

# NEWS AND UPDATES

## MIGRATION AND RESILIENCE IN URBAN CANADA

March 27, 2017

It was a pleasure to see people at the National Metropolis meetings in Montreal. We had a very successful workshop in Montreal in which Florence Boudreau made a presentation about a project entitled “Welcoming Neighbourhoods” directed by TCRI, the umbrella organization for immigrant-serving organizations in Quebec and Centraide Montreal. In a second presentation, Marshia Akbar reviewed recent literature about immigration and resilience, and I introduced the partnership. The comments from Vera Dodic summarized practitioners’ and policymakers’ views of the topic. Brian Ray kept us all on time and facilitated the discussion. The presentations are available in the partnership dropbox. To access the dropbox, go to [www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com) and then, sign in by using the following username and password:

[cerisyorku@outlook.com](mailto:cerisyorku@outlook.com)

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If your dropbox opens automatically, you need to sign out and start by going to the website.

### **Migration and Resilience Literature Review**

The review of recent literature by Dr. Marshia Akbar is now available in the dropbox along with a two-page executive summary under the tab entitled *Working Papers, Reports, Presentations*. Annick Germain’s comments about the value of a resilience approach are also available under this tab.

### **City Network News**

Any questions about the city networks should be directed to Adnan Türegün, Partnership Liaison, [türegun@yorku.ca](mailto:türegun@yorku.ca).

### *Montreal*

The network has retained Gabrielle Désilets, a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the *Institut de la Recherche Scientifique – Urbanisation, Culture, Société*, as Project Manager.

Chedly Belkhodja, academic co-chair of the network, and Florence Boudreau of the *Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes* (TCRI) participated in the Migration and Resilience in Urban Canada panel at the 19<sup>th</sup> National Metropolis Conference (Montreal, March 18, 2017). This issue of the newsletter has a detailed coverage of the panel.

On March 8, Chedly Belkhodja met with the team of the [Institut de recherche sur l'intégration professionnelle des immigrants](#) (IRIPI). He also had discussions with the Table d'arrondissement Peter-McGill, potential partner for a project on diversity, and the [Quebec Community Groups Network](#) (QCGN).

### *Ottawa-Gatineau*

Based on its inaugural meeting in December, the Ottawa-Gatineau City Network has developed a draft work plan and circulated among its membership for feedback. The work plan will be finalized following feedback from membership by the end of March. Currently, the plan identifies three main areas of interest to the Ottawa-Gatineau regional community, as well as considering broader research approaches and methodology. The three research areas are settlement patterns; discrimination; and settlement structures, policies, and practices across the region.

### *York Region*

The network had its inaugural meeting on March 3. Jason Hastings of the Regional Municipality of York has been acclaimed as the non-academic co-chair of the network.

The meeting discussed areas of interest to York Region, as well as overviewing the organization of the partnership and overall project goals. Among several options considered, the impact of social institutions on migrant resilience emerged as the primary focus of the network for its research activities.

Another meeting of the network is scheduled for April 19.

### *Toronto*

The network had its second meeting on March 3. A subcommittee was formed to draft the terms of reference for the network and its membership. The network unanimously elected Diane Dyson of WoodGreen Community Services/Toronto South Local Immigration Partnership as its non-academic co-chair. The next meeting of the network is scheduled for April.

Ryerson University's Harald Bauder organized a session titled "Integration Trajectories of Immigrant Families" as part of the 19<sup>th</sup> National Metropolis Conference. The session reported on the results of a community-academic partnership project that explores the complex roles families play in the integration of immigrants and discussed implications for policy making, program development, and future research. The presenters were: Mehru Ali (Who are Immigrants' Families and How do They Shape their Migration and Settlement Decisions?), John Shields & Maria Gintova (Settling on Services: Understanding the Place of Services in Immigrant Family Integration in the GTA), Sepali Guruge (The Contextual Influence on Migration and Settlement Related Decision-Making: Why, Where, When, What and How), and Marc Yvan Valade & Vappu Tyyskä (Immigrant Youth and Parental Dialectics in the Resettled Family).

Here's a list of recent publications from participants and partners affiliated with the Toronto City Network:

Sophia Lowe, Ted Richmond, and John Shields (2017), "[Settling on Austerity: ISAs, Immigrant Communities and Neoliberal Restructuring,](#)" *Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research* 28: 14-46.

Graham Hudson, Idil Atak; Michele Manocchi, and Charity-Ann Hannan (2107), "[\(No\) Access T.O.: A Pilot Study on Sanctuary City Policy in Toronto, Canada,](#)" RCIS Working Paper 2017/1.

Ana Vila Freyer (2016), "[Transnational Social Resilience in La Costa Region of Chiapas, Mexico,](#)" RCIS Working Paper 2016/2.

### *Kitchener-Waterloo*

The Kitchener-Waterloo City Network, led by the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC), has engaged in collaborative initiatives/activities this month, including:

The network met on March 23 to finalize its proposed activities in the coming months. Background research and situational analysis have begun.

Mikal Skuterud of the University of Waterloo, a member of the network and a collaborator in the partnership project, gave a presentation in the IMRC – Third Age Learning Guelph Winter Lecture Series: "[World In Motion: International Migration and Refugee Trends and Challenges.](#)"

Community partners, the Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support, K-W Local Immigration Partnership, K-W Multicultural Centre, and many others are coming together in a collaborative conference this month, "Up/Rooted: Refugees, Resettlement, Community Conference," organized by the IMRC in partnership with Wilfrid Laurier University and the Balsillie School of International Affairs. The three-day event (March 30 – April 1) brings together scholars, students, refugees, artists, politicians, and community members and organizations to generate innovative perspectives and dialogue around the refugee experience, challenges, and successes. The conference focuses on the Region of Waterloo's experience and will provide a valuable opportunity for substantive discussion among members of the K-W Network. For more detail, visit: <http://imrc.ca/uprooted/>.

### *Windsor*

The network met on March 24 to discuss and draft a research program around the resilience of international students, particularly, with a view to their post-graduation employment chances.

### **Steering Committee News**

The Steering Committee, including co-chairs of the city networks, met via teleconference on March 24. It discussed ethics review, coordinating research activities of the city networks, the possibility of a

symposium in May 2017, and project reporting. A detailed report of the meeting will be available in the April newsletter. The Steering Committee will hold another teleconference in April.

### **KM News**

The KM Committee continued to meet in February. The minutes are also available in the dropbox. The Committee received four responses about recent research that is ready to be presented in plain language summaries and Raymond Hyma has started working on them. The basic information for the website is almost ready to go to translation. A draft KM plan, acronyms, and logos are under discussion. The KM Committee will meet again in early April. Please let Camila Bonifaz, [cbonifaz@yorku.ca](mailto:cbonifaz@yorku.ca) if you have any comments or suggestions for the KM Committee.

### **Executive Committee News**

The Executive Committee had its first telephone meeting on March 2, when the committee approved an ad for a postdoc who will be responsible for the initial analysis of migration and settlement trends in the partners' cities. At the next meeting, the committee will discuss a template for workplans to accompany all budget transfers. At its next meeting, the committee will discuss the template as well as look at the budget.

### **Call for Papers**

John Shields, Co-chair of the Toronto City Network wants to bring the following call for contributions to a book about migration and resilience to everyone's attention.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Contextualizing Immigrant Resilience: Cultural and Acculturation Perspectives**

Co-Editors: Derya Güngör, Yaşar University, Turkey  
Dagmar Strohmeier, University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria, Austria

Springer invites manuscripts for an edited volume to explore the role of cultural context and behaviors in the resilience of immigrants across the lifespan. Migration brings opportunities for growth and welfare of immigrants but it also poses challenges due to interrupted life course and loss of social support and status. Cultural differences and social status gaps to the disadvantage of immigrants are a major source of stress and a risk factor for well-being and healthy development. Despite the prevailing deficiency perspective focusing on the vulnerability and problems related to migration, most immigrants prove to be resilient, showing high well-being and adaptation to the demands of their new lives. However, little is known of the role of cultural contexts, meanings, and participation in the resilience of immigrants. Our volume aims to combine resilience and acculturation frameworks to better understand the adaptation process of immigrants of various age groups. Key questions can include, but are not limited to:

1. How can immigrant resilience be conceptualized and explored within the cultural and acculturation frameworks?
2. What are cultural dimensions and meanings of immigrant resilience from multiple perspectives?
3. How do various cultural dimensions and meanings impact immigrant resilience?
4. How do various acculturation pathways impact the availability and accessibility of resilience resources provided by sociocultural ecologies?
5. What are the acculturation patterns and pathways underlying resilience of immigrant groups from different national cultures, ages, regions, religions, social class, gender, generations?
6. How can immigrant resilience be promoted by evidence-based programs informed by acculturation frameworks?

We are inviting empirical papers applying quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method designs which focus on various immigrant groups and the intersectionalities of different national/ ethnic/ religious cultures, ages, regions, social class, gender, and generations etc.. Integrative, critical reviews based on empirical research are also welcome contributions.

There will be two submission stages: (1) A general statement of interest with a title and 300-word submission will be due **June 1, 2017**, submitted to Derya Güngör ([derya.gungor@yasar.edu.tr](mailto:derya.gungor@yasar.edu.tr)) and Dagmar Strohmeier ([dagmar.strohmeier@fh-linz.at](mailto:dagmar.strohmeier@fh-linz.at)). Selected papers will be determined by July 15, 2017 and the authors will be invited to submit their manuscripts. Please submit a Word document, including all authors' affiliations, professional positions (e.g., Associate Professor, doctoral student), and email addresses; and (2) Final papers, which will be due February 1, 2018, should be 25-35 pages in length, including tables, figures, and references. Please send any questions regarding submissions to Derya Güngör ([derya.gungor@yasar.edu.tr](mailto:derya.gungor@yasar.edu.tr)) or Dagmar Strohmeier ([dagmar.strohmeier@fh-linz.at](mailto:dagmar.strohmeier@fh-linz.at)).