

2017 September



PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY

Promoting Welcoming Communities in Canada

bulletin

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Important Links

For more information about the Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference and Preconferences, [click here](#)

[Register for the conference and preconferences here](#)

[Click here](#) to book your accommodation

Conference Agenda Enclosed

Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference Canada's Place in the World: Innovation in Immigration Research, Policy, and Practice

November 15 – 17, 2017 | Hilton Hotel, Toronto

The Pathways to Prosperity Annual National Conference will take place in Toronto on November 16 and 17, 2017. As we approach the end of the year in which we are celebrating Canada's 150th birthday, it is apt that we reflect on current Canadian innovation in immigration research, policy, and practice, and look ahead to how we may continue to demonstrate our leadership in this area. Thus, the theme of this year's conference is **Canada's Place in the World: Innovation in Immigration Research, Policy, and Practice**. The conference will include plenary sessions, workshops, roundtables, poster presentations, a special keynote speaker, a theatrical production, and opportunities to network with colleagues.

On Wednesday November 15, 2017, we will be hosting two full-day preconferences: A preconference for the Local Immigration Partnerships and the Réseaux en immigration francophone; and a preconference on Developing Immigrants' Literacy and Essential Skills.

On the evening of Thursday November 16, we are pleased to be presenting the theatrical production — *We Are Not the Others* — a play created by Dr. Mirna Carranza and Izad Etemadi, based on the findings of a two-year research project examining immigrant women's experiences. The play was first presented at the Hamilton Fringe Festival in July 2017.



**We are not the others.
We are just like you.**

On Friday November 17, join us as we kick off the second day of the conference with a special keynote address by the Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, chair of the World Refugee Council and former Minister of Immigration.

English-French simultaneous interpretation will be provided throughout the conference and pre-conferences.

Registration is filling quickly and we encourage interested parties to register soon to avoid disappointment. To register for the pre-conferences and conference, please [click here](#). **Note that early bird registration closes on October 6, 2017.**

To book a hotel room at the conference hotel, the Hilton in downtown Toronto, [please click here](#). Note that conference rates for hotel rooms are on a first-come first-served basis and space may become limited.



**The Honourable
Lloyd Axworthy**

AGENDA

Thursday, November 16, 2017

7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

Breakfast and Registration

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Plenary:

Building Bridges between Indigenous and Immigrant Communities

Chair: Debbie Douglas, Executive Director, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)

Historically there has been little effort to bring together immigrant and indigenous communities, and to promote harmonious relations between these groups. Rather than gaining knowledge of indigenous history and culture, immigrants have often either been uninformed or presented with misinformation and stereotypes. This session focuses on strategies that can be implemented to remedy this situation and create mutual understanding, including several notable promising practices that are being used in various locations across the country to build bridges between indigenous and immigrant communities.

- ◆ **Kory Wilson**, Executive Director, Indigenous Initiatives and Partnerships, British Columbia Institute of Technology
- ◆ **Kevin FitzMaurice**, Associate Professor, Department of Indigenous Studies, University of Sudbury
- ◆ **Abdikheir Ahmed**, Director, Immigration Partnership Winnipeg, and **Maria Morrison**,

Coordinator, Citizen Equity Committee of the City of Winnipeg

- ◆ **Alec Attfield**, Director General, Citizenship Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

11:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Refreshment Break

11:15 AM to 11:30 AM

Poster Pitches

Poster presenters will provide a brief overview of the posters they will be presenting in the Thursday evening session

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Plenary:

Intercultural Dialogue and Mediation for Living Together

Chair: Stephan Reichhold, Director, Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI)

The diversity of immigrants to Canada today and their relations with each other and with more established communities have posed new challenges in terms of the potential for conflict and misunderstanding. In addition to supporting welcoming communities, we must now address intercultural relations within local communities, cities, and regions, bringing communities and individuals together for intercultural dialogue and mediation of potentially conflicting situations. This session provides examples of such strategies that have been used effectively to promote harmony and living together in diversity.

- ◆ **Stephen Law**, Community Outreach Coordinator, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS)
- ◆ **Michele Vatz Laaroussi**, Professor, School of Social Work, University of Sherbrooke
- ◆ **Bayan Khatib**, Co-Founder, Syrian Canadian Foundation
- ◆ **Alison Dudley**, Coordinator, North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Partnership

1:00 PM to 2:15 PM

Lunch Provided

2:15 PM to 3:45 PM

Concurrent Workshops (see listing on page 6)

3:45 PM to 4:00 PM

Refreshment Break

4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Concurrent Workshops (see listing on page 7)

6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Evening Cocktail Reception, Poster Session, and Theatrical Production: “We are Not the Others”, a play based on the findings of a two-year research project examining the experiences of immigrant women

Friday, November 17, 2017

7:30 AM to 8:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Special Keynote Speaker

The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Chair, World Refugee Council

9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Plenary

New Strategies for Determining the Effectiveness of Settlement Programs

Chair: Yoko Yoshida, Associate Professor, Dalhousie University

As the number of immigrants to Canada continues to rise, it is more than ever of central importance to ensure their successful settlement and integration into Canadian society. A variety of novel and well established settlement programs are being provided to new immigrants to support their settlement and integration, but empirical evidence as to their effectiveness and empirically-driven identification of promising practices are somewhat lacking. This session will discuss methods of assessing the effectiveness of settlement programs and identification of promising practices, including the use of pre-existing datasets and new strategies for data collection.

- ◆ **Alex Lovell**, Senior Policy Analyst, Ontario Refugee Resettlement Secretariat, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration
- ◆ **Alex LeBlanc**, Co-lead, New Brunswick Economic Immigration Lab
- ◆ **Tracey Donaldson**, Director, Settlement and Integration Policy Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
- ◆ **Kathy Sherrell**, Associate Director, Immigrant Services Society of BC (ISSofBC)

11:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Refreshment Break

11:15 AM to 12:15 AM

Concurrent Regional Roundtables

12:15 PM to 1:30 PM

Lunch Provided

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

Plenary:

Understanding and Addressing Public Anxiety about Immigration

Chair: Irving Lewis, Manager, Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité Canada (RDÉE)

Though Canada is defined as a nation of immigrants and we pride ourselves on our openness to diversity, there is often underlying public anxiety about immigration, and recent surveys suggest that this anxiety is particularly salient at this time. This session explores the determinants and drivers of public anxiety surrounding immigration, and discusses strategies for allaying fears and concerns that individuals and groups have about the role of immigration in our nation-building, and for supporting more favorable attitudes that benefit us all.

- ◆ **Keith Neuman**, Executive Director, Environics Institute
- ◆ **Stephanie Levitz**, National Politics Reporter, The Canadian Press
- ◆ **Keith Banting**, Stauffer-Dunning Fellow and Professor Emeritus, Queen's University
- ◆ **Farah Kotadia**, Acting Executive Director, Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA)

3:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Refreshment Break

3:15 PM to 4:45 PM

Plenary:

What Have We Learned about Refugee Resettlement? Lessons from the Syrian Refugee Program

Chair: Josie Di Zio, Senior Director, COSTI Immigrant Services

The large-scale resettlement of Syrian refugees in Canada has presented both challenges and successes. Stepping back from the publicity surrounding the Syrian Refugee Project, what have we learned about refugee resettlement from the experiences over the last two years and where should we put our future efforts in this regard? The speakers in this session will discuss strategies that can be implemented to assist refugees in the process from pre-arrival to integration. The lessons learned can be applied not only to future large-scale resettlement projects, but also to refugee resettlement in Canada more generally.

- ◆ **Gerry Mills**, Executive Director, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia
- ◆ **Ümit Kiziltan**, Director General, Research and Evaluation Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, and **Fraser Valentine**, Director General, Refugee Affairs Branch, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- ◆ **Cara Benjamin-Pace** and **Len Senater**, Co-founders, Newcomer Kitchen
- ◆ **Winnie Lee**, Director of Operations, Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA Greater Victoria)

4:45 PM to 5:00 PM

Summing Up and Closing Remarks

Listing of Workshops

Thursday November 16, 2:15 PM to 3:45 PM

- 1. Faith and Settlement Partnerships: Making Them Work**
(In English)*
Chair: Rich Janzen, Centre for Community Based Research
- 2. Fostering the Resettlement of Refugee Children and Youth in Canada**
(In English)
Chair: Leah Hamilton, Mount Royal University
- 3. Francophone Immigration 'On the Ground': Research, Policy and Practice for Contemporary Issues Regarding Immigration to Francophone Minority Communities**
(In French)
Chairs: Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia and Christophe Traisnel, University of Moncton
- 4. Graduate Student-Faculty Member Workshop on Migration Related Research**
(In English)
Chair: Serperi Sevgur, Dalhousie University
- 5. Intercultural Competency: Building Your Capacity for a More Vibrant Workplace**
(In English)
Chairs: Michele Manocchi and Rifat Hussain, London Cross Cultural Learner Centre
- 6. The Participation of Ethnocultural Minorities in the Various Spheres of Collective Life**
(In French)
Chair: Solène Lardoux, University of Montreal
- 7. Refugee Reception, Resettlement, Integration and Retention in Secondary and Rural Communities**
(In English)
Chair: Victoria Esses, Western University
- 8. Telling Our Stories: Arts-based and Community-led Strategies for Responding to Systemic Racism While Raising Awareness About Violence Against Women**
(In English)
Chair: Sajedeh Zahraei, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants
- 9. Welcoming Migrants to Canadian Cities, New Challenges and Innovative Practices in Social Work**
(In French)
Chair: Sonia Ben Soltane, McGill University and Stéphanie Garneau, University of Ottawa

*Indicates the language in which the workshop is presented

Thursday November 16, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

1. **Anti-racism & Diversity Public Awareness Campaigns: Do They Work?**
(In English)*
Chair: Olga Shcherbyna, Surrey Local Immigration Partnership
2. **At the Crossroads of a New Frontier: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on the Economic Integration of Canada's Immigrant Population**
(In English)
Co-chairs: Megan MacCormac and Katherine MacCormac, Western University
3. **Focusing on Mentorship to Foster the Economic Integration of Immigrants**
(In French)
Chair: Irving Lewis, RDEE Canada
4. **From Simple to Sophisticated: The Role of Technology in Settlement**
(In English)
Chair: Julia Mais, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants
5. **Naming and Situating Linguistic Minorities: The Role of Researchers on Francophone Immigration**
(In French)
Chair: Suzanne Huot, University of British Columbia
6. **Nascent Sanctuary City-Hall Actions: Activism Within Institutional Settings**
(In English)
Chair: Michele Manocchi, Ryerson University
7. **Neighborhood-based Community Development to Enhance Housing Support for Syrian Refugees**
(In English)
Chair: Jason Brown, Western University
8. **The Role of the Settlement Sector, Community Members, and Local Immigration Partnerships in the Resettlement of Syrian Refugees**
(In English)
Chair: Bruce Randall, Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Council
9. **Welcoming and Integrating English-Speaking Immigrants and Refugees When They Arrive in Quebec**
(In French and English)
Chair: Chedly Belkhodja, Concordia University

*Indicates the language in which the workshop is presented

Preconference for the Local Immigration Partnerships and the Réseaux en immigration francophone

The Preconference for the Local Immigration Partnerships and the Réseaux en immigration francophone focuses on key issues of concern to these groups, based on an earlier survey and on discussions among the LIP and RIF representatives participating in the planning committee. The Preconference brings together the RIFs and LIPs to discuss common challenges, share achievements, and learn from each other. It will include roundtables, discussions, and speed-networking, as well a few presentations. All LIPs and RIFs – please be on the lookout for an email to be sent out shortly requesting information about your achievements for a PowerPoint presentation and printed booklet.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Agenda

Time	Session
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM	Breakfast and Registration (Includes slideshow of the achievements of the LIPs and RIFs)
9:00 AM to 9:15 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:15 AM to 10:45 AM	Session 1 Improving LIP and RIF Operations
10:45 AM to 11:00 AM	Refreshment Break (Includes slideshow of the achievements of the LIPs and RIFs)
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM	Session 2 Promotion of Welcoming Communities
12:30 PM to 2:00 PM	Lunch (Includes optional roundtable discussions of common challenges)
2:00 PM to 3:15 PM	Session 3 Strengthening Relationships with Other Organizations
3:15 PM to 3:30 PM	Refreshment Break (Includes slideshow of the achievements of the LIPs and RIFs)
3:30 PM to 4:45 PM	Session 4 Measurement of RIF and LIP Outcomes
4:45 PM to 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks

Register Now

[Register for the preconference here](#)

Note that early bird registration closes on October 6, 2017.

For questions, email Sonali Advani at communications@p2pcanada.ca

Preconference on Developing Immigrants' Literacy and Essential Skills

The Preconference on Developing Immigrants' Literacy and Essential Skills focuses on the results of a research project that aimed to assess the effects of improved levels of literacy and essential skills on the socio-economic integration of francophone immigrants, with a particular focus on workplace performance. The research project followed francophone immigrants (both those enrolled in educational programs and those not enrolled) to compare their outcomes. The results inform a cost-benefit analysis that assesses the return on investment of training in literacy and essential skills, which will be presented at the preconference. This preconference is organized by Actions Interculturelles and Pathways to Prosperity Partnership.

Wednesday, November 15 2017 Draft Agenda

Time	Session
7:30 AM to 8:30 AM	Breakfast and Registration
8:30 AM to 9:00 AM	<p>Part I: Mohamed Soulami and Serge Nadeau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening welcome and presentation of keynote speakers • Presentation of partners and collaborators • Testimonials partners (Marie-Christine Gill) • Overall presentation of the research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Research objectives – Research challenges
9:00 AM to 10:45 AM	<p>Part II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of background reports for each province that is participating in the research project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The demographic profile of francophone immigrants – The profile of training programs offered to immigrants – Partners' profiles and which trainings they are offering – The profile of immigrants who are participating in the research
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Refreshment Break
11:00 AM – 11:45 PM	<p>Part II (continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of background reports for each province that is participating in the research project (continued) • Streaming videoclips and presentation of newsletters release

Time	Session
11:45 AM – 12:30 PM	Part III: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testimonials of participants and employers • Literature review and pathway of research
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch
2:00 PM – 3:15PM	Part IV : Serge Nadeau <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the research project results : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Comparison between the control group and participants in training – The effects of improved levels of literacy and essential skills on the participants' workplace performance • Cost-benefit model <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Presentation and operation of the model – Demonstration of the model use according to needs – Benefits, costs and return on investment of a training program
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Refreshment Break
3:30 PM – 4:45 PM	Part IV (continued): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research critiques by David Gray and Brahim Boudarbat • Question period
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Part V: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgments • Other points of interest • Closing remarks

Register Now

[Register for the preconference here](#)

Note that early bird registration closes on October 6, 2017.

For questions, email Sonali Advani at communications@p2pcanada.ca

Exhibitors at the Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference

Exhibitors will be showcasing their products and services at the Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference. We invite you to visit their exhibit spaces for a chance to learn about the latest products and services in the field of immigration and settlement. Some of the exhibitors at the Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference include:

- ◆ Le Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité (RDÉE Canada)
- ◆ Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
- ◆ London Cross Cultural Learner Centre (LCCLC)
- ◆ Magnet and New Horizons Media
- ◆ Ryerson University's MA program in Immigration and Settlement Studies and Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement
- ◆ and others

Exhibitor Opportunities

More than 350 participants are expected to attend the conference. As an exhibitor, you will have the opportunity to promote your brand, product, and services to the leading stakeholders in the field of immigration and settlement at a local, regional, and national level. In addition to visibility and the opportunity to display marketing materials at the conference, exhibitors will be able to take advantage of the Pathways to Prosperity's online media network that includes more than 3,500 eBulletin subscribers, more than 5,500 website visits a month, and a large number of social media followers. For more information on how to participate as an exhibitor and to download the exhibitor brochure, [click here](#).

Featured Exhibitor: Pathways to Prosperity 2017 National Conference



RDÉE Canada (Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité) promotes the economic development of the Francophone and Acadian communities (FACs) in Canada so that they are actively involved in Canada's economic growth.

This not-for-profit organization maintains a presence in every province and territory (except Quebec) via provincial and territorial organizations.

Together, they form the national Network and support two main areas of the Canadian economy: business development (francophone entrepreneurship) and employability of francophone skilled workers.

As a leader, RDÉE Canada:

- ◆ Positions the Network in discussions about public policy and determining government and ministerial priorities.
- ◆ Maintains strategic linkages and sustainable partnerships.
- ◆ Supports leadership and innovation.
- ◆ Promotes best practices and continuous learning.
- ◆ Conducts research and reports on the findings.
- ◆ Celebrates and shares success stories.