

WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

The Future of Canada's Left: What is the best case scenario?

Ian Capstick

Founder, MediaStyle

January 19th, 2018

9:00am – 4:30pm

Summary

Ian Capstick approaches his workshop from an NDP perspective. As a long-time advisor and commentator for the party, he has a clear understanding of the ways in which this left-wing political party can contribute to and better Canadian democracy in the 21st century. But does Canada's left have a future in this every changing political landscape?

In an era when young people are increasingly out of touch with electoral politics, Capstick will explore the challenges that lie ahead for a party that focuses so heavily on youth voters. He will explore the challenges faced by the NDP today and the stresses it faces moving forward.

Applying design-thinking techniques, he will teach students how to reimagine the way we think about and visualize a problem. He will then work with workshop participants to apply this approach to evaluate the current status of the NDP in Canada and devise strategies, with the group, on how to better handle the challenges that lie ahead for Canada's Left in the future.

Outline

- Design-Thinking and Social Innovation: The ins and outs
 - o What is it?
 - o Where is it applied?
 - o How is it useful?
 - o Exercise
- Setting the Stage
 - o What is the political landscape today?
 - o Where is the NDP and what are some of the challenges it faces?
- Devising a Strategy
 - o Design-thinking about Canada's Left
 - o Developing a new approach

Workshops on Social Science Research (WSSR)
1455 de Maisonneuve W. – H1225.30
Montreal, Qc H3G 1M8
Telephone: 514-848-2424 x7854, x5473



WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Required Readings*

- Broadbent, Ed, Michal Hay and Emilie Nicolas (2016) "Canada's Left is having a moment" in *The Star*.
<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2016/04/21/canadas-left-is-having-a-moment.html>
- McGrane, David (2016) "Ideological Moderation and Professionalization: The NDP under Jack Layton and Tom Mulcair" in *Canadian Parties in Transition*, Alain Gagnon and Brian A. Tanguay (eds.) Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp. 168-184. <http://reserves.concordia.ca/ares/ares.dll/plink?14EEF8DD>
- McGrane, David (2011) "Political Marketing and the NDP's Historic Breakthrough" in *The Canadian Federal Election of 2011*, Jon Pammett and Christopher Dornan (eds.). Toronto: Dundurn Publishing, pp. 77-110.
<http://reserves.concordia.ca/ares/ares.dll/plink?14EEF904>
- Wingrove, Josh (2017) "Jagmeet Singh picks up Justin Trudeau's playbook in next battle for hearts of Canada's left" in the *National Post*. <http://nationalpost.com/news/politics/jagmeet-singh-picks-up-justin-trudeaus-playbook-in-next-battle-for-hearts-of-canadas-left>

Recommended Readings

- McGrane, David (2015) "From Third to First and Back to Third: The 2015 NDP Campaign" in *The Canadian Federal Election of 2015*, Jon Pammett and Christopher Dornan (eds.). Toronto: Dundurn Publishing, pp. 85-116.
http://encore.concordia.ca/iii/encore/record/C__Rb3286281?lang=eng

*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at wssr@concordia.ca

Workshops on Social Science Research (WSSR)
 1455 de Maisonneuve W. – H1225.30
 Montreal, Qc H3G 1M8
 Telephone: 514-848-2424 x7854, x5473

