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Invitation to a Presentation

Xi Jinping as Helmsman: Course Changes for China



Howard Balloch

**Corporate Director and Private Investor
Vice-Chairman, Canada-China Business Council**

7:30 pm, Thursday, January 22nd, 2014

Sandy Hill Community Centre

250 Somerset Street East, Ottawa

(Free parking on site, handicapped access, OC Transpo #16)

Refreshments and conversation following the presentation

Everyone is welcome.*

Not since Mao Zedong has a Chinese leader amassed as much personal power as Xi Jinping, and not since Deng Xiaoping has a leader moved as definitively to shift China's course in ways that will, over time, fundamentally transform the world's new centre of gravity. In the first two years of his mandate, Xi Jinping has begun to make course corrections that have the potential to lead to the emergence of a China quite different from the country we know today. Having been an observer of China since his Master's thesis in the early 1970s, Canada's longest serving Ambassador, and a Beijing-based businessman since 2001, Howard Balloch has a unique perspective on the evolution of modern China. He will discuss both the structural changes now underway and explain his optimism about a sustained and robust economic growth.

Mr. Balloch served as Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and Mongolia from early 1996 through 2001, and in his last two years to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

After twenty five years as a public servant, Mr. Balloch founded The Balloch Group in 2001 and grew it into China's leading boutique investment bank, acquired by Canaccord in January 2011. After serving two years as Canaccord Asia's Chairman, he left the investment banking industry in early 2013 to focus on private equity investing in pre-IPO entrepreneurial Chinese firms. Mr. Balloch serves on the boards of Methanex, Sinopec Canada, Ivanhoe Energy and Maple Leaf Educational Systems.

Prior to almost nineteen years spent in China, Mr. Balloch served for two years in the Privy Council Office as Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet for National Unity, and three years as Assistant Deputy Minister, Asia-Pacific, at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Balloch received his BA and MA from McGill University, and continued his graduate studies at University of Toronto and at the Fondation Nationale de Sciences Politiques in Paris.

**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.ccfsso.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.*