CALL FOR PAPERS FOR SYMPOSIUM

Identity, Civic Engagement, Multiculturalism and Transnationalism: Portuguese-Canadian Immigrant Descendants in Canada

October 11th and 12th, 2011 - York University, Toronto, Canada

Canadians of Portuguese descent number approximately 1.3% of the total population (or 412,000 people) and comprise one of the largest minority groups in Canada. Yet, after over 50 years of official immigration to this country, this community continues to be largely marginal to the mainstream of Canadian life in economic, educational, political and cultural terms. Others, on the other hand, have returned to Portugal, to begin lives in what is, to many, a foreign nation. Given the importance of this community, as well as the onset of greater economic and academic linkages between Canada and Portugal, the time is right for initiatives that explore the positioning(s) and ambiguities of Luso-Canadian descendants in both countries. This symposium will address these ambiguities, as they relate to Portuguese-Canadian descendants.

The organizing committee is seeking *workshop papers* and *roundtable presentations* on Identity, Civic Engagement and Multiculturalism, as these apply to the descendants of Portuguese-Canadian Immigrants in Canada and Portugal. Four central areas will be examined:

1. How do Portuguese-Canadian descendants relate to the notions of being Portuguese, Canadian, Azorean and/or Québécois?
2. What factors contribute to the process of identity negotiation and/or the strength of a hyphenated identity?
3. How does multiculturalism contribute to Portuguese-Canadians' sense of citizenship and civic participation both within the ethnic community, as well as the various levels of government?
4. How do the roles played by these actors, their sense of belonging, civic engagement and national or ethnic visibility tactics, contribute to the construction of 'the self' and the Portuguese-Canadian community?
5. How do negotiations via transnational contacts, network construction and maintenance – both with and within the two countries and cultures - contribute to the defining 'who these actors are, where they are'?

Other themes related to education, citizenship, identity and belonging of the "1.5", second and third generations of Portuguese-Canadians in Canada will also be considered.

A 300 word abstract, in MS Word or RTF format, should be submitted by **Friday, June 15, 2011**. Please use plain text, Times New Roman font, size 12. Avoid using footnotes, special formatting, characters, or emphases, such as bold, italics or underline. E-mail subject-lines should be entitled: *Identity, Civic Engagement and Multiculturalism: Portuguese-Canadian Immigrant Descendants in Canada.* Please indicate if you are proposing a *workshop paper*, or a *roundtable presentation*. The first are formal papers to be presented in workshop panels, the second are shorter reflection papers (maximum 10 minutes), designed to promote discussion on specific topics, in informal roundtables. Abstracts must contain the following information in the order below:

1. author(s)
2. affiliation
3. email address
4. title of abstract
5. body of abstract
6. if proposal is for *workshop paper* or for *roundtable presentation*

Please direct your submissions to Professor Rob Kenedy (rkenedy@yorku.ca), who shall acknowledge receipt of all proposals. If you do not receive a reply within a week, please contact Professor Kenedy to confirm receipt of your submission. We look forward to receiving your abstracts.

Robert A. Kenedy, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
124 Winters College
York University
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3, CANADA
rkenedy@yorku.ca
416 736-2100 ext. 77458
Fax 416 736-5715