

OTTAWA SENIOR IMMIGRANTS PROJECT

Assessing the need for specialized
official language training

Senior Immigrants

- Are more likely to possess little to no official language skills than younger immigrants(2012 OMMI Survey)
- Have fewer opportunities to learn and practice an official language (Kilbride & al., 2006)

Senior Immigrants

- Are forced to depend on their adult children to meet most of their needs (Kilbride & al., 2006)
- Are much more vulnerable to social isolation and poor health than other Canadian seniors (Statistics Canada, 2006)

Senior Immigrants

Planned Research Activities:

1. Assess the perception of need for senior focused official language training programs
 - Interviews with settlement agencies and community health centres
2. Assess which demographic groups are favoured by existing services and whether this matches needs
 - Inventory existing ESL and FSL services
 - Identify which demographic groups are most in needs of official language training
3. Identify potential partners in the development and delivery of senior focused official language training programs

Senior Immigrants

- **Geographic Scope:** City of Ottawa
- **Timeframe:** January 2015 to August 2015
- **Research Team:**
 - **P2P Collaborators** – Caroline Andrew and Carl Nicholson
 - **Other Collaborators** – Houssein Charmarkeh and Yew Lee
 - **Partners** – Le Conseil Économique et Social d'Ottawa Carleton (CÉSOC), the Catholic Centre for Immigrants, and the Council on Aging
 - **Project Coordinator** – April Carrière