



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

The Indigenous Education Programs of the Martin Family Initiative

The Right Honourable Paul Martin
4:00-5:30 PM
Thursday, November 1, 2018
MacDonald 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 October 29, 2018 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

One of the most important challenges facing Canada is reducing the large socio-economic gap between the Indigenous and non- Indigenous population. Lower levels of education attainment in Indigenous communities has been widely identified as an important cause of the gap. Improving education opportunities and outcomes for Indigenous peoples is seen as an effective way to deal with it.

In this seminar the Right Honourable Paul Martin will discuss what his foundation, the Martin Family Initiative (MFI), is doing in conjunction with Indigenous educators and communities to improve Indigenous educational opportunities and outcomes in this country. He will first discuss what he sees as the systemic educational and financial barriers facing Indigenous Canadians and then go on to identify policy and programs that can overcome these barriers. He will provide an overview of the programs that the MFI has developed in the Indigenous education area, including the Model Schools Literacy Project, the Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Program and the Early Years Intervention Program, and comment on both the successes of the programs and other challenges.

The Right Honourable Paul Martin served as Prime Minister of Canada from December 2003 to February 2006 and as Minister of Finance from 1993 to 2002. Born in Windsor, Ontario he is a graduate of St. Michael's College and the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto. Prior to entering politics in 1988, he served as President of Canada Steamship Lines. He is the author of *Hell or High Water: My Life In And Out of Politics*, published in 2008. Since leaving politics he has chaired the Congo Basin Forest Fund, which addresses poverty issues in a ten-nation region in Africa, and served as advisor to the International Monetary Fund and to the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa. He is Founder of the Martin Family Initiative (www.themfi.ca), whose mission is to improve early years, elementary and secondary school education outcomes for First Nations, Métis Nation, and Inuit students in Canada.