

Y-EMERGE Spotlight #12



<https://www.yorku.ca/research/yemerge/>

Welcome to the 12th Edition of the Y-EMERGE Spotlight: May 2025

Y-EMERGE Spotlight is a monthly newsletter sharing the achievements of the York Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Response, and Governance Institute ([Y-EMERGE](#)).

If you'd like to share a recent publication, upcoming event, or any other news in our monthly newsletter, please submit your information through [this Form](#). Past newsletters can be found [here](#).

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Featured Highlights:

Introducing Our Newest Program: [PhD in Disaster and Emergency Management \(DEM\)](#)



We are excited to introduce our latest academic offering: the PhD program in Disaster and Emergency Management (DEM).

The PhD in Disaster and Emergency Management is a unique program that combines rigorous academic training with practical experience. Our program is led by esteemed faculty members who bring knowledge and real-world expertise to the classroom. Students will engage in cutting-edge research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and fieldwork, preparing them to become leaders in emergency management.



For more details on the program, admission requirements, and how to apply, visit our [PhD program in DEM page](#).

Introducing the [Canadian Journal of Emergency Management \(CJEM\)](#)



We are excited to share that the **Canadian Journal of Emergency Management (CJEM)** is a key resource for both researchers and practitioners in the field of emergency management. Hosted by **York University**, this **open-access, peer-reviewed** journal is dedicated to advancing the theory and practice of emergency management, with a focus on promoting collaboration between academia and industry.

Why Publish in CJEM?

- **Open Access:** Free to read and publish—no article publication charges or access fees.
- **Global Submissions:** While primarily focused on Canadian emergency management issues, CJEM welcomes high-quality submissions from researchers around the world.
- **Translational Research:** Focus on research that connects theory with practical application in emergency management.
- **Impact:** Shape policy, influence practice, and contribute to the ongoing development of emergency management.
-  **How to Submit:** Researchers and practitioners are encouraged to submit their work, whether it's **empirical research**, **case studies**, or **policy-driven analysis**. CJEM provides a valuable platform for addressing challenges in **disaster risk reduction**, **preparedness**, and **response**.
-  **Learn More:** <https://cdnjem.ca/>
- We look forward to seeing your contributions to the emergency management community!

Y-EMERGE In The Media:

Emergency Alert Response Highlights Need for Coordination

On May 30, 2025, Professor Jack Rozdilsky was featured in *CityNews Toronto*, providing commentary on the emergency alert issued following a fatal stabbing incident in Pickering. Dr. Rozdilsky emphasized the value of using Canada's Alert Ready system to warn the public in real time but noted the importance of reviewing alert accuracy and timing. He highlighted how mislabeling the alert as a “terrorism” event pointed to the need for improved inter-agency coordination and metadata management. [Read More](#)

Airports Boost Resilience with Disaster Prep Training

On May 28–29, 2025, Y-EMERGE members Dr. Ali Asgary and Dr. Maleknaz Nayebi were featured speakers at the international workshop “Future-Proofing Airport Development: Building Resilience Through Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management,” held in Atlanta, Georgia.

Hosted by UNITAR and supported by the Georgia Institute of Technology and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the event brought together aviation and emergency professionals from 10 countries. Dr. Asgary delivered a keynote on the global impact of disasters on airport systems, while Dr. Nayebi presented on the use of social AI for crisis management in complex airport environments. [Read More](#)

Federal Energy Shift Raises Climate Concerns

On May 23, 2025, Professor Mark Winfield was featured in *iPolitics*, commenting on the federal government's dramatic shift in energy policy under newly appointed Energy Minister Tim Hodgson. He highlighted that solar storms associated with these phenomena could pose significant societal risks.

Dr. Winfield expressed concern over Minister Hodgson's plans to accelerate project approvals and prioritize industry partnerships. He noted this approach may signal a retreat from hard-won climate commitments and shift Canada's focus away from environmental safeguards toward energy expansion. [Read More](#)

Potential Shift in Federal Climate Policy Raises Concerns

On May 14, 2025, Professor Mark Winfield was featured in *The Hamilton Spectator*, discussing the potential softening of climate policies under Prime Minister Mark Carney's new cabinet. He highlighted that solar storms associated with these phenomena could pose significant societal risks. He expressed concerns that the government's recent decision to eliminate the consumer carbon tax might signal a retreat from Canada's climate commitments. Dr. Winfield emphasized the importance of maintaining robust climate policies to address the escalating environmental challenges. [Read More](#)

Emergency Preparedness Requires Community Action and Equity Focus

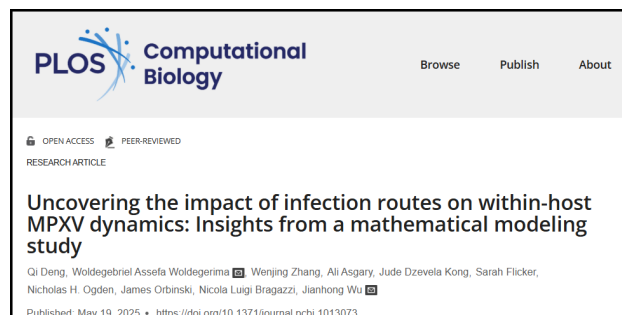
On May 6, 2025, Professor Aaida Mamuji was featured in *CBC News*, offering insights on Canada's National Emergency Preparedness Week and the importance of inclusive disaster planning. Professor Mamuji emphasized that true preparedness requires personal readiness and coordinated efforts across communities, especially for the most vulnerable. She highlighted that emergency planning must address social inequalities to be truly effective. [Read More](#)

RSV Antibody Treatment Shows Strong Results in Infants, York Researcher Notes

On May 6, 2025, Professor Seyed Moghadas was featured in *U.S. News & World Report*, discussing recent findings on the effectiveness of RSV antibody treatment in protecting infants from severe illness. He emphasized that the study's results mark a significant step forward in reducing hospitalizations and complications caused by respiratory syncytial virus in newborns. Dr. Moghadas noted that such preventative strategies could ease the seasonal burden on healthcare systems. [Read More](#)

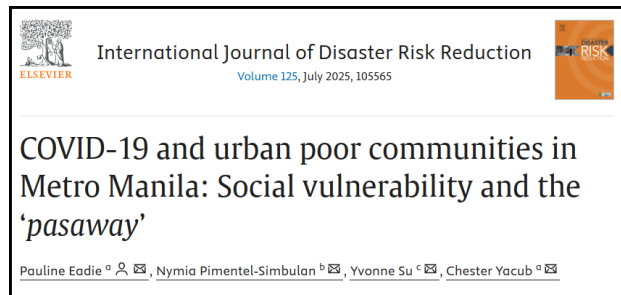
Research Publications:

Uncovering the impact of infection routes on within-host MPXV dynamics: Insights from a mathematical modeling study



On May 19, 2025, Y-EMERGE Members, Qi Deng, Woldegebriel Assefa Woldegerima, Ali Asgary, Jude Dzevela Kong, and Jianhong Wu were featured in *PLOS Computational Biology* for their co-authored study on mpox virus transmission and treatment dynamics. The article explores how different infection routes—such as sexual and skin-to-skin contact—affect viral behaviour and infectiousness. The team's mathematical modelling highlights the importance of early antiviral treatment, particularly for immunocompromised individuals. [Read More](#)

COVID-19 and Urban Poor Communities in Metro Manila: Social Vulnerability and the ‘Pasaway’



On May 13, 2025, Professor Yvonne Su was featured in the *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* for her co-authored article, “COVID-19 and Urban Poor Communities in Metro Manila: Social Vulnerability and the ‘Pasaway’.”

The article examines how the Philippine government's militarized response to the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted socially vulnerable urban poor communities. Through 38 interviews with community leaders, NGO staff, and public officials, the authors reveal how quarantine policies left marginalized populations with an impossible choice: risk starvation or risk arrest. The study highlights how narratives branding quarantine violators as “pasaway”—or undeserving poor—further deepened inequality and hindered access to social protection. [Read More](#)

Suicides in China's Scientific Community: A Call for a Public Health Response



On May 1, 2025, Professor Cary Wu was featured in *Preventive Medicine Reports (Elsevier)* for his article, “Suicides in China's Scientific Community: A Call for a Public Health Response.”

In this article, Professor Wu and his colleagues address the alarming rise in suicides among scientists in China. They argue that these tragedies are not isolated incidents but symptoms of

broader systemic issues, including extreme work pressure, rigid hierarchies, and mental health stigma. The article urges policymakers, institutions, and the public to recognize academic suicide as a public health crisis and to develop coordinated mental health support systems for researchers. [Read More](#)

Special Announcements

York U Professors Recognized as Engineering Innovators

On May 23, 2025, Professor Jimmy Huang was featured in *YFile*, recognizing his election as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering (CAE). He highlighted that solar storms associated with these phenomena could pose significant societal risks.

Professor Huang, a Tier 1 York Research Chair in Big Data Analytics and IEEE Fellow, was honoured for his pioneering work in artificial intelligence, natural language processing, and probabilistic modeling. His contributions have advanced task-oriented information retrieval and driven real-world AI applications across academia and industry.

With over 360 publications and a legacy of mentoring future innovators, Huang's election to CAE celebrates both his scholarly impact and his role in shaping Canada's technological future.

[Read More](#)

York Researcher Honoured with Early Career Award for Wildfire Research

On May 21, 2025, Professor Eric Kennedy has received the prestigious Early Researcher Award from the Ontario government in recognition of his work to advance wildfire prediction and emergency response systems.

The funding will support Kennedy's collaboration with Ontario's wildfire agencies to improve forecasting tools and enhance coordinated responses to the increasing threat of wildfires.

"Better forecasting tools can help communities prepare for worsening wildfire seasons," said Dr. Kennedy, who teaches in the Disaster and Emergency Management program and leads York's Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Governance, Response Institute (Y-EMERGE).

The Early Researcher Award supports outstanding early-career faculty across Ontario. Dr. Kennedy's project aims to develop more accurate predictive methods and strengthen Ontario's ability to protect communities from wildfire risk. [Read More](#)

York Launches Global Climate Ambassador Initiative under QES Program

On May 16, 2025, Professor Ali Asgary was featured in *YFile*, discussing York University's new initiative to train climate ambassadors through the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee

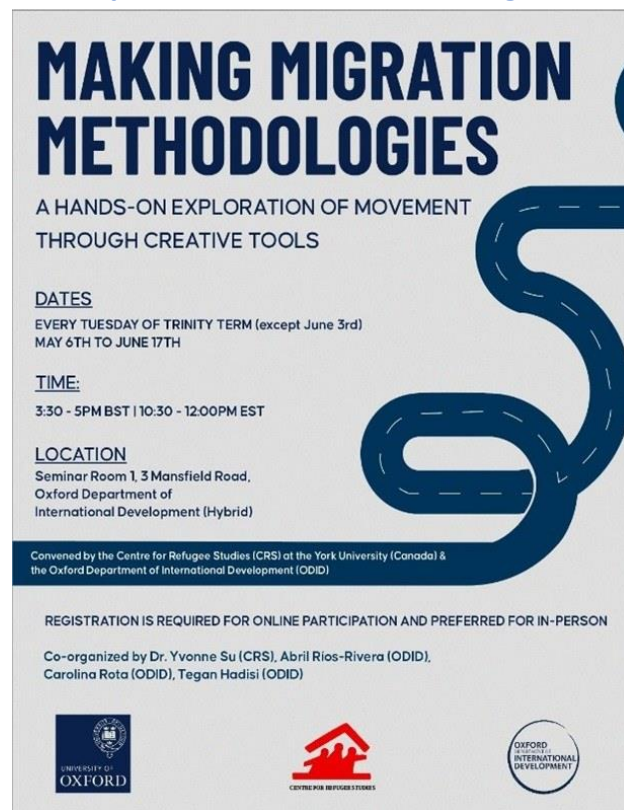
Scholarships program. He highlighted that solar storms associated with these phenomena could pose significant societal risks.

Dr. Asgary leads the Canada–Global South Interdisciplinary Initiative on Climate Change & Displacement, which will support York students and global scholars working at the intersection of climate and human displacement. The project brings together **key collaborators**, including faculty from the York Emergency Mitigation, Engagement, Response and Governance Institute (Y-EMERGE), and will foster international research across Costa Rica, Ghana, and the Philippines.

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

Ongoing Workshop Series Explores Creative Tools for Migration Research



**MAKING MIGRATION
METHODOLOGIES**

A HANDS-ON EXPLORATION OF MOVEMENT
THROUGH CREATIVE TOOLS

DATES
EVERY TUESDAY OF TRINITY TERM (except June 3rd)
MAY 6TH TO JUNE 17TH

TIME:
3:30 - 5PM BST | 10:30 - 12:00PM EST

LOCATION
Seminar Room 1, 3 Mansfield Road,
Oxford Department of
International Development (Hybrid)

Co-organized by the Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS) at the York University (Canada) & the Oxford Department of International Development (ODID)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ONLINE PARTICIPATION AND PREFERRED FOR IN-PERSON

Co-organized by Dr. Yvonne Su (CRS), Abril Rios-Rivera (ODID),
Carolina Rota (ODID), Tegan Hadisi (ODID)

Logos for University of Oxford, Centre for Refugee Studies, and Oxford Department of International Development.

York University’s Centre for Refugee Studies and the Oxford Department for International Development have launched an international workshop series exploring hands-on, arts-based methods for studying migration.

Led by Dr. Yvonne Su and a team of researchers, artists, and activists, *Making Migration Methodologies* introduces tools like photovoice, body mapping, participatory video, poetry,

music, and digital ethnography. The series challenges traditional research approaches and centers migrant voices through storytelling and creativity.

The workshops began on May 6 and continue weekly until June 17 (except June 3), with sessions still open to new participants. The events are held in a hybrid format—both online and in person at the University of Oxford. 🖱️ [Register or learn more](#)

2025 CRS Summer Course on Refugee Issues: Climate Migration Futures



On June 2-6, 2025, York University's Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS) will host the **2025 CRS Summer Course on Refugee Issues** under the theme *Climate Migration Futures: Shaping the Research Agenda for 2050*. This interdisciplinary course will bring together global experts, policymakers, and practitioners to explore the intersection of climate change and human mobility.

The course aims to challenge conventional approaches to climate migration and equip participants with innovative research tools and policy frameworks. Topics will include **planned relocation, statelessness, large-scale internal displacement, and governance solutions** to address climate-induced migration.

What to Expect:

- ✅ **Expert-Led Discussions:** Insights from scholars at Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, and York University on climate migration governance and policy.
- ✅ **Hands-on Workshops:** Training on digital storytelling, rights-based relocation consultation, and participatory research methods.
- ✅ **Case Studies:** First-hand accounts of climate migration and policy responses from around the world.
- ✅ **Collaborative Learning:** Interactive sessions to develop future research priorities.
- ✅ **Publication Opportunity:** Participants can contribute to the *Climate Migration Futures* magazine.

Special Early Bird Offer (Until April 15, 2025)

- To support institutions and individuals facing financial challenges, a **50% discount** is available for virtual participation. The final cost will range from **CAD 300 - \$462** (approx. USD\$ 200 - \$320), plus HST.
- In-person attendees may apply for tuition subsidies ranging from **CAD 100 - \$400**.
- The **early bird registration deadline is April 15, 2025**. For more details and to apply, visit [Summer Course - Centre for Refugee Studies](#).

Grants & Funding Opportunities:

Important LA&PS Research Funding Opportunities

We are pleased to share key updates from the [Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies \(LA&PS\) regarding research funding opportunities](#). These initiatives offer valuable [support for faculty members](#) pursuing external grants, conducting research, and engaging in scholarly activities. Below are the details of the available programs, including eligibility criteria, deadlines, and application instructions.

1. LA&PS Grant Matching Fund (GMF)

The LA&PS Grant Matching Fund provides financial support for faculty members applying for external research funding that requires a university contribution. These funds primarily support hiring York graduate students but may also be used for other approved research expenses.

- **Eligibility:** Open to faculty members applying for external funding that requires matching contributions.
- **Application Process:** You must submit the GMF request form along with your external grant application, including the budget and other funding sources.
- **Deadline:** Applications are due on the same day as the external grant application deadline.
- **More Information:** LAPS GMF Application Guidelines

2. LA&PS Internal Grants

LA&PS provides various internal grants that support research, dissemination, and scholarly activities. These grants fund activities such as research assistants, travel for dissemination, partnership development, and more. The recent fiscal adjustments may influence the availability of funds, so it is essential to follow the updated guidelines.

- **More Information:** Internal Funding Opportunities

3. Course Release Program for Research Grants

To support faculty involved in large, multi-year research projects, LA&PS offers course release to allow faculty to dedicate more time to their research. Course release is provided for specific external grants, and it must be requested in advance as part of the grant application process.

- **Eligibility:** Full-time faculty applying for eligible external grants (e.g., SSHRC, NSERC).
- **Process:** Faculty members must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) and follow the detailed application process.
- **More Information:** Course Release Program Guidelines

If you have any questions about these funding opportunities or need guidance on how to apply, please feel free to reach out to the LA&PS Research Office at lapsrsc@yorku.ca.

Upcoming Deadlines By Month

As summer approaches, it's the perfect time to plan ahead for your next research funding application. Below are some key grant opportunities with deadlines (ORS Deadline-Agency Deadline) from June to September, as well as several rolling programs that remain open year-round but benefit from early planning and coordination

External Funding

June 2025

- June 12–26: Arthritis Society – Career Development (Abstract due May 13)
- June 13–18: Cancer Grand Challenges (Contact Diana Frasca)
- June 13–27: Arthritis Society – Innovation Grants (Abstract due May 14)
- June 13–27: Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence
- June 16–23: Brain Canada–Cancer Research Society (Notify Diana Frasca)
- June 20–27: Global Research & Technology Development (Contact Diana Frasca)
- June 27–July 14: WorkSafeBC
- June 30–July 15: CIFAR-CAISI AI Safety Networks (EOI due April 15)

July 2025

- July 2: Canadian Cancer Society – Emerging Scholar (Abstract due)
- July 11–25: Cancer Research Society – RISE (EOI due May 13)
- July 11: GAIRDNER Awards (Contact Abby Vogus)

- July 15: Health Research Foundation Medal (Contact Diana Frasca)
- July 18–Aug 1: SSHRC Connection Grants
- July 21–Aug 5: Weston Brain Institute – Rapid Response (LOI due March 18)
- July 31–Aug 5: National Cybersecurity Consortium (SIRI supports apps ≥\$1M)

August 2025

- Aug 1: NSERC Discovery Grants (NOI due; full application due Nov 3)
- Aug 1: NSERC Subatomic Physics Discovery Grants (NOI due; full application due Nov 3)
- Aug 15–19: NFRF Exploration 2025 (NOI due Aug 19; apps due Oct 21)
- Aug 18–Sep 2: Arthritis Society – Operating Grants (LOI due April 9)
- Aug 22–28: UAE Rain Enhancement Science (Pre-proposal due March 20)
- Aug 25–Sep 9: Cancer Research Society – Prostate (LOI due May 28)
- Aug 29–Sep 15: Genome Canada – Indigenous Genomics

September 2025

- Sep 4–18: NSERC-ECCC Plastics Science (LOI due May 15)
- Sep 8–10: SSHRC Policy Innovation Partnership (Summary due April 4)
- Sep 12–22: NSERC CREATE Program (Contact Maheen Hasan)
- Sep 22–Oct 1: CIHR Team Grants – Perinatal Mental Health (Contact Diana Frasca)

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS) Grants:

- **Contract Faculty Conference Travel Fund (CUPE)**
 - **Deadline:** June 1, 2025
- **Scholarly Event & Outreach Fund (VPRI)**
 - **Deadline:** July 1, 2025
- **SSHRC Exchange – Conference Grant Program (ORS)**
 - **Deadline:** August 1, 2025
- **LA&PS Travel Grant for Dissemination**
 - **Deadline:** August 1, 2025

Internal York Funding

For York researchers and faculty

Opportunity	Deadline	Notes
York Research Support Grant	July 21	First come, first funded
SSHRC Exchange – Conference	Aug 1	Quarterly cycle
York Indigenous Incentive	Rolling	Submit anytime

For complete details on any opportunity, [visit our YU Link page](#) or contact the relevant team member.

Important Notes:

All external grants must be submitted to ORS for institutional review and approval, typically 2–10 business days prior to the agency deadline. Please contact your Faculty Research Office for internal deadline details.

If you are planning to submit under Y-EMERGE as your hosting ORU, please let us know!

Rolling Deadlines

No fixed due dates—submit anytime:

- Mitacs Globalink Research Award
- NSERC Alliance–Mitacs Accelerate
- GlycoNet Translational Grant
- OCI Collaborate 2 Commercialize
- Ontario HIV Treatment Network

Call for Papers

Innovative Systems Approaches to Healthcare Systems

Innovative Systems Approaches to Healthcare Systems

- Print Special Issue Flyer
- Special Issue Editors
- Special Issue Information
- Keywords
- Benefits of Publishing in a Special Issue
- Published Papers

A special issue of *Systems* (ISSN 2079-8954). This special issue belongs to the section "Systems Practice in Social Science".

Deadline for manuscript submissions: **22 August 2025** | Viewed by 1078

Share This Special Issue

Special Issue Editor

 **Dr. Peter Tsasis** | E-Mail | Website
Guest Editor
School of Health Policy and Management, York University, Toronto, ON M3J 1P3, Canada
Interests: implementation science, healthcare management, patient care, complexity science, complex adaptive systems

A special issue of the journal *Systems* is now accepting submissions focused on **innovative systems thinking in healthcare**. This issue invites contributions exploring systems interactions, interdependence, and change across healthcare and related sectors such as climate, policy, and emergency management.

Researchers and trainees are encouraged to submit work ranging from early-stage conceptual frameworks to fully developed, data-driven studies. **Publication fees may be waived** for selected high-quality papers following peer review.

 [Learn more and submit](#)

Stay Connected

For questions or contributions, email us at dadoust@yorku.ca.

If you'd like to share a recent publication, upcoming event, or any other news in our monthly newsletter, please submit your information through [this Form](#). Past newsletters can be found [here](#).

We value your input! Please take a moment to share your feedback on this edition of the Y-EMERGE Newsletter. [Click here to submit your feedback](#).

Thank you for being part of the Y-EMERGE community!