

JUNE 2022

Annual Report 2021-2022

Toronto Metropolitan Centre for Immigration and Settlement

Submitted to the Vice President, Research and Innovation by Dr. Usha George, 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 2021-2022 year. In alignment with its mandate to advance research and scholarship in the areas of immigration and settlement studies, TMCIS continued work on two Centre-based research projects, including a SSHRC Insight grant focused on inclusive citizenship for racialized newcomer women in Toronto and a SSHRC Partnership Development grant focused on Syrian refugee newcomers' experiences of resettlement in the GTA. Across the two projects, TMCIS employed 9 people during the 2021-2022 year, including 5 students. The two SSHRC projects are in the analysis and synthesis stages.

Towards its goal of increasing Toronto Metropolitan University's external funding capacity, TMCIS partnered with Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou (principal applicant), the CERC in Migration and Integration, and a team of eight co-applicants, including, in addition to Dr. Usha George, Toronto Metropolitan University faculty members Dr. Chris Gore, Dr. Gabriel Resch; and TMCIS-affiliates Dr. Harald Bauder, and Dr. Mehrunnisa Ahmad Ali on the SSHRC Partnership Grant application, 'Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective (MEMO).' TMCIS also partnered with TMCIS-affiliate Dr. Henry Parada (principal applicant) on the SSHRC Insight Grant application, 'Arab Refugee Families' Experiences in the Ontario Child Welfare System,' and the SSHRC Connection Grant application, 'Strengthening Institutional Responses: Exploring Intersections of Child Protection, Immigration, and Criminal Justice to Better Support Caribbean and Latin American Children and Youth in Canada.' TMCIS also submitted its own SSHRC Connection Grant, 'Increasing Capacity for Refugee Family Reunification in Canada' with TMCIS Director Dr. Usha George as the principal applicant; Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou, Dr. Henry Parada, and Dr. Harald Bauder as co-applicants; and support from four community organizations. All four grant applications were successful. TMCIS is excited to be a part of the 'MEMO' Partnership, the 'Arab Families' Insight project, and the 'Institutional Responses' and 'Family Reunification' Connection grants. We anticipate that activities for all will begin by Fall 2022. TMCIS also continues to support Dr. Harald Bauder's 'Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective' (2021-2028) SSHRC Partnership Grant and provides office space and ongoing administrative support to the Partnership Grant Coordinator.

As part of its commitment to engage in the publication and promotion of immigration and settlement research by Toronto Metropolitan faculty members, over the 2021-2022 year, TMCIS published 11 Working Papers in collaboration with the CERC in Migration and Integration. TMCIS additionally participated in and hosted, co-hosted, and sponsored several events in line with its goal to share knowledge with individuals and organizations outside the university sector. In October 2021, TMCIS hosted the 'Regional and Municipal Integration Policies and Practices during COVID-19: Ontario and Baden-Württemberg Compared' symposium focusing on how local and regional contexts have responded to and coped with the situation of migrants and refugees who lack secure

status or find themselves in other vulnerable situations. The event was a follow-up to a previous symposium, 'Anti-discrimination Policies and Practices in Times of Black Lives Matter and COVID-19: Ontario and Baden-Württemberg Compared,' which took place in January 2021. The October 2021 event was moderated by Prof. Dr. Harald Bauder, Professor of Geography and Immigration and Settlement Studies at Toronto Metropolitan University, and Prof. Dr. Birgit Locher-Finke, Head of Integration at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration in Baden-Württemberg. Speakers included Thomas Schultze, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Toronto; Prof. Dr. Reinhold Weber, Head of the State Agency for Civic Education (LpB) in Baden-Württemberg; Vera Dodic, Manager of the Toronto Newcomer Office at the City of Toronto; Prof. Dr. Graham Hudson, Associate Professor and Associate Dean at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law at Toronto Metropolitan University; Prof. Dr. Claudia Diehl, Professor of Microsociology at the University of Konstanz in Konstanz; Ayse Özbabacan, Director of the Integration Office at the City of Stuttgart; and Prof. Dr. Thomas Reith, Honorary Consul of Canada in Stuttgart.

In November 2021, TMCIS also hosted a virtual presentation by visiting scholar Simon Sperling of Universität Osnabrück discussing the German politics of "Bleibeperspektive" ("prospects to stay") with respect to asylum seekers and the responses of cities. In January 2022, TMCIS hosted a virtual panel of stakeholders from the research study "A Partnership Approach to Syrian Refugee Resettlement in Toronto and Mississauga: The Role of Social Capital." Preliminary findings from the project were shared and discussed. Finally, in April 2022, TMCIS hosted, in collaboration with the Immigration and Settlement Studies (ISS) Graduate Program at Toronto Metropolitan University, a book launch of "From Sovereignty to Solidarity: Rethinking Human Migration" by Dr. Harald Bauder. The event was moderated by Sharyne Williams of the Immigration and Settlement Studies Alumni Association (ISSAA) and sponsored by the Soli*City research project, "Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity and Hospitality in Global Perspective." Comments were provided by comments by Dr. Radhika Mongia, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, York University, and Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç, Associate Professor, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Toronto Metropolitan University. In the 2021-2022 year, TMCIS-led events featured 2 students, 1 research fellow, 4 faculty members, 6 external faculty members, 7 community members, and 9 practitioners. TMCIS also filmed clips with 2 individuals for the 'TMCIS Introduces' series (via Zoom, due to COVID-19 restrictions).

TMCIS continued to host visiting scholar and doctoral candidate Jocelyn Kane from Political Studies at the University of Ottawa remotely through January 2022. TMCIS is currently hosting visiting practitioner Nicole Walther from the City of Karlsruhe (in the southwestern part of Germany) where she is Deputy Director of the External Relations Unit with the Karlsruhe City Council. Nicole joined us in April 2022 and will be with us for a period of 12 weeks. TMCIS is also hosting visiting practitioner Dean Barry from the through the Federal Government's Public Servant in Residence program. Dean joined TMCIS in September 2021 and will be with us through August 2023. TMCIS previously hosted visiting scholar Simon Sperling, a research associate from the University of Osnabrück November 2021 through December 2021, and continues to host Dr. Esra Ari, a SSHRC-funded post-doctoral scholar working with Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç. Esra joined TMCIS in September 2021 and will be with us through August 2023.

Most recently, TMCIS has been accepting working paper submissions, preparing TMCIS content for publication to the TMCIS website, and participating in the external review process initiated by OVPRI in response to TMCIS' application for renewal for a new 5-year term. Meetings with the external reviewers are planned for the summer of 2022. TMCIS hopes to receive a successful determination from OVPRI following the completion of the external review.

Governance

TMCIS Team

Academic Director

- **Usha George**, *School of Social Work* (2017 – January 2019; June 2019 – present)
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 was the recipient of the 2015 Errol Aspevig Award for Outstanding Academic Leadership and 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 as the 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 – 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 in 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*

- 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*

- Areas of Expertise: Care for immigrant and refugee women; access to care for uninsured pregnant women; care for marginalized populations including language barriers and cultural 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 post-colonial 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*

- 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 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

External Funding Proposals

Successful

TMCIS was successful in obtaining the following grants in partnership with TMCIS affiliated faculty:

- *Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective (MEMO)*, SSHRC Partnership Grant – TMCIS partnered with Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou (principal applicant; Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration; Professor, Department of Sociology, TMU) and a team of eight co-applicants (funding awarded by SSHRC: \$2.5M)
- *Arab Refugee Families' Experiences in the Ontario Child Welfare System*, SSHRC Insight Grant – TMCIS partnered with Dr. Henry Parada (principal applicant; Director, Immigration and Settlement Studies Graduate Program; Professor, School of Social Work, TMU), Dr. A. Ka Tat Tsang (Professor, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto), and two community partners (funding awarded by SSHRC: \$157,650)
- *Increasing Capacity for Refugee Family Reunification in Canada*, SSHRC Connection Grant – TMCIS and TMCIS Director Dr. Usha George (principal applicant) partnered with Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou, Dr. Henry Parada, Dr. Harald Bauder (Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, TMU), and four community organizations (funding awarded by SSHRC: \$24,989)
- *Strengthening Institutional Responses: Exploring Intersections of Child Protection, Immigration, and Criminal Justice to Better Support Caribbean and Latin American Children and Youth in Canada*, SSHRC Connection Grant – TMCIS partnered with Dr. Henry Parada (principal applicant), Dr. Marsha Rampersaud (Postdoctoral Researcher, School of Social Work, TMU), Dr. Sarah Turnbull (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Legal Studies, University of Waterloo), and three community partners (funding awarded by SSHRC: \$25,000)

Centre-Led Research Projects

- *Towards Improving Equality and Engagement: The Citizenship Experiences of South Asian and Chinese Women in Toronto (2017 – 2022)*

This project is a multi-year collaborative research study by researchers from TMCIS and the University of Toronto. With the goal of understanding and fostering inclusive citizenship in Canada, this study employs an intersectionality perspective to explore the citizenship experiences of naturalized South Asian- and Chinese-Canadian women citizens over the age of 25 living in the Greater Toronto Area. The study objectives are to (1) facilitate a better understanding of the challenges faced by racialized immigrant women in Toronto; (2) provide insight into what resources and programs are needed to foster inclusive citizenship in Toronto; and (3) develop a theoretical framework including the intersectionality perspective for analysis of immigrant women's identity, civic engagement, and equality of participation in Toronto. Study activities include data collection through focus groups and interviews (approximately 50 participants) and an online survey (400 participants in total). This study is funded by an Insight Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). The research team is currently writing an article about traditional versus instrument citizenship and analyzing survey data via SPSS.

- *A Partnership Approach to Syrian Refugee Resettlement in Toronto and Mississauga: The Role of Social Capital (2018 – 2022)*

Headed by TMCIS, this multi-year partnership project brings together researchers from Toronto Metropolitan University, the University of Toronto, and Sheridan College and community practitioners from CultureLink, the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT), Settlement Assistance and Family Support Services (SAFSS), the Arab Community Centre of Toronto (ACCT), the City of Toronto Newcomer Office, and the YMCA of Greater Toronto to jointly explore the settlement issues facing Syrian refugees in the City of Toronto and Mississauga. The study objectives are to (1) understand the settlement experiences of and outcomes for Syrian refugee families; (2) explore the gendered experiences of settlement for Syrian refugee women; (3) examine the relationship between social capital and the settlement experiences of Government-assisted refugees (GARs) and privately sponsored refugees (PSRs); and (4) provide 'actionable knowledge' for building social capital for community partners engaged in the settlement of Syrian refugees. This study is funded by a Partnership Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). The research team has finished inputting the paper-surveys into SPSS and survey data analysis is underway. A paper summarizing qualitative findings from the participants from the GAR and PSR streams has been drafted.

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)
- 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, 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 2021 – 2022 year, TMCIS and the CERC in Migration and Integration published 11 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)
- 2022/4: *Political Participation and Representation of South Asian and Chinese Canadians: Evidence from the Greater Toronto Area*, by Shuguang Wang, Ryerson University
- 2022/3: *Information and Communication Technology in Migration: A Framework for Applications, Customization, and Research*, by Ali Arya, Luciara Nardon & Md Riyadh, Carleton University
- 2022/2: *Social media and internet usage rates on employment outcomes among newcomers in Canada*, by Stein Monteiro, Ryerson University
- 2022/1: *Re-assessing Early Sikh Migration Histories on Turtle Island: An Anti-colonial and Critical Solidarity Perspective*, by Guntas Kaur, Ryerson University
- 2021/13: *The Transformation of Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program*, by Ian O'Donnell (Western University) & Mikal Skuterud (University of Waterloo)
- 2021/12: *Immigration Policy in Times of Indigenous Reconciliation*, by Harald Bauder & Rebecca Mueller, Ryerson University

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- 2021/11: *Meaningful and Inclusive Engagement: Are We There Yet? A Case Study of Scarborough Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) Participatory Processes*, by Kiana Côté, Ryerson University
 - 2021/10: *Immigrants and Cities: Conceptualizing Urban Informality Within Planetary Urbanization*, by Dominik T. Formanowicz, York University
 - 2021/9: *Using Machine-Learning to Triage Canada's Temporary Resident Visa Applications*, by Lucia Nalbandian, Ryerson University
 - 2021/8: *Understanding the forced repatriation of Ethiopian migrant workers from the Middle East*, by Girmachew Adugna, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Flight and Migration Competence Center, Addis Ababa

Presentations

Book Launch – "From Sovereignty to Solidarity: Rethinking Human Migration" by Harald Bauder

- TMCIS and the Immigration and Settlement Studies (ISS) Graduate Program hosted a book launch of *From Sovereignty to Solidarity: Rethinking Human Migration* by **Dr. Harald Bauder** (Cross-appointed Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and Immigration and Settlement Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University; Senior Fellow, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies, Germany). The event was moderated by **Sharyne Williams** (Immigration and Settlement Studies Alumni Association (ISSAA)), and co-sponsored by the Soli*City research project. Comments were provided by **Dr. Radhika Mongia** (Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, York University) and **Dr. Sedef Arat-Koç** (Associate Professor, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Toronto Metropolitan University). (April 21st, 2022, 17:30 – 19:00, hybrid event: in-person and webinar via Zoom)

Syrian Refugee Resettlement in Toronto: The Role of Social Capital

- Knowledge mobilization presentation by **Dr. Usha George** (Director, TMCIS), **Aicha Benayoune** (Coordinator, A Partnership Approach to Syrian Refugee Resettlement in Toronto and Mississauga, TMCIS), and **Tearney McDermott** (Coordinator, TMCIS). (November 31st, 2022, 10:00 – 11:00, webinar via Zoom)

The German politics of "Bleibeperspektive" ("prospects to stay") and the responses of cities

- Presentation by **Simon Sperling** (research associate at the Chair of "Migration and Society" at the University of Osnabrück and member of the Institute for "Migration Research and Intercultural Studies" (IMIS)). (November 30th, 2021, 13:00 – 14:00, hybrid event: in-person and webinar via Zoom)

Regional and Municipal Integration Policies and Practices during COVID-19: Ontario and Baden-Württemberg Compared

- Discussion panel moderated by **Dr. Harald Bauder** (Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Toronto Metropolitan University) and **Dr. Birgit Locher-Finke** (Head of Integration at the Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration in Baden-Württemberg). Speakers included: **Thomas Schultze** (Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Toronto), **Dr. Reinhold Weber** (Head of the State Agency for Civic Education (LpB) in Baden-Württemberg), **Vera Dodic** (Manager of the Toronto Newcomer Office at the City of Toronto), **Dr. Graham Hudson** (Associate Professor and Associate Dean at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law at Toronto Metropolitan University), **Dr. Claudia Diehl** (Professor of Microsociology at the University of Konstanz in Konstanz), **Ayse Özbabacan** (Director of the Integration Office at the City of Stuttgart), and **Dr. Thomas Reith** (Honorary Consul of Canada in Stuttgart). (October 26th, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30, webinar via Zoom)

‘TMCIS Introduces’ Video Series

The ‘TMCIS Introduces’ Video Series was created in 2019 as a means of highlighting the work of Centre members, affiliates, and collaborators. The videos are posted to the Centre’s YouTube, LinkedIn, and Twitter social media pages. During the 2021 – 2022 year, TMCIS filmed clips with the following individuals via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions:

- **Dean Barry**, *Public Servant in Residence, Federal Government of Canada; Visiting Practitioner, TMCIS*
- **Oluwafunmilayo Asolo**, *Post-graduate diploma candidate, Social Service Work program, George Brown College; Placement Student and Research Assistant, TMCIS*

The TMCIS video project in-person meetings will resume when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Training & Student Engagement

Research Assistants and Placement Students

- **Oluwafunmilayo Asolo**, *Post-graduate diploma candidate, Social Service Work program, George Brown College* (September 2021 – April 2022) (Placement student and Research Assistant; main focus: developing a SSHRC Connection Grant and supporting the Soli*City SSHRC PG project)
- **Zainab Huseni Jabla**, *MA student, Master of Digital Media, Toronto Metropolitan University* (September 2021 – April 2022) (Career Boost student; main focus: TMCIS Introduces Series)
- **Nick Dreher**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University* (April 2022 – present) (main focus: developing a SSHRC Insight Grant)
- **Rasha Arous**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University* (April 2022 – present) (main focus: writing a paper based on Syrian Resettlement study findings)
- **Verónica Escobar Olivo**, *Non-student/community member* (January 2020 – present) (main focus: independent centre research activities)
- **Joanne Daciuk**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2020 – present) (main focus: cleaning and analyzing Citizenship Experiences project quantitative data)
- **Aicha Benayoune**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2018 – present) (Project Coordinator of Syrian Resettlement study)
- **Tearney McDermott**, *Non-student/community member* (July 2017 – present) (Project Coordinator of Citizenship Experiences study)
- **Shamiram Zendo**, *PhD Student, Sociology, University of Western Ontario* (October 2018 – present) (main focus: writing a paper based on Syrian Resettlement study findings)

Visiting Scholars and Practitioners

- **Nicole Walther** (April 2022 – June 2022) is Deputy Director of the External Relations Unit with the Karlsruhe City Council in southwestern Germany. Nicole is participating in a leadership course offered by the Führungsakademie (the Leadership Academy of Public Administration) of the State of Baden-Württemberg in Germany which has a partnership with the province of Ontario. While in Ontario, Nicole hopes to learn more about immigration, integration and inclusion in Ontario and transfer the knowledge gained to Karlsruhe. She will be conducting informational interviews with relevant stakeholders in various cities across the province.
- **Simon Sperling** (November 2021 – December 2021) is a research associate at the Chair of "Migration and Society" at the University of Osnabrück and a member of the Institute for "Migration Research and Intercultural Studies" (IMIS). In his PhD project he analyzed how different forms of social prognosis affect migration politics, focusing especially on the German legal concept 'Bleibeperspektive'. Simon studied as a doctoral candidate in the PhD program "Boundary Formations in Migration Societies" and was an associated member at the graduate program "The Production of Migration" (Osnabrück). He is also part of the "Network for critical migration and border regime research" (kritnet).
- **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.

Victoria Reitter, an Austria-based researcher from the Department of Political Science and Sociology at the University of Salzburg, and **Anu Besson**, a post-doctoral candidate at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland, both originally arranged to be hosted by TMCIS in 2021, have postponed their placements indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finances for 2021-2022

TMCIS Expenses 2021-2022

EXPENSE CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Director's release	\$20,000.00
Payroll expenses	\$27,964.75
Non-payroll expenses	\$2,111.90
Total =	\$50,076.65

Activity Plan for 2022-2023

TMCIS Governance

- The TMCIS [Advisory Committee](#) will meet once in every three months: August 2022, November 2022, February 2023, and May 2023 (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 March 2023.
- Pending the results of the ongoing External Review of TMCIS' application for renewal for a new 5-year term, a new Director and Research Coordinator will be recruited. Once identified, the Director and Research Coordinator will meet on a weekly basis.

Research

Research Projects

- TMCIS is continuing work on [two ongoing research projects](#) (SSHRC Insight; SSHRC Partnership Development Grant).

Partnerships

- TMCIS will continue to collaborate with the CERC in Migration and Integration, the Immigration and Settlement Studies graduate program, the Policy Studies PhD program, and the Toronto Metropolitan University School of Social Work.
- 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 2022 – 2023 year.

Conferences

- TMCIS will host one conference focused on refugee family reunification in December 2022
- Representatives from TMCIS will present data from the Syrian Resettlement Study at the 25th International Metropolis Conference in Germany in September 2022

Lunch & Learn Research Presentation Series

- TMCIS aims to complete 4 lunch and learn presentations over the 2022 – 2023 year

'TMCIS Introduces' Video Series

- TMCIS aims to complete 'TMCIS Introduces' videos with an additional 5 faculty members, students, community members, and affiliates over the 2022 – 2023 year (remotely/over Zoom or in-person, depending on preference)

Training & Student Engagement

Placement Students

- TMCIS aims to offer research placements to 2 students from the Toronto Metropolitan University Master of Immigration and Settlement Studies program (150 hours each) or Policy Studies PhD program (90 hours each) in Spring 2023

Incoming Postdoctoral and Doctoral Fellows

- TMCIS aims to host 2 visiting scholars in the 2022 – 2023 year. TMCIS continues to host postdoctoral fellow Esra Ari (September 2021 – August 2023), visiting practitioner Dean Barry (September 2021 – August 2023), and visiting practitioner Nicole Walther (April 2022 – June 2022).

Anticipated Budget for 2022-2023

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Personnel (1 Coordinator; 15 hours/week at \$30.00/hour for 48 weeks with 18% vacation and benefits in lieu)	\$ 25,488.00
Director's Release	\$ 20,000.00
Operating Fees	\$ 2,000.00
Total =	\$ 47,488.00