



OLIP OTTAWA LOCAL
IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP
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L'IMMIGRATION D'OTTAWA



BMRC
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7th Biennial Ottawa Immigration Forum

Building Newcomer Integration Infrastructure: Networks, Knowledge, & Policy
Friday, October 13th, 2023 | 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. | 7 Bayview Station Road

FORUM PROGRAM

Time	Activity
8:00 A.M.	Arrival, Registration, Breakfast, and Networking
9:00 A.M.	<p>Forum Opening and Land Recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alan Neal, Forum's Master of Ceremonies (TBC) <p>Welcoming Address and Messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) Mark Sutcliffe, Mayor of Ottawa
9:30 A.M.	<p>Keynote Panel: Immigration Levels, Settlement Policy & Nation / City Building: What happens to Canadian society, national identity, and immigration and settlement policies as we increase immigration levels significantly? What is needed to secure successful integration of a lot more immigrants? How can we sustain the current public support for immigration in Canada as the immigration levels increase? What would be the implication of higher levels of immigration on community connections and social cohesion?</p> <p>Moderator: Martine Lagacé, Associate Vice Rector, University of Ottawa</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debbie Douglas, Executive Director, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI) Lida Aghasi, Executive Director, Centre social d'aide aux immigrants (CSAI) Soukaina Boutiyeb, Executive Director, Alliance des Femmes de la Francophonie Canadienne
11:00 A.M.	<i>Health Break</i>
11:20 A.M.	<p>Progress & Key Pathways in Building Newcomer Integration Infrastructure</p> <p>Drawing from 14 years of active partnership, community-based strategic planning, and a strong collaborative leadership across five sectors, OLIP will present its two-year progress report and new data on immigration in Ottawa. Luisa Veronis will reflect on OLIP's work, drawing from recent research and policy opportunities.</p> <p>Moderator: Alan Neal (TBC)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kareem El-Assal, OLIP Associate in Immigration Policy & Research Dominique Denney, Chair, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership Luisa Veronis, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa
12:15 P.M.	<i>Lunch</i>
CONCURRENT AFTERNOON SESSIONS	
1:30 – 3:00 P.M.	<p>Reconciling Skills Shortages & Chronic Underemployment</p> <p>This session will analyze immigrants' access to employment opportunities in tight labour markets and unpack what is behind the on-going co-existence of skills</p>

	<p>shortages in key industries and underemployment of qualified immigrants. Panelists in this session will merge field knowledge, research, and policy to examine the challenges and opportunities in front of us, as OLIP partners advance shared Immigrant Economic Integration Strategy.</p> <p>Moderator: Sheilagh Doherty, Manager, High Economic Impact Projects, City of Ottawa</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Saric, Principal at Inclusive Path & Co-Chair OLIP Economic Integration Sector Table • Kathryn Dennler, Research Associate, Conference Board of Canada • Jason Burggraaf, Executive Director, Greater Ottawa Home Builder Association • Donnielle Roman, Programs Director, Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO) • Jelena Zikic, Associate Professor, Human Resources and Career Management, York University
<p>1:30 P.M.</p>	<p>Services for Temporary Residents</p> <p>The panel will discuss settlement services for the growing numbers of temporary residents living in Canada, Ottawa, Gatineau and reflect on temporary residents' current access to services. Panelists will discuss how temporary residents' ineligibility for settlement services affects their access to other critical services like primary care.</p> <p>Moderator: Andrea Gardner, Associate Director, Jewish Family Services Ottawa</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myriam Mekni, Executive Director, Catholic Centre for Immigrants • Suzanne Obiorah, Executive Director, Somerset West Community Health Centre • Roxana Merello, General Manager, Service Intégration Travail Outaouais (SITO) • Dr. Jill Hanley, Professor at the McGill School of Social Work and Scientific Director of the Sherpa Research Institute on Migration, Health, and Social Services
<p>3:10 P.M.</p>	<p>Harvesting Ideas from Concurrent Sessions and Pre-Forum Webinar</p> <p>Moderators of the concurrent afternoon sessions and of the pre-forum, virtual newcomer housing session (held on October 12th) will summarize the ideas discussed at by panelists and forum attendees. This will allow all Forum attendees to learn of new challenges and opportunities and key approaches to addressing them to support the integration of newcomers.</p> <p>Moderator: Dominique Dennerly, Chair of the Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership (TBC)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fran Klodawsky, Moderator of the Pre-Forum webinar • Sheilagh Doherty, Moderator of the Reconciling Skills Shortages & Chronic Underemployment panel • Andrea Gardner, Moderator of the Services for Temporary Residents panel
<p>3:25 P.M.</p>	<p>Forum Closing</p> <p>Acknowledgements and Closing Remarks</p>
<p>Pre-Forum <u>Virtual</u> Event on Newcomer Housing Thursday, October 12, at 3:15 PM – 4:45 PM</p>	
<p>3:15 – 4:45 P.M.</p>	<p>Newcomer Housing Challenges</p> <p>The struggle to find and keep affordable rental and owned housing is increasing for newcomers just as it is for so many Canadians. This panel examines the challenges facing migrants and discusses current policies and opportunities for solutions. Panelists will be asked three questions: what are current housing challenges for</p>

immigrants? How well do current policies address these housing challenges? What needs to be done in terms of research and policy?

Moderator: Fran Klodawsky, Former Professor of Geography at Carleton University

Speakers:

- [Dr. Vera Etches](#), Medical Officer of Health, Ottawa Public
- [Paul Lavigne](#), Director, Housing Services, City of Ottawa
- [Brian Ray](#), Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics at University of Ottawa
- [Suzanne Le](#), Executive Director, Multifaith Housing Initiative
- [Damaris Rose](#), Adjunct Professor of Urban Studies at the Urbanisation Culture Société Research Centre of the INRS