

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

## "Aboriginal Education: Strengthening the Foundations"

John Richards

4:00-5:30 PM Thursday, November 19, 2009

Karsh Room Rideau Club 99 Bank Street, 15th floor Ottawa, Ontario

If you wish to attend, please RSVP by November 13 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

The educational attainment of Aboriginal Canadians, and particularly Aboriginals living on reserves, is well below that on non-Aboriginal Canadians. From both an equity and efficiency perspective, this situation is unacceptable. Improving Aboriginal educational attainment must be a key objective for public policy in this country. John Richards has conducted a number of studies on the Aboriginal education issue in recent years. In this seminar he will review the main findings from his research and identify what he sees as the most promising paths to success in this challenging area.

John Richards is Professor in the Graduate Public Policy Program at Simon Fraser University. Born in the United Kingdom, he grew up in Saskatchewan, and served as an elected member of the Saskatchewan government in the 1970s. Trained as an economist, he has written extensively on social policy in Canada, primarily via the C.D. Howe Institute where he holds the Roger Phillips chair in social policy. His recent publications include monographs on poverty and Aboriginal education policy. He co-edits *Inroads*, a Canadian public policy journal. In addition, he has undertaken teaching and research in Bangladesh over the last two decades. He heads the Centre for Policy Research, which is linked to the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology in Dhaka.