



**RYERSON CENTRE**  
for Immigration and Settlement

**JUNE 2021**

# **Annual Report 2020-2021**

**Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement**

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Submitted to the Vice President, Research and Innovation by Dr. Usha George, Academic Director, Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement (RCIS), in consultation with the RCIS Advisory Committee.

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## Summary

This report summarizes the Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement's (RCIS) activities over the 2020- 2021 year. In alignment with its mandate to RCIS is to advance research and scholarship in the areas of immigration and settlement studies, RCIS continued work on three Centre-based research projects, including a SSHRC Insight focused on inclusive citizenship for racialized newcomer women in Toronto, a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant focused on Syrian refugee newcomers' experiences of resettlement in the GTA, and an IRCC Service Delivery improvement Grant focused on the entrepreneurial activities of newcomers in Toronto. Across the three projects, RCIS employed 16 people during the 2020-2021 year, including 5 students and 4 recent graduates. The two SSHRC projects are now in the analysis and synthesis stages, and the IRCC project and final report will be finalized in June 2021.

Towards its goal of increasing Ryerson's external funding capacity, RCIS 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, Ryerson Faculty members Dr. Chris Gore, Dr. Gabriel Resch; and RCIS-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).' RCIS' proposed in-kind contribution was \$66,600.00. RCIS also partnered with RCIS-affiliate Dr. Henry Parada (principal applicant) on the SSHRC Insight Grant application, 'Immigration, Child Protection Processes, and the Best Interest of Child;' and the Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Ryerson University (principal applicant) on a WES Mariam Assefa Fund Needs Assessment Grant application to the 'Empowering Workers and Supporting Decent Work' RFP, 'Shifts and Gigs: The contingent worker experience, before, during, and after COVID-19—and lessons for the economic recovery.'

Four of the proposals RCIS submitted in partnership with RCIS-affiliates in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 years ultimately turned out unsuccessful, however, the 'Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective' (2021-2028), the SSHRC Partnership Grant by RCIS-affiliate, Dr. Harald Bauder, toward which RCIS committed an in-kind contribution of \$41,115, in terms of desk space and knowledge mobilization support, received funding. This partnership brings together more than 70 academics and stakeholders from the global north (Europe and North America) and south (Africa and Latin America) to explore innovative urban approaches towards inclusion, in particular of those migrants and refugees refused by nation states. RCIS is excited to be a part of this partnership and for activities to begin in summer 2021.

As part of its commitment to engage in the publication and promotion of immigration and settlement research by Ryerson faculty members, over the 2020-2021 year, RCIS published 29 publications, including 25 Working Papers in collaboration with the CERC in Migration and Integration, 1 Research Brief, and 3 Spotlight on Migration pieces. RCIS additionally participated in and hosted, co-hosted, and sponsored several

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events in line with its goal to share knowledge with individuals and organizations outside the university sector. In January 2021, RCIS hosted the ‘Anti-discrimination Policies and Practices in Times of Black Lives Matter and COVID-19: Ontario and Baden-Württemberg Compared’ symposium discussing recent developments in anti-discrimination debate, policies, and practices in the partner provinces of Ontario and Baden-Württemberg. The event was moderated by RCIS-affiliate and ISS Director, Dr. Harald Bauder, and former RCIS-visiting scholar, Dr. Max Bernlochner. Speakers included RCIS-affiliate Dr. Cheryl Teelucksingh, and representatives from the Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration in Stuttgart, MOSAIK Germany in Heidelberg, the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Toronto, and the Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Between October 2020 and February 2021, RCIS hosted a six-part digital series focused on Canada’s approach to refugee resettlement and integration and was funded by a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Connection Grant. The series was originally planned as a 2-day RCIS conference; however, due to COVID-19, and the necessity of social distancing, it was moved to a webinar format. The series aimed to engage stakeholders to consider Canada’s approach to refugee resettlement and identify changes to policy and practice that will make Canada more inclusive and responsive to refugees’ needs. Over the course of six, 2-hour sessions, a total of 25 speakers, including refugees, settlement workers and service providers, policymakers, researchers, and students were brought together to share insights and lessons learned from lived experience, settlement practice, and research. The series has been published to YouTube, and detailed summaries of the sessions highlighting implications for policy and practice are [available](#) on the RCIS website. The series was co-ordinated by Policy Studies PhD students, Saad El Hakmi and Sohail Shahidnia.

In February 2021, RCIS also supported the online conference, ‘Migration and the Future of Work: Canadian Perspectives in Pandemic Times,’ by the CERC in Migration and Integration. Finally, in April 2021, RCIS hosted the online panel discussion, ‘Showcasing Immigrant Voices: Calling for a Paradigm Shift,’ in partnership with WINS, which focused on ways to foster an inclusive Canadian labour market in which diverse professionals can succeed and flourish. The discussion was moderated by ISS student, Rachel Berman. In the 2020-2021, RCIS-led events featured 7 students; 1 research fellow; 4 faculty members; 1 external faculty member; 9 community members; and 15 practitioners.

During the 2020 – 2021 year, RCIS filmed clips with 7 individuals for the ‘RCIS Introduces’ series (via Zoom, due to COVID-19 restrictions); and RCIS participated in two external events: In December 2020, RCIS participated with the CERC in Migration in Integration in a special session on MIPEX: Global Integration Strategies as part of the National Immigrant Integration Conference (NIIC) by the National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA). In May 2021, RCIS presented findings from its Syrian Resettlement Study to the Ontario Private Refugee Sponsor Network as part of the Recognizing Newcomer Mental Health Needs Event.

RCIS continued to host visiting scholar and doctoral candidate Jocelyn Kane from Political Studies at the University of Ottawa remotely during the pandemic. Jocelyn’s appointment with RCIS will end in January 2022. However, finalized hosting agreements with Victoria Reitter, an Austria-based researcher from the Department of Political

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Science and Sociology at the University of Salzburg; Giselle Thompson, a Canada-based post-doctoral researcher from the Department of Sociology at York University; and Anu Besson, a post-doctoral candidate at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland, have needed to be postponed or cancelled. RCIS offered a placement to Policy Studies PhD student, Chantel Spade from April-July 2020. RCIS had also previously arranged to host placement students from the Master's program at the University of Toronto Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work (September 2020 – April 2021), but the placements were cancelled by the University of Toronto due to COVID-19 challenges.

Most recently, RCIS has been accepting working paper submissions, preparing RCIS content for publication to the RCIS website, and completing its 5-year review and self-assessment report for the 2016-2021 period and the application for renewal for RCIS' next 5-year term.

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## Governance

### RCIS Team

#### Academic Director

- **Usha George**, *Professor, School of Social Work* (2017 – January 2019; June 2019 – present)

Dr. Usha George is a Professor in the School of Social Work at Ryerson University. She is the former Interim Vice President of Research and Innovation and the Dean of the Faculty of Community Services (2006-2017). Dr. George came to Ryerson in 2006 from the Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto, where she had been the Associate Dean since 1999. She is the past director of the Ontario Metropolis Centre of Excellence for Immigration and Settlement. Her main areas of teaching, research, and professional activity are social work with diverse communities, and newcomer settlement and integration, with an emphasis on examining policies and programs to ensure newcomers have the supports they need to settle and become contributing members to Canadian society. Her scholarly work has attracted over \$14 million CAD in research grants and contracts. Dr. 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. Dr. George 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.

#### Coordinator

- **Tearney McDermott**, *Ryerson University Immigration and Settlement Studies Alumna* (2017 – present)

#### Advisory Committee

- **Idil Atak**, *Department of Criminology; Director of the Graduate Program in Criminology* (2014 – present)
- **Harald Bauder**, *Department of Geography; Director of the Graduate Program in Immigration and Settlement Studies program* (2011 – present)
- **Mustafa Koç**, *Department of Sociology; Director of the Ryerson Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Studies Centre* (committee member from 2014 – present)
- **Dawn Onishenko**, *School of Social Work; Associate Director of the Undergraduate Program in Social Work* (2014 – present)
- **Henry Parada**, *School of Social Work* (2012 – 2014; 2017 – present)
- **John Shields**, *Department of Politics and Public Administration; Former Interim Director of RCIS* (2012 – 2019; 2019 – present)

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## RCIS 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



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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

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**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*

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- 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

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**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*

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- 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

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## Research

### External Funding Proposals

#### ***Successful***

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

- *Urban Sanctuary, Migrant Solidarity, and Hospitality in Global Perspective*, SSHRC Partnership Grant—Stage 2 application – Dr. Usha George and RCIS (central support institution) partnered with Dr. Harald Bauder (principal applicant) (funding awarded by SSHRC: \$2.5M)

#### ***Unsuccessful***

Applications to the following external funding programs were unsuccessful:

- *Immigration, Child Protection Processes, and the Best Interest of Child*, SSHRC Insight Grant application – RCIS partnered with Dr. Henry Parada (principal applicant), the Child Welfare and Immigration Centre of Excellence (CWICE), and Peel Children's Aid Society
- *Shifts and Gigs: The contingent worker experience, before, during, and after COVID-19—and lessons for the economic recovery*, WES Mariam Assefa Fund Needs Assessment Grant application to the 'Empowering Workers and Supporting Decent Work' RFP – RCIS partnered with the Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (principal applicant) at Ryerson University
- *Anti-Racism Leadership Training for Employment: A Pilot Project*, Canadian Heritage Anti-Racism Action Program Grant application – RCIS partnered with Dr. Henry Parada (co-applicant, School of Social Work), Dr. W. Michael Carter (co-applicant, School of Creative Industries, Faculty of Communication and Design), and Olivia Chow (collaborator, Institute for Change Leaders)
- *Inclusive Solutions for the Effective Arrival of Migrants into Local Communities (ARRIVALGATE)*, SSHRC Horizon 2020 MIGRATION-04-2020 Partnership application – RCIS partnered with a European Consortium headed by the Polish Platform for Homeland Security (principal applicant) and consisting of partners in eleven different countries

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- *Initiatives Organizing Informal Support for Recently Arrived Migrants through Personal Relationships (InteRelate)*, SSHRC Horizon 2020 MIGRATION-04-2020 Partnership application – RCIS partnered with a European Consortium headed by the Paris Lodron University of Salzburg in Austria (principal applicant) and consisting of partners in nine different countries
  - RCIS was vying for a research consultancy contract with CESO, an EU Canada working group on women’s migration, focusing on opportunities and challenges, labour market experiences, and gender and equity in health. A preliminary application had been submitted

### ***Pending***

Applications to the following external funding programs are pending:

- *Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective (MEMO)*, SSHRC Partnership Grant application – RCIS partnered with Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou (principal applicant) and a team of eight co-applicants

### **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 RCIS 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 RCIS, this multi-year partnership project brings together researchers from Ryerson University, the University of Toronto, and Sheridan College and community practitioners from CultureLink, the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT),

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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.

- *Entrepreneurship and Barriers to Scaling Up: Exploring the Entrepreneurial Activities of Refugee Newcomers in the Greater Toronto Area (2018 – 2021)*

This multi-year collaborative research study by researchers from RCIS in partnership with practitioners from Settlement Assistance and Family Support Services (SAFSS) will explore entrepreneurship as an option for economic integration for refugees living in the Greater Toronto Area. The study objectives are to (1) examine the level of entrepreneurial activity amongst refugees in Ontario, particularly women refugees; (2) explore the pathways to and the role of social capital in these refugees' entrepreneurial activities; (3) understand the barriers faced by refugee entrepreneurs seeking to scale up their businesses; (4) examine the regulatory framework governing entrepreneurship in Ontario in terms of incentives and impediments, and how these affect refugees' entrepreneurial activities in particular; and (5) use information gathered throughout the life of the project to develop and test out a web-based resource for refugees which will in simple language present information related to establishing and scaling-up a business. This resource will be hosted by Magnet – a not-for-profit, data-driven, social innovation founded by Ryerson University, in partnership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. The aim of the resource developed from this project will be to empower refugees – especially women refugees – to make choices which enhance their economic security and ultimately support their economic integration in Canada. This study is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). This study ended on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. A final report summarizing findings from interviews with BIA representatives and newcomer entrepreneurs and survey data from newcomer entrepreneurs has been completed and will be submitted to the funder on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Additional resources deemed helpful for entrepreneurs by the participants were added to the project [website](#).



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## Partnerships

RCIS 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 Ryerson 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)

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## Knowledge Mobilization

RCIS 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 RCIS's and Ryerson University's reputation.

### Working Papers

As of January 2020, the Working Papers Series is produced jointly by RCIS and the CERC in Migration and Integration at Ryerson 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 2020 – 2021 year, RCIS and the CERC in Migration and Integration published 24 working papers.

- 2021/7: *Implementing the UN Global Compacts by Institutionalising a New Hybrid Organisational Form*, by Younes Ahouga, Ryerson University
- 2021/6: *Canada's private sponsorship program: Success, shortcomings, and policy solutions*, by Ervis Martani, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique
- 2021/5: *Transforming the International Organisation for Migration: An Analysis of the IOM Strategic Vision*, by Younes Ahouga, Ryerson University
- 2021/4: *National Models of Integration in Comparative Migration Studies: A Critical Appraisal*, by Aryan Karimi (University of British Columbia; Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity) & Rima Wilkes (University of British Columbia)
- 2021/3: *Iranian Migrations to Dubai: Constraints and Autonomy of a Segmented Diaspora*, by Amin Moghadam, Ryerson University
- 2021/2: *Narratives on Returning Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Irregular Migrants*, by Zeynep Sahin-Mencutek, Ryerson University
- 2021/1: *Unity in Diversity? Neoconservative Multiculturalism and the Conservative Party of Canada*, by John Carlaw, Ryerson University
- 2020/18: *Migration Narratives from Origin and Destination Country Perspectives*, by Zeynep Sahin-Mencutek, Ryerson University

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- 2020/17: *Migration Narratives in Policy and Politics*, by Zeynep Sahin-Mencutek, Ryerson University
  - 2020/16: *Extraction, Dependence, and Responsibility-Sharing: Taking Stock of Canada's Role in Western Hemispheric Migration Governance*, by Craig Damian Smith, Ryerson University
  - 2020/15: *The Substance of Solidarity: What the Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Says About the Global Refugee Regime*, by Maggie Perzyna, Ryerson University
  - 2020/14: *A Religion like No Other: Islam and the Limits of Multiculturalism in Canada*, by Triadafilos Triadafilopoulos & Jameela Rasheed, University of Toronto
  - 2020/13: *The Evolution of EU-Africa Migration Partnerships: Lessons in Transnational Migration Governance*, by Oreva Olakpe, Ryerson University
  - 2020/12: *Discourses of Exclusion and Undesirability: The Designated Countries of Origin Policy and its Impact on Hungarian Romani Refugee Claimants*, by Jenna Koumantaros, Ryerson University
  - 2020/11: *Employment Services Responses to Labour Market Challenges for South Asian Women: An ACCES Employment Study*, by Manjeet Dhiman, Ada Wong & Jody Yvonne, ACCES Employment
  - 2020/10: *Labour Market Challenges and Entrepreneurial Activities of Bangladeshi Immigrant Women in Toronto: A Family Perspective*, by Marshia Akbar (Ryerson University) & Valerie Preston (York University)
  - 2020/9: *Express Entry and Economic Migration Pathways to Canada: Opportunities and Barriers for South Asian Women*, by Vathsala Illesinghe (Ryerson University), Nishi Mitra vom Berg (TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India) & Khalid Iftexhar (Open University, Dhaka, Bangladesh)
  - 2020/8: *Why Migrants Stay in Small and Mid-Sized Canadian Cities: Towards a New Analytical Framework Using a Life Course Approach*, by Michelle Nguyen, Ryerson University
  - 2020/7: *Exploring Innovative Migrant Integration Practices in Small and Mid-Sized Cities across Canada*, by Jenna Blower, York University
  - 2020/6: *Exploring Indigenous Newcomer Relations in the City of Toronto: Changing Demographics Reconciliation and Potential of City Planning*, by Niko Casuncad, Ryerson University
  - 2020/5: *A history of the memories of the 'sanctuary city' in Toronto, Canada*, by Rachel Humphris, Queen Mary, University of London
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- 2020/4: *The Kinship between Refugee and Family Sponsorship*, by Audrey Macklin, Luin Goldring (York University), Jennifer Hyndman (York University), Anna Korteweg, Kathryn Barber (York University) & Jona Zyfi (University of Toronto)
  - 2020/3: *Inclusive City Building: Public Engagement Processes in the GTA*, by Taranjeet Kaur Grewal, Ryerson University
  - 2020/2: *Undocumented Migrant Communities in Cities: Negotiating Legal and Legitimate Status from Below*, by Oreva Olakpe, Ryerson University

## Research Briefs

RCIS research briefs are short peer-reviewed commentaries of 2,000 to 4,000 words on pertinent and/or contemporary issues related to immigration and settlement. In the 2020 – 2021 year, RCIS published one research brief.

- 2020/1: *Private sponsorship in refugee admission: Standard in Canada, trend in Germany?*, by Vanessa Pohlmann & Helge Schwiertz, University of Osnabrück

## Spotlight on Migration Series

The RCIS Spotlight on Migration Series has been created to address popular misconceptions about migration and newcomers and to generate discussion. Spotlight on Migration pieces include a combination of research-informed overviews and blog posts focused on issues and questions related to migration. In the 2020 – 2021 year, RCIS published three Spotlight on Migration pieces.

- 2020/4: *'Safe' countries and 'fraudulent' refugees: Tools for narrowing access to Canada's refugee system*, by Chantel Spade & Tearney McDermott, Ryerson University
- 2020/3: *People's Pantry and creating inclusive spaces for migrants during the pandemic*, by Dominik Formanowicz, York University
- 2020/2: *COVID-19 and Xenophobia*, by Chantel Spade, Ryerson University

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## Presentations

### *Anti-discrimination Policies and Practices in Times of Black Lives Matter and COVID-19: Ontario and Baden-Württemberg Compared*

- Discussion panel moderated by **Dr. Harald Bauder** (Director of the Immigration and Settlement Studies graduate program; Professor of Geography at Ryerson University) and **Dr. Max Bernlochner** (Head of the Intercultural Affairs and Diversity Matters division at the Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration in Stuttgart). Speakers included: **Thomas Schultze** (Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Toronto), **Ena Chadha** (Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission), **Dr. Cheryl Teelucksingh** (Professor of Sociology at Ryerson University in Toronto), **Julia Gysel** (member of the Anti-discrimination division at the Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration in Stuttgart), **Lara Track** (member of MOSAIK Germany in Heidelberg), and **Dr. Nina Guérin** (Head of the Anti-discrimination division at the Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration in Stuttgart). (January 27th, 2021, 10:00 – 11:30, webinar via Zoom)

### *Showcasing Immigrant Voices: Calling for a Paradigm Shift*

- Panel discussion with **Mark Lovewell** (Chair, WINS Toronto; retired Ryerson University Economics Professor), **Veronica Seeto** (Treasurer, WINS Toronto; IT and career transition mentor), and **Dr. Hitu Sood** (Founder, WINS Toronto; Human Resources and Diversity Consultant). The event was moderated by **Rachel Berman** (MA student, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Ryerson University). (April 7th, 2021, 4:00 - 5:00, webinar via Zoom)

## Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Digital Series

This 6-part digital series focused on Canada's approach to refugee resettlement and integration and was funded by a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Connection Grant. The series was originally planned as a 2-day conference; however, due to COVID-19, and the necessity of social distancing, it was moved to a webinar format.

### *Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 1)*

- Discussion panel with **Jacky Tuinstra Harrison** (Executive Director of Matthew House), **Helton Achaye** (former colleague of Matthew House and Managing Director of Front Immigration Services, Inc), **Enrique Paraco** (Immigration Development Officer in the City of Greater Sudbury), and **Sara Asalya** (Community Organizer, Public Speaker, and Top 25 Canadian Immigrant). The event was moderated by **Saad El Hakmi** (series co-coordinator and PhD student in Policy Studies at Ryerson University). (October 27th, 2020, 10:00 - 12:00, webinar via Zoom)

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*Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 2)*

- Discussion panel with **Bayan Khatib** (Executive Director of the Syrian Canadian Foundation), **Hanen Nanaa** (student at Ryerson University and Founder of BAM (Books Art Music) Collective), and **Dr. Bassam Abazed** (medical doctor from Syria specialized in orthopaedic surgery). The event was moderated by **Zainab Abu Elrob** (PhD student in Policy Studies at Ryerson University). (November 17th, 2020, 6:00 - 8:00, webinar via Zoom)

*Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 3)*

- Panel with three speakers (**Mohamad al Chebli**, **Wael Wahba**, and **Hasan al Shebli**) discussing their lived experiences of refugee resettlement in Canada. Arabic and English interpretation provided by **Mounir Nasri** (Social Entrepreneur and Advisor in the field of Community Development). The event was moderated by **Genevieve Ritchie** (Doctoral candidate in Adult Education and Community Development, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto). (November 19th, 2020, 5:00 - 7:00, webinar via Zoom)

*Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 4)*

- Discussion panel with **Shireen Salti** (Executive Director of the Canadian Arab Institute), **Rania Younes** (Co-founder and Director of Welcome Home TO), and **Dr. John Carlaw** (Research Fellow with the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration and Integration at Ryerson University). The event was moderated by **Saad El Hakmi** (series co-coordinator and PhD student in Policy Studies at Ryerson University). (December 18th, 2020, 2:00 - 4:00, webinar via Zoom)

*Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 5)*

- Panel with four speakers (**Olamide Agboola**, **Irfan Tarin**, **Tessy Ojar**, and **Fahad Amir Nsubuga**) – discussing their lived experiences of refugee resettlement in Canada. The event was moderated by **Sohail Shahidnia** (series co-coordinator and PhD student in Policy Studies at Ryerson University). (February 19th, 2021, 2:00 - 4:00, webinar via Zoom)

*Refugee Resettlement & Integration in Canada Series: Lived Experience, Lessons Learned, and Promising Practices (Session 6)*

- Discussion panel with **Dr. Idil Atak** (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Arts' Criminology Department; Director, Criminology and Social Justice graduate program, Ryerson University), **Dr. Jennifer M. Hyndman** (Professor, Department of Geography and Department of Social Science; Past Director and Resident Scholar, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University), and **Dr. Anna Triandafyllidou** (Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Migration and Integration; Professor of Sociology, Ryerson University). The event was moderated by **Sohail Shahidnia**

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(series co-coordinator and PhD student in Policy Studies at Ryerson University).  
(February 26th, 2020, 4:00 - 6:00, webinar via Zoom)

## **‘RCIS Introduces’ Video Series**

The ‘RCIS 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 2020 – 2021 year, RCIS filmed clips with the following individuals via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions:

- **Samantha Deboer**, *International Student Advisor at Student Life and Learning Support, and Ryerson University Immigration and Settlement Studies alumna*
- **Maimuna Khan**, *MSW student and researcher based in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary*
- **Kevin Cruz**, *Professor, School of Sociology, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras*
- **Veronica Escobar Olivo**, *RCIS research assistant, Project coordinator in the School of Social Work, and Ryerson University Immigration and Settlement Studies alumna*
- **Jenna Blower**, *PhD student at York University, Research Assistant with the Diversity Institute, and Ryerson University Immigration and Settlement Studies alumna*
- **Dr. Yahya El-Lahib**, *Professor in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary*
- **Dr. Henry Parada**, *Professor cross-appointed to the School of Social Work and Immigration and Settlement Studies*

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

## **External Presentations**

*Special Session: MIPEX: Global Integration Strategies, Immigrant Integration Conference (NIIC)*

- Panel discussion at the NIIC by the National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA) marking the global release of MIPEX 2020 and looking at how the US and Canada foster immigrant integration with policy and what ways participation in society can be enhanced. Speakers included Eva Millona (Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition / National Partnership for New Americans), Marshia Akbar (CERC in Migration and Integration, Ryerson University), Maurice Bellanger (Maurice Belanger Consulting), Westy Egmont (Association of New Americans), Usha George (Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement, Ryerson University), Thomas Huddleston (Migration Policy Group), and Kayse Jama (Unite Oregon). (December 9, 2020, Online).

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*Understanding Barriers in Accessing Mental Health Help, Recognizing Newcomer Mental Health Needs Event*

- Workshop hosted by the Private Refugee Sponsor Network (Ontario). RCIS speakers included Usha George and Aicha Benayoune presenting preliminary findings from the RCIS-based project, 'A Partnership Approach to Syrian Refugee Resettlement in Toronto and Mississauga: The Role of Social Capital.' (May 8, 2021, Online).



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## Training & Student Engagement

### Research Assistants and Placement Students

- **Verónica Escobar Olivo**, *Recent MA Graduate, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Ryerson University* (January 2020 – Present) (main focus: Spotlight on Migration Series and independent Centre research activities)
- **Joanne Daciuk**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2020 – Present) (main focus: Citizenship Experiences project)
- **Aicha Benayoune**, *Recent MSW Graduate, Master of Social Work Program, University of Toronto* (October 2018 – Present) (Project Coordinator of Syrian Resettlement study)
- **Tearney McDermott**, *MA Graduate, Immigration and Settlement Studies, Ryerson University* (July 2017 – Present) (Project Coordinator of Citizenship Experiences study)
- **Sohail Shahidnia**, *PhD Student, Policy Studies, Ryerson University* (July 2020 – February 2021) (Co-coordinator of Refugee Resettlement and Integration series)
- **Mirjana Boskovic**, *Non-student/community member* (November 2019 – March 2021) (Project Coordinator of Newcomer Entrepreneurship study)
- **Saad El Hakmi**, *PhD Student, Policy Studies, Ryerson University* (July 2020 – February 2021) (Co-coordinator of Refugee Resettlement and Integration series)
- **Abir Tayyem**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2018 – April 2021) (main focus: Syrian Resettlement study)
- **Hanna Dada**, *Student, Autism and Behavioural Science, Seneca College* (October 2019 – April 2021) (main focus: Syrian Resettlement study)
- **Thomas Howe**, *Recent Graduate, Social Service Worker – Gerontology, Sheridan College* (July 2019 – March 2021) (main focus: Newcomer Entrepreneurship study)
- **Anna Liu**, *BSW Student, Social Work, Dalhousie University* (May 2018 – May 2020; February 2021 – March 2021) (main focus: Citizenship Experiences project)

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- **Fabiola Limón Bravo**, *Non-student; Ryerson University Alumna, Immigration and Settlement Studies* (November 2020 – February 2021) (main focus: RCIS Introduces series)
  - **Shamiram Zendo**, *PhD Student, Sociology, University of Western Ontario* (October 2018 – January 2021) (main focus: Syrian Resettlement study)
  - **Ghaidaa Arbash**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2018 – January 2021) (main focus: Syrian Resettlement study)
  - **Marwa Gebeil**, *Non-student/community member* (October 2019 – January 2021) (main focus: Syrian Resettlement study)
  - **David MacDonald**, *Non-student/community member* (June 2019 – December 2020) (main focus: Newcomer Entrepreneurship study)
  - **Swarnalatha Vemuri**, *Non-student/community member* (July 2019 – December 2020) (main focus: Newcomer Entrepreneurship study)
  - **Hifsa Khan**, *MSW Student, Social Work, Ryerson University* (August 2020 – December 2020) (main focus: Citizenship Experiences project)
  - **Lily Su**, *Recent BSW Graduate, Social Work, Ryerson University* (August 2020 – December 2020) (main focus: Citizenship Experiences project)
  - **Chantel Spade**, *PhD student, Policy Studies, Ryerson University* (April 2020 – October 2020) (main focus: Spotlight on Migration Series and independent Centre research activities)

## Postdoctoral and Doctoral Fellows

- RCIS hosted PhD student **Jocelyn Kane** from Political Studies at the University of Ottawa on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 through to March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 when the RCIS office closed in line with COVID-19 restrictions. After this point, RCIS has continued to host Jocelyn remotely to the present day. Jocelyn's appointment with RCIS will end in January 2022. Jocelyn is a doctoral candidate in Political Studies at the University of Ottawa. During her time with RCIS, Jocelyn has been working on research focused on the conceptual and practical implications of voluntary statelessness in political theory and governance.
- **Victoria Reitter**, an Austria-based researcher from the Department of Political Science and Sociology at the University of Salzburg originally to be hosted in 2021 has postponed her placement due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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- **Anu Besson**, a post-doctoral candidate at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland originally to be hosted in 2021 has postponed her placement due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **Giselle Thompson**, a Canada-based postdoctoral researcher from the Department of Sociology at York University originally to be hosted in 2021 will no longer be joining RCIS.

## Finances for 2020-2021

### RCIS Expenses 2020-2021

EXPENSE	ACCOUNT/COST CENTRE	AMOUNT
<b>Director's release</b>		<b>\$20,000.00</b>
<b>Payroll expenses</b>		<b>\$ 24,228.16</b>
1 Coordinator (15 hours/week at \$35.00/hour)	1-13-36048 (OVPRI, RCIS Account)	\$ 24,228.16
<b>Non-payroll expenses</b>		<b>\$ 1,022.91</b>
SPSS Licences (8 x 1-year licences purchased for RCIS Coordinator and research assistants)	1-13-36048 (OVPRI, RCIS Account)	\$ 784.16
Adobe Licence (1 x 1-year licence purchased for RCIS Coordinator)	1-13-36048 (OVPRI, RCIS Account)	\$ 183.75
Zoom Webinar Licence (1 x 24-hour floating licence purchased for Ontario-Baden-Württemberg webinar)	1-13-36048 (OVPRI, RCIS Account)	\$ 55.00
	<b>Total =</b>	<b>\$ 45,251.07</b>

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## Activity Plan for 2021-2022

### RCIS Governance Meetings

- The RCIS [Advisory Committee](#) will meet once in every three months: July 2021, October 2021, January 2022, and April 2022 (tentative dates).
- The Committee will be contacted on an ad hoc basis between these dates.
- The Annual RCIS Meeting of Affiliates will be tentatively set for February 2022, with the hope of connecting in person.
- The Director and Research Coordinator will continue to meet on a weekly basis.

### Research

#### *Research Projects*

- RCIS is in the process of completing a literature review of the private sponsorship category as a pathway for family sponsorship for a project in collaboration with RCIS affiliate Dr. Mehrunnisa Ahmad Ali (Timeline: April 2021 – July 2021). This is being led by RCIS research assistant, Veronica Escobar Olivo.
- RCIS is continuing work on [two ongoing research projects](#) (SSHRC Insight; SSHRC Partnership Development Grant). These projects will finish in March 2022.

### Partnerships

- RCIS 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 Ryerson University School of Social Work.
- RCIS will continue to foster community partnerships with [existing](#) and new partners.

### Knowledge Mobilization

#### *Working Papers*

- In partnership with the CERC in Migration and Integration, RCIS aims to publish 15 Working Papers in the 2021 – 2022 year.

#### *Research Briefs*

- RCIS aims to publish 3 Research Briefs in the 2021 – 2022 year.

#### *Spotlight on Migration Series*

- RCIS aims to publish 3 Spotlight on Migration pieces in the 2021 – 2022 year.

#### *Conferences*

- RCIS aims to apply for a SSHRC Connection Grant to host a conference focused on refugees' and asylum seekers' settlement experiences in the context of COVID-19

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### *Lunch & Learn Research Presentation Series*

- Given COVID-19 constraints, RCIS aims to complete 4 lunch and learn presentations over the 2021 – 2022 year.

### *'RCIS Introduces' Video Series*

- RCIS aims to complete 'RCIS Introduces' videos with an additional 12 faculty members, students, community members, and affiliates over the 2021 – 2022 year (remotely/over Zoom given COVID-19 constraints).

## **Training & Student Engagement**

### *Placement Students*

- RCIS aims to offer a research placement to two students from the Ryerson Master of Immigration and Settlement Studies program (150 hours each) in Spring 2022.

### *Incoming Postdoctoral and Doctoral Fellows*

- RCIS aims to host two visiting scholars in the 2021 – 2022 year. RCIS has made arrangements to host postdoctoral fellow Esra Ari (September 2021 – August 2023) and visiting practitioner Dean Barry (September 2021 – August 2023).
  - **Esra Ari** is a part-time faculty member at the University of Western Ontario and an incoming SSHRC postdoctoral fellow with RCIS. She will be supervised by RCIS-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** is an experienced public servant and incoming visiting practitioner who will be hosted at RCIS 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.

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## Anticipated Budget for 2021-2022

<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>Personnel</b> (1 Coordinator; 15 hours/week at \$35.00/hour)	\$ 25,000.00
<b>Director's Release</b>	\$ 20,000.00
<b>Operating Fees</b>	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Total =</b>	<b>\$ 46,000.00</b>