City Builders

The City Builders project aims to record, examine, and divulge the history of Toronto’s immigrant construction workers after the Second World War through filmed oral history interviews, photographs of participant’s personal records and artifacts, and extensive research in Toronto’s archives. We are interviewing forty retired members of the Laborers International Union of North America’s Local 183, focusing on their goals, struggles, achievements, and thoughts on immigration, construction work, labour organization, Toronto, and other topics of significance for our interviewees. A multimedia exhibition will launch with the 2018 Avie Bennett Conference at York University, taking place on September 2018. All of the materials gathered and produced by this project will be donated to the Clara Thomas Archives and Special Collections, York University Libraries, once the project is completed.


Women in Sustainable Energy Research (WISER) is a grassroots network connecting women researchers in clean energy (PhD Candidates, Post Docs and Professors) to contribute towards a generous mode of knowledge production through professional development, collaboration and networking. Most recently, WISER hosted an Op-ed and Media Training workshop with Shari Graydon from Informed Opinions. Furthermore, through our website and member profiles, WISER acts as a resource that institutions, researchers and the public can draw upon.

WISER is currently supported through partnerships with Women in Renewable Energy (WiRE) and is sponsored by the Waterloo Institute of Sustainable Energy (WISE). Our administrative home is located in the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies at York University.

Women scholars in clean energy research are encouraged to join WISER by visiting our website and filling out our membership form.

Wiser wseresearch.com
The concept of environmental justice (or injustice) refers generally to the inequitable distribution of the costs and benefits of environmental degradation, such that people of colour and the poor tend to bear a significantly greater portion of the costs, while receiving relatively little in terms of any benefits. In Canada, environmental [in]justice is a constant undercurrent for arguably most (if not all) environmental challenges that Indigenous peoples face. The field of environmental justice studies, therefore, forms a critical theoretical and applied framework for addressing key environmental issues of concern to Indigenous peoples in Canada. To date, however, research focused on Indigenous environmental justice (EJ) has not yet occurred in a substantive way in Canada. Furthermore, if EJ studies are to benefit Indigenous communities, then they must include knowledge, principles and values already held and practiced by Indigenous peoples.