



Canada-China Friendship Society®
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Invitation to a presentation

***Beneath the Miracle: Inequality and Economic Development
in China***

by Dr. Joseph Wong, University of Toronto

**NOTE THE
FRIDAY DATE**

Friday, January 14, 2011

Library and Archives Canada, Room A
395 Wellington Street, Ottawa

at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments following the presentation.

All are welcome.

Since the late 1970s, China has experienced astronomical – some say unprecedented – rates of economic growth and development. Millions have been lifted out of poverty, and prosperity has spread throughout many parts of China. Deng Xiaoping warned, however, that in China's economic development, some would "get rich more quickly," meaning that beneath the anticipated economic miracle there would be some unevenness in the distribution of the fruits of China's modernization, but that over time such inequality would even out. Few thought that levels of inequality in China would reach the dire levels that they are today. Even fewer today believe that without major change, such levels of inequality can be reversed. The talk will center on what has happened "beneath the miracle" of China's economic growth, examining the causes and consequences of massive socio-economic inequality in China. Furthermore, the talk will invite a discussion about the broader implications of prevailing inequality on the future prospects of China's economic development and on the global economy more generally.

Joseph Wong is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto, where he holds a Canada Research Chair in democratization, health and development. Wong is also the Director of the Asian Institute at the University's Munk School of Global Affairs. In addition to having published dozens of academic articles and chapters on Asian politics and economy, Wong is the author of *Betting on Biotechnology: Innovation Beyond the Developmental State* (forthcoming 2011), and *Political Transitions in Dominant Party Systems: Learning to Lose* (2008). Professor Wong was recently elected Senior Member of St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, and he has been a visiting fellow at Harvard, Seoul National University and the Taiwan Institute for National Policy Research. He has collaborated on several research projects with the United Nations, the World Bank, as well as governments in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Wong received his Hons. B.A. from McGill in 1995 and his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001.

There is a charge of \$5 for non-CCFS members. The CCFS-Ottawa annual membership is \$20 for individuals, \$30 for a family, \$12 for a student and \$17 for a student family. For further information, please call 613-729-3660 or go to www.fccfa.ca/Ottawa. Membership forms are available at this website.