



Pathways to Prosperity 2021 National Conference

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose: Post-COVID Strategies to Address Enduring Challenges in the Settlement and Integration of Newcomers in Canada

November 8-10, 2021 | A Virtual Conference

Conference Agenda

Day 1 – November 8, 2021

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM EST

Discussion Forums

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM EST

Welcome and Opening Remarks

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM EST

Plenary: Acknowledging and Defeating Racism and Islamophobia in Canada: The Path Ahead

- Steven Zhou, Journalist and Author
- Kenneth Fung, Clinical Director, Asian Initiative in Mental Health, University Health Network
- TBD
- TBD

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM EST

Exhibitor Presentations and Poster Presentations

1:45 PM – 3:00 PM EST

Plenary: Supporting Immigrant - Indigenous Relations in Canada: Addressing Long-standing Issues and Moving Toward a Shared Future

- Jess Hamm, Executive Director, Saskatchewan Intercultural Association
- Anthony Olusola, Executive Director, Truly Alive Youth and Family Foundation
- TBD
- TBD

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM EST

Exhibitor Presentations

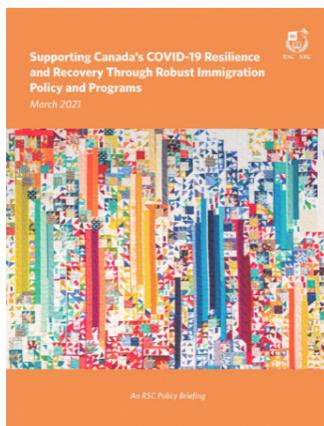
3:30 PM – 4:45 PM EST

Concurrent Workshops

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM EST

Settlement Sector Roundtable on Advocacy Priorities for the Future

Facilitator: Chris Friesen, Chair, Canadian Immigrant Settlement Sector Alliance (CISSA-ACSEI)



Under the auspices of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), a national working group of academics, former government officials and settlement sector representatives came together to reflect and analyze the impact of COVID-19 on immigration and newcomers. Based on these analyses, the working group provided a robust set of recommendations on all aspects of immigration to Canada, including those from the settlement sector perspective. In March 2021, the RSC published the Working Group's Policy Briefing entitled "[Supporting Canada's COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery Through Robust Immigration Policy and Programs.](#)" This roundtable

discussion will provide an opportunity to reflect on the recommendations and explore areas where the settlement sector could come together in possible local, regional and national advocacy areas.

Day 2 – November 9, 2021

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM EST

Discussion Forums

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM EST

Keynote Speaker: Silmy Abdullah, Author, Lawyer and Social Justice Advocate

Why Our Stories Matter: Racialized Women, Immigration and Gender Justice in Post-Pandemic Canada



Silmy Abdullah is a Bangladeshi-Canadian author, lawyer and social justice advocate. Her debut collection of short stories, *Home of the Floating Lily*, explores the Bangladeshi immigrant experience in Toronto. Set primarily in a Bengali neighbourhood in the Scarborough/East York Area, the stories are inspired by her own lived experience as an immigrant, as well as the work she does in her community as a lawyer. Silmy provides legal services to low-income South Asian clients in Ontario, many of whom are newcomers. Her practice focuses on the intersection of immigration, poverty and gender-based violence. She is a passionate advocate who has spoken on

important human rights issues on numerous platforms, including community workshops, mainstream media, the Parliament of Canada and conferences in Canada and overseas.

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM EST

Exhibitor Presentations and Poster Presentations

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM EST

Plenary: Envisioning Immigration and Settlement in Canada in a Post-Pandemic Era

- Corinne Prince, Director General, Settlement and Integration Policy, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Keith Neuman, Senior Associate, Environics Institute
- Kathy Sherrell, Director, Settlement Services, Immigrant Services Society of BC
- TBD

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM EST

Exhibitor Presentations

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM EST

Concurrent Workshops

4:15 PM – 4:45 PM EST

Closing Remarks and Poster Awards

Day 3 – November 10, 2021

P2P Conference for Local Immigration Partnerships and Réseaux en immigration francophone

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM EST

Welcome and Opening Remarks

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM EST

Plenary: Representing Our Communities: Ensuring Diversity and Inclusion Within LIP and RIF Structures

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM EST

Break: Time for Networking and Visiting Exhibitors and Posters

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM EST

Concurrent Workshops

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST

Plenary: The Role of LIPs and RIFs in Responding to the Afghani Refugee Crisis

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM EST

Concurrent Workshops

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM EST

Closing Remarks