



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 67

January 13, 2021

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

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT COVID-19 TESTING (as emailed earlier to MAP members)

- **All Covid-19 tests are free**, except for those done for travel-related reasons.
Therefore, refugee claimants and anyone without MSP coverage or a PHN can still get a free Covid-19 test and call in for their results.

Testing information re: sites, etc., is available here: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/covid-19/testing>.

Please share with ALL your clients – some may be hesitant to get tested if they think a cost is involved.

- **Claimants do NOT need to provide their employer a paper/hard copy of the result.** Employers have no right in requesting a "hard copy" or asking to be CC'd in Covid-19 tests. It is private medical information.
It is extremely difficult for someone who does not have a PHN to get a hard copy. The only two services for people to get hard copy results are My eHealth and BC Health Gateway and they require a PHN to register.
Therefore, for those without a PHN, they will have to CALL for a result via the phone and then request a text be sent to them.
That is the only option available.

Thank you for sharing this information that will keep both clients and the community at large safe.

MAP NEWS!!

- The Agenda for MAP's January 28 meeting is coming out tomorrow! Look for a 2-part series on **mental health** related to refugee claimants AND the frontline workers who support them.
- The first lecture in MAP's new series 'In Focus' will be revealed soon! Titled 'A Bitter Pill...' it will open your eyes!

Thank you for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants - Jenny Lam and Richard Belcham - and the other Jenny!



QMUNITY is adopting a shared leadership model and introducing two **Co-Executive Director** positions!

The existing ED will take one position – so do you know LGBTQ2SAI+ folk primed and ready for a leadership position? Folks who are committed to consensus building, emergent movement-building, and putting into practice shared leadership principles? The second Co-Executive Director will have strategic oversight of QMUNITY's community programs and services, including our seniors, youth, counselling and volunteer programs.

QMUNITY is also hiring for a full-time, 18-month position - **Coordinator, Social Impact & Provincial Services**; job description is also attached and applications are due Sunday, January 17th. This position will provide oversight and support to evaluation and monitoring of programs, and support our mandate as a provincial organization by establishing partnerships and extending our services across BC.

All positions can be viewed in depth here: qmunity.ca/jobs Please note deadlines for applications exist.

The CRA is launching a new grant program for organizations that host free tax clinics!

Every tax season, community organizations partner with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to offer free tax clinics. This is made possible through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP).

Currently, community organizations that run tax clinics must cover the cost of these events. The CRA knows that these costs can be a challenge for participating organizations and that they may be a barrier for encouraging others to sign up.

To offer more support to community organizations and to encourage others to sign up, the CRA is piloting a new grant program for the upcoming tax season. The grant program will help organizations offset some of these costs and provide funding for returns filed so they can focus on what they do best – helping people in need.

The CRA will be investing more than 10 million over three years toward the new grant program. Organizations will be able to submit grant applications starting in May 2021.

You can find more information about the grant program, including eligibility criteria, at canada.ca/free-tax-clinics-grant.

If you're interested in running a free tax clinic in 2021, visit [Host a free tax clinic](#). With more organizations offering the service, more Canadians will have the support they need to get their taxes done cost- and stress-free, and receive their benefits and credits.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

I am sharing job postings for 2 positions that are currently available at IEC-BC.

The application deadline for the Coordinator, Learning and Inclusive Workplaces is Jan 21 and Jan. 20 for the Project Coordinator, SPRINT. Kindly share with your networks. Thank you.

[Coordinator, Learning and Inclusive Workplace \[iecbc.ca\]](#)

[Project Coordinator, SPRINT \[iecbc.ca\]](#)

[https://iecbc.ca/opportunities/ \[iecbc.ca\]](https://iecbc.ca/opportunities/)

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Statistics Canada is delighted to invite you to our **free** upcoming information sessions. This is a new series to Statistics Canada. They are live online presentations that may include interactive components during the sessions, a Q&A period, and conclude with a poll.

Please note: Advanced registration is required. As spaces are limited, please register early! If a session becomes full and you would like to attend a future session, please email us at statcan.westinfo-ouestinfo.statcan@canada.ca.

Information Session: Considerations for Displaying Data using Graphs

Description: One of the main objectives of statistics is to distill data into information which can be summarized and easily understood. Data visualizations, which include graphs and charts, are powerful ways of doing so. The purpose of this information session is to provide examples of common graphs and charts, highlight practical advice to help the audience choose the right display for their data, and identify what to avoid and why. An overall objective is to build capacity and increase understanding of fundamental techniques which foster accurate and effective dissemination of statistics and research findings.

Intended Target Audience: This is an **introductory** information session; it may be too basic for advanced data users.

Language, Dates, Times, and Registration Links:

- **English:** January 21, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CBTc0bK6ST2pOFLYENmFrg
- **English:** January 26, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PeumWakSSHkd_AV49MdOMw
- **English:** February 3, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1CVhrt--SfK7VukgiAj9TA
- **French:** January 28, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ohvgGOQRRci2cnvAcUh7OA

Once on the registration page, the language that is displayed can be modified using the option at the bottom of the web page. We recommend that you join the session at least 5 minutes before the scheduled starting time.

Statistics Canada strives to accommodate and make our services accessible to all people. If you have any accessibility requirements, please let us know when you register for a session. These sessions are offered by the Data Service Centre. Some of the services we offer include:

- assisting data users with simple and complex data requests;
- offering standard and customized workshops for data users of different levels of expertise;
- engaging in outreach activities through webinars, newsletters and presentations.

Questions? statcan.westinfo-ouestinfo.statcan@canada.ca

UBC Centre for Migration Studies is thrilled to announce the **Winter 2021 Speaker Series** schedule. Please find a brief overview of the upcoming virtual talks below and in the attached PDF. You can view the full calendar and RSVP on our website [here](#).

- **Friday, January 29th, 2021** at 12:00-1:00pm (PT): "Viral Borders" by [Dr. Nicholas De Genova](#)
- **Wednesday, February 10th, 2021** at 12:30-2:00pm (PT): "Situating Intersectionality in Migrant Health" by [Dr. Denise L. Spitzer](#)
- **Friday, February 19th, 2021** at 11:00am-12:30pm (PT): "On the Road: Mobility and Social Differentiation" by [Dr. Claudia Moatti](#)
- **Monday, February 22nd, 2021** at 12:15-1:30pm (PT): "Local Suffrage Increases Citizenship Acquisition: Evidence from the European Union" by [Dr. Hannah Alarian](#)
- **Friday, February 26th, 2021** at 10:00-11:30am (PT): "Social exclusion, symbolic boundaries and convivial labour in East London's context of ongoing immigration" by [Dr. Susanne Wessendorf](#)
- **Thursday, March 4th, 2021** at 12:30-2:00pm (PT): "The Politics of South-South Migration" by [Dr. Nikhar Gaikwad](#)
- **Monday, March 8th, 2021** at 12:30-2:00pm (PT): "Re-settler society: Refugee sponsorship as Canadian narratives" by [Dr. Audrey Macklin](#).
- **Monday, March 29th, 2021** at 12:30-2:00pm (PT): "Mexico's New Slavery: A Critique of Neo-Abolitionism to Combat Human Trafficking (la trata de personas)" by [Dr. Grace Peña Delgado](#).
- **Thursday, April 8th, 2021** at 11:00am-12:30pm (PT): "Other Europes in Moments of Post-Otherness" by [Dr. Regina Römhild](#)

Please feel free to circulate this announcement widely and we look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

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MAP MEETING SCHEDULE 2021

Dear MAP members,

Here are the dates of MAP meetings in 2020 and content information for the first quarter.

ALL meetings will be online via Zoom until BC Health Directives permit in-person large group gatherings.

Any changes necessary during the year will be quickly communicated to MAP members as soon as possible.

MEETING	MEETING THEME (if known)	MAP Business and regular reports
January 28	PART 1 – Mental Health Series Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions: Pathway to Hope and it's application to Refugee Claimants	Call for Nominations for MAP Executive Co-chair. BC Refugee Hub update BC CHARMS Update
February 18 (One week early to allow for BCSIS Provincial Meeting)	PART 2 – Mental Health Series Asli Kucukbumin Counselling Mental Health and self-help tips for frontline work 	MAP Executive Election BC Refugee Hub update BC CHARMS Update
March 25		CBSA Quarterly Report BC Refugee Hub update BC CHARMS Update
April 22		
May 27		
June 24		
<i>No meetings in July and August 2021</i>		
September 23		
October 28		
November 25		
<i>No meeting in December 2021</i>		

Do you have lived-experience as a refugee?

Do you see yourself advocating for Human Rights?

Would you like to deepen or broaden your identity as an advocate?

Explore your vision, learn new skills, have fun, and network with those in the field.

Apply for the Survivor Advocate Program today. See more information on the next page (also attached)

Application Deadline: January 15th, 2021.

See more detail on the next page and to apply, follow the link: <https://forms.gle/Psfwf37ysacjM816A>



Survivor Advocate Capacity Building Program

Winter 2021



What: An experiential-based learning program that bridges the personal and collective experience of social injustice with advocacy-informed skills building, and the capacity for social change. Themes to be explored include: The Personal and The Collective, (My) Truth, (My) Voice, (My) Story, (My) Power, The Audience, Working Together, A Better Future. Advocacy skills development (to be confirmed) will focus on social media, podcasting, engaging boards of directors, advocating through art, working with community agencies, working towards policy change, and international activism.

When: Winter 2021. Weekly for 10 Sessions. Starting January 2021 (exact date to be determined)

Who: Offered by the Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture (VAST). Funded by the United Nations (UN), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Who is Eligible: Former clients of VAST (including anyone who has accessed groups or individual sessions); Convention Refugees (CRs); Protected Persons (PPs); Government Assisted Refugees (GARs); Privately-Sponsored Refugees (PSRs); Blended Visa Office-Referral Refugees (BVORs); Permanent Residents (PRs); Citizens. Special consideration may be given to Refugee Claimants (RCs) who demonstrate readiness.

Program Requirements: The program will be delivered in English. Access to a stable internet connection. Access to Zoom (free virtual conferencing software). Brief interview to assess participant readiness. *Upon completing the program, participants will receive a joint certificate from VAST and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)*

Next Steps: Interested clients are invited to complete our brief (5 minute) application form at: <https://forms.gle/Psfwf37ysacjM816A>



Rainbow Refugee Society continues to offer support for in-Canada LGBTQI claimants. We offer in-Canada drop-in groups and community outreach groups, all conducted via Zoom.

To accommodate members' needs, the in-Canada drop-in groups on Thursdays now run 6:30-8:30 pm (previously 7-8:30). To join or make a referral, contact support manager, Nazanin Moghadami, at support@rainbowrefugee.ca

Thank you,



Nazanin Moghadami
Support Manager
Phone: 613.604.5024

Flu Immunization Clinics

Do you have clients who still have not received their flu shot? We have partnered with Fraser Health to offer community flu clinics for those who have been unable to visit their doctor, pharmacy, or other location to receive their flu vaccine. The January clinics will take place at the Newton UPCC on the following dates:

Saturday January 9

Saturday January 16

Saturday January 23

Saturday January 30

Patients can [book online HERE](#).

Public Health Immunizations

In addition to the community flu shot clinics listed above, Public Health has resumed booking immunizations for both flu and childhood immunizations. Surrey and North Delta residents may call 604-476-7087, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.

More information can be found at [Fraser Health's website](#).

Patient Experience Survey: Win a \$100 Google Play Card!

We want to hear about patient experiences in Surrey and North Delta! Help us shape primary care in a way that meaningfully addresses the concerns of patients in Surrey and North Delta. The more voices that are raised, the better we will be able to meet the needs of our diverse community.

Survey participants will be entered into a draw to win one of two \$100 Google Play cards. [Access the Survey HERE](#).

Jody Friesen, PCN Director

jfriesen@divisionsbc.ca

778 387-6009

Hello Service Providers:

AMSSA's new BCSIS Informal English Language Learning podcast mini-series promotes the sharing of innovative programs and resources. The second episode, Employment Related Supports in ELL Programming is now available now on the AMSSA website Resource Centre at the following link:

<https://www.amssa.org/resource/employment-related-supports-in-ell-programming/>

This podcast features speakers from 2 organizations that offer specialized employment-related supports in language programming. They explain how their programs, which include informal ELL instruction, can support employment, job readiness, improve access to employment programs, enhance workplace safety and ultimately job retention. They share program information and helpful resources that can be accessed by anyone, anywhere across the province.

There's a podcast video recording with a corresponding Podcast Show Notes information sheet that provides links to the resources shared in the podcast.

Watch for the third podcast episode coming soon!

Lori Cameron, Provincial Integration Program Manager

Direct Phone: 604 718-2776

E-mail: lcameron@amssa.org



From BIPT - posters attached – REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL WEBINARS

Understanding the needs and challenges of recruitment

Manufacturing and Food Production

January 14, 2021
9:00-11:00am

This event will provide immigrants and refugee job seekers a better understanding of the needs, skills and qualifications required by the sector and offer attendees the opportunity to ask questions to employers.

Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/biptevent6>

Panelists:
Ron Sun – Innovative Signage
Olga Millman – Very Good Butchers

Moderator:
Larry Chan, MOSAIC

Chat Moderator:
Mina Haghighi, Futurpreneur



Understanding the needs and challenges of recruitment

Entrepreneurs I Funding and Success Stories

January 28, 2021
9:00-11:00am

This event will provide immigrants and refugees interested in self-employment /entrepreneurship information about funding possibilities and challenges.

An opportunity to hear from funders and a successful entrepreneurs experience, funding options and requirements.

Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/biptevent7>

Panelists:
Shereen Kadies - BDC
Puneet Jain - Vancity
Mina Haghighi -Futurpreneur
Successful Entrepreneur - TBC

Moderator:
Debbie Palmer

Chat Moderator:
Pam Tetarenko



Developing Anti-Racism Skills and Competencies for Systemic Social Change

February 11, 2021
9:00-11:00am

Practical and interactive workshop that aims to denounce systemic racism against BIPOC people in Canada and empower participants with concrete skills on how to dismantle systemic racism and become effective anti-racist ally and ethically responsible citizen in the face of injustice and bigotry.

Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/yxzn46b>

Facilitator:
Dr. Moussa Magassa PhD, Univ of Victoria Human Rights Education Advisor
& Specialist in Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Partnerships



Elimin8 Hate

Connecting with community has never been more important



[\[vaff.us1.list-manage.com\]](http://vaff.us1.list-manage.com)