

Names of organizers: Li Zong and Yvonne Hébert
 E-Mail address :
 Organization: University of Saskatchewan and University of Calgary

Title of workshop: Social and Economic Integration of Migrants in Multicultural Society: Approaches in Canada and China

Format of Workshop: Workshop

Theme of the workshop: Citizenship and Social Cultural and linguistic and Civil Integration

Name of co-organizer: Dr. Yvonne Hébert
 E-mail address:
 Organisation: University Of Calgary

Name of first presenter: Peter Li
 E-mail address:
 Organisation: University of Saskatchewan
 Title/Theme of presentation: Approach to Ethnic and cultural Diversity: Canada and China Compared

Name of second presenter: Jianqun Li and Chang Yang
 E-mail address:
 Organization: Xi'an Jiaotong University
 Title/Theme of presentation: Urbanization and Impact of Migration on Chinese Cities

Name of third presenter: Jean Kunz
 E-mail address:
 Organisation: Policy Research Initiative, Federal Government of Canada
 Title/Theme of presentation: Applying Canadian Multiculturalism Practices in the Chinese Context: A Case Study

Name of fourth presenter: Shibao Guo
 E-mail address:
 Organisation: University of Calgary
 Title/Theme of presentation: Living in a Double Diaspora: Exploring the Experience of Canadians in China

Name of fifth presenter: Pei Hua Lu
 E-mail address:
 Organization: University of Saskatchewan
 Title/Theme of presentation: Marital Choices among European and Asian Immigrants in Canada: A Comparison between First and Second Generations

Name of Discussant: Janet Salaff
 E-mail address:
 Organization: University of Toronto

Abstract

This workshop examines the issues of social and economic integration based on the research experiences in Canada and China, and compares the social and contextual factors that affect integration of migrants. The workshop also provides the opportunity for assessing the policy efficacy in both countries in dealing with the problems of integration as faced by migrants and the receiving society.

Summary

Economic globalization has resulted in larger volumes of people moving across nation states and within the same country. The world migrant population, that is including only those who reside in a country other than their country of birth, has reached 200 million people or roughly 3 per cent of the world population. However, if the number of people uprooted and moved within the same country is taken account, the magnitude of migration-related human issues multiples. Migrant receiving cities enjoy the benefits of labour and human capital brought by migrants, but at the same time, encounter problems in integrating migrants. Migrants are faced with many issues of integration, including finding a job, earning a fair wage, being accepted by urban residents,

adjusting to a new social environment, educating their children, and settling the family. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together researchers who have been studying issues of integration of migrants in China and in Canada with the view to compare the type of integration issues and obstacles faced by migrants, the institutional barriers that prevent the full integration of migrants, and the challenges for policy makers. Comparing experiences in both countries helps to better understand similar and different issues faced by migrants in different social contexts. The comparison also provides a basis for assessing the efficacy of policy responses in dealing with issues of integrating migrants.