Immigration and Integration: 

Towards a Renewal of the Linkages between Research, Policy and Practice

3rd Regional Conference and Workshop

Radisson Hotel
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
September 21-23, 2000

Final Program
(September 19, 2000)

Background
Two previous Prairie Centre workshops were held in the past, in Regina and Calgary. Both workshops followed a similar format: having delegates meet in domain-based small groups, and having an opening and closing plenary session. Baha Abu-Laban, Terry Wotherspoon and Peter Li met in Toronto on March 23, 2000 to discuss the format for the Saskatoon Conference/Workshop, to be held in September 2000. It was felt that, at this juncture in the life of the Metropolis Centres, rather than continuing to have domain-based concurrent sessions, the conference should try a different format to have all the participants listen to all the domains and jointly discuss how each domain has been doing. Thus, the idea of having four domain-based plenary sessions was adopted. In addition, it was felt that it would be important to organize two plenary sessions on research, policy and community issues.

Goals
The goals of the Saskatoon Conference are to:

(1) Strengthen the linkages between research, policy and practice;

(2) Review the Prairie Centre’s research program thus far and identify its strengths; weaknesses and major gaps therein;

(3) Showcase selected domain-based studies funded by the Prairie Centre; and

(4) Guide the development of future research agendas.
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Day 1 – Thursday, September 21, 2000

12:00-1:00 p.m. Registration (continues all day)

1:00-1:15 p.m. Opening
Michelangelo-A Room
Dr. Michael Corcoran, Vice-President (Research), University of Saskatchewan
Terry Wotherspoon, Chair of Conference Committee, University of Saskatchewan
Baha Abu-Laban, Director, PCERII

1:15-3:00 p.m. First Plenary Session
Michelangelo-A Room
“The Issue of Policy and Practice Relevant Research: The Challenges Ahead”

Description: This is the first of two sessions dealing with policy issues. In this session, the primary concern is on policy relevant research and its role in policy development. The main purpose of this session is to provide a forum for policy makers and researchers to exchanges views about the role of policy relevant research with respect to the Metropolis Project. Some pertinent questions include: What are the successes? What are the major challenges for policy makers, service providers, and academics? How can academic research better contribute to policy development? What are the realistic and unrealistic expectations from policy relevant research?

Facilitator: Meyer Burstein
Executive Head, Metropolis, Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Participants: Rosaline Frith, Director General, Integration Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Derek Hum, University of Manitoba
Martha Justus, Research Manager, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Barbara Leung, Director, Community Programs,
Alberta Learning
Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan
Robert Vineberg, Director, Prairies/NT Region
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

3:00-3:30 p.m.  Coffee Break  Michelangelo-A Room
3:30-5:15 p.m.  Second Plenary Session  Michelangelo-A Room

“The Incorporation of Immigrants in the Canadian Economy: Update of Research Results in the Economic Domain”

Description: An overview of Prairie Centre funded research and research themes in the Economic Domain will be provided. This is to be followed by reports and comments by selected researchers on key findings in the area of economic integration and related issues. Participants and researchers have an opportunity to discuss the research focus, research findings, and policy implications. The session also hopes to outline the research directions for the future.

Facilitator: Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan
Participants: Shiva Halli, University of Manitoba
Derek Hum, University of Manitoba
Wayne Simpson, University of Manitoba
Richard Wanner, University of Calgary
Lloyd Wong, University of Calgary

6:00-6:30 p.m.  Reception  Da Vinci Room
6:30-8:00 p.m.  Banquet  Da Vinci Room
(Sponsored by the Office of the President, University of Saskatchewan)

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Bruce Shepard, Diefenbaker Canada Centre
University Greetings: Dr. Michael Corcoran, Vice President (Research), University of Saskatchewan
Ministerial Greetings: The Honourable Chris Axworthy, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Saskatchewan

8:00-9:00 p.m.  Banquet Speaker  Da Vinci Room

Dr. Wsevolod Isajiw, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto
"Between Heaven and Earth: Toward a New Modus Vivendi between Academic Research and Practical Social Policy."
Day 2 – Friday, September 22, 2000

8:00-8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast Da Vinci Room

8:30-10:15 a.m. Third Plenary Session Michelangelo-A Room

“The Educational Integration of Immigrants and Their Children: Update of Research Results in the Education Domain”

Description: The purpose of this session is to provide an overview of Prairie Centre funded research and research themes in the Education Domain. In addition, the session features reports and comments by selected researchers on key findings in the educational integration of immigrants and their children. Participants and researchers have an opportunity to discuss the research focus, research findings, and policy implications. The session also hopes to outline the research directions for the future.

Facilitator: Yvonne Hébert, University of Calgary
Participants: Nancy Arthur, University of Calgary
Tracey Derwing, University of Alberta
Yvonne Hébert, University of Calgary

10:15-10:45 a.m. Coffee break Michelangelo-A Room

10:45-12:30 a.m. Fourth Plenary Session Michelangelo-A Room

“Immigrants and Health: Update of Research Results in the Health Domain”

Description: The purpose of this session is to provide an overview of Prairie Centre funded research and research themes in the Health Domain. In addition, the session features reports and comments by selected researchers on key findings in immigrants’ integration in the health arena and their access to health services, among other issues. Participants and researchers have an opportunity to discuss the research focus, research findings, and policy implications. The session also hopes to outline the research directions for the future.

Facilitator: Linda Ogilvie, University of Alberta
Participants: Sonia Batar, Changing Together… A Centre for Immigrant Women
Elizabeth Burgess-Pinto, University of Alberta
David Este, University of Calgary
Chuck Humphrey, University of Alberta
Rashmi Joshee, Canadian Heritage
Lynn Meadows, University of Calgary
Linda Ogilvie, University of Alberta
Denise Spitzer, University of Alberta
Jeanette Vanderveld, University of Alberta
12:30-1:30 p.m.  Lunch  Da Vinci Room

1:30-3:15 p.m.  Fifth Plenary Session  Michelangelo-A Room  
“Perspectives on Research, Policy and Practice in Immigrant Integration”

*Description:* This is the second session dealing with public issues and concerns related to immigration, settlement and integration. The purpose of this session is to give voices to SPOs/NGOs, and other non-governmental stakeholders, with a view to having a constructive dialogue among academics, community leaders, NGOs, and other stakeholders. With reference to the Metropolis Project, some pertinent questions include: What are the successes? What are the major challenges for policy makers, service providers and academics? How can academic research better contribute to policy/practice development? What are the realistic and unrealistic expectations from this kind of research?

*Facilitator:*  Joan Brownridge, Program Coordinator, Race Relations Branch, City of Saskatoon

*Participants:*  Fariborz Birjandian, Executive Director, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society  
Tom Denton, PCERII Program Committee  
Keith Karasin, Executive Director, Regina Open Door Society  
Christine Lwanga, Past President, Immigrant Women of Saskatchewan

3:15-3:45 p.m.  Coffee break  Michelangelo-A Room

3:45-5:30 p.m.  Sixth Plenary Session  Michelangelo-A Room  
“Social, Cultural, and Political Issues of Immigrant Life: Social and Cultural Domain”

*Description:* The purpose of this session is to provide an overview of Prairie Centre funded research and research themes primarily in the Social and Cultural Domain. In addition, the session features reports and comments by selected researchers on key findings in immigrants’ social and cultural integration and related issues. Participants and researchers have an opportunity to discuss the research focus, research findings, and policy implications. The session also hopes to outline the research directions for the future.

*Facilitator:*  Doug Durst, University of Regina

*Participants:*  James Frideres, University of Calgary  
Madeline Kalbach, University of Calgary  
Nanci Langford, Athabasca University

6:30-8:00 p.m.  Reception at the Diefenbaker Canada Centre  
University of Saskatchewan.
Free evening

Day 3 – Saturday, September 23, 2000

8:30-9:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast  Da Vinci Room

9:00-10:30 a.m.  Concurrent meetings of domain-based groups to review input provided at the earlier plenary sessions and work out research strategies for the future

Facilitators:
Economic:  Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan, Verona Room
Education:  Yvonne Hébert, University of Calgary, Naples Room
Health:  Linda Ogilvie, University of Alberta, Shakespeare Room
Social and Cultural:  Douglas Durst, University of Regina, Venice Room

10:30-11:00 a.m.  Coffee break  Michelangelo-A Lobby

11:00-12:30 p.m.  Closing Plenary and Reports  Michelangelo-A Room

Facilitator:  Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan

Rapporteurs:
Economic:  Peter Li, University of Saskatchewan
Education:  Yvonne Hébert, University of Calgary
Health:  Linda Ogilvie, University of Alberta
Social and Cultural:  Douglas Durst, University of Regina

1:00-4:00 p.m.  Tour of Wanuskewin National Historic Site (Optional)