

Jarislowsky Chair Newsletter

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Edited by: Kerri Neil & Jason Waters

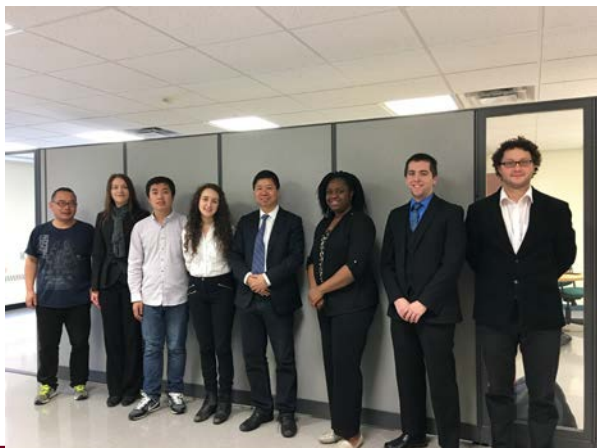


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IN THIS ISSUE

- Theme 1** | Retention and Integration of Refugees in Newfoundland and Labrador
- Theme 2** | Municipal-Level Service Delivery in Labrador
- Theme 3** | Summer Update
- Theme 4** | New Team Members
- Theme 5** | Immigration and Sustainable Development Conference
- Theme 6** | In the News

AS THE STEPHEN JARISLOWSKY CHAIR IN CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION, DR. TONY FANG is dedicated to publishing cutting-edge research on the Canadian and Newfoundland and Labrador economies. Dr. Fang has been especially busy these past few months with projects focused on immigration, an obvious route through which the province can meet, in part, its goal of sustainable population growth.



Contact us

Contact information Dr. Tony Fang

Email: tfang@mun.ca

Website: mun.ca/jchair

Twitter: @JChair_NL

Facebook: Stephen Jarislowsky Chair NL

Theme 1

Retention and Integration of Refugees in Newfoundland and Labrador

This study examines experiences of refugees that have settled in Newfoundland and Labrador and analyzes factors that can potentially enhance refugee integration and factors that can negatively impact their settlement experiences and retention in the province. The potential demographic and economic benefits of refugee settlement in the province cannot be realized if refugees come but then choose to leave.

We interviewed 83 adult and 31 youth refugees, who for purposes of comparison, were divided into new arrivals (targeting the Syrian population) and older cohorts (who were in the province from 2 to 15 years). We also interviewed 16 stakeholders involved in the settlement and integration of refugees, sourced from various community groups, private organizations and government agencies.

While most of the newly arrived refugees were near the end of their one-year settlement assistance, their language skills were still weak, and they were not quite ready to enter the labour market. Many in the older cohorts reported moving from the one-year federal assistance to provincial social assistance. Older cohorts with more labour market experience were generally unemployed or underemployed and there were several instances of racism in their workplace.

Our report produced 25 recommendations divided into broad categories including: Settlement Assistance; First Impressions; Health Care; Language; Cost of Living and Housing; Economic and Labour Market Integration; Social Capital; Transportation; Experiences of Refugee Minors; and Settlement Satisfaction.

Read the full report here:

https://www.mun.ca/harriscentre/reports/FANG_ARF_16-17.pdf

Theme 2

Municipal-Level Service Delivery

Public service delivery at the municipal/local level pertains to services that are delivered by a municipality. Municipal services can have a significant impact on communities and the quality of life they offer. This report reviews the five main services provided by municipalities in Labrador: water services, waste collection, road maintenance, fire and emergency services, and recreation, and examines how they are delivered. This study shows discrepancies between the levels of service in different parts of the region and provides a set of recommendations on how to improve service delivery.

Water is one of the most vital resources because of the large role it plays in personal health and hygiene. Having clean drinking water is a human right recognized by the United Nations and yet many communities in Labrador do not have access to clean water. Boil water advisories, brown water, and high amounts of chlorine disinfectant by-products are a common occurrence in communities along the coast from Natuashish to L'Anse au Loup. This issue deserves high priority consideration because of its significant impact on residents' lives.

Waste disposal services in some regions of Labrador are in critical condition as landfills are overflowing and catching on fire, and individual municipalities cannot afford to upgrade them. For most parts of Labrador, a regional solution is possible and viable but given the diversity of waste, a provincial solution would be more effective. If properly managed, waste disposal can create new businesses and generate a revenue stream, but this would require partnerships between government, industry and non-profit organizations. There are many examples of these partnerships already, but there are few in Labrador specifically where better waste disposal solutions are seriously needed.

This study shows discrepancies between the levels of service in different parts of the region and provides a set of recommendations on how to improve service delivery. This report was funded by the Harris Centre as part of their Population Project.

http://www.mun.ca/harriscentre/PopulationProject/Municipal_Service_Delivery.pdf

Theme 3

The Jarislowsky Chair's Summer Update

Dr. Fang was very busy over the summer attending several conferences and provide outreach through media engagement.



Dr. Fang attended the Fifth Annual Conference of the International Consortium of China Studies (ICCS) in Hong Kong (above) and gave an invited presentation at the President Forum of the Chinese Economists Society (CES). He is pictured with Nobel Laureate Edward Prescott at the CES (below).





Dr. Fang also attended the International Migration and Law Conference in Beijing (above) and Chengdu (below).



In June 2018, Dr. Fang visited the offices of Jarislowsky and Fraser Limited in Montreal (above).

Theme 4

New Team Members

Please join us in welcoming Dr Mladen Adamovic (University of Melbourne), Nabila Qureshi (MUN M.Sc. student), and MUN MA students Jason Waters, Farzana Haqu, Qi Zhang and Xin Chen to our research team!



Dr. Mladen Adamovic from the Centre for Workplace Leadership at the University of Melbourne (ranked #1 University in Australia) will be working on three projects with us: (1) The Effects of Workforce Diversity on Organizational Performance; (2) Cultural Differences and Attitudes Towards Immigration; (3) Discrimination Against Minority Workers in Recruitment. He has already published 6 high-quality journal articles including International Journal of Human Resource Management.



Dr. Zhen (Jane) Zhu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and Management at Sichuan College of Architectural Technology. Her research interests include human capital investment efficiency, the development of the Human Resources service industry in Sichuan, China and linkages between workforce diversity and workplace productivity. With over 20 years of working experience in human resources and

human capital research, Jane has developed a broad range of technical expertise in data collection, processing and analysis from existing research, survey, interview and other sources.



Yan Fu is a doctoral candidate majoring in Public Administration at the Department of Public Policy and Administration of Zhejiang University and an assistant research fellow in Zhejiang Institution of Talent Development. Her research mainly concentrates on talent management practices in China, talent policy making and implementation deviations, and talent policy performance evaluation. Yan specializes in survey studies and case studies. She is also skilled with several quantitative analytical techniques including regression method and bibliometric method.



Nabila Qureshi is an M.Sc. Medicine (Community Health) student in the Division of Community Health and Humanities, Faculty of Medicine, at Memorial University. Her thesis topic will explore the experience of early resettlement on refugee youth in St. John's and the impact that has on their sense of well-being. In addition to her academics, she volunteers with the Refugee

Immigrant and Advisory Council's community-based radio show, Radio RIAC. She will now be joining the Stephen Jarislawsky Chair team as a research assistant.



Jason Waters is an MA student in political science who has joined the team as a GA. Jason will provide qualitative policy research assistance as well as supporting the upcoming Immigration and Sustainable Development conference. His research interests focus on public policy and local governance.

Current MA student Farzana Haque will be our new Data Analysis Intern. He has some experiences using Excel and STATA and plans to learn R and SQL.



MA students Qi Zhang and Xin Chen will be our new Research Assistants. Qi has worked on a number of projects related to retirement age policy and working time policy on labor supply, savings and consumption patterns as well as effects of workforce diversity on productivity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Xin Chen will be working on recruitment and retention of international students using econometric models as part of her MA essay under Dr. Fang's supervision.

Let's welcome all of them to join the Jarislawsky team!

Theme 5

Immigration and Sustainable Development Conference

As the Jarislowky Chair, Dr. Fang is convening and organizing a small conference focusing on the themes of agriculture, fisheries and renewable energy. The conference will take place in St. John's during the fall. More details will be provided as planning progresses.

Theme 6

In The News

CBC. 2018. August 28. Kerri Claire Neil wins NDP race for Windsor Lake nomination over Matt Howse.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/matt-howse-kerry-1.4801508>

Smeillie, S. 2018, Aug. 26. Motion from N.L. Conservatives to axe birthright citizenship against Canadian values, says professor. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/conservative-birthright-citizenship-1.4799492>

Canadian Press. 2018, July 4. Both Refugee Families Sponsored By Lewisporte, Nfld. Have Left. Huffington Post. https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2018/07/04/lewisporte-refugee-families_a_23474694/

Canadian Press. 2018, July 4. Second refugee family leaves small Newfoundland town that sponsored them. The Telegram. <http://www.thetelegram.com/news/regional/second-refugee-family-leaves-small-newfoundland-town-that-sponsored-them-223629/>

Pidoux, A. 2018, May 4. Pour rester à Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador, il fait une job. Le Gaboteur. <https://www.gaboteur.ca/le-gaboteur-apercu-7-mai-2018/>

VOCM. 2018, April 28. MUN Researches Refugee Impressions. VOCM. <http://vocm.com/news/mun-researches-refugee-impressions/>

Giwam, S. 2018, April 19. Newfoundland needs immigrants and anti-racism action now. National Post. <http://nationalpost.com/news/canada/newfoundland-needs-immigrants-and-anti-racism-action-now>

Gillis, M. 2018, April 4. Warm welcome not enough to keep refugees in N.L. CBC. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/mun-report-refugee-retention-1.4604320>

Labrador Morning. 2018, March 15. Water woes and trash troubles in Labrador. CBC. <http://www.cbc.ca/listen/shows/labrador-morning/episode/15528144>

Smellie, S. 2018, Jan. 28. Mind the gap: St. John's wage inequality worst in Atlantic Canada. CBC. <http://www.cbc.ca/beta/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/st-johns-highest-wage-inequality-atlantic-canada-1.4507110>