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WELCOMING
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INITIATIVE

bulletin

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A View on the Termination of the Manitoba and B.C. Immigration Agreements

On April 12, 2012, citing a need to harmonize settlement services across Canada, CIC Minister Jason Kenney announced the federal government's intention to terminate immigration agreements with Manitoba and British Columbia, and to re-assume management of the settlement program. The announcement caught provinces by surprise and several, accompanied by a number of settlement organizations, reacted with dismay.

While CIC's press release mentions only two provinces, the message clearly has a wider audience and will impact ongoing federal-provincial immigration discussions with Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and several Atlantic Provinces. These discussions have suffered from tension in the past and it is unlikely that the April announcement will reduce the temperature. Trust appears to have taken a hit and relations will be affected in an area of policy where relations matter a great deal. This is unfortunate because the strategic imperative of promoting immigration and integrating new arrivals requires both the federal and provincial governments to be actively engaged. The question is, given this new reality, how should governments and other stakeholders find their way forward? Below we adopt an historical perspective and, from this platform, offer a number of modest, directional suggestions.

The original federal interest in devolving settlement services was associated closely with a fiscal crisis characterized by an extensive reassessment of federal programs and federal presence. Three factors drove the 1990's settlement reassessment: (i) an expenditure review aimed at reducing 'non-essential' federal spending or shifting it to the provinces; (ii) fiscal considerations linked to the idea of consolidating settlement services with provincial social programs; and (iii) the Quebec immigration agreement which transferred (and still transfers) a disproportionate share of federal settlement funds to Quebec, leading other provinces to argue that they do not receive a fair share of spending.

Paradoxically, roughly two decades later, the decision to repatriate federal control over settlement – a reversal of the earlier directions – is playing out under many of the same conditions that drove the earlier interest in devolution: The federal government is trying to sharply reduce its spending and the Quebec accord remains in place risking a resumption of the 'fair-share' arguments that complicated earlier federal-provincial discussions. Given these conditions, it is obvious that something has changed to cause the federal government to reverse course.

When devolution was first broached in the 1990's, the majority of provinces were reluctant to take on settlement because they feared that a fiscal transfer would allow the federal government to step away from its funding responsibilities. That has not happened. Instead, as Minister Kenney was at pains to point out, federal expenditure on settlement has tripled over the past decade, signaling that the federal government continues to exercise stewardship over the immigration program and holds itself accountable for overall integration outcomes, notwithstanding fiscal transfers or negotiated arrangements pertaining to program delivery. What *has* changed has been the emergence of a more pessimistic view by the federal government of the extent to which federal transfers induce greater provincial spending and of the federal government's ability to hold provinces accountable for their spending of federal transfers. It is noteworthy that the provinces contest this federal assessment of minimal provincial spending and that settlement agencies in both Manitoba and British Columbia have voiced concern over the repatriation of federal control over settlement. Moreover, any objective assessment of the measures undertaken by the two provinces can not help but be impressed by the quality of many of the provincial programs. Whatever the truth of the situation, one thing is clear: rightly or wrongly, the disagreements have proved fatal to current federal-provincial arrangements. The issue now is how to prevent this discord from negatively impacting integration services and integration service providers. It is on this point that we offer our suggestions.

A good place to start would be the core precepts that served to guide the original settlement renewal exercise of the 1990's: integration as a two-way street, the centrality of language proficiency, economic self-sufficiency, equal opportunity to participate, shared citizenship values, priority for those most in need, and responsive and comparable services. To address these goals, instead of focusing on narrow fiscal accountability, federal-provincial agreements should focus on a set of negotiated *outcomes* – targeted improvements in newcomer integration and the receptive capacities of host communities - and a detailed description of what each level of government is prepared to bring to the table. Given current levels of federal-provincial trust, specificity will be important. Moreover, given that both federal and provincial governments are expected to contribute, some form of co-management would appear to be the natural choice. Certainly, clients have clearly indicated their preference for seamless, well-integrated services. Hopefully, with time, interaction and carefully chosen confidence-building measures, federal-provincial trust will reappear. This will not be a result of structure but leadership, culture and, most importantly, action.

Our other set of recommendations is tied not to the settlement renewal exercise but to the Welcoming Community Initiative's recent work with Ontario's Local Immigration Partnerships and an assessment of promising practices carried out on behalf of CISSA-ACSEI. Our studies in these areas have taught us two things. First, we have learned that effective services depend not only on grand federal and provincial program design but, critically, on tacit, local knowledge accessible only at municipal and local organizational levels. Second, we have concluded that the settlement sector possesses, within its ranks, the ingenuity and expertise to address next-generation integration challenges, but lacks the machinery to distil out, and to share, promising practice ideas. In other words, despite its many strengths, the sector lacks an innovation capacity. Our recommendation is that the federal and provincial governments jointly invest in local knowledge production and in the settlement sector's innovation capacity. These investments would be consistent with the shared interest by both levels of government in accelerated newcomer integration and robust local development, reflecting the core precepts of effective integration.

Immigration in the News - Top Stories of the Past Month

Below are links to top stories that the WCI is following. These stories and other material can be accessed through the [Media Corner](#) of the WCI's website. The Corner provides links to articles appearing in the national and local media, including newspapers, magazines, and newsletters. Some international content is also included. Articles are refreshed regularly and archived.

- ◆ Hamilton Spectator – April 23 [Immigration Applicants Upset at Ottawa's Plan to Wipe Out Backlog](#). *Immigrant applicants, many from China, India and the Philippines, wonder why those who followed the rules and queued for their turn to come to Canada are now being punished.*
- ◆ Winnipeg Free Press – April 20 [Immigration Spat Heats Up](#). *Minister Jason Kenney states that Ottawa wants to control the \$36.5 million it currently transfers to Manitoba under the immigration agreement.*
- ◆ Globe - April 18 [Tories Launch Bid to Speed Up Immigration for Entrepreneurs](#). *A new entrepreneur program is being considered. Applicants will need to prepare business plans that would be vetted by industry groups and venture capitalists. Entrepreneurs would also receive mentorship from organizations that have experience working with startups.*
- ◆ Montreal Gazette - April 18 [Tories' Plan Lets Cities, Provinces Handpick Immigrants](#). *Minister Kenney announced plans in London, Ontario to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act to allow provincial and municipal governments, as well as businesses, to hand-pick immigrants based on their occupation and skills.*
- ◆ CIC - April 16 [Minister Kenney Announces Proposed Plan to Expedite Skilled Workers' Transition from Temporary to Permanent Residence](#). *To make Canada's immigration system more flexible and more responsive to labour market needs, Citizenship and Immigration Canada intends to reduce the requirement for prior work experience for temporary foreign workers applying to stay permanently.*
- ◆ Winnipeg Free Press - April 13 [Agencies Fearful of Feds' Takeover](#). *Non-profit agencies helping newcomers settle in Manitoba are wondering how the federal government plans to take over settlement services.*
- ◆ Winnipeg Free Press - April 13 [Immigration Whammy is Not the First](#). *Manitoba is distressed by the unilateral federal decision to cancel the settlement agreement with the province. The agreement was introduced in 2003 based on the premise that the Manitoba government was better positioned to meet immigrant needs.*
- ◆ CIC - April 12 [Government of Canada to Strengthen Responsibility for Integration of Newcomers](#). *The Government of Canada is resuming the management of federally funded settlement programs in British Columbia and Manitoba. This was accomplished by signaling the cancellation of federal-provincial immigration agreements pertaining to the delivery of settlement services.*
- ◆ CBC - April 11 [Language Tests to Become Mandatory for Some Immigrants](#). *Starting in July, people immigrating under the provincial nominee program will face language testing, Immigration Minister Kenney announced Wednesday in Saskatoon.*
- ◆ CIC - April 10 [CIC Announces its Intention to Create a New Skilled Trades Program](#). *Under the modernized Federal Skilled Worker Program to be unveiled later this year, CIC intends to create a separate and streamlined program for skilled tradespersons.*
- ◆ Montreal Gazette - April 10 [Immigrants Remaking Canada's Religious Face in Surprising Ways](#). *A Pew Forum report, which describes migration patterns in every country of the world, makes clear that immigration is changing the religious face of Canada in unexpected ways.*
- ◆ Montreal Gazette - March 31 [Fast Track for Skilled Workers](#). *The federal government plans to create a global job bank to facilitate the entry of skilled temporary foreign workers, while avoiding sending low-skilled workers to communities with double-digit unemployment.*
- ◆ National Post - March 29 [Budget 2012: New Immigration Rules and \\$130M Aimed at Fixing Skilled Worker Backlog](#). *The federal government will refund up to \$130 million to federal skilled workers who applied to come to Canada before 2008 in a bid to get rid of a backlog of some 300,000 applications.*

WCI Partners with the Canadian Immigration Historical Society

The partnership between the Welcoming Communities Initiative and the Canadian Immigration Historical Society (CIHS) is taking shape. Representatives from both organizations met recently and agreed to launch a video interview series with production starting in September 2012. The initial series of hour-long interviews will feature three former Directors-General who were responsible for refugee policy at Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Among them, the three individuals cover a period spanning roughly two decades. The interviews will focus on Canada's overseas activities during the critical period when the focus shifted from post-war Eastern Europe to Asia and Africa.

Following the refugee series, a second round of interviews will focus on economic immigration examining a fifteen year period beginning with the advent of immigration levels planning and stretching through the early nineties when the planning and management systems became firmly entrenched. Many of the policy discussions and program changes undertaken during this period prefigure recent trends and announcements by federal Minister Jason Kenney. Interviews will commence in October 2012, though interviewees have already been identified and are being contacted.

Production of the series will be undertaken in collaboration with an Ottawa-based educational institution, and the interviews will be made available on both the WCI and CIHS websites.

WCI Empirical Research on the LIPs

In one of the first statistical studies of the LIPs, the WCI has concluded an early stage evaluation of organizational best practices drawing on 27 LIP strategic plans from 2011. Given the relative immaturity of the LIPs, the study focused on outputs rather than outcomes. Relationships were examined between two sets of indicators: (i) indicators describing structural and process features of the LIPs; and (ii) indicators depicting positive theoretical outputs. This latter set of indicators included measures such as: leveraging support from provincial, municipal and mainstream agencies; improved coordination among settlement organizations; greater efficiency; and a stronger, local planning capacity.

The results were revealing and broadly supportive of policy assumptions. Over 30 different relationships proved to be statistically significant. Highlights centred on three organizational practices that were linked to multiple positive outputs. By far the most recurring and important indicator was the inclusiveness of the LIP central council. An inclusive council increased the likelihood of coordinating structures linking the LIP to broader city processes. It also increased the likelihood of strategic plans focusing on areas of provincial, municipal, and federal jurisdiction; of recommendations for policy change; and of municipal intentions to provide financial and in-kind support as well as modifying immigrant liaison activities.

Another practice that had predictive power was the degree to which the city participated actively in LIP planning. Active engagement was more frequently associated with anticipated changes involving better coordination, municipal support, and links to the Immigration Portals (along with other factors).

The third measure that is worth highlighting concerns whether the city was signatory to the LIP agreement with CIC. Where the city was signatory, the strategic plan was more likely to include a public education component and support from the City.

The research was supported by the Ontario Region of Citizenship and Immigration Canada. It will be posted on the WCI website later in the spring.

A Proposal by the Ottawa LIP to Strengthen WCI-LIP Collaboration



The Welcoming Communities Initiative (WCI) has been instrumental in playing a supporting role for the Local Immigration Partnerships (LIPs) since their advent in Ontario. This short article assesses the value of WCI-LIPs collaboration and proposes a model for developing machinery that facilitates truly community-based action research.

Is collaboration between LIPs and WCI desirable?

Across the province of Ontario, LIPs are working to strengthen community capacity to welcome immigrants and improve integration outcomes by focusing on collaboration and coordination with diverse stakeholders, promoting community-wide strategic alignments. This process is complex and challenging; the work requires quality research to ensure decision making is informed and reflective of community needs. LIPs are focused on improving current practices and establishing new ones; in the process, LIPs are changing the way we think and talk about our communities.

As a LIP Secretariat, much of our time is spent maintaining relationships with members and engaging new partners; planning; initiating and facilitating cross-sectoral dialogue; tracking community trends and developments; supporting collaborative initiatives; and linking with broader community processes. Research is key to this work, however, it remains an under-resourced function within the LIPs. In other words, the current LIP model does not afford the research capacity needed to tackle the local challenges inherent in the LIP process.

Yet, effective knowledge creation and transfer are critical to the LIPs process. For example, OLIP has an ongoing need for the following types of evidence to inform our work:

- ◆ Research and data to support effective planning and to quantify local knowledge which directs our work.
- ◆ Overviews of the shifting policy context and potential opportunities to forge new partnerships and engage policy leaders.
- ◆ Case studies of successes and failures, both locally and in other jurisdictions, to build capacity and direct progress.

Is the current collaboration between LIPs and WCI optimal?

Current modes of collaboration are not optimal. Both LIPs and the WCI have more to contribute, and gain. Many interesting and useful research projects are being undertaken by WCI researchers; however, they do not sufficiently respond to local research needs. The problem is that, on the one hand, the LIPs do not have the capacity to translate research needs into research proposals that can readily entice WCI academic researchers, and on the other hand there are not sufficient opportunities for the LIPs to influence the WCI's research agenda.

Student Research Profile

This month's spotlight on student research is on Meghan Brooks, a fourth year PhD student in the Geography Department at Queen's University. Meghan can be reached at meghan.brooks@queensu.ca.

While there is a growing collection of research that considers the challenges facing various equity-seeking groups in Canada and abroad, limited work has addressed the specific strategies adopted by institutional anti-racism initiatives. In her SSHRC-funded research, Meghan Brooks addresses this gap by examining the factors that influence their effectiveness.

Meghan's research combines a range of qualitative methods to assess the strategies employed by institutions at various geographical scales - municipal, national, and international - and in different social contexts. Her preliminary findings suggest that institutions with anti-racism strategies face significant challenges, including a variety of institutional barriers and pressures (e.g., competition for funding, structural and internal organizational barriers). Some of the human rights strategies that she has identified as crucial to the success of initiatives include the development of specific anti-racism objectives, the recognition and pre-empting of diverse forms of backlash, the identification and navigation of key shifts in governance, and the promotion of, robust policy frameworks to guide and support institutional efforts.

Meghan's research has led her to work with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris, France, (where she interned in UNESCO's Fight against Discrimination Unit), the Canadian Race Relations Foundation in Toronto, and the Diversity Equity Taskforce at Queen's University.

WCI Project Manager, Sonali Advani, to Enter Ph.D. Program in Media Studies

This fall, Sonali Advani, the WCI Project Manager, will be entering the Ph.D. program in Media Studies at Western University, while continuing in her role for the WCI. For her dissertation, Sonali plans to research the 1985 Air India bombing, and to analyze why this tragedy did not resonate as deeply as it should have with the Canadian public. Her analysis will include an examination of the media discourse in response to the bombing, and its implications for understanding the media's role in shaping people's responses to tragedies, as well as what multiculturalism and acceptance of diversity in Canada truly mean. For this work, Sonali has been awarded a Dean's Entrance Scholarship.

Prior to joining the WCI, Sonali worked as a print and online journalist for eight years in the UK and India, during which she successfully launched a pan-European magazine and two websites. Sonali has edited a book, *Research in Longevity Medicine*, and published newsletters raising awareness of health issues, prejudice, and poverty. She has also produced a radio documentary entitled *'Inadvertent Bias'* that analyzed the British television media's coverage of Hurricane Katrina and the Kashmir earthquake of 2005; a short documentary film entitled *'To Publish or not to Publish'* debating the controversial publication of cartoons on Prophet Muhammad; and a 3-part series entitled *'A Place Called Home'* covering issues of homelessness, immigration, and adoption.

Sonali has served as a lecturer for graduate and undergraduate journalism studies at the Institute of Convergence Studies - India, teaching media ethics, reporting, feature writing, and editing. She holds a Master's degree in International Journalism from Cardiff University and a B.Sc. in Microbiology from Mumbai University.

LIPs Conference Videos Available Online

Five videos from the 2012 Local Immigration Partnerships Conference, which was held in February in Toronto, are now available on the Welcoming Communities Initiative's [Youtube channel](#).

Attended by over 225 delegates, the conference was co-sponsored by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Ontario Region and the Welcoming Communities Initiative.

The opening speaker, Dawn Edlund, Associate Assistant Deputy Minister Operations, at CIC, highlighted the role of LIPs in supporting immigrant integration, building new partnerships, making services more accessible to newcomers, and improving labour market access. "LIPs are a great idea. It is time now, five years in, to pause, take stock, and see what lessons we have learnt to guide us on the path forward." [Click here](#) to watch the opening remarks.

Keynote speaker, Liz Weaver of Tamarack, shared the results of a two year collaborative effort designed to increase the capacity of communities to influence policy. Key steps in the process included monitoring policy change, building evidence, improving existing measures or creating new measures, ensuring compatibility and assessing impact. To watch the video of the presentation, please [click here](#).

John Biles, Special Advisor, Integration Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, highlighted key findings from recent evaluations and audits of settlement programs, as well as select observations pertaining to the initial LIP consultations and strategic plans. He proposed areas where LIPs might make a contribution to the evolution of the settlement program, and highlighted next steps for piloting LIPs in other regions of the country. [Click here](#) to watch the video online.

At the conference, Mark Friedman, Director of the Fiscal Policy Studies Institute, discussed results based accountability (RBA) and its potential application to Local Immigration Partnerships. "RBA methods address two very different challenges: Improving quality of life in the community and improving the performance of government and non profit programs," he argued. [Click here](#) to watch the video of his presentation.

In his presentation, Sanjeev Sridharan of the Keenan Research Centre, stressed the importance of Place Based Evaluation and called for a deeper dialogue early in the evaluation process to assess the role that evaluation can play in shaping policy interventions. To watch the video of the presentation, please [click here](#).

More videos from the conference will soon be uploaded to the Welcoming Communities Initiative [Youtube channel](#). We will keep you posted on the updates.

New Video Feature on the WCI Website

In the near future, the WCI's video 'landing page' (the first page you see after you click on the video section) will be totally revised.

The most important feature of the new video section is the search capability that will be added along the left sidebar and will operate in much the same manner as other search features on the site. There will be a regular input field for general keyword searches (these would search titles and descriptions) as well as a targeted search capability based on individual categories containing key words (relating to source, content and type) which can be used singly or in combination. Results will be displayed in three columns of clickable thumbnails. The addition of the search capability will greatly enhance the functionality of the video section, especially as it continues to grow. It will also better support the use of audio-video material for educational and instructional purposes.

Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council: A Case Study of Building Collective and Collaborative Leadership

One of the four strategic priorities established by the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) in its Immigration Strategy and Action Plan is building collective and collaborative leadership.

The fact that over 80 Hamiltonians are currently participating in the Partnership Council, Steering Committee, and various working groups involving housing, language training, employment, health, settlement services, newcomer engagement, and planning speaks to HIPC's success. Members of the working groups are civic leaders and decision-makers, including city councillors, CEO's, executive directors, and senior staff of public, private, and voluntary agencies representing Hamilton's diverse immigrant communities.

Operating on the principle that immigration is everybody's responsibility, the Partnership Council has called on all Hamiltonians - as residents and as members of voluntary, private or public organizations - to endorse Hamilton's Immigration Strategy and Action Plan. Collective support and community ownership are absolutely essential if settlement and integration are to be better coordinated, strengthening Hamilton's identity as an immigrant-friendly and welcoming city.

The Hamilton Immigration Strategy and Action Plan encourages all sectors of the city to identify actions for which they take responsibility and assume leadership so as to facilitate newcomer integration. As a rule, organizational and corporate policies, programs and procedures have not been considered integral to the immigrant integration process in Hamilton. The underlying assumption has been that all groups, including immigrants, benefit equally from services provided by the city's public, private and voluntary sectors. By recognizing that this assumption is flawed, the Immigration Partnership Council has lent impetus to the mainstreaming of newcomer integration strategies by both private and public institutions in Hamilton.

An important, successful example of the Partnership Council's efforts to broaden the participation of local organizations has been its creation and use of a Declaration of Intent. Signing the declaration obliges organizations to not only endorse the priorities and actions set out in the Immigration Strategy but also to adopt a proactive approach in respect of immigrant integration, promoting integration both within the signatory's own organization as well as other organizations that are part of the network.

The first signatures on the Declaration belonged to the City's Mayor and every member of City Council. Since then, the Chief Executive Officers of twelve other major stakeholder organizations in the city have signed on, including the Boards of Education, the Hamilton Volunteer Centre, Catholic Children's Aid Society, the Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club, the Hamilton Airport, the Chamber of Commerce, and others.

Preliminary Results:

While the Declaration has important symbolic value, what is more important are the actions that flow from the signatures. The HIPC has therefore been following up with all of the signatories, inviting them to document and describe the activities they undertake to support Hamilton's Immigration Strategy and Action Plan. Early feedback indicates that commitments have been honoured. For example, since signing the Declaration, the Hamilton Training Planning Board has adopted immigrant settlement as an organizational priority and has expanded its immigrant-focused activities to include newcomer self-employment and entrepreneurship; the Board has also created a sub-committee (of the Hamilton Skills Development Flagship) to address labour market barriers facing newcomers. Similarly, the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton has made immigrant settlement an organizational priority and has initiated a community project, with Trillium Foundation funding, to strengthen newcomer services.

For more information about the Declarations of Intent, please visit the HIPC website at www.hamiltonimmigration.ca.

Recent and Upcoming Conference Presentations

Durst, D. (2012, March). *The Illusion of Race and the Church Perspectives – Hot Topic Discussion Group*. Guest Speaker at the Grace Mennonite Church, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Durst, D. (2012, March). *Issues of Culturally Diversity in Long-Term Care*. Presentation at the 14th National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Durst, D. (2012, January). *Immigrant Seniors and Spirituality*. Guest speaker at the Unitarian Fellowship of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Esses, V.M., Medianu, S., Lawson, A., & Sutter, A. (2012, April). *The Dehumanization of Immigrants and Refugees*. Presentation to the Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Fleras, A. (2012, May). *Rethinking Multiculturalism as Postnational Governance*. Presentation given at the Living Together in Diversity Conference, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Gordon, M. K. (2012, February). *Education and Educational Policy Domain – Phase Two Report: Promising Practices*. Report presented at the CIC Ontario Region and WCI Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Guo, Y., & Hébert, Y. (2012, March). *Educational Integration of Immigrant Children and Youth: Policy Ineffectiveness and its Consequences for Learners and Society*. Presentation at the 14th Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Huot, S. (2012, May). *An Alternative to 'Successful Integration' – Problematizing a Dominant Discourse Through a Critical Exploration of Francophone Immigrants' Experiences in London, Ontario*. Paper accepted for the Canadian Association of Geographers annual meeting, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

Hartman, L., & Huot, S. (2012, May). *Visualizing Occupation: Using Interdisciplinary Visually-Based Methods with Vulnerable Populations*. Paper accepted for the Canadian Society of Occupational Scientists bi-annual conference, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, March). *Learning from Youth Leaders in Social Justice Activism*. Paper presented at the 14th Annual National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, March). *Improving the Lives of Immigrant and Refugee Youth: Collaborative Community, Research, and Policy Initiatives* [Organizer and Chair]. Workshop presented at the 14th Annual National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, March). *Social Justice and Conflicting World Views*. Paper presentation at the workshop, "Diversity, ideology and dissent in the classroom: Understanding and addressing challenges of difference" at the 14th Annual National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, March). *Speaking Out Against Discrimination and Hate*. Invited keynote presentation at the "Speak Up, Speak Out" Youth Leadership Summit, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, March). *Balancing Life and Work: Reframing our Commitments*. Invited keynote presentation at the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society's Professional Development Day, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E., Lee, L., Schnitzler, E., & Steinborn, M. (2012, February). *Working Together for the Academic Success of Children and Youth of Immigrant Families*. Presentation at the Calgary City Teachers' Convention, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, February). *Having the Courage to Engage in Social Justice*. Invited keynote presentation at the Annual WestCAST Conference, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, April). *Now what? Social Activism and Youth Leadership*. Invited panel presentation at the First Annual International Critical Congress: "Talkin' bout their Generation: Empowered Youth in an Era of Chaos and Indecision," Werklund Foundation Centre for Youth Leadership, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, April). *Insights from Former Youth Leaders in Social Justice Activism*. Paper accepted for at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, April). *The Possibilities of Praxis: Education as the Agent Rather Than the Object of Change*. Invited panel discussion, Critical Educators for Social Justice Business Meeting, at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, June). *Challenging Homophobia Through School Activism*. Invited paper presentation at "Transforming practices: Emancipatory approaches to youth engagement," a meeting of the Department of Applied Human Sciences, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Lund, D. E., & Grain, K. M. (2012, June). *Learning from Former Student Leaders in Social Justice Activism*. Paper proposal accepted for the Twelfth International Conference on Diversity in Organisations, Communities and Nations, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Lund, D. E., Lee, L., & Kaipainen, E. (2012, June). *Service-Learning Through a Social Justice Course: Better Understanding Children and Youth of Immigrant Families*. Paper proposal submitted to "Conversations that Matter: The Third International Conference on Service-Learning in Teacher Education," Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA.

Lund, D. E. (2012, April). *Honouring Our Students*. Invited keynote presentation at the Partner Teachers Event, Faculty of Education, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Lund, D. E. (2012, May). *Igniting the Love of Learning in Your Language Classroom*. Invited keynote presentation at the annual English Language Arts Council Conference, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

Manning, L. M. & Diaz, K. (2012, March). *Manager-Driven Change: Unconscious Bias in the Workplace*. Presentation/Workshop at Multicultural Forum Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

Rashid, M., Ngnie-Teta, I., & Sanou, D. (2011, November). *Exposure to Canadian Environment Increases the Risk of Chronic Health Conditions Among Immigrants: Findings from 2004 Canadian Community Health Survey*. Canadian Global Health Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Sanou, D., Rashid, M., Aleboyeh, S., O'Reilly, E., & Ngnie-Teta, I. (2012, April). *Immigration in Developed Countries as Risk Factor for Nutrition Related Chronic Conditions: Evidence from Canadian Immigrants*. Oral communication to be presented at the 3rd World Public Health Nutrition Association Conference - Rio 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Schneider, B. (2012, February). *A World of Families: The Effects of Immigration on the Family Lives of Immigrants*. Presentation at the Lunes en familia conference series, Castellon, Valencia, Spain.

Taylor, S. (2012, February). *More Than Just an "Add-On": Creating Spaces for Plurilingual Learners' "Funds of Knowledge" in the French Language Classroom*. Invited talk presented at the Centre for Educational Research on Languages & Literacies (CERLL) Colloquium Series at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Taylor, S. (2012, March). *The Many Face(t)s of L1 Inclusion*. Paper presented as part of the colloquium "L1 Use in Multilingual SL/FL Classrooms: Strategies, Practices, and Beliefs" at TESOL 2012, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Taylor, S. (2012, March). *The Role of Plurilingualism in Creating Multiliterate Realities for Children*. Paper presented as part of an invited TESOL- International Reading Association partner association colloquium "Envisioning Possibilities to Create Children's Multiliterate Realities" at TESOL 2012, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Taylor, S., & Manocha, S. (2012, April). *Meeting the Language-in-Education Needs of Complex Multilingual Societies: L1-based MLE in Nepal & India*. Talk to be presented at the Comparative and International Education Speaker Series at Western University, London, Ontario, Canada.

Tossutti, L. (2012, March). *Immigration and Diversity in Niagara: Results from the Opinion Leader Study*. Presentation to Workshop on Attitudes about Immigration and Diversity in Niagara: Assessing Their Impact on Welcoming Communities at the 14th National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Tossutti, L. (2012, March). *Immigration, Integration and Inclusion in St. Catharines-Niagara: Issues, Actors and Recommendations*. Presentation at the 14th National Metropolis Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Wahoush, E.O. (2011, November). *Social Exclusion: Lessons from Research Experiences with Newcomers*. Workshop presentation at the International Women's and Children's Health Conference, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Wahoush, E.O. (2012, January). *Immigrants - Barriers to Health*. Workshop lead at the Student International Health Initiatives' 'Health Poverty and War' Conference at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Wahoush, E.O. (2012, March). *Response to Panel Question: What is the Biggest Challenge We Face Today for Advancing Multicultural Health Research in Ontario/Canada, and What is the Most Important Thing That OMHARN Could Do To Best address This Challenge?* Panel presentation as part of the Ontario Multicultural Health Applied Research Network (OMHARN) Symposium, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Wahoush, E.O. (2012, March). *Resettlement in Canada: Anticipation and Realities for Health Government Assisted Refugees*. Presentation given at the McMaster – Brock Global Health Research Forum "Canada's Role in Global Health: Thinking Globally Acting Locally", Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

A new photographic exhibition - the third in a series entitled Muslim?! - offers thought provoking images that challenge viewers to question their notion of who Canadian Muslims are.

The exhibit takes place at Campbell House Museum,
160 Queen Street West, in Toronto.

<http://scotiabankcontactphoto.com/open-exhibitions/898>

Thank You

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