



**MAP** Multi-Agency  
Partnership BC  
*Working Together for Refugee Claimants*

# MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 53

September 16, 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](mailto:info@mapbc.org)

## **NEWS!!**

- **MAP Meeting Breakout Rooms: don't forget to sign up for your preferred breakout room on Sept 24:**  
1) screening of the multimedia film 'Borderstory', 2) Settlement 3) Mental Health at [info@mapbc.org](mailto:info@mapbc.org)
- **MAP Co-chair Richard Belcham launches a new refugee claimant focused podcast: [Along the Way](#)**  
MAP is excited to support the launch of a fresh new podcast of refugees in conversation with Richard about their lives, their learnings and how far they've come: [Check out Along the Way](#) - starts TODAY!
- **Canadian Council for Refugees Campaign to STOP the Safe Third Country Agreement**  
**MAP** stands firmly behind CARL and CCR in calling on the government to suspend the Safe Thuird Country Agreement. See the article inside and watch the [video](#)

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**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!



*“When faced with the indefensible, the best thing to do is stop defending it.” (Toronto Star editorial, 26 July 2020)*

On July 22, 2020 the [Federal Court ruled](#) that sending refugee claimants back to the USA under the Safe Third Country Agreement violates their right to liberty and security protected by section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Court therefore determined that the Canadian legislation designating the US as a safe third country is of no force or effect. However, the Court ordered that its decision will only take effect after six months, in other words on January 22, 2021. But we cannot countenance six more months of human rights violations.

On 21 August, [the government announced that they are appealing the decision](#). However, it is possible for them to withdraw the appeal.

### **Join us in asking the Government of Canada to:**

- Immediately stop sending refugee claimants back to the United States and suspend the Safe Third Country Agreement.
- Accept the Court’s judgment and withdraw the appeal.

This is a crucial decision and it involves several different Ministers. It is important that the Prime Minister show leadership and do the right thing.

Contact [Prime Minister Trudeau](#) and [your Member of Parliament](#) with the two urgent requests outlined above.

You can also send a message through [Amnesty International's website](#).

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## More information

Watch and share an impactful video created to draw attention to the campaign:

<https://youtu.be/hzRNgzRoHBI>

Read more about the Court’s decision and why sending refugee claimants back to the US is a violation of their fundamental rights: [ccrweb.ca/en/government-must-stop-sending-refugee-claimants-back-US](http://ccrweb.ca/en/government-must-stop-sending-refugee-claimants-back-US)

Here is the reaction to the decision from one woman who was imprisoned in the US after being sent back from Canada under the Safe Third Country Agreement:

*I was really pleased to read the news that the judge put into words the things I experienced – the lack of humanity that I myself endured on being returned to the US. When I think about it, I relive the nightmare of being interrogated in English (a language I didn’t speak fluently at the time), having to answer, without access to a lawyer, questions I didn’t really understand, which later played against me. My only crime was trying to seek asylum in Canada. I was put into detention for having tried to find refuge, which is supposed to be a human right. I spent 10 days in solitary confinement and endured extremely severe conditions in detention. Stopping returning people to the US would mean preventing other people from enduring a nightmare like mine.*  
 (“Morgan”)

Read more about her experiences at [ccrweb.ca/en/why-US-not-safe-challenging-STCA#morgan](http://ccrweb.ca/en/why-US-not-safe-challenging-STCA#morgan))

**Here's a new podcast from Richard Belcham, MAP Co-Chair and ED at Inasmuch Community Society.**

**Launched on September 16, 2020. Check it out and don't forget to share it with your networks...**

## **ALONG THE WAY:**

### **STORIES OF HOPE, REFUGE AND RESILIENCE**



You've read the headlines about refugees and asylum seekers. But behind the statistics are stories. Stories of real people who had to make heartbreaking decisions and perilous journeys to find peace, safety and a life of freedom.

***Along the Way* tells those courageous stories and puts voices and lives to the numbers. Hosted by Richard Belcham, who's worked with refugee claimants in British Columbia, Canada for the last few years, the voices you hear in *Along the Way* will resonate long after each podcast is over. New episodes every month.**

- *Episode 1: The Man At The Airport – Hassan Al Kontar*
- *Episode 2: Albanian Anger and Canadian Peace – Kristi Pinderi*
- *Episode 3: What Guilt She Had To Leave Us – Rawan Moon*

**Listen at:**

**[www.alongthewaystories.com](http://www.alongthewaystories.com) of via [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#).**



In the past 5 years, **Ride for Refuge Vancouver** raised 475,000 dollars for **Journey Home Community**

Did you know last year's Ride for Refuge gathered 354 people to ride or walk for Journey Home?

When the pandemic hit we thought: How are we going to do the Ride this year? It is our biggest fundraiser. Then along came Ride for Refuge Freestyle!

Now we are picking activities that bring us enjoyment and life but still safely bring together family and friends. And it's working!

Our amazing captains have organized experiences and mini-events that you can be part of. What does this mean? — It is not about the ride it is about the refuge — COVID is not stopping us.

So, if you would like to take part and have not yet joined a team you can do so today [here](#) Or if you wish to donate, pick your favourite [team here](#) and bring them closer to their goal.

For us, it's all for refugee families. [www.journeyhomecommunity.ca](http://www.journeyhomecommunity.ca) - Journey Home Community





## Settlement and Integration Program

### The Newcomer Learning Club

Are you a newcomer elementary student?  
Has your learning been interrupted by COVID-19? Then come  
join a safe space to learn, experiment and grow!

Tuesday: Grades 2-4  
Thursdays: Grades 5-7  
Beginning Sep. 15th- Dec. 25th  
from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm via ZOOM

Learning is level appropriate using simple material found at home  
to make exciting experiments with your parents!

Registration in advance required. Priority will go to PR Holders  
Please contact Amal Ballu at [amalb@burnabynh.ca](mailto:amalb@burnabynh.ca) or txt 236-877-2517

For more information

Visit us at [www.burnabynh.ca](http://www.burnabynh.ca)

The Settlement and Integration Program at Burnaby Neighbourhood House Presents:

### The Newcomer Learning Club!

Are you a newcomer elementary student? Has your learning been interrupted by COVID-19? Then come join a safe space to learn, experiment and grow!



Tuesday: Grades 2-4 & Thursdays: Grades 5-7

Beginning Sep. 15<sup>th</sup>- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm via ZOOM

Learning is level appropriate using simple material found at home  
to make exciting experiments with your parents!

Tuesdays: Grades 2-4

- Week 1: Force, Work & Energy
- Week 2: Simple Machines
- Week 3: Let's Lift with Levers
- Week 4: Make a spinning top
- Week 5: Light
- Week 6: Optical Illusion
- Week 7: The Digestive and Respiratory Systems
- Week 8: The Solar System
- Week 9: Matter
- Week 10: The Brain
- Week 11: Solutions
- Week 12: Teeth

Thursdays: Grades 5-7

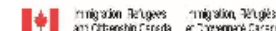
- Week 1: Force, Work & Energy
- Week 2: Simple Machines
- Week 3: Let's Lift with Levers
- Week 4: Make a helicopter
- Week 5: Light
- Week 6: Optical illusions
- Week 7: Refractions of Light
- Week 8: The Planets
- Week 9: Structure of the Brain
- Week 10: Newton's Law of Motion
- Week 11: Saturated Solutions
- Week 12: Structure of the Tooth

Registration in advance required. Priority will go to PR Holders  
Please contact Amal Ballu at [amalb@burnabynh.ca](mailto:amalb@burnabynh.ca) or txt 236-877-2517  
For more information, please visit [www.burnabynh.ca](http://www.burnabynh.ca)



Burnaby Neighbourhood House  
4660 Renfrew Street  
Burnaby, BC V5H 0B8

Financed by



*Join us at AMSSA's 43rd Annual General Meeting!*



This year, to ensure we're practicing safe social distancing, the AMSSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held online for the first time. An agenda and background documents will be sent to registrants closer to the AGM date. We look forward to seeing you online!

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Friday, October 2, 2020

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM PDT

**Location:** Online - a Zoom link will be provided upon registration.

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**Highlights include:**

Marcus Reid, AMSSA Board Director will present the 2020 AMSSA Diversity Awards including the Riasat Ali Khan Diversity Award and Service Recognition Staff Award.

Katie Crocker, AMSSA's CEO will present our 2020-2025 Strategic Plan.

Dan Hiebert, PhD, Professor of Geography at UBC will deliver a keynote address on recessions in Canada, their impact on immigration, and how history can predict the future of post-COVID immigration.

**Please RSVP by September 28, 2020**

**We ask that voting members log on to the AGM at 9:30 AM.**

**[REGISTER BY CLICKING HERE](#)**

## **HSABC annual conference (September 24<sup>th</sup> + 25<sup>th</sup>). This year we are going online for the conference and it is only \$50 to attend.**

[HSABC's Annual Conference](#) is quickly approaching.

Throughout COVID-19, HSABC has been supporting our homelessness services sector with information, education, coordination and advocacy. So, when we decided to move the Conference online we realized there were two great opportunities:

- 1) Building on the partnerships between health and homelessness that has emerged during the pandemic response; and
- 2) Making the Conference accessible so that we can all learn and grow together.

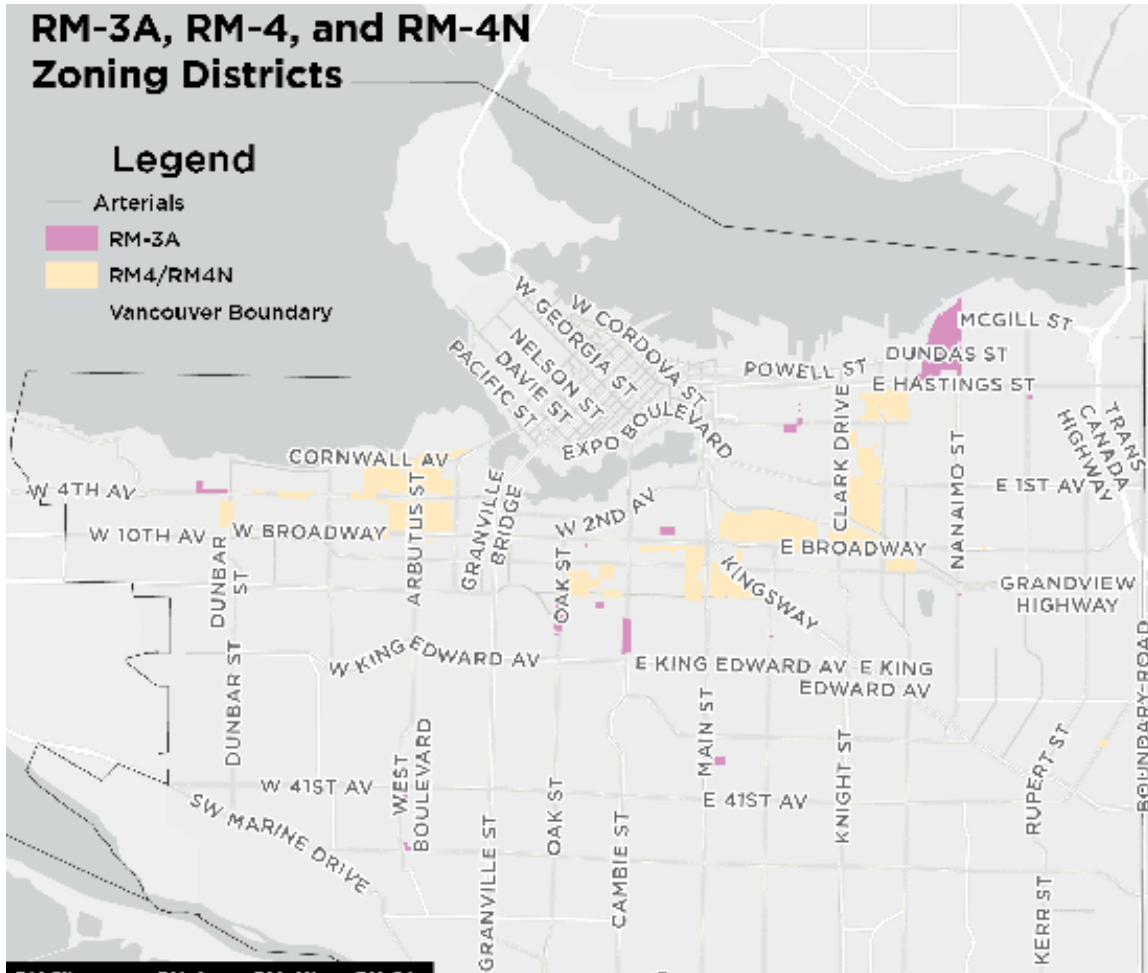
With this focus on health and homelessness, we have put together an incredible [Conference Program](#), with regional dialogues, panels, workshops and training sessions, and keynote addresses from community leaders. We are so excited about the workshops and know it will be hard to chose which one to attend. So, we are giving registered participants exclusive access to all the workshop recordings for 6-months after the Conference.

To make sure the Conference is accessible, we are keeping Member registration fees to \$50 and non-member to \$125. To ensure everyone can benefit from the reduced Member rate, we have made [Joining HSABC](#) easy. Moreover, if the Conference participation fee presents a financial hardship, we are offering full bursaries through my colleague [Zharkyn](#).

The Conference will be a great opportunity for you to learn and connect. I would encourage you to [register now](#).

The **City of Vancouver** is considering changes to streamline the development process for new non-profit housing in select apartment areas across the city.

These changes are intended to help existing non-profit societies and co-ops renew existing buildings and build more housing over time, to ensure the city has enough safe, secure, and affordable homes today and into the future. These zoning changes for non-profit housing are being considered in RM-3A, RM-4, and RM-4N zoning districts throughout the city. Typically, these areas consist of three storey condominium and rental apartment buildings. These zoning amendments would enable non-profit social and co-op housing up to 6 storeys.



### Get involved

We want your input on these proposals for non-profit social and co-op housing.

To learn more and to take the survey, please visit our website:

<https://shapeyourcity.ca/non-profit-affordable-housing>. The survey will be open until **September 27<sup>th</sup>**.

# DIGNIDAD MIGRANTE – FILM OF THE EXHIBITION ‘LITTLE MEXICO’

Please see the video about the exhibition that a Dignidad Member staged in Abbotsford about Temporary Foreign Workers

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLfIG3i\\_dE4&t=21s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLfIG3i_dE4&t=21s)



## Dignidad Migrante Society

880 Malkin Ave. Vancouver, BC, V6A 2K6

**Phone:** [778-791-3419](tel:778-791-3419) || [604-754-3419](tel:604-754-3419)    **Fax:** [604-299-1673](tel:604-299-1673)

**FB:** [dignidadmigrantesociety/](https://www.facebook.com/dignidadmigrantesociety/)

**YouTube:** [DIGNIDAD-DIGNITY](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDIGNIDAD-DIGNITY)

**Website:** [dignidadmigrantesociety.org](https://www.dignidadmigrantesociety.org)

## Flavours of Hope

is a non-profit social enterprise that empowers and celebrates newcomer refugee women through cooking, storytelling, and entrepreneurship.



We have pivoted our cultural food community events and farmers market work with COVID (like everyone else), and now we are focusing events to online activities and in person small outdoor gatherings in the parks. We have some exciting social activities (in person and online) for newcomer women in September. Through these activities led by newcomer refugee women from Flavours of Hope, we hope to create opportunities for women to connect, make friends, learn about different cultures, and build a sense of belonging.

### SEE DIFFERENT ACTIVITY POSTERS ATTACHED

We will be offering **weekly online Intercultural Tea Times on Zoom** (we will have one meet up in the park per month) to provide flexibility for both in person and online gatherings.

We have another exciting activities to connect women together in September:

**Coffee & Art** - Connect over coffee, desserts, and art at an outdoor patio on **Saturday, September 26 at 3:00pm at 49th Parallel Cafe**. We will enjoy coffee together and use art to express ourselves and our stories.

Register by emailing: [trixie@flavoursofhope.com](mailto:trixie@flavoursofhope.com)

We hope these activities will create meaningful connections and relationships in this isolating pandemic time.



Dear Community Partners:

We are excited to announce the ***Arrival Advisor Multilingual Online Demo Series***, delivered in partnership with [AMSSA](#), from September 15 to October 9, 2020.

Since the launch of [Arrival Advisor](#) in March 2019, we've released four more languages and added search and feedback functions on the app. The online demos are available in English, Arabic, French, Korean, Mandarin, Punjabi, and Tagalog, with examples tailored to regional specificity. The first part of the series (September 15 - 18) is tailored to Greater Vancouver and Fraser Valley (see attached poster). The demo schedule for Vancouver Island, Interior, and Northern BC will be announced in the coming weeks.

We welcome all newcomers as well as settlement staff to join us for the free online demos. Please share the information with your clients and network.

Here's the schedule for the Greater Vancouver and Fraser Valley series, including links to translated posters and registration:

- Sep 16 (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM): **Arabic** - [Poster](#), [Registration](#)
- Sep 16 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM): **French** - [Poster](#), [Registration](#)
- Sep 17 (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM): **Mandarin** - [Poster](#), [Registration](#)
- Sep 17 (2:00 PM - 3:00 PM): **Korean** - [Poster](#), [Registration](#)
- Sep 18 (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM): **Tagalog** - [Poster](#), [Registration](#)

We appreciate your continued support for the Arrival Advisor project and PeaceGeeks. If you have any questions please contact: **Jean Parlina**, Project Coordinator, Community Engagement & Outreach e. [jean@peacegeeks.org](mailto:jean@peacegeeks.org)



Event in partnership: [Jumpstart Refugee Talent](#) & [ISSofBC: Global Talent Loans Program](#)

## Career Readiness Workshop for Refugees (see poster attached)

Are you a REFUGEE or a REFUGEE CLAIMANT?

Are you looking to find meaningful employment that aligns with your previous work experience and/or educational experience?

Join this workshop and by the end of it you will learn about:

- ✓ Effective career navigation strategies for refugees
- ✓ Welcome Talent Canada: The only national mentorship program for refugees (Free)
- ✓ Loans that support the training and education of refugees in Canada

Date: [Wednesday, September 23, 2020](#)

Event Theme: [Free Career Readiness workshop for refugees and information about Global Talent Loans Program benefits for refugees](#)

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm Pacific Time

Who can attend: [This workshop is targeted to skilled refugees and refugee claimants with professional backgrounds residing in British Columbia \(BC\)](#)

Location: [Online | A GoToMeeting link will be sent to registered attendees](#)

RSVP: [23092020.eventbrite.ca](#)

Career Readiness Workshop delivered by: [Masa Kateb](#), Jumpstart Refugee Talent, Manager of Projects

Questions? [Masa Kateb](#), Manager of Projects

[Jumpstart Refugee Talent | Vancouver](#)

[604-442-2556](#)

[masa.kateb@jumpstartRefugee.ca](mailto:masa.kateb@jumpstartRefugee.ca)

[www.rcjp.ca](http://www.rcjp.ca)

**The Burnaby Immigrant Partnership Employment Working Group** has organized a series of workshops on *Understanding the needs and challenges of recruitment post pandemic in different sectors*.

The second workshop will be **September 24** between 9:00 – 11:00 am. Please share within your networks, staff and clients. (see poster attached)

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Sep 24, 2020 09:00 AM Vancouver

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAuf--vpj8sE9aYNIUiOz7-Q3yvyngScOMx>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**PS - The following workshop will be October 15 – Retail / Hospitality / Warehousing**

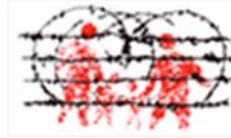
Ana Maria Bustamante, BIPT Coordinator

Burnaby Family Life

Phone: 604-419-6919 / Mobile: 604-349-7158

[abustamante@burnabyfamilylife.org](mailto:abustamante@burnabyfamilylife.org)

[www.bipt.ca](http://www.bipt.ca)



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés  
Canadian Council for Refugees

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## Fall Consultation, save the date!

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For the second time this year, we will be holding a virtual Consultation. The Fall Consultation will be taking place from **Thursday 26 November to Friday 11 December 2020**.

The Annual General Meeting will be on **Friday 11 December 2020**.

More information (registration, program, time, etc.) to come in the upcoming weeks but in the meantime, please pencil it in your calendars!

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## Call for nominations - CCR Executive Elections

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We will be electing several Executive members at the Annual General Meeting this fall, including the **Treasurer** and **Secretary**. Please consider whether your organization could support a candidate for one of these important positions within the CCR, or whether there is someone from another organization you could encourage to run. The deadline for nominations is **Friday 6 November 2020**.

Please, read the [Letter from the Nominating Committee for Executive Elections](#) for more information about the eligibility criteria and for the Nomination Form.

Applications are now being accepted for the following **City of Vancouver** social grants programs:

**1. Direct Social Services (DSS)**

Direct Social Services Grants: <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/direct-social-services-grants.aspx>

**2. Organizational Capacity Building (OCB)**

Organizational Capacity Building Grants: <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/organizational-capacity-building-grants.aspx>

- **Application Deadline:** Friday, October 16, 2020 at 4:30 PM.  
Eligibility, program criteria and other information can be found online at the links provided above.
- **Information Sessions**  
On-line info sessions will provide an opportunity for applicants to ask questions, and to address COVID-19-related concerns with completing applications. Please join us on one of these dates:

**Session 1: Friday, September 25th, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM    Session 2: Wednesday, September 30th, 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

To register or send questions about either session, please contact the Social Policy Grants team at [socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca](mailto:socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca)

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**SAVE THE DATE: Social Indicators and Trends in Vancouver's Neighbourhoods**

**Data Webinar: Tuesday October 6th, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

Join us for an overview of the latest local level research on Vancouver's social indicators and community trends and resources you can access to inform your grant application and understand the impacts of COVID-19 on different populations in the city.

For more information contact [SocialPolicy.Research@vancouver.ca](mailto:SocialPolicy.Research@vancouver.ca)



**The City of Vancouver** would like to ask for your help in distributing a survey to residents who participate in the programs and services offered by your organization. The topic of the survey is the "**random order ballot**" used in the 2018 municipal election in the City of Vancouver. The survey can be filled out by all residents, even if they did not vote in the 2018 municipal election. The results will be used to provide feedback to Vancouver City Council on which type of ballot people think is the most fair and easy to use.

The survey is part of an initiative called [Your City Hall](#), which includes a set of tools and resources for learning how City Hall works, how to get involved, and how to make change happen. **The goals and actions of Your City Hall are informed by a number of initiatives including VIPs important work on Youth Civics101.**

We are particularly interested in hearing from residents from diverse backgrounds. To that end, the survey is available in Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Punjabi, Tagalog, and English. The links to the survey in each language are found below.

We are asking that responses be completed by **September 18, 2020**.

If you have any questions about the survey please contact [yourcityhall@vancouver.ca](mailto:yourcityhall@vancouver.ca) Thank you!

随机顺序选票调查 <http://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/random-ballot-simplified-chinese>

本次调查的目的是收集有关温哥华市 2018 年市政选举中使用的"随机顺序选票"的反馈。即使您没有在 2018 年市政选举中投票，我们也希望收到您的反馈。

您的意见将反馈到温哥华市议会，向他们反映选民认为哪种选票最公平、最容易使用。

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隨機順序選票調查 <http://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/random-ballot-traditional-chinese>

本次調查的目的是收集有關溫哥華市 2018 年市政選舉中使用的"隨機順序選票"的意見。即使您沒有在 2018 年市政選舉中投票，我們也希望收到您的意見。

您的意見將向溫哥華市議會提供回饋，反映選民認為哪種選票最公平、最容易使用。



ਰੈਂਡਮ ਆਰਡਰ ਬੈਲਟ ਸਰਵੇਖਣ <http://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/random-ballot-punjabi>  
ਇਸ ਸਰਵੇਖਣ ਦਾ ਉਦੇਸ਼ ਸਿਟੀ ਆਫ ਵੈਨਕੂਵਰ ਦੀਆਂ 2018 ਦੀਆਂ ਮਿਊਨਿਸਪਲ ਚੋਣਾਂ 'ਚ ਵਰਤੇ ਗਏ 'ਰੈਂਡਮ ਆਰਡਰ ਬੈਲਟ' ਬਾਰੇ ਫੀਡਬੈਕ ਇਕੱਠੀ ਕਰਨਾ ਹੈ। ਅਸੀਂ ਫਿਰ ਵੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਫੀਡਬੈਕ ਲੈਣੀ ਚਾਹਾਂਗੇ ਭਾਵੇਂ 2018 ਦੀਆਂ ਮਿਊਨਿਸਪਲ ਚੋਣਾਂ 'ਚ ਤੁਸਾਂ ਵੋਟ ਨਹੀਂ ਵੀ ਪਾਈ।  
ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਫੀਡਬੈਕ ਵੈਨਕੂਵਰ ਸਿਟੀ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਫੀਡਬੈਕ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਵਰਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ ਕਿ ਕਿਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦਾ ਬੈਲਟ, ਵੋਟਰ ਸੋਚਦੇ ਹਨ ਕਿ ਸਭ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਉਚਿੱਤ ਅਤੇ ਵਰਤਣ ਨੂੰ ਸੌਖਾ ਹੈ।

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Survey sa Random Order na Balota <http://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/random-ballot-tagalog>  
Ang layunin ng survey na ito ay para lumikom ng komentaryo ukol sa "random order na balota" na ginamit sa eleksyong pang-munisipalidad sa Lungsod ng Vancouver noon 2018. Gusto namin ang iyong komentaryo kahit na hindi ka nakaboto noong eleksyong pang-munisipalidad noong 2018.  
Ang iyong komentaryo ay gagamitin upang makapagbigay ng komentaryo sa Konseho ng Lungsod ng Vancouver ukol sa klase ng balota na sa tingin ng mga mamboboto ay pinakapatas at madaling gamitin.

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Random Order Ballot Survey <http://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/random-ballot-english>  
The purpose of this survey is to gather feedback on the "random order ballot" used in the 2018 municipal election in the City of Vancouver. We would like your feedback even if you did not vote in the 2018 municipal election.

Your feedback will be used to provide feedback to Vancouver City Council on which type of ballot voters think is the most fair and easy to use.