

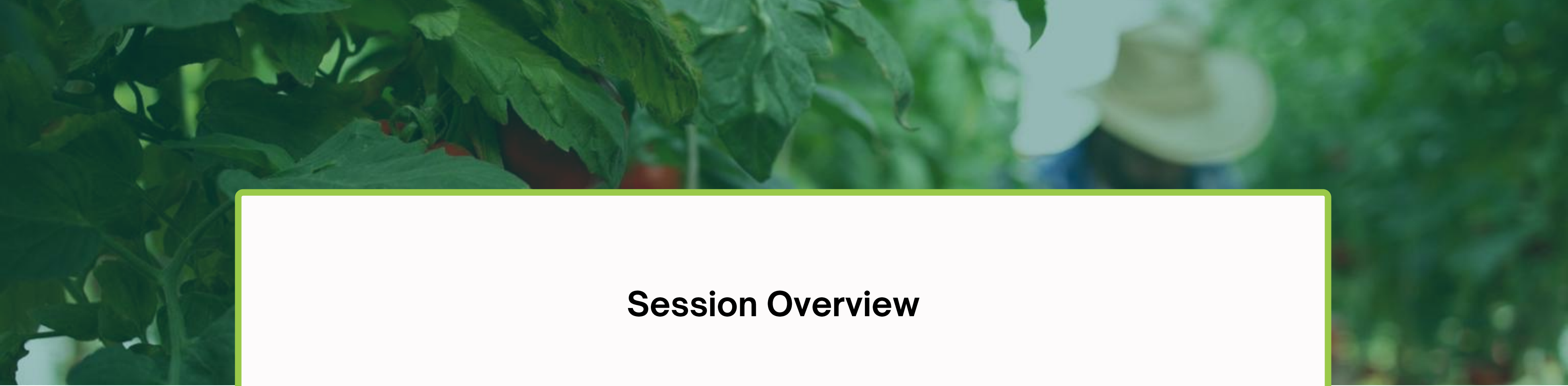
**Building Stronger
Communities for Migrant
Workers Across Provinces:
Models for Equity in Action**

Building Stronger Communities for Migrant Workers Across Provinces: Models for Equity in Action

Chair: Jennifer Rajasekar, Manager, TNO – Workers Support Services

Panelists:

- Fr. Enrique Martinez – Huron Farm Workers Ministry;
- Stacey Gomez – Centre for Migrant Worker Rights (Nova Scotia)
- Jennifer Rajasekar- TNO Worker Support Services



Session Overview

- Share interprovincial models enhancing equity and inclusion for migrant workers
- Explore approaches to outreach, coordination, and rights awareness
- Highlight lessons and tools for replication across provinces

Context & Rationale

Why This Matters:

- 46,000+ migrant and temporary foreign workers served through TNO – Workers Support Services’ network
- 100,000+ service interactions across health, legal, and social supports
- Persistent barriers in mobility and access to legal services due to isolation and limited resources
- These realities highlight the national need for coordinated, culturally competent services that ensure equitable access and consistent support for all migrant workers across Canada



“These events feel like a little piece of home, right here in Canada. We appreciate these events as it helps us feel connected and respected.”

The TNO Workers Support Services Model

Integrated Model for Equity in Action:

- Multilingual outreach in 10+ languages.
- Cross-sector coordination with health, legal, and community partners
- Culturally responsive engagement rooted in inclusion and trust
- Data-driven impact through ongoing evaluation and relationship building across regions



"Education gives us an opportunity to understand our rights and opportunities, empowering us as workers to navigate new lands and secure a brighter future."

Key Components of a Scalable Model

1. Governance and partnership coordination – prevent duplication, leverage resources, and formalize collaboration through MOUs
2. Consistent training and quality assurance – build capacity among staff, service providers, and peer volunteers
3. Increased access to legal services – address gaps through partnerships, mobile outreach, and culturally competent supports
4. Health and wellness access pathways – promote flexibility, accessibility, and worker-centered service design



“I am grateful for the support I have received from this program, helping me access government services and supports for myself and my colleagues.”

Case Study 1: Rural Outreach and Trust-Building

Presented by: Fr. Enrique Martinez – Huron Farm Workers Ministry

- Grassroots outreach directly on farms
- Building trust through consistent presence, flexibility
- Collaboration with consulates and employers
- Seasonal programming, transportation coordination, wellness supports



“Thank you for supporting us - it has been a difficult journey, but it helps knowing someone is there to help us. We’re so grateful to have someone visiting us, and making sure we are safe.”

Case Study 2: Interprovincial Lessons from Nova Scotia

Presented by: Stacey Gomez – Centre for Migrant
Worker Rights (NS)

- Legal and policy advocacy through worker-led organizing
- Addressing regional gaps in protection and status regularization
- Strengthening national dialogue and solidarity



*“Outreach forms the basis of our
Worker Support Services Program -- it’s
the lifeline that connects individuals to
the services we provide.”*

Equity and Legal Navigation

- Supporting OWP-VW applications (Vulnerable Open Work Permits)
- Connecting workers to legal clinics and community lawyers
- Providing multilingual education on rights and responsibilities
- Strengthening coordination with clinics and consulates



“Thank you for supporting us - it has been a difficult journey, but it helps knowing someone is there to help us. We’re so grateful to have someone visiting us, and making sure we are safe.”

Tools, Templates & Resources

Outreach Planning and Safety Templates – for organizing farm visits and community sessions safely and efficiently



Health Referral and Tracking Forms – to connect workers to clinics and monitor follow-up care



Language Access and Communication Guides – to support multilingual outreach and clear information sharing



Legal Navigation Tools – step-by-step guides and referral checklists for workers' rights and immigration supports



Partnership and MOU Templates – to formalize collaboration and avoid duplication of services



Discussion & Q&A

- How can national standards be adapted to reflect regional realities and diverse worker needs?
- What partnerships or collaborations could help replicate promising models in your province or region?
- What ongoing challenges do you see in coordination, trust-building, or sustaining outreach efforts?



THANK YOU



- Building Stronger Communities for Migrant Workers Across Provinces
- Thank you for joining our session!
- We appreciate your time, insights, and commitment to advancing equity and inclusion for migrant workers across Canada.
- For more information:
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