

DAY 1 PROGRAM

Building Migrant Resilience in Cities | Immigration et résilience en milieu urbain
Thursday, December 13th, 2018 – York University
Room 305 York Lanes
4700 Keele St, North York, ON M3J 1P3

- 12:00 – 1:00 PM **Lunch @ Room 305 York Lanes.**
- 1:00 – 2:00 PM **Welcome & Introductions - *Valerie Preston***
Refer to Appendix 1 & 2
- Midterm Report Revelations
 - How far have we come?
 - Acknowledging BMRC-IRMU: presentations, publications, and other KM products
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM **The State of our Research Projects**
Refer to Appendix 2
- Discussion on current state of the research projects
 - John Shields: -Transversal project
 -Perspectives of Government Officials
 - Marshia Akbar: City Profiles
 - Ngozi: Evaluation
- 3:00 – 3:30 PM **BREAK – Light refreshments will be provided**
- 3:30 – 5:30 PM **Discussion on current state of the research projects (contd.)**
Refer to Appendix 3
- **INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**
Francine Schlosser: International Students
Christina Gabriel: International Students
Nancy Mandell: Newcomer Families
Jelena Zikic: Immigrant Success
Margaret Walton-Roberts: Engendering Migration Research and Policy
 - **INSTITUTIONAL PROJECTS**
Gabrielle Désilets: Vivons Nos Quartiers
Brian Ray: Neighbourhood Studies
Anyck Dauphin: Settlement of Syrian Refugees
Laura McDonough: Community resilience in York Region
Luisa Veronis: Transversal 2, Critical discourses/Ontario Cities,
Transversal 3



BMRC-IRMU Partnership Meeting
York University
December 2018

5:30 PM

Wrap-up

6:30 PM

Dinner @ Schulich Executive Learning Centre

Address: Schulich School of Business, 56 Fine Arts Rd
York University, 4700 Keele St, Toronto, ON M3J 1P3
Phone: 416-650-8300

DAY 2 PROGRAM

Building Migrant Resilience in Cities | Immigration et résilience en milieu urbain
Friday, December 14th, 2018 – York University
Room 305 York Lanes
4700 Keele St, North York, ON M3J 1P3

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|------------------|---|
| 9:00 – 10:30 AM | Research Plans @ Room 305 York Lanes. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What goals remain? Refer to Appendix 3• What goals do we still want to do in the future? Refer to Appendix 4• How to achieve unmet goals? Refer to Appendix 5 |
| 10:30 – 11:00 AM | BREAK – Light refreshments will be provided |
| 11:00 – 12:45 PM | Research Plans (contd.)
Refer to Appendix 3/4/5 |
| 12:45 – 1:45 PM | Lunch |
| 1:45 – 3:45 PM | Training & Discussions
Refer to Appendix 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Conversation: Reaching out to the public• Social Media |
| 3:45-4:00 PM | Wrap-up - Valerie Preston |

Appendix 1: BMRC List of Research Projects

City network	Year	Name of the project	Funding	Leader / PI
Kitchener-Waterloo	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	Jenna Hennebry
	2018	Strengthening Resilience & Supporting Migrant Capabilities throughout Migrant Pathways to Integration and Settlement	\$35,000	Jenna Hennebry
	2018	EnGendering Resilient Pathways and Communities in the Long-Term	\$112,000*	Jenna Hennebry
	2018	Critical Examination of Settlement Sector Discourses and Practices of Resilience: A Comparative Study of Three Ontario Cities	\$12,000	Margaret Walton-Roberts
Total			\$174,000	
Montréal	2017	Initial funding	\$35,000	Chedly Belkhodja
	2018	Le rôle des Églises dans le processus de résilience des demandeurs d'asile haïtiens et des réfugiés syriens	\$19,566	Frederic Dejean
	2018	Résilience et immigration à l'échelle du quartier: Documenter l'initiative "Vivons nos quartiers" visant à créer des quartiers accueillants et des communautés inclusive & Managing and Coordinating the Quebec Node of the BMRC / IRMU Partnership	\$110,000*	Chedly Belkhodja
	2018	Villes sanctuaires au Canada: pratiques, besoins et politiques (étude 24 mois)	\$54,298	Mireille Paquet / Meghan Joy
	2018	Documenter l'initiative "Vivons nos quartiers": vers des quartiers inclusifs et accueillants pour les personnes réfugiées et immigrantes - Phase 2	\$18,550	Chedly Belkhodja
	2017	Femmes et féminismes en dialogue: La recherche mediation vecteur de solidarites internationales	\$3,000	Michele Vatz-Laaroussi
Total			\$240,414	
Ottawa-Gatineau**	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	Luisa Veronis
	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	Christina Gabriel
	2018	Analysis of Governance Structures and Policy Discourses Shaping Migration and Resilience-2018 / Resilience and International Student Mobility: The Impact of Institutional Factors on Recruitment, Retention and Pathways to Permanent Status-2018	\$80,000*	Christina Gabriel & Luisa Veronis

	2018	More than Numbers: Labour Market Experiences and Immigrant Resilience in the interprovincial and bilingual context of Ottawa-Gatineau, Canada's National Capital Region	\$25,000	Christina Gabriel / Luisa Veronis
	2018	Building Resilience via Family Reunification for Newly Arrived Refugees in Ottawa	\$23,246	Patti Lenard
	2018	Critical Examination of Settlement Sector Discourses and Practices of Resilience: A Comparative Study of Three Ontario Cities	\$38,236	Luisa Veronis
	2018	Projet de recherche sur les réfugiés syriens accueillis en Outaouais en 2016-2017	\$23,314	Anyck Dauphin / Luisa Veronis
	2018	The perspectives of government officials on migration and resilience: a comparative examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments	\$66,000	Luisa Veronis
	2018	The Role of Neighbourhood Context in Shaping Migrant Resilience: a Comparative Study of Four Neighbourhoods in Ottawa-Gatineau	\$25,000	Brian Ray / Luisa Veronis / Anyck Dauphin
Total			\$310,796	
Toronto	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	John Shields
	2018	Analysis of governance structures and policy discourses shaping migration and resilience-2018 / Network Assistant	\$27,000	Rupaleem Bhuyan / John Shields
	2018	The Praxis of Migrant Transformative Resilience: Understanding how Collective Action Among Immigrant Communities	\$35,850	Rupaleem Bhuyan
	2018	Exploring Resiliency Among International Students	\$25,000	Sutama Ghosh
Total			\$102,850	
Windsor	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	Francine Schlosser
	2018	It Takes a Village: Building Resilience by Connecting International Students to the Broader Community / Migration and Resilience in the City of Windsor: Discovering Strengths and Building Capacity	\$40,000	Francine Schlosser & Reza Shahbazi
Total			\$55,000	
York Region	2017	Initial funding	\$15,000	Nancy Mandell

2017	Exploring Individual Level Resilience: Unpacking Labour Market Success Among Successful Immigrants, the Role of the Individual, Institutional, and Social Forces in Building Resilience -2018	\$3,000	Jelena Zikic
2017	Migration and Resilience in York region: Community Consultation and Project Supporting Flexible Information Access Across Multiple Communities	\$17,550	Michaela Hynie
2017	Stalled Mobility? Income Inequality and Intergenerational Relationships Among Newcomer South Asian and Chinese Households in York Region	\$39,000	Nancy Mandell
2018	Exploring Individual Level Resilience: Unpacking Individual, Institutional, and Social Forces in Building Migrant Resilience	\$18,440	Jelena Zikic
2017	City Profiles and Data Analysis	\$47,398*	Valerie Preston
2018	City Profiles and Data Analysis	\$27,313*	Valerie Preston
Total		\$167,701	

*Includes Postdoc funding

**Ottawa and Gatineau city networks have amalgamated and requested that their projects be reported together

Appendix 2

By John Shields, Ryerson University

The Transversal Project: A Report from Toronto

As part of the Toronto involvement in the multi-leveled and staged Transversal Project we took on the responsibility of examining the structures of government and governance of immigration and settlement with respect to: 1) the Government of Ontario (particularly the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI)); and, 2) The City of Toronto. We examined the evolving roles of responsibilities of each of these levels of government, documented the many policies and programs that impacted immigration and settlement in their jurisdictions, and conducted a brief framing critical literature review helping to set the context with which each of these governments operate and set their immigration and settlement policies. Two BMRC-IRMU Research Papers (in English only we are afraid) were produced and published on-line in October 2018:

[Resilience Government of Ontario's Role in Immigration and Settlement by Jessica Praznik and Dr. John Shields](#) pg. 58.

[City of Toronto's Role in Immigration and Settlement by Jessica Praznik & Dr. John Shields](#) pg. 39.

The opening literature review sections of these papers raise numerous questions and issues related to the changing roles of each of these levels of government. This includes the involving notions and practices of federalism in relation to the immigration field; the influence of different policy approaches like neoliberalism; the impact of the growing awareness of the importance of immigration for each of these jurisdictions in relation to economy, labour market, demographics, social development and culture; and the like. The main parts of the reports, however, are concerned with mapping out the structures of immigrant policies and programs in each of these jurisdictions. In each case, these programs and policies are extensive and have been expanding in significance over time.

These papers reflect the current state of affairs up to the 2018 provincial and city elections in Ontario. The challenge is, of course, that there are numerous changes that these elections have brought forth. For example, an austerity agenda introduced by the new Ontario Conservative Government that has saw the elimination of MCI as a standalone Ministry and its functions absorbed in numerous other Ministries. Additionally, the impending restructuring of committees at Toronto City Hall, a consequence of the Ontario Government's forced reduction of City Council seats to 25 from 47 (this could have a significant impact on programming related to immigrants). Other pressures such as the arrival of thousands of refugee claimants crossing the US boarder and the questions of which level of government will absorb the cost of housing them has caused tensions between the Ontario and Federal Government. It has also placed significant financial stress on the City of Toronto (42% of emergency housing is currently being occupied by claimants at an estimated cost of \$64.5 million compared to the \$11 million given to the city by Ottawa). Such issues are reshaping relations between governments at all three levels around immigration. These reports provide a bench mark by which change can be more easily tracked and evaluated. We are currently keeping close track of changes at both of these levels of government. There is the

possibility of either of making updates revisions to the current papers or preparing short separate companion reports/notes on developments. This is very much an evolving situation and will require a longer period of time to get a clearer idea of where these governments are moving in regards to immigration and settlement.

We also under took work related to the role of non-profit immigrant settlement agencies (ISAs). As part of broader immigrant settlement and governance this sector's role is critical to understand and document. The first piece of work we undertook was to conduct something of a mapping exercise of the Canadian settlement service system in Canada. This overview looked at Canada as a whole but also focused in on provincial, city, ISA and other actors. Because this system is quite complex and not well understood as an integrated whole, we judged that there was a need for a more user friendly guide to map out the various dimensions, operations and connections within this system. The result was *An Anatomy of Settlement Services in Canada* published on the project website in July 2018:

[An Anatomy of Settlement Services in Canada: A Guide by Jessica Praznik and Dr. John Shields.](#)
pg. 34

A second related report was published on-line in October 2018. This is a comprehensive literature review of Canadian sources in English on settlement service provision with a particular focus on the role of ISAs. The theme of resilience is woven throughout this report. This report offers us a critical 'state of the literature' review in English on this topic, highlighting key themes and issues. This work is important for understanding the place of non-governmental actors, in particular ISAs, in immigration governance in Canada. This paper takes note of the particular 'Canadian approach' to immigrant settlement and integration (Quebec has a different more state-centred system). It also documents the challenges faced by ISA providers, as well as the migrant populations they serve, as a result of the shift to a neoliberal policy paradigm and set of governance relationships. See:

[ISAs: A Critical Review of the Literature through the Lens of Resilience by Riley Bushell & Dr. John Shields](#) pg. 70.

The limitation of this literature is that it does not deal extensively with the distinct place of non-profit actors in the Quebec settlement sector. A comprehensive examination of the role of Quebec-based settlement service providers with the experience of ISAs in the Rest of Canada, and in particular Ontario, is necessary and should be a priority of the project for phase 2.

We also produced an immigration timeline document covering the period from 1991 to 2017 (now in need of an update) identifying some of the major events related to immigration. A visual timeline is useful for helping to understand the evolution of the immigration system in Canada. This is not currently published on-line See:

(document attached)

Research Summary
Data Analysis at the Research Data Centre at York University
Marshia Akbar
Postdoctoral Research Fellow

1. What are the goals of the research

Analysing information from secondary data, the research aims to compare the social, economic, and individual factors that affect the settlement of diverse migrants in different local contexts in Ontario and Quebec. Comparisons between urban places in the two provinces will allow us to study the strategies that migrants use to overcome settlement challenges in different contexts and assess how well the data describe resilience.

2. What progress has been made to date

Access to data: The partnership has received Statistics Canada's approval for accessing the confidential Master Data Files for the 2006 and 2016 Censuses, the 2011 National Household Survey, and the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB).

Selection of research questions: Research questions were collected from the city networks. Then the questions are grouped under specific themes, and the themes are organized in order of priority: economic structure, education, employment, migration flows, gender, visible minority status, temporary status including refugees and international students, language, health, neighbourhood and networking.

Published Report: A report on admission categories was published in March 2018. The 2016 public use microdata file available on the Statistics Canada website is used for the analysis. The report illustrates provincial and urban trends in admission categories in Ontario and Quebec. Four aspects of admission categories are compared between Ontario and Quebec as well as among selected metropolitan areas: the distribution of people admitted by immigration class, immigration class by region of origin, immigration class by period of immigration, and immigration class by gender.

Submitted Report: A comparative analysis of employment by industry among immigrants and Canadian-born population in Ontario and Quebec, and seven selected metropolitan areas in the two provinces has been done based on the 2006 and 2016 censuses. The study investigates the distribution of Canadian-born and foreign-born labour force within the changing industrial structure in the two provinces. A draft report on this analysis has been submitted for feedback.

On-going Analysis:

- Employment income by industry among immigrants and Canadian born population across selected metropolitan areas in Ontario and Quebec.
- Employment income as a function of location of work, immigration status, and industry.
- Admission categories of immigrants within central and suburban areas in Toronto and Montreal.
- Migration and settlement trends among international students in Ontario and Quebec.

3. What have been the main challenges of the project

Variables and categories: determining appropriate variables and aggregating categories for large and small metropolitan areas.

Geographic areas: identifying various geographic areas, particularly within Montreal.

Coordination: coordinating with partners regarding data related decisions.

Data Disclosure: complying with data disclosure guidelines for large and small metropolitan areas.

4. What challenges remain

The above challenges still remain. In addition, the computers at the Research Data Centre are very slow.

BMRC-IMRU SSHRC Partnership Meeting December 13-14, York University Windsor City Network Research Update

2017-2018

Title: Migration and Resilience: Academic Advising and building capacity in international students

Authors: Francine Schlosser, Jacqueline Veres, Reza Shahbazi

What are the goals of the research?

Our qualitative research explores how interactions between stakeholders can positively impact a student's experience, and highlights the need for additional support, the consideration of policy change, and opportunities for collaboration. We do not know what factors develop resilience and shape the decision to stay after graduation. The extent of coordination of stakeholders, including, but not limited to the federal and provincial governments, post-secondary educational institutions and the community, is unclear. Stakeholder interviews and a media analysis were used to develop a model of the protective and risk factors that shaped the development of resilience within international students, and the overall experience of their international education. We highlight the areas in which students require further support, and propose opportunities for collaboration, and policy change to increase international student retention.

What progress has been made to date?

This research has been presented at the NACADA Great Lakes 2018 conference in Columbus Ohio.

It has now been submitted to a journal and is under review.

What have been the main challenges with this project?

The main researcher has graduated, however, will still work on it.

We have been challenged to find strong enough publication outlets and target it accordingly.

What challenges remain?

Successful publication.

Title: Newcomer Youth: How can drama education influence identity and belongingness?

Authors: Francine Schlosser, Ashley Baez-Abreu

What are the goals of the research?

In Canada, newcomer youth face many barriers including difficulties with language acquisition and a lack of acceptance by peers. These barriers can impede a youth's social, emotional, and academic development (Kilbride & Anisef, 2001). According to Tajfel and

Turner's (1986) 'social identity theory', an individual's self-image derives from the social categories to which they perceive themselves belonging to (Worchel & Austin, 1986). In this study, investigators use the 'social identity theory' framework to investigate how drama education methodologies can influence various aspects of one's social identity, as well as the development of a positive self-identity. They look at cohort of 15 newcomer youth in two different programs. In the first program, nine of the youth being between the ages of 14 and 18 and their responses to a after-school drama education program, which focused on the theme of 'resilience'. In the second program, six being international students between the ages of 20-24 and their responses to an after-school drama education workshop series. The investigators studied the youth's responses to the program in relation to three variables: language acquisition, community, and self-development. The drama education program was provided by social enterprise Drama as a Second Language (DSL) in partnership with [Newcomer settlement agency] and the [University]'s Centre of English Language Development. In the first program, the research intervention included: ten drama education workshops focused on the theme of 'resilience', and a theatrical performance collaboratively devised by the youth participants. In the second program with international students, the research intervention included: five drama education workshops focused on the theme of 'new beginnings'. The investigators used qualitative methods to acquire the youth's responses to the intervention. Pre-test interviews and post-test interviews were conducted with the youth participants, program facilitators, and service providers.

What progress has been made to date?

It has been presented to audiences including international students, their parents and settlement agencies.

It has been presented to academic audiences : The 2018 University of Windsor UWILL Discover Undergraduate Research conference, The 2018 Windsor Oakland Teaching and Research Conference, The 2018 Arts for Education Research Conference (OISE).

What have been the main challenges with this project?

It is multi-disciplinary. The research data collection has taken a while, and we now have high school and post-secondary pilots. The main researcher has graduated, however, will still work on it.

What challenges remain?

We are preparing it for submission to an appropriate journal.

2018-2020

Title: It Takes a Village: Building Resilience by Connecting International Students to the Broader Community

Francine Schlosser, Duncan Lam, Gerry Kerr, Reza Shahbazi

What are the goals of the research?

We want to find out how external stakeholders such as post-secondary institutions and off-campus community partners can help international students studying in their community to build resiliency. In particular, we want to know how connecting international students to the community might enhance their employability after graduation.

What progress has been made to date?

We received UWindsor REB clearance on Oct 24, 2018. Anonymous online surveys for international students were distributed on Nov 12, 2018. The surveys were sent to almost 6000 email addresses of current and recently graduated international students. 300 completed surveys came in quickly but became stagnant after about 7 days. A reminder was sent out on Nov 22, 2018, leading to a further receipt of 100 completed survey. The total number of surveys has since been stuck at 406.

We have also interviewed 5 program administrators on campus regarding their programs and services. In particular, we wanted to know how they help boost employability of international students after graduation, what programs and service students sought but they were unable to provide, as well as their what collaboration efforts there are with organizations in the community for the delivery of their services. These are administrators whose programs deliver services to significant numbers of international students. We are planning to interview up to 5 more program administrators.

What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

One of the biggest challenge was determining how we can have our survey sent out to international students efficiently. We were asked by the REB to collect permission from each administrator in order for them to distribute the survey to their students. Fortunately, the International Student Centre at UWindsor had access to all international student through Blackboard, and were able to blast the survey out to 6000+ students and recent graduates.

It is also a challenge to schedule interviews with programs administrators. Some were difficult to get ahold, and some were simply busy. Additionally, the end of the semester, the coming holiday season, as well as the flu season compounds the difficulty for scheduling interviews.

What challenges remain?

We suspect we will not get more surveys back from students. The challenge remains to code the responses for analysis. With 400 responses, it will take some time.

Interviews were recorded. We will begin transcribing and coding those. Ideally, we want to interview 3 to 5 more program administrators. However, that may not occur until January 2019.

New Development

We are exploring the idea of connecting with recently graduated international students to interview or survey them regarding their experience, and get a hind-sight point-of-view of international students. Questions are currently being formulated, and potential subjects are being scouted. We will need to get additional clearance from the UWindsor REB for this.

2019-2020

Title: Understanding the Context of Resiliency of Older Immigrant Entrepreneurs

Authors: Gerry Kerr, Francine Schlosser, Reza Shahbazi

What are the Goals of the Research:

The proposed research will examine the characteristics of resiliency of older immigrants who are entrepreneurs or entrepreneurial team members. The research will build on the growing management literature focused on immigrant/migrant entrepreneurship and the less-developed research devoted to older entrepreneurs. This project is the first to examine older immigrant entrepreneurs and will explore the nature of their resiliency and impact on other migrants and the host community.

What progress has been made to date?

This proposal is being reviewed by the BMRC IMRU committee.

By: Christina Gabriel, Ottawa-Gatineau Summary:

International Students:

The goal of this research is to examine how social institutions, in this case universities, are implicated in creating and/or hindering spaces of student resilience. We have pursued this aim on two interrelated dimensions: at the structural level we are concerned in how institutions are implicated in the selection and admission of students and the supports they provide; at the individual level we focus on the experience of international students themselves.

To date we have completed:

- a review of the relevant literature on international students (French and English Sources)
- developed a code book
- an institutional scanning of all key documents produced by uOttawa for international students (including text analysis of the “International Student Handbook”)
- in collaboration with our partners at uOttawa, we have compiled descriptive statistics on international students (all levels of study) since 2010.
- developed ethnographic observation guides and attended campus driven events for international students at uOttawa and Carleton University.
- Submitted ethics applications at Carleton University (for interviews with 3 sets of actors – students, university representations and key actors in local organizations) and at uOttawa (for secondary use of statistical data); Note: Carleton required re-submission
- developed interview guides for upcoming interviews to be conducted in Winter 2019.

Employment Project

This qualitative project is in its early stages. Its purpose is to examine how factors such as entry status, social and cultural capital as well as local immigration support services intersect to promote and/or hinder the resilience of recent individual male and female migrants as they navigate labour markets in the Ottawa-Gatineau region.

To date, we have been scheduling meetings with our community partners so that we can refine our goal in order to better serve their needs. We hosted a community partner meeting on November 19th, during which we introduced our Employment project. We are meeting with our partners, the “Immigrant Data Task” at OLIP Economic Integration Sector Table (December 10th) to further discuss future orientations for this project. Our postdoctoral fellow, Virginie Mesana, also attended the “Entrepreneur and Investor Immigration Summit 2018” hosted by The Conference Board of Canada on November 27-28. She is preparing a summary of main learnings from this event, especially regarding challenges faced by immigrant entrepreneurs in Canada – this summary will be shared with the Partnership for reference and insights on other key partners to consider.

BMRC SUMMARY PRESENTATION

By: Nancy Mandell, York

Region 5 minutes

December 13, 2018

1. PROJECT GOALS:

- To study intergenerational relationships within three generation immigrant families: Youth over age 18, middle generation, seniors
- To focus specifically on different settlement issues (e.g. economic, social, and cultural) for each age group and analysis of the ways they resolve these issues both independently and as a family unit, and how this impacts family relations
- To work with community to respond to identify challenges and resilience within community
- To engage in comparison through purposeful sampling: 10 Chinese and 10 South Asian Households
- To understand lives as perceived and lives as lived through qualitative interviews with up to 3 people/household for a maximum of 60 people

2. PROGRESS TO DATE

- **Applied for Ethics Approval:** No response as yet
- **Literature review:** Identified different sets of settlement issues for each age group and classified them according to economic, social, cultural, and identity categories
- **Identified gaps:**
 - Remain unaware of ways these different age groups resolve their settlement issues
 - Remain unaware of intergenerational dynamics activated in order to resolve family settlement challenges and whether these dynamics prove helpful or hindering

3. PROJECT CHALLENGES:

a. Language translation:

Problem: Increasing number of immigrant senior newcomers do not speak either English/French so need translators.

Resolution: Hired undergraduates for translation purposes.

b. Community Researchers:

Problem: We requested funds for CRs to be fully involved in this academic-community partnership. These funds were drastically cut down making it impossible to engage in a collaborative partnership and to engage CR on project design, recruitment, data collection and analysis.

Resolution: Using our own money, time and effort to ensure smooth CAP relations.

c. Insufficient funding:

Problem: Too little money provided to complete data collection for a longitudinal research project, which we originally proposed. We are now doing a cross-sectional analysis, meaning we can no longer capture settlement experiences over time. Meanwhile,

we know that settlement takes up to 15-20 years to achieve, we know that immigrant seniors are increasingly being denied citizenship and asked to take out Super Visas, and we know that the federal government has identified a lack of understanding of senior settlement issues and wishes to have longitudinal information.

Resolution: May apply for other sources of money.

4. **REMAINING CHALLENGES:**

- **Interview design:** We know that the 90 minutes is insufficient to gather data on individual and household settlement issues, except in the most cursory fashion.

Resolution: We will pilot test the interview questions in early January to see what questions could be put in a questionnaire design and which ones should be kept for the in-depth interview.

Exploring individual level resilience: Unpacking individual, institutional and social forces in building migrant resilience

Jelena Zikic & Viktoriya Voloshyna

The goals of this research are to understand the factors that contribute to successful life and career transition of skilled migrants and contribute to their resilience in Canada. This is done through in-depth in person interviews with a select group of volunteers who received a Canadian Immigrant Award any time between 2009-2018. These individuals received the award for their achievements in various domains of their life after settling in Canada. This data base was given to us by the Canadian Immigrant Magazine in collaboration with RBC.

To date we have conducted 25 in depth interviews. This data is fully transcribed and most of the analysis (i.e. coding and NVivo use) has been completed as well. We are currently in the stage of writing our first major Academic paper, due on Jan. 30th in Human Relations Journal special issue on the role of Cities in Careers. We have presented this data at various venues and conferences so far (4 different presentations) and 2 more presentations upcoming.

We are also in the process of writing a practical report that will provide a summary of our work and will be an ideal product for distribution to various immigrant agencies, policy makers and respondents themselves.

We are also keen to create a more dynamic summary of our findings, perhaps by creating a short instructional video as a visual, more vivid and persuasive outcome of our work. In addition, we have started discussing the content for a workshop that will provide unique look at how skilled migrants from various walks of life managed to succeed and build resilience despite barriers in the host city. Our findings are relevant as they demonstrate how these individuals used variety of local resources (i.e., boundary object theory) and the role of the host city in their coping and adaptation to new life. Secondly, there are multiple opportunities for more actionable knowledge mobilization efforts, and in addition to what is described above; we provide evidence for what the local communities and the immigrant service sector can do to promote healthy integration of newcomers into local society as well as the importance of successful migrant integration in contributing to the local society.

Several challenges have been encountered and overcome in the course of research. For example, it was difficult to reach participants that have enough time available and the desire to share their story and dedicate time to research. Some individuals also received their award some years ago and are somewhat disconnected from this competition, thus harder to reach and not as interested in participating. Also, some of the winners arrived to Canada at a very young age while our main goal was to speak to those who came later in life with degrees from their home country. Secondly, we modified our interview protocol somewhat as the research progressed and adapted it to suit our subject matter and our participants better. Finally, the current challenge is to provide a concise practical report given the amount of data and the richness of the stories in our findings.

Next, what remains is to ‘translate’ our findings into variety of more practical and actionable outcomes. That is our next task and a challenge ahead of us that we look forward to solving. Any feedback from the colleagues during our meeting in December is much appreciated!

Jelena & Viktoriya

BMRC/IRMU PARTNERSHIP MEETING
Toronto, December 2018

KW City Network – Project Report
Dr. Margaret Walton-Roberts

1. What are the goals of the research?

- We began with the project “Strengthening Resilience and Supporting Migrant Capabilities throughout Pathways to Integration and Settlement”. After some initial research with partner organizations, we included a second phase entitled, “EnGendering Resilient Pathways and Communities” because there was a knowledge gap with respect to gender-sensitive policies. Both combined projects form our ongoing research and include the following goals:
 - o To strengthen our understanding of the barriers, innovations and opportunities for enhancing migrant and community resilience in our community, with an emphasis on the role of gender and migration pathway.
 - o To work with a growing number of community partners, collaborators and students in the region to foster research contributions with national and local impacts for newcomers and the network of organizations that support them
 - o To strengthen our understanding of institutional resilience and community resilience, ie. how migration categories determine eligibility for services offered by community organizations working with immigrants and how this eligibility affects migrant well-being and settlement outcomes.
 - o To strengthen our understanding of individual and family level resilience by analyzing migrants' perceptions of resilience and their desired outcomes, strategies, understandings, challenges and a sense of belonging. This goal includes an emphasis on understanding the gendered experiences and perception of newcomers.
 - o To understand the role of gender and other intersectional challenges among men and women newcomers, and whether intersectional challenges may stem from community organizations working with immigrants’ programs and/or regional policy.

2. What progress has been made to date?

- The following is a short summary of the two ongoing projects (Strengthening Resilience and Supporting Migrant Capabilities throughout Pathways to Integration and Settlement) and (EnGendering Resilient Pathways and Communities):
- We developed a research program focused on precarious migrants (namely temporary migrants, international students, caregivers and refugee claimants), gender and resilience. We carried out a detailed review of the literature, and consulted extensively with community representatives and partners. We formed the KW Migration & Resilience City-Network comprised of 4 community organization representatives, J.Hennebry (WLU), T. Bedard (Waterloo LIP) and M. Walton-Roberts (WLU), 4 graduate students, one recent MA graduate and one recent PHD graduate, and one undergraduate student.
- We have carried out focus groups with international students and highly skilled temporary foreign workers, as well as begun key informant interview, with more than 50 participants. Data from focus groups and interviews are being collated with recorded material already in process of being transcribed and synthesized for analysis.

- We presented our preliminary findings at the Waterloo Resilience Summit in November 2018. We will also present preliminary findings at the “EnGendering Resilience & Migration Dialogue” to be held at IMRC through the Partnership in Winter 2019.
- We are planning to submit proposals for the 2019 International Metropolis Conference in Ottawa on skilled workers and international students, as well as the 2019 Canadian Association on Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS) on the precarious status of refugee claimants.
- We are now focusing on the gender analysis of these data and the creation and implementation of a gender-responsiveness toolkit (Resource Kit) across the partnership. We have begun planning the Gender & Resilience Working Group to operate across the partnership which will bring together interested representatives from each city network to share information and resources.
- The KW City Network identified a need for reliable local survey data on public perceptions related to immigration, migrant resilience and the ability of local organizations to support migrants. City network co-leads have connected with a group based at the University of Waterloo (Waterloo Survey Centre <https://uwaterloo.ca/survey-research-centre/survey-services/waterloo-region-matters-survey>) to partner on their next Waterloo Region Matters Survey (Winter 2019). This survey will include 1-2 pages of project /community questions relevant to migrant and community resilience which will be analyzed along with other project materials to help shape holistic findings on migrant resilience in the KW region. The costs will be shared between the KW LIP and the project.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

- Recruitment of research participants has taken more time than we had hoped, though we anticipated there being challenges with these harder to research precarious populations. In order to address these challenges, one of our RAs developed a recruitment video we have been sharing on Facebook/online that has been having considerable success in reaching these groups. We have been actively engaged in recruitment for caregivers and lower skilled TFWs.
- We have faced some delays in the creation of Gender and Resilience Working Group due to processing of transfer arrangements between the universities, and some commensurability issues between university policies on hiring and research finances between the institutions. These have been resolved and we are now proceeding.

4. What challenges remain?

- As this research involves precarious and vulnerable migrant groups, building rapport and trust takes time. Therefore, it is a process that involves first, working with our community partners to establish reliable gate keepers who are then able to work with us to engage with the different migrant groups.
- As with many research projects engaged with precarious migrants, focus groups have not necessarily been the most reliable form of data collection. Interviews can be more appropriate when discussing personal and gendered experiences.

VNQ

By: Chedly Belkhodja & Gabrielle Désilets, Montreal

The summary should address the following 4 questions:

1. What are the goals of the research?

L'objectif de cette recherche est de documenter la mise en place et le déploiement du projet Vivons nos quartiers dans les quartiers de Montréal.

La littérature en études migratoires démontre que l'intégration des immigrants est un processus dynamique qui implique une responsabilité partagée entre les nouveaux arrivants et la société d'accueil. En observant les structures d'accueil à l'échelle des quartiers, cette recherche documente les bonnes pratiques d'accueil et d'inclusion. Les résultats démontrent que les réseaux locaux d'entraide offrent un support essentiel aux intervenants qui fournissent des services aux nouveaux arrivants.

2. What progress has been made to date?

Nous avons terminé la première phase dans laquelle nous avons documenté les formations et les réunions des acteurs clés dans les quartiers en plus de documenter plusieurs rencontres du comité de pilotage, du comité aviseur ainsi que des réunions de comités de travail entourant le projet VNQ. Nous avons produit un rapport qui synthétise les grandes thématiques émergentes du terrain, rapport qui est principalement destiné aux partenaires communautaires. Ce rapport présente une brève recension des écrits sur les « collectivités accueillantes » dans le cadre canadien ainsi qu'une brève présentation du concept de résilience sociale. Ce rapport dresse le bilan des données recueillies ainsi que les thèmes émergeant des données.

Nous avons présenté ce rapport a été présenté à deux reprises (une version préliminaire et une version incluant les premières remarques) aux partenaires. Ce processus nous a permis d'apporter des ajouts et des modifications, de développer des angles jusqu'ici peu examinés, et de mieux connaître leurs besoins en matière de mobilisation des connaissances.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

Le plus grand défi de ce projet est d'être parti sur le terrain avec des thématiques à observer, notamment entourant la question de l'accueil, mais sans hypothèse claire. La démarche ethnographique nous a permis de noter des différences subtiles dans le temps, et de bien saisir les différentes dynamiques du terrain dans les différents groupes de travail et les différents quartiers.

Nous avons cumulé une masse importante de données qui peuvent être exploitées de diverses façons, ce qui est une force, mais aussi un défi. Afin de remédier au fait que les objectifs de la recherche n'avaient pas été explicités de manière très explicite, nous travaillons en étroite collaboration avec les partenaires communautaires pour développer et raffiner notre analyse, tester nos hypothèses et identifier les zones grises. Nous travaillons aussi à trouver les manières les plus efficaces pour mettre les résultats de ce projet à leur disposition. (*Policy briefs*, recommandation aux instances institutionnelles.)
La

4. What challenges remain?

L'avancement des différentes étapes du projet est quelque peu tributaire de l'évolution du projet tel que mené par la TCRI, c'est pour cette raison entre autres, et surtout due à l'engouement qu'ont suscité les activités de formations pour les intervenants que peu d'activités citoyennes ont eu lieu jusqu'à maintenant.

Nous comptons tirer profit de l'analyse des données de la première phase pour orienter les activités de recherche de la seconde phase en allant chercher des données complémentaires, qui viennent expliquer les zones grises de notre première analyse, notamment en allant à la rencontre des perceptions et des discours tant des intervenants qui n'ont pas suivi les formations, que les acteurs clés en immigration à Montréal et des personnes immigrantes dans les quartiers.

Neighbourhood study: immigrant settlement and resilience: comparative study of 3 neighbourhoods in Ottawa-Gatineau

By: Luisa Veronis, Brian Ray, Anyck Dauphin
City Network: Ottawa-Gatineau

1. What are the goals of the research?

The aim of this project is to examine the role of neighbourhoods in shaping migrants' resilience. In particular, based on conversations with our community partners (OLIP, CESOC, City of Gatineau, SITO), there is interest in understanding how the social and spatial environment at the neighbourhood level (services/amenities, demographics, housing, transportation, employment opportunities, community organisations/associations, etc.) influences the settlement and integration experiences of migrant groups. In addition, our partners are concerned with issues of equity (access to and use of services & issues of discrimination) and safety (presence of violence, drugs & other problems).

We adopt a community-based collaborative research approach incorporating qualitative mixed-methods (critical ethnography, photovoice interviews, community feedback sessions). In addition to advancing conceptualizations of migrant resilience and resilient neighbourhoods, the project aims to provide concrete recommendations for policy & practice that will be of interest to our community partners and practitioners in various sectors, and policy makers at three levels government beyond Ottawa-Gatineau.

2. What progress has been made to date?

3 neighbourhoods have been selected in collaboration and consultation with community partners across Ottawa-Gatineau (Summer 2018). A range of community partners are helping us to recruit participants – our target is 12 participants / neighbourhood (total = 36). Interviews are now well under way:

Mont-Bleu (Gatineau): 3 completed (2 English, 1 French)

Ledbury-Heron Gate (Ottawa): 3 completed (3 English; + 2 underway) Overbrook-

Cummins (Ottawa): 1 completed (1 French)

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

Consultation with community partners was long until we were able to reach consensus on the selection of the three neighbourhoods.

Recruitment has been slow in spite of reaching out to and the help of numerous community partners.

4. What challenges remain?

Recruitment of interview participants.

**Refugee families and building resilience in a second-tier city of Quebec:
The resettlement experiences of Syrian refugees in Gatineau**

Research team: Anyck Dauphin, professor, Fadoumo Farah and Maxime Drolet, Master students, Université du Québec en Outaouais

Community partners : Accueil-parrainage Outaouais (APO); Service Intégration Travail Outaouais (SITO); Ville de Gatineau; Emploi Québec; Commission scolaire des portages de l'Outaouais

More than 300 Syrian refugees resettled in the City of Gatineau in 2015-2016 with the hope of finding safety and leading a decent life. The City took specific measures and many citizens, community organizations and other members of the civil society mobilized to welcome them and to help them overcome these challenges. Two years later, these actors wish to know where things stand, what has contributed to and what may have hindered the resettlement of these Syrian refugees. They also want to share their experiences and knowledge on this matter so that lessons can be learned, and recommendations made for improvements in the future. Syrian migrants themselves also wish to share their experiences from their viewpoint and in their own voices.

The purpose of the project is to:

- Shed light on the local characteristics that have contributed to but also limited the overall resilience of the Syrian of have resettled in Outaouais since 2015;
- Understand how local actors involved in the areas of health, housing, adult "francization", schooling of children, employment and general support (sponsored group or religious community for example) have contributed to their resilience;
- Explore the role of family dynamics in the resilience of individuals;
- Serve as a platform for discussion and exchange between researchers, Syrian migrants and local stakeholders involved in the resettlement process in the City of Gatineau;
- Make recommendations to help improve the provision of local services that aim to build the resilience of individuals and families.

A mixed-methods approach will be used. First, we will conduct a survey of Syrians who arrived as refugees as early as 2015-2016. Among survey participants, about fifteen Syrian migrant families will be identified for semi-structured interviews. Fifteen key informants will also be interviewed representing the diverse sectors of intervention.

The project started slowly. During the summer, the advisory committee was formed and the research assistant were recruited. A literature review on the resettlement of Syrian refugees and a review of quantitative surveys of immigrant resettlement were conducted. From there, collection instruments were drafted and a research ethics certificate was obtained. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee was held in early December and aimed to present and

improve the objectives and methodology of the study and to identify its challenges and limitations. The meeting was also used to decide on the recruitment strategy of the participants and the data collection instruments.

The desired timeline for the next steps is as follows:

December to February: Survey

February to April: Analysis of survey data

End of February: Second meeting of the advisory committee (preliminary results of the survey & preparation of semi-structured interviews)

March to May: Semi-structured interviews

Early May: Third meeting of the advisory committee (final results of the survey & provisional results of semi-structured interviews)

End of May: Presentation of provisional results at the ACFAS (Association francophone pour le savoir) congress ***Regards croisés sur la résilience des personnes immigrantes en milieu urbain ? quatre échelles d'analyse*** at the Université du Québec en Outaouais

End of August: Fourth meeting of the advisory committee (final results & formulation of recommendations)

September: Public conference at the Université du Québec en Outaouais.

The main challenge so far is that I do not have access to the fund yet. Therefore, I have not been able to fully deploy the research project. The reason is that I made a request to join the Ottawa-Gatineau network and thereby the BMRC-IMRU partnership as a co-investigator at the end of July. I received a positive response at the end of October. York University and my university have started since the transfer of funds that should be available soon.

By: Michaela Hynie
City Network: York Region

1. What are the goals of the research?

The research is framed by the notion of community resilience. In consultations with community agencies in York Region, we identified three questions: 1) How and when do newcomer communities in York Region access information, and how they would prefer to do so, in order to achieve their goals? 2) How do front-line service providers in York Region adapt to the shifting needs and interests of clients from multiple communities within the resources and activities available to them? 3) How do organizations in York Region assess and respond to the changing needs of the communities they serve, or shift focus between communities.

Two recent newcomer communities in York Region were identified by our advisory committee: Yazidi refugees, and refugee claimants.

2. What progress has been made to date?

As noted, we have conducted several community consultations to refine the questions. We recruited an advisory committee and met with them three times, in order confirm methods and identify the communities of interest for this study. We have organized our first focus group with staff who work with Yazidi clients, with the help of COSTI. We have identified a Kurmanji speaking research assistant for research with Yazidi newcomers.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how

We have faced two difficult issues. The first is the time constraints of our partner organizations. For reasons of collaboration, it is important that we work with and through them to recruit these populations. However, they have considerable other demands on their time and so have been slow to organize on our behalf.

The second issue has been finding Kurmanji speaking interviewers. We have now found a professional interpreter who is actually a graduate student at York and so can be hired as a student, but because of the high demand for the very limited number of interpreters for this community, we are having to pay her professional rates, which are expensive. We will therefore have to limit the number of interviews/focus groups.

Recruitment with the two communities will be challenging, as there are issues of trust and closed communities to be dealt with. We are hoping that with our interpreter we will actually have access to both of these communities.

4. What challenges remain?

The timing issues in terms of recruiting staff remain. The other issues are hopefully now dealt with, although additional changes to the protocol may be required depending on the availability of funding.

By : Luisa Veronis

City Region: Ottawa - Gatineau

Transveral 2: The perspectives of government officials on migration and resilience: a comparative examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments

1. What are the goals of the research?

The proposed project aims to add to and complement the ongoing 'transversal' project entitled "Analysis of governance structures and policy discourses shaping migration and resilience: an examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments" by conducting semi- structured indepth personal interviews with representatives of the three levels of government. These representatives will all work in ministries, departments and/or offices that relate directly to immigration and, in the case of Montreal and Toronto, to resilience.

The objective of the project is two-fold: (1) to discuss and verify the findings of the transversal project on policy discourse analysis with officials of respective levels of government; and (2) to investigate government officials' views and perspectives on how the notion resilience is mobilized and framed by their respective levels of government. The latter issue will be discussed in relation to: (a) the broad use of the notion resilience within their respective level of government; (b) the use of the notion resilience within their particular ministries/departments/offices; (c) their own views and understandings of the notion resilience in relation to immigration and immigrants in Canada; and (d) the translation and enactment of these abstract notions of resilience into concrete policies and programs.

The semi-structured interviews will provide an important opportunity to enrich the findings of the policy discourse analysis, thus enhancing our understanding of how different levels of government understand, mobilize, and frame resilience (e.g. support and/or hinder migrant resilience), and to refine our data analysis through triangulation. The project outputs will contribute to the overall Partnership by helping to advance the conceptual, policy and practice contributions of the larger project. We anticipate these findings to be of interest to the partners, including governments, nonprofits, and communities themselves.

2. What progress has been made to date?

The research team has met 2-3 times by skype to discuss project objectives, selection of participants, data collection instruments, ethics. The team is currently preparing an ethics application that will be submitted across the researchers' institutions. Our aim is to submit ethics in December 2018 and beginning interviews in Winter 2019. The Ottawa-Gatineau team has spoken to Enrico Del Castello about the project and will discuss with him potential participants for IRCC/federal level.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them? Research team busy schedules. We have thus organized various separate meetings with different

members to accommodate schedules. Notes have been circulated by email and we are trying to work using email. Margaret Walton Roberts has hired a student to help us with ethics application.

4. What challenges remain?

Critical examination of settlement sector discourses and practices of resilience: a comparative study of three Ontario cities

By: Luisa Veronis

City Network: Ottawa- Gatineau

1. What are the goals of the research?

The proposed project builds on and will complement our transversal project entitled "Analysis of governance structures and policy discourses shaping migration and resilience: an examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments" by examining the resilience of the settlement sector in 3 Ontario cities: one gateway city (Toronto) & two second-tier cities (Ottawa & Kitchener-Waterloo). The project also builds on a previous SSHRC-IRCC funded study on the role of LIPs during the Syrian refugee resettlement initiative (PI: Walton-Roberts; co-PI: Veronis; 2016-17). The 3 main objectives of the proposed project are to:

- 1) Undertake a discourse analysis of how the notion of resilience is used, mobilized, framed by settlement sector organizations/actors - Immigrant Settlement Agencies (ISAs) & umbrella organizations (LIPs, OCASI, potentially RIFs),
- 2) Study the resilience of the settlement sector through examination of its practices in the face of changing immigration policies & emergency initiatives and ongoing restructuring related to neoliberal and austerity agendas (Shields; Lowe et al 2017; Trudeau & Veronis 2009), and
- 3) Examine and compare the role of local/urban context in shaping settlement sector approaches, practices & strategies to meet immigrant needs/integration and advance community interests.

This project emerges from conversations among team members incl. at Strategy meeting in June 2017 and from findings of the transversal project. The findings will be relevant to the Partnership's examination and understanding of resilience in terms of institutional practices and experiences at various levels and as embedded within specific contexts. The focus here will be on the settlement sector in Ontario through a comparative study of 3 distinct urban contexts, with an interest on the sector as a whole & various types of ISAs.

To advance the conceptual, policy and practice contributions of the Partnership, we need to consider how the concept of resilience has been mobilised in a productive manner (or not) by various actors. Our critical examination of settlement sector resilience will illuminate the complex three-way dynamics & interrelationships between government, settlement sector, and communities in building migrant resilience.

2. What progress has been made to date?

None. We have decided to complete the report for Transversal 1 before undertaking this new project. The start date is now January 2019. We anticipate doing the discourse analysis in Winter 2019 and the interviews in Spring 2019. The ethics application we are preparing for Transversal 2 will include interviews to be conducted under this project. Combining the ethics application will help speed up the project.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

4. What challenges remain?

By: John Shields

City Network: Toronto

The perspectives of government officials on migration and resilience: a comparative examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments

1. What are the goals of the research?

The proposed project aims to add to and complement the ongoing 'transversal' project entitled "Analysis of governance structures and policy discourses shaping migration and resilience: an examination of Canada's federal, provincial and municipal governments" by conducting semi-structured in-depth personal interviews with representatives of the three levels of government. These representatives will all work in ministries, departments and/or offices that relate directly to immigration and, in the case of Montreal and Toronto, to resilience.

The objective of the project is two-fold: (1) to discuss and verify the findings of the transversal project on policy discourse analysis with officials of respective levels of government; and (2) to investigate government officials' views and perspectives on how the notion resilience is mobilized and framed by their respective levels of government. The latter issue will be discussed in relation to: (a) the broad use of the notion resilience within their respective level of government; (b) the use of the notion resilience within their particular ministries/departments/offices; (c) their own views and understandings of the notion resilience in relation to immigration and immigrants in Canada; and (d) the translation and enactment of these abstract notions of resilience into concrete policies and programs.

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2. What progress has been made to date?

The research team has met 2-3 times by skype to discuss project objectives, selection of participants, data collection instruments, ethics. The team is currently preparing an ethics application that will be submitted across the researchers' institutions. Our aim is to submit ethics in December 2019 and beginning interviews in Winter 2019. The Ottawa-Gatineau team has spoken to Enrico Del Castello about the project and will discuss with him potential participants for IRCC/federal level.

3. What have been the main challenges of this project and how have you overcome them?

Research team busy schedules. We have thus organized various separate meetings with different members to accommodate schedules. Notes have been circulated by email and we are trying to work using email. Margaret Walton Roberts has hired a student to help us with ethics application.

4. What challenges remain?

Ethics application.

1) Research and/or related activities are proceeding and evolving as planned or, if not, the partnership has overcome challenges and adjusted plans appropriately and effectively to keep the project on track.

With respect to the project's research and/or research-related activities, explain your accomplishments to date and the extent to which your project is meeting the measures of success as outlined in your application and/or Milestone Report. If the expert panel and/or the adjudication committee at the Formal application stage raised concerns or made suggestions for improvement related to research activities, describe how this feedback has been addressed. If you have experienced challenges, describe them and how they have been addressed. If you have significantly adjusted your plans, explain and justify these changes. Finally, briefly outline your plans moving forward and describe how they will allow you to meet the goals and objectives of your project.

The research program is well underway, with modifications to incorporate recommendations from the Expert Panel and Review Committee and respond to the growing challenges of survey research. Research activities (See Appendix 2) are organized around three approaches to migrant resilience:

- Policy analysis
- Individual resilience
- Institutional resilience.

The policy analysis and literature review recommended by the Expert Panel is providing invaluable background information for the entire partnership. A large project examines resilience discourses in federal, provincial, and municipal policy documents and among policymakers and a synthetic review of English and French literature about resilience and migration has also been drafted. As planned, a second research thrust investigates individual resilience through research projects with four groups: immigrants whose success has been recognized by Canadian Immigrant Awards, international students, refugees, and temporary foreign workers. Using a gender lens, studies in Ottawa and Kitchener-Waterloo focus on the settlement stories of women and two studies examine how family dynamics shape settlement. Institutions' impacts on resilience are the focus of studies that examine the roles of churches as well as those of municipal governments and immigrant-serving organizations. In Montreal, Ottawa and Gatineau, the impacts of neighbourhood institutions of all types on newcomers' resilience is being investigated. We have not begun the planned survey since response rates to telephone and web surveys have declined precipitously in Canada since we planned the partnership's activities. Longitudinal research methods are under review to identify the most effective for the partnership.

The analysis of secondary data is progressing, albeit more slowly than planned. Analyses began after extensive consultations with partners whose requests included comparative analyses of the immigration class of newcomers and their industries of employment. Similar reports are planned regarding the occupations of migrant men and women, their educational attainments, and the skills mismatch in each metropolitan area.

Using the initial findings from these studies,

- Consultations are ongoing regarding **analysis of administrative data** to which we gained access after lengthy negotiations.
- Having delayed the planned survey in light of declining response rates to telephone

BMRC Midterm Report Findings:
Sections 1 & 2

and web surveys, **longitudinal research methods** are under review to identify the most effective for the partnership and two pilot studies in Toronto and Kitchener- Waterloo are being used to evaluate the feasibility of various sampling and survey methods.

- The feasibility of piloting **techniques for scanning and mapping local resources and services** available to each immigration class as part of on-going neighbourhood studies is being assessed.

Coordinating research across the city networks is a challenge as the Expert Panel and Review Committee anticipated. The partnership has face-to-face meetings twice each year where research progress and challenges are major topics, network meetings review research activities at regular intervals, and electronic communication among researchers in comparative projects is frequent. Three research tables link projects in different networks by bringing together partners who are working on similar studies.

2) Knowledge mobilization activities are proceeding and evolving as planned or, if not, the partnership has overcome challenges and adjusted plans appropriately and effectively to keep the project on track.

Provide links to the project's website and/or any social media:

BMRC-IRMU Project Website: <http://bmrc-irmu.info.yorku.ca/> BMRC-

IRMU Twitter: https://twitter.com/bmrc_irmu

BMRC-IRMU Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BMRCIRMURearch/>

BMRC-IRMU Youtube: <https://bit.ly/2xA8aH5>

BMRC-IRMU Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/153169556@N08/sets/72157692123391670/>

Refer to SSHRC's [Guidelines for Effective Knowledge Mobilization](#) for examples of effective knowledge mobilization activities.

Describe the knowledge mobilization activities and events that have been accomplished to date and the extent to which your project is meeting the measures of success as outlined in your application and/or Milestone Report. If the expert panel and/or the adjudication committee at the Formal application stage raised concerns or made suggestions for improvement related to knowledge mobilization, describe how this feedback has been addressed. If you have experienced challenges, describe them and how they have been addressed. If you have adjusted your plans, explain and justify these changes. Finally, briefly outline your plans moving forward and describe how they will allow you to meet the goals and objectives of your project. You may wish to include, as an appendix, diagrams or charts that help to clarify your knowledge mobilization plans.

The partnership uses multiple modes of dissemination, guided by a KM strategy that focuses on knowledge exchange, capacity building and knowledge synthesis. Developed by the KM Officer, the strategy is reviewed regularly by a small committee that includes an academic partner with experience as a policy analyst and a community partner with a background in public education and community engagement and KM initiatives are approved by the co- chairs of the city networks.

BMRC Midterm Report Findings:
Sections 1 & 2

The partnership is generally on target to achieve its knowledge mobilization objectives (See Appendix 3). We have completed over 26(25) presentations and 4(10) media interviews with plans for another 21 presentations and 2 more media interviews (Numbers in parentheses are targets from *Milestone Report*). Partners produced 6(6) peer-reviewed journal articles, 3(5) book chapters and 19(20) reports; another 15 journal articles, 3 chapters and 27 additional reports are planned. We had planned 3 conferences and 15 workshops. So far, 2 community fora, 2 partnership meetings, 10 conference sessions and 12 workshops took place. Another 2 community fora, 3 partnership meetings, 7 conference sessions and 8 workshops are planned.

As planned, we created a bilingual website that hosts core content including publications, audio and video recordings, and announcements regarding the project and ongoing research. We are actively engaging audiences on social media and through the BMRC-IRMU monthly E-Bulletin. Most knowledge mobilization activities have been implemented by the city networks with the assistance of the KM Officer. He coordinated the planning and organization of the most recent community forum in Toronto that welcomed over 100 people from the settlement sector, including academics, community leaders, service providers and policymakers even though it had to be relocated at the last moment due to the York strike.

At this early stage, journal articles have been published mainly in open access journals although many peer-reviewed subscription-based journal articles and book chapters are planned. At least one book about a resilience approach to settlement is also under discussion. We have three strategies to increase media coverage and interactions with the general public.

The partnership will participate in an online publishing platform, *The Conversation* that attracts academics and policy analysts. Its articles are often used by major media outlets that are read widely by the general public.

- We are emphasizing training in plain language writing so research summaries and short articles generate more interest from the media.
- Each city network has been asked to nominate a social media champion, initiating and forwarding social media reports about the partnership. Through these social media champions, we hope to engage our non-university partners in KM and increase our outreach to ethnic media.

We are considering how to supplement the numerical metrics that do not capture fully the partnership's reputation for relevant and important research. For example, *La Stratégie montréalaise pour une ville résiliente* released in June 2018 by the Resilience Office of the City of Montreal acknowledges the partnership's contributions to its initiatives.

Publications

2018

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Désilets, G. (2018) « Du bagel au yoga de luxe: Consommer un vivre ensemble imaginé rue Saint-Viateur » *Vivre ensemble à Montréal. Épreuves et convivialités* Edited by Germain, A., Amiraux, V. et Boudreau, J. Atelier 10, Montréal. p. 64.

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Appendix 4

Research Theme: International Students

Team: Sutama, Christina, Tara, Chedly, Duncan

1. Research Question(s)

- The role of Universities fostering Resilience for International Students
- Transition from International Students to Permanent Students
- Comparison between Concordia & Carleton Students (50)
- Reviewing any data available from international Students (comparison between universities & colleges in various cities) (ie: last place of residence, what are your sub-sections, and intended destination, etc.)
- Interested in structures that frame International Students services
- What services are available for International Students and temporary migrants?
- What are the intentions of the International Student?
- What are their pathways to becoming a permanent student?
- What are their experiences of being an International Student?
- What are their experiences on the pathways to becoming a permanent student?
- What are the dynamics of the city? (How the students live/what do they eat, etc)
- Interested in focusing on Montreal and International Students
- What is the health care like for International Students?
- What roles does each institution think about their international students?
- How does the institution engage and help their international students to move forward?
- How do different communities help/think about immigrant students?
- How institutions market for international students? Why?

2. Relevance to Partnership Research Program

- What services are available for International/migrant students becoming permanent residences?
- Interface between employers and Universities for international students
- Comparison between cities, institutions, retention, & services
- Comparison between mid-size cities and their dynamics
- How students go through with their experiences (institution based/ city based/ country based)
- Compare/Contrast students from various years (undergrad? Grad?)
- Comparison between students from different regions
- Strategy: find common thread, and then branch out to separate research
- Common thread: Institutional Mapping, then branch out and tackle universities, resilience and housing separately

3. Methods

- Mapping Institutions, Identify International Students, Record Pathways and experience to permanent residency, and institutional mapping services (universities/college services for international students)
- Quantitative Research
- Look at models of recruitment
- Focus primarily on Montreal and then branch out
- Individual student research from each institution
- Check LitReview on the Transitions of International Students
- Connect with Christina's Proposal to plan out

4. Next Steps

June – Aug 31, 2018

- Sharing LitReviews, Proposals –Chedly, Christina, & Sutama
- Sharing projects and sharp knowledge synthesis

Sept 1 – Nov 30, 2018

- Interviews within institutions (50; 25 males, 25 females)
- Look at the family members of the interviewees

Dec 1 – Mar 31, 2019

N/A

Notes: Settlement Services Group

Overview of Projects

- Supporting information needs of immigrants: Michaela not here, but it is about the settlement information that newcomers need, access to information about services
- Vivon no quartiers: action research project, aim is to document project and its outcomes. Seven neighbourhoods who have been involved in the projects with different needs. The project offers two days of training based on the needs (cultural competency, settlement services, or asylum seekers) and public awareness activities. Lots of demand for training. 180 hours of field observations and has documented the steering committee meetings. Have done a reviewed the main welcome communities indicators and are coding the data from the research to analyse how it fits in the literature. Next steps is they will come up with a report in the fall. Ottawa-Gatineau hoping to do a similar projects.
- Transformative Resilience: look at the role of community based settlement agencies and transformative resilience. Working with Access Alliance to see how these groups are engaged with transformative resilience.
- Sanctuary Cities: Headed out of Concordia, coming out of Montreal. Comparative project on Toronto and Montreal because both are 'sanctuary cities'. Do a scan of policy documents related to sanctuary cities and access needs of the cities.
- Le Role de Eglises: What the churches can and will do to help Syrian and Refugee Claimants (a comparison of the two groups). One year project, with two levels; the first level will be the psychological side working and they will work with a specialist from Haiti who did his dissertation on resilience; the second level is focused on sociological, how can you analyze the churches and the settlement sector-pointing to what the churches do is different, that is focused on social capital. Will interview pastors to see what they do, what they should do and what they want to do. Will be conducted with two services: Resilience Office and the Montreal Newcomer Officer as both are interested in the role of the religious groups with newcomer settlement.
- Settlement Sector Practices and Resilience: Resilience of settlement frontline workers. Given the streaming conditions how are they coping in Ontario Cities, two agencies in each City. This is a bit of an overlap of research with the Vivon no quartiers project.
- Resilience of the Settlement Sector: funded and built off of the resilience discourse analysis and will do the same for the settlement sector in Ontario Cities. Assess settlement documents for 'resilience.'
- Role of neighbourhoods in promoting resilience: Pilot study looking at two neighbourhood, two in Ottawa and two in Gatineau. The role of neighbours in the trajectory of newcomers, comparative project in ON and QB. Photo voice approach, some interested in Toronto and Montreal. May be able to work.
- Syrian Refugees, Outaouis: looking at the resilience of Gatineau when they resettlement Syrian Refugees

Four points that came out of the session

- 1) There are some overlaps and many complementary aspects of the projects: There are only four projects that have overlaps: the two neighbourhood projects and the two settlement projects on resilience discourse and frontline workers. These groups will get together and coordinate their research to avoid overlap.

- 2) Develop a coordinating mechanism: to map research projects, identify overlaps and complementarities and develop knowledge mobilization.
 - a. Timeline: Over the next month a coordinating mechanism will be formed
- 3) Ensure all research is accessible and useful for the community and settlement practitioners
- 4) Moving forward on research: Systematic comparison of the settlement services sector and settlement work between the two provinces: funding, programming and delivery for the settlement sector and the training, recruitment, and retention of settlement service workers.

Other Recommendations

- Some overlap of the Settlement Sector practices and neighbourhoods projects with the precarious employment research lead by Lewchuck (and John Shields is an editor), a couple articles on non-profits. There was also a photo voice project led by Grade-Edwards Galabuzi.
- Might be interested in comparing religious organizations role in settlement in Ontario and Quebec
- There are some Gatineau newcomer residents that access services in Ottawa
- For the study on settlement workers, analyse the demographics of staff.
- Needs assessment of (or lack thereof) settlement services for Francophone newcomers in Ontario

Longitudinal Research Discussion

Facilitator: Anneke Rummens

The facilitator explained the goal of the discussion. It was necessary to find synergies together to fulfill the grant provided for the partnership project.

Round table

Marshia Akbar (postdoctoral fellow/York) is doing data analysis based on 3 censuses and 2 data sets from the IMDB (Longitudinal Migration Database). The first set links the landing data to tax recording to track income and location of the people. The second data set analyses the transitions from temporary to permanent residence status crossing the data with demographic parameters.

Diane Dyson (WoodGreen) stated her team was not able to do community based projects.

Jenna Hennebry (Wilfred Laurier University) is doing research on temporary residents looking to move to long-term stay moving through various pathways (immigration status). The process is going to be analyzed, understood and explained using gender lens (they are trying to create a gender based analysis tool and to highlight the difference between gender and sex). The focus of the research is only on temporary migrants: international students, high and low skilled workers and refugee claimants. The purpose of the project is to understand the real context in order to be able to provide direction to community partners.

Jenna explained the projects she is working on related to non-permanent migrants. A pilot longitudinal research: qualitative study that analyses the resources (where do they come from?), understands migrants' strategies and the institutional resilience from the migrant perspective through gender lens. The design of the study is through the use of in-depth qualitative interviews for tracking where the resources are, where people are. A second study is based on migration trajectories. In this project the work is done with adult temporary residents. It looks

to explain how they navigate through different trajectories to become resilient either to stay or return to the home country successfully with money or anything else they were looking for. How they are supported. The project purpose is to triangulate all the studies already done by analyzing how the resources and opportunities for migrants have changed as well as their trajectories and pathways (vertical-horizontal).

Nancy Mandell (Sociology/York University) – Her study is on South Asian and Chinese newcomers household in North region and how they secured economic stability, taking in consideration the intersection with all other settlement issues. Nancy explained there is no academic research on household achievements and how they settled they resources. There is no evidence of what they really do. The study looks up to 3 people at a household. The design of the research is looking at them twice and interviewing them over two points in time. Questions: Settlement issues and how they manage them. How decisions work over time. The study is using family based methodology to examine household family.

Feedback from the discussion table: there is a study of household made already, led by Harald Bauder (Ryerson University). The research includes interviews made to 22 families. However, Nancy's project is looking to a specific region that might yield different results.

It was also said that it might be important to look in to the transnational networks of the families and how networks are understood.

Jelena Zikic (York University) – Jelena's team is interviewing 15 people with successful resilience stories. Their research goal is to answer the questions of how immigrants cope their obstacles. They are looking into both types of resilience: survivor or economic. The team is looking for 15 more interviews to complete the study. They are using grounded theory. They are looking to have a process model explaining migrants' resilience as a final goal. It is retrospective study that wants to

answer the following questions: why migrants wanted to immigrate, how they took the decision, what they found was different from their expectations?

Antoine Bilodeau (Concordia University) – Antoine's research team is looking on how immigrants develop their relationship with host political system. How the majority groups react with the presence of the migrants. How minorities react politically when they face discrimination. If someone is subject of discrimination and is isolated he/she does not react as if community surrounds him/her. The project also looks into the participation of ethnic groups to understand the role of local contexts – how welcoming or hostile is the community with the migrants. This project is build with a cross-sectional analysis through 2 surveys: minority and majority groups. They look to answer how minority groups participate (politics) and what majority groups think of minorities. The fieldwork is going to take place in winter (2019). This study is at a micro level - local context are neighbourhoods and suburbs in Montréal as well as suburbs: Quebec City, Sherbrooke and Gatineau.

Highlights of the discussion

- Resilience is a process that needs longitudinal analysis
- 4 main researches:
 - Individual (temporary) newcomers based on their immigration status (Gender focus) / Jenna
 - Newcomers' household / Nancy
 - Individual newcomers and their trajectories / Jelena
 - Individual newcomers and relations to community / Antoine
- The analysis can be retrospective or longitudinal and cross sectional.
- Benefits of longitudinal research. It captures more recent stories of people. It looks migrants' particular interest in different places. Cons – People are lost through the research (they change residence, withdraw the research, etc)

- Making Ontario home survey – tool that can be used to take some questions in future researches.
- Qualitative research is very important as migrants are not only numbers.
- Importance of sharing research results and researches (i.e. Harald Bauder research about household)
- Importance of looking standard indicators that show migrants' resilience
- Longitudinal IMDB allows looking at permanent residents' income, location, labour market intention. These indicators are useful to IRCC and stats; however, immigration class of entry is not a good predictor of settlement and employment income. IRCC is not considering that settlement is a dynamic process.
- Therefore, **what is a good predictor of successful settlement? What makes resilient to immigrants?**

Conclusion

- Datasets on hand: are they going to be useful for all studies? Are they going to be useful for the design of longitudinal research? How can they be improved?
- What is working in terms of resilience? What is the mechanism that supports success for immigrants?
- Partners need to think about the resources to develop collectively and use resources efficiently.
- What does the partnership is going to do with the outputs of the research? – What are the outcomes and impacts? How this informs policy?
- Policy is funded in a set of assumptions not in realities
- Next steps:
 - To share and compare resources so that people can see what they can use in their respective researches.
 - Speak to Harald so that he makes “making Ontario home” information accessible.
 - Marshia will send the descriptions of the datasets she is working on.

- Jenna and David will look for indicators highlighted in previous researches.
- Working groups will be made
- Valerie is trying to see the way to coordinate the big research. Not clear how all projects is fitting together

TRY TO ANSWER: **What is a good predictor of successful settlement?**

What makes resilient immigrants?

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BMRC Partnership meeting – December 13-14, 2018
List of Participants

Last Name	First Name	Organization	Region
Akanko	Henry	United Way	Ottawa-Gatineau
Akbar	Marshia	York University	York region
Belice	Daniella	Ryerson University	Toronto
Bhuyan	Rupaleem	University of Toronto	Toronto
Bobadilla	Andrea	University of Toronto	Toronto
Ray	Brian	University of Ottawa	Ottawa-Gatineau
	Chelsea	York University	York region
Dauphin	Anyck	UQO	Ottawa-Gatineau
Désilets	Gabrielle	Concordia University	Montréal
Dyson	Diane	WoodGreen Community Services	Toronto
		City of Toronto's Newcomers Office	Toronto
Dodic	Vera		Toronto
Ekra	Manolli	OCASI	Toronto
Gabriel	Christina	Carleton University	Ottawa-Gatineau
Ghosh	Sutama	Ryerson University	Toronto
Iroanyah	Ngozi	York University	York Region
Kerr	Gerry	University of Windsor	Windsor
Lenard	Patti	University of Ottawa	Ottawa-Gatineau
Mandell	Nancy	York University	York Region
McDonough	Laura	United Way	York region
Paquet	Mireille	Concordia University	Montréal
Patel	Dipti	LIP	York region
Preston	Valerie	York University	York region
Rose	Damaris	INRS	Montréal
Schlosser	Francine	University of Windsor	Windsor
Shields	John	Ryerson University	Toronto
Turegun	Adnan	York University	York region
			Kitchener-Waterloo
Walton-Roberts	Margaret	Wilfrid Laurier University	Waterloo
Wedlock	Jane	United Way Greater Toronto	Toronto

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Date	Description	# of KM's	Amount @ 45¢	Air, Bus or Rail	Taxis	Lodging	Meals	Hospitality	Other	
Total Expenses										A

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	001623	200	233009	GST rebatable expenses	\$		x 0.0258	
	001680	200	233009	HST rebatable expenses	\$		x 0.078	
	Total Expenses							
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Title & Unit	Date	Title & Unit	Date
Prepared by (print)	Signature	Secondary Approver's Name (print)	Approver's Signature
Phone	Date	Title & Unit	Date