

MAP Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 25, 2020 - 9:30AM – 12:00 PM

Attendees: Mariana Martinez Vieyra (VAST), Richard Belcham (inasmuch), Alexandra Dawley (MOSAIC), Saleem Spindari (MOSAIC), Salih Arif (MOSAIC), Katherine Griffin (MOSAIC), Alissa Cook (inasmuch), Tammy Johnson (inasmuch), Michelle Murray-Schlitt (inasmuch), Frank Cohn (VAST), Sarah Lopez (VAST), Jhevoi Melville (VAST), Rawan Moon (VAST), Negar Azmudeh (IRB), Paula Faber (IRB), Diana Barry (Vancity), Rainer Nicdau (MSDPR), Valentina Stanciu (MSDPR), Paige Wang (MSDPR), Azadeh Tamjeedi (UNHCR), Kathleen Cashin (Covenant House), Lupita Chebib (CNH), Maria Alpirez (CNH), Fran Gallo (Kinbrace), Derek Chu (Kinbrace), Ryan Reid (Kinbrace), Moe Zaqout (Kinbrace), Loren Balisky (Kinbrace), Adriana Zepeda (Kinbrace), Teresa Fuller (MCC), Cecilia Tagle (SWIS), Sabrina Dumitra (AMSSA), Koyali Burman (SVNH), Wazhma Wakil (Umbrella MH Co-op), Alexander Kang (MJEDC), Joni Rose (MJEDC), Dustin Lupick (HSABC), James Grunau (Journey Home Community), Vanessa Roth (JHC), Jessica Dailly (JHC), Yulia Khamzina (JHC), Barry Growe (JHC), Julia Wu (bc2II); Patricia Lim (Legal Aid BC), Kirk Ha (Legal Aid BC), Raminder Kang (PICS), Devinder Chattha (PICS), Tamam Hasan (PICS), Demetrius Schwab (UGM), Gulalai Habib (BNH), Nazanin Moghadami (Rainbow Refugee), Laura Mannix (DIVERSEcity), Adrienne Bale (DIVERSEcity), Jenny Lam (Options), Iris Solorzano (Options), Patricia Castillo (Options), Winnie Lee (ICA), Meaad Alharbi (SOS), Elizabeth Galvez (SOS), Gaston Ntabaza (SOS), Maher Kutlieh (SOS), Samira Sarmast (SOS), Katya Quintanilla (SOS), Carolina Villa (SOS), Sadiq Mohibi (SOS), Bahar Taheri (BC Refugee Hub), Angela Kim (SUCCESS), Samuel Chan (SUCCESS), Suddhodan Baidya (SUCCESS), Ali Mustafa (Independent), Masa Kateb (JumpStart Refugee Talent), Richard Soo (East Catholic Church), Vivian Chan, Amos Kambere, Lobat Sadrehashemi (IRLC), Jinhee Lee (IRLC), Shira Goldenberg (IRIS project), Elmira Tayyar (IRIS Project), Jamie Kopp (UMOJA), Jenny Moss (MAP)

The meeting was called to order by **MAP Co-Chair: Mariana Martinez Vieyra (VAST)**

- Mariana acknowledged she was speaking from the territories of the Coast Salish Nations of Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish nations, and that those attending were located on the ancestral territories of many other First Nations.
- Mariana also stressed that MAP members have a role in opposing social injustice, systemic racism and oppression as it exists in Canada.
- Thanks were expressed to the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness for the funding that supports MAP.
- **Welcome:** there were 80 participants, Mariana recognized the 36 MAP member agencies who were present – please see updated list attached.
- Mariana reviewed the agenda and it was approved.

- Mariana described the way the meeting would function with familiar Zoom technology and that because of the packed agenda Agency Updates to be posted in Chat for sharing and collection. Please complete the feedback poll towards the end of the meeting.
- 4 breakout rooms – you can still register: IRIS Project, Legal Issues, Housing, Settlement.
- Use chat box for comments and questions
- The meeting was being recorded for the Minutes only and will be deleted after the completed.

PRESENTATION: Lobat Sadrehashemi, Refugee Lawyer, Immigration & Refugee Legal Clinic
Current legal concerns for Canada’s refugee claimants and an overview of the resources provided by the new Immigrant & Refugee Legal Clinic

Introduction: Lobat Sadrehashemi is a refugee and immigration lawyer practicing in Vancouver. She is senior counsel and clinic lead of the Immigration and Refugee Legal Clinic. Lobat regularly acts for clients at the Federal Court and the Immigration and Refugee Board. She has argued at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Lobat's practice includes refugee hearings, judicial reviews, motions for stay of removal, immigration and refugee appeals, detention reviews, admissibility hearings and other immigration applications.

Lobat is Past President of the Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (CARL) and on the legal committee for West Coast LEAF. She has also served as Chair of the Canadian Bar Association's Refugee Lawyers Group in Vancouver.

(Slides attached)

- Lobat was trained as a law student by working in legal clinics in Ontario and always wanted there to be one in Vancouver. In earlier years in BC, legal clinics used to exist, but many were closed in 2002 – and since then private lawyers have been representing refugees with scarce legal aid support. Challenging cases (e.g. those in detention, cases with little lead time or special vulnerabilities) could end up in the hands of inexperienced counsel, because it was difficult to find experienced counsel to take on all of these cases.
- In 2019 a report was written recommending reconstituting the legal clinic system in BC, and a refugee clinic was recommended to ensure that a competent lawyer takes on those complicated, sensitive and urgent cases.
- Government funded the rebuilding of legal clinics housed across the province in different agencies and provides a staff lawyer and legal assistant. There are 7 clinics:
 - 4 poverty law clinics
 - 3 specialized clinics: disability rights, tenancy, & immigration/refugee legal clinic.
- Refugee Legal clinic opened in April 2020 – (although the pandemic means they work at distance)
 - 2 lawyers: Lobat and Tien Tran and assistant Jinhee Lee.
 - Housed at ISSofBC but independent – the clinic decides the cases they take and advocacy strategies – separation to ensure client confidentiality
 - Not able to fill all the glaring gaps but hope to fill some gaps some of the time –
 - See slides for vision and guiding values
- Categories of work:

Legal advice & Information: summary advice appointment – not an offer to take on case. For low income clients they can contact clinic for an appointment to clarify their options, including in more complex cases on how to approach legal aid about the legal assistance they need. Might be referred to legal aid or different agencies, or possibly be taken on as a case of the clinic.

***Representation at Courts and Tribunals:** can fully represent legal cases – see later notes.

Systemic Litigation – cases that might have a broad impact – part of advocating for policy change and law reform

Mentorship & Education – important role in education – and plan to offer mentorship for junior lawyers and law students.

***More detail about Representation:**

don't want to have a huge waitlist

Don't have strict limits on what kinds of cases to take (if meet financial eligibility and is an immigration/refugee issue that requires legal submissions) but must prioritize carefully.

Consider these factors in deciding which cases they take on:

- can't find appropriate lawyer
- case is legally complex
- sensitive client care issues or detained person
- requires immediate action
- capacity of the clinic.

No fees for the legal services as clients must not be able to afford a lawyer in order to access services of the clinic.

SEE Slide for more detail on types of cases.

Legal advice & Information appointments are not subject to the same prioritization, this is only for deciding which cases to represent in full. This may change with time.

Emerging Issues

1) Our **Border** is closed so there are difficulties for those trying to reach Canada.

- Can make a claim at the airport but now it's much harder to get here.

US border also closed: refugees are still subject to Safe 3rd country agreement.

Before COVID refugees did cross irregularly - but the new OIC with the US means if refugees cross irregularly and are detected they can be directed back even if they say they want to make a claim, and we don't know what happens to them when they are sent back.

Govt. insists there is a diplomatic note filed so they would not be detained, but there is evidence that some have been detained in the US after being sent back, and subject to removal proceedings.

Concern that this might become a permanent closure for irregular crossers – important area for advocacy

2) **US Asylum policy** – proposals for changes to asylum policy are shocking – not fulfilling international law and nowhere near what someone would receive in Canada.

No decision yet on the constitutional challenge that was heard in November 2019 in Federal Court challenging the validity of the Safe 3rd Country Agreement.

3) **COVID and refugee processing:** Negar will cover IRB procedures – but clients are very concerned because of delays in hearings and all procedures which will delay PR processing and family reunification.

Important to examine how new IRB processes will be fair and efficient.

There are apparently discussions about special govt. programs to deal with backlog – for example a government briefing note was made public that recommended essential health workers refugee claimants may be part of a special program for accessing permanent residence. This is all just rumours now and nothing official.

4) **CBSA oversight** – there is no independent accountability mechanism – this issue is very important for clients – in Jan 2020 there was a proposal in govt to create a process for complaints – but because of

COVID it's delayed.

Really important to advocate over the fall/winter session.

Clinic contacts:

778-372-6583

info@irlc.ca

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Are legal services free?

Response: Yes, if financially eligible for services.

Are they just for clients in Vancouver?

Response: No – they are a provincial legal clinic though how to manage will be an ongoing discussion to address gaps and provide most useful help.

Q: Are any areas of law off-limits for clinic? E.g.

- H&C cases?
- cases of people who are in limbo because of inadmissibility for security reasons?

Response: Generally given our mandate to serve low income clients, we would not be working on economic immigration cases or residency appeals. We also would not generally do full representation for a processing case that didn't require legal submissions. At this point, we are not otherwise restricting particular issues but need to look at each case and decide whether it fits our priorities and capacity at the time – specifically : is there a complex legal issue, is there a client care sensitivity issue, or is there urgent, immediate action required.

Q: Can clinic mentor refugee lawyers?

Response: yes, we would like to do this – it's very important and there's no other place in Vancouver that does this.

We lose many senior lawyers to the board or other opportunities, so we have to support the learning of new lawyers or how to partner on cases etc.

Q: If someone crosses the border, does that mean he/she will be deported to the US?

Response: Since approximately 2002 the Safe 3rd country Agreement has covered official port of entry land crossings – asylum seekers who cross at a land border are turned back unless they fit an exception in the agreement – most common exception is existence of a family member in Canada.

This agreement is still operating during the pandemic – the new temporary border closures do not affect how claims from those arriving from the US are treated at official ports of entry. But for irregular crossings (like Roxham Road) who wish to avoid Safe 3rd Agreement, persons who are intercepted while crossing are directed back to the US. Canada claims this is a temporary measure during the pandemic – but we have no idea if this practice might be continued.

Q: If someone is detained can they apply for legal aid assistance?

Response: Legal Aid funds are available for representation by duty counsel for detention reviews, usually the 48-hour review, but during COVID-19 duty counsel was making all detained cases applicable. More generally legal aid is available for hearings, PRAA etc. regardless of whether you are detained.

Mariana thanked Lobat who took more questions in the breakout room.

Update from Immigration Refugee Board on Resumption of Services

Presenter: Negar Azmudeh, Special Advisor to Senior Chairperson

- **Practice Notice of Resumption of in person hearings** was posted on June 23
- June 15 – there was a **partial opening of office** with small staff in registry office – because of distancing necessities.
Only a 30% occupancy rate allowed including those from outside too.
So IRB is open for business, but in a very restricted manner
- Will likely **use multiple hearing rooms** to allow for one hearing because of physical distancing
Only have one room that's big enough for multiple parties, otherwise must use multiple rooms or member can attend from home/office/or another hearing room.
So, practice notice is very aware of the problems this will bring, and so some rules will be relaxed e.g. waived need for original documents unless really necessary.
- Good news – **receiving documents by email** – but not sending out. Still have 2-way communication via e-post and fax as well.
- **Piloting a remote hearing project** starting next week – different to the resumption of hearing system.
Remote hearing pilot project is different – entirely remote – everyone will be online.
- **Videoconferencing** – in western region about 50% of hearings were processed by video-conferencing pre-COVID because of remoteness. We are aware of the obstacles with this and hope to gain feedback.
In-person hearings will always be important for vulnerable clients to avoid re-traumatizing them
However, right now we have to deal with COVID restrictions while allowing hearings to take place with less delay and in a full and fair way.

Questions & Answers

Q: Is the IRB going to keep the scheduled in-person hearing dates for those claimants that already have dates after July 20?

Response: Unless you hear from us about a postponement yes, the dates will go ahead as scheduled. When you attend you will be directed to a different hearing room or use of plexi-glass. So it won't be exactly as the client expected.

There are restrictions also of time – need one hour for clearing between hearings that might mean some delays, but we don't know yet.

Q: The postponed cases, how will they be scheduled for hearing again? do they have priority?

Response: We are looking at a number of factors: those that are hearing-ready, those postponed because of COVID. But there are other factors like vulnerabilities – psychological needs.

If you have a case that you think merits priority please contact us and flag it.

Q: Is the RPD considering use of Plexiglas in the hearing rooms?

Response: yes, but it's still not enough – the rooms are too small for the number of people present. We are doing everything we can to maximize our resources for the greatest number of hearings. But clients and agencies should expect some videoconferencing in each hearing probably.

- Q: What is the criteria to choose which hearings are held via video-conference?

Response: Definitions first:

Remote hearing – is all by video-conferencing. Everyone is remote.

The **in-person hearing** may have some video-conferencing component – in various locations.

Q: How are you selecting hearings for the pilot?

Response: I am leading the pilot project so I can provide information.

It is a completely **consensual project** as everyone is located from their home or office. Counsel may be with claimant or not.

Very small pilot project – max 5-10 cases per week to see how it goes.

The proceedings take place secure IRB/government video-conferencing equipment with secure recording capabilities, but claimants and counsel may not have equipment that is of the same level of security. Because of the potential for security breaches with non-IRB equipment the claimant and their representative have to accept that risk as theirs.

That is why we say it is fully consensual as the representative and claimant need to be aware of this risk before they take part in the remote project – and the representative must explain this to their client, who must provide consent.

Therefore the project is only accepting claimants who are represented.

The clients also have to provide other sureties, e.g.

- They will be located in a private place, it could be with their representative but cannot be in a room with other people.
- Must have their own device – smart phone, computer, tablet that connects to high speed internet
- Must have access to all the same documents if they are not co-located with their counsel.

We have explained all this in an introductory letter – we have contacted a number of counsel who are on e-post and have a number of cases, but this is still very small-scale.

We are providing access to full justice as the clients can still opt to have their hearing in a more traditional manner at the IRB.

Mariana thanked Negar who agreed to answer more questions in the Legal Breakout Room

BREAK: The participants broke into 4 Breakout groups based on the following themes: Legal, IRIS Project (Women's Reproductive Health Project) Settlement & Housing.

Slides and a poster from the IRIS project are attached for those interested in connecting with this project.

Quantitative and qualitative update on Refugee Claimants in the Lower Mainland

Presenter: Bahar Taheri: BC Refugee Hub

BC Refugee Hub provides information and training to those supporting RC's

Updates:

- Planning webinars that are not COVID related:

Late July – 2 webinars - IFHP and domestic violence, possibly also one on legal aid.

- Also releasing second quarter refugee statistics in July from ISSofBC - SOS & MOSAIC Stream B
Not many arrivals but will provide an overall view.
- If you have any suggestions for topics please email Bahar so she can create webinars and trainings that are useful to everyone.
Bahar will also create a list of webinars available that agencies can add to.

- Bi-weekly newsletters and updates on the website sometimes daily.

Email: refugeehub@issbc.org

PRESENTATION: Legal Aid BC updates on Resources and Intake

Presenters: **Patricia Lim:** Publications Development Coordinator for Legal Aid BC
 Kirk Ha: Provincial Supervisor for Intake & Referral Services, Legal Aid BC

Pat - Legal Aid BC's – legal resources for RC's

Pat has developed a tool to help agencies supporting RC's going through claim process up to the appeal stage – it's a 4-page booklet which Jenny circulated before the meeting with some questions to elicit feedback to see if the resource is working
(attached to the Minutes)

Please contact Pat by July 10 with your feedback based on the questions listed.

Other resources we have:

- website explains the services that legal aid can provide – www.legalaid.bc.ca
- COVID-19 and how it affects the claim process
- * FAQ's that relate to claimants and COVID-19 that are reviewed by a lawyer
- Links to other publications like Ready Tour Guide

*Please let us know if there is an area that you or your clients need more legal information on.

- information regarding other law – e.g. family law: includes welfare and benefits, parenting, mortgage and rent support, and many more topics.
- E- Newsletter, goes out through MAP bulletin but you can subscribe directly for e-newsletter. It provides updates to what's new on the website, Legal Aid BC services and available webinars: e.g. Providing a webinar for women out of status fleeing violence – July 16 – registration information will be in the newsletter or you can email Patricia at Patricia.Lim@legalaid.bc.ca

Kirk – intake of RC applications for legal aid

One of 3 provincial supervisors for intake around BC

Because of COVID there are no in-person applications for legal aid until probably October - all by phone. At the moment only about 60% of normal volume of applications are being considered currently. Looking at the idea of **online applications** because of this – we would like to hear back if this would be useful.

We have started online applications for criminal and family legal aid– it's a paper application that is done by a support worker with client and emailed to the office in Vancouver and may be sent out to a local office if appropriate.

Is there any interest in online applications? –

Please contact Kirk at: kirk.vancouver@legalaid.bc.ca

Mariana thanked Pat and Kirk – please send any questions to Jenny to forward to Legal Aid BC.

Update on Housing Referral Project – lead agency MOSAIC

Alexandra Dawley

June 8 – held the first Advisory Committee meeting – full attendance

Changed project name – BC Refugee Claimant Housing Referral and Data Management Project

Covered structure, phases, timeline and roles of those involved.

Established **Terms of Reference**

Next meeting on July 6

Appreciate diverse representation across BC and the sector on the Advisory Committee.

Send any questions forward to Jenny

Announcements:

1) Rod Holloway (Legal Aid BC)

Legal Aid BC has received confirmation of funding for the next year and has, accordingly, extended the contracts of counsel who have been acting for clients who are making refugee claims. Details are in the MAP bulletin.

2) Jenny: World Refugee Day 2020: 'Distant But Together'

Mariana asked the WRD Planning Committee members to open their cameras.

WRD a successful event – showcased refugee talent in BC as artists, poets and storytellers as well as bringing MAP agency settlement workers together in a panel to discuss how they have supported RC's during the pandemic.

The program was seen in many countries and we have received emails of appreciation and inquiry into the music, poetry and art shared. To watch the event click:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aOO4239MCpEr6aqSUsqtk4s_H7x9ANQJ/view?usp=sharing

Interest in more events that we will plan in the future.

Plan:

a) will post the event in snippets to the MAP website for you to enjoy

b) also post to a new MAP YouTube channel that Kinbrace's Luke Greidanus is helping us set up.

c) as well as on MAP's [Facebook page](#)

d) Planning to use online medium for future events and may combine next year's live WRD celebration with an online event and streaming too.

Huge thank you to the Participants and to the Volunteers who helped:

Richard Belcham (inasmuch) and **Salih Arif** (MOSAIC) – the technical work, video editing and scripting

Iris Solorzano (Options) – kept us organized and ran logistics

Mikaela Wilson (Options) & **Luke Greidanus** (Kinbrace) – social media promotions and event Q&A

Japneet Parmar (VAST) – introduced us to our lovely MC Nisha Khare and supported Rawan

Alexandra Dawley (MOSAIC) – who brought in artists and her team: Salih and Tracy

Tracy Tang – did the creative work for the poster and program

Moe Zaqout (MAP) – brought in our farthest away performers – from Gaza in Palestine! And supported the technical side.

Our hosts **Mariana** (VAST), **Nisha** (Khare Communications) and **Richard** (inasmuch) who were great!

3) THANKS and APPRECIATION to MAP members leaving

Fran Gallo (Kinbrace/ Ready Tour): Mariana called on **Loren Balisky** to provide the thanks

As she steps out of Ready Tour role its appropriate to say 'thank you' and recognize Fran's accomplishments.

Joined 2010 – to steward and lead Ready tours and Ready guide

Attended over 250 ready tours and updated guide multiple times all over the country.

(Full tribute attached)

Fran thanked Loren and the MAP meeting participants mentioning that she had had lots of fun going right back to volunteering at Red Cross on the First Contact project (2006 +) and over the years since then.

Claudia Buendia (MSDPR): Mariana called upon her supervisor **Rainer Nicdao** to provide thanks.

Although Claudia could not attend this meeting, she has been MSDPR's representative at the MAP table and in the community for many years. She has represented the Ministry extremely well and leaves a big gap as she goes on to a new position as a Public Guardian and trustee. Rainer wished Claudia the best and mentioned that **Paige Wang** will be stepping into her position and attending MAP meetings. Claudia has kept Rainer well-informed of MAP issues.

Katherine Griffin (MOSAIC) Mariana called on **Alexandra & Saleem** (MOSAIC) to speak.

Alexandra: **Katherine** has left a lasting impression – Katherine chaired MAP Information Working Group and provided English/French services to refugee claimants. She always paid great attention to detail and has been an advocate for RC's and a great desire to understand policy and law about refugee protection. She has supported them in hospitals, shelters, detention centers and really worked with her heart for the clients she loves.

Provided many presentations via CCR and is known for her expertise in refugee support.

Recognized by Oxfam from many applicants for their Day of Action in Ottawa

Going to Osgood Law School to study law – great personal friend and Alexandra is full of admiration.

Saleem – wished her all the best – hopefully Katherine will return to work with Lobat and continue to support refugee claimants!

Alissa Cook (inasmuch) Mariana called on **Richard** to provide thanks.

Sad goodbye to say to friend and co-worker Alissa. She is going to Dalhousie to do a Master's in Urban Planning with a focus on refugees.

Social justice warrior – loved by all the people she serves – unusual combination of great brain and heart. She worked for SOS before inasmuch and has very wide experience. Her expertise includes designing and building systems as well as sharing knowledge that will serve her well in the future. We look forward to all she will do to put refugees at the heart of city design.

You will be very missed Alissa, and we are so grateful for all you have done.

Mariana on her last meeting as MAP co-chair - Richard and Saleem

Mariana's work always brings passion, honesty and a deep care for refugees – she gives voice to those who don't have it with full heart.

Tireless advocate for mental health and those affected by trauma.

She encourages us to remember our own mental health and reminds MAP members and those on the front line is so appreciated.

She reminds us frequently of the need for fairness, equity, diversity and equality – with a twinkle in her eye!

Quote from Lionel Messi (famous Argentinian soccer star) *"We are not going to give up, we are many more who want to live in a world of peace - without hate – and where respect and tolerance are the basis of co-existence"*

Thank you Mariana for your work with MAP and your tireless pursuit of a world without hate.

Richard invited Saleem, past MAP Co-chair, to say a few words.

Saleem: Mariana brought much energy and worked extra for advocacy through the busy summer of 2018 in meetings with the government, bringing a trauma-informed perspective/support to the needs of RC's for

housing and services.

Saleem then nominated her to the co-chair position of the Inland Working Group at CCR for her great skills. Big day for goodbyes but we know Mariana will stay in touch with MAP.

Richard provided Mariana a virtual card with messages from many agencies.

Mariana thanked everyone for joining at MAP and for their selfless contributions to the work.

Masa (Jumpstart Refugee Talent) – added a warm, public thanks to Mariana for her heart and determination to support refugees.

Mariana closed with the quote from World Refugee Day: *“Peace is not the absence of war – it’s the practice of justice and the absence of fear.”*

12pm: We can now adjourn and look forward to summer. **Next Meeting:** September 24, 2020
A feedback poll was launched

AGENCY UPDATES FROM CHAT:

Carolina Villa – SOS – ISSofBC:

SOS wants to let you know about our upcoming **Online Workshops for refugee claimant clients:**

* July 02, 2020 - Online Workshop in Spanish - “Tools to get prepared for the Hearing Day and Last updates of IRB” with Ready Tour Coordinator, Fran Gallo

* July 09, 2020 - Online Workshop in Spanish - "Kiwassa Neighbourhood House: Resources available and Refugee Claimant Support" with Settlement worker María Cerviño.

Please inform about these, if you have clients who can benefit from them.

Email: carolina.villa@issbc.org to participate

Kathleen Cashin: Covenant House Vancouver is back up and running without a 14-day quarantine for youth and accepting referrals to our Crisis Program and the Rights of Passage Program. We accept refugee claimants to the Crisis Program but require a hearing to occur prior to accepting folks into the Rights of Passage Program.

Katherine Griffin: MOSAIC:

1) Finding a Job: Where to Look and How to Apply

Wednesday July 8th 10:30 am—12:00 pm

Workshop on ZOOM (phone or computer)

- Searching for jobs online and in person
- How to apply and follow up with employers
- Next steps

2) Getting the Job: The Best Answers to Top Interview Questions

Wednesday July 22nd 10:30 am—12:00 pm

Workshop on ZOOM (phone or computer)

- How to prepare for common interview questions and answer confidently: advice from a former Head of Human Resources
- Following up after an interview

To register: email refugeeclaimant@mosaicbc.org

3) Workplace Culture and Integration: **Starting Your New Job**

Wednesday July 29th 10:30 am—12:00 pm

Workshop on ZOOM (phone or computer)

- What to consider before starting with a new company: advice from a former Head of Human Resources

- Feel comfortable and confident in a new Canadian workplace

To register: refugeeclaimant@mosaicbc.org

Masa Kateb: Jumpstart Refugee Talent is up and running again with the mentorship program for skilled refugees and refugee claimants, also, Jumpstart is open to co-organizing workshops with organizations to support your clients on their career path to meaningful employment

Masa.kateb@jumpstartrefugee.ca

Sara Lopez (VAST) If you want to refer a client to VAST please go to our website and click Make a Referral fill out online form and save it. We will contact client shortly after.

Rawan Moon (VAST) Rawan@vast-vancouver.ca

We have different groups:

1- **Now What?**

Topic: Now What?

Time: Mondays, 12:00 PM-1:30 PM Via ZOOM

2- **Getting Through It:**

Topic: VAST Getting Through It group

Time: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

3- **MOVE&RELAX:**

Topic: MOVE&RELAX

Time: 04:30 PM-5:00 PM Via ZOOM

Every week on Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, 2020

4- **Latino-American Family Group**

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Via ZOOM

Every week on Thursdays

Ryan Reid (Kinbrace) - one unit available soon, email ryan@kinbrace.ca

Frances Gallo (Ready Tour) Second virtual READY Tour in Farsi held yesterday.

Katherine Griffin: MOSAIC - English for Refugee Claimants:

Table Topics

Every Wednesday 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm, June 17th - July 29th, 2020

We will "meet" each week on Zoom · Explore a wide variety of social discussion topics

- Create new connections
- Improve your spoken English
- Meet new people

You can register any week! To get the link, please email refugeeclaimant@mosaicbc.org

ONLINE: English Conversation Circle for Refugee Claimants (Beginners)

Every Tuesday 11:00 am—12:00 pm, June 16—July 28, 2020

We will “meet” each week on Zoom (an app on your phone or computer)

- Practice your English
- Talk to new people
- Learn more about life in Canada

You can register any week! To get the link, please email Parisa at proofigari@mosaicbc.org

Samuel Chan: SUCCESS BCSIS continues to serve our clients online for employment, settlement, immigration issues.

Check out our website <http://bit.ly/BCSISevents>

and our registration form for events here <http://bit.ly/BCSISRF>

Koyali Burman: SVNH - Parenting Skills in Canada

An informative program for parents of children of all ages

Dates: July 6th, 7th, and 8th

Time: 2.00 to 3.00 pm

Free

Language: Punjabi/ Hindi/ Urdu

Facilitators: Sonika Khosla & Humaira Imtiaz

This program will be offered on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97428132796>

Meeting ID: 974 2813 2796

Password will be provided to an email request.

For more information and registration please call: 604-324-6212 ext 134 or

email: Humaira.imtiaz@southvan.org

MAP gratefully acknowledges the funding provided by Ministry of Jobs, Employment Development and Competitiveness, without whom our work would not be possible.