

# 2024/2025 Research Seminar: Distinguished Scholar Series



**Prof. KWOK Siu Ming**  
School of Public Policy,  
University of Calgary, Canada

**Professor KWOK Siu Ming** is the Associate Director of the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary. He previously held the position of Associate Dean in the Faculty of Social Work at the same university, where he contributed significantly to academic leadership and program development. In addition to his academic roles, Professor Kwok was the President of the Alberta College of Social Workers (2021-2025) and the President of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators (2022-2024), reflecting his national leadership in professional regulation and policy. Throughout his distinguished career, Professor Kwok has been the recipient of numerous awards recognizing his contributions to research and teaching. He has been invited to deliver keynote addresses and participate in high-level panels at both national and international conferences. His expertise has also been recognized through his invitation to testify before the Canadian Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights, where he provided insights on the experiences of visible minorities within the Canadian criminal justice system.

## Engaging Youth to Address Youth Mental Health

The transition from childhood to young adulthood is a complex period of adaptation and change. With adequate external motivation, such as encouragement and recognition from significant adults, youth can develop a strong sense of self and maintain positive mental health. This presentation will share findings from a community-based participatory research project conducted in Alberta, Canada, and Hong Kong. The three-year project engaged youth aged 12 to 17 in exploring issues related to mental health and well-being. This Children and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) project comprised four key components: photo storytelling groups, web-app co-creation groups, community forums, and an international symposium. A strong emphasis was placed on youth training and mentorship throughout the project. Over 200 youth from both locations actively participated in various stages of the project. This presentation will highlight the collaborative governance framework developed and the transformative experiences of youth involved.



**Prof. TAM M. Y. Dora**  
Faculty of Social Work,  
University of Calgary, Canada

**Professor Dora Tam** is a well-recognized scholar in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary, specializing in research and practice related to women and child survivors of domestic violence, as well as child and youth mental health. She has secured numerous national and international research grants and is acknowledged for her expertise in mixed-methods and participatory action research methodologies. Professor Tam served as the Principal Investigator for an international research project entitled Collaborative Health Initiatives to Prevent and Intervene in Violence against Women in China. In 2018, she co-founded the Social Work Innovation Hub, an initiative designed to promote interdisciplinary and transnational partnerships between Canada, China, and other international partners. Between 2020 and 2023, she led a three-year international research initiative examining evidence-based practices to improve mental health outcomes among children and youth in Canada and China. Professor Tam has published extensively in high-impact, peer-reviewed journals, including serving as lead author on Racial Minority Women and the Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence in Canada and Social Work Interventions on Intimate Partner Violence against Women in China. Her scholarship continues to shape social work practice in the areas of child and family welfare, mental health, and violence prevention.

## Shared Parenting of Young Children among Women Survivors of Domestic Violence

This presentation defines shared parenting as an arrangement in which a child spends at least 40% of their time with each parent. Domestic violence, or intimate partner violence, is defined by the United Nations as “a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.” Young children are defined as those under the age of four. Using an intersectoral perspective, this presentation examines the complex experiences of mothers before and after shared parenting arrangements are established. It focuses on women survivors of domestic violence who are raising at least one young child and share parenting responsibilities with their ex-husband or ex-partner. In addition to addressing the challenges faced, the presentation highlights the resilience and coping strategies demonstrated by these women. Implications for social work practice will be discussed, with particular emphasis on promoting safety, empowerment, and child well-being.



**20th Jun  
2025 (Friday)**



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**3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**



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