his proposals in the broader context of the Caledon Institute's "new architecture of adult benefits".

Ken Battle is President of the Caledon Institute for Social Policy, a think tank he founded in 1992. Educated at Oxford University and Queen's University, he has played a key role both inside and outside government in the reform of social policy, including the development of the new National Child Benefit. He has published widely on social policy, including income security programs, taxation, medicare, social services, poverty and income inequality, social spending and the politics of social policy. In 2000, he was awarded the Order of Canada.