The Changing World of Policy Making

September 19, 2003 – Technological change, the increasing diversity of Canada's communities and society, enormous changes in our families, economic roles and even our values, combined with global integration, have made the development of policy more challenging than ever before.

In a presentation she made to the Queen's University School of Policy Studies 2003 Forum last April, CPRN's President, Judith Maxwell demonstrates how much more complex policy making is than it used to be. There are more players involved, more information to marshal. There are more paradigms to help organize it and more disciplines required to make sense of it. To add to the challenge, the speed of social change is such that reaction times have shortened.

In ***Policy Skills and Social Policy***, Maxwell reviews in detail shifts in Canadian values and goals, the evolution of the economy and the corresponding changing needs of Canadians. She shows how the complexity of issues requires much more "horizontal" policy making, across departments, disciplines and jurisdictions. And she elaborates on what these changes mean for the skill mix needed for policy making.

You can access or download a Powerpoint version of her presentation by clicking here.

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