

A 233 Main Street (northwestern corner of southern building)

Sesquicentennial Celebration of Our Prime Ministers

John Diefenbaker

Led by Dr. Michael Stevenson

7:00 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2017 Room L120, 233 Main Street, Saint Paul University Come celebrate and learn - it's free

Dr. Michael Stevenson will be helping us better understand the life and times of John Diefenbaker, the Progressive Conservative leader who won three federal elections, including the 1958 landslide. During his six years as prime minister, Diefenbaker appointed the first female cabinet minister in Canadian history, and his government obtained passage of the Canadian Bill of Rights. Diefenbaker also presided over the cancellation of the Avro Arrow, and he ultimately failed to adopt a consistent defence policy, particularly in the matter of acquiring nuclear weapons for Canadian forces.

Dr. Stevenson is an associate professor of history at Lakehead University specializing in Canadian diplomatic and military history. His publications include *Canada's Greatest Wartime Muddle: National Selective Service and the Mobilization of Human Resources during World War II* (2001), and he has edited three volumes in the *Documents on Canadian External Relations* series focusing on the John Diefenbaker government. He is currently writing (with Eric Bergbusch) a biography of Howard Green, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs from 1959 to 1963.

The John Diefenbaker event is the eighth in a series of talks to celebrate Canada's prime ministers. Pre-registration would be appreciated: info@ottawaeast.ca. Additional information at: <u>http://www.ottawaeast.ca/</u>. Presented by the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) and Saint Paul University.

