



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 54

September 23, 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!!

- **MAP BC** has adjusted it's September 24 Agenda to reflect the withdrawal of the presentation 'Pathway to Hope' by the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, because of the election. In it's place we encourage a free flow of ideas and commentaries about providing services to refugee claimants over the last 6 months of the pandemic. How has it been for you and your agency? What do you need? What is your best suggestion for others and for the government moving forward? Join us on Thursday for this critical dialogue.
- **MAP Meeting Breakout Rooms:** the main room will be used for Settlement discussions - don't forget to sign up for the screening of the multimedia film 'Borderstory' if that is your preference. Let us know at info@mapbc.org

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!

MOSAIC is hosting a free **Refugee Claim Process in Canada workshop** on Tuesday, September 29th, 2020.
(Please circulate it, thank you)

Time: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Location: Workshop on ZOOM (phone or computer)

Learn about the refugee claim process in Canada, including:

- Who can apply?
- How to submit a refugee claim?
- What is the process?
- How can MOSAIC support you?

Registration is required for this information session.

Cantonese interpretation available upon request.

To register or for information, please contact Tracy at ttang@mosaicbc.org.



The Refugee Claim Process in Canada

Tuesday September 29th 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Workshop on ZOOM (phone or computer)

Learn about the refugee claim process in Canada, including:

- Who can apply?
- How to submit a refugee claim?
- What is the process?
- How can MOSAIC support you?

Registration is required for this information session.

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WelcomeBC



MOSAIC

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness.

MOSAIC online English Conversation Circle for Refugee Claimants (Beginners) is hosting on Tuesday from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm from September 29th to November 10th, 2020. These online sessions will be hosted on Zoom (available on phone or computer). Clients can register and get the link to join the Zoom sessions by emailing Parisa at proofigari@mosaicbc.org.

Please share with any refugee claimant clients who might be interested in practicing their English and learn more about life in Canada!

Frequently Asked Questions:

-
- ✓ Every Tuesday from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- ✓ Zoom – An online App (can be used on phone or computer)
- ✓ Clients can register any week
- ✓ Farsi language support
- ✓ All refugee claimants welcome! Participants can attend even if they are still waiting for their ID.

Please don't hesitate to contact Parisa via email at proofigari@mosaicbc.org if you have any questions.



ONLINE: English Conversation Circle for Refugee Claimants (Beginners)

Every Tuesday 11:00 am—12:00 pm
September 29 — November 10, 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



We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness.



Settlement and Integration Program

Newcomer Youth Circle

Are you a newcomer interested in sharing your ideas & experiences with others?
Are you between the ages of 15-18? Maybe the Youth Circle is for you!

Join us on Wednesdays with Shaza, a UBC student and a newcomer youth herself!

**September 23rd until December 9th
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
via ZOOM**

All are Welcome!

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

For more information

Visit us at www.burnabynh.ca

Poster attached in PDF



The Settlement and Integration Program at Burnaby Neighbourhood House Presents:

Newcomer Youth Circle

Are you a newcomer interested in sharing your ideas and experiences with others? Are you between the ages of 15-18? Maybe the Youth Circle is the place for you!



Join us on Wednesdays with Shaza, a UBC student and a newcomer youth herself! Passionate about community integration, she enjoys supporting and engaging newcomer youth.
Beginning Wednesday, Sep. 23rd - Dec. 9th from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm via ZOOM

- o Finding common ground as a newcomer youth
- o Effective communication
- o Effective time management
- o Applying for a university, scholarships and grants
- o Family relationships
- o Planning for the future: choosing a career and/or field of study
- o Mental health and wellbeing
- o Finding job opportunities
- o Civic engagement
- o Build strong social supports
- o Connect with other BNH programs

All are Welcome! Registration in advance required. Priority will go to PR Holders
Please contact Amal Ballu at amalb@burnabynh.ca or txt 236-877-2517
For more information, please visit www.burnabynh.ca



Burnaby Neighbourhood House
4460 Burncliff Street
Burnaby, BC V5H 0B8



City invites Black and African diaspora communities to collaborate at town hall

On Thursday September 24, the perspectives of the Black and African Diaspora communities will be elevated and centred at a virtual town hall with the City of Vancouver focused on addressing anti-Black racism.

At the town hall the City will respond to the comprehensive recommendations from the Black and African diaspora communities, update on the actions that are being taken, and listen as the communities contribute their priorities, concerns, and aspirations for the next steps that the City needs to take.

The event will be facilitated by community activist Vanessa Richards, and hosted by City Manager Sadhu Johnston and General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services, Sandra Singh. Johnston, speaking about the town hall, said: “As we build a city that everyone can thrive in, our goal is to ensure that Black and African diaspora community members are fully able to contribute their ideas and priorities as we shape our anti-Black racism strategy and upcoming initiatives.

“We recognize that for too long anti-Black racism, and the systems that allow and support it, including our own, have gone unacknowledged and unaddressed in Vancouver. We see this town hall as a key step in working collaboratively with the communities who have invested so much time and labour into this work and putting these requests into action with dedicated resources and funding,” Johnston said.

Recent events have renewed the City’s commitment to tackling these issues with greater dialogue and accountability. The town hall is the latest step that the City is taking to address historic and ongoing anti-Black racism, which has painful, deep, and lasting impacts on residents and families.

Ahead of the event, staff have prepared a [detailed summary](#) of the valuable recommendations, research and analysis that community members have invested time and labour in sharing with the City, as well as outlining the upcoming initiatives that are proposed to accelerate this crucial work.

These community recommendations are already shaping the upcoming anti-Black racism strategy and equity work that is underway.



The virtual town hall, which is also intended to provide space for Black residents who may not have shared their ideas before, will be attended by several City leaders. Speakers will share information about the current initiatives that their department is working on in response to the community recommendations, answer questions from community members and actively listen to the proposed priorities and perspectives voiced by community members.

City Manager Sadhu Johnston and Sandra Singh, General Manager for Arts, Culture and Community Services, will host the town hall and other members of the City Leadership Team including:

- Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
- Gil Kelley, General Manager of Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability
- Lon LaClaire, General Manager of Engineering Services
- Francie Connell, Director of Legal Services
- Andrew Naklicki, Chief Human Resources Manager

The anti-Black racism town hall will take place from 6-8pm on Thursday, September 24.

The City is inviting and centring the perspectives of Black and African diaspora communities in this discussion. Participants who want to actively participate in the discussion can email equity@vancouver.ca for log-in details. The event will also be livestreamed on [YouTube](#) for members of the Black and African diaspora communities who want to watch , allies and the general public.

We encourage participants to submit questions or comments ahead of time via the City's [Shape Your City website](#).

Additional resources

- [Addressing anti-Black racism: Black & African diaspora community recommendations executive summary and detailed summary](#)
- [Organization chart for City Leadership Team](#)
- [Anti-racism & equity webpage](#)
- [Bios for facilitator Vanessa Richards and City Leadership team](#)



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés
Canadian Council for Refugees

Dear CCR member,

We will be holding a virtual meeting on issues for refugee claimants on **Thursday 1 October** - one of our regular quarterly meetings.

Virtual meeting on refugee claimants

When: Thursday 1 October 2020, 11am Pacific

The meeting will last 60 minutes.

Register here: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtf--grzMiHdEWecJoTIdfQ8B4WY3XE7y1>

Janet Dench, Canadian Council for Refugees

From the Multiculturalism Branch - Resilience BC:

[Resilience BC \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca) hate crimes website, has developed the following videos in partnership with the Vancouver Asian Film Festival Society.

The videos provide a snapshot of what hate crimes are, along with suggestions for victims and witnesses on how to respond.

They are currently available in seven languages: [English \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Mandarin \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Cantonese \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Korean \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Tagalog \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Vietnamese \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca), [Japanese \[hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca\]](https://hatecrimesinbc.resiliencebcnetwork.ca)).

They are also available on the [BC Government's YouTube Channel \[youtube.com\]](https://youtube.com) which enables them to be shared more directly on social media.

We are continuing to work with VAFF to develop additional videos in French, Punjabi, Hindi, Farsi, Arabic and Spanish and will let you know when these are available. In the meantime, there is written content on the Resilience BC site in these languages.

Alison Dudley

Executive Director | Multiculturalism Branch | Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture

Suite 301 – 865 Hornby St., Vancouver, BC V6Z 1T9

Territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sel̓ilwítulh (Tseil Waututh) peoples

Email: Alison.Dudley@gov.bc.ca; Cell: 236-818-1150; www.resiliencebcnetwork.ca [resiliencebcnetwork.ca]



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.

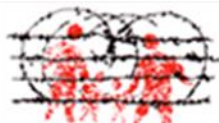
The webinar will cover the following topics:

- Population-level data on demographics and trends for all of Vancouver's neighbourhoods
- Analysis of how COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted populations and communities in the city
- Current state analysis and recovery work of Vancouver's Non-Profit Sector

The session will also provide an opportunity for attendees to ask specific data questions on any communities of interest in Vancouver relevant to their work area. The Social Policy Data team staff will be available to identify resources that can be accessed to inform grant applications and understand the impacts of COVID-19 on different populations in the city. Participants are encouraged to send questions in advance or bring them to the webinar to be addressed through a personalized break-out session.

To register and for more information contact: SocialPolicy.Research@vancouver.ca

The meeting link will be sent along with the confirmation of your registration.



“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](#).

2 pages



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

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)

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

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 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.

It's all for refugee families. 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 or txt 236-877-2517

For more information

Visit us at 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. 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!

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

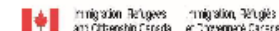
Week 12: Structure of the Tooth

Registration in advance required. Priority will go to PR Holders
Please contact Amal Ballu at amalb@burnabynh.ca or txt 236-877-2517
For more information, please visit 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.

page 2



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 24th + 25th). 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.

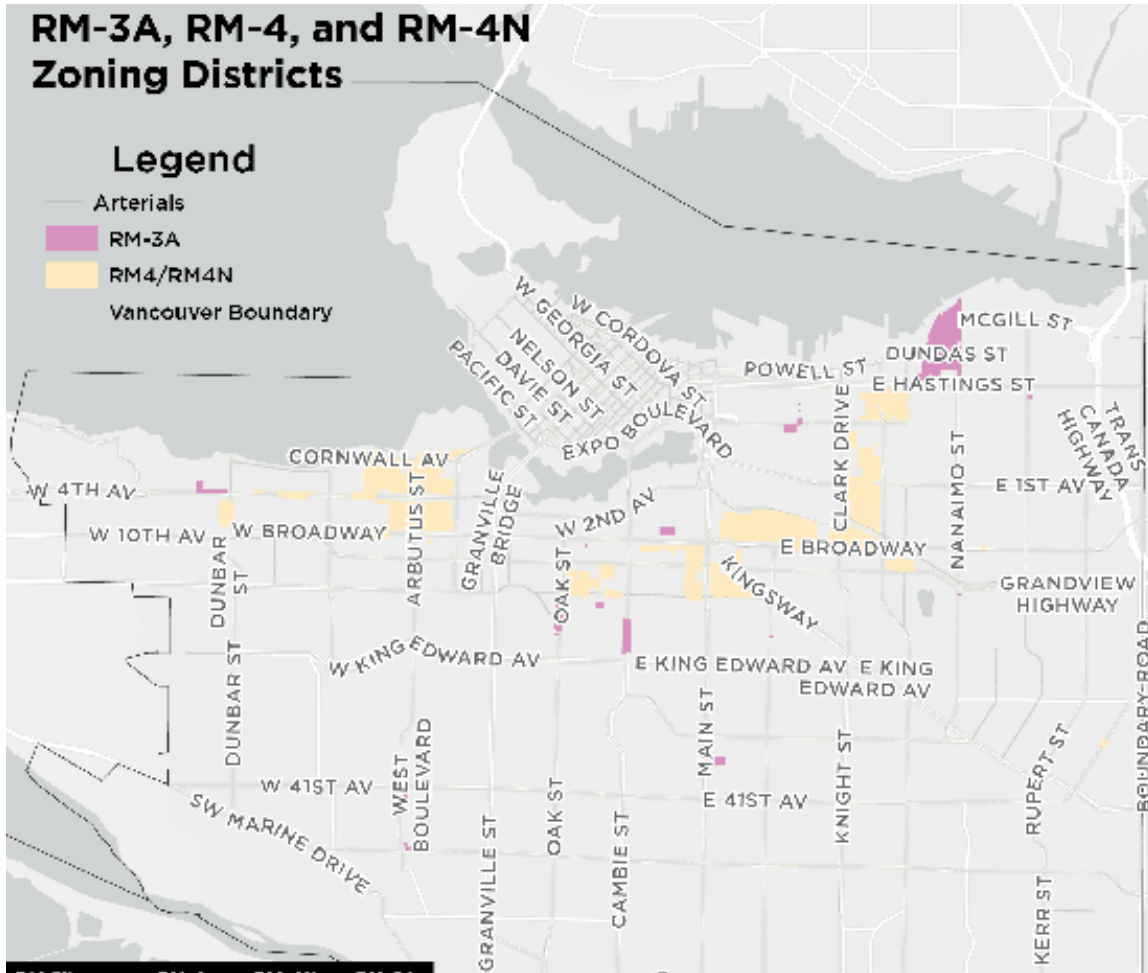
With this focus on health and homelessness, we have put together an incredible [Conference Program](#), with regional dialogues, panels, workshops and training sessions, and keynote addresses from community leaders. We are so excited about the workshops and know it will be hard to choose which one to 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.

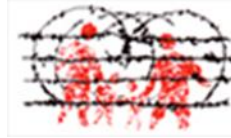


Get involved

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 27th**.



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés
Canadian Council for Refugees

Fall Consultation, save the date!

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!

Call for nominations - CCR Executive Elections

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.