



## Participants Feedback on Pandemic Xenophobia Webinar

I know it's going to be a rich hour when it's an MLC program/discussion.

— **Marisa Coutts**, Harvard University alum

Loved it. Thought it covered a wide range of the impacts & issues encapsulated inside the broader topic. Excellent panelists. Would really like the link to the recording b/c I came late and would really like to listen to the part I missed at the beginning.

— **Madeline (Marnie) Gilbert**, Lead Financial and Administrative Officer, FCAD, Ryerson

One of the better webinars I have attended. Great panel and moderators.

— **Marty McFarlane**, Education Officer, Kingston, OPSEU

Great speakers, great insights, great gathering.

— **Bernard King**, Labour Relations Specialist, Schulich Executive Education Centre, York U, OPSEU

I am very glad to see there are people, courageous and upright, to stand out in organizing such an important and necessary event, when the whole society has been contaminated by doubled standards. You all deserve respect. Also, glad to see Jan Wong again, after 25 years. She is still so beautiful and sharp-minded. Admire. I also think I have met the other lady, Irene Wong, and the gentle man Tchen, but could not remember in what situation. The meeting is very inspiring and I thought a lot. Thanks to all of you for your great effort.

— **Yan Li**, Associate Professor, Coordinator of Chinese Language and Culture Studies and Director of Confucius Institute, University of Waterloo

Great topic. Very thoughtful with History. Well organized.

— **Sheila Saikkonen**, Administrative Assistant, Aboriginal Student Services, Ryerson

Clear messages from panelists about origins of racism in our societies and suggestions to act as individuals and groups against different ways it manifests.

— **Dora Replanski Owner**, Dora Replanski Research Consulting (non-profit, community health services)

The webinar was wonderful and very informative! I'd actually like to see it be a little longer to be able to hear more from the panelists next time.

— **Kassandra Kurek**, BA Candidate, English and VP, Student Life and Events, ECU, Ryerson

Would be nice if the Q&A/discussion period at the end were a bit longer. Thank you! Very insightful and appreciate you sharing your experiences.

— **Stephanie Law**, Administrative Assistant, School of Image Arts, Ryerson

Very well planned and orchestrated (Thank-you for that!) Great speakers, learned a lot.

— **Dolores Pian**, Master Interior Designer, Toronto

Great job all! =)

— **Liam Brookes**, BTech Candidate, GCM, Ryerson

I loved the discussions and got a lot out of it. I'm glad I came.

— **Sosorbaram Buyanbaatar**

Strong topic fantastic panel

— **Ilana Fisher**

Well presented. Concisely answered.

— **Brian Leslie**

Make this longer!!!! One hour is definitely not long enough.

— **Denis Lim**, Student, Ryerson

Please consider collaborating with Asian Canadian organizations to contribute to combating Anti-Asian Racism — interpersonal and systemic.

— **ACENet**

I was looking for practical suggestions for building solutions.

— **Kathleen Douglas**, Chairperson, Zonta International District 4, Brampton-Caledon

The title of this seminar was somewhat misleading; the panelists took a historical and anecdotal approach to group and personal experiences of colonization-racism to explain pandemic xenophobia. While the two are interconnected, blaming groups perceived as outsiders or minorities for disease has a much deeper root in historical patterns across cultures. It would have been interesting to look at the psychological aspects of humanity that drive xenophobia when populations feel under threat from circumstances outside human control.

— **Denise Redmond**, Lecturer, English Language Institute, University of Waterloo and Artist and Weaver, Kitchener-Waterloo

## From the Panelists

Thank you for this really interesting event. I enjoyed being a panelist with Jack and Josephine. Congratulations to Irene, Jason and Priyana for running it so well.

— **Jan Wong**, award-winning journalist and Author of Apron Strings

I echo's Jan's sentiment. Thank you, Irene, Jason and Priyana, for inviting me to join such an amazingly well organized webinar. Jan and Jack — I want to be your student. There are so many important and interesting topics for me to learn.

— **Josephine Pui-Hing Wong**, Research Chair in Urban Health, Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, Ryerson University

This was an energizing session thank you each for being who you are and what you do! And thank you wonderful Ryerson conveners. You did a fantastic, very professional job.

— **John Kuo Wei Tchen**, Chair, Public History & Humanities, Rutgers University and co-founder, Museum of Chinese in America