

# BMRC-IRMU FINAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING

**October 12, 2023**

# EVALUATING COMMUNITY-ACADEMIC RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS: FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

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# THE RESEARCH PROJECT

## **Stalled Mobility: Income Inequality and Intergenerational Relationships among South Asian and Chinese Households in York Region**

### **Research Description:**

Our research explores how immigrant youth, adults and senior Chinese and South Asians in York Region use family relations and multigenerational households to tackle the material, social and cultural settlement challenges they face

# SETTING THE CONTEXT

## LITERATURE REVIEW

- Newcomers experience economic, cultural, gender and racial settlement and integration challenges
- Newcomers face economic precarity exacerbated by generational differences
- Newcomers use individual strategies to resolve settlement challenges
- Families represent sources of strain as generational differences clash
- Families also act buffers against financial insecurity, systemic racism and gender inequalities

## TASKS

- Reviewed 150+ academic and non-academic articles, books, book chapters and reports
- Concentrated on the following themes:
  - Settlement
  - Integration
  - Economics
  - Culture
  - Language
  - Health
  - Housing
  - Family

# METHODS

## RECRUITMENT

- Participants were recruited through: social networks, social media, snowball sampling, and at various locations

## INTERVIEWS

- Between May 2019 and May 2020, in-depth interviews were conducted with 33 South Asian participants and 39 Chinese participants, in person or by telephone.

## PARTICIPANTS

- The South Asian participants include: 10 Seniors, 8 Adults, and 15 Youths
- The Chinese participants include: 10 Seniors, 10 Adults, and 19 Youths

## TASKS

- Recruited participants
- Conducted interviews with the participants
- Conducted follow-up interviews

# FINDINGS

## Youth, adults and seniors face different but overlapping settlement challenges:

- Youth face challenges with navigating the school system and finding part-time employment, in addition to experiencing loneliness, isolation, and depression
- Adults, usually mothers, struggle to find adequate child care
- Adults also experience credentialism and anxiety over the well-being of their families
- Seniors find it difficult to access information and healthcare
  - Seniors rely on their adult children for emotional, financial, and instrumental support
  - South Asian seniors are more likely than Chinese seniors to be dependent on their adult children

# TASKS

## Data Analysis:

- Coded interviews using MAXQDA
- Participated in knowledge mobilization activities

# HOW CAN THIS RESEARCH BE USED?

**Policymakers,  
professionals,  
government officials,  
and civil society groups  
could use this research  
to better understand:**

2. How newcomers activate individual, community and family resources to enhance their resilience in facing these challenges

1. How youth, adults, and senior immigrants encounter settlement challenges

3. How, despite these resources, economic precarity continues

**WHAT  
CHALLENGES  
DID  
GRADUATE  
STUDENTS  
FACE?**

Data Handover

Technical Difficulties

Communication  
Challenges

Transfer of the  
Honorarium



**WHAT  
BENEFITS  
DID  
GRADUATE  
STUDENTS  
GAIN?**

Academic and  
Community  
Connections

Learned How Community  
Organizations Operate

Putting Theory  
into Practice

Excellent Research  
Training

# HOW DID YOUR INVOLVEMENT SHAPE YOUR FUTURE RESEARCH?

**Understand the crucial role** of communities in the settlement and integration of newcomers

**Advocate** for more funding for communities

**Learn to collaborate** across multiple sectors

**Implement collaborative principles** in future research projects

**Gain** the confidence and ability to lead research projects in the future

**Write, conduct and complete** a community-academic research project

**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

