



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 51

September 2, 2020

Dear MAP members,

How are you doing? That's a common question nowadays and one that MAP wants to focus on during the pandemic and the unrest caused by overt and covert racism – providing support through online MAP meetings, information and a friendly check in. We will keep you up to date with any changes to refugee claimant services as they happen - and ask if you have information that you would like to share with MAP that you let us know at info@mapbc.org

NEWS!!

- The MAP **Bulletin returns to a weekly** update today! Don't forget to send your information in good time for weekly inclusion. The **News Highlights** section will also take a short vacation and we will host a poll as to your interest in resuming this feature at our first MAP meeting.
- **MAP Meetings** start up again on Zoom on Thursday Sept 24 at 9:30 am – save the date! Agenda and Zoom Registration arriving soon.
- Jenny M will be attending the **UBC Virtual Volunteer Fair** on September 23. If any member agency would like MAP to promote their volunteer needs please contact us at info@mapbc.org to arrange.

Thank you for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants - especially during these unprecedented times. Stay safe and well - and let's not let social distancing be a barrier to the folks we serve.

Jenny Lam and Richard Belcham, - and the other Jenny!

Dear stakeholders,

The Refugee Protection Division (RPD) has issued a [Practice Notice](#) extending the time limit to provide the Basis of Claim (BOC) form for claimants who made their claims for refugee protection at a port of entry and whose claim was referred to the RPD on or after July 4, 2020.

In its *Refugee Protection Division: Practice Notice on the resumption of in-person hearings*, the RPD extended the time limit for filing a BOC form for claims referred up to and including July 3, 2020. An extension to October 12, 2020 is now being provided for claims referred between July 4, 2020 and August 28, 2020.

In addition, the RPD is temporarily extending the time limit for claims made on or after August 29, 2020. In these cases, the BOC form will now be due 45 days after the day on which the claim was referred to the RPD.

This temporary extension of time limits for filing a BOC form is for reasons of fairness and natural justice during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please circulate this information as you deem appropriate.

John Szekula
Acting Deputy Chairperson
Refugee Protection Division

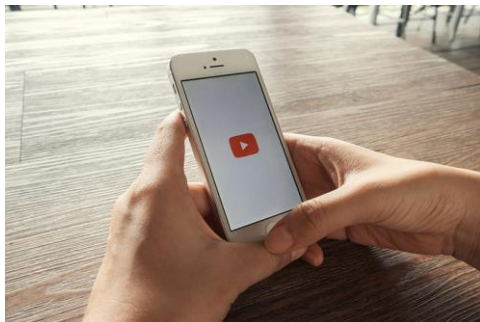
ISSofBC new video project for refugee claimants

ISSofBC has produced eight instructional videos on applications related to refugee claimants. These videos were created to guide refugees through the process of applying for a work permit, permanent residence, a travel document, and health coverage applications.

This is a great training resource for front-line workers assisting refugees with multiple barriers.

All videos can be found online on the ISSofBC website.

<https://issbc.org/our-resource/refugee-related-application-videos>



[Refugee-related Application Videos | Refugee Claim Process | Immigrant Services Society of BC \(ISSofBC\) - issbc.org](https://issbc.org/our-resource/refugee-related-application-videos)

Refugee Claim Process Videos. Learn about the Refugee Claim process, how to apply for social assistance, what health resources are available and more through our video series.

issbc.org

Please refer all questions to:

Meaad Alharbi | *Manager - Settlement Orientation Services*

2610 Victoria Drive Street, Vancouver, BC V5N 4L2

T: 604-255-1881 Ext. 3037 | F: 604-255-4611 | meaad.alharbi@sosbc.ca

Legal Aid BC Update: COVID-19 and the Law is a special series of our Factum newsletter, part of our Factum blog.

If you're not a current subscriber and would like to receive regular updates from Legal Aid BC, [subscribe here](#).

Read this Update in the attached PDF version of the newsletter, or via the [Link](#)

In this edition:

- COVID-19 updates
- abuse & family violence
- the BC legal system
- First Nations Court
- and Legal Aid BC services

Legal Aid BC
Support when you need it



Hi all,

As we all know, low income seniors and other vulnerable groups living in Victoria-Fraserview, Killarney and Sunset struggle to find access to free or low-cost food in their neighbourhood. Since COVID-19 started, the Greater Vancouver Food Bank closed their distribution site in Victoria-Fraserview and relocated to Mount Pleasant. The new site is difficult for seniors, persons with disabilities, and families with young children to access. SVNH stepped in to offer temporary emergency food distribution which has now ended due to limited space.

There is a gap in access to emergency food for low income seniors and other vulnerable groups in South Vancouver. As a result of this food challenge the South Vancouver Seniors Hub Council has taken the lead on an online petition to help increase awareness of the food insecurity that exists in South Vancouver. **Please sign the petition below by clicking on the link.** Share this with your contacts and help our neighbours' voices be heard.

<http://chnng.it/cX4DPPD6> [chnng.it]

Thanks for your support,

Zahra Esmail (*she/her/hers pronouns*)

Executive Director

South Vancouver Neighbourhood House

6470 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC V5P 3X7

ph: [604-324-6212](tel:604-324-6212) f: [604-324-6116](tel:604-324-6116)



Journey Home Community invites you to join

Ride for Refuge # ride 20

This is one of the biggest fundraisers for refugee claimant agencies each year – download the poster attached for the details and registration procedures



The poster features a colorful geometric design with a blue, yellow, and orange border. At the top left, the text 'RIDE FOR REFUGE #ride20' is displayed in a bold, blue font with a sun icon. To the right, a photograph shows three children running happily in a park. Below the photo, the date 'OCT 3, 2020' is written in white on a blue background.

This year, you can pick what you love, do what you can, whenever you can.

What a great way to gather your family or a few friends and engage in a physical distancing activity that brings you life.

What activity? It's up to you! Bike, walk, ride, hike, swim, knit, play, kayak. What gives you joy?

After all, it was never about the Ride, it's about the Refuge.

**Join the following participating refugee claimants
serving local and international charities.**

Journey Home Community journeyhomecommunity.ca

Journey Home Community is creating caring communities that offer refugee claimants housing, settlement support, and opportunities for connection.

Kinbrace www.kinbrace.ca

The Kinbrace community welcomes refugee claimants with housing, education, and support. Our dream for each refugee claimant – a world of welcome, a community of belonging, a life of opportunity.

New Hope Community Services newhopecs.org

New Hope provides housing and support services for refugee families as they transition into life in Canada

United Nations High Council for Refugees give.unhcr.ca

UN Agency responsible for helping refugees through out the world

If you can't participant, donate!

<https://rideforrefuge.org/location/vancouver>



Laura is leaving Journey Home Community and we will miss her!



Laura is transitioning out of her position at Journey Home Community, including organizing the Ride, and spring boarding into full time school at UBC in September. Her hope is to complete her Masters of Social Work by April 2021.

This is a significant change for both Laura and Journey Home Community as she has been a part of our team for almost 9 years. She spent over 6 years providing care to refugee families and two years raising funds for us. Laura has felt very at home at Journey Home Community.

Laura wants you to know,

" I will very much miss working alongside the Journey Home Community team. It has been such a gift to work alongside such dedicated, supportive, and fun people who have hearts for justice and a passion for welcoming refugees.

I am forever grateful to the refugee families who have shared their stories with me. I have learned so very much about perseverance in the face of relentless adversity and what it means to keep going step by step.

I have had to wrestle with my own faith and politics, acknowledge my privilege and see how I can be complicit in systemic oppression.

As I move on, now I carry with me the many treasures of the learnings, relationships, hospitality, and graciousness that this community has bestowed upon me"

Let's give Laura a great thank you send off!

Join us for an online celebration Sept 16,2020 8:00 PM

Let Laura know just how much she is appreciated.

What an amazing impact in the lives of so many refugees' lives over the last 9 years!

This is worth celebrating

On Sept, 16, 2020 at 8:00 PM join our online celebration by clicking below

[Zoom send off for Laura](#)

Journey Home Community event to celebrate Laura as she leaves for university.

Join the staff and volunteers in her online send-off!

The poster is also attached

SOS is excited to confirm that we will have our Online Housing Workshop this coming **September 04, 2020, from 1-3 pm**. The theme is the **Residential Tenancies Act**, and the key objective is to promote awareness of the rights and responsibilities of the landlords and tenants.

TRAC (Tenant Resource & Advisory Centre) will speak about the rights and obligations tenants have under the Law. The topics include: How to protect yourself, your Rights and Responsibilities, Security Deposits, Illegal Entry, Repairs & Evictions, etc.

Kindly connect with Muna Amir (**muna.amir@issbc.org**) to complete your registration and the link to access the Zoom meeting room before the workshop.

Kindly let us know if there are any suggestions or questions regarding this session.

Kizito Gaston Ntabaza | *Refugee Claimant Housing Search Worker - Settlement Orientation Services*
2610 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 4L2
T: 604-351-0642 | F: 604-255-4611 | kizito.ntabaza@issbc.org

The CCR is seeking a person to assist in mobilizing newcomer youth across Canada in a series of projects promoting civic engagement, through the CCR's Youth Network. The CCR Youth Network is dynamic coalition of newcomer youth (16-25 years old) that voices the concerns of newcomer and vulnerable migrant youth in Canada.



About the position

- 6 months contract (September to March)
- Part-time (12h/week) – flexibility in scheduling, but must have some availability during regular work hours
- Remote work
- Starting date: as soon as possible.

Principal Responsibilities

- Collaborate with Coordinator in the planning, monitoring and reporting on implementation of all project activities, including the virtual national Youth Action Gathering.
- Take the lead in project communications, including through the website and social media, and with francophone participants.
- Develop communications and promotions plan for the year.

[English Online Application](#)

[Candidature en ligne en française](#)

Low-barrier funding for community groups working in partnership with

UBC faculty, staff or students.

Amount: Up to \$1,500 (min. \$500)

Next deadline: September 25, 2020

*****For the September 2020 intake, we continue to welcome applications from partnerships that have been impacted by COVID-19. Other types of applications will also be accepted.**

While we don't expect partners to take on new work at this time, we are flexible for PRF funding to support emergent needs to sustain partnerships through the outbreak. Possible COVID-19 related funding requests might include: staying connected/running events and other gatherings in a virtual space; immediate response/relief efforts that involve a UBC-community partnership; planning efforts to adapt to the pandemic context; or other needs and responses your UBC-community partnership requires.***

Every day, people on and off-campus work together on joint initiatives that benefit both the community and the university. Engaged research, experiential learning, planning and policy development, educational programming, dialogue projects, workshops – our impact grows when we work together.

The Community Engagement **Partnership Recognition Fund (PRF)** is designed to help fill small resource gaps and acknowledge the contributions that community partners make to UBC. It also aims to raise awareness about the value of relationships and working together in a thoughtful way.

Click [here](#) for more information.



SFU School of Public Policy is seeking government and not for profit partners for our student-led BC Priorities research projects from November 2020 to March 2021.

Does your organization have a policy problem or issue that needs to be worked on? A 4-5 member team of Masters of Public Policy students are ready to tackle it.

See the attached BC Priorities info-sheet for full details, including examples of recent projects and partner organizations. Some of the BCP changes for this coming year brought about by COVID-19 and our adaptation to virtual, remote learning include smaller group size, later start to projects and no requirement for original research.

We are happy to answer any follow up questions about topic development, etc.

If you are interested in being a BCP partner, please respond by Monday, September 14 via email to Eva Lewis at evat@sfu.ca.

Regards

Eva Lewis

School of Public Policy

Simon Fraser University | HC 3275

515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC

T: 778-782-7879 | www.sfu.ca/mpp



August 14, 2020

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) announced a [temporary special measure](#) to provide a pathway to permanent residence for certain asylum claimants working in Canada's health care sector, in recognition of their exceptional contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DIVERSEcity's Food Accessibility Fund for Migrants and Their Families affected by COVID 19

Through many conversations with partners and having heard from all of you working directly with clients, food insecurity remains a significant concern during Covid19. However, many clients have experienced barriers to accessing financial supports, often due to their immigration status and other complicating factors. Some communities identified were International Students, Temporary Foreign Workers, Refugee Claimants as well as immigrants and refugees with health and developmental complications.

I am excited to announce the continuation of DIVERSEcity's food access supports through the Food Accessibility Fund for Migrants and their Families Affected by Covid19. Through this fund, we can continue to support internal food access needs, and **will also be accepting referrals from external partners.** Please see key info below on the service and how to refer clients. Please note, that due to demand, **we will prioritize clients who have NOT yet received financial or food support through one of DIVERSEcity's food access supports from the last few months.**

*The Food Accessibility Fund For Migrants and their Families affected by Covid19 will support internal DIVERSEcity clients and external clients (referred by partner organizations) whose food insecurity has been heightened by Covid19. The fund is for clients living in **Surrey, Delta or Langley**. Priority will be given to clients who are unable to access other supports or have additional levels of vulnerability. Support will be provided through either:*

- 1) One-time financial support for groceries through a \$150 Loblaws E-giftcard OR*
- 2) Delivery of a hamper of groceries of \$150 value directly to the clients' home or another safe place identified by the client if the client is unable to visit a grocery store.*



Additional support beyond these two options may also be provided on a case by case basis for individuals and families experiencing extreme food insecurity. Families who have already received giftcards through other DIVERSEcity Food Access supports are not eligible. However, in exceptional circumstances, we will consider repeat applications for support.

If you have any questions, please contact us at kitchen@dcrs.ca

Referrals can be made through the following online referral form. Staff may complete referrals on behalf of clients.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VZKDX2J>

The John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland is changing its name! Now **John Howard Society Pacific**, the organization's new name accurately reflects its breadth and scope of work across the west coast – now serving a total population of nearly 3 million people across nearly 40 municipalities with the introduction of its services in the Yukon. JHS Pacific will continue to deliver the same essential services to local communities while also providing opportunities to serve more people and communities in the Pacific region.

Brianne Meikle

(she/her)

Communications Specialist

(604) 803-1380 | 763 Kingsway, Vancouver BC V5V 3C2

www.jhspacific.ca

Dear friends and colleagues,

2 pages

I'm pleased to send you a link to a preview of ***Borderstory***, a 20-minute multimedia film I have produced on the word 'border.' This film is part of the **Worn Words** listening research project, funded in part by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and a fund held at Vancouver Foundation. It uses animation and cross-sector interviews to create an accessible, introductory invitation to dialogue around a contentious, polarizing concept. And it comes just in time for online learning. So please pass it on to anyone who might be able to use it.

Link: <https://www.eringoheenglanville.com/borderstory>

Password: "preview"

This preview will be available until the end of August. If you would like to use it in your classroom or community education, check the link for updates or email me for additional resources. An article is forthcoming on the making of *Borderstory*. The film will be freely available. If you have ideas for where it might be screened or could prompt dialogue, I would love to hear from you.

A few details to orient you: *Borderstory* begins with a short animation that tells a common story about borders and refugees. The 'border' is its shapeshifting main character (an unraveling piece of yarn) and people on the move find themselves in varying relationships to it. The animation leaves us with the inability of this story to produce an adequate global future for refugees and citizens alike. So, we rewind and begin again; this time the story is interrupted by research interviews from cross-sector experts. Different interviewees have experiential, academic, and refugee support expertise and provide a variety of insights that are put into conversation with the animation.

Some of the topics it introduces include:

- the history of borders
- the usefulness of borders for refugee claimants
- the relationship between safety and borders
- the way internal borders mark people out as not belonging
- common myths about refugee claimants who cross borders
- the ethics of storytelling
- the potential for our societies to live a better story about refugees and borders
- interdisciplinary knowledge mobilization



As a scholarly project, Worn Words has used a critical refugee studies approach to cross-sector interviews and collaborative animation, editing, and illustrations. It fits with a cultural studies approach to narratives and their contexts. Some of you will notice that the film uses postcolonial filmmaking strategies such as rewind, interruption, and montage. You may also have noticed that the animation is told in a fairytale genre and that the ball of yarn alludes to discourse theory, which is the study of linguistic 'strands' 'knit' together. So the film's genre and form might also prompt discussions about what traditions our cultural stories are part of and how we break out of patterned narration.

I hope this is useful to you and your work. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Dr Erin Goheen

Dr. Erin Goheen Glanville

Term Lecturer | SFU School of Communication

Simon Fraser University

8888 University Dr., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6

T: 778.883.9762 | E: egoheeng@sfu.ca | www.cmns.sfu.ca

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

<https://www.eringoheenglanville.com>

City of Vancouver

Opportunity: Social Planner III - Anti Racism / Cultural Redress

The Anti-Racism/Cultural Redress Social Planner III in Social Policy & Projects provides strong leadership, analytical and conceptual skills and is a key part of a team that develops and monitors the implementation of various City strategies related to social sustainability, including the City of Vancouver's Healthy City Strategy, emerging Equity Framework, Poverty Reduction Strategy, and Accessibility Strategy. The position will oversee policy development, and city wide public education, dialogue, and socio-cultural programming on anti-racism, multiculturalism, decolonization and cultural redress related issues for racialized, immigrant and refugee communities, and provide leadership in civic and community based initiatives concerning racialized individuals and communities, immigrants and refugees.

For more information:

<https://career17.sapsf.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=20441&company=cityofvancP>

Questions: contact wilma.clarke@vancouver.ca / Assistant Director, Social Policy and Projects

The CAVE Youth Employment Program at Douglas College

is now accepting applications from young people aged 17-29 looking for paid work

Start date: September 14, 2020

100% Online! Participate from the safety and comfort of home.

To apply, send your resume to: cave@douglascollege.ca

5 weeks of Free Online Training:

- discover your dream job
- create an impressive resume and cover letter
- master tough interview questions
- online application forms
- receive 1-on-1 job coaching

--earn **cash bonuses** of up to **\$650**

Job Search Support for 12 weeks

- certificates: First Aid, Food Safe, Forklift
- coaching from a job developer
- assistance from a resume expert
- job placement with potential wage subsidy

Please share with your friends, colleagues, and networks.

Hana Prochazka, Facilitator & Marketer

CAVE Youth Employment Program / Training Group | Douglas College

C. 604.218.4146

E. prochazkovah@douglascollege.ca



CAVE Youth Employment Program

A cost-free program for young job seekers.
5-week online class & 12-week paid work placement

For ages 17-29 and Unemployed or Precariously employed,
Canadian citizen, Permanent resident or Protected person (under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, S.C. 2001, c. 27) legally entitled to work in Canada,
Living in British Columbia,
Not a full-time student (not enrolled in high school or post-secondary training) and
Not participating in another provincially or federally funded labour market program

Information Sessions *all interested applicants must attend a registration session to confirm eligibility for CAVE

Register for Online Info Session to Apply
cave@douglascollege.ca | 604-438-3045
www.douglascollege.ca/cave

Next Class
Sept 14 2020



This program is 100% online.
Participate from the safety and comfort of your home.

INCLUSIVE PLANNING SURVEY

We are reaching out to you to seek your help in circulating this survey to your networks for participation and completion.

Please take our survey to help inform community planning, and to help create a sense of belonging for all immigrants. You will be entered to win \$50. You can find a direct link to the survey [HERE. \[ubc.ca/qualtrics.com\]](https://ubc.ca/qualtrics.com)

This survey is part of a project intended to help welcome and integrate immigrants and refugees in Canadian cities. Our work may increase the participation of all residents, including immigrants and refugees, in urban planning decisions. Your opinions and experiences are extremely valuable for this work. We will ask you some questions about yourself, your neighbourhood, and your interest in helping shape your city. The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. The survey deadline is August 27th.

The project is led by Dr. Maged Senbel from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in partnership with MOSAIC, the City of Surrey, the City of Vancouver, Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House, Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS), Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society, and the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC). For more information about this project at UBC please visit [Inclusive Planning Partnership \[facebook.com\]](https://www.facebook.com/inclusiveplanning) or [http://blogs.ubc.ca/inclusiveplanning/ \[blogs.ubc.ca\]](http://blogs.ubc.ca/inclusiveplanning/)

[If you would like to share our Facebook post on your organization's page, you can find the link here: https://www.facebook.com/inclusiveplanning/photos/a.1655752871224597/2007741076025773](https://www.facebook.com/inclusiveplanning/photos/a.1655752871224597/2007741076025773)

Thank you for participating in Statistics Canada's crowdsourcing data collection on the impacts of COVID-19, and for agreeing to let us contact you. So far, more than 525,000 people have participated, and we continue to use crowdsourcing to collect data quickly on topics that are important to Canadians.

Participate now

The current questionnaire is: **Impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians – Experiences of Discrimination**. We want to hear from you whether you have experienced discrimination or not. We are asking people if they have experienced discrimination based on race, sex, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability or language, and whether their experiences have changed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Other topics will also be covered, including your sense of belonging within various places and groups, and barriers to health care services.

Anybody living in Canada can participate.

To complete the questionnaire, please visit www.statcan.gc.ca/COVIDdiscrimination-questionnaire-e.

Remember all information collected is confidential, and protected under the *Statistics Act*.

Access the latest data

Statistics Canada remains committed to providing an accurate picture of what is happening in Canada in order to provide governments, businesses and Canadians with the information they need to respond to, and recover from this pandemic. To see the latest data, visit [COVID-19: A data perspective](#) on our website.

For technical assistance

Contact us Monday to Friday (except holidays), from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Eastern Time):

- 1-877-949-9492 (TTY: 1-800-363-7629)
- infostats@canada.ca

Thank you, your opinion matters to us!

Jean Labbé
Director, Collection Planning and Research Division
Statistics Canada

