



Community-University Institute for Social Research

Annual Report 2021–2022





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

We started the year by celebrating the YWCA Women of Distinction awards of two of our board members: Colleen Christopherson-Cote and Patti Tait. Such richly deserved awards for two remarkable leaders!

This year we participated as a proponent of Communities and Sustainability that was formally added to the Signature Areas in February 2022, while building on partnership relationships (welcoming Saskatoon Tribal Council Cress Housing, Local Immigration Partnership, and Saskatchewan Landlord Association) on our SSHRC-CMHC Partnership Grant on **People, Places, Policies and Prospects: Affordable Rental Housing for Those in Greatest Need.**

While continuing our roles (Buhler and Findlay) on the Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives' Pathways to Equity research group, we helped host a workshop on Housing Insecurity, Renter Equity, and Homelessness in October 2021. We also contributed to the new OVPR SSRHC Partnership Development pilot. serving on



Message from the Co-Directors (cont'd)

the adjudication committee to foster greater success.

We continued to build on sexual violence research with SASS and FSIN on a sexual violence education initiative, while finding significant demand for our Social Return on Investment (SROI) expertise, adding studies for the Children's Aid Society of Toronto and the College of Nursing to our national study of Basic Income. We also found ourselves preparing for the 2022 Point-in-Time Homelessness Count in six weeks rather than the typical four to five months to meet the federal deadline of April 30, 2022, for the completion of counts.

While board membership remained unchanged this year, we were delighted to welcome as a research associate Professor Carol Henry of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.

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

Dr. Isobel M. Findlay

Roy Lavallee

Colleen Christopherson-Cote



Research Funding

- We gratefully acknowledge our 2021-2022 funders:
 - City of Saskatoon Community Services Department
 - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada-Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
 - Prairies Economic Development Canada
 - Tourism Saskatoon
 - Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership on behalf of the Government of Canada's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy
 - Children's Aid Society of Toronto
 - Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan
 - Elmwood Residences Inc.
 - 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
 - College of Nursing



Social Sciences and Humanities
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Canada



TourismSaskatoon



Saskatoon
Housing
Initiatives
Partnership

Canada



SASS
SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES



ELMWOOD
RESIDENCES INC

UBI Works



Coalition Canada
basic income
revenu de base



research
JUNCTION





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, ED
Saskatoon Food Council



Carlos Villafuerte
Web master



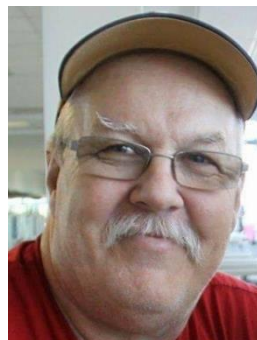
Anh Pham
Researcher/
Research coordinator



Caitlin Olauson
Researcher



Colleen Hamilton
Researcher



Gary Hamilton
Researcher



Jonathon Mercredi
Researcher



Jade Creelman
Researcher



Farhad Lashgarara
Research coordinator



CUISR Student Researchers



Freda Atsunyo



Layane Fernandes
de Sousa Moura



Emilia Gillies



Isaac Ieren



Shirmin Bintay
Kader



Machiweyi
Kunzekweguta



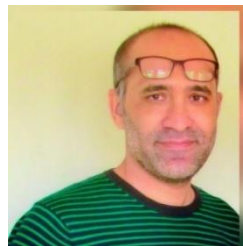
Justin Lind



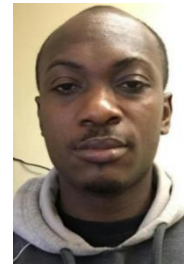
Anousheh Marouzi



Haleh Mir Miri



Mannie Mirzaei



Daniel Owusu Nkrumah



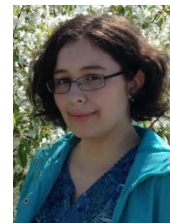
Sam Rezazadeh



Cassidy Rheume



Rosmary
Martinez Rueda



Shaylyn White



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
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



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. Carol Henry
College of
Pharmacy and
Nutrition



Dr. Suresh
Kalagnanam
Edwards School
of Business



Dr. Rachel Loewen
Walker
WGST
Political Studies



Dr. David Mykota
Educational
Psychology
& Special
Education



Dr. Charles Plante
Saskatchewan Health
Authority



Dr. Priscilla Settee
Indigenous Studies
WGST



Dr. Lee Swanson
Edwards School
of Business



Dr. Ulrich Teucher
Psychology



Dr. Nancy
Van Styvendale
Native Studies
University of Alberta



Dr. Elizabeth Quinlan
Sociology



Saskatoon Food Council



- Thanks to generous funding support from Prairies Economic Development 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.
- Our thanks to Gordon Enns, Executive Director, from 2014 until his resignation effective September 1, 2021.



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canada



TourismSaskatoon



Canadian Experiences Fund

- Prairies Economic Development Canada funding to develop and improve agri-tourism opportunities in rural area surrounding Saskatoon
- Project completed by Noelle Chorney. See her *YXE Food Tour Development Report*, resource guide, and map published on SFC website at <http://www.saskatoonfood.ca/local-food-trail>



YXE Food Tour Development

Report prepared for The Saskatoon Food Council

By Noelle Chorney
Tall Order Communications

March 18, 2022



Saskatoon Food Council

Partnering with Tourism Saskatoon and the Culinary Tourism Alliance

- With funding from Western Economic Diversification we developed 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

- Published Lashgarara et al., *Promising Practices in Food Reclamation in Saskatoon* (2021)



City of
Saskatoon



**UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN**



Completed Projects

- We gratefully acknowledge funding for this study from Research Junction funded jointly by the City of Saskatoon and the University of Saskatchewan.



- Our thanks to co-Principal Investigator of the project that led to this report, Katie Burns, Community Leadership and Program Development Manager, City of Saskatoon.
- Our thanks to Gord Enns, former Executive Director of the Saskatoon Food Council, who served as research coordinator on the project.



Promising Practices in Food Reclamation in Saskatoon

Farhad Lashgarara, Rachel Engler-Stringer, Freda Atsuyno, Layane Fernandes de Sousa Moura, Hailey Walkeden, and Gordon Enns





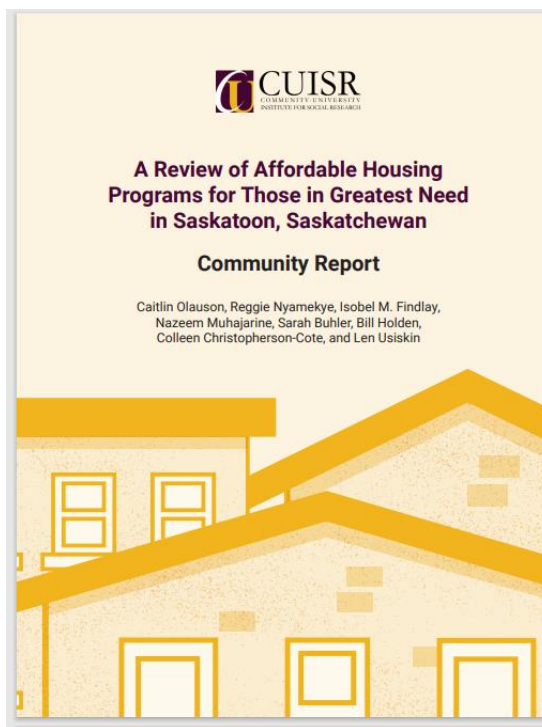
Completed Projects

- We gratefully acknowledge funding for this study from the SSHRC-CMHC Partnership grant **People, Places, Policies, and Prospects: Affordable Housing Programs for Those in Greatest Need**



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sciences humaines du Canada



A Review of Affordable Housing Programs for Those in Greatest Need in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Caitlin Olason, Reggie Nyamekye, Isobel M. Findlay,
Nazeem Muhajarine, Sarah Buhler, Bill Holden,
Colleen Christopherson-Cote, and Len Usiskin





Ongoing Projects



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- **People, Places, Policies, and Prospects: Affordable Rental Housing for Those in Greatest Need**
- **Funding:** 5-year SSHRC-CMHC Partnership Grant (2020-2025)
- **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, Rosmary Martinez Rueda



Nazeem Muhajarine



Isobel Findlay



Sarah Buhler



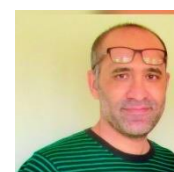
Caitlin Olauson



Machiweyi
Kunzekweguta



Haleh Mir Miri



Mannie Mirzaei



Sam
Rezazadeh



Rosmary
Martinez Rueda



Ongoing Projects



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

- **People, Places, Policies, and Prospects: Affordable Rental Housing for Those in Greatest Need**
- **National studies**
 - **National Housing Survey** (Nazeem Muhajarine, Catherine Leviten-Reid, Xavier Leloup, Vikram Nichani, Jasmine Calix, Michael Kowalchuk)
 - **Spatial Analysis of Public and Social Housing** (Isobel Findlay, Catherine Leviten-Reid, Jackie Kennelly)
- **Regional studies**
 - **COVID and the Housing Sector** (Isobel Findlay, Colleen Christopherson-Cote, Sydney Wouters)
 - **Epic Alliance Case Study** (Sarah Buhler, Chantelle Johnson)
 - **Evictions** (Sarah Buhler, Chantelle Johnson, Hannah Gregory)
 - **Rental Development Program and Social Policy Change** (Isobel Findlay, Len Usiskin, Ruebecca Fiddler, Alan Wallace, Michael Kowalchuk)
 - **System Transitions and the Housing System** (Isobel Findlay, Colleen Christopherson-Cote, Patti Tait, Dionne Miazdyck-Shield)




People, Places, Policies, Prospects

Community Research Partners

- City of Saskatoon (Michael Kowalchuk)
- Camponi Housing/SaskNative Rentals (Ruebecca Fiddler)
- Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon or CLASSIC (Chantelle Johnson)
- Cress Housing Corporation Saskatoon Tribal Council (Ian Bear)
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Saskatchewan (Sydney Wouters/ Patti Tait)
- Local Immigration Partnership (Jasmine Calix)
- National Affordable Housing Corporation (Alan Wallace)
- Quint Development Corporation (Len Usiskin)
- Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership (Priscilla Johnstone)
- Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership (Colleen Christopherson-Cote)
- Haven Family Connection (Dionne Miazdyck-Shield)
- Saskatchewan Office of Residential Tenancies (Hannah Gregory)



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, Cassidy Rheäume, and Anh Pham



Suresh Kalagnanam



Isobel M. Findlay



Charles Plante



Colleen
Christopherson-Cote




Cassidy Rheäume



Anh Pham



Ongoing Projects

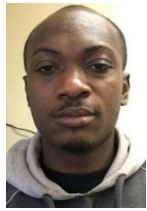
- **Toward a Community of Safety and Care: Exploring Public Safety in Downtown Saskatoon**
- **Funding:**  research JUNCTION
- **Study objectives:**
 - To assess how stakeholders understand and experience their safety
 - To identify systemic and structural impediments to safety
 - To understand barriers 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, Daniel Owusu Nkrumah, Jonathon Mercredi, and Jade Creelman



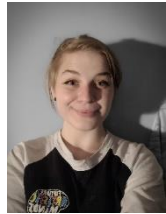
John Hansen



Isobel M. Findlay



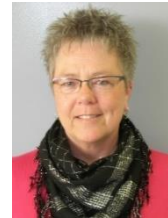
Daniel Owusu
Nkrumah



Jade Creelman



Jonathon-
Mercredi



Elisabeth
Miller



Michael
Kowalchuk



Ongoing Projects

- **Saskatchewan Sexual Violence Education Initiative**
- **Funding:** Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan
- **Study objectives:**
 - To support the SASS/Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations Education Initiative to prevent and address sexual violence and the gendered impacts of COVID-19
 - To document current sexual violence educational programming, identifying gaps and lessons learned, promising models, and promising practices in a scan of initiatives
 - Determine Saskatchewan-based sexual violence education needs through an online survey, up to 75 key informant interviews with member agencies, and up to 30 focus groups held at member agencies and on reserve.
- **Research team:** Dr. Marie Lovrod, Dr. Isobel M. Findlay, Somiya Tabassum, Shaylyn White, Emilia Gillies, and Haleh Mir Miri



Marie Lovrod



Isobel Findlay



Somiya Tabassum



Shaylyn White



Emilia Gillies



Haleh Mir Miri



Ongoing Projects

- **Journey to Zero: Calculating the Return on Investment**

- **Funding:** Children's Aid Society of Toronto



- **Study objectives:**

- To use a social impact lens to tell the story of children and youth, their experience of child welfare and the benefits of staying with kin, in their community and culture.
- To complete literature review and environmental scan of rigorous and reliable data
- To interview key secondary and tertiary stakeholders from relevant sectors on potential costs and benefits and complete SROI calculations

- **Research team:** Drs. Suresh Kalagnanam, Isobel M. Findlay, Farhad Lashgarara, and Isaac Ieren



Suresh Kalagnanam



Isobel M. Findlay



Farhad Lashgarara



Isaac Ieren



Ongoing Projects

- **College of Nursing Distributed Education: A Social Return on Investment Analysis**
- **Funding:** USask College of Nursing
- **Study objectives:**
 - To report on monetary values associated with social, environmental, and other impacts of the College of Nursing's distributed education (undergraduate and graduate), especially across La Ronge, Ile la Crosse, and south Yorkton and the accompanying community colleges and USask campuses
 - To guide decision making, and to reflect the needs of diverse College of Nursing distributed education stakeholders and communities in Saskatchewan
- **Research team:** Drs. Suresh Kalagnanam, Isobel M. Findlay, Anh Pham, and Anousheh Marouzi



Suresh Kalagnanam



Isobel M. Findlay



Anh Pham



Anousheh Marouzi



Ongoing Projects

- **Manor Transition Initiative: Outcomes and Evaluation**
- **Funding:** Elmwood Residences Inc.
- **Study objectives:**
 - To examine the impact of living arrangements on people living with disabilities
 - To examine the change in quality of life experienced by residents as a result of the move
 - To understand the process by which the change in quality of life occurred
 - To provide data that will help policy and program further improve the quality of life of people living with intellectual disabilities.
- **Research team:** Dr. Isobel M. Findlay and Shirmin Bintay Kader



Isobel M. Findlay



Shirmin Bintay Kader



Ongoing Projects



- **2022 Saskatoon Point-in-Time Homelessness Count**
- **Funding:** Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) on behalf of the Government of Canada's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy
- **Study objectives:**
 - Develop a multi-faceted picture to fill data gaps and put a human face on statistics
 - Complete an indoor and outdoor survey to count and identify the service needs of people experiencing sheltered, unsheltered, and transitional homelessness (**core populations**) as well as hidden homelessness on a single day (April 28, 2022)
 - Document data from the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) and administrative data from participating shelters & transitional housing
 - Engage all encountered in a community conversation to identify **Public Perceptions**, a **unique feature** of the Saskatoon counts.
- **Researchers:** Isobel Findlay, Michael Kowalchuk, Machi Kunzekweguta, Anh Pham



Isobel M. Findlay



Michael Kowalchuk



Machiweyi Kunzekweguta



Anh Pham



Ongoing Projects



- 2022 Saskatoon Point-in-Time Homelessness Count



Lived Expert Panel at Training:
David Fineday, Keith Sanderson, Dennis Kissling



Volunteer debrief



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



Michael Kowalchuk



Justin Lind



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



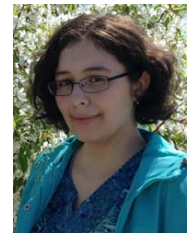
Jebunnessa Chapola



Yuchen (Nina) Gao



Erin Pillipow



Shaylyn White



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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Colleen Christopherson-Cote

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