

**PRAIRIE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RESEARCH
ON IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION
ANNUAL REPORT, 2003-2004**

Introduction

This is the eighth annual report of the Prairie Centre and the second in Phase II of the Metropolis Project. The year under review was successful with regard to the key elements of our mandate: research productivity, collaboration with stakeholders, and research dissemination.

This report consists of seven parts. Part I addresses the Centre's objectives and key activities. This is followed by Part II, partnerships and collaborations. Part III provides an overview of research and research outputs. Part IV deals with issues of research management and communication, while Part V outlines challenges faced by the Prairie Centre. Parts VI and VII present the budget and workplan, respectively, for 2004-2005.

Part I. Centre Objectives and Key Activities

The main objectives of the Prairie Centre, as articulated in the 2002 application to SSHRC/CIC for a renewal grant, may be summarized in four points:

First, the Centre seeks to build a large research team to produce multidisciplinary, policy relevant research as part of the Metropolis Project.

Second, the Centre supports research on first generation immigrants and their descendants (second generation and higher), as well as on the impact of immigration and changing diversity on the institutions of the host society. The research program seeks to document successful strategies used for the integration of immigrants and, as well, identify policy options that may create a more welcoming environment for immigrants and diversity. In its research and related activities, the Centre follows the guidelines established for the second phase of Metropolis.

Third, the Centre seeks to deepen its collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders including relevant municipal, provincial, and federal government policy-makers/analysts, immigrant serving agencies, and community organizations.

Fourth, The Prairie Centre continues to stress the importance of broadly communicating its research findings to both academic and non-academic, national and international audiences, with the aim of enhancing our understanding and maximizing both the human and the national benefits of immigration to Canadian society. As part of this goal, the Centre will continue to publish its highly successful international journal, *Journal of International Migration and Integration* (JIMI).

The key activities described below are ones in which the Administrative Centre, along with stakeholders (researchers, policy makers and service providers), have played a major role.

1. Planning Meeting

In keeping with the requirements of Metropolis Phase II, the Prairie Centre organized a planning meeting to discuss the concerns and interests of different stakeholders in the Metropolis Project. The meeting was held in Edmonton, February 6-7, 2004, and brought together forty participants including researchers, government policy makers and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The meeting featured: (1) a panel on policy priorities, which included several of Metropolis' federal partners; 2) an NGO panel which featured presentations on the needs and concerns of immigrant serving agencies vis à vis the Metropolis Project; 3) domain research projects currently underway or in the planning phase; (4) a proposal for a pan-Canadian research project on the economic, demographic and social costs and benefits of immigration; (5) individual and team research projects being developed by Prairie Centre researchers for the April 30, 2004 deadline; and, (6) a limited number of paper presentations. The Planning Meeting was very successful in facilitating the interface between research, policy and practice (see Appendix 1 for copy of programme).

2. Statistical Compendium

In 2000, the Prairie Centre published "Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities on the Prairies: A Statistical Compendium." The data for this publication were drawn from the 1991 and 1996 Censuses and the Landed Immigrant Data Bases. This publication was utilized widely by community partners and the feedback the Centre received indicated that the compendium had been a useful and handy resource for service providers and communities for easily accessing information about immigrants.

During the year under review, the Centre began preparing a new compendium using updated data from a variety of federal and local sources including the 2001 Census. In January 2004, the Prairie Centre solicited feedback from community stakeholders regarding suggestions for change in order to make the new publication even more useful and relevant to them. Currently, three PCERII graduate student research assistants, under the direction of the Centre Co-Directors, are working on the new publication which is expected to be completed and disseminated widely in 2005.

3. Working Paper Series

The year under review saw the introduction of the PCERII Working Paper Series – thus far nine have been published and we have promises from several researchers that they will be submitting papers soon. The papers appear on our website, and our federal partners have received hard copies (see Appendix 2 for list of working papers).

4. Approving Research Grant Applications for 2003-2004

The deadline for grant applications for 2003-2004 was May 26, 2003. This later-than-usual date allowed research grant applicants to take into account information gathered during their participation in the Sixth National Metropolis Conference held in Edmonton in March 2003. The projects approved by the Board of Governors are detailed in Part III of this report.

5. Communications and Reporting of Research

One of the requirements of Phase II of Metropolis was that, within two years, the Centres of Excellence update their research inventories, to the extent feasible (best effort), and provide reporting on all research conducted in Phase I. During the year under review, the Prairie Centre completed a listing of all progress and final reports, and other publications emanating from research projects that received PCERII-funding between 1996 and 2002 (Phase I) and shared it with the Metropolis Project Team. Henceforth, the research inventories will be maintained and updated on an ongoing basis.

6. Awards and Honours Received by PCERII Stakeholders

PCERII Co-Director, Baha Abu-Laban, was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for 2003. Recipients of this award are Canadian citizens who have made an outstanding and exemplary contribution to the community or to Canada as a whole.

The Prairie Centre's community partner, Changing Together...A Centre for Immigrant Women in Edmonton, received funding from the Edmonton Community Adult Learning Association (ECALA) to publish DVD and VHS versions of the research project, "Coming to Canada: Success Stories of Immigrant Women." This project received funding from the Prairie Centre in May 2002 and was conducted by PCERII research affiliate, Nancy Gibson (University of Alberta) and graduate student, Fay Fletcher.

PCERII Research Affiliate, Shiva Halli (University of Manitoba) was awarded the 2004 Outstanding Contribution Award from the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association. This award honours researchers who have significantly contributed to sociology and anthropology in Canada. Dr. Halli also received the Merit Award for research from the University of Manitoba.

University of Calgary Social Work Professor, Daniel Lai, has received the Alberta Heritage Health Scholar Award from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR). This award carries a research stipend of approximately \$500,000 over a 5-year period effective July 2003.

University of Manitoba sociologist and PCERII research affiliate, Lori Wilkinson, was awarded a Visiting Research Fellowship from the Refugee Studies Centre at Oxford University in the U.K. starting in January 2004. While at Oxford Dr. Wilkinson is pursuing her research interests in immigrant and refugee youth, among other areas, as

well as interacting with international experts in the field. Dr. Wilkinson also received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Manitoba in September 2003 in recognition of her research grants and projects during her first three years at the University of Manitoba.

Several PCERII research affiliates were awarded funding from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council's special research competition, "Multiculturalism Issues in Canada," announced in February 2004. University of Alberta researchers, Ingrid Johnston, George Richardson, and Terrance Carson, received \$50,000 for their research project, "Promoting Cross-cultural Pedagogical Understanding for Institutional Change." Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan) was awarded \$50,000 for his project entitled, "Economic/Social Outcomes of Ethnic Attachment."

Part II: Partnerships and Collaborations

1. Collaborations with Policy-Makers

A number of PCERII affiliated researchers and a representative of an Edmonton-based PCERII partnering organization participated at the Intersections of Diversity: Developing New Approaches to Policy and Research Conference held in Niagara Falls, ON, in April 2003. This conference was organized by the federal government and the Association for Canadian Studies.

Yvonne Hébert (University of Calgary) and Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan) both presented commissioned papers at the conference entitled, *The Opportunity and Challenge of Diversity: A Role for Social Capital?*, held in Montreal in November 2003. The conference was organized by the Policy Research Initiative, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, in partnership with Canadian Heritage, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, the Law Commission of Canada, Statistics Canada and Status of Women Canada.

In addition to the above, several research affiliates organized workshops for the international and national Metropolis conferences, many of which involved direct collaboration with policy makers, NGOs, and international partners. Examples include: Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan) organized a workshop at the 8th International Metropolis Conference in Vienna in September 2003 entitled, "Social and Economic Integration of Immigrants: Comparative Discourse and Research," in which federal policy maker Jean Kunz (Policy Research Initiative, Ottawa) and researcher David Ip (University of Queensland, Australia), among others, presented papers in conjunction with Dr. Li; Joseph Garcea (University of Saskatchewan) organized a workshop at the 7th National Metropolis Conference in Montreal in March 2004 entitled, "Framing a Research Agenda for Political Participation of Immigrants and Ethnocultural Communities" in which John Biles and Erin Tolley (Metropolis Project Team) participated, among others.

PCERII Co-Director, Baha Abu-Laban, is a member of the CIC Local Advisory Committee in Edmonton and a member of the Adjudication Committee for Canadian Heritage's Community Research Initiative Program for 2003-2004.

Henry Chow (University of Regina) is a member of the CIC Community Advisory Committee in Regina and attends regular meetings.

Tracey Derwing (PCERII Co-Director) is a member of the Province of Alberta Advisory Committee on ESL. She made a presentation on immigrant language issues to the InterDepartmental Committee for Metropolis in Ottawa, in March, 2004. Also in March, Professor Derwing moderated CIC Minister Judy Sgro's consultation with community partners in Edmonton on immigration matters.

Joseph Garcea (University of Saskatchewan) organized a Symposium of Experts for the Saskatchewan Premier's Task Force on Immigration in July 2003 which was chaired by Saskatchewan MLA, Pat Lorje, and which produced the report, "Open Up Saskatchewan." Several other PCERII research affiliates participated in the symposium. In October 2003, Dr. Garcea also attended a symposium on behalf of the Metropolis Project Team on the issue of "Youth Voting in Canada," sponsored by Canada's Chief Electoral Officer in which issues of political participation of all youth, including immigrant youth was discussed.

Shiva Halli (University of Manitoba) was an invited participant in the Metropolis Conversation Seminar entitled, "Labour Market Outcomes for Immigrants" in December 2003 in Ottawa.

PCERII Research Affiliate, Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan), participated in a round-table discussion on Social Inclusion and Poverty organized by the Policy Research Initiative in November 2003.

In 2003, Noorfarah Merali (University of Alberta) was an advisor to the project management team of the Community-based Immigrant Mental Health Project organized by Capital Health. She is also a member of the National Input Group organized by Human Resources Development Canada which is tasked with developing a handbook and protocol for family resource centres for immigrants and refugees in Canada. In addition, Dr. Merali continues to collaborate with the City of Edmonton by providing psychological case consultation and guidance for counseling psychologists and hospital staff in dealing with difficult cases involving immigrant and refugee patients in telephone consultations on an as needed basis.

The New Canadian Children and Youth Study (NCCYS) led by PCERII Health Domain Leader, Linda Ogilvie (University of Alberta), on the Prairies continues to operate as a national, cross-centre and multidisciplinary research project. This project actively engages researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

Valerie Pruegger (Adjunct Professor, University of Calgary) is a member of the Alberta Provincial Hate Crimes Committee which is working to establish national standards regarding the definition, investigation, reporting and prosecution of hate/bias crimes.

University of Saskatchewan sociologists, Bernard Schissel and Terry Wotherspoon, are working in collaboration with Saskatchewan Learning on a Community Schools Data Collection Project.

In addition, the Prairie Centre continues to offer policy makers a direct voice in the form of membership and voting rights on its management boards. For example, Tarik Khan (Canadian Heritage, Winnipeg Regional Office) has replaced Rashmi Joshee, formerly of Canadian Heritage, Edmonton Regional Office on the PCERII Adjudication Committee. Barbara Leung (Alberta Learning) is a member of the PCERII Domain Research Committee. Membership on the Board of Governors includes a representative each from Manitoba Labour and Immigration (Gérald Clément), Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs (Eric Johansen) and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada Ottawa/Hull National Office (Samuel Laryea). As major funders, Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council continue to be represented on the Board (see membership lists for Adjudication and Domain Research Committees and Board in Appendices 3,4 & 5).

2. Collaborations with NGOs and Other Community Groups

Since its inception, the Prairie Centre has sought to foster significant connections with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (see Appendix 6 for List of Partnering Organizations and Community Contacts). The fiscal year 2003-2004 was no exception and this collaboration has continued in a number of ways: (a) requiring grant applicants to consult with community groups, where appropriate, in advance of applying for funds (see Grant Application and Guidelines in Appendix 7); (b) providing full or partial financial support for NGO representatives to attend national and international conferences; (c) providing information and, where possible, research support; (d) participating in conferences organized by NGOs; (e) collaborating with NGO partners through their membership on the advisory committees of several PCERII research projects, and; (f) inviting community partners to participate on several PCERII management committees. For example, Fariborz Birjandian (Calgary Catholic Immigration Society), Yvonne Chiu (Edmonton Multicultural Health Brokers' Co-op), Tom Denton (Manitoba Refugee Sponsors) and Judy White (Immigrant Women of Saskatchewan) are members of the Board of Governors. Jaye Fredrickson (Edmonton Norquest College) is a member of the Adjudication Committee (see membership lists for Board and Adjudication Committee in Appendices 5 and 3).

Other collaborations between community groups and NGOs and specific PCERII research affiliates during the year under review include: PCERII Co-Directors, Baha Abu-Laban and Tracey Derwing met with representatives of the Canadian Association for Immigrant Engineers and representatives of the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for

Newcomers to discuss course/program proposals for immigrant engineers and a survey of immigrant engineers.

Baha Abu-Laban was also an invited participant in the December 2003 launch of the video and a seminar entitled, "Coming to Canada: Success Stories of Immigrant Women," organized by Changing Together...A Centre for Immigrant Women. The video stems from the PCERII-funded research project led by Nancy Gibson (University of Alberta).

Baha Abu-Laban is also a member of the Advisory Committee for the Canada West Foundation's Immigration and Western Canada Research Initiative.

In February 2004, a recognition event for public sector partners was organized jointly by PCERII and several Edmonton-based NGOs, to honour CIC, Canadian Heritage, Alberta Learning, Alberta Community Development and the City of Edmonton for their support of the voluntary sector's work in assisting with the integration of immigrants and refugees, and their commitment to the goals of Metropolis.

Tracey Derwing met with the Education Brokers associated with the Mennonite Centre for Newcomers to discuss ESL issues in Edmonton schools. She later met with leaders of the Somali community about the situation in schools for Somali children and parents' rights. She also attends the meetings of OMEP (Organization Mondiale pour L'Education Préscolaire) as a Prairie Centre representative. Dr. Derwing is also on the Advisory Committee for the Language Assessment, Referral and Counselling Centre at Catholic Social Services, Edmonton.

During the year under review, Wanda Hurren (University of Regina) continued to act in an advisory role on a project undertaken by the Saskatchewan Association for Multicultural Education (SAME). The project aims at eliminating discrimination based on accented English spoken in public schools.

University of Alberta researcher, Anna Kirova, chaired monthly OMEP meetings involving representatives from Success by 6, the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, the Edmonton Multicultural Health Brokers, Head Start, the Community-University of Alberta Partnerships (CUP), the Prairie Centre, and Family Services. The focus of the meetings is to address the specific needs of young immigrants and refugees and their families in the transition to the new culture. These meetings resulted in a number of projects related to immigrant and refugee children including the *Success by 6*, Multicultural/ Multiliteracy Project, and a research project on culturally appropriate assessment tools development which is funded by the Prairie Centre.

Dr. Kirova is also a member of the Ad Hoc Planning Committee of *Success by 6*, - Enriching Opportunities for Immigrant Children as well as of the Advisory Committee *Success by 6*, Multicultural/Multi Literacy Project. In addition, she is an advisory committee member of the Early Childhood Development Initiative entitled, "Parenting and Early Childhood Development in Refugee and Immigrant Families."

PCERII Coordinator, Kelly McKean, continues in her role as a board member of Changing Together...A Centre for Immigrant Women in Edmonton.

PCERII Research Affiliate, Noorfarah Merali (University of Alberta), collaborated in 2003-2004 with the Indo-Canadian Women's Association in Edmonton to develop a counseling strategy and create a manual focusing on problems emerging before, during, and after international arranged marriages among South Asian immigrants. Dr. Merali is also a program advisor and consultant on the women's development portfolio to the City of Edmonton Ismaili Muslim Cultural Community Social Service Infrastructure.

3. Research Collaborations and Networks: National and International

National Linkages:

The Prairie Centre Ad Hoc Planning Committee, consisting of the following PCERII research affiliates: Jim Frideres (University of Calgary), Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan), Tracey Derwing (PCERII Co-Director) and Baha Abu-Laban (PCERII Co-Director), has been developing a national, multidisciplinary research project under the heading, "Nation Building in the 21st Century: A National Agenda for Immigration Research."

During the year under review, PCERII Citizenship and Political Domain Leader, Joseph Garcea (University of Saskatchewan), has been working with domain leaders at the other Metropolis Centres to develop a pan-Canadian research project on formal and informal political participation of immigrants and ethnocultural communities.

Yvonne Hébert (University of Calgary) submitted a letter of intent for a major collaborative grant to the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada in January 2004, under the heading, "Focusing on Youth: Social Capital, Diversity and Learning," as the first of a two-stage process for a Major Collaborative Research Initiative. In order to get to this stage, Dr. Hébert has been working closely with a team of co-researchers most of whom are affiliated researchers in the Metropolis network and who are located across the country. The project also involves an international collaborator from the University of Bremen in Germany.

Valerie Pruegger (Adjunct Professor, University of Calgary) is a member of the Law Enforcement Aboriginal and Diversity Network which is a national network for law enforcement personnel dealing with issues of diversifying communities.

International Linkages:

In February 2004, PCERII research affiliate and Coordinator of the Citizenship Education Research Network (CERN), Yvonne Hébert (University of Calgary), was an invited speaker at several events in Germany: Amerika Haus and the Bavarian Ministry of Education (Munich); Deutsche-Amerikanishen Institut and Padagogischen Institut

(Nuremberg); and, the 25th Anniversary of the Association for Canadian Studies in German-Speaking Countries (Grainau).

Baha Abu-Laban, PCERII Co-Director, served on an interview panel to assist with the 2003-2004 Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship Programs, interviewing 3 applicants in August 2003.

Tom Carter (University of Winnipeg) is involved in an international project entitled, Immigration and Global City Housing Demand. The initiative is funded by the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. The research team includes scholars from Australia, Hong Kong, China, Ireland, U.K., U.S.A, Canada, South Africa and other countries. Dr. Carter will write the Canadian paper. The results will be presented at an international conference in London, U.K., in September 2004, and published in the Journal of Urban Policy and Research.

Tracey Derwing, PCERII Co-Director, participated in a working conference entitled, Dialogue on Multicultural and Diversity Policies in Canada and the United States, in Buffalo, N.Y. in May, 2003.

Douglas Durst (University of Regina) received a grant from the Program for International Research Linkages (PIRL) of the International Academic Relations Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs to share interests in social work research on minorities with colleagues at Shandong University in China.

In December 2003, Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan), visited several universities in China, to explore with researchers in Shanghai, Tianjin, and Xian, the possibility of developing an international project comparing four to five cities to see how they incorporate immigrants.

In November 2003, Nursing researchers, Anne Neufeld and Margaret Harrison (University of Alberta), were guest editors of a special issue of the Western Journal of Nursing Research on Health of Immigrant Populations. This special issue featured articles from Metropolis researchers in Canada as well as researchers from the USA and Australia.

Miguel Sanchez (University of Regina) initiated contacts with colleagues in Chile and Mexico to undertake research regarding South-North-South migration.

Denise Spitzer (University of Alberta) established links with researchers at La Trobe University in Australia and has since co-organized two conference sessions with her colleagues.

Wilfreda Thurston (University of Calgary) is a member of an international pilot project entitled, Women's Participation in Domestic Violence in Health Policy Development (WDVHP), which is a Shared Research Program in Women's Health and involves Canada, Australia, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Thailand. WDHVHP examines the

participation of women in the development and implementation of effective domestic violence health policies. Contacts are currently being developed in Yemen, Jordan and Iraq.

Richard Wanner (University of Calgary) was a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute, San Domenico di Fiesole (Florence), Italy, in 2003 and is Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, University of Auckland in 2004.

4. Support from Consortium Universities

The space provided by the University of Alberta to the Prairie Centre is intact. This includes 12 rooms, plus a shared conference room, for a total of 2,000 square feet. The cost of space and amenities provided to the Centre in 2003-2004 amounts to about \$46,000 (@\$23 per square foot per year).

In addition to the above, all the participating universities contributed space and amenities to the researchers funded by the Centre. A conservative estimate is that the cost of space for each funded project is \$1,000 per year, for a total of \$19,000 for the projects that were active in 2003-2004. Other forms of infrastructure support provided in 2003-2004 by the Consortium of Prairie Universities, such as accounting and administrative services, totaled \$53,600—which is equivalent to 0.67 FTE @\$80,000 per year.

In terms of direct financial support to the Prairie Centre, the University of Alberta, the host university, provided the Centre with a grant totaling \$79,856 for 2003-2004. The majority of this total, (\$60,856) was for the Centre's operating budget and was used to support graduate student assistants, the *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, travel, computer equipment and software, equipment rental (telephone lines, photocopier, and so forth), and casual non-academic support, among other things. Of the remaining balance, funding was awarded to the PCERII Co-Directors as administrative honoraria (\$4,000 each), and Baha Abu-Laban received research grants from the Vice-President (Research)(\$4,000) and the Faculty of Arts (\$2,000). In addition, the Faculty of Education provided a grant as course release (\$5,000) to Tracey Derwing's home department, Educational Psychology. Moreover, the University of Alberta contributed two senior academics to serve as Co-Directors of the Prairie Centre, at no cost to the SSHRC/CIC grant. The replacement value of the current administrative arrangement for the Prairie Centre is \$75,000. Lastly, PCERII research affiliate, Anna Kirova, received a Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences Research Travel Grant for her project "The Need to Belong to the School Culture: Immigrant Children's Experiences of Peer Acceptance and Learning English as a Second Language," in the amount of \$800.

At the University of Calgary, space is provided for the exclusive use of Metropolis researchers and includes three rooms (a total of 820 square feet) on the 14th floor in the Education Tower. The space contains five computers, three printers, plus furniture. Two additional rooms have been made available for researchers in the Faculty of Education.

The annual cost of these amenities (\$23 per square foot per year) is \$18,860. In addition, the Office of the Provost provided funding for travel costs for Metropolis researchers as well as other expenses incurred in their research efforts (\$15,000). Furthermore, the Vice-President (Research) provided funding for a retreat/workshop (\$1,500). The overall contribution from the University of Calgary was \$35,360 for the year under review.

Moreover, the Department of Sociology at the University of Manitoba has provided a room for researchers working on PCERII-funded and PCERII-initiated projects.

During 2003-2004, each of the six participating universities provided office space and furniture, office equipment, access to the library, clerical and, accounting services and ethical reviews.

The total contributions from the PCERII Consortium universities is \$309,616.

5. Support from Other Sources

Prairie Centre affiliates have also been successful in leveraging funds from external sources either to supplement their Prairie Centre grants or to support new research that may flow from such grants. The following grants were received in 2003-2004:

The Journal of International Migration and Integration (Baha Abu-Laban, University of Alberta) received the following: a grant from the Metropolis Project Team at CIC (\$10,000); a sponsoring subscription from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (\$5,000); from CERIS and RIIM an annual grant (\$3,750 each); an annual grant from the University of Saskatchewan (\$3,500); and, an annual grant from the Quebec Ministère des relations avec les citoyens et l'immigration (\$3,000), for a total of \$29,000.

Other sources of funding include:

- Tom Carter (University of Winnipeg) received \$10,000 from the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, for his role in an international research project on immigration and global city housing demand;
- Douglas Durst (University of Regina) received a total of \$18,000 from the International Council for Canadian Studies for scholarly linkages on immigration and minorities (\$8,000) and from the Program for International Research Linkages (PIRL) of the International Academic Relations Division of Foreign Affairs Canada (\$10,000) for research linkages with colleagues at Shandong University in China to share interests in social work that include minorities;
- Joseph Garcea (University of Saskatchewan) received \$2,500 from the Metropolis Project Team for research on “Political Participation of Newcomers and Minorities in Saskatoon”;

- Yvonne Hébert (University of Calgary) is principal investigator and Lori Wilkinson (University of Manitoba) is one of the co-investigators on a SSHRC grant entitled, “Negotiating Difference: Identity Formation as Social Capital among Canadian Youth” (\$183,000);
- Wanda Hurren (University of Regina) received a Humanities Research Institute award in the form of teaching release (\$4,613);
- Abdolmohammad Kazemipur (University of Lethbridge) received a SSHRC grant for his research project, “Social Capital in Canada: A Special Focus on Ethnic Immigrants” (\$98,000);
- Daniel Lai (University of Calgary) received AHFMR grants for two research projects, “Multicultural Health Issues in the Aging Population” (\$150,000) and “Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use in the Chinese Community” (\$90,000), a research award from the Cultural Diversity Institute at the University of Calgary for “Experience of Racial Minorities in Rural Communities and Small Towns” (\$5,000) and, a grant from SSHRC for his research project, “Experience of Visible Minority Social Work Professionals” (\$147,858) for a total of \$392,858.
- Peter Li (University of Saskatchewan) received a SSHRC Grant in the amount of \$86,775, for his project “Economic Integration of Canada’s Immigrants”;
- Thibault Martin (University of Winnipeg) was awarded \$5,000 from the CCPA for the Manitoba Research Alliance on Community Development in the New Economy;
- Liza McCoy (University of Calgary) received a SSHRC Grant in the amount of \$69,590 for “Finding a Job in Calgary: The Integration Experience”;
- Denise Spitzer (University of Alberta) is co-investigator on a SSHRC grant for a research project entitled, “In Search of Identity, Longing for Homelands: African Women in Alberta,” (\$124,480).

The total of these external grants for the year under review is \$1,023,816.

Overall, the support which the Prairie Centre received in 2003-2004 from consortium universities and from external sources amounts to \$1,333,432. Thus each dollar from the SSHRC/CIC grant is matched by 3.64 dollars from both the participating universities and external funding agencies.

Part III: Research and Research Outputs

1. Research Teams and Research Programs

The Prairie Centre currently has 109 affiliated researchers from across the Prairie provinces (see Appendices 8a & 8b for names of affiliates and recent changes therein).

The Centre's research program continues to cover five domains, namely: 1) Economic; 2) Education; 3) Social and Cultural; 4) Citizenship and Political; and, 5) Health. Although the Prairie Centre does not have a separate Housing Domain, Tom Carter, University of Winnipeg geographer and Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation, serves as the PCERII contact for this research domain.

The Prairie Centre received a total of eight grant applications by May 26, 2003, including a domain grant from the Citizenship and Political Domain. Of these, four standard grants and one domain grant were approved for funding for a total of \$130,790 for year one (see Appendices 9a to 9d). An Educational Domain project was also received in 2003. The PCERII Adjudication Committee asked for revisions and the domain proposal has recently been resubmitted. It will be considered at the June meeting of the Adjudication Committee. The following is a list of projects funded by domain:

Economic Domain:

"Economic Assimilation of Canadian Immigrants: Cross Sectional vs. Panel Data Estimates," Derek Hum – Principal Investigator (Economics, University of Manitoba) – Awarded: \$14,540.

Education Domain:

"The School Choices of French-Speaking Immigrants in Edmonton, Alberta," Phyllis Dalley – Principal Investigator (Faculté Saint-Jean, University of Alberta) – Awarded: \$22,350.

Social and Cultural Domain:

"The Devaluation of Immigrants' Foreign Credentials: The Psychological Impact of this Barrier to Integration into Canadian Society," Peter Grant – Principal Investigator (Psychology, University of Saskatchewan) – Awarded: \$24,000.

Citizenship and Political Domain:

"Citizenship Education in Canada: An Assessment" – Domain Project.
Awarded: \$50,000

Research Team:

Joseph Garcea – Principal Investigator (Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan)
Jim Frideres – Co-Investigator (Sociology, University of Calgary)
Reva Joshee – Co-Investigator (OISE, University of Toronto).

Health Domain:

“Health, Social Status and Income: An Empirical Investigation of Immigrants in Canada,” John Anchan – Principal Investigator (Education, University of Winnipeg) – Awarded: \$19,900.

Appendix 10 provides Project Profile Sheets for each of the above-noted projects, including background information, an abstract and, where available, a brief account of the likely outcomes and policy implications of the work.

Of the funds awarded to these projects, 38% was allotted to the Citizenship and Political Domain; 18% to the Social and Cultural Domain; 17% to the Education Domain; 15% to the Health Domain; and, 11% to the Economic Domain (see Appendix 9c).

2. Training Opportunities

Approximately 64% of the total funding awarded for 2003-2004 was allocated to student assistants (for more details, see Appendix ?). Grant recipients have indicated they have hired or intend to hire two Ph.D. students, four M.A. students and four undergraduate students (for information about students, see Appendices 11a and 11b).

During the year under review, the Centre established a PCERII Student e-Bulletin with the aim of keeping Metropolis students connected with the activities of the Prairie Centre as well as the Metropolis Project as a whole. Information that is of interest to students such as conference notices, calls for proposals, Metropolis seminars, PCERII activities, etc., is sent via the PCERII Student e-Bulletin.

In addition, the Prairie Centre funded, either fully or partially, nine students to attend the Seventh National Metropolis Conference in March 2004 in Montreal.

At the undergraduate level, the PCERII Volunteer Internship Program in 2003-2004 provided eleven students at the University of Alberta with opportunities to learn about immigration and integration issues and research, as well as to gain practical work experience through their placements and regular monthly meetings. The Centre Coordinator, Kelly McKean, is responsible for managing this program (see Appendix 12 for a listing of the interns and their placements).

Part IV: Research Management and Communications

1. Communications and Dissemination

Appendices 13a through 13f provide a list of publications and conference presentations related to the mandate of the Prairie Centre. The publications include 7 books and research monographs; 45 refereed articles; 21 book chapters; 10 completed theses and research projects; 106 conference presentations; 1 invited address; and a number of unpublished reports, workshops organized, and entries under work in progress as well as media interviews. This outstanding record of dissemination activities results from research supported either by the Prairie Centre or by external sources in prior years.

The Brown Bag Lecture Series in Edmonton continued to bring university researchers, government policy makers, and representatives of partnering organizations, typically during the noon hour, to discuss research results and other Metropolis related topics (see Appendix 14a).

The Prairie Centre launched a Brown Bag Lunch Seminar Series in Winnipeg in 2004 with organizational assistance from Anne Morell and Michelle Lajoie from the office of Citizenship and Immigration Canada for the Prairie Region and Margot Morrish and Mary Backhouse from Manitoba Labour and Immigration (see Appendix 14b). The Centre sponsored visits from Jim Frideres (University of Calgary) and Douglas Durst (University of Regina) to Winnipeg to speak at the Brown Bag Lunch Series in that city.

2. Website

The Prairie Centre's website continues to be developed and stocked with current information. New additions this year include the Working Paper Series and a list of PCERII affiliates by university. Furthermore, 48 conference presentation summaries from the Sixth National Metropolis Conference held in Edmonton in March 2003 were uploaded to the website. The Web Master, Lenise Levesque, attended the Web Masters' Committee meeting held in Montreal in March of 2004. The meeting focused on forging partnerships between the web masters to share information and techniques.

While this past year was a maintenance year for the site, major modifications are planned for the coming year as Ms. Levesque develops a strategic plan for the site. Consultations with the other web masters and XWave representatives and an analysis using Web Trends are the first steps of this major improvement. A draft plan will be submitted for approval in May of 2004 with work to commence in mid-May.

3. Journal of International Migration and Integration

This year has been busy for the Journal of International Migration and Integration. By the end of April 2004 JIMI's publishing schedule will be on track.

During the past year the Journal of International Migration and Integration printed 5 articles by Canadian authors, 13 articles by Europeans and 2 articles by Americans. JIMI also published 2 special issues: Multicultural Society Under Attack and Civic Participation by Newcomer Communities.

JIMI's subscription base grew in large part due to the Sixth National Metropolis Conference held in Edmonton in March 2003. Another contributing factor is the implementation of marketing strategies outlined in JIMI's Marketing Plan. For example, a promotional e-mail message sent out regarding an upcoming special issue resulted in several orders.

Another exciting project for JIMI is the acquisition of a web-based database. Once complete, this database will track JIMI's reviewers and potential subscribers; in addition it will allow Editors to check the status of a manuscript or book review on-line.

During the year under review, the Prairie Centre contributed \$54,137 to JIMI which is recorded on the Centre's financial statements for the SSHRC/CIC and University of Alberta Internal accounts.

4. e-Newsletter

The Prairie Centre launched an e-Newsletter in December 2003 to replace the previous Notes from the Prairie Centre, which was only available in hard copy format. The decision to switch to an electronic format was made primarily for budget reasons as it is significantly less costly than producing a hard copy newsletter. However, the PCERII e-Newsletter was also designed to streamline the information to make it more "readable" to PCERII stakeholders.

The information contained in the newsletter highlights current research at the Centre or among our partnering organizations, as well as announcements regarding conferences, workshops, PCERII working papers, news from research affiliates, key updates to the Centre website, and announcements of publications related to immigration research. The e-Newsletter is published on a bi-monthly basis and is distributed to PCERII affiliated researchers and government stakeholders. The decision was made to send a hardcopy version to PCERII community and NGO contacts as feedback received indicated that many individuals in these groups do not have regular access to e-mail. The hard copy version of the newsletter is two pages in length. Past copies of the e-Newsletter are archived on the PCERII website.

5. Data Coordination Committee

The PCERII Data Coordination Committee, in conjunction with the Research Data Centre at the Universities of Alberta and Calgary, invited Tina Chui (Statistics Canada) to speak to research affiliates in Edmonton and Calgary in December 2003. During her visit to both cities, Dr. Chui provided information on new data sources of interest to PCERII

researchers, including the 2001 Census, the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC), and the Ethnic Diversity Survey (EDS). In January 2004, Jodey Derouin (Canadian Heritage – Ottawa), led a workshop for PCERII research affiliates and other stakeholders in Winnipeg on the Ethnic Diversity Survey.

In addition, several PCERII research affiliates, the Co-Directors, and PCERII Data Coordination member, Chuck Humphrey (Data Librarian, University of Alberta), provided input to Statistics Canada on the format of the Metropolis Core Tables (see Appendix 15 for PCERII Data Coordination Committee Membership Listing).

6. Node Meetings

The Prairie Centre continues to provide opportunities for community and government partners to hear about PCERII research and to give academics an opportunity to hear stakeholder perspectives on research needs. For example, this year, the Centre tried two local workshops, the first was an afternoon in Edmonton in conjunction with the Board of Governors meeting in June 2003. The second workshop was organized in Winnipeg in November 2003 and was a full day meeting. Eight PCERII grant holders described their research, followed by a panel discussion with community and government partners. This was a highly successful event, and one that the Centre would like to extend to other Prairie cities on an annual basis.

7. Sponsorship of Delegates at Metropolis Conferences

During the year under review, the Prairie Centre provided partial or full funding for a number of research affiliates and community partners to present research at international and national Metropolis conferences. For example, the Centre provided 9 research affiliates and one community partner with funding assistance to attend the Eighth International Metropolis Conference in Vienna in September 2003. The papers and workshops presented by PCERII delegates at this conference now appear on the PCERII website. In addition, 9 PCERII graduate students, 11 community partners and 8 research affiliates received funding from the Prairie Centre to attend and present at the Seventh National Metropolis Conference in Montreal in March 2004.

8. Funding for Canadian Journal of Urban Research

The Prairie Centre provided partial funding for the production and dissemination of a special issue of the Journal of Canadian Journal of Urban Research (CJUR) entitled, The Economics of Immigration and Canada's Cities. This special issue was guest edited by PCERII research affiliate, Hugh Grant (University of Winnipeg), and Arthur Sweetman (Queen's University). Copies were included in the registration kits of delegates attending the Seventh National Metropolis Conference in Montreal.

Part V: Challenges Faced and Challenges Ahead

Challenges Faced

1. A major challenge faced in the year under review continues to be financial, due to continuing limitations on the SSHRC/CIC annual grant. This challenge is aggravated by several factors, including: (1) rising salary scales for Centre staff, (2) high travel costs in comparison with the first five years of operation, and (3) high costs associated with an expanded role for domain leaders.
2. A second major challenge concerns the development of a pan-Canadian research project entitled "Nation Building in the 21st Century: A National Agenda for Immigration Research," under the leadership of Jim Frideres and Peter Li. Despite the large amount of time spent on this project in the year under review, it still needs to be streamlined in terms of research objectives and plans. Moreover, it requires the building of a multidisciplinary, cross-centre research team. These two tasks are both time consuming and demanding, and they require delicate negotiations with different partners.
3. Third, after hosting the 6th National Metropolis Conference at the end of March 2003, there were still many conference related activities to complete. Two challenging activities included: (1) the need to contact all presenters in order to obtain summaries of their presentations (48 summaries have been uploaded to the Prairie Centre website); and (2) the need to finalize the financial statements for the conference which, for structural reasons, proved to be quite challenging.

Challenges Ahead

It is anticipated the Centre Co-Directors will:

1. Continue to assist with the development of a feasible pan-Canadian research project along the lines advanced by Jim Frideres and Peter Li. More generally, the Co-Directors need to continue to coordinate the activities of Domain Leaders regionally and nationally.
2. Expand the recently established Working Paper Series and publish at least 15 Working Papers in 2004-2005.
3. Activate as many as possible of the Prairie Centre Nodes in the participating universities by encouraging them to organize local workshops and seminars that would benefit the different stakeholders of the Metropolis Project in the community.
4. Organize an annual planning meeting, if necessary, with a view to actively engaging Prairie Centre stakeholders and to continue to facilitate the interface between research, policy and practice (as was done in the preceding year).

Part VI: Budget Projections for 2004-2005

The Centre's budget consists of two components: an annual SSHRC/CIC grant in the amount of \$ 325,425 for 2004-2005; and a University of Alberta annual grant of \$72,856, of which \$60,856 is deposited directly in the Centre's Metro/NCE account (and the balance of \$12,000 is used for administrative honoraria for the two Co-Directors and for an operating research grant (\$4,000) for Baha Abu-Laban).

The Office of Financial Services at the University of Alberta does not finalize the accounts for the 2003-2004 fiscal year until later in May. For this reason, the budget projections for the SSHRC/CIC account for 2004-2005 are based on our best estimate of the carryover from the preceding fiscal year. The budget projections are also based on estimates made by successful grant applicants concerning their needs in different categories of expenditures (e.g., research assistants, technical support, supplies and sundries, travel, etc.) (See Appendix 16 which contains Form 300 as required by SSHRC, as well as detailed projections of income and expenditure by selected categories of expenditure).

This year's carryover of \$187,705 is largely encumbered and consists of the following three elements: \$126,324 reserved for prior grant commitments for the political domain and for the second year of multi-year projects; an unanticipated SSHRC/CIC supplement of \$43,046 for fiscal year 2003-2004, which arrived on March 12, 2004, too late to allocate for the year under review; and \$18,335 representing what might really be considered as "excess of income over expenditure." The unencumbered part of the carryover, totaling \$61,381, is reserved to meet our commitment to the Education Domain Project which has been revised and recently resubmitted as well as for new research.

Part VII: Workplan for 2004-2005

The Centre's workplan for 2003-2004, as detailed in last year's annual report, has been implemented in full, however, two items in that plan are still in the final stages of completion. These items are: (1) the commencement of domain-driven research projects in the Citizenship and Political and the Education Domains; (2) the inauguration of a pan-Canadian, multidisciplinary, cross-centre research project. Regarding the first item, the two domain projects are expected to start early in the new fiscal year. However, the pan-Canadian project requires additional time and attention before it can begin. This is reflected in the workplan for 2004-2005.

The workplan for the new fiscal year includes the following major activities:

Research Activities

1. Nourish the further development of a pan-Canadian, cross-centre research project, the major funding for which is to be obtained from external sources, in an area of national importance, under the leadership of Peter Li and Jim Frideres.

2. Develop a competitive research program and invite grant applications from graduate students in the participating prairie universities, with a commitment to fund three or four applications in the amount of up to \$5,000 each.
3. Approve quality investigator-driven research grant applications that address the established research-policy priorities or else are within the Centre's research mandate.
4. Review progress and final reports based on PCERII-funded projects.
5. Develop a Prairie-wide research project on immigrant housing issues.

Communication/Dissemination

5. Update the Centre's website with a view to making it more user friendly.
6. Publish at least 15 working papers under the recently established Working Paper Series.
7. Publish the fifth volume of the *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, as well as the Centre's electronic newsletter and other occasional publications.
8. Publish a new statistical compendium entitled, *Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons*, for the benefit of the Centre's stakeholders.

Administrative Activities

9. Continue to monitor the Prairie Centre's progress in implementing the terms of the renewal documents governing the second phase of the Metropolis Project.
10. Activate as many as possible of the Prairie Centre Nodes in the prairie universities by encouraging them to organize local workshops and seminars that may benefit the different stakeholders in the community.
11. Visit Prairie Centre nodes in the region, as may be necessary, and encourage Metropolis researchers to utilize existing data bases developed by Statistics Canada, CIC, and other federal departments.

Respectfully submitted,

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Tracey Derwing, Co-Director
Kelly McKean, Coordinator