



Faith and Settlement Partnerships: Making Them Work

P2P Conference
November 16, 2017



Agenda

1. Why Faith and Settlement Partnerships? Rich Janzen
2. What Makes Them Work? Joanna Ochocka
3. What Do They Look Like in Peel? Subhi Turim
4. What Do They Look Like in Toronto? Héctor Ferrer
5. How Can They Work in Your Community? Chris Brnjas

A decorative background featuring a network diagram with nodes and connecting lines. The nodes are represented by circles of varying sizes and colors (blue, grey, white), and the lines are thin and light grey. The diagram is more dense on the left side and fades out towards the right.

Faith and Settlement Partnerships

Why Faith and Settlement Partnerships? (Rationale)

Rich Janzen
P2P Conference
November 16, 2017

Why this topic?

Immigrants tend to be **more religious** than Canadian-born. This trend is likely to continue until at least 2050.

Immigrants of faith **do not always access** the many settlement services that are available to them.

They often turn to **religious communities** for support and meaning upon arrival.

For the sake of immigrants (and for Canadian society), we need to explore how faith groups and government-funded settlement organizations can better **work in tandem**.

Project purpose

This presentation features the process and preliminary results of a SSHRC-funded project that collaboratively studies partnerships among faith-based and government-funded settlement organizations.

Facilitated by the Centre for Community Based Research (CCBR), the project's goal is to determine how these types of partnerships can better lead to positive settlement outcomes for newcomers.

Funded by Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada

Main research questions

1. Vision

To what extent are faith/settlement partnerships viewed positively?

2. Structure

What types of partnerships presently exist and how could they be improved?

3. Process

How can effective partnerships be better facilitated?

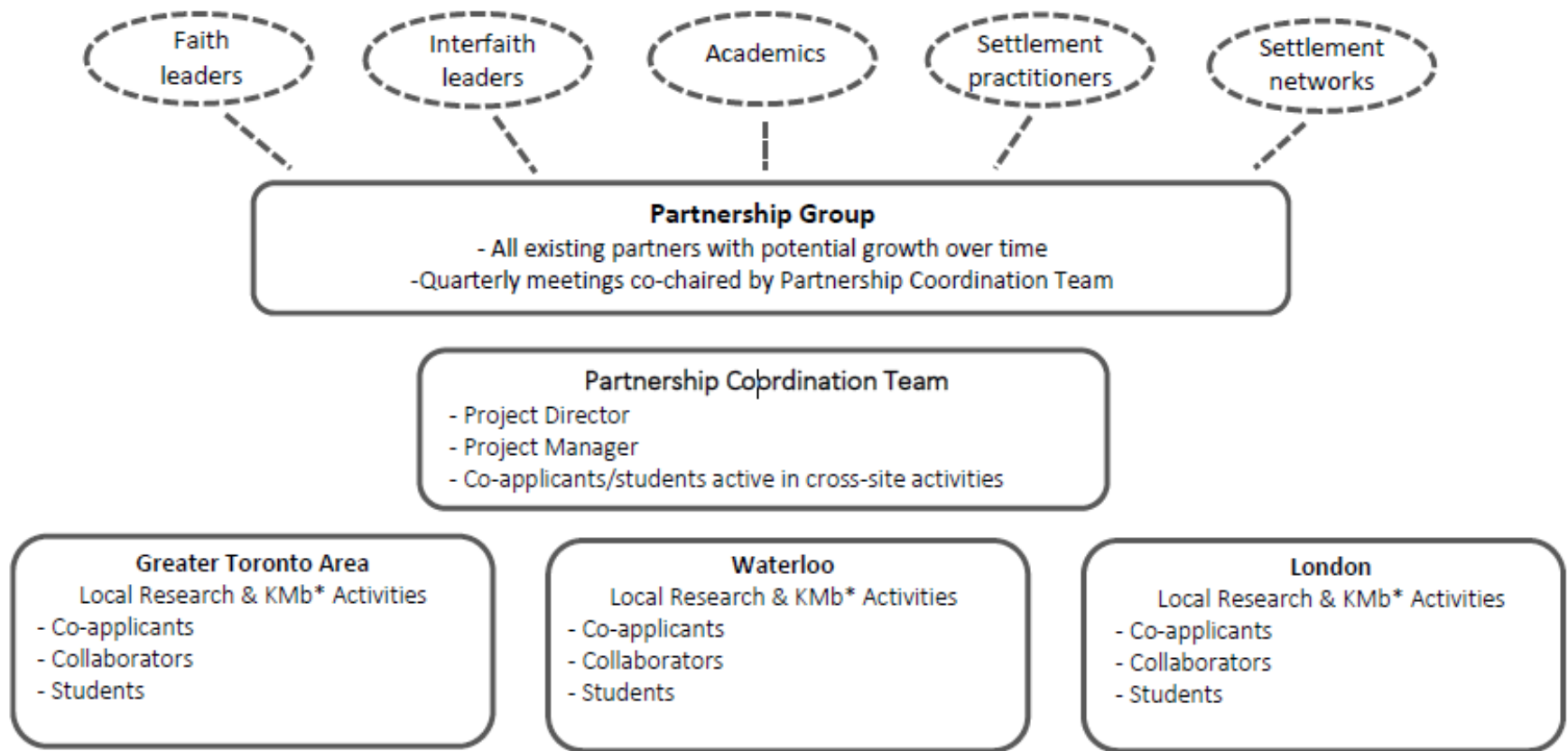
Why collaborative research?

A growing interest among faith groups and settlement services to **find ways to better collaborate**.

Involving stakeholders in collaborative research can help to **inspire and initiate innovative partnerships**, even on controversial topics.

Enhanced by a community-based research approach that stresses community **relevance, participation and action**.

Partnership development structure



*KMB = Knowledge Mobilization

Project partners

Rich Janzen (Project Lead)

Jessica Dyck (Project Manager)

Joanna Ochocka

Jim Cresswell

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Booth University College

Institute for Christian Studies

Interfaith Council of Peel

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership

Muslim Resource Centre for Social Support and Integration

Peel Newcomer Strategy Group

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Renison University College

The Salvation Army

The University of Western Ontario

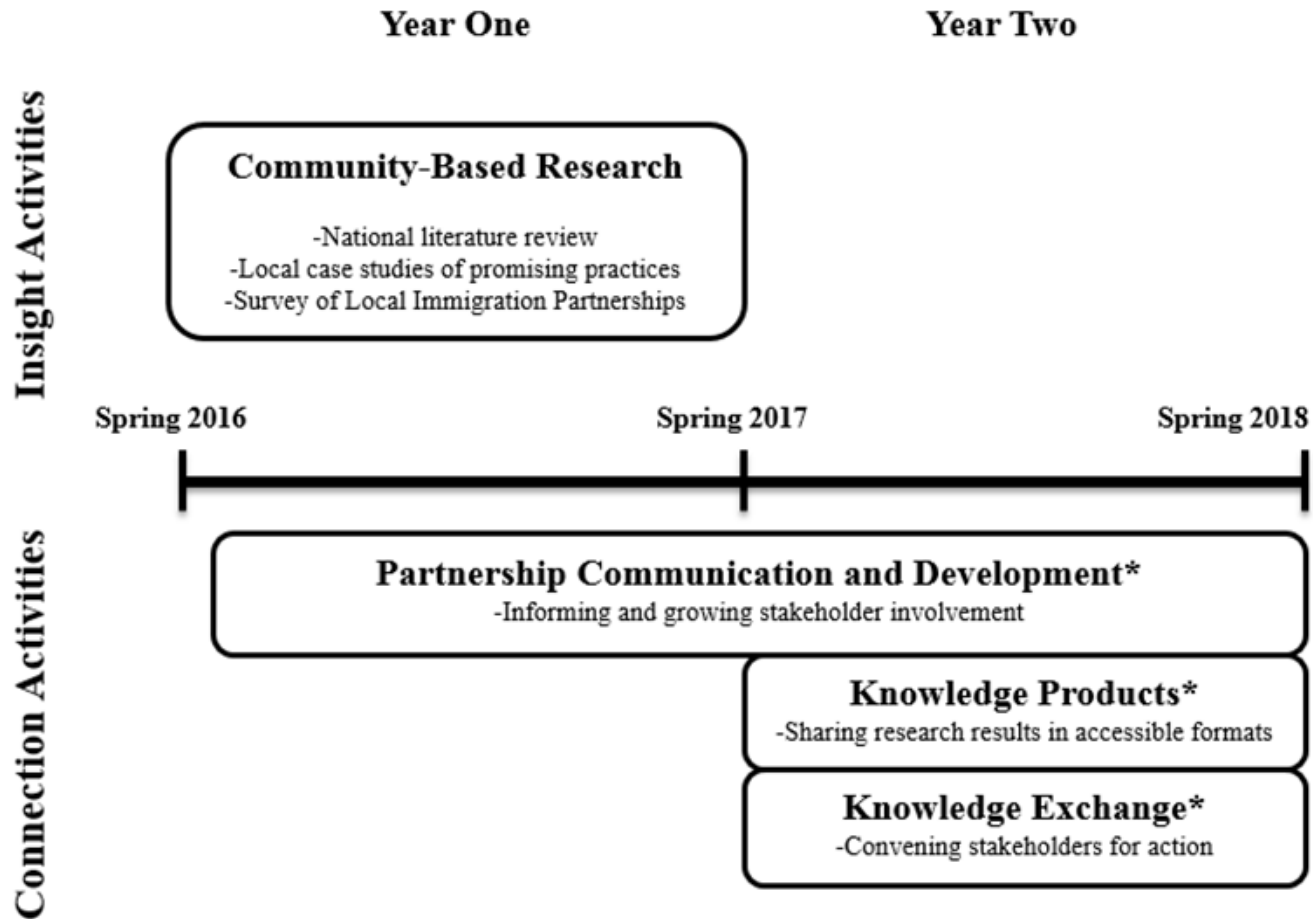
Toronto Newcomer Office

Tyndale University College & Seminary

Waterloo Region Immigration Partnership

World Renew

Work plan



*Activities involving knowledge mobilization

Working Definitions (1 of 2)

Settlement organization/agency: An organization whose primary mandate is to work on immigrant settlement and/or refugee settlement, with at least some funding coming from government sources.

Faith-based organization/group: An organization or group that has a faith-inspired mandate (which could include working with immigrants/refugees) and is connected to some kind of religious constituency.

Partnership: A collaboration where the parties involved agree to work toward shared objectives through a mutually agreed division of labour. Partnerships can be formal with written agreements or informal arrangements.

Working Definitions (2 of 2)

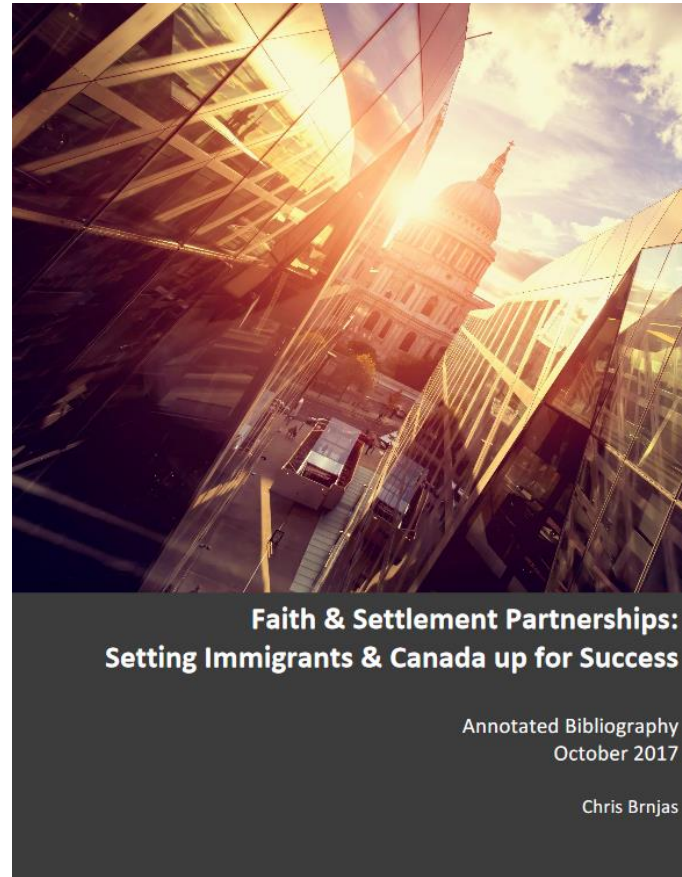
Faith and settlement partnership: A partnership between a faith-based organization/group(s) and a settlement organization(s).

Local Immigration Partnership (LIP): A community-wide, multi-sectoral partnership working to strengthen a community's capacity to welcome and integrate immigrants. The four LIPs involved with this study were: (1) London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership; (2) Waterloo Region Immigration Partnership; (3) Peel Newcomer Strategy Group; and (4) Toronto Newcomer Office.

Methods

1. Literature review
2. Six case studies
3. Organizational survey

Lit. Review Products



Case studies

The Salvation Army (Toronto, Waterloo & London)

Partnerships between one Christian denomination (The Salvation Army) and local settlement service providers in Waterloo Region, London, and Toronto.

Muslim Resource Centre for Social Support and Integration (London)

Partnership between a culturally-based community service agency (Muslim Resource Centre for Social Support & Integration) and a government funded settlement agency (London Cross Cultural Learner Centre).

Case studies

Muslim Social Services (Waterloo)

Partnerships that the Muslim Social Services of Kitchener Waterloo (MSS) has developed with other local settlement agencies.

Interfaith Council of Peel (Peel)

Partnership between two inter-agency networks; Interfaith Council and the Peel Newcomer Strategy Group (the Local Immigration Partnership in Peel Region).

Case studies

World Renew (Toronto)

Partnership between World Renew (a refugee Sponsorship Agreement Holder within the Christian Reformed Church) and other local refugee resettlement service providers.

Tyndale Intercultural Ministry (TIM) Centre (Toronto)

How a capacity building centre (TIM), housed within Tyndale University & Seminary, encourages partnerships between evangelical churches and local settlement service providers.

Organizational Survey

Purpose: To gain information from people on-the-ground about what faith & settlement partnerships look like in their communities.

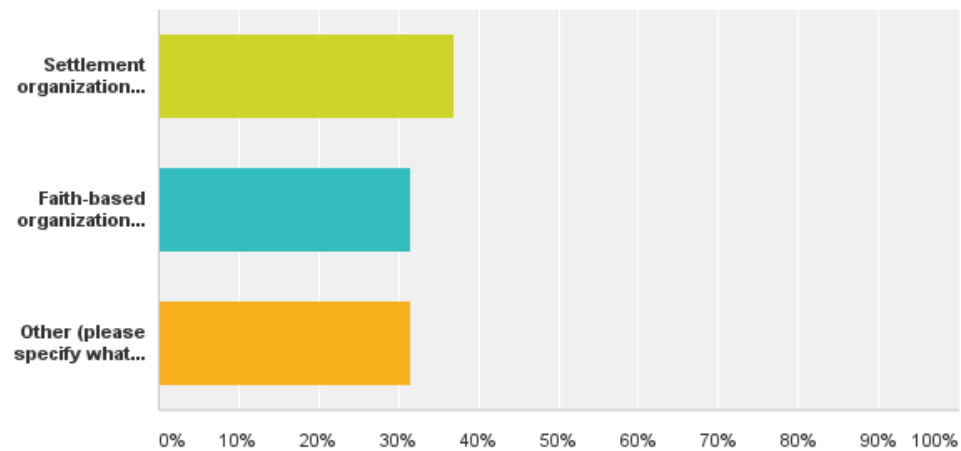
Distribution: Settlement organizations, faith-based organizations, and other community organizations/groups in [Toronto](#), [Peel](#), [Waterloo Region](#), and [London](#).

Survey

We received **73** survey responses.

Q5 4. Please select your type of organization. (We recognize that there may be some overlap between these categories, but select the option you think best matches your organization at this time.)

Answered: 73 Skipped: 0





Project Website:

communitybasedresearch.ca/Page/View/Faith_&_Settlement_Partnerships