

SEMINAR

Deliberative Democracy and the Law



Hoi Kong

Hydro Québec Scholar in Sustainable Development Law
Associate Professor, Faculty of Law
McGill University

Thursday, 23 January 2014, 12:30 - 1:30 pm
Room A723, 7/F, Cheng Yu Tung Tower
The University of Hong Kong

In this presentation, I will argue that central tenets of theories of deliberative democracy are pertinent to jurisprudential issues and questions of legal design. In particular, I will claim that despite arguments in the literature to the contrary, election law can be conceived of in deliberative democratic terms. Moreover, I will argue that land use institutions can and should be designed in ways that are consistent with key insights of deliberative democracy. I will conclude that a central concern for law should be the capacity of citizens to contribute to, and be persuaded by, reasons for state action.

Hoi Kong teaches and researches in the areas of Constitutional Law, Comparative Law, Administrative Law, and Municipal Law. From 2002 to 2003, he was law clerk to Justices Marie Deschamps and Claire L'Heureux-Dubé at the Supreme Court of Canada. From 2003 to 2006, he was an Associate-in-Law at Columbia University, and from 2006 to 2009, he was an Assistant Professor of Law, cross-appointed with the School of Urban and Regional Planning, at Queen's University. Hoi Kong joined the Faculty of Law of McGill University in August 2009 and he is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada. He was named a Hydro-Québec Scholar in Sustainable Development Law in 2012.

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