

DEPARTMENT OF  
**SOCIOLOGY**

*Simulated Conference Session on*  
**CANADIAN SOCIETY**



**Wednesday, April 1, 2015**  
**1:30 – 3:30 PM**  
**Room T-124**

***Chair***

**Dr. Luc Thériault**

***Presenters***

**Megan Aiken**

**Chijioke Ezeala**

**Cody Hicks**

**Shona Newton**

**Brandi Riddoch**

**Please join us, admission is free!**

# **Canadian Society Conference Session Program**

**1:30-1:50**

***Degrees of Disparity: Canada's Equalization System and Social Welfare.* By Megan Aiken**

Megan Aiken is a first year Master of Philosophy (Policy Studies) student. Originally from Florenceville-Bristol, New Brunswick, her research areas of interest are citizen engagement, public consultation and public policy. For her thesis, she is currently researching comparative methods of public consultation and citizen engagement at the provincial-government level in Canada.

**1:50-2:10**

***The Implication of Canada's Aging Population on Public Finances.* By Chijioke Ezeala**

Chijioke Ezeala is an international student from Nigeria who speaks three languages. He obtained his undergraduate degree in sociology from the Enugu State University of Science and Technology in 2009 with outstanding award. His graduate research relates to the aging population and the lack of medical care for the elderly in Africa and how policies from developed countries could help address these challenges if implemented in developing countries.

**2:10-2:30**

***Unemployment Insurance: A Comparative Analysis of Canada and Sweden.* By Cody Hick**

Cody Hicks is a current MA candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of New Brunswick (Saint John). He obtained a BA with a double major in psychology and history in 2012 and a second BA with a double major in sociology and philosophy in 2014. His current academic interests are in social policy and power relations with a focus on unemployment insurance and the welfare state.

**2:30-2:40      SHORT BREAK**

**2:40-3:00**

***"We Have the Law, We Need the Access": Creating Access to Reproductive Health Services in New Brunswick.* By Shona Newton**

Shona Newton is a sociology master student currently in her first year of studies. She completed her undergraduate degree at St. Thomas University and graduated with honors in criminology and a major in psychology with distinction. Her research interests include, but are not limited to, feminist theory, media and film studies, women's rights, abortion access and reproductive health care access. Shona is a member of the Fredericton Sexual Assault Crises Center and Reproductive Justice New Brunswick. Her proposed master's thesis topic is a feminist analysis of access to abortion in New Brunswick.

**3:00-3:20**

***Funding for Food Security in New Brunswick: Beyond the Marginal Involvement of the Provincial Government.* By Brandi Riddoch**

Brandi Riddoch - Brandi's main research interests pertain to food security, social assistance policy, and demography. She is working closely with the Greener Village Community Food Center (GVCFC) to profile the center and identify major changes that have taken place since its transition from a traditional food bank to a community food center. Brandi is currently progressing through her Master of Arts in sociology.

**3:30              END OF CONFERENCE**