



ELECTORAL AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT OF CANADA'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES



Workshop organized by the
Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP)
October 25, 2013

Offices of Samara
33 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto

PROGRAM

8:15–8:45 a.m. Continental breakfast buffet

8:45–9:00 a.m. Opening remarks
Graham Fox, Institute for Research on Public Policy
Alison Loat, Samara

9:00–10:30 a.m. **Session 1: Trends in Minority Representation and Public Attitudes**

Chair: **Elisabeth Gidengil** (McGill University)

Presenters

- **Karen Bird** (McMaster University) — “Challenges of Representation: The Perspective of Immigrant Communities”
- **Antoine Bilodeau** (Concordia University) — “Quebec Visible Minorities’ Sense of Acceptance and the Political Consequences”
- **Livianna Tossutti** (Brock University) and **Jane Hilderman** (Samara) — “Visible-Minority Representation in the Canadian House of Commons”

Commentator

- **Erin Tolley** (University of Toronto)

10:30–10:45 a.m. Coffee break

10:45 a.m.–
12:30 p.m. **Session 2: City Council Representativeness and Local Dynamics**

Chair: **Leslie Seidle** (Institute for Research on Public Policy)

Presenters

- **Myer Siemiatycki** (Ryerson University) — “Visible-Minority Representation in the Greater Toronto Area”
- **Wendy Cukier** (Ryerson University) — “Visible-Minority Representation in the Vancouver and Montreal Metropolitan Areas”
- **Chima Nkemdirim** (City of Calgary) — “Addressing the Representation of Calgary’s Visible Minorities”

12:30–1:30 p.m. Buffet lunch

1:30–3:00 p.m. **Session 3: Recruitment and Candidate Selection**

Chair: **Graham Fox** (Institute for Research on Public Policy)

Panellists

- **Greg Sorbara** (Sorbara Group)
- **Raj Sihota** (British Columbia New Democrats)
- **Alejandra Bravo** (Maytree)
- **Matt Smith** (Stratcom Strategic Communications)

3:00–4:30 p.m. **Session 4: Civic Participation and the Role of Civil Society Organizations**

Chair: **Miriam Lapp** (Elections Canada)

Panellists

- **Alison Loat** (Samara)
- **Eyob Naizghi** (MOSAIC)
- **Anne-Marie Pham** (Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations)
- **Stéphanie Casimir** (La Maison d'Haïti)

4:30–5:15 p.m. **Session 5: Summing Up**

Moderator: **Ratna Omidvar** (Maytree)

PARTNERS

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