Martha Friendly is the founder and executive director of the Childcare Resource and Research Unit (CRRU), Canada’s primary policy research institute on early childhood and child care (ECEC). Her lecture will focus on lack of affordable, high quality child care as a barrier to women’s equality, and the challenges that remain to be addressed on the path to the universal child care program that has been so elusive -- particularly in Canada, one of the richest countries in the world.