



The Group of 78
Le Groupe des 78

Group of 78 Luncheon Speaker Series

André Laliberté

Professor, Political Science, University of Ottawa

Challenges to the New Leadership in China

DATE: Tuesday March 26, 2013

TIME: 12:00 noon *

***Please note that lunch will start at noon sharp**

PLACE: Palais Imperial Restaurant, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa

COST: \$30 for luncheon and presentation

\$5 for presentation only

(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45 p.m. Coffee and tea will be available.)

RESERVATIONS: group78@web.net or 613-230-0860 by Friday March 22, 2013.

We regret that late registrations cannot be accepted.

The group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come.

Therefore, individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed \$30.

The rise of China has been a major factor in 21st century global affairs. But what do we know about its internal dynamics? How is political power managed? Prof. André Laliberté, while describing the new Chinese leadership, will address two major themes: policy challenges for the country's leaders, and how these challenges could lead to political change. In the first, he will address major issues facing China, including economic growth and social unrest, growth of social inequities leading to discontent, population policy and social instability, and problems of governance. Prof. Laliberté will outline significant factors impinging on these issues: impediments to political reform, risk to the CPP of losing its agenda, vested interests and the collusion between party and business, the absence of strong political and civil opposition, questions of social division, and lessons from the collapse of the USSR. He will conclude by identifying possible strategies for the leadership to address the challenges, including focus on stability, promoting of popular nationalism, incremental reform and institutional innovation. The presentation will provide valuable insight into the complexities of power in the world's largest country.

Prof. André Laliberté teaches comparative politics at the University of Ottawa. His research looks at relations between state and religion, from the angle of social policy, the role of civil society in democratization, and the definition of national identity. He received his PhD at UBC and goes to China and Taiwan on a yearly basis for his research. He constitutes with Canadian, Taiwanese, and Chinese colleagues a research team looking at the issue of legal pluralism in the Chinese world, and has joined two other teams looking at care workers migrations and the management of religious diversity. In these teams, he brings his research on the impact of religious organizations and values on the delivery of social services and the reform of welfare regimes, as well as on public debates about the issues of social justice.