

The Department of Economics Visiting Speaker, Robin Boadway



“Implementing a Basic Income Guarantee in Canada: Prospects and Problems”

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

Innovation Hall,

Bruneau Centre Room 2001

Robin Boadway is the David Chadwick Smith Professor Emeritus in the Department of Economics at Queen’s University. He is a Past-President of the Canadian Economics Association and of the International Institute of Public Finance, and is former Editor of the Journal of Public Economics and the Canadian Journal of Economics. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

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We outline the case for a basic income guarantee in Canada and characterize the alternative forms it could take. We propose a basic income guarantee design for Canada that allows both federal and provincial governments some discretion, is sufficient to move all persons out of poverty, is implemented through the tax system, and is affordable. We illustrate the feasibility of our basic income guarantee program using simulations based on Statistics Canada's SPSD model.