

Growing The Middle Classes in Our Atlantic Provinces

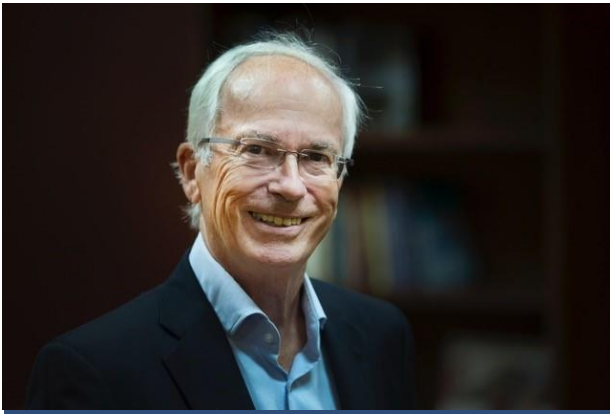
Department of Economics
speaker: Dr. Doug May

March 29, 2019 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Arts & Admin Bldg. Rm AA1043

This event is open to the public.
economics@mun.ca 864-8248

Dr. May's talk will be primarily descriptive and will be based on administrative population family data from income tax files obtained by Statistics Canada. We examine the period 2000-2016 (which is the latest year for which data are available). The research questions are: Have the middle classes in the various Atlantic Provinces grown over this period? What are the most recent trends? Do we believe these trends will continue? Are the after-tax and transfers, family-income profiles similar in the various provinces? Have real (inflation-adjusted) equivalized individual incomes increased? (Are people better-off economically?) How does the growth in incomes of the top 10% compare to the bottom 10% across provinces? How have the differentials in the inflation-adjusted earned incomes of men and women changed over time? What other questions should we be asking? We believe that, economic facts, rather than political rhetoric, is the best means of shedding some light on what is really happening in Atlantic Canada.

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Dr. Doug May is a long-time member of the Department of Economics and the Faculty of Business Administration at Memorial. His current teaching interests are in the areas of labour market economics and managerial economics for businesses. His current research interests are somewhat diverse, but tend to centre on income inequalities, poverty, wage differentials, labour mobility social and economic well-being, and firm and industry productivity measurement. His applied research focus has often been on Newfoundland and Labrador, but it is now returning to an Atlantic Canada and Canadian perspective. Dr. May led the conceptual development of the Province's "Community Accounts". An important aspect of his applied research interests is trying to engage the general public through the media, videos and Twitter. He is one of three CARE principal investigators. Until recently, Dr. May, a member of Statistics Canada's National Statistics Council (now disbanded), remains a member of Statistics Canada's Macroeconomics Accounts Advisory Committee.

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