

UNBC to study foreign brides

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FORT ST. JOHN — The University of Northern B.C. has launched a study to determine what kinds of services exist in the region for foreign brides who settle in the area with their Canadian husbands.

Researchers have already interviewed about 20 brides and will speak to more women in the fall.

Primary investigator Catherine Nolin, an assistant professor of geography at UNBC, says few studies exist on foreign brides, and that the most recent one was done about seven or eight years ago.

Nolin, who is working with the Immigrant and Multicultural Services Society of Prince George, says several women from the Philippines have met their husbands by coming to Canada through the live-in caregiver program to work as nannies.

The study will also examine how the women established relationships with their husbands outside of Canada, such as through online dating, travelling abroad, arranged marriages or work. Nolin says the subject is a delicate one and that some women have said they would not participate in the study if the term "mail-order bride" was used.

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