

Patrons Honourable Sheila Copps **Ambassador Robert Wright**

Invitation to a Discussion

Engaging China: Myth, Aspiration, and Strategy in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper



Right Honourable Joe Clark

President Joe Clark & Associates

Prime Minister of Canada

Secretary of State for External Affairs 1984-1991



Professor Paul Evans

Institute of Asian Research

Liu Institute for Global Issues

University of British Columbia



Rob Wright

Senior Fellow at the China Institute, University of Alberta

Canadian Ambassador to China 2005-2009

Canadian Ambassador to Japan 2001-2005

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Geneva Hall, Knox Church, 120 Lisgar Street, Ottawa (corner of Elgin) Please use entrance off of Elgin via the pathway beside the main door

Refreshments and conversation following the presentations

Everyone is welcome.*

On the occasion of the publication of Professor Evans book titled *Engaging China: Myth, Aspiration and Strategy in Canadian Policy from Trudeau to Harper* the Canada-China Friendship Society of Ottawa is pleased to host a discussion on Canada's policy of engaging China.

For more than four decades, engagement has been the bedrock of Canada's policy toward China, as Ottawa has attempted to assist China's entry into the international system and advance a commercial agenda. More than just high policy, engagement has also been a recurrent narrative that sees changing China as a moral enterprise as important as trade and diplomacy.

As global China's economic and diplomatic reach has expanded, policy makers in Ottawa have not fashioned an effective response. They are failing to produce a compelling strategy that addresses the power shift underway and growing public anxiety about China at home.

Professor Evans' book Engaging China is a concise account of the evolution and state of the Canadian approach to China, its achievements, disappointments, and current dilemmas. His assessment of the evolution of Canada's China policy speaks to the intellectual history of the idea of "engagement," and assesses its internal contradictions and possibilities. He provides the elements of a comprehensive and strategic approach to China's central role in the most important power shift in the global order since World War II.

Rob Wright was Canada's Ambassador to China from 2005 to 2009. He brings to the discussion the practical experience of one of Canada's respected senior diplomats.

The Right Honourable Joe Clark is a statesman, politician, and author. Having served as Canada's Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs (1984 to 1991) he brings his sense of statesmanship to the question of engagement.

Copies of Professor Evans' new book of the same title as his talk will be available for sale.

* No pre-registration. Entry is free for CCFS members and \$10 for non-CCFS members. Memberships are available at the door. Annual membership is \$20 for individuals, \$30 for a family, \$12 for students and \$17 for a student family. Membership forms are available at www.ccfso.org. For further information about the Society or this event, please consult our web site or www.facebook.com/ccfs.ottawa, send an email to ccfs.ottawa@gmail.com or phone 613-789-3318.