



**Western**  
Centre for Research on  
Migration and Ethnic Relations

**Winter Colloquium  
Series 2023**

## **Lori Wilkinson**



**Lori Wilkinson** is a professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Manitoba, is Director of Immigration Research West and holds a Canada Research Chair in Migration Futures. Her current program of research centres on the resettlement and integration experiences of immigrants and refugees.

### **“ Sidelined: The War in Afghanistan and Canada’s Response to resettling refugees”**

The fall of Kabul on August 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 was the latest crisis to befall the people in a long-beleaguered Afghanistan. Although there was significant international, military, media and inter-government attention, the public’s gaze quickly turned away as millions of Afghan nationals became trapped in untenable conditions. Canada promised to promptly resettle 40,000 Afghans using a variety of different means. By December 2022 however, only 26,735 have safely arrived. In this presentation, data from Phase 1 of the Resettlement of Afghans to Canada Study is used to examine the pre-arrival conditions and how the national housing shortage, arrival during a pandemic, and remote access to services may have influenced their short-term integration experiences in Canada. Using a relational theory approach, I provide some suggestions for how government policy and service provision can better recognize the emergent nature of international crises as Canada prepares to receive a record number of refugees in 2023.

**Thursday, January 12, 2023**  
**4:00 pm, Social Science Centre, Room 5220**  
*All Welcome!*