



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

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

### **“The Good Life Time (GLT) Index: A New Framework for Measuring Social Progress”**

Michael Wolfson

3:00-4:30 PM  
Monday, December 14, 2009  
Laurier Room, Rideau Club  
99 Bank Street, 15th floor  
Ottawa, Ontario

If you wish to attend, please RSVP by December 9 to [andrew.sharpe@csls.ca](mailto:andrew.sharpe@csls.ca).

The seminar will be followed by a reception (4:30-6:30 PM). Seminar participants are invited to stay for this event

With the release in September 2009 of the Stiglitz report commissioned by French President Nicolas Sarkozy, the public debate on the appropriate measurement of economic performance and social progress has intensified.

The objective of this seminar is to propose a new framework and summary index for measuring social progress for Canada – Good Life Time (GLT), analogous to and complementing the System of National Accounts (and rhyming with GDP). This index, based on explicit micro-data foundations and building on literatures on time-based and demographic accounting, defines good life time as having all three of adequate income and leisure and good health. The conceptual framework for GLT will be presented, as will various estimates of the proportions of Canadians who enjoy GLT.

Michael Wolfson recently retired from Statistics Canada where he served as Assistant Chief Statistician, Analysis and Development. In this role, he was responsible for analytical activities generally at Statistics Canada, for the health statistics program, and for specific analytical and modeling programs. Prior to joining Statistics Canada, he held a variety of positions in central agencies with responsibilities in the areas of program review and evaluation, tax policy and pension policy. His research interests include analysis of the determinants of health, design of health information systems, income distribution, tax/transfer and pension policy analysis, and microsimulation approaches to socio-economic accounting and to evolutionary economic theory. Dr. Wolfson received his B.Sc in computer science and economics from the University of Toronto, and his Ph.D in economics from Cambridge University in 1977.