

DAY 1 PROGRAM

Building Migrant Resilience in Cities | Immigration et résilience en milieu urbain Newcomers, Resilience and Settlement: Knowledge Exchange

June 5, 2018 – Toronto

Full auditorium at Ralph Thornton Community Centre

765 Queen Street East

Knowledge Exchange among Policy makers, Service Providers, Researchers, Communities

08:45 – 09:15 AM **Registration and Orientation**, Morning Moderator: Damaris Rose, INRS-CUS

09:15 – 09:20 AM **Welcome and Overview of the Program**
Valerie Preston, York University
Valerie Preston is the Principal Investigator (PI) of the SSHRC partnership titled 'Migration and Resilience in urban Canada'. She is a professor in the Department of Geography at York University where she teaches urban social geography

09:20 – 11:00 AM **Panel 1: What Did We Learn from Settling Privately Sponsored and Government Assisted refugees? Moving forward!**

Questions:

- What is the difference between the unique supports needed for privately sponsored versus government assisted refugees?
- What works and what helps people work across silos?
- How will the Syrian operation change how we do things for other refugee groups?

Panelists:

1. Michaela Hynie, Associate Professor and Associate Director, Centre for Refugee Studies-York University

Michaela Hynie is a faculty member in the Department of Psychology and the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University, where she leads the Program Evaluation Unit. Dr. Hynie's research focuses the development and evaluation of interventions that can strengthen social and institutional relationships to improve health and well-being in different cultural, political and physical environments

2. Mario Calla, COSTI

Mario J. Calla, BA, MSW, has been the Executive Director of COSTI Immigrant Services since 1987. COSTI is a community service agency that has been providing a broad range of services to immigrants and refugees in the greater Toronto area since 1952. COSTI works with government assisted and privately sponsored refugees and had lead responsibility for resettling 2200 Syrian refugees in Toronto region in 2016

3. Chedly Belkhodja, Principal and Professor, School of Community and Public Affairs-Concordia University

In 2014, Chedly Belkhodja joined the School of Community and Public Affairs at Concordia University as professor and principal. Before that, he taught at the Department of Political Science at l'Université de Moncton, where he was also Chair for two terms. From 2006 to 2012, he was a director of the Atlantic Metropolis Centre

4. Pastor Nestor Abdon – The Peoples Church

Pastor Nestor Abdon is a Newcomers Network Pastor with The Peoples Church in Toronto, a welcoming faith community that provides settlement, housing, job, language, health, financial, and legal support programming and services to new refugees and refugee claimants through the creation of relationships and building of partnerships across diverse organizations and sectors

11:00 – 11:15 AM

Break

11:15 – 12:45 PM

Panel 2: Impacts of LIPS for Planning Immigrant Integration: Reality and Aspirations

Questions:

- What are the impacts of LIPS on settlement and integration?
- What are the things that we know that work?
- What other things people have tried?
- What can we learn from each other?
- What can we learn from the models in Quebec?

Panelists:

1. Richard Lecours, Manager of Settlement and Resettlement Programs at Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

Richard Lecours is a Manager of Settlement and Resettlement Programs at Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) for Ontario Region. He has been involved with newcomer settlement issues with IRCC for the last 20 years, working with a whole range of community partners, governments and settlement programs, all towards helping newcomers settle across Ontario. He has also had the opportunity to assist overseas at Canadian High Commissions in New Delhi and Hong Kong. He is particularly proud of having been able to help support the efforts of community partners in establishing a network of seven newcomer Welcome Centres in York and Durham Regions (www.welcomecentre.ca) and similarly with community efforts supporting the recent historic Syrian Refugee Initiative

2. Sudip Minhas, Executive Director WWWWIW

Sudip Minhas is the Executive Director of The Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women. Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women (WWWWIW) is a non-profit organization formed in 1982 by a group of women in the city of Windsor who realized that new Canadians have needs that are not catered to by the existing service centre in Windsor

3. Margaret Walton-Roberts, Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies

Margaret Walton-Roberts is a human geographer trained in the UK and Canada who focuses on international migration. She is a professor at Wilfrid Laurier University and the Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA), Waterloo Canada, and currently a visiting Sabbatical Researcher at the Asian Research Institute, National University of Singapore

4. Gabrielle Désilets, Post-doctoral Fellow, Concordia University

Gabrielle is a post-doctorate fellow and Project Manager for the Montreal city network of the Building Migrant Resilience in Cities partnership. As an urban anthropologist, her research examines identity, intercultural cohabitation, place-making and belonging in urban areas. Her current research focuses on a neighbourhood approach to foster welcoming communities

5. Paulina Wyrzykowski, Director, Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership Project St. Stephen's Community House

Paulina Wyrzykowski holds a Master of Social Work and a Law degree from the University of Toronto. She practiced immigration law with a Toronto firm for several years before moving overseas to work as Senior Research and Advocacy officer with Makerere University's Refugee Law Project. Over the past fifteen years, Paulina has worked on behalf of refugees and immigrants in Egypt, Canada, and Uganda. Prior to accepting the position of South Toronto LIP Director, Paulina was employed as Manager of Family and Newcomer Programs at West Neighborhood House

12:45 – 1:45 PM

Networking Lunch Break (Networking Lunch & Poster presentations by Marshia Akbar, Jessica Praznik, Virginie Mesana)

Afternoon Moderator: Luisa Veronis, University of Ottawa

1:45 - 3:15 PM

Panel 3: Sanctuary Cities: What are They Good For?

Questions:

- What is our experience of Sanctuary cities?
- What can we learn from it?
- What does it mean for Canada in the current geopolitical context?

1. Macdonald Scott, NO ONE IS ILLEGAL

Macdonald Scott is an Immigration consultant affiliated with No One Is Illegal. No One Is Illegal is a migrant justice movement rooted in anti-colonial, anti-capitalist, ecological justice, Indigenous self-determination, anti-occupation, and anti-oppressive politics. It is part of a worldwide movement of resistance that strives and struggles for the freedom to stay, the freedom to move, and the freedom to return

**2. Jenna L. Hennebry, Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University.
Director, International Migration Research Centre**

Jenna Hennebry holds a Ph.D. in Sociology, is an Associate Professor affiliated with the Balsillie School of International Affairs and the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University. Her research focuses on international migration and mobility, with a specialization in lower-skilled labour migration and regional expertise in Canada, Mexico, Morocco and Spain

3. Idil Atak, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Ryerson University

Idil Atak received her Ph.D. from the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Law. Idil is the Editor-In-Chief of International Journal of Migration and Border Studies (IJMBS). She is a member of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration's (IASFM) Executive Committee, past president of the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS), and a research associate at Hans & Tamar Oppenheimer Chair in Public International Law, McGill University

4. Stephan Reichhold, Director TCRI

Stephan Reichhold has been the Director of la Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI) since 1989. He is responsible for the coordination and the development of a coalition of 142 community organizations offering services to immigrants, refugees and migrants without status in Quebec

5. Francisco Rico-Martinez, Co-director-FCJ Refugee Centre

Born in El Salvador, Francisco came to Canada in 1990 with Loly, his wife, and their two children. Formally trained as a lawyer and economist, Francisco is committed to issues of social justice, including human rights in El Salvador, solidarity work in Europe, and Canadian refugee rights. He is Past President of the Canadian Council for Refugees, and has been recognized for his work with the William P. Hubbard Race Relations Award of the City of Toronto and the YMCA Peace Medallion

3:15 - 3:30 PM

Break

3:30 - 4:30 PM.

Keynote: Stories of Resilience-Newcomer Reactions

Theme:

We have invited some recipients of the RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Award to share their stories of immigrating and settling in Canada. The conversations in this panel will help all of us better understand the actual experiences of international migration and settlement.

1. Jelena Zikic, Associate Professor, York University

Dr. Jelena Zikic received her PhD from Joseph L. Rotman School of Management at University of Toronto and prior to that she studied at the London School of Economics where she earned her MSc in Social and Organizational Psychology. Her research focuses on career management issues, combining the individual as well as organizational perspective. Her research program and expertise lies in career transitions, stress and coping and career development theory.

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