

Media advisory

Get Science Right on September 29

Halifax, September 15, 2015 - With a federal election just around the corner, a growing number of Canadians are calling for major changes in the government's approach to science and scientists. From cutbacks in research funding to the muzzling of government scientists, from library closures to the erosion of environmental protections, many argue that evidence-based decision-making, and even science itself, is under attack.

To explore these issues, the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA), the Association of Nova Scotia University Teachers (ANSUT) and the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) have organized a public town hall meeting about how to "Get Science Right". The event will take place on **Tuesday, September 29 at 7 p.m. at the Halifax Central Library** on Spring Garden Road. This event is part of a <u>national CAUT campaign</u> aimed at generating awareness of the threat to science in Canada, and similar events are taking place in other Canadian cities.

Get Science Right will kick off with a panel discussion, moderated by University of King's College science historian Ian Stewart, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion. The panelists are:

- Katie Gibbs, Executive Director, Evidence for Democracy. Lead organizer of the "Death of Evidence" march
- Thomas Duck, Dalhousie University atmospheric scientist. Featured in CBC Fifth Estate's "Silence of the Labs"
- Britt Hall, University of Regina biologist and Experimental Lakes Area (ELA) advocate
- Peter Wells, retired Environment Canada marine scientist and adjunct professor, Dalhousie University

This event is open to the public; admission is free.

The panelists will be available for media interviews on or before September 29. To arrange interviews, contact Donna Balkan at communications@dfa.ns.ca or 902-266-5429.

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