

the art of the state



Inequality in Canada

Driving Forces, Outcomes and Policy

February 24-25, 2014
Delta Ottawa City Centre

Program

Program

Monday, February 24, 2014

Ballroom A

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Opening remarks
Graham Fox (Institute for Research on Public Policy)
Craig Riddell (Canadian Labour Market and Skills Researcher Network)
- 8:45 – 10:15 a.m. **SESSION 1: TRENDS IN INCOME INEQUALITY**
Chair: **Craig Riddell** (University of British Columbia)
- “Overview of Canadian Trends Relative to Other OECD Countries”
Andrew Heisz (Statistics Canada)
- “Changes in Wage Inequality in Canada: An Interprovincial Perspective”
Nicole Fortin and **Thomas Lemieux** (University of British Columbia)
- Discussants: **Glen Hodgson** (Conference Board of Canada) and **Joseph Marchand** (University of Alberta)
- 10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Coffee break
- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. **SESSION 2: TOP INCOMES AND INEQUALITY**
Chair: **Gordon Thiessen** (former governor of the Bank of Canada)
- Presenters: **Thomas Lemieux** and **Craig Riddell** (University of British Columbia)
- Discussants: **Mike Veall** (McMaster University) and **Armine Yalnizyan** (Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives)
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **SESSION 3: THE ROLE OF SKILLS AND EDUCATION**
Chair: **Richard Van Loon** (Carleton University)
- Presenters: **Kelly Foley** (University of Saskatchewan) and **David Green** (University of British Columbia)
- Discussants: **René Morissette** (Statistics Canada) and **Chris Robinson** (University of Western Ontario)

Pinnacle Room (26th floor)

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch

Ballroom A

- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **SESSION 4: THE ROLE OF UNIONS**
Chair: **Anil Verma** (University of Toronto)
- “Can Reforming Labour Relations Reduce Wage Inequality? Evidence from the Canadian Provinces”
Tammy Schirle (Wilfrid Laurier University)
- Discussants: **Andrew Jackson** (Broadbent Institute) and **Chris Riddell** (Cornell University)
- 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. **SESSION 5: THE ROLE OF IMMIGRATION**
Chair: **Naomi Alboim** (Queen’s University)
- “Immigration, Poverty and Inequality: What’s New in the 2000s?”
Feng Hou (Statistics Canada)
- “Technological Change and Declining Immigrant Outcomes”
Christopher Worswick (Carleton University)
- Discussants: **Charles Beach** (Queen’s University) and **David Manicom** (Citizenship and Immigration Canada)
- 4:00 – 4:15 p.m. Coffee break
- 4:15 – 5:15 p.m. **SESSION 6: POVERTY DYNAMICS AMONG VULNERABLE GROUPS**
Chair: **John Stapleton** (Metcalf Foundation)
- Presenter: **Tony Fang** (Monash University, Melbourne, Australia)
- Discussants: **Krishna Pendakur** (Simon Fraser University) and **Sherri Torjman** (Caledon Institute of Social Policy)

Pinnacle Room (26th floor)

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Reception and dinner



Program

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Ballroom A

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. **SESSION 7: THE ROLE OF TAXES AND TRANSFERS**
Chair: **Frank Vermaeten** (Employment and Social Development Canada)
- “The Role of Taxes and Transfers in Reducing Income Inequality”
Andrew Heisz (Statistics Canada)
- “The Progressivity of Federal Tax Preferences”
Mike Veall (McMaster University)
- “Provincial Taxation of High Incomes: What Are the Impacts on Equity and Tax Revenue?”
Kevin Milligan (University of British Columbia)
- Discussants: **Jonathan Rhys Kesselman** (Simon Fraser University) and **John Lester** (University of Calgary)
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Coffee break
- 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **SESSION 8: THE FUTURE OF INCOME SECURITY IN CANADA**
Chair: **Annette Ryan** (Employment and Social Development Canada)
- “The Unemployment Insurance We Want”
Miles Corak (University of Ottawa and Russell Sage Foundation)
- “Guaranteed Minimum Income versus Wage Subsidies”
Guy Lacroix (Université Laval)
- Discussants: **Pierre Fortin** (Université du Québec à Montréal) and **Stephen Jones** (McMaster University)

Panorama Room (26th floor)

- 12:15 – 2:15 p.m. Lunch
Keynote address: “Will the Workplace of the Future Have Any Workers?”
David Autor (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Ballroom A

- 2:15 – 4:00 p.m. **SESSION 9: DRIVING FORCES, OUTCOMES AND POLICY**
Chair: **Bruce Wallace** (*Policy Options*, Institute for Research on Public Policy)
- “The Fading of Redistributive Politics in Canada”
John Myles (University of Toronto)
- Commentator: **David Green** (University of British Columbia)
- Closing panel
Craig Alexander (TD Bank Group),
Margaret Biggs (Queen’s University) and
Miles Corak (University of Ottawa and Russell Sage Foundation)

IRPP and CLSRN thank



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