

# CPS NEWS

## The Newsletter of the Canadian Population Society

### July 2020

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## The Latest News

### CPS Election Results

The Canadian Population Society (CPS) is pleased to welcome three new council members: Xavier St. Denis (University of Toronto), James Iveniuk (The Wellesley Institute), and France-Pascale Ménard (Statistics Canada) began their two-year terms in June 2020. Continuing on Council are Anna Zajacova (Western University), Stacey Hallman (Statistics Canada), and Sarah Brauner-Otto (McGill University) along with student representative Anthony Jehn (Western University). We thank outgoing councillors Melissa Moyser, Martin Cooke, and Nicole Denier for their excellent contributions to our society over the past two years.



Amélie Quesnel-Vallée (pictured left) from McGill University has been acclaimed as incoming CPS Vice-President and program chair. The CPS also congratulates Amélie for her award of a SSHRC Partnership Grant. The \$2.5 million [SSHRC grant](#) focuses on the demographic changes associated with population aging. To build the knowledge capacity to analyze these changes, the grant involves an international

consortium of experts from 32 partner institutions, who have pledged an additional \$4.1 million in support. Notably, one of the key objectives of the consortium is to “prepare the next generation and upskill current population researchers to work in academia, not-for-profit organizations, and private sector companies.” The six-year program is scheduled to begin in Fall 2020 and is expected to provide training to 150 analysts.

The CPS thanks outgoing Vice-President, Yoko Yoshida (Dalhousie University), who has been a tireless advocate for the society over the past two years. In addition to organizing the CPS Conference, Yoko has been engaged in efforts to establish a code of conduct and an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) policy for CPS, which was discussed at the 2020 annual meeting.



Sean Waite (Western University, pictured) has been stellar as Secretary/Treasurer and has agreed to remain on in this position. Sean has ably steered the CPS finances over a variety of unexpected challenges over the past two years. Don Kerr (King’s

University) will be the new Webmaster, resuming the position he held in previous years.

CPS correspondence from over a decade ago referenced the need to separate the position of Secretary/Treasurer because of the immense workload the combined position involves. This clearly has been a longstanding issue and one that we must now confront. Figuring out how to separate these two tightly linked positions will be a priority for Council.

Another issue involves anticipating how the CPS website will be hosted in the coming years. Currently, King’s University has graciously allocated space and human

resources, but this goodwill arrangement isn't guaranteed for the future. We will need to come up with creative solutions so that we can prepare for and respond quickly to a transition should it be required.

## CPS Members

**CHAI, Xiangnan.** After completing a doctorate at Western University in October 2019, Xiangnan has received an appointment as a Research Assistant Professor of Sociology at Nanjing University, one of China's elite universities. Dr. Chai's research focuses on aging, family, health, gender, and the life course.

**CONKLIN, Annalijn I.** Dr. Conklin reports that her first postdoctoral student, Zeinab Hosseini, has received a Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Fellowship, which she started in February 2020. Hosseini's [first lead-author paper](#) conducted in Conklin's lab was published in PLOS ONE and is based on data from the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging.

**MCDANIEL, Susan.** After 10 years as founding Director of the Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy at the University of Lethbridge, Susan has left the University of Lethbridge and relocated to Victoria, British Columbia. She will be teaching at the University of Victoria in September 2020, where she is a Research Affiliate in the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health and an Adjunct Professor of Sociology. She continues as President of the International Sociological Association (ISA), Research Committee on Family, 2018-2022.

**PLANTE, Charles.** After finishing his PhD last year at McGill, Dr. Charles Plante has gone on to an appointment as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Health and Social Inequality in the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Plante and his USask colleagues (Cory Neudorf, Thilina Bandara, Maureen Anderson, and Oluwafem Oluwole) were recently awarded \$230,000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation to investigate the local public health response to COVID-19.

**SWANSON, David.** David Swanson has been appointed Edward A. Dickson Emeritus Professor at the University of California, Riverside from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2012.

## IUSSP Updates

The IUSSP has been very active over the past months, and many of those activities are presented in more detail in the latest [News Bulletin](#). Of particular note:

- We have begun a new Webinar series that is open to the wider public – non-members should keep an eye on the IUSSP website for announcements, as preregistration is required to participate.
- Gordon de Jong was awarded the [2020 IUSSP Laureate](#) in our second Webinar held in early June. Gordon was the driver behind the development of the various Pennsylvania State multi-disciplinary population studies programs, played important roles in several scientific associations including the PAA and the IUSSP, and had wide ranging research interests (best known is perhaps his work on international migration). The IUSSP has put out a call for candidates for the 2021 Laureate award. This is the most prestigious award given out in the population field and it recognizes the lifetime achievements of outstanding scholars through their contributions to the advancement of population sciences and their distinguished service rendered to the IUSSP and the world community of demographers.
- We have set up a new resource webpage on the IUSSP website on *Demographers' contributions to the understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic*.
- Several scientific panels have offered webinars, cyber-conferences and online working sessions and workshops in the past three months; they include the Population Environment Research Network, and the panels on Couples' Reproductive Health and Fertility, Digital Demography, and Population Perspectives and Demographic Methods to Strengthen Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Systems. In addition, the council

approved the creation of two new panels related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The IUSSP council and the Indian National Organizing Committee are continuing their preparatory work for the next International Population Conference. This conference will have a cross-cutting theme on the COVID-19 pandemic, and we plan to have a plenary session on the topic. At present, we still anticipate holding this event in Hyderabad in December 2021, although we are continuously monitoring the COVID-19 situation and may be forced to alter our plans.

Both students and non-students can join the IUSSP or renew their memberships at the IUSSP [membership portal](#).

The [IUSSP Scientific Panel on Couples' Reproductive Health and Fertility](#) is sponsoring a working session in October or early November for researchers and policymakers interested in the area. The specific topic for this session is programmatic interventions involving either male partners and/or couples in sexual and reproductive health and particularly family planning. Presenters can equally well present ideas and designs for ongoing or future studies or analyses of completed interventions. Abstracts of 1-2 paragraphs are to be submitted by September 15, 2020 (extended abstracts are optional). Presenters will be selected by September 30. The submissions will be evaluated by the Organizing Committee on the basis of quality and fit to the theme of the working session. Abstracts may be submitted in English or in French but the session will be in English and all presentations will need to be made in English.

A tentative agenda of the 90-minute session is:

- Welcome/introductions (5 min.)
- Invited speaker: Prof. Ilene Speizer (20 min.)
- Q&A with speaker (10 min.)
- Three or four selected presentations with Q&A (8 or 11 min. each)
- Summary of gems from the session (5 min.)
- Closing (1 min.)

ALL participants who would like to attend the session will need to register online (registration will open on September 21, 2020), both those who would like to present and those who wish only to attend without presenting.

## PopData BC

[Population Data BC](#) is offering a slate of online courses and webinars:

- Webinar-based course: Mapping Health Data. This 3-session webinar-based course is designed as a primer for students interested in taking the Population Health and GIS (PHDA 03) course. It is also a great introductory course for those who want to explore the benefits of GIS.
- PHDA 03 - Population Health and Geographical Information Systems. This 12-week fully online course provides hands-on experience working with a wide range of spatial data and analysis methods using ArcGIS
- PHDA 01 - Working with Administrative Data. This 12-week fully online course examines the basics of what administrative data are, how they can be used and the skills needed to work with the data in a secure research environment.
- Webinar Series - The Power of Population Data Science. This FREE webinar series aims to highlight the value of data linkage and related data-intensive analytics by profiling some of the most recent International Journal of Population Data Science (IJPDS) publications by national and international population data scientists. *See listing of upcoming and past recorded sessions.*
- Webinar Series - Advanced Methods for the Analysis of Population-wide Administrative Health Data. This FREE webinar series offered by Population Data BC in partnership with ICES will highlight the value of population-wide administrative data and related advanced analytic methods for health research.

## In the Media

In late May 2020, **Susan McDaniel** conducted interviews with CBC radio hosts from coast to coast on the topic of aging and the COVID-19 pandemic. Her [segment with Edmonton AM](#), which focuses on what the COVID-19 pandemic reveals about the value society places on older people, can be listened to online.

**Rachel Margolis** has co-authored a paper (with Ashton Verdery, Emily Smith-Greenaway, and Jonathan Daw) that estimates [family bereavement from COVID-19](#) in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The results of the paper were featured in the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), [Medical News](#), and [Psychology Today](#).

Using a simple extrapolative geometric model, **David Swanson** developed baseline and updated forecasts of the surge peak of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Whatcom County, Washington. His forecasts were published in the [Northwest Citizen](#) in April 2020. The baseline shows the expected surge peak in the absence of containment measures taken by the Governor of Washington and local officials. Swanson was able to monitor the efficacy of the containment measures by comparing the updated forecasts to the baseline. In particular, he pointed out the tremendous reduction in the expected cases by reducing the rate of increase early in the surge.

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## Statistics Canada

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### Data Products

[Education Indicators in Canada](#). This handbook updates the general descriptions for the indicators of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program (PCEIP) as new sets of tables are released. The handbook highlights data on five sets of indicators:

- The school-age population
- Financing education systems
- Elementary and secondary education
- Postsecondary education
- Transitions and outcomes

The handbook provides a general description of the PCEIP indicators, the major concepts and definitions used, an overview of the methodology, the data sources used, and a review of data limitations.

The public use microdata file for the [2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey](#) (APS) was released on June 2, 2020. The APS is a national survey on Aboriginal peoples (First Nations people living off reserve, Métis, and Inuit) aged 15 and older. The 2017 APS is the fifth cycle of the survey and focuses on transferable skills, practical training, use of information and technology, knowledge of an Aboriginal language, and participation in the Canadian economy.

The public use microdata file for the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), 2017/2018 reference period, is now available. The file provides data on 110,000 respondents aged 12 and older (living in households) from the provinces and territories.

[Longitudinal Immigration Database](#) (IMDB) – Updates. Data modules on immigrant children have been updated and were released on July 20, 2020. The updates provide data on the family income of immigrant children who were admitted since 1980 at age 0 to 14 years. The module also includes data on the settlement services accessed by recent immigrants.

The microdata file and supporting documentation for the [2018 Canadian Housing Survey](#) (CHS) are now available in the Research Data Centres. The CHS provides information on core housing need, dwelling characteristics and housing tenure, perceptions on economic hardship from housing costs, dwelling and neighbourhood satisfaction, housing moves and intentions to move, community engagement, life and community satisfaction, experience with homelessness, and socio-demographic characteristics.

[Income Divergence Index \(D-Index\)](#). Statistics Canada has produced an index that measures the level of neighbourhood income mixing. The index measures the degree to which families of varying income levels are represented in neighbourhoods. The divergence index (D-index) compares neighbourhood discrete income distributions to a base distribution (income quintiles of the neighbourhood's census metropolitan area) to describe the level of neighbourhood income mixing. Neighbourhoods are defined using census tracts, which

are small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population between 2,500 and 8,000.

## COVID-19 – Data and Releases

### Canadian Perspectives Survey

[Canadian Perspectives Survey Series](#) (CPSS). The CPSS is a new data collection initiative that aims for a rapid understanding of social issues. The data is collected online and the survey is fielded about once every month, with data collection lasting about one week. The CPSS is designed to produce data at the national level, excluding the territories. Since its implementation, three cycles of the CPSS have been completed:

- [CPSS Series 1](#) – Impacts of COVID-19. Fielded: March 29 to April 03, 2020. Focus on labour market impacts and mental health impacts.
- [CPSS Series 2](#) – Monitoring the Effects of COVID-19. Fielded: May 04 to May 19, 2020). Adds focal questions on behaviours and health impacts and food security.
- [CPSS Series 3](#) – Resuming Economic and Social Activities During COVID-19. Fielded: June 15 to June 21, 2020. Includes questions on: labour market recovery; economic recovery; health recovery; family and caregiving recovery; commuting and travel; perceptions, trust, and confidence; and preparing for potential future waves.

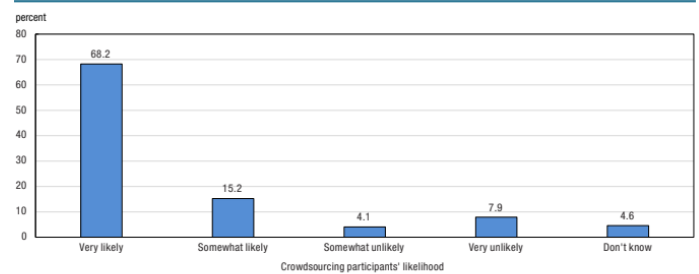
### Recent CPSS Studies

- [The Social and Economic Concerns of Immigrants During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Understanding the Perceived Mental Health of Canadians During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Health-Related Concerns and Precautions During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Comparison of Canadians With and Without Underlying Health Conditions](#)
- [Impact of Economic Consequences of COVID-19 on Canadians' Social Concerns](#)
- [The Health and Behavioural Impacts of COVID-19 on Youth](#)

### Canadians' Willingness to Get Vaccinated

According to a new [Statistics Canada study](#), over two-thirds of Canadians (68.2%) say they would be “very likely” to get a COVID-19 vaccination when one is available (Chart 1). But their decision to get vaccinated depends on their level of trust in government and public officials. About three-quarters of Canadians with a high level of trust in the federal government reported that they would be very likely to choose to get vaccinated. A similar proportion of Canadians with a high level of trust in federal public health authorities are also very likely to get vaccinated. This compares to about half (53.8%) of Canadians with a low level of trust in the federal government and under half (44.4%) of those with a low level of trust in federal public health authorities.

Chart 1  
How likely is it that participants will choose to get a COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available?



Note: Percent calculations exclude missing responses.  
Source: Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Trust in Others: Data Collection Series (5323).

Source: K. Frank and R. Arim. (2020). “Canadians’ Willingness to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine When One Becomes Available: What Role Does Trust Play?” StatCan COVID-19: Data to Insights For a Better Canada. Catalogue no. 45280001.

### SPSM

Version 2.0 of the [Social Policy Simulation Model](#) COVID-19 glass box is now available. This version incorporates the Canada Emergency Student Benefit, the one-time tax-free payment for seniors, and the one-time tax-free payment for individuals with a valid certificate for the disability tax credit.

### New and Noteworthy

[The Distribution of Temporary Foreign Workers Across Industries in Canada](#). This article uses the 2017 Canadian Employer-Employee Database (CEEDD) to examine the distribution of temporary foreign workers (TFWs) across industries and firms, and provides insights into how possible disruptions in the inflow of new TFWs could affect



essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic recovery.

Statistics Canada and Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) have conducted a five-part series on temporary foreign workers. The first three of these studies were released in July:

- [Two-step immigrant selection: A review of benefits and potential challenges](#)
- [Two-step immigrant selection: An analysis of its expansion in Canada](#)
- [Two-step immigrant selection: Recent trends in immigrant labour market outcomes](#)

Selecting immigrants from the pool of TFWs, or those with Canadian work experience, has been a growing trend since the early 2000s. In 2018, almost half of economic immigrants (46%) were selected from this pool, through a process that involves employers in the recruitment of new immigrants. This two-step selection process has the potential admit immigrants based on demand for their job skills in labour markets. Between 2000 and 2016, average earnings in the first year after immigration rose 23% among employed men and 32% among employed women. The large majority of this increase was attributable to the increased share of immigrants with Canadian work experience prior to immigration.

#### [Social Isolation and Mortality Among Canadian Seniors.](#)

According to a study based on responses to the 2008/2009 Canadian Community Health Survey – Healthy Aging, an estimated 525,000 people (12%) aged 65 and older felt socially isolated. This was measured as a combination of feelings of loneliness and a weak sense of community belonging. Over 1 million respondents (1,018,000, or 24%) reported low participation, meaning they participated in community activities less than once a week.

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## CPS People

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The Canadian Population Society is a scientific association that seeks to improve knowledge and understanding about the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of human population. It seeks to promote the study and development of the science of demography in both its empirical and theoretical aspects.

**Past-President:** Michael Haan  
**President:** Lisa Strohschein  
**Vice-President:** Amélie Quesnel-Vallée  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Sean Waite

### Councillors:

Sarah Brauner-Otto  
Xavier St. Denis  
Stacey Hallman  
James Iveniuk  
Anthony Jehn (Student Representative)  
France-Pascale Ménard  
Anna Zajacova

**Journal Editor:** Simona Bignami  
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**Webmaster:** Don Kerr  
**Twitter Feed:** Ximena Ramirez Villanueva  
@canpopsoc

Do you have an idea for content for the CPS News? The Editor welcomes ideas for features, stories, interviews, or news coverage as well submissions of updates from CPS members and activities at their home institutions. Please submit your ideas to the Editor.

The CPS News is published 6 times per year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The CPS also has a Twitter Feed for broadcasting time-sensitive news and a [job bank](#) on our website.

### CPS Membership

Support the CPS by becoming a member or renewing your membership today. Memberships can be renewed on the

[CPS members'](#) webpage. We also encourage our members to enrol their students.

### Regular Membership:

- 1 year (\$95.00)
- 2 year (\$140.00)
- 3 year (\$210.00)

### Student Membership:

- 1 year (\$40.00)
- 2 year (\$75.00)

### Emeritus Membership (65+ years)

- 1 year (\$40.00)
- Life-Time (\$350.00)