

Newcomer Research Symposium 2025: Living Knowledge with Newcomers

Symposium Schedule

Friday, November 14, 2025

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| 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Registration and Breakfast |
| Plenary Session | |
| Plaza 1 and Plaza 2 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | Opening: “Never Had a Friend Like This”– Gerard Sinnan Land Acknowledgment – Jebunnessa Chapola Welcome Messages: Turin Chowdhury and Francis Boakye |
| 9:30 a.m. - 9:55 a.m. | Keynote Chorus: Asif Nazir Adanech Sahilie Kesavan Sreeharan |
| 9:55 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. | Coffee Break |
| A.M. Breakout Session Rooms 10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. | Oral Presentations – Parallel Sessions |

Breakout Session Presentations

Breakout Sessions have been carefully curated to engage the audience around a specific theme and will conclude in a group audience discussion. We invite you to attend the entire session to participate fully.

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| Horizon Seating Capacity: 50 | Social Inclusion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lessons Learned and Success Stories from Chinese Emotional Support Hotline – <i>Ma & Chen</i> 2. Do No Harm: Discussing Dilemmas Practitioners Face When Serving Newcomers in Family Violence Cases – <i>Cunningham</i> 3. I Want to Stay Married: How do I Stop the Abuse Without Breaking My Home”: Navigating |
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| | <p>Culture, Family, and Domestic Violence Among West African Immigrant Women in Alberta– <i>Adebayo</i></p> <p>4. Beyond the Sidelines: Creating Equitable Sports Ecosystems for Newcomer Inclusion through Systemic Anti- Racism– <i>Moorthi & Fuller</i></p> <p>5. Seniors Friendship Hub (SFH): Building Connection, Inclusion, And Systems Change– <i>Ara</i></p> |
| <p>Plaza 3 Seating Capacity: 50</p> | <p>Public Safety</p> <p>1. Literature Review: The Impact of Hate Crimes and Incidences on Mental Health in Racialized Communities in Canada" Research Report – <i>Saini & Este</i></p> <p>2. This Act Doesn't Represent Us: Using Media-Monitored Data to Expose Systemic Racism and Reimagine Safety for Newcomers" – <i>Bukhari</i></p> <p>3. The Sense of Being Undeserving and the Legal Consciousness of Chinese Immigrants in Canada – <i>Liu</i></p> <p>4. Advancing Justice Navigator Models to Meet the Legal Needs of Newcomers in Alberta – <i>Seipp & Lam</i></p> |
| <p>Garden 1 Seating Capacity: 50</p> | <p>Education</p> <p>1. The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth: Organizational Transformation Through Integrated Service Delivery – <i>Kinsman</i></p> <p>2. Crisis First Aid: Newcomer Edition – <i>Fakih, Vazquez, Collins, Hammond & Ismail</i></p> <p>3. Domestic Abuse Knowledge and Insights Within African Communities in Canada: A Quantitative Survey – <i>Adekugbe</i></p> <p>4. Visualizing migrant women's experience of oppression – <i>Mahdavian</i></p> <p>5. Social Change in Practice: Learning Through Reflection and Action – <i>Liu & Jurkova</i></p> |
| <p>Garden 2 Seating Capacity: 50</p> | <p>Culture and Integration</p> <p>1. Echoes from Galang to Calgary: Tracing the Vietnamese Refugee Journey – <i>Wijaya</i></p> <p>2. Braiding past and futures: learnings from cultural threads – <i>Patel & Khanna</i></p> <p>3. A Newcomer's Anti-Racist and Decolonial Feminist Reflections on the Climate Crisis through Indigenous Land-Based Education – <i>Chapola</i></p> <p>4. Voices in the Art: Exploring the Intersecting Identities of Newcomer 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth using Arts-Based Engagement Ethnography – <i>Matharu, Lui & Tri</i></p> |

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| | 5. The Secret Lives of Immigrant Indian Women: Collaging Belonging and Becoming – <i>Sajan-Thomas</i> |
| 12:10 p.m. - 1:10 p.m. Plaza 1 and Plaza 2 | Lunch and Poster Presentations |
| P.M. Breakout Session Rooms 1:10 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. | Oral Presentations – Parallel Sessions |

Breakout Session Presentations

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| Horizon Seating Capacity: 50 | Settlement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Examining Both the Protective and Hindering Factors Shaping Resilience Among African and Asian Immigrant Youth – <i>Pi & Thiara</i> Enhancing Newcomer Integration Through Culturally Informed Practices – <i>Dingha</i> Addressing Social Isolation and Mental Health of Immigrant Seniors through Land-based Activities – <i>Bhatta, Bajgain, & Neupane</i> Emerging Digital Tools in Practice: Insights from Canadian Service Provider Organizations – <i>Zeraati & Plesche</i> Lived Realities of Racialized Immigrant Mothers and Their Families in Canada – <i>Ranabhat</i> |
| Plaza 3 Seating Capacity: 50 | Health and Wellness <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hands Lifting Hearts Initiatives Society: Advancing Inclusive, Culturally Responsive Care for Families in Alberta – <i>Jaguna & Ediale</i> Understanding Immigrant Healthcare Access Barriers in Canada: A Community-Engaged Umbrella Review Using the Candidacy Framework – <i>Raihan</i> Where Stigma Meets Borders: Stories of Substance Use and the Risk of Deportation – <i>Chen</i> Grounded Pathways: Lived Experiences of Trans and Queer Newcomers in Calgary and a 90Day, ArrivalReady Care Model – <i>Alloba</i> Mental Health Promotion Among Ghanaian Newcomers In Alberta: The Roles Of Cultural, Ethnic And Faith-Based Associations – <i>Boakye-Yiadom & Salami</i> |

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| <p>Garden 1 Seating Capacity: 50</p> | <p>Grassroots Community Collaboration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unravelling Narratives: Immigration, Memory, and Creativity – <i>Shukla, Fabijan & Korthiwada</i> 2. Building Better Lives: Collaborative Research with Latin American and Caribbean Migrants in Calgary – <i>Montes de Oca & Lopez</i> 3. Healing And Advocating Against Racism Among Migrant Youth: The Role of Youth Participatory Action Research – <i>Zulla</i> 4. A Cross-Cultural Land-Based Activities as Climate Justice: A Learning Journey from Racialized Immigrant Communities in Calgary City – <i>Datta</i> 5. Rooted in Relationships: Bridging Communities for Meaningful Engagement – <i>Tolentino</i> |
| <p>Garden 2 Seating Capacity: 50</p> | <p>Connections through Policies, Programs & Practices</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flows of People, Flows of Credit and Debt: The Financialization of Migration Among Latin Americans in Canada – <i>Pérez-Rivera</i> 2. Local Voices, Lasting Impact: TAIGA RISE's Citizen Science Approach to Northern Ecosystem – <i>Kazemi & Plesche</i> 3. Achieving Collective Outcomes through Grassroots Community Engagement and Collaboration – <i>Bhusal, Bhatta, Bashyal & Aryal</i> 4. The Human Side of Systems Change: Lessons from the Gateway Model – <i>Mebarek</i> 5. Promoting Refugee Self-Reliance in Canada: Evaluating Programs and Designing the Refugee Empowerment and Independence Training Program (REITP) – <i>Rostamzadeh & Ashouri- Talooki</i> |
| <p>3:10 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.</p> | <p>Coffee Break</p> |
| <p>Plaza 1 and Plaza 2 3:25 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.</p> | <p>Plenary Jigsaw Discussion Please join together for a discussion around plans for collective systems change based on the sessions we each attended today.</p> |
| <p>3:55 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.</p> | <p>Closing</p> |

