

Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Can Increasing Income Inequality Be a Steady State?

Lars Osberg 4:00-5:30 PM Monday, September 15, 2014 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 September 10, 2014 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

When top end incomes grow rapidly, while middle class incomes stagnate, increasing inequality is the unavoidable result. In recent years the increased income share of the top 1 per cent has therefore emerged as a key public policy issue. In this seminar, Lars Osberg will discuss explanations for this trend and the implications for imbalances in income growth. In particular, he will address the issue of whether there is a self-equilibrating market mechanism that will spontaneously equalize income growth across income groups and stabilize inequality or rather whether it is more likely that unbalanced income growth will continue.

Lars Osberg holds the McCullough Chair in Economics at Dalhousie University where he has taught since 1977. He has published extensively on labour market, income distribution, and wellbeing issues. He is a graduate of Queen's University and received his PhD from Yale University. He is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Centre for the Study of Living Standards.

In May 2014, at the annual meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, the Progressive Economics Forum awarded Professor Osberg the John Kenneth Galbraith Prize, in recognition of his excellence in combining rigorous economic analysis with a commitment to social justice. The seminar presentation will draw upon the lecture Professor Osberg gave at the award ceremony.