

Labour Market Planning: What Works Locally

Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Toronto Botanical Garden

Keynote Speakers

Tom Corbett has emeritus status at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and remains an active affiliate with the Institute for Research on Poverty where, until his retirement, he served as Associate Director. Professor Corbett was a keynote speaker in last year's ICE forum on human service system integration forum. He is co-editor of a book with Mary Clare Lennon titled *Policy Into Action*, an exploration of implementation-evaluation methods. He consults with several organizations attempting to help state and local sites successfully introduce integrated service models.

Pamela Meadows is a Visiting Fellow with the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and a policy consultant. She is a former adviser to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation for the Future of Work Research Programme, a Visiting Professor at Arbetslivsinstitutet, Stockholm and a Director of the Policy Studies Institute. Prior to this she was Chief Economic Adviser and Head of Economics, Research and Evaluation Division, Department of Employment. She is a Director of Synergy Research and Consulting and was co-author of a Joseph Rowntree Foundation publication with Michael Campbell of *What Works Locally*, a paper that influenced the development of the City of Toronto's Regent Park Employment Plan. More recently she served as an advisor to the Mayor of London, England, on labour market planning in disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

Panel Moderator

Randy McLean is the Manager, Economic Policy with the City of Toronto Economic Development, Culture & Tourism Division. He is an engineer by training with a background in Business Administration and Urban Planning. Randy has over 25 years experience working in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. He is a member of the Toronto Community Foundation Board of Directors and Chair of the Foundation's Community Initiatives Committee. Randy was previously a member of the Board of Governors of George Brown College and a member of the Board of Directors of the Young Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto's Historic Distillery District. He was also a lead member of the staff team supporting the development of the City's Agenda *for Prosperity*.

Panellists

Peter Graefe is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at McMaster University in Hamilton. His current research focuses on Canadian federalism and social policy. He has previously worked on social economy policies in Quebec, including a paper with Eric Shragge for the Canadian Policy Research Networks. He maintains an enduring interest in provincial social assistance and labour training policy.

Allison Bramwell is a doctoral candidate in Political Science at the University of Toronto, and a Research Associate for the Program on Globalization and Regional Innovation Systems (PROGRIS) at the Munk Centre for International Studies. Her dissertation research, *Under the radar: workforce development and urban governance in Ontario*, compares local workforce development networks in Hamilton, Kitchener-Waterloo, and Ottawa. Her research interests include Canadian and comparative public policy, urban governance, and urban political economy.

Elizabeth McIsaac is the Executive Director of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC), a multi-stakeholder collaboration that identifies and implements local and practical solutions that lead to meaningful employment for skilled immigrants. Elizabeth has worked with TRIEC since it was launched in 2003 as a project of The Maytree Foundation. She has also held various positions at Maytree, most recently as the Director of Policy.

Before joining Maytree, Elizabeth was the Executive Director of the Association of International Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, a non-governmental organization advocating for policy changes that would create better access to licensing for immigrant doctors. Previous to this she worked in direct service with immigrant and refugee communities, as well as holding various roles in research and teaching.

On the issue of immigrant labour market integration, Elizabeth has most recently co-authored "Making the Connections: Ottawa's Role in Immigrant Employment" published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy in Canada (2007), and "Integrating Immigrants in Canada: Addressing Skills Diversity" in the OECD publication, *From Immigration to Integration: Local Solutions to a Global Challenge* (2006).