

JUNE 2023

Annual Report 2022-2023

Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement

Submitted to the Vice President, Research and Innovation by Dr. Usha George, outgoing Academic Director, Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement (TMCIS), in consultation with the TMCIS Advisory Committee.

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Summary

This report summarizes the Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement's (TMCIS) activities over the 2022-2023 year. This year, TMCIS underwent a five-year cyclical review and external review process. The external reviewers found that TMCIS positively met the criteria for renewal for an additional five-year term.

In alignment with its mandate to advance research and scholarship in the areas of immigration and settlement studies, TMCIS continues to support Dr. Harald Bauder's 'Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective' (Soli*City research project) (2021-2028) SSHRC Partnership Grant and provides office space and ongoing administrative support to the Partnership Grant Manager as well as the project's Research Assistants.

Towards its goal of increasing Toronto Metropolitan University's external funding capacity, TMCIS continues to partner with Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou (Principal Investigator), the CERC in Migration and Integration, and a team of eight co-applicants including Dr. Usha George, Toronto Metropolitan University faculty members Dr. Chris Gore, Dr. Gabriel Resch, as well as TMCIS-affiliates Dr. Harald Bauder and Dr. Mehrunnisa Ahmad Ali on the SSHRC Partnership Grant project: 'Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective (MEMO).'

As part of its commitment to engage in the publication and promotion of immigration and settlement research by Toronto Metropolitan faculty members, over the 2022-2023 year, TMCIS published 14 Working Papers in collaboration with the CERC in Migration and Integration. The number of Working Papers published this year exceeded the anticipated publications in the previous year's Activity Plan.

The 2022-2023 year encompassed six events. In November 2022, in collaboration with the Graduate Program in Immigration and Settlement Studies (ISS) and the Soli*City research project, TMCIS co-hosted an in-person book launch of *Toronto the Good?: Negotiating Race in the Diverse City* by Dr. Shana Almeida. In November 2022, TMCIS hosted a virtual presentation by visiting scholar Johanna Ullmann, visiting PhD student from the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Universität Osnabrück. Johanna presented her research on labour market integration projects that target refugee women in Germany. In December 2022, TMCIS hosted a two-day multilingual (Arabic, Dari, Pashto, and English) hybrid conference that focused on the family reunification trajectories of refugees in Canada. The conference was held in collaboration with the City of Toronto's Newcomer Office, the Private Refugee Sponsor Network (Ontario), the Syrian Canadian Foundation, Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services, and Muslim Children's Aid and Support Services. The two-day event brought together refugees from past and recent cohorts, refugee sponsors, settlement workers and service providers, researchers, and students who shared insights from lived experiences, settlement practices, and research activities related to refugees and family reunification. This conference was funded by a SSHRC Connection Grant, 'Increasing Capacity for Refugee Family Reunification in Canada.' The two-day conference hired two conference

coordinators, two translators (one of whom was an ISS student), and four ISS students who worked as notetakers for the conference.

The remaining three events were Lunch & Learn presentations. In January 2023, TMCIS hosted a virtual presentation by Shamira Madhany, Managing Director and Deputy Executive Director at World Education Services (WES). Shamira discussed the many benefits that WES offers to immigrants, particularly in reducing skills mismatch and improving the settlement and integration process for newcomers to Canada and the US. In February 2023, TMCIS and CERC Migration co-hosted a Lunch & Learn webinar by Anthea Hancocks, the CEO of the Scanlon Foundation and the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute in Australia. Anthea shared insight on the annual Scanlon Foundation Mapping Social Cohesion Report, which is a report that is developed based on an annual survey that has been undertaken since 2007. The survey aims to better understand the social impact of Australia's increasingly diverse immigrant population. The final event in the 2022-2023 year was an in-person Lunch & Learn featuring research from Dr. Asharaful Alam, Senior Lecturer in Planning and Urbanism at the University of Otago, New Zealand, and a co-applicant in the CERC Migration research project, 'Beyond the Metropolis.' This in-person event was co-hosted with CERC Migration.

In November 2022, for one week, TMCIS hosted visiting PhD student, Johanna Ullmann, researcher and lecturer in (forced) migration and gender studies at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Universität Osnabrück in Germany. TMCIS continues to host visiting practitioner Dean Barry from the Federal Government's Public Servant in Residence program. Dean joined TMCIS in September 2021 and will remain with TMCIS until August 2023. Dr. Esra Ari, a SSHRC-funded postdoctoral scholar working with Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç, continues to be hosted by TMCIS. Esra joined TMCIS in September 2021 and will be with us through August 2023.

TMCIS continues to accept working paper submissions, prepare TMCIS content for publication on the TMCIS website, and collaborates with CERC Migration and Integration on Lunch and Learn events. TMCIS also continues to welcome and host visiting scholars and students to the Centre.

Lastly, the Directorship held by Dr. Usha George ended in December 2022. Dr. George's tenure as the Academic Director for TMCIS further expanded the Centre's reputation as a research centre that prioritizes transdisciplinary exploration of international migration, integration, diaspora studies, and refugee issues. Dr. George's commitment to the Centre is held in the highest estimation.

In November 2022, a search for a succeeding Academic Director for TMCIS was initiated by a Search Committee comprised of five TMU faculty members and two members from OVPRI. As of June 2023, the Directorship of TMCIS belongs to Dr. Zhixi Zhuang, Associate Professor in the School of Urban and Regional Planning. The Centre eagerly anticipates Dr. Zhuang's tenure as the incoming Academic Director.

Governance

TMCIS Team

Academic Director

- **Usha George**, *School of Social Work* (2017 – January 2019; June 2019 – December 2022)

Dr. Usha George is an accomplished leader, researcher, scholar, and teacher with over 28 years of academic experience in Canada – 23 of which have been in senior administrative roles at Toronto Metropolitan University and the University of Toronto. She received the 2015 Errol Aspevig Award for Outstanding Academic Leadership and is a past director of the Ontario Metropolis Centre of Excellence for Immigration and Settlement (CERIS). George's research and scholarly activities span the continuum of immigrant transition from newcomers to citizens. She has published extensively on immigrant settlement and integration, and her work has contributed to policy and program changes in the area of newcomer settlement. She has paid special attention to the intersectionality of oppressions faced by racialized immigrant women. She is frequently referenced in the Canadian media on newcomer and settlement issues. George immigrated to Canada in 1990 and worked as the Executive Director of the then-South Asian Family Support Services in Scarborough and Senior Program Director of Social Planning Council, Toronto. She has a PhD in Sociology from Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria; a MA in Sociology from Loyola University of Chicago; and a MA in Sociology and Social Welfare from the University of Kerala.

Research Coordinator

- **Tearney McDermott**, (July 2017 – May 2022)
- **Jessica Jung**, (October 2022 – present)

Advisory Committee

- **Idil Atak**, *Department of Criminology; Lincoln Alexander School of Law* (2014 – present)
- **Harald Bauder**, *Immigration and Settlement Studies; Department of Geography and Environmental Studies* (2011 – present)
- **Mustafa Koç**, *Department of Sociology* (2014 – present)
- **Dawn Onishenko**, *School of Social Work* (2014 – present)
- **Henry Parada**, *Immigration and Settlement Studies; School of Social Work* (2012 – 2014; 2017 – present)
- **John Shields**, *Department of Politics and Public Administration* (2012 – 2019; 2019 – present)

TMCIS Members and Affiliates

Mehrunnisa Ali, *Professor, School of Early Childhood Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Colonialism and immigration; immigrant children, youth and families; integration of immigrant families; parent–teacher relations; preparation of teachers to work with diverse populations

Joan Andrew, *Inaugural Distinguished Public Servant in Residence, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Immigration policy; employment equity; women's issues; labour market policy

Sedef Arat-Koç, *Associate Professor, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Immigration policy and citizenship (especially as they affect women); transnational feminism; politics of imperialism; racialization and the politics of racism; reconfiguration of social and political identities under neoliberal globalization

Cynthia Ashperger, *Professor; Head of International and Special Projects, School of Performance, Faculty of Communication and Design*

- Areas of Expertise: Acting training; theatre and exile; issues of the audible minority as they relate to representation in theatre, film, and radio and TV

Idil Atak, *Associate Professor, Criminal Justice & Criminology*

- Areas of Expertise: Irregular migration and human rights; refugee protection in Canada and Europe; securitization; international and European immigration; human rights law

Rupa Banarjee, *Associate Professor, Human Resource Management & Organizational Behaviour, Ted Rogers School of Management*

- Areas of Expertise: Employment integration of new immigrants to Canada; institutional barriers facing new immigrants in the Canadian labour market; workplace diversity and ethno-racial discrimination, particularly as it applies to second-generation immigrants

Harald Bauder, *Professor; Graduate Program Director, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Geography & Environmental Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Border studies; citizenship; immigration policy in Canada, immigration policy in Germany; migrant labour; newcomer-Indigenous relations, sanctuary cities, solidarity cities

Judith Bernhard, *Professor, Early Childhood Education*

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- Areas of Expertise: Issues of cultural diversity in human development; methods of ethnographic study with immigrant communities; schooling for disadvantaged groups; refugee educational assessment and welfare; intersectionality in experiences of minorities; race, aboriginal status, class, and gender; assessment of childcare centres; program design for home-language maintenance

Jenny Carson, *Assistant Professor, History*

- Areas of Expertise: Women and gender; African-American women workers; women's labour organizing; precarious workers

Roma Chumak-Horbatsch, *Associate Professor, School of Early Childhood Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Language and literacy learning of young immigrant children; immigrant language parenting; home language maintenance and loss; classroom practices that promote multilingualism and multi-literacies

Sara Edge, *Associate Professor, Geography & Environmental Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Urban sustainability; environmental justice; environment and health equity; health and resilience of immigrant and refugee populations; collaborative governance and decision-making; environmental policy

Grace-Edward Galabuzi, *Associate Professor, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Globalization from below - local community responses to global economic restructuring in the global North and South; the racialization of the Canadian labour market; social exclusion and the social economic status of racialized groups in Canada

Sutama Ghosh, *Associate Professor, Geography & Environmental Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Migration and settlement geographies; transnationalism; urban social geography; critical "race" theories; postcolonial theories; theories of space

Enza Gucciardi, *Associate Professor, School of Nutrition*

- Areas of Expertise: Food insecurity and diabetes; diabetes self-management education and support; delivery of chronic disease self-management support services

Sepali Guruge, *Professor; Research Chair in Urban Health, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing*

- Areas of Expertise: Urban health; women's health; health of immigrants; health inequities in connection with socio-economic marginalization, access to healthcare, education, employment, language barriers, housing insecurity, neighbourhood safety, racism, and discrimination

Manavi Handa, *Associate Professor, Midwifery Education Program, Faculty of Community Services*

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- Areas of Expertise: Care for immigrant and refugee women; access to care for uninsured pregnant women; care for marginalized populations, including language barriers and culturally appropriate care

Tony Hernandez, *Director, Centre for the Study of Commercial Activity; Professor, Retail Management, Ted Rogers School of Management*

- Areas of Expertise: Geographic information systems; retail geography; location research; Canadian retailing

Graham Hudson, *Associate Professor, Criminology*

- Areas of Expertise: National security; human rights; criminal law and procedure; constitutional law and legal theory

Ilene Hyman, *Adjunct Professor; Social Epidemiologist, Centre for Global Health, Social & Behavioural Health Sciences Division, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto*

- Areas of Expertise: Health and Social Equity; Immigrant and Refugee Health; Indigenous Health; Gender and Health; Mental Health

Tariq Amin Khan, *Associate Professor, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: The security state and securitization; the postcolonial state; international development; globalization and migration; political and militant Islam; nationalism and ethnicity; comparative study of multiculturalism; race and racism; issues of state and society in South Asia

Mustafa Koç, *Professor; Director, Centre for Middle East and North Africa Studies (MENA), Sociology*

- Areas of Expertise: Food studies, security, and policy; globalization; sociology of migration

Gil Lan, *Associate Professor, Law & Business, Ted Rogers School of Management*

- Areas of Expertise: International business law; government regulation of business; corporate governance; social enterprise; comparative law; Chinese law; law and development

Anne-Marie Lee-Loy, *Associate Professor, English*

- Areas of Expertise: Postcolonial identities; diaspora; transnationalism; Chinese Caribbean experience; Caribbean Studies; Asians in the Americas; Yellow Peril discourse; hemispheric Asian American studies; overseas Chinese

Howard Lin, *Professor, School of Business Management, Ted Rogers School of Management*

- Areas of Expertise: International joint ventures; foreign direct investment; emerging markets; cross-cultural & comparative management; transnational & immigrant entrepreneurship; innovation & commercialization

April Lindgren, *Professor; Velma Rogers Research Chair, School of Journalism, Faculty of Communication & Design*

- Areas of Expertise: Local news; political reporting; journalism and urban affairs; the role of ethnocultural media in shaping newcomers' sense of place and attitudes toward diversity; ethnocultural media and election coverage

Rakim Mitra, *Associate Professor; Associate Director, Undergraduate Programs, School of Urban & Regional Planning, Faculty of Community Services*

- Areas of Expertise: Travel behaviour in the GTA; social and environmental barriers and enablers to walking and cycling; active transportation-related engineering solutions and programming; mobility of vulnerable population groups

Dawn Onishenko, *Associate Professor, School of Social Work*

- Areas of Expertise: LGBTQ rights, identity and liberation; jurisgenerative politics/praxis and social change; anti-oppressive social work practice; equal rights discourse and the shifting terrain for sexual minority refugee/asylum claimants

Henry Parada, *Professor, School of Social Work; Immigration & Settlement Studies (cross-appointed)*

- Areas of Expertise: Social development; children's and women's social welfare; violence prevention; analysis of institutional practices; social work epistemology; institutional ethnography methodology

Osmud Rahman, *Associate Professor, School of Fashion, Faculty of Community Services*

- Areas of Expertise: Consumer behaviour; design and culture; aging populations; fashion subculture and social identities

Tracey Raney, *Associate Professor, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Political representation of women and ethnic minorities; political participation; national identity; social identities; Canadian social policy

John Mackie Shields, *Professor, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Immigration policy; multiculturalism; social integration

Myer Siemiatycki, *Professor Emeritus, Politics & Public Administration*

- Areas of Expertise: Intersections of immigration, urban, and labour studies in Toronto; civic participation of immigrants

Reena Tandon, *Community-Engaged Learning & Teaching Coordinator, Student Experience Centre, Faculty of Arts*

- Areas of Expertise: Globalization; gender and labor; informal sector; precarious work; workers' organizations/organizing; health inequities; health and work/workers

Cheryl Teelucksingh, *Professor, Sociology*

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- Areas of Expertise: Environmental justice and social inequality within the urban context; race and racialization; community-based research

Anna Triandafyllidou, *Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration; Professor, Sociology*

- Areas of Expertise: Migration management; labour migration; irregular migration; gendered migration; temporary and circular migration; migrant agency; networks and intermediate actors; governance at the regional and global level; comparative analysis; migrant integration; migrant identity and belonging; nationalism; multiculturalism

Vappu Tyskkä, *Professor Emerita, Sociology*

- Areas of Expertise: Immigrant families; gender; youth; social policy

Mandana Vahabi, *Professor; Co-director, Centre for Global Health and Health Equity, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing*

- Areas of Expertise: Health equity; immigrants; cancer screening; women's health; food security; physical activity; HIV/AIDS; mental health

Shuguang Wang, *Professor; Graduate Program Director, Spatial Analysis, Geography & Environmental Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Immigrants' settlement patterns; immigrants' economic performance; ethnic economy; retail geography; spatial analysis; retail location analysis; internationalization of retailing; retail geography of China; research methods

Lu Wang, *Professor, Geography & Environmental Studies*

- Areas of Expertise: Health; immigration; access to health care; retail geography; ethnic retail; GIS; mixed-method approaches

Karline Wilson-Mitchell, *Director, Midwifery Education Program, Midwifery Education Program, Faculty of Community Services*

- Areas of Expertise: Perinatal outcomes of refugee and migrant women and newborns; perinatal loss; cultural health beliefs; mental health issues facing newcomer women; psychosocial factors affecting pregnant Jamaican adolescents

Josephine Pui-Hing Wong, *Professor, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing*

- Areas of Expertise: Critical public health and urban health promotion; community-based action research; social identities and health practices; migration, HIV, and mental health; intervention research and implementation science; and community-driven capacity building and resilience strategies

Lixia Yang, *Professor, Psychology*

- Areas of Expertise: Aging; cognition; plasticity; memory; emotional processing; culture; immigration

June Yee, *Associate Professor; Academic Coordinator, Internationally Educated Social Work Professionals Bridging Program, School of Social Work*

- Areas of Expertise: Race and racism; anti-racism and anti-colonialism; whiteness and white supremacy; organizational change and evaluation models; structural intersectionality and multiple positionalities; immigrant and settlement services

Zhixi Cecilia Zhuang, *Associate Professor, School of Urban & Regional Planning*

- Areas of Expertise: Placemaking; ethnic retailing; community design; multicultural planning; revitalization and suburban retrofit; international urbanization

Emily van der Meulen, *Associate Professor; Undergraduate Program Director, Criminology, Criminology*

- Areas of Expertise: Criminalization of sex work; Canadian anti-trafficking policy; gendered experiences with surveillance and urban CCTV; and prison health and harm reduction

Research

Centre-Supported Research Project

- *Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective (2021-2028)*

Supported by TMCIS, the Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective Partnership brings together 36 academics and 36 partner organizations to co-develop and share evidence-based knowledge related to the policies and practices of accommodating vulnerable and precarious migrants and refugees in major urban centres in Africa, Europe, North America, and Latin America. The project is directed by Dr. Harald Bauder and housed at TMCIS. The project objectives are to: (1) Advance theoretical knowledge and practical understanding related to urban sanctuary, solidarity, and hospitality towards vulnerable migrants and refugees in the global north and south; (2) Build and enhance urban capacities to accommodate vulnerable migrants and refugees through international collaboration, networking, and knowledge exchange between researchers, practitioners, and urban policy makers; and (3) Develop novel municipal and community-based policy frameworks to facilitate innovative and evidence-based policy making at local and municipal levels for accommodating vulnerable migrants and refugees.

TMCIS provides office space and ongoing administrative support to the project Manager and the RAs.

Partnerships

TMCIS continues to develop new partnerships for the purpose of building an infrastructure for research, outreach, seeking research funding, and knowledge mobilization.

Partners and Collaborators

- The Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Migration and Integration
- The Rights for Children and Youth Partnership (RCYP)
- University of Toronto
- Sheridan College
- CultureLink Settlement and Community Services
- The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT)
- Settlement Assistance and Family Support Services (SAFSS)
- Child Welfare and Immigration Centre of Excellence (CWICE)
- Peel Children's Aid Society
- The Arab Community Centre of Toronto (ACCT)
- City of Toronto Newcomer Office
- YMCA of Greater Toronto
- York University
- Syrian Canadian Foundation
- The Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Magnet
- Skills for Change
- WelcomeHomeTO
- ACCES Employment
- Mennonite New Life Centre
- Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce
- Scadding Court Community Centre
- Matthew House Toronto
- WINS Toronto
- The Migration Initiative
- Canadian Arab Institute
- Virginia Technical Institute (International Refugee Research Project)
- Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)
- Global Diversity Exchange (GDX)
- The Toronto Metropolitan Middle East and North Africa Studies Centre (MENA)
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

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- Canada India Research Centre for Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE, University of Guelph)
 - Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services
 - Muslim Children's Aid and Support Services
 - Private Refugee Sponsor Network (Ontario)

Knowledge Mobilization

TMCIS has produced scholarly publications and organized and participated in a range of events that facilitate capacity building, partnership development, and outreach to the immigration and settlement community and enhance TMCIS's and Toronto Metropolitan University's reputation.

Working Papers

The Working Papers Series is produced jointly by TMCIS and the CERC in Migration and Integration at Toronto Metropolitan University. Working papers present scholarly research of all disciplines on issues related to immigration and settlement. The purpose is to stimulate discussion and collect feedback. In the 2022 – 2023 year, TMCIS and the CERC in Migration and Integration published 14 working papers.

- 2022/5: *Why are Public Attitudes Towards Immigration in Canada Becoming Increasingly Positive?* By Seyda Ece Aytac (Toronto Metropolitan University), Andrew Parkin (Environics Institute/University of Toronto) & Anna Triandafyllidou (Toronto Metropolitan University)
- 2022/6: *Leave – Stay – Return: Conceptualizing the Migration Trajectories of Highly Skilled German Migrants as Ongoing Processes* by Anke Patzelt, University of Ottawa
- 2022/7: *How does the UN talk about human mobility? A textual analysis of narratives by IOM and UNHCR on migrants and refugees* by Brandon Green (London School of Economics and Political Science) & Antoine Pécoud (University Sorbonne Paris Nord)
- 2022/8: *The State of Knowledge Concerning Canada's Irregular Population: Guesstimates, Pathways to Precarity, and Ethical Considerations for Contemporary Research* by Craig Damian Smith & Julie (Ha Young) Kim, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2022/9: *Highly Skilled Migrant Decision-Making Under Uncertainty: A Literature Review* by Ashika Niraula & Anna Triandafyllidou, Toronto Metropolitan University
- 2022/10: *The Challenges of Settlement and Integration: Exploring Canada's Response to Venezuelan Migration* by Berti Olinto, Toronto Metropolitan University

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- 2022/11: *Advanced Digital Technologies in Migration Management: A Review of Emerging Literature* by Lucia Nalbandian & Nick Dreher, *Toronto Metropolitan University*
 - 2022/12: *Migration, Decision Making and Young Families: A Literature Review* by Rica Castaneda & Anna Triandafyllidou, *Toronto Metropolitan University*
 - 2022/13: *Immigration Policy 'on the Fly': A Critical Review of Pandemic Policymaking in Canada* by Maggie Perzyna (*Toronto Metropolitan University*), Marshia Akbar (*Toronto Metropolitan University*), Claire Ellis (*Toronto Metropolitan University*), Stein Monteiro (*Toronto Metropolitan University*), Lucia Nalbandian (*University of Toronto*) & Craig Damian Smith (*Toronto Metropolitan University*)
 - 2022/14: *Migrant Labour in the Agrifood Sector, Ethical Food Label and Certification Schemes: A Literature Review* by Erika Borrelli (*University of Windsor*) & Berti Olinto (*Toronto Metropolitan University*)
 - 2023/01: *Online communications and service delivery in Canada's settlement sector: The state of affairs* by Stein Monteiro, Nevyin Pillai & Masoud Kianpour, *Toronto Metropolitan University*
 - 2023/02: *Access to Early Childhood Services by Precarious Status Families: Negotiating Multiple Borders in a Sanctuary City, Toronto Canada* by Judith K. Bernhard (*Toronto Metropolitan University*), Julie E. E. Young (*University of Lethbridge*) & Luin Goldring (*York University*)
 - 2023/03: *Decolonizing Migration Studies: The Case of Hospitality, Sanctuary, and Solidarity* by Harald Bauder, Nick Dreher, Omar Lujan & Oluwafunmilayo Asolo, *Toronto Metropolitan University*
 - 2023/04: *Digital Nomads: Toward a Future Research Agenda* by Nick Dreher & Anna Triandafyllidou, *Toronto Metropolitan University*

Presentations

Lunch & Learn – Dr. Ashraful Alam

- TMCIS and the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Migration and Integration co-hosted a presentation by **Dr. Ashraful Alam** (Senior Lecturer in Planning and Urbanism at the University of Otago, New Zealand). The event was co-chaired by **Dr. Melissa Kelly** (CERC Migration, Toronto Metropolitan University) and **Dr. Zhixi Zhuang** (Associate Professor, School of Urban & Regional Planning, Toronto Metropolitan University). (March 29th, 2023, 12:00 – 14:00, in-person)

Lunch & Learn – Scanlon Foundation, its Research Institute, and the Annual Mapping Social Cohesion Report

- TMCIS hosted a presentation by **Anthea Hancocks** (CEO of the Scanlon Foundation and the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute). (February 27th, 2023, 12:00 – 13:00, webinar via Zoom)

Lunch & Learn – World Education Services Global Talent Bridge Program

- TMCIS hosted a presentation by **Shamira Madhany** (Managing Director and Deputy Executive Director at World Education Services (WES)). (January 20th, 2023, 12:00 – 13:00, webinar via Zoom)

Refugee Family Reunification Conference

- TMCIS hosted a two-day multilingual (Arabic, Dari, Pashto, and English) hybrid conference that focused on the family reunification trajectories of refugees in Canada. The conference was held in collaboration with the City of Toronto's Newcomer Office, the Private Refugee Sponsor Network (Ontario), the Syrian Canadian Foundation, Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services, and Muslim Children's Aid and Support Services. The two-day event brought together refugees from past and recent cohorts, refugee sponsors, settlement workers and service providers, researchers, and students who shared insights from lived experiences, settlement practices, and research activities related to refugees and family reunification. This conference was funded by a SSHRC Connection Grant, 'Increasing Capacity for Refugee Family Reunification in Canada' (December 14-15th, 2022, 09:30 – 16:30, hybrid event: in person and virtual via Zoom)

Examining Labour Market Integration Projects for Refugee Women in Germany

- Presentation by **Johanna Ullmann** (PhD student, researcher, and lecturer in (forced) migration and gender studies at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Universität Osnabrück). (November 24th, 2022, 12:00 – 14:00, webinar via Zoom)

Book Launch - "Toronto the Good?: Negotiating Race in the Diverse City" by Shana Almeida

- TMCIS, the Graduate Program in Immigration and Settlement Studies (ISS), and the Soli*City Partnership Project hosted a book launch of *Toronto the Good?: Negotiating Race in the Diverse City* by **Dr. Shana Almeida** (former political staff member for the City of Toronto and Assistant Professor in the School of Professional Communication at Toronto Metropolitan University). (November 16th, 2022, 18:00 – 20:00, in-person)

Training & Student Engagement

Research Assistants and Placement Students

- **Nick Dreher**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University* (April 2022 – December 2022) (main focus: developing a SSHRC Insight Grant)
- **Rasha Arous**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University* (April 2022 – December 2022) (main focus: writing a paper based on Syrian Resettlement study findings)
- **Verónica Escobar Olivo**, *Non-student/community member* (January 2020 – December 2022) (main focus: independent centre research activities)
- **Joanne Daciuk**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2020 – December 2022) (main focus: cleaning and analyzing Citizenship Experiences project quantitative data)
- **Aicha Benayoune**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2018 – December 2022) (Project Coordinator of Syrian Resettlement study)
- **Tearney McDermott**, *Non-student/community member* (July 2017 – December 2022) (Project Coordinator of Citizenship Experiences study)
- **Shamiram Zendo**, *PhD Student, Sociology, University of Western Ontario* (October 2018 – December 2022) (main focus: writing a paper based on Syrian Resettlement study findings)
- **Ghadeer Elghafri**, *Non-student/community member* (September 2022 – December 2022) (main focus: co-lead the direction and planning of the refugee family reunification conference)
- **Souhail Boutmira**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University* (September 2022 – December 2022) (main focus: co-lead the direction and planning of the refugee family reunification conference)

Visiting Scholars and Practitioners

- **Esra Ari** (September 2021 – 2023) is a part-time faculty member at the University of Western Ontario and an incoming SSHRC postdoctoral fellow with TMCIS. She will be supervised by TMCIS affiliate Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç for the duration of her fellowship. Her research examines different means of identity construction within the Turkish diaspora, which contains varied ethnic and religious backgrounds, such as Turks, Kurds, Sunni Muslims, Alevi Muslims, in Canada's officially "multicultural" society.
- **Dean Barry** (September 2021 – August 2023) is an experienced public servant and incoming visiting practitioner who will be hosted at TMCIS under the federal government's Public Servant in Residence (PSIR) Initiative. He has worked with the Federal Public Service for 20 years, including with IRCC, and has held overseas postings in Australia and the US. Before joining the government, he had begun a PhD in Sociology at UBC.
- **Johanna Ullmann** (November 2022) is a PhD student, researcher and lecturer in (forced) migration and gender studies at the Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS) at Universität Osnabrück (Germany). Her research and teaching focus on reception and integration politics, labour market participation/care work, refugee women, implementing organizations, migration and gender regimes, antiracist feminism, and intersectionality. She studied sociology, gender studies, communication studies and Arabic at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Birzeit University (Ramallah) and the University of Damascus.

Finances for 2022-2023

TMCIS Expenses 2022-2023

EXPENSE CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Director's release	\$20,000.00
Payroll expenses	\$17,145.52
Non-payroll expenses	\$2,880.00
Total =	\$40,025.52

Activity Plan for 2023-2024

TMCIS Governance

- The TMCIS [Advisory Committee](#) will meet three times in 2023-2024: September 2023, January 2024, and May 2024 (tentative dates), and will be contacted on an ad hoc basis between these dates.
- The Annual TMCIS Meeting of Affiliates will be tentatively set for June 2024.
- The incoming Director and Research Coordinator will work closely and meet on a weekly basis.

Research

Research Projects

- TMCIS aims to apply for two research grants this year.

Partnerships

- TMCIS will continue to collaborate with the CERC in Migration and Integration, the Immigration and Settlement Studies graduate program and the Policy Studies PhD program.
- TMCIS will continue to foster community partnerships with [existing](#) and new partners.

Knowledge Mobilization

Publications

- In partnership with the CERC in Migration and Integration, TMCIS aims to publish 12 Working Papers, 1 Research Brief, and 1 Spotlight on Migration piece in the 2023 – 2024 year.

Lunch & Learn Research Presentation Series

- TMCIS aims to complete six lunch and learn presentations over the 2023 – 2024 year.

Training & Student Engagement

Incoming Postdoctoral Fellows and Visiting Scholars

- TMCIS aims to host two visiting scholars in the 2023 – 2024 year. TMCIS will host two visiting students (MITACS), Friederike Anders (June 2023 – September 2023) and Maria Franziska Stoppler (August 2023 – October 2023).
- TMCIS will continue to host postdoctoral fellow Esra Ari (September 2021 – August 2023) and visiting practitioner Dean Barry (September 2021 – August 2023).

Anticipated Budget for 2023-2024

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Director's Release	\$ 20,000.00
Personnel (1 Coordinator; 15 hours/week at \$30.00/hour)	\$ 25,488.00
Operating Fees (subscription fees for Creative Cloud & Canva Pro: \$500; 4 in-person lunch & learn events: \$2,000; 3 social networking events for affiliates: \$2,000)	\$ 4,500.00
Total =	\$ 49,988.00