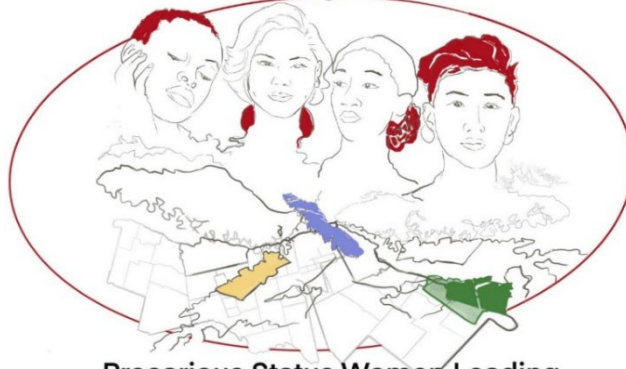YORK U
UNIVERSITÉ
UNIVERSITY

Creating Space

**Precarious Status Women Leading
Local Pandemic Responses**

Virtual Symposium

Join us for a virtual symposium celebrating the creative and collaborative work of *Creating Space: Precarious Status Women Leading Local Pandemic Responses*. This two-year collaboration was led by 14 community partner organizations with our Artistic Manager and three co-PIs, and was supported by two project managers, eight York researchers, a team of students and interns, and six organized research units (ORUs) at York University.

The project was designed to support and augment the work of community organizations representing women who live with insecure citizenship and/or job status, specifically female temporary foreign workers, asylum seekers, Indigenous and racialized persons, undocumented frontline workers and disabled persons. Together, we explored ways to envision and enact economic, physical, and community well-being; inform inclusive policies; and address systemic challenges such as gender-based violence and labour rights.

The symposium will feature highlights of the *Creating Space Digital Archive*, a diverse collection of artistic audio and visual expressions of the project's examination of the question, "How do we build collective power in the context of assigned precariousness during COVID-19?" Narratives and change strategies are expressed in audio-recordings with animation, dance workshop and performance, original playscript and theatrical production, graphic visualization, music video, documentation of a Carnival, and visual art.

Together, we will celebrate collective achievements, share policy consultation outcomes, and showcase experiences and visions for just responses and transformation.

Date: Thursday, November 28, 2024
Time: 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. EST
[Register here to receive the Zoom link](#)

If you have any questions, please email us at creatingspace@yorku.ca.

Contributing Community Organizations:
- ACORN Canada
- BC Employment Standards Coalition
- Black Nurses Group
- Canadian Caribbean Art Stars Inc.
- Feminist Alliance for International Action Canada
- KasheDance
- Migrant Resource Centre Canada
- Nail Salon Workers Project, Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre
- PEACH
- PerSIStence Theatre
- Work Safe Twerk Safe

Participating Community Organizations:
- Global Legal Action Network
- Indigenous Friendship Association
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

Co-Directors:
- Angele Alook (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Elaine Coburn (former Director, Centre for Feminist Research; International Studies at Glendon College)
- Deborah McGregor (former Director, Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages; Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Environmental Justice; Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change/Osgoode Hall Law School)
- Gertrude Mianda (former Director, Harriet Tubman Institute; Gender and Women's Studies at Glendon College)

Project Managers:
- Myrtle Sodhi, Artistic Research Manager
- Tiffany Pollock, Finance Manager
- Hajer Mirwali, Communications Manager

Co-Principal Investigators:
- Luann Good Gingrich (former Director, Global Labour Research Centre; Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Heidi Matthews (former co-Director, Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security; Osgoode Hall Law School)
- Yu-Zhi Joel Ong (former Director, Sensorium: Centre for Digital Art and Technology; Faculty of Arts, Media, Performance & Design)

Collaborators:
- Ethel Tungohan (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Pat Armstrong (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)
- Natasha Dixon (M.A.)
- Tuulia Law (Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies)

York ORUs:
- Centre for Feminist Research
- Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages
- Global Labour Research Centre
- Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security
- Harriet Tubman Institute
- Sensorium: Centre for Digital Art and Technology