



Title of Project:

Inclusive Communities for Older Immigrants (ICOI): COVID Sub-study; REB21-0222

Sponsor:

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Overview of Project

The Inclusive Communities for Older Immigrants (ICOI) is a 7-year multidisciplinary, multisector project that will generate knowledge and build sustainable connections to support Multidirectional knowledge exchange to improve the lives of older immigrants. Specifically, the ICOI seeks to 1) examine the intersecting factors that affect social connectedness vis-a-vis older immigrants' social, economic, and political inclusion in urban and suburban settings; 2) refine/develop new social isolation/inclusion models based on empirical data, unprecedented in its scope and comprehensiveness; 3) design, implement, and evaluate interventions to promote social connectedness; and 4) develop sustainable knowledge-sharing and research collaborations among key players.

The purpose of this ICOI COVID Sub-study is to understand the intersecting factors that affect social connectedness among older immigrants' social, economic, and political inclusion as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in Alberta: A Qualitative Study, which has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board (REB21-0222).

Your participation

You are invited to participate in an ICOI COVID Sub-study to share your knowledge and understanding about intersecting factors that affect social connectedness among older immigrants' social, economic, and political inclusion in your organization settings. The goal of this study is to understand the challenges faced by older immigrants and service providers in Alberta in light of the social isolation during COVID-19 pandemic. You are invited to participate in a virtual 2-hour focus group interview (FGI). The group consists of members from our partner organizations as well as other service delivery organizations. The discussion will focus on the challenges faced by older immigrants amidst COVID, and the institutional strategies and barriers faced by social service providers in Alberta.

The things that you say may be used in future publications and presentations by the research team. No personal identifying information will be shared in any future presentations and publications. At the end of the study, a summary report will be available to you upon request. You may also get a copy of the focus group transcript for your personal use.

Questions/Concerns

If you have any further questions or want clarification regarding this research and/or your participation, please contact:

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If you have any concerns about the way you've been treated as a participant, please contact the Research Ethics Analyst, Research Services Office, University of Calgary at 403.220.6289 or 403.220.8640; email cfreb@ucalgary.ca. A copy of this consent form has been given to you to keep for your records and reference.