

Name of organizer: Marie Lacroix
E-mail address:
Organization : Université De Montréal
Title of workshop: Asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants: different pathways to citizenship or exclusion from participation ?

Format of Workshop: Presentation Workshop

Theme: Citizenship and social, cultural, linguistic and civil integration

Name of first presenter: Parvin Ghorayshi
E-mail address:
Organization: University of Winnipeg
Title/Theme of presentation: Globalizing Cities: Implications for Democracy

Name of second presenter: Marilena Liguori
E-mail address:
Organization: Institut National de Recherche Scientifique. PhD Student
Title/Theme of presentation: Social capital in Refugee community organizations

Name of third presenter: Michael Baffoe
E-mail address:
Organization: University of Manitoba
Title/Theme of presentation: "Beyond Refuge": Post Acceptance challenges in new identity construction of African Refugee Claimants in Canada

Name of fourth presenter: Rick Goldman
E-mail address:
Organization: Comité d'aide aux réfugiés, Table de concertation de Montréal au service des réfugiés et immigrants
Title/Theme of presentation: Lives on Hold: Living in Limbo in Canada

Name of fifth presenter: Karen Magro
E-mail address:
Organization: University of Winnipeg
Title/Theme of presentation: Adult Immigrants and Refugees in the Inner City of Winnipeg

Name of sixth presenter: Barbara Tunis
E-mail address:
Organization: Director, Integration Policy - CIC
Title/Theme of presentation:

Abstract

Asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants are actors in the success of their integration processes. Becoming part of a polity, gaining access to rights and privileges, is a long term process that involves all stakeholders. Addressed are issues related to citizenship, social capital and identity and barriers that can be addressed by policy.

Summary

The presence of people living with a precarious status, such as asylum seekers, temporary workers and other categories of migrants, on foreign soil has confronted nation states to new challenges with regard to long term inclusionary processes and citizenship rights. Inclusionary processes have focused mostly on government policies and civil society organizations and groups' role in these process. Individuals targeted by these policies have not yet had much opportunity to express their views on these processes, their needs and the strategies they put in place to ensure their long term social, political, economic and cultural participation in the host polity.

In recent years there has been a growing interest in the experience of asylum seekers and refugees as they move through integration processes towards long term incorporation. Within a context where immigration has become one of the key sources for population and labour force growth in Canada and many other Western countries, all stakeholders (policy makers, practionners, community organisations, service providers) are questioning processes of immigrant integration, how to make multiculturalism work, what policies are best to help newcomers integrate not only economically but also in becoming full participating members of the polity. In this workshop we explore some of the structural problems asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants are confronted

to as they move through the integration process. Based on their research with asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants, presenters will address issues related to inclusion/exclusion, identity, citizenship rights and democratic processes.