Welcome and Introduction:

- Welcome, everyone. We're glad that you've joined us.
- My name is Luann Good Gingrich, and I'm the Director of the Global Labour Research Centre at York University in Toronto, Ontario.
- The GLRC is very pleased to be hosting this important discussion today on care work and care workers.
- The GLRC at York is a vibrant community of scholars and students who engage in interdisciplinary research and collaboration related to work, labour and livelihoods.
- I invite you to check out our website and drop us an email.
- We'd be glad to connect with you.
- We also gratefully acknowledge the generous support of Dr. Ethel Tungohan and Dr. Leah F. Vosko, who are both members of the GLRC Executive Committee.
- And we're also grateful for the support of the Centre for Feminist Research at York.
- I invite you also to check out the website for the Centre for Feminist Research at https://www.yorku.ca/cfr/
- This is a timely discussion for us today, as we have been confronted with the harsh realities that result from a failure to care for one another.
- Caring and care work is vital to our individual and collective well-being physical health, mental health, social relationships and security, economic stability, environmental sustainability even our very survival.
- Yet, we have also seen, in alarming ways, that our society and institutions have long devalued and disparaged care and care workers, as if caring for one another poses some sort of threat.
- This self-destructive trend is worthy of courageous analysis and action.
- It's my pleasure to introduce our Chair for this discussion, Drew Danielle Belsky.
- Drew conceived of and organized this discussion today, and we're grateful for your creative and care-filled work.
- Drew is a PhD Candidate in Science and Technology Studies at York University.
- Situated at the intersection of feminist STS, disability studies, and visual culture, her dissertation, is entitled "Making bodies, making kin: Story-telling and the professionalization of medical illustrators in North America."
- Drew explores the gendered dynamics of scientific labour and the epistemic role of image-making in medicine.
- I will add that Drew has been working with us at the GLRC on a few projects for most of this academic year, and I have been impressed by the depth and creativity of her scholarship, as well as her committed leadership with other students.
- Drew, I turn it over to you.