

# 2016 Ontario Migrant Farm Worker Health Forum

# March 31, 2016 8:30-4:00 pm International Migration Research Centre – Balsillie School of International Affairs 67 Erb Street West, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 6C2, Canada

This Forum was organized by The Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers in partnership with the International Migration Research Centre at Wilfrid Laurier University, the Balsillie School of International Affairs, and the Association of Ontario Health Centres





The organizers of this forum also wish to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Kerry Preibisch, a pivotal contributor to the field of migrant farm worker health and wellbeing. Kerry will be remembered and her legacy will be carried forward as our work continues



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International Migration Research Centre – Balsillie School of International Affairs 67 Erb Street West, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 6C2, Canada

#### Agenda

7:45-8:30 Registration and breakfast

#### Welcome

- 8:30-8:40 Michelle Tew, Occupational Health Nurse, OHCOW
- 8:40-8:45 Jenna Hennebry, Director of the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University
- 8:45-8:55 Aaraón Díaz Mendiburo, Postdoctoral Fellowship International Migration Research Centre, Wilfrid Laurier University.
- 8:55-9:05 Camille Roberts (Simcoe community member and Caribbean community outreach volunteer.

### **Morning Sessions**

	A Room 1-43	B Room 142-A	C Room 142-B
9:10-10:10am	Health and Safety Hazards in Agriculture.	Faith Communities in supporting MFW access to health services	Importance of MFW advocacy and learning about provincial MFW campaigns
	Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (WSPS)	Rachel Krause- Southridge Church (Niagara region)	Agricultural Workers Alliance (AWA) Justice for Migrant Workers (J4MW)
	Occupational health issues in Agriculture. Dr. Michael Pysklywec Occupational Health Physician, OHCOW-South Central	Engaging the employer community potential opportunities and partnerships for improving outcomes Terry Hubbard support network coordinator Flamborough/ Carlisle Ontario.	Collaborating with university programs in support of migrant farm worker health Cristina Santos, PhD Brock University Irene Maria F. Blayer, PhD Brock University Tracy Crowe Morey, PHD Brock University Partnering for Change: A Model of Community Engaged Public Health Education
			Dr. Lloy Wylie, PhD Interfaculty Program in Public Health Western University

#### 10:10-10:30 Break

	A Room 1-43	B Room 142-A	C Room 142-B
10:30-11:30am	Sexual Health and MFWsAaraón Diaz Mendiburo (PHD) UNAMAIDS Committee of Windsor/ DurhamAsian Community AIDS Services (ACAS)An innovative workshop on nutritionand healthy eating for MFWsDespina Tzemis- Quest CHC	Mental health among Jamaican farm workersStephanie Mayell M.A.(c) McMaster UniversityCreating supportive spaces with MFWs in Simcoe OntarioAchieve Mental Health Wellness & Recovery Centre Camille Roberts (Outreach volunteer)	Approaching the challenge of worker feedback and data collection for MFW programs Eduardo Huesca OHCOW-South Central Use of social media to establish and maintain contact with MFWs Maria G. Resillas (Simcoe Ontario)



#### 11:35-12:20 Plenary: Innovation in Migrant Farm Worker Health Service Delivery

- Community Health Centre Migrant Agricultural Worker Clinics
  - Grand River Community Health Centre
  - Quest Community Health Centre
- OHCOWs MFW program: Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW)
- Developing sustainable relationships with farm worker communities: the benefits of outreach workers

#### 12:20-1:25 Lunch (opportunity to visit display tables)

#### Afternoon Sessions

1:25-2:20pm	A Room 1-43	B Room 142-A	C Room 142-B
	Pesticide Safety in Ontario – Legislation & Training Lynn Van Maanen- Ontario Pesticide Education Program (OPEP)	Best Practices in using interpreters: Volunteers to Professionals Laura Comiskey-Across Languages	WSIB & MFWs – info for clinicians Gary Doig, Manager-Service Delivery WSIB Kim Wood-Larue, Assistant-Director, WSIB
	Pesticides and MFWs Is there a role for clinicians in reporting exposure? Eduardo Huesca OHCOW-South Central Launch of new pesticide safety poster series	Intercultural Competence Development: Enhancing Health Care Service for Migrant Farm Workers Ingrid Brand (PhD)- intercultural coach/consultant	Ministry of Labour and MFWs Allen Mendoza- Vulnerable Workers- Program Specialist/ Occupational Health & Safety Branch/ Ministry of Labour MFWs

#### 2:20-2:30 Break

	Room 142-A	Room 142-B	Ro	om 1-23	R	oom 1-43
pr pr	Identifying challenges and practical guidelines to providing <b>primary health</b> <b>care</b> to MFWs	Current MFW housing standards and inspection protocols. Sandy Stevens Program Manager Haldimand Norfolk Health Unit	*	Identifying best practices in developing and running <b>workshops</b> with MFWs	*	Migrant farm worker <b>health fairs</b> successes? Challenges? Collaboration across regions?
		<ul> <li>Housing and Health: the challenges of addressing substandard MFW housing, brainstorming towards solutions</li> </ul>				

3:10-3:30 Short report back from Collaborative workshops (detailed notes will be made available post forum)

3:30-4:00 **Closing Plenary:** Dr. Janet McLaughlin Health Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University and Michelle Tew, Occupational Health Nurse, OHCOW South Central.

#### Forum concludes

**4:30-5:30** International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) event: Dr. Janet McLaughlin will deliver the first annual Kerry Preibisch memorial lecture, discussing migrant farmworker health and human rights.

# **Opening/ Welcome Speakers**



#### SPEAKER: Michelle Tew- Occupational Health Nurse, OHCOW-South Central

**BIO:** Michelle Tew is an occupational health nurse with OHCOW Hamilton/ South-Central for the past 17 years. Her professional experience has included administration, education, program design, research, consultant, as well as clinical. Her work with MFWs for the past 10 years has included MFWs clinics, research, advocacy and publications.

SPEAKER: Jenna Hennebry, Director of the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University
 BIO: Jenna Hennebry holds a Ph.D. in Sociology, is an Associate Professor affiliated with the Balsillie School of International Affairs, and is the Director of the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) at Wilfrid Laurier University. Her research focuses on international migration and mobility, with a specialization in lower-skilled labour migration with regional expertise in Canada, Mexico, Morocco and Spain.

#### SPEAKER: Aaraón Diaz Mendiburo, Postdoctoral Fellowship IMRC and filmmaker

BIO: Aaraón Diaz Mendiburo holds a PhD in Anthropology, Master Degree in Social Work and Bachelor's Degree in Communications, all from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). As an independent filmmaker, He has directed: Migrants who come from within (2007) and Perspectives. "Temporary" Migration in Canada (2011). He has done community work in San Matias Cuijingo, State of Mexico. He was a visiting researcher at the University of Guelph and University of Montreal. His most recent work has focused on temporary migrant workers in Canada, their families and the host communities. His publications address issues related to health, education, social representations and intercultural relations, among others. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the International Migration Research Centre at the Wilfrid Laurier University.

#### SPEAKER: Camille Robersts- Simcoe community member and Caribbean community outreach volunteer

**BIO:** Camille Roberts resides in Norfolk County. Qualified as a Secondary Education Teacher in Jamaica she taught for five years then migrated to Canada six years ago. True to the life of the "new immigrant" I have worked in different sectors in Canada including agricultural, factories, cleaning services, childcare and business. Camille is a committee member and volunteer of at least six groups that actively works to better the lives of minority populations such as seasonal agricultural workers. As a Caribbean member I am well in tune with the struggles, culture and history of the workers. This equips me to easily relate to the difficulties that they encounter acclimatizing to Canada

## **Morning Sessions Speaker bios**

Session A-Room 1-43SESSION:Health and Safety Hazards in AgricultureTIME:9:10 - 9:40 amSPEAKER:John Aird - Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (WSPS)

#### SESSION: Occupational Health Issues in Agriculture

TIME:	9:40 – 10:10 am
SPEAKER:	Dr. Michael Pysklywec – Occupational Health Physician, OHCOW - South Central

BIO: Dr. Mike has been practicing occupational health medicine for over 16 years. He has been seeing migrant workers for the last 10 years through OHCOW. This has involved the assessment of acute and chronic medical issues for patients in a unique vocational and social environment.

#### Session B-Room 1-42-A

SESSION:	Faith Communities in Supporting MFW - Access to Health Services
TIME:	9:10 – 9:40 am
SPEAKER:	Rachel Krause – Southridge Church – Niagara Region

SESSION: Engaging the Employer Community Potential – Opportunities and Partnerships for Improving Outcomes

TIME: 9:40 – 10:10 am

SPEAKER: Terry Hubbard – Support Network Coordinator – Flamborough/Carlisle

BIO: Terry worked 5 years with Halton Regional Police and 29 years with the Burlington Fire Department. She has been involved with the Migrant Farm Workers in Flamborough for the past 8 years and presently coordinates Migrants Matter – a church network that provides social and educational opportunities for the workers in Flamborough.

Session C- Room 142-B

SESSION: Importance of MFW advocacy and learning about provincial MFW campaigns

TIME: 9:10-9:20 am

SPEAKER: Stan Raper – Agricultural Workers Alliance (AWA)

BIO: For more than two decades, Stan has worked on behalf of both domestic and agricultural migrant workers in Canada. In 2002, Stan was named the National Coordinator of the UFCW Canada Agricultural Workers Program and as the National Coordinator of the Agricultural Workers Alliance – (AWA) in 2006. UFCW Canada is Canada's private-sector union, with more than 250,000 members working in every sector of the food industry from the field-to-the-table, including food retailing, processing and distribution and at a number of agriculture operations across Canada. In 2002 Stan coordinated the opening of the first UFCW Canada Agriculture Workers Support Centre in Leamington Ontario. That program has now grown to 5 support centers spanning throughout Leamington, Simcoe and Virgil Ontario as well as additional centers in St. Remy Quebec and in Abbotsford British Columbia. The centers serve tens-of-thousands of domestic and agricultural migrant workers each year providing support in processing EI and WSIB claims, supplying legal and translation services, offering OHSA awareness training and assisting

injured workers with interpretive services if they require medical care or hospitalization. Stan has also been an active participant in 3 groundbreaking UFCW Canada legal challenges regarding the constitutional right of agricultural workers to unionize, to be covered under OHSA and also the right to be treated equally and equitably under the Federal EI System.

TIME: 9:20-9:30 am

SPEAKER: Chris Ramsaroop– Justice for Migrant Workers (J4MW)

BIO: Justice (justicia in Spanish) for Migrant Workers (J4MW) is a volunteer driven collective committed to organizing with and for migrant farm workers and their families and social movements in their countries of origin. We started to work with migrant farm workers in 2001 as key organizers with the Global Justice CareVan Project run by the labour movement and became an independent collective in 2002. As an autonomous grass roots community group, we see ourselves as part of the radicalization of the existing labour movement and fully support workers in taking leadership in their own struggle.

#### Session A-Room 1-43

#### SESSION: Sexual Health and Migrant Farm Workers

TIME: 10:30 – 10:40 am

SPEAKER: Racquel Bremmer- African, Caribbean and Black Community Outreach Coordinator – AIDS Committee of Windsor BIO: Racquel has been working in the HIV/AIDS field for over 20 years and has been involved capacity building, educational and health promotion initiatives on Toronto, Jamaica and Norway with international non-profit organizations like the Red Cross as well as governmentfunded agencies across Ontario. She has a passion for social justice and anti-oppression, and hopes to increase access to HIV testing in marginalized communities all over Canada.

SPEAKER: Dane Record – Black Community Outreach – AIDS Committee of Durham Region.

BIO: Dane has been involved with Black Community Outreach at the AIDS Committee of Durham Region for over 5 years. He believes peer leadership is the key to community development when addressing HIV prevention strategies through honest, straightforward conversation. He loves black coffee and plain croissants, and is easily identifiable by his red keychain showing support for his preferred sports team, the Arizona Cardinals.

TIME: 10:40-10:50 am

SPEAKER: Richard Utama- Asian Community AIDS Services (ACAS)

BIO: Richard Utama is the Men's Sexual Health Coordinator at the Asian Community AIDS Services (ACAS). He has been involved in gay/bi/MSM and HIV/AIDS movement for over 15 years, focusing on HIV prevention and holistic well-being. He has also worked with diverse GBT communities including transient populations, such as international students and migrant workers. His professional goal is to explore community-based research, ethics, knowledge translation and exchange strategies to address key issues in HIV/AIDS and sexual health research to further develop culturally relevant programming for the Asian diaspora community.

SPEAKER: Fendy

#### Session A-Room 1-43

SESSION: An Innovative Workshop on Nutrition and Healthy Eating for Migrant Farm Workers

TIME: 11:00 – 11:30 am

SPEAKER: Despina Tzemis – Quest CHC

#### Session B-Room 1-42-A

SESSION: Mental health among Jamaican farm workers

TIME: 10:30-11:00 AM

SPEAKER: Stephanie Mayell M.A.(c) McMaster University

BIO: Stephanie Mayell is a graduate student in the Anthropology Department at McMaster University in Hamilton, and her Master's Thesis explores the mental health experiences of Jamaican migrant agricultural workers in Southern Ontario. During her Master's fieldwork in 2015, Stephanie conducted 25 interviews with Jamaican workers across Southern Ontario, and maintained contact with approximately 30 workers throughout the season. Previously, in 2014 Stephanie worked as a member of a research team tasked with evaluating a pilot initiative to bring accessible healthcare to migrant workers in Ontario, which included administering satisfaction surveys to approximately 40 migrant farmworkers.

#### SESSION: Creating supportive spaces with MFWs in Simcoe Ontario

TIME: 11:00-11:30 AM

#### SPEAKER: Camille Roberts (Outreach volunteer)

BIO: Camille Roberts resides in Norfolk County. Qualified as a Secondary Education Teacher in Jamaica she taught for five years then migrated to Canada six years ago. True to the life of the "new immigrant" I have worked in different sectors in Canada including agricultural, factories, cleaning services, childcare and business. Camille is a committee member and volunteer of at least six groups that actively works to better the lives of minority populations such as seasonal agricultural workers. As a Caribbean member I am well in tune with the struggles, culture and history of the workers. This equips me to easily relate to the difficulties that they encounter acclimatizing to Canada.

#### Session C- Room 142-B

#### SESSION: Approaching the challenge of worker feedback and data collection for MFW programs

TIME: 10:30-11:00 am

SPEAKER: Eduardo Huesca OHCOW-South Central

BIO: Eduardo is the program coordinator for OHCOW's Migrant Farm Workers Program. He has worked with migrant farm workers across Ontario for 10 years coordinating mobile clinics, educational workshops and occupational health and safety projects.

#### SESSION: Use of social media to establish and maintain contact with MFWs

TIME: 11:00-11:30 am

SPEAKER: Maria G. Resillas (Simcoe Ontario)

## Plenary Speakers: Innovation in Migrant Farm Worker Health Service Delivery

#### SPEAKER: Peter Szota-Grand River Community Health Centre

BIO: Peter is the Executive Director of the Grand River Community Health Centre in Brantford Ontario. Peter has worked in a wide range of healthcare portfolios from children's mental health to geriatrics, from specialized adult mental health to health promotion. He's held leadership roles in many settings: academic health science centre, rural hospital, the Ministry of Health and community based agencies. He has contributed to the governance of several organizations serving on the boards of a District Health Council, the Association of Ontario Health Centres and several other community service providers.

#### SPEAKER: Despina Tzemis- Quest Community Health Centre

BIO: Despina is a Programs Manager at Quest Community Health Centre which is located in St. Catharines, Ontario. One of her roles at Quest CHC is to oversee the Migrant Agricultural Worker Program which is going onto its sixth year.
 Prior to this work Despina worked at the Kingston Community Health Centre, the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, the Vancouver Native Health Clinic, and British Columbia's Children's and Woman's Hospital. Despina's roles in those settings ranged from Program Coordinator to Health Promoter to Researcher to Epidemiologist, with responsibilities that included service delivery,

policy development, and program evaluation.

#### SPEAKER: Eduardo Huesca-Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers (OHCOW)-South Central

BIO: Eduardo is the program coordinator for OHCOW's Migrant Farm Workers Program. He has worked with migrant farm workers across Ontario for 10 years coordinating mobile clinics, educational workshops and occupational health and safety projects.

#### **Afternoon Sessions Speaker bios**

Session A-Room 1-43

#### SESSION: Pesticide Safety in Ontario: Legislation & Training

TIME: 1:25-2:20 pm

SPEAKER: Lynn Van Maanen-Ontario Pesticide Education Program (OPEP)

BIO: Lynn joined the OPEP in 2013 as a Project Coordinator. Prior to that, she taught part-time at the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus and helped with the programs and promotions of the Southwest Agricultural Conference. Lynn also has research and sales experience from Dow Agro Sciences. As a lover of local food, Lynn enjoys helping Ontario's growers protect themselves and the environment!

#### SESSION: Pesticides and MFWs/ is there a role for clinicians in reporting exposure?

TIME: 1:25-2:20 pm

SPEAKER: Eduardo Huesca OHCOW-South Central

BIO: Eduardo is the program coordinator for OHCOW's Migrant Farm Workers Program. He has worked with migrant farm workers across Ontario for 10 years coordinating mobile clinics, educational workshops and occupational health and safety projects.

#### Session B-Room 1-42-A

#### SESSION: Best Practices in using interpreters: Volunteers to Professionals

TIME: 1:25-1:52 pm

SPEAKER: Laura Comiskey – Across Languages

BIO: Laura has worked professionally as a conference and community interpreter and translator for 16 years as well as an adult educator for 18 years. She has coordinated the Training and Professional Department of Across Languages since 2006, where she leads the recruitment, selection and training of new interpreters, and delivers continuous specialized training for accredited interpreters to provide services in the legal sector, healthcare, community and social services, and for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and human trafficking.

#### SESSION: Intercultural Competence Development: Enhancing Health Care Services for Migrant Farm Workers

TIME: 1:55-2:20 pm

#### SPEAKER: Dr. Ingrid Brand – Intercultural Coach/Consultant

BIO: Dr. Brand is an intercultural coach/consultant and a senior lecturer at the University of Guelph – Humber. She has worked as a senior administrator for universities in Egypt, Jordan and Kuwait. She hold a doctorate from the University of Minnesota in Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development with a specialization in comparative international development education. Her research focuses on the intersection between internationalization, intercultural competence development and global leadership.

#### Session C- Room 142-B

#### SESSION: WSIB & MFWs- info for clinicians

TIME: 1:25-1:52 pm

SPEAKER: Gary Doig – Manager-Service Delivery WSIB

BIO: Gary has been with the WSIB for 18 years. He is the manager of a team of case managers and nurse consultants based out of the Guelph office. Gary's team deals with agricultural claims from across the province.

#### SPEAKER: Kim Wood-Larue – Assistant-Director, WSIB

BIO: Kim has been with the WSIB for 15 years. She is the Assistant Director of the Kitchener and Guelph offices. The Kitchener and Guelph offices manage cases from a large catchment area, as well as all provincial agricultural claims.

#### SESSION: Ministry of Labour and MFWs

TIME: 1:55-2:20 pm

SPEAKER: Allen Mendoza-Vulnerable Workers-Program Specialist/Occupational Health & Safety Branch/ Ministry of Labour MFWs

#### **Closing Plenary Speakers**

#### SPEAKER: Dr. Janet McLaughlin- Health Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University

BIO: Janet McLaughlin is an Assistant Professor of Health Studies and a Research Associate with the International Migration Research Centre at Wilfrid Laurier University. For over a decade her research, community work and scholarship have focused on health and human rights issues facing migrant workers, primarily from Jamaica and Mexico, who labour in Canadian agriculture. Dr. McLaughlin is also co-founder of the Migrant Workers Health Project, which aims to raise awareness and improve health care access for migrant workers across the country. Notes

NOTES

# 2016 Ontario Migrant Farm Worker Forum Planning Committee

# **OHCOW-South Central:**

Valerie Wolfe, Executive Director Michelle Tew, Occupational Health Nurse Eduardo Huesca, MFW Program Coordinator Marilyn Lee-Hannah, Client Service Coordinator Wendy Wilkinson Jan Latimer, Client Service Coordinator

# Wilfrid Laurier University:

Janet McLaughlin, Health Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University Jenna Hennebry, Associate Professor International Migration Research Centre Joanne Weston Balsillie School of International Affairs Busra Hacioglu International Migration Research Centre

This Forum was organized by The Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers in partnership with the International Migration Research Centre at Wilfrid Laurier University, the Balsillie School of International Affairs, and the Association of Ontario Health Centres





Association of Ontario Health Centres Community-governed primary health care

Association des centres de santé de l'Ontario Soins de santé primaires gérés par la communauté



