Invitation to

Canada-China Economic Relations: Beyond Petroleum

Speaker: Daniel Poon, North South Institute
Discussant: David Rothwell, David Rothwell and Associates

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

NOTE NEW LOCATION: Colonel By Room, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West

Refreshments following the presentation and Q&A Everyone is welcome.*

Building on the results of his work as a 2008 recipient of the Gordon Global Fellowship, Daniel Poon will extend his analysis of China's industrial policy tools, which demonstrated the Chinese state's ability to adopt foreign ideas, know-how, and technologies, largely on its own terms. When China's industrial policy is combined with: low cost labour, a focus on higher education, major investments in research and development, a commitment to relentless competition, and the ability to take a long view the result has been a plodding but persistent movement up the value chain.

Canadian policy-makers would do well to actively and directly engage China as this progression unfolds, as it provides an opportunity for Canada to move beyond being a supplier of raw materials and energy to China. With Chinese technological capabilities still evolving, ample opportunities exist for strategic partnerships that leverage China's ambitions to rise to the apex of global supply chains and increase direct linkages with the dynamic shifts taking place in the mainland economy.

To seize this opportunity, a strong and committed Canadian presence in China's transformative process can be targeted to help alleviate structural weaknesses facing both economies, whilst also bolstering our national negotiating leverage.

David Rothwell brings the unique perspective of senior management in both government economic development and the high technology industry to the question of how Canada can leverage China's ambition to move to the apex of global supply chains to support the movement of our own economy up the value chain and away from the export of raw materials and energy.

*Free for CCFS members. 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.

Daniel Poon is currently a researcher for the North South Institute. During his academic and consulting career he has worked and studied in China. His publications include "Canada-China Economic Relations: Beyond Petroleum"; "China's Evolving Industrial Policy Strategies & Instruments: Lessons for Development", "Another East Asian 'Miracle' in the making: the Yin-Yang of Chinese Industrial Policy".

David Rothwell has served in senior management positions in private business (March Networks; TRW; DIDAK), in government (Deputy Minister, Province of Saskatchewan; Director, Government of Canada) and crown corporations (CEO, Ontario Centre for Microelectronics; Director, Canadian Microelectronics Corporation). He has been on numerous corporate and government Boards of Director. In these positions he has negotiated twinning agreements between Saskatchewan and the province of Jilin, and joint ventures between Canadian and Chinese high tech firms, as well as negotiating and managing contracts with number of Chinese suppliers of electronic sub-assemblies and component parts addressing everything from price to quality to reliability of supply to intellectual property.