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**Lunch Time Presentation**  
of Social Work Research



School of Social Work

## *Cruise Bruises: Is Cruise Tourism a Social Work Concern?*

*by Dr. Ross Klein*

Cruise tourism is the fastest growing segment of the leisure travel industry – the number of cruise passengers worldwide will exceed 20 million in 2011. A cruise ship is obviously an attractive vacation choice for many people, one that is increasingly and more widely accessible as cruises are sold for as little as \$75 a day. But there are sides to the cruise industry that starkly contrast with the opulence and “fun” images in advertisements and brochures.

This presentation looks at issues in cruise tourism that might be of concern to social workers: exploitative treatment of onboard labour, harmful environmental impacts from a range of waste streams, sexual assault of passengers and crew – one is 50% more likely to be sexually assaulted on a cruise ship; an estimated 25% of victims are minors, and the nature of port-cruise industry relations. After exploring each area, the question of whether these are social work concerns will be considered, both from a practice perspective, and in terms of the Code of Ethics.

*Ross A. Klein, a professor in the School of Social Work at Memorial University of Newfoundland, is an international authority on the cruise industry and cruise tourism. He has written four books, six reports for nongovernmental organizations, and 20 articles and book chapters; serves as an expert witness in a range of cases against cruise lines; and has given lectures and workshops worldwide. Ross is online at: [www.cruisejunkie.com](http://www.cruisejunkie.com)*

*This session will be of interest to social workers and social scientists, those interested in sustainability and environmental issues, those interested in labor practices and anyone who has taken or is contemplating taking a cruise.*

**Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**12 noon to 1:00 pm**

**The Chapel, St. John's College, Prince Philip Drive**  
**(Enter through the School of Social Work)**

**RSVP by September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
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