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CURRENT INITIATIVES

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PROVINCIAL/FEDERAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ESL IN ONTARIO? The Social Planning Network of Ontario (SPNO), People for Education, the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI) and the Ontario Teacher's Federation (OTF), and the Joint Centre of Excellence in Settlement Research (CERIS), working with the Community Social Planning Council of Toronto, have agreed to co-sponsor a forum on the situation with the Provincial-Federal Settlement Agreement. Date TBD.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Working Papers on Women and International Development. Michigan State University's Women and International Development (WID) program publishes Working Papers on women and international development, a peer-reviewed series examining the relationships between gender and global transformation and exploring processes of change. The series is currently accepting manuscripts that explore gender in relation to historical and contemporary economic and political spheres. Possible topics include but are not limited to: Gender, violence, and human rights; Gender and agriculture; Gender dimensions of globalization and transnationalism; Gender, health, and healthcare; Gender and environment; Gender and social movements; Masculinities and international development; Fertility and reproduction; Intra- and inter-family roles and relationships. If you are interested in submitting a manuscript to the Working Papers series, please send a 150 word abstract to Dr. Anne Ferguson, Editor, and Nidal Karim, Managing Editor, at papers@msu.edu .

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement Consultations concerning the Development of Strategies for Settlement and Language Training. The Ontario Region Settlement and Intergovernmental Affairs Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is accepting proposals to conduct consultations concerning the development of strategies for settlement and language training delivery in Ontario. Deadline for questions is April 13/06. Email inquiries should be directed to Marilyn Ziedenberg at marilyn.ziedenberg@cic.gc.ca and responses will be posted in a Q and A format on <http://www.settlement.org> . More info: <http://www.integration-net.cic.gc.ca/inet/english/cfp-06-04.htm> <http://www.integration-net.cic.gc.ca/inet/francais/cfp-06-04.htm>

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS. THE JOINT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RESEARCH IN IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT (CERIS) invites applications from graduate students at both the Masters and Doctoral levels of study, for a Graduate Student Research Award to support research related to immigration and settlement. Awards up to \$500.00 will be made to support significant research projects on immigration and settlement issues that involve a Greater Toronto Area and/or other

Ontario community focus. Applications from all fields and disciplines of study are welcome. For full description of the announcement, please cut and paste this URL in your address bar:

<http://ceris.metropolis.net/research/policy/GradStudents/GradStudentRFPAnnouncement2006.pdf>

WATERLOO REGION IMMIGRANT EMPLOYMENT NETWORK.

Immigrant Skills Initiatives in Waterloo Region. Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network (WRIEN). To promote the well-being of immigrants and their families and to contribute to a prosperous regional economy and to build healthy, vibrant and inclusive communities. CREHS. Info: <http://www.crehs.on.ca>

WALKING ACROSS BORDERS: NEW DIALOGUES IN FORCED MIGRATION

STUDIES. The 10th conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, Centre for Refugee Studies, York University, Toronto, June 18th-22nd 2006. DEADLINE for submissions is 15 APRIL 2006. This conference will bring together academics, NGOs, policy makers, government representatives, and forced migrants themselves from a wide array of disciplinary and geographic backgrounds. Leading figures in the field will provide keynote and plenary speeches; panels will explore the sub-themes and issues outlined in this Call for Papers. The conference is open to anyone with an interest in the field of forced migration, and is not restricted to IASFM members. Participants are encouraged to present research or informational papers based on their own work. Proposals for papers to be submitted may be made on the dedicated conference web site www.iasfm10.org.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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CANADA

April 12-16/06

ASSOCIATION OF CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL Embracing a Confluence of Cultures in the Education of Children Conference. ACEI is the oldest professional organization in the world dedicated to the development of the child, from infancy through middle childhood. Its primary purpose is to promote the inherent rights, education, and well-being of all children in school, home, and the community. Delegates come from Korea, China, Jamaica, Mali, Canada, Ghana, and the U.S. Symposia topics such as "The Arts - A Cultural Necessity," "Best Practices for an Embattled World," "Diversity in Homes, Families, and Schools," and "Policies and Practices: Influences on Educational Practices"; "Kids Speaking up for Kids: Advocacy for Children, by Children"; plus an Author's Luncheon with award-winning children's author Diane Gonzales Bertrand. Info: Tel: 1-800-423-3563, conference@ACEI.org

<http://www.acei.org/confex03.htm>

May 19/06
Ottawa: Sheraton Ottawa Hotel
VANIER INSTITUTE OF THE FAMILY AGM
<http://vifamily.ca>

ONTARIO

April 21, 2006
POST-MIGRATION CHANGES IN GENDER RELATIONS IN THE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY in Toronto. Speakers: Dr. Ilene Hyman, Research Scientist & Assistant Professor, Hiwot Teffera, MA., Girma Mekonnen, MD, Research Assistant, Centre for Research in Women's Health. The main objective of this community-based study was to understand risk factors associated with marital conflict and intimate partner violence (IPV) in newcomer immigrant communities. Recommendations to improve marital stability and prevent marital conflict and IPV in the Ethiopian community will be discussed. Info: <http://www.ceris.metropolis.net>

April 25/06
Toronto: University of Toronto, Innis Town Hall 6:30-8:30pm
THE ORNSTEIN REPORT. Poverty in Toronto is highly racialized, and the economic gap between members of European and non-European ethno-racial groups has been increasing over the last 30 years, a new study reveals. All 20 of the poorest ethno-racial groups in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) are non-European, according to the study, Ethno-Racial Groups in Toronto, 1971-2001: A Demographic and Social Profile, released by the Institute for Social Research at York University. The report is based primarily on Statistics Canada's 2001 census, and compares those results with past censuses. Michael Ornstein (Institute for Social Research, York University), Rick Eagan (St. Christopher House and the MISSWA project), Debbie Douglas (Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants) and Amanuel Melles (United Way of Greater Toronto).

May 3-5/06
Montreal
SOCIAL INCLUSION: ARE WE THERE YET? International Summit for the Alliance on Social Inclusion. Info: <http://www.aamrqc.org>

May 10/06 8:30-4:30pm
WORKING WITH MUSLIM WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES: A Skill Building Forum for Health Care & Social Service Providers.
Toronto: Ryerson University, Student Centre, 55 Gould Street, SCC 115
If you work with Muslim women (and/or girls) and families, your work or research concerns them or you plan it to, this conference is for you. Gain a better understanding of

the issues and challenges faced by Muslim women and their families. The conference will explore culturally sensitive ways that work to empower and support clients/patients, in order to improve the quality of care.

Info: <http://www.bande.whsites.net/mwc/>, tafhcc@yahoo.com

June 1/06

Toronto: Centre for Refugee Studies, York University

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE RIGHTS CONFERENCE, JUNE 2006

The Canadian Council for Refugees will be holding an international refugee rights conference in June 2006 in Toronto. The conference will be held in conjunction with the conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, hosted by the Centre for Refugee Studies (York University). The conference will be used to network and strategize on such themes as:

- Interdiction and access to protection
- Effective protection
- Detention of asylum seekers
- Durable solutions (including resettlement)
- Refugee determination
- Gender violence and refugees
- Trafficking in persons

Info: <http://www.web.ca/~ccr>

MANITOBA

April 27-29/06

DESIGNING INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS

Winnipeg: Victoria Inn

A conference to Develop Strategies to Integrate Anti-Racism Principles and Actions within Educational Institutions. Keynote Speakers: Jane Elliott - Creator of the startling and dramatic Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes discrimination experiment. Dr. George Sefa Dei - Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology and Equity Studies, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto. Priscilla Settee - Internationally known educator, director, writer and journalist, she edits the award-winning Indigenous Women's Network Magazine. Hosted by: United Against Racism and Aboriginal Youth Circle <http://www.kanikanichihk.ca> Info: 204-953-5835, lgreen@kanikanichihk.ca