Nice words but bad policy: Why the new Trudeau/Dion doctrine on Israel/Palestine is all wrong?

Peter Larson

Tuesday, 21 June 2016
12 noon (please arrive by 11:45)
Palais Imperial Restaurant, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa
$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: Please register by email or phone no later than Friday, 18 June. Group78@group78.org (613) 565-9449

The Group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come and will ask no-shows to cover the cost.

Mr. Trudeau has told the world that “Canada is back”. Nowhere is that more true than when it comes to our policy with respect to the Israel/Palestine conflict - we are back pretty well where the Harper government was. We have declared that we are a friend of Israel (no mention of being a friend of the Palestinians), claim to have faith in a moribund peace process and are opposed to the Palestinians using multilateral institutions (like the UN) to resolve their policy differences with Israel. Peter Larson will explain why Canada needs to have a serious rethink of its Israel/Palestine policy.

Peter Larson is the Chair of Canada Talks Israel Palestine, (CTIP) a Canadian human rights organization focussing on the Middle East. His professional career included periods at the Public Policy Forum, the Conference Board of Canada, Le Droit, and as a consultant to labour unions and federal government departments and agencies. For the last 10 years, he has taken a particular interest in human rights issues in the Middle East, visiting Israel, Iran, Jordan, Egypt and the occupied Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza. He has also led many trips to Israel/Palestine for Canadians interested in gaining a deeper understanding of the complex Israel/Palestine issue.

Peter was the founding Chair of the Middle East Study Group of the Canadian International Council (National Capital Region), and was also a board member of the National Council on Canada Arab Relations, and the first chair of its National Education Committee on Israel/Palestine. In 2012, he was awarded The Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Governor General of Canada in recognition of his educational work on Canada Arab relations.

Peter graduated in Economics from the University of Western Ontario in 1968. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy from Université de Grenoble, France. In addition to English, he speaks fluent French and passable Italian and Spanish.