



Community-University Institute for Social Research

Annual Report 2020–2021





CUISR Mission and Principles

to facilitate partnerships between the university and larger community in order to engage in relevant social research that supports a deeper understanding of our communities that reveals opportunities for improving our quality of life

- CUISR is committed to collaborative research and to accurate, objective reporting of research results in the public domain, taking into account the needs for confidentiality in gathering, disseminating, and storing information.
- Research partners are committed to the vision, mandate, goals, and holistic approaches of the Institute.
- Authentic partnership—built upon trust and respect between community and university participants—is central and reflected in the composition of the board (50% community and 50% faculty representation) and Co-directors for the Institute.



Message from the Co-Directors



Dr. Isobel M. Findlay
Edwards School
of Business



Roy Lavallee
City of Saskatoon



Colleen Christopherson-Cote
Saskatoon Poverty Reduction
Partnership

Smart cities need smart people, but they also need people with a strong sense of community. This year marked the retirement of Bill Holden, living incarnation of that double capacity and long-time Community Co-Director. He knows and appreciates the community's rich diversity and contributed so much over his 35-year career as a City planner and over 20 years as founding board member and researcher at CUIR.

This time last year we were anticipating celebrating our 20th anniversary in style, but the persistent pandemic had other ideas. Instead we found opportunity in Bill's retirement to bring CUIR people from coast to coast virtually to celebrate those 20 years in a Tribute to Bill. See the *Tribute* story.

It was with heavy hearts that we learned in November 2020 of the passing of our dear colleague, Dr. Joe Garcea, a long-time CUIR Management Board member who joined his last board meeting in September from his hospital bed. See *Remembering Joe Garcea*.



Message from the Co-Directors (cont'd)

We thanked Elizabeth Quinlan, Rachel Loewen Walker, and Sandra Stack for their contributions to the Management Board and welcomed Dr. Robert Henry (Indigenous Studies), Dr. Leah Ferguson (Kinesiology), Dr. John Hansen (Sociology), Jasmine Calix (Local Immigration Partnership), and cultural advisor and knowledge keeper Patti Tait (E Fry Society). The board was delighted that Roy Lavallee and Colleen Christopherson-Cote agreed to take on Community Co-Director duties.

In July 2020 we were pleased to announce the award of a SSHRC-CMHC Partnership Grant worth \$1,308,314 on **People, Places, Policies and Prospects: Affordable Rental Housing for Those in Greatest Need** involving three regions—Atlantic Canada (Cape Breton Regional Municipality; PI Dr. Catherine Leviten-Reid, CBU), Central Canada (Ottawa), and the Prairies (Saskatoon) and received good media coverage.

We acknowledge with deep gratitude the support of our committed board, researchers, staff—and funders.

Dr. Isobel M. Findlay

Roy Lavallee

Colleen Christopherson-Cote



A Tribute to Bill Holden on his Retirement, March 2021

Bill has been an exemplary model and mentor, a resourceful friend, great collaborator, and tireless champion of community-driven research, locally and nationally. Ever since he helped found CUI SR, he has been busy nourishing community partnerships, developing original research, helping design grant applications, sitting at policy tables, mobilizing knowledge to support local decision-makers and organizations in the interests of better public policy and community outcomes.

His generosity is as remarkable as his modesty—and sense of humour. His priority has always been what matters to the community—whether quality of life, housing and homelessness, or poverty reduction—and how the data can help us understand and act on the people and stories behind the statistics.

Bill leaves a lasting legacy to the CUI SR and broader community that is so much in his debt.





A Tribute to Bill Holden on his Retirement, March 2021

- *You were an integral member of the team in establishing the research institute and instrumental in maintaining it over the years. You helped bring out the best in people.”—Dr. James Randall, founding University Co-Director and Island Scholar, UPEI*
- *Thank you, Bill, for all your contributions to CUISR right from the beginning, now 20 years ago. You were a friend in the city who understood community-university research and helped blaze a path. The Quality of Life studies in Saskatoon you co-led are groundbreaking, then and now.--Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine, founding board member and former University Co-Director*
- *It was an honour to be able to work with you and everyone at CUISR. Working with you on Quality of Life I saw how you wanted to change things and make a better place and space for communities.—Darlene Lanceley, researcher and former board member*
- *Thank you so much for all you have done for this community.—Sue Delanoy, former board member*





Remembering Joe Garcea

It is with heavy hearts that we mark the passing of Dr. Joe Garcea, a long-time CUISR Management Board member, researcher, and passionate believer in community-university research. Joe Garcea was a brilliant scholar, award-winning teacher (recognized by Arts and Science, Provost, and Master Teacher awards), generous mentor, and one of those rare human beings whose heart and generosity of spirit proved inspirational. Joe was as modest as he was gracious and generous and was loved and admired by all who came to know him.

Joe's commitment to his students was legendary; his commitment to collegial processes was matched by his community engaged scholarship. Even in his final days, he co-authored with a graduate student a book chapter on the 2020 Saskatchewan election, assessing party diversity profiles and issues.

Joe always had time for the media and public education. So highly regarded were Joe's expertise and commentary that he was a regular on the networks who relied on his fairness and ability to bring to life topics from civic governance and local to federal politics; immigration, integration, and interculturalism to public policy, Indigenous-municipal relations, and so much more. He was winner of both the U of S Award for Distinction in Outreach and Public Service and the James Pooler Award for contributions to regional and urban planning.

Joe's was truly a life well lived. He has enhanced all our lives here in Saskatchewan and well beyond. We will miss him greatly.





Research Funding

- We gratefully acknowledge our 2020-2021 funders:
 - City of Saskatoon Community Services Department
 - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada-Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
 - Western Economic Diversification Canada
 - Tourism Saskatoon
 - Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership/Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre
 - Prairie Hospice Society
 - UBI Works and Coalition Canada
 - Research Junction funded by the City of Saskatoon and University of Saskatchewan
 - Pathways to Equity, U of Saskatchewan
 - University of Saskatchewan
 - Office of the President



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canada



TourismSaskatoon



UBI Works



Coalition Canada
basic income
revenu de base



research
JUNCTION



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



CUISR Management Board



Professor Sarah Buhler
College of Law



Jasmine Calix
Local Immigration
Partnership Saskatoon



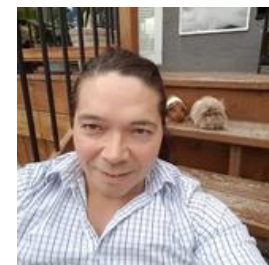
Kayla DeMong
Prairie Harm
Reduction



Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer
Community Health &
Epidemiology



Dr. Leah Ferguson
College of Kinesiology



Dr. John Hansen
Sociology



Dr. Robert Henry
Indigenous Studies



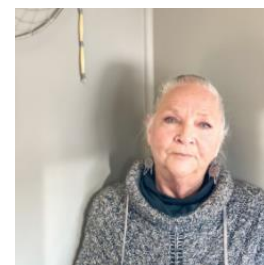
Michael Kowalchuk
Planning and
Development
City of Saskatoon



Dr. Marie Lovrod
English and WGST



Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine
Community Health &
Epidemiology



Patti Tait
Elizabeth Fry
Society of SK



Len Usiskin
Quint Development
Corporation



CUISR Staff



Joanne Hritzuk,
Administrative
Coordinator



Gordon Enns
Executive Director
Saskatoon Food Council



Carlos Villafuerte
Web master



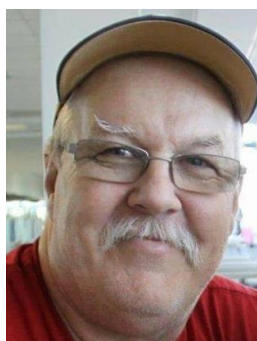
Anh Pham
Researcher



Caitlin Olauson
Researcher



Colleen Hamilton
Researcher



Gary Hamilton
Researcher



Jonathon Mercredi
Researcher



Jade Creelman
Researcher



Farhad Lashgarara
Researcher



CUISR Student Researchers



Freda Atsunyo



Layane Fernandes
de Sousa Moura



Sugandhi del Canto



Machiweyi
Kunzekweguta



Justin Lind



Haleh Mir Miri



Mannie Mirzaei



Connor Morrison



Daniel Owusu
Nkrumah



Cassidy Rheaume



Shaylyn White



Alexandra Zidenberg



CUISR Research Associates



Dr. Alan Anderson
Sociology



Dr. Valery Chirkov
Psychology



Dr. Louise Clarke
Edwards School
of Business



Dr. John Hansen
Sociology



Dr. Lori Hanson
Community Health
& Epidemiology



Dr. Suresh
Kalagnanam
Edwards School
of Business



Dr. Rachel Loewen Walker
College of Law



Dr. David Mykota
Educational
Psychology
& Special
Education



Dr. Priscilla Settee
Indigenous Studies
Women's and Gender
Studies



Dr. Lee Swanson
Edwards School
of Business



Dr. Charles Plante
Graduate School
of Public Policy



Dr. Ulrich Teucher
Psychology



Dr. Nancy Van Styvendale
Native Studies
University of Alberta



Dr. Elizabeth Quinlan
Sociology



CUISR Research Associates



Vanessa Charles
Saskatoon Anti-Poverty Coalition
Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership



Kathie Cram
Formerly Population and Public Health
Saskatoon Health Region



Pam Woodsworth
Formerly Saskatoon Health Region
Boxcar Café, Station 20 West



Judy Hannah
Formerly SK
Association for
Community Living



Ruth Engele
Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership
SK Disability Income Support Coalition



Gary Tinker
Founder, Gary Tinker Federation
for the Disabled, Inc.



Clifford Ray
Long-time president
Northern Saskatchewan Trappers
Association Co-operative



Saskatoon Food Council



Thanks to generous funding support from Western Economic Diversification Canada, Tourism Saskatoon, and ongoing support from CUISR and U of S, the Saskatoon Food Council continues work to improve Saskatoon's food economy, enrich our food culture, and reduce hunger.



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canada



TourismSaskatoon



Canadian Experiences Fund

SASKATOON
FOOD
-COUNCIL-

- Western Economic Diversification funding to develop and improve agri-tourism opportunities in rural area surrounding Saskatoon





Saskatoon Food Council

Partnering with Tourism Saskatoon and the Culinary Tourism Alliance

- With funding from Western Economic Diversification we are developing a business plan for a Social Enterprise to deliver culinary tours and food system education in Saskatoon and surrounding region.





Saskatoon Food Council

Research, Resource Development, & Advocacy

- Advancing Promising Practices in Food Reclamation for the City of Saskatoon through a Research Junction grant. The purpose of the project is to determine promising practices in the diversion of edible food from the landfill.



City of
Saskatoon



**UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN**



Completed Projects

- We gratefully acknowledge funding for this study from Prairie Hospice Society.
- Our thanks to Prairie Hospice Society board and staff for graciously hosting our meetings until Zoom became necessary. Our sincere thanks also to Preston Park II Residence for lending office space to conduct interviews in an accessible, comfortable, private space.
- We also acknowledge with sincere thanks all the interview participants that took the time to share their experiences and stories with us.



Prairie Hospice Society: Social Return on Investment Analysis Report

Anh Pham, Suresh S. Kalagnanam,
and Isobel M. Findlay





Ongoing Projects



- **People, Places, Policies, and Prospects: Affordable Rental Housing for Those in Greatest Need**
- **Funding:** 5-year SSHRC-CMHC Partnership Grant  Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada  Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada
- **Study objectives/ Research questions:**
 - How do programs designed to make housing more affordable make a difference in the lives of participating low-income households?
 - To what extent programs achieve **intended positive social and economic benefits**?
 - In what ways different programs may result in **distinct shelter** (affordability, security, quality) and **non-shelter** (safety, health and well-being, social capital, access to amenities and employment) outcomes?
 - How do programs have **differential impacts** on diverse individuals?
- **Research team:** Nazeem Muhajarine, Isobel Findlay, Sarah Buhler, Caitlin Olauson, Machi Kunzekweguta, Haleh Mir Miri, Mannie Mirzaei, Sam Rezazadeh, Alex Zidenberg



Nazeem Muhajarine



Isobel Findlay



Sarah Buhler



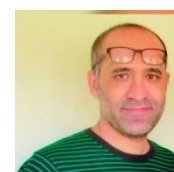
Caitlin Olauson



Machiweyi
Kunzekweguta



Haleh Mir Miri



Mannie Mirzaei



Sam
Rezazadeh



Alex Zidenberg



Ongoing Projects

- **People, Places, Policies, and Prospects Research Partners:**
- City of Saskatoon (Bill Holden/Michael Kowalchuk)
- Camponi Housing/SaskNative Rentals (Toby Esterby)
- Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon or CLASSIC (Chantelle Johnson)
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan (Sydney Wouters)
- National Affordable Housing Corporation (Alan Wallace)
- Quint Development Corporation (Len Usiskin)
- Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership or SHIP (Colleen Christopherson-Cote)
- Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership (Colleen Christopherson-Cote)
- Haven Family Connection (Dionne Miazdyck-Shield)
- Saskatchewan Office of Residential Tenancies (Hannah Gregory)



Colleen
Christopherson-
Cote



Toby Esterby



Hannah Gregory



Bill Holden



Chantelle
Johnson



Michael
Kowalchuk



Dionne
Miazdyck-
Shield



Len Usiskin




Alan
Wallace



Sydney
Wouters



Ongoing Projects

- **Basic Income: Calculating the Cost Savings and Downstream Benefits**
- **Funding:** **UBI Works**  **Coalition Canada**
basic income
revenu de base
- **Study objectives:**
 - To explore the costs and benefits of a fully funded national basic income guarantee in Canada (where the level of guarantee corresponds roughly with the poverty level).
 - To examines the potential of a basic income to improve a host of social, economic, and health outcomes which imply downstream cost savings and wellbeing and other benefits.
- **Research team:** Drs. Suresh Kalagnanam, Isobel M. Findlay, Charles Plante, Colleen Christopherson-Cote, and Cassidy Rheaume



Suresh Kalagnanam



Isobel M. Findlay



Charles Plante




Colleen Christopherson-
Cote



Cassidy Rheaume



Ongoing Projects

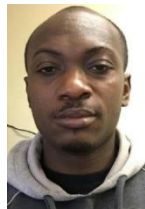
- **Toward a Community of Safety and Care: Exploring Public safety in Downtown Saskatoon**
- **Funding:** 
- **Study objectives:**
 - To assess how stakeholders understand and experience their safety
 - To identify systemic and structural impediments to safety
 - To understand barriers to equitable access to services and supports
 - To identify evidence-informed best practices to enhance public safety
- **Research team:** Dr. John Hansen, Dr. Isobel M. Findlay, Elisabeth Miller, Michael Kowalchuk, Mike Ewen, Daniel Owusu Nkrumah, Jonathon Mercredi, and Jade Creelman



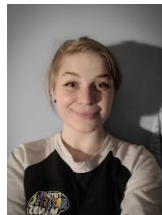
John Hansen



Isobel M. Findlay



Daniel Owusu
Nkrumah



Jade Creelman



Jonathon-
Mercredi



Elisabeth
Miller



Michael
Kowalchuk



Mike Ewen



Ongoing Projects

- How Can Canada's New Official Poverty Line Serve the Needs of Our Community?
- **Funding:** Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership/ Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre
- **Study objectives:** To address key questions about the efficacy of Canada's New Official Poverty Line by the following:
 - Hosting a community workshop on the new Official Poverty Line (MBM)
 - Detailing and assessing how the Poverty Line is calculated for Saskatoon
 - Scanning data sources on local costs of living and proposing an adjusted MBM
- **Research team:** Drs. Charles Plante, Suresh Kalagnanam, Isobel M. Findlay, Colleen Christopherson-Cote (SPRP), Sugandhi del Canto, Connor Morrison



Charles Plante



Suresh Kalagnanam



Isobel M. Findlay



Colleen Christopherson-Cote



Sugandhi del Canto



Connor Morrison



Ongoing Projects

- Exploring the Associations between Poverty, Poor Oral Health, and Quality of Life
- **Funding:** Pathways to Equity, Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives, University of Saskatchewan
- **Study objectives:**
 - To assess how those living in poverty perceive and experience their oral health
 - To assess how access to dental treatment affects oral health, self-esteem, quality of life
 - To observe self-perceived changes to self-esteem, quality of life, employment after subsidized/free dental treatment—and implications for policy and programming
- **Research team:** Dr. Keith Da Silva, Isobel M. Findlay, Bill Holden, Justin Lind



Keith Da Silva



Isobel M. Findlay



Bill Holden



Justin Lind



Ongoing Projects

- **Promising Practices in Food Reclamation for Saskatoon**
- **Funding:** Research Junction funded by the City of Saskatoon and U of Sask
- **Study objectives:**
 - Complete an environmental scan of promising programs and policies in other municipal jurisdictions for reclamation of otherwise wasted food
 - Complete a pre/post intervention study of the implementation of a brochure explaining food business rights & responsibilities in food donation, and listing when, where and what to donate
 - Conduct key informant interviews to determine what kinds of support are needed by food businesses to reduce the edible food they send to the landfill
- **Research team:** Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer, Gord Enns, Layane Fernandes de Sousa Moura, Freda Atsunyo, Farhad Lashgarara



Rachel Engler-Stringer



Gord Enns



Layane Fernandes
de Sousa Moura



Freda Atsunyo



Farhad Lashgarara



Ongoing Projects

- **President's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women Consultation Study**
- **Funding:** The Office of the President
- **Research Questions:**
 - What are the most promising structures and practices that support substantive intersectional gender justice at U of S and other research-intensive, "U of S-like" institutions?
 - What should be the form and function of PACSW within the most promising structures and practices at U of S?
- **Outputs:** Technical report, arts-based dissemination, presentations, journal article
- **Research team:** Drs. Isobel Findlay, Marie Lovrod, Elizabeth Quinlan, Jebunnessa Chapola, Yuchen (Nina) Gao, Erin Pillipow, and Shaylyn White



Marie Lovrod



Elizabeth Quinlan



Isobel Findlay



Jebunnessa Chapola



Yuchen (Nina) Gao



Erin Pillipow



Shaylyn White



Some 20-Year CUISR Highlights

Bill Holden

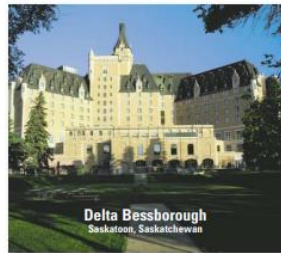
University of Saskatchewan,
Community Co-ordinator,
Community University Institute
for Social Research, focused on:

- Research ethics
- Health promotion
- Economic insecurity/poverty
- Quality of life



CUexpo Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada
Community-University Research: Partnerships, Policy & Progress

THURSDAY, MAY 8 TO SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2003



Delta Bessborough
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

CONFERENCE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION PACKAGE

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
APRIL 1, 2003

www.usask.ca/cuisr/cuexpo



Saskatoon Food Council launch, 2014

Keynote George Lafond,
QoL conference, 2014



2006-2012



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Social Enterprises
Knowledgeable Economies
and Sustainable Communities



PIT Count 2018

Quality of Life partnership:
StarPhoenix

Taking the Pulse of Saskatchewan 2012

15-minute telephone survey (n= 1,750)

Themes:

- Sustainable resource development
- Crime and public safety
- Saskatchewan's economy
- Aboriginal issues
- Immigration and diversity
- Health, wellbeing and Saskatchewan families
- Moral issues



Celebrating CUISR 10 years,
C2UExpo, 2011



SSHRC CFICE team,
S2oW, 2016



Strategic Research Directions

In regular strategic planning, CUISR has affirmed its mission and principles and adopted five interdisciplinary strategies in settings ranging from the local through regional and national to international levels.

- Community Sustainability
- Social Economy and Social Relations
- Rural-Urban Community Links
- Indigenous Community Development
- Community-university partnerships

These strategic directions build on and extend our research on healthy, sustainable communities—quality of life indicators, community health determinants and health policy, and community economic development— that led to the formation of CUISR to build capacity among researchers, CBOs, and citizenry.



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University Co-Director

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Community Co-Directors

Roy Lavallee

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Colleen Christopherson-Cote

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<https://cuisr.usask.ca>

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