



BMRC IRMU

NEWS AND UPDATES

MIGRATION AND RESILIENCE IN URBAN CANADA

May 25, 2017

Spring has finally arrived, and with it, meetings and presentations. At the end of April, during a meeting with the Director for Knowledge Management, Partnerships, and Research at Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada, Mr. Enrico Del Castello, I learned about the IRCC virtual library. Detailed instructions about how to access it are at the end of the newsletter. In Toronto, I also introduced the partnership and its plans to the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Working Group that discusses immigration levels. The powerpoint is in the dropbox.

There is a lot of news from the KM Committee concerning the logo, an email address, Research Digests, and efforts to hire a Knowledge Broker. Have a look.

I also want to welcome Dr. Marshia Akbar as a postdoctoral visitor beginning on May 15, 2017. Based at York University, Marshia will be analysing migration and settlement trends in each city. She will be consulting the city networks about their data needs as well as compiling an inventory of existing reports and information. I want to thank Marshia for her work assisting with the preparation of the proposal and initial administrative issues such as the newsletter, the Montreal meeting, and the dropbox where we share information. I am grateful to Jenna Hennebry who served on the hiring committee.

We are re-organizing administrative support for the partnership by hiring a Knowledge Broker and an Office Assistant. Watch for more news next month.

KM Committee News

The KM Committee's hard work is coming to fruition. At the top of the newsletter, you will see the partnership's logo that includes its acronym in English; Building Migrant Resilience in Cities (BMRC) and in French; Immigration et Résilience en Milieu Urbain (IRMU). I haven't got the formatting right yet, but we may solve that problem for the next newsletter. The entire KM Committee contributed to the logo; however, Jane Yegorov's expertise as a designer was crucial. She incorporated all our concerns and suggestions with tremendous grace and patience.

The partnership now has an email address, bmrc_irmu@yorku.ca. Please note there is an underscore between the two acronyms. The email address will be checked regularly so we encourage everyone to use it.

Three *Research Digests* have been produced for publication on the website. Raymond Hyma has done a masterful job developing a template that will make it easy for researchers to draft their own plain language summaries and work with the Knowledge Broker to finalize them.

The website is almost ready. The initial material is being translated now. The position of Knowledge Broker was advertised in May. Thanks to all of you who circulated it. We are organising interviews for early in June.

Steering Committee News

The Steering Committee met on April 21 and May 19 via teleconference to plan its Strategy Planning Meeting, which will be held on June 8–9, 2017, at York University (Keele Campus), Toronto. A summary report of the meeting will be available in the June newsletter. Any questions about the city networks should be directed to Adnan Türegün, Partnership Liaison, turegun@yorku.ca.

Executive Committee News

Taking advantage of a fleeting opportunity, the Executive Committee approved a request for support from Mireille Paquet, Antoine Bilodeau, and Chedly Belkhodja for a proposal

entitled *Stratégies participatives des personnes immigrantes et minorités ethnoculturelles au Québec : Mieux comprendre l'effet structurant des dispositions sociétales dans 16 localités*. The proposed research that will investigate civic participation on the part of immigrants and ethno-racial minorities in 16 Quebec communities relates directly to the partnership's research about resilience indicators. The Executive Committee will develop a process and guidelines for supporting such initiatives in the next couple of months.

Jennifer Kandji, a Ph.D. Candidate at the Balsillie School of International Affairs and the University of Waterloo, will attend the The Policy and Politics of Refugee Resettlement in Canada Summer School at Concordia University with support from the partnership.

City Network News

Montreal

Partners

- We are pleased to announce that Stephan Reichhold of the *Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes* (TCRI) has been confirmed as non-academic co-chair of the network.
- The *Bureau d'intégration des nouveaux arrivants à Montréal* (BINAM), *Ville de Montréal*, has agreed to join the partnership as a partner organization and Jessica Lagacé-Banville, *Conseillère en planification*, as a collaborator.

The network is in the process of bringing in two new partners to the project:

[Centraide du Grand Montréal](#) as a partner organization, and Pierre-Constantin Charles, *Conseiller en planification et en développement*, as a collaborator.

[Institut de recherche sur l'intégration professionnelle des immigrants](#) (IRIPI), as a partner research organization from the *College de Maisonneuve*, with Thomas Gulian, Director.

Meetings

The network met on May 11 during the ACFAS congress at McGill. Michèle Vatz Laroussi from Université de Sherbrooke, Damaris Rose from INRS-UCS, Chedly Belkhodja, and Gabrielle Désilets discussed the orientation of the network, its potential collaborators and co-investigators, and the nature of its support in establishing regional city networks in Sherbrooke and Quebec City.

Members' Activities

- Damaris Rose, a member of the network, held a Webinar on May 17 on the topic of her recent research project: *Trouver des logements pour les personnes réfugiées accueillies dans le cadre de l'opération « Bienvenue aux Syriens » : une analyse pancanadienne.*

The presentation is available online as a [PDF](#). Here is a direct link to the Video recording (01:41, including question period):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XdljsPO4fkU>.

This is how to cite/reference the Webinar (feel free to cite any of the content as long as you acknowledge the source and the fact that these are preliminary findings):

Rose, Damaris & Alexandra Charette. 2017. Webinar: Finding housing for the Syrian refugee newcomers in Canadian cities: challenges, initiatives and (preliminary) lessons learned. On-line [Montréal]: Quebec Interuniversity Centre for Social Statistics, on behalf of INRS – Centre Urbanisation Culture Société.

- Participation and networking at the Peter-McGill Community Council launch of the [Collective Impact Project](#) (CIP, Centraide) in the district: “5 à 7” event, Building our Neighbourhood, Together, at 5pm on Thursday, May 25 at 2205 Tupper Street.

This collective mobilization project seeks to develop more public spaces in the neighbourhood, including green space, social housing, a primary school, and community centre, that meet the needs of families, youth, the elderly, and the community at large. Fifty percent of the residents of the Peter McGill district are immigrants.

- The Centre for Immigration Policy Evaluation (CIPE) at Concordia University is holding the *Journée d'étude du CEPI 2017* on May 26, 10am – 5pm: « [Un an plus tard : l'expérience d'accueil des réfugiés syriens au Québec et au Canada](#) »

Ottawa-Gatineau

We are pleased to announce that Hindia Mohamoud of the Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership and Cristian Penca of the *Ville de Gatineau* have been confirmed as non-academic co-chairs of the network.

York Region

The network continues to develop the research framework for going forward. To inform this framework, United Way Toronto and York Region conducted community consultations with our stakeholders in May. One of these consultations took place at York Region with the York Region Community Partnership Council. The network will meet again on June 13 to further this work based on the feedback. The co-chairs, Nancy Mandell and Lois Davies, have hired a grad assistant to assist with research over the summer months.

Toronto

United Way Toronto and York Region hosted two consultations in May with member agencies and key stakeholders in Toronto and York Region to obtain their input on the research. Diane Dyson, non-academic co-chair, attended the Toronto meeting on May 23.

One of the other points of discussion at our table is that both Montreal and Toronto are part of the 100 Resilient Cities global network, where we expect migration will certainly have to be part of the focus.

The network had its monthly meeting on May 12.

Kitchener-Waterloo

The network met in May to choose its non-academic co-chair, who will be announced shortly.

Windsor

Francine Schlosser, academic co-chair, attending the Conference Board of Canada's "[Canadian Immigration Summit 2017: Innovating at 150 and Beyond](#)" on May 9–10 in Ottawa. She also met with representatives of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada in May to discuss how the University of Windsor's Entrepreneurship, Practice and Innovation Centre (EPICentre) can become involved to make Windsor a destination for immigrant entrepreneurs.

Partner News

IRCC

Enrico del Castello has replaced Dr. Xiaoyi Yan as the representative of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). I want to thank Xiaoyi for her crucial support and comments as we prepared the proposal.

In the Ottawa network, Dr. Chudou Lynhiavu will represent IRCC and the branch led by Enrico del Castello.

Accessing the IRCC Virtual Library

Eleanor Berry, the very helpful librarian at IRCC, has provided the following information about how to access IRCC publications through their virtual library. Here is her message copied verbatim:

The catalogue includes records of IRCC-produced publications but also a large collection of commercial publications, so it might be difficult to limit searches to IRCC research reports without known titles. We hope to curate these reports for easier access in the future.

Here's the public link to our catalogue:

http://tcna.primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do

We share it with GAC, so you have to select IRCC from the drop-down menu to search our collection.

The current reports and evaluations published by Research and Evaluation are available here on the internet: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/about_us/reports.asp. We also plan to reorganize these pages for easier searching in the coming months.

We're happy to answer questions from researchers, partners and other interested parties regarding our catalogue and collections. The Knowledge Management team can be contacted at research-recherche@cic.gc.ca.