## SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK INVITED LECTURE By Laura Pacheco, PhD



<u>Date:</u> Mon, Mar 13, 2017 @ 1:00 - 2:00 pm

## Location:

School of Social Work McGill University 3506 University Street Wilson Hall, Room 326

## <u>RSVP:</u>

To Yong Hong @ yong.feng@mcgill.ca

## Exploring Experiences and Service Pathways of Parents with Intellectual Disability

**Dr. Laura Pacheco** is a clinical-researcher that coordinates a specialized evidence-based parenting service for persons with intellectual disability in Montreal. She has clinical social work experience with individuals, groups, couples and families within the field of disability. At the heart of her work is the link between research, practice and social justice. Dr. Pacheco is currently a post-doctoral fellow (Trust Administrator) in a research project exploring the support needs and service gaps of parents with intellectual impairment. This research project was a result of three-day knowledge sharing activity that included international researchers, front-line staff, managers and community partners. Participants highlighted the need for collaborative and cross-sectional initiatives, professional development, clinical support, and validated tools and resources in order to better support families headed by parents with intellectual impairment.

The focus of Dr. Pacheco's presentation will be on her research program. She will highlight the main findings from her doctoral study: **Mothers with Intellectual Disabilities from Different Ethno-cultural Communities: A Narrative Study,** which include how the mothers experienced and resisted oppression. Implications of this study on social work practice, research and social justice initiatives will be discussed. She will then present an overview of her postdoctoral research: **Support Needs and Service Pathways of Parents with Intellectual Impairments: a SSHRC Partnership Development Project**. This multi-stage and multi-method study aims at determining a strategy to build systems' capacity across Quebec and Alberta to accommodate the support and learning needs of parents with intellectual impairment and, in turn, improve the life chances of their children. Included in the discussion will be a description of the integrated knowledge translation strategy, including future scholarship. The presentation will conclude with her future research program.