

**PRAIRIE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RESEARCH
ON IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION
(PCERII)**

**SECOND PHASE SUMMARY SREPORT:
ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORTS
2002-2003, 2003-2004, AND 2004-2005**

January 12, 2006

Introduction

This addendum is in response to a request from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), for the benefit of the Mid-Term Evaluation Committee. It addresses the Prairie Centre's outputs in terms of (1) training; (2) academic research; (3) policy knowledge; (4) community and NGO capacity; and (5) networks. These are the five evaluation criteria to which the document entitled "Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework" (RMAF) refers.

Each of these evaluation criteria will be discussed in turn, covering the three fiscal years under consideration (2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005). It should be noted, however, that the RMAF evaluation criteria came into being in the summer of 2005, long after the annual reports were submitted to SSHRC. For this reason, we may not be in a position to provide full information on these different criteria. Also, while the five major criteria appear to be mutually exclusive, the related indices subsumed under these criteria are not entirely mutually exclusive. Thus there may be some apparent redundancies in the discussion below.

Training Outputs

A. Number of Students Trained

In 2002-2003, 56% of all PCERII research grant funding was allocated to student support. In terms of numbers, a total of 16 students (5 PhD; 9 MA; and 2 undergraduate) were involved as research assistants on PCERII-funded research projects. The research domains in which these students were involved included the economic domain (n=8); the education domain (n=6); and the social and cultural domain (n=2). Fourteen theses and research projects were completed during this year (1 PhD; 1 MSW; 1 MSc; 3 MA; and 8 MEd research projects).

The situation for 2003-2004 was somewhat different. In that year, about 64% of all PCERII research grant funding was allocated to student support and 10 students worked as research assistants on PCERII-funded projects (2 PhD; 4 MA; and 4 undergraduate). The distribution of these students by research domain is as follows: economic domain (n=1); education domain (n=2); health domain (n=1); social and cultural domain (n=6).

Ten theses and research projects were completed in 2003-2004 (2 MSc; 3 MA; 2 MEd; 1 MSW; and 2 MEd research projects).

In 2004-2005, 40% of all PCERII research grant funding was allocated to student support and 11 students were hired as research assistants (2 PhD; 8 MA; 1 undergraduate). The research domains that were active during the year were education (n=7); health (n=1); social and cultural (n=3). Four theses were completed during this year (3 PhD and 1 MSW).

In addition, the administrative headquarters of the PCERII employs graduate students on an ongoing basis (with funding from a grant provided by the University of Alberta), who work as research assistants on various PCERII projects. In the reporting period, 3 graduate students and 1 undergraduate were hired to work on a new statistical compendium, in addition to other research responsibilities.

B. Students' Gain of Experience in NGO and Government Settings

It should be noted at the outset that the Prairie Centre has established a listserv for the benefit of graduate students. A total of 48 students are on the mailing list. This brings our students in contact, albeit indirectly, with the Prairie Centre, NGOs and government bodies, as well as with other academic institutions and research centres (Metropolis or otherwise) that are doing research or publishing in the area of immigration and integration.

In 2002-2003, as host of the 6th National Metropolis Conference, PCERII obtained special grants and provided funding for 49 students from all the Metropolis Centres to participate in the conference, held in Edmonton in March 2003 (a total of 69 graduate students attended the conference). This provided an important venue for students to interact directly with each other and with NGO representatives, government researchers and policy makers, and university-based researchers, among others.

Also in 2002-2003, 11 undergraduate students from the University of Alberta participated in the PCERII Volunteer Internship program, whereby they provided more than 470 hours of service to the 8 participating immigrant-serving agencies.

In November of the following year (2003-2004), the Prairie Centre organized a Node Workshop in Winnipeg, at which 5 graduate students were in attendance. An additional 17 graduate students were funded to attend the 7th National Metropolis Conference held in Montreal in March 2004. At both of these events, the students had many opportunities to interact with NGO representative and government policy makers. In addition, 11 undergraduate students participated with 8 NGOs in the PCERII Volunteer Internship Program, for a total of about 500 hours of community service.

In 2004-2005, two Node meetings were organized by the Prairie Centre: one in Saskatoon in October 2004 and the other in Calgary in November 2004. In each instance, 4 graduate students were in direct contact with different stakeholders of the Metropolis Project.

Graduate students have also been employed to take notes at conferences and meetings that deal with immigration issues. For example, in December 2004, representatives of immigrant-serving agencies, academics and legal experts on immigration were brought to the PCERII for a full-day consultation on refugees and forced migration. Two students who had indicated an interest in these issues took notes, and interacted with the participants at breaks. In March of 2005, Citizenship and Immigration Canada hosted a two-day conference on settlement issues. The PCERII was approached to provide 5 graduate students as note-takers for the conference. As well, 11 undergraduate students participated with 7 NGOs in the PCERII Volunteer Internship program, for a total of about 350 hours of community service.

Academic Research Outputs

The Prairie Centre's record of academic research outputs in the three-year period 2002-2005 is reported below. Full bibliographic citations for the academic research outputs are reported in the Prairie Centre's Annual Reports. These outputs are not always the result of PCERII-funded research as some of them are only partially funded, while others are either funded through grants leveraged from external sources or else produced without funding. It should be noted that many academics have published other materials that are informed by their participation in Metropolis, but which they have not reported as PCERII-related because they were fully funded by another agency (e.g., SSHRC standard grants). Thus the figures below are an under-representation of the full impact of Metropolis.

| <u>Number & pub. type</u> | <u>2002-2003</u> | <u>2003-2004</u> | <u>2004-2005</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Books | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| Refereed Articles | 31 | 45 | 46 |
| Book Chapters | 16 | 21 | 20 |
| Book Reviews | 12 | 6 | 12 |
| Research Reports / Monographs | 5 | 10 | 4 |
| Conference Presentations | 51 | 106 | 66 |
| Other Dissemination Activities | | | |
| a. Academic | 13 | 31 | 35 |
| b. NGO/Community | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| c. Government | 4 | 8 | 10 |
| Media Interviews | 9 | 11 | 48 |
| Multimedia Products | | 1 (DVD) | |

Generally speaking, the preceding table reflects increased productivity over the three-year reporting period.

Policy Knowledge Outputs

In March 2003, the Prairie Centre hosted the 6th National Metropolis Conference in Edmonton. This, by far, was the most significant event in which the Prairie Centre engaged in 2002-2003. The conference brought together a total of 513 delegates including 9 from outside of Canada. The delegates represented the NGO sector (n=135); the three levels of government (20 federal departments/agencies=119; 12 provincial departments or agencies=24; 9 municipal departments/agencies=17); the university sector (n=205, including 62 graduate students); and 13 delegates represented other sectors. A total of 65 workshops were featured at the conference, of which 9 were organized by Prairie Centre research affiliates (n=7) or community partners (n=2).

Media coverage of the conference was extensive, involving radio, television, and print media interviews.

In April of 2003, the Metropolis Project Team organized a special conference under the title of "Intersections of Diversity." The Prairie Centre sent 11 delegates to this conference (9 academics, 1 student, and 1 NGO representative). Research affiliates of the Prairie Centre prepared two commissioned literature reviews for the conference.

In addition, Prairie Centre researchers and other stakeholders organized three workshops for the 7th International Metropolis Conference which was held in Oslo in the fall of 2002.

At the individual level, PCERII research affiliates reported 29 separate events in which they participated with federal policy makers; one event with a provincial government; two events with municipal governments; and one event with the European Commission.

In 2003-2004, PCERII held its first Annual Planning Meeting in Edmonton (February 2004), as mandated by the terms of the second phase of Metropolis. This two-day meeting brought together 23 academics, 7 federal and 2 provincial government representatives, and 8 NGOs from as many different organizations.

This year (2003-2004) also saw the organization of the 7th National Metropolis Conference in Montreal in March 2004. A total of 57 prairie region delegates were in attendance, including PCERII researchers (29 academics and 17 graduate students) and NGO representatives (11). PCERII affiliates organized 8 workshops and presented thirty-five papers at the Montreal conference.

In addition, PCERII affiliates made a good showing at the 8th International Metropolis Conference in Vienna in September 2003, with 9 academics and one NGO representative in attendance. Those actively involved included 6 affiliates who organized workshops and 10 who presented research papers. On an individual basis throughout the year, Prairie Centre researchers reported involvement in 14 events with the federal government; 5 events with provincial governments; and two events with municipal governments.

Turning now to 2004-2005, the Centre's second two-day Annual Planning Meeting was held in February 2005. This meeting brought together a total of 47 delegates: 26 academics, 8 government (6 federal from 3 different departments/agencies; and 2 provincial from 2 different departments/agencies) and 13 NGO representatives from 12 different organizations. This meeting featured 10 sessions/panels; one keynote address; 4 research proposal presentations; and four paper presentations.

As noted earlier, node meetings were organized by the Prairie Centre in Saskatoon (October 2004) and Calgary (November 2004). The former node meeting brought together 30 delegates (17 academics and 4 students; 6 NGO representatives from 5 different organizations; and 1 provincial and 2 federal government representatives). The second node meeting brought together 55 delegates (16 academics and 4 students; 17 NGO representatives from 16 organizations; 3 representatives of schools boards; 14 government representatives (4 federal from three different departments/agencies; 3 provincial; and 6 municipal government representatives); and 1 delegate from the private sector. Moreover, several PCERII affiliates registered for the 9th International Metropolis Conference in Geneva in the fall of 2004, with 11 delegates in attendance (7 academics; and 4 NGO representatives). They organized 9 workshops and presented 8 research papers.

On March 1-2 of 2005, Citizenship and Immigration Canada hosted a western conference on settlement issues in Edmonton. One of the Co-Directors of the PCERII made a plenary presentation summarizing the current research of the Centre.

On March 11, 2005, a Co-Director of the PCERII met with the Metropolis Interdepartmental Steering Committee in Ottawa to discuss federal language training policies.

Also in 2004-2005, PCERII research affiliates and community partners reported 22 separate events in which they participated with government policy makers (13 at the federal government level; 8 at the provincial level; and 1 at the municipal government level).

Throughout the three-year period under review (2002-2005), the Prairie Centre continued to publish the *Journal of International Migration and Integration*. On average, about 20 refereed articles and 30 book reviews are published annually. The Centre's Working Paper Series was started in 2003-2004, during which year it published 9 such papers as well as 2 issues of the e-Newsletter, followed by the publication of 10 Working Papers and 6 issues of the e-Newsletter in 2004-2005.

The source of information on the activities of the PCERII web site is the Metropolis Project Team. Such information has not been systematically available. In preparing this report, we were told that there were 347,356 hits on the PCERII web site in 2002-2003; 571,352 hits in 2003-2004 and 473,466 hits in 2004-2005. In the latter year, the visitors who visited the web site once numbered 16,293 while those who visited more than once

numbered 3,761. Attached to this report is a table entitled “PCERII Most Downloaded Files” for 2004-2005 (the only year for which such information is available).

Participation of PCERII research affiliates and community partners in *Conversations and Metropolis Presents* has ranged from 7 in 2002-2003 to 1 in each of 2003-2004 and 2004-2005.

Community and NGO Capacity Outputs

While the Prairie Centre lacks the resources to train community and NGO representatives in the methods of social science and in report writing, it has nevertheless systematically enhanced their capacity in different ways. For example, in Edmonton where the Prairie Centre is located, Brown Bag Lunch Seminars have been held regularly: 11 such events were held in 2002-2003; 10 in 2003-2004 (two of which were in Winnipeg); and 12 seminars were held in 2004-2005 (3 of which were in Winnipeg). The focus of these seminars is to provide practitioner-friendly research updates for representatives of NGOs and government.

One of the PCERII community partners, Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, joined forces with the Right Honourable Joe Clark in May of 2004 to bring together prominent employers, Members of Parliament, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, and NGOs to discuss immigration issues. A representative of the PCERII was invited to provide a research perspective on the integration of immigrants in Canadian society, and the implications for policy.

In addition, as noted above, NGO representatives are supported to attend or present papers at regional, national, and international Metropolis conferences or workshops. It is not easy to measure the precise effect of these events on enhancing the capacity of our stakeholders, however, self-reports suggest that the impact was considerable. As well, representatives of NGOs and community groups often serve on advisory committees for Prairie Centre research projects and academic researchers often serve on advisory committees established by these stakeholders. On an individual basis, 27 research affiliates and staff reported collaborating with NGOs and other community groups in 2002-2003; 15 in 2003-2004; and 16 in 2004-2005.

Network Outputs

Over the years, the Prairie Centre, in its own right or through its research affiliates, has established strong professional relations and wide-ranging networks among academic researchers; and also between these researchers and other stakeholders of the Metropolis Project (policy makers and other government representatives, NGOs and community groups). Not only do these networks defy quantification, they are also difficult to profile either in full or in their richness.

The following examples give only a glimpse of these networks. In terms of memberships on PCERII management committees, where academics predominate, in 2002-2003, there were 4 federal and 2 provincial government representatives, plus 5 NGO representatives; and in 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, the pattern remains essentially the same except for the addition of one more provincial government representative.

On an individual basis, the number of Prairie Centre researchers who collaborated on PCERII-funded projects with colleagues from across Canada was 5 in 2002-2003; 7 in 2003-2004; and 14 in 2004-2005. Also on an individual basis, the number of Prairie Centre researchers who collaborated on projects with international research scholars was 7 in 2002-2003; 14 in 2003-2004; and 18 in 2004-2005.

The PCERII is represented on a SSHRC-funded Strategic Research Cluster on refugees and forced migration, and hosted a western consultation on December 3, 2004 to identify key policy issues to be researched.

Finally, representatives of the PCERII are often consulted by various levels of government for advice; for example, on January 7, 2005, Citizenship and Immigration Canada held a consultation for advice regarding their response to the Tsunami disaster. On February 3, 2005, the Mayor of Edmonton sponsored a Roundtable on immigration at which the PCERII was represented. On March 7, 2005, the PCERII was asked to provide an overview of immigration issues to an Urban Research and Management Forum in Edmonton. On March 15, 2004, the then Minister of Citizenship and Immigration conducted a three-hour consultation in Edmonton, with representatives of provincial and federal governments, immigrant-serving agencies and representatives of business and educational institutions. The moderator of the forum was one of the Co-Directors of the PCERII. In addition to these formal connections, there have been many instances when PCERII affiliates have been consulted for advice in an informal capacity. The very existence of the Metropolis centres has made it much easier for government and NGO representatives to find the information they require.