



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 71

February 10, 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

- **MAP NEWS**

- Save the date: the next MAP meeting is on Thursday Feb 18 (to allow for BCSIS Summit) – presentation on frontline worker mental health support provided by Asli Kucukbumin of managingstress.ca. Registration details coming soon.
- Our co-chair Richard Belcham's new podcast in the series **Along the Way** is out today! And it features an interview called Operation #NotForgotten with **Saleem Spindari** (MOSAIC) about his life's work assisting refugees and his own story. Listen in [here](#)
- Registration is open for the first **IN FOCUS** presentation: 'A Bitter Pill – utilizing the talents of refugee women doctors' on Thursday March 4 at 7:00pm. Register [here](#) and access more background information. Please share the poster attached – send it to your neighbours, schools, universities, colleagues and friends. Thank you!

Thank you to our partners: Canadian on Paper, ICC and MAP's Information Working Group for their collaboration (Options CS, inasmuch & Mount Pleasant NH)

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!

MAP's In Focus Lecture Series Presents

A Bitter Pill:

Utilizing the talents of refugee women doctors

Did you know that 90% of resident physician jobs in Canada are closed to international doctors?

It's a terrible waste of talent and resources.



Join our all women panel of doctors and advocates to find out why and learn more.

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 4, 2021

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom

Register online here: <https://bit.ly/3pa12LL>

Questions? Email info@mapbc.org

- Did you know there are many fully qualified medical doctors waiting to work in Canada?
- Did you know that 90% of medical resident physician jobs in Canada are closed to international doctors?

It's a terrible waste of talent and a loss for our communities.

MAP's "In Focus" series **presents 'A BITTER PILL - utilizing the talents of refugee women doctors'**: a panel discussion event on refugee women doctors and the systemic barriers they face pursuing their profession in Canada. Hear the story of a former refugee who had to change her career path, the lawyer who is leading the Human Rights complaint and a public health perspective that will describe what we are all missing out on.

Join us on **Thursday, March 4th from 7-8:30pm** online to learn more about the challenges they face and how we can draw attention to this injustice!

Speakers:

Zarghoona Wakil – MOSAIC BC

Rosemary Pawliuk – Canadian on Paper

Dr. Maureen Mayhew – UBC

Moderated by MAP member Tess Acton – MKS Immigration Lawyers

REGISTER AND FIND OUT MORE

Organized by:



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Zaytuna Services Society is providing free medical care kits to help address the impacts of COVID-19 by promoting health and hygiene, through the:

“We Care Project”

Funding from the Government of Canada’s Emergency Community Support Fund led by Employment and Social Development Canada, the Canadian Red Cross Society



INVITATION TO REGISTER

BCSIS Virtual Summit

February 24th & 25th, 2021

Event Website (amssa.org)

The BCSIS Provincial Virtual Summit will be held as a two-day online event on Wednesday, February 24th & Thursday, February 25th, 2021. Please share this information widely within your organization. We welcome multiple participants from each BCSIS agency. There will be topics relevant to all levels from the front lines of service delivery to senior leadership.

It's a meeting, learning, and sharing event for BCSIS service provider organizations funded by the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants service providers are also welcome.

The Summit includes keynote speakers, governmental speakers, concurrent sessions, and opportunities for feedback. Join us for each full day, or select the topics of your choice. The Summit will provide a gathering place, a sense of connectivity, and valuable knowledge during this challenging time for service delivery.

Please visit the event website, review the agenda, and register today!

When and Where

Date: **Wednesday, February 24th & Thursday, February 25th, 2021**

Time: **9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Where: **Online – Zoom platform**

Registration: **<https://bcsis-summit.amssa.org/>**

Feel free to contact me at lcameron@amssa.org if you need any additional details.

Sincerely,

Lori



Legal Aid BC

Support when you need it



Legal Aid BC is planning to improve our website and content to make it easier for you to find legal information. We are looking for eight participants to participate in online Zoom calls to discuss our website. Those selected to participate will receive a **\$50 gift card** as an honorarium for their time.

[If you are interested please complete this survey by pressing here.](#)

These interviews will be conducted by PH1 Research on behalf of Legal Aid BC. The interviews will happen between Tuesday February 16, 2021 and Friday March 05, 2021. When being interviewed we ask that you be in a quiet space and have a stable internet connection.

Legal Aid BC is still here to help you during COVID-19. Find up-to-date information about legal aid applications, legal information, and child protection, family advice, and criminal legal services on our **[COVID-19 legal help page.](#)**

Legal Aid BC is also still here to help your clients. Our services, including legal aid applications, Parents Legal Centres, duty counsel, and community partners, can be reached by phone. The Family LawLINE (a free telephone advice service) is also available.

For up-to-date information about LABC services, see **[Legal Aid Services](#)** or check out our **[Latest News.](#)**



Understanding the needs and challenges of recruitment

Technology and IT

February 18, 2021 | 9:00-11:00am

This event will provide immigrant and refugee job seekers a better understanding of the needs, skills and qualifications required by the technology and IT sector and offer attendees the opportunity to ask questions to employers about requirements, tips, and what they need to highlight in their resumes and cover letters. Also learn about resources available.

Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/biptevent8>

Moderator:

Hanif Ladha

Chat Moderator:

Tessa Vanderkop, Burnaby Board of Trade

Panelists:

Megan Simpson, Team Lead, Talent Acquisition, Traction on Demand
Stefan Trifu, Talent Acquisition Manager, Groundswell Cloud Solutions, Inc.
Derek Weeres, Recruiter, Next-Gen Talent, Electronic Arts



Statistics Canada is Hiring!

Join us for an information session to learn more.

**February 24, 2021
9:30am**

Did you know that schools, housing, health, emergency services and many other things require census data for planning? Learn about the work Statistics Canada does and job opportunities available.

Registration is required: tinyurl.com/1wqs49kg

Presenter:

Brooke Xiang, M.A.
Communications Officer – Census Communications (Pacific Region)
Communications and Dissemination Branch
Statistics Canada / Government of Canada

Statistics Canada is committed to ensuring the safety of their employees at all times. Note job opportunities require PR status.



Posters also attached

Hello,

I'm happy to share that the Equity Office at the City of Vancouver is hiring! We're looking for an Equity Consultant. Below is a link to the posting, which closes on February 28th. Don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions about the role. I would really appreciate it if you could circulate this widely.

<https://career17.sapsf.com/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=25634&company=cityofvancP>

All the best,

Therese Boullard (she/her)

Equity Consultant

[Equity Office](#) | Office the City Manager

604-873-7785

therese.boullard@vancouver.ca



CCR members:

The Winter 2021 Working Group meetings will take place in 4 weeks! We are really looking forward to e-seeing you all soon. Whether you have just joined the CCR community or are a regular at our events, the Working Group meetings are a great place to exchange information, network and develop strategies and policy positions in areas of concern! If you want to have a quick overview of what the Working Groups are, you can check out our [infographic](#).

Dates and times:

Tuesday 2 March	Wednesday 3 March	Thursday 4 March
Overseas Protection and Resettlement Working Group	Immigration and Settlement Working Group	Inland Protection Working Group
2:00pm - 4:00pm (EST)	2:00pm - 4:30pm (EST) includes 15 minute break	2:00pm - 4:30pm (EST) includes 15 minute break

Registration:

Here are the links to register. Please note that you can choose to attend one, two or all of the WG meetings:

- [Overseas Protection and Resettlement \(OPR\) Working Group Meeting on Tuesday 2 March](#)
- [Immigration and Settlement \(I&S\) Working Group Meeting on Wednesday 3 March](#)
- [Inland Protection \(IP\) Working Group Meeting on Thursday 4 March](#)

MIGRANT FUTURES: How will COVID-19 transform the governance of migration and refugees?

Ryerson
University

Canada Excellence
Research Chair in
Migration & Integration

The pandemic has forced the closure of borders and worsened the lives of migrants and refugees throughout the world. Their health and jobs are more precarious, their journeys more perilous, and their resettlement often suspended.

Are the global agreements that govern migration and refugees able to support safe, orderly and regular movement across borders and solve refugee situations?

Ryerson's **CERC in Migration and Integration** and [openDemocracy](#) are teaming up for a live discussion to investigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global governance of migration and refugees.

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, 12-1 PM, EST

Panelists include:

James Milner, Project Director, Local Engagement Refugee Research Network (LERRN), Carleton University

Marion Panizzon, Research Fellow, World Trade Institute, University of Bern

Antoine Pécoud, Professor of Sociology, University of Sorbonne Paris Nord

Chair: Younes Ahouga, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, CERC in Migration and Integration, Ryerson University

[REGISTER HERE](#)

REPEATS

A Message from the Immigration Refugee Board - RPD

Dear stakeholders,

Following the establishment of the Gender Related Task Force (GRTF) at the Refugee Protection Division (RPD), we have introduced a form claimants and counsel may use to request that a claim be reviewed and considered for adjudication by the GRTF.

The [Request for Adjudication by the Gender Related Task Force](#) form is available on our website. In order to make a request for a case to be considered by the RPD's GRTF, claimants and counsel must provide brief reasons which must include an explanation of how the personal or documentary evidence and personal profile of the claimant(s) justify a hearing with a member of the GRTF.

This form must be sent to the RPD in PDF form to the following address: irb.GRTF-ESDAG.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca at least 10 days prior to the hearing. Please note that requesting adjudication by the GRTF will not result in shorter processing times.

Karin Michnick

Assistant Deputy Chairperson, Refugee Protection Division, GRTF
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada / Government of Canada

karin.michnick@irb-cisr.gc.ca

Message from the Immigration Refugee Board - Outreach and Engagement Team

DEADLINE EXTENSION - IRB SOGIE consultation on implementation of recommendations

We have been informed by some consultation participants that they would welcome additional time to provide feedback on the revised SOGIE Guideline.

Accordingly, please be advised that the **deadline has been extended to Monday, February 15th, 2021.**

We are hopeful that this extra week will allow you to provide us with fulsome comments and are looking forward to receiving your valued input.

Thank you,

Outreach and Engagement Team
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Engagement@irb-cisr.gc.ca

(Please find three critical documents attached)

BC SETTLEMENT AND INTEGRATION SERVICES

Free Employment, Immigration, and Settlement services

Employment Services: resume & CV reviews, career networking events, etc

Immigration Services: information on pathways to permanent residency

Settlement Services: information on government benefits, community connections, English conversation groups, and more.

Eligibility:

- Foreign workers *with a valid work permit*
- Post-secondary international students
- Refugee Claimants
- PNP Nominees
- Naturalized Citizens *actively seeking work*

For all inquiries and workshop registrations:

email us at: bcsis@success.bc.ca

or visit our website: www.successbcsis.com

Register directly online: <http://bit.ly/BCSISRE>

Want to speak with a staff? Find the number in your region below.

Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminister: 236-668-4953; 604-900-3538

Richmond, South Delta..... : 236-668-3474

Surrey, Langley, North Delta..... : 236-808-2323; 604-900-3532

**Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam,
Port Moody, Maple Ridge..... : 236-333-8101; 236-668-1248**

SUCCESS
PROGRAMS:
2 pages

All posters
attached
also



S.U.C.C.E.S.S. BCSIS

TECH CAREER & RECRUITMENT PRESENTATION

Wednesday, Feb 17th | 6pm - 7:30pm

Online via Zoom

Learn about career pathways in the TECH field and what recruiters are looking for when hiring for tech roles. Virtually meet with two recruiters and an industry professional to takeaway job search tips, insights, and potential recruitment opportunities in this field. Whether you're a new grad or an experienced professional newer to Canada, this event is for you.

Speakers:

- **Min Kim**, Senior Technology Architect | Telus
- **Mamata Patil**, Talent Acquisition Lead | Technologies: Azure DevOps Board, PowerBI reporting, Sharepoint, Dynamics 365 CRM
- **Jamie Couper**, Recruiter | Technology & Engineering recruiter in British Columbia

**registration required.*

Register here: <http://bit.ly/BCSISRF>

This event is suitable for foreign workers who hold a valid work-permit, post-secondary international students, PNP nominees, refugee claimants and naturalized citizens.



CAREER TALK ACCOUNTING, CPA

PRESENTER: AARON TAM, CPA

WED, FEB 24 | 5:30PM - 7:00PM PDT

Virtual event using Zoom

Hear the career story of an accountant and his journey to earning a CPA, Chartered Professional Accountant certification. Hear about working in the accounting field from an industry professional and get some tips for those interested in pursuing a career as an accountant. Q&A session included.

Register here: <http://bit.ly/BCSISRF>

Contact us:

- ✉ bcsis@success.bc.ca
- ☎ 236.808.2323 or 604.900.3532
- 🌐 www.successbcsis.com



This event is suitable for post-secondary international students, work-permit holders, refugee claimants, PNP nominees awaiting their PR, and naturalized citizens



English Conversation Groups



Practice and improve your English conversation in a supportive setting. Learn common vocabulary and phrases used at work and in everyday life. *Registrants are encouraged to attend all 6 sessions.*

Dates: Tuesdays: Feb 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar 2, 9

Registration: <http://bit.ly/BCSISRF>

236-808-2323 | 604-900-3532 | bcsis@success.bc.ca
www.successbcsis.com/events

Suitable for foreign workers, PNP nominees, refugee claimants and naturalized citizens.

Hello BCSIS Service Providers and Colleagues,

We invite you and your team members to register for the new BCSIS e-learning module, **Introduction to Food Insecurity**, which is now available through the AMSSA Institute. You can access the module through the following link:

[Introduction to Food Insecurity \(amssa.org\)](https://amssa.org)

The online course was developed for front-line Settlement staff. Many have worked with clients who have experienced food insecurity. It's a complex topic, and the course content was designed to be introductory and understandable, yet comprehensive. It explains "what is food insecurity", including key definitions, followed by a global view, and a detailed look at food insecurity in Canada and BC. Learners will gain insights into who is most vulnerable to food insecurity, and the impact on women, children, newcomers and in relation to racial and cultural identity, and indigenous status. The course describes the effect of food insecurity on health and well-being, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. There's a section on BC social-sector agencies and charitable food programs that address the urgent needs of food insecure individuals and households, and a downloadable PDF with these resources. The course takes approximately 2.5 hours to complete, however, it's self paced and can be taken anytime. The module is user-friendly and free of charge.

After finishing the course content, quizzes and evaluation, learners will receive a certificate of completion to track professional development accomplishments. We welcome your feedback through the evaluation process.

Be sure to let me know if you require any additional information.

Lori Cameron, Provincial Integration Program Manager

Direct Phone: 604 718-2776

E-mail: lcameron@amssa.org



We're hiring a Community Coordinator! Julie, our current Community Coordinator, will be going on maternity leave soon; we're excited for Julie as they anticipate the arrival of their little one, but we're also sad that she'll be away from us for some time. With that, we are looking to hire a Community Coordinator to cover for Julie's maternity leave. This is a one-year contract position with the possibility of a six-month extension.

The Community Coordinator is responsible for leading and stewarding Kinbrace's Community program to help build transformative connections: to the Host Community, the larger Community, the physical spaces of Kinbrace, and the Kinbrace staff team.

To find out more about the job, or if you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, [click here to see the job posting.](#)

Thanks so much!

Derek Chu



THE STORY SHARER PROJECT – Refugee Stories

Participants Needed!

Participate in a workshop on “How to share your Story”!

This 4 week workshop is carefully curated to guide participants to rewrite, reveal and own their personal narratives in a way that it helps them to tell their stories.

Join us to reflect on your legacy, your journey to Canada, your trials, and triumphs stories connect the past the present to the future.

Stories will be presented online to
the community in March 2021!

Objective of this Storytelling initiative?
Encourage community engagement!

The first step towards a more
empathetic world is being willing
to pay attention to the
suffering of our fellow cohabitants
on planet Earth.



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Refugees
or Citizenship Canada

We need your help in identifying 8 refugees (claimants, GARs and sponsored) that would like to learn how to advocate for themselves and be willing to tell their stories in video to be presented online on March 21, 2021.

This includes a 4-week workshop carefully curated to guide participants to rewrite, reveal and own their personal narratives in a way that it helps them to tell their stories. The videos will reflect on your legacy, their journey to Canada, trials and triumphs that connect their past and present to the future.

This storytelling initiative will encourage community engagement and the first step towards a more empathetic world that is willing to pay attention to the suffering of our fellow cohabitants on planet Earth.

Once videos are finalized. The participants selected will receive a gift card for their contribution.

We would like to run the workshop in February.

Please see poster and questionnaire attached

Ana Maria

Ana Maria Bustamante, M.A. (She/her)

BIPT / Burnaby Together Coordinator & CAT Supervisor

Burnaby Family Life

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



The CCR has signed this petition calling on federal and provincial governments to ensure full access to the COVID-19 vaccine to all migrants regardless of immigration status:

<https://migrantrights.ca/vaccinesforall/>

If your organization has not already signed on, you might want to consider doing so!

The UBC Centre for Migration Studies presents - the Winter 2021 Speaker Series:

On the Road: Mobility and Social Differentiation

Friday, February 19

Speaker: Dr. Claudia Moatti (Professor, Université Paris 8 and University of Southern California)

Moderators: Dr. Gaoheng Zhang (Assistant Professor of Italian Studies, Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies, University of British Columbia) and Han Fei (PhD Candidate)

Time: 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (PST)

Co-sponsored by: The UBC Centre for Migration Studies' Mobilities Group and the UBC Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies

[RSVP Link](#)

Local Suffrage Increases Citizenship Acquisition: Evidence from the European Union

Monday, February 22

Speaker: Dr. Hannah Alarian (Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Florida)

Moderator: Lisa Akinyi May (Graduate Student, Political Science)

Time: 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. (PST)

Co-sponsored by: The UBC Institute for European Studies

[RSVP Link](#)

Social exclusion, symbolic boundaries and convivial labour in East London's context of ongoing immigration

Friday, February 26

Speaker: Dr. Susanne Wessendorf (Professor of Social Anthropology, Coventry University Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations)

Moderators: Dr. Gaoheng Zhang (Assistant Professor of Italian Studies, Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies, University of British Columbia) and Han Fei (PhD Candidate)

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (PST)

Co-sponsored by: The UBC Centre for Migration Studies' Mobilities Group and the UBC Department of Anthropology

[RSVP Link](#)