



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 72

February 17, 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

- Don't forget! MAP meeting **tomorrow Thursday Feb 18** with a presentation on frontline worker mental health support provided by Asli Kucukbumin of managingstress.ca . Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0ocOGtqDMrG9K5ExC-a9fAvWJVEcHRKnzc> Asli will also be leading the breakout room on Mental Health to continue the discussion in the break.
- 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, MOSAIC and MAP's Information Working Group for their collaboration (Options CS, inasmuch & Mount Pleasant NH)

OTHER NEWS:

- Federal Court Appeal of the decision to strike down the STCA starts February 23 – see the CCR media release for details.

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!

News highlights:

Refugee claimant – related articles from Canada and around the world

February 17, 2021

Please see a list of interesting articles gathered by MAP from across Canada and globally (**PDF attached**)

*Thanks to Journey Home Volunteer **Barry Growe** for his research and compilation*

- **Government of Canada announces funding for 76 LGBTQ2 community-led projects** (includes funding for Rainbow Refugee Society of BC)
Canadian Government
- **Economists don't expect migration to return to pre-pandemic levels, and that could threaten recovery**
Financial Post
- **Canada's economy won't recover, grow without increased immigration**
Waterloo Region Record
- **Scapegoating and racist incidents more common, organizations say**
Saskatoon Star Phoenix
- **With more people displaced, high praise for gracious hospitality**
Christian Science Monitor



Forwarded

Federal Court of Appeal must uphold decision to strike down Safe Third Country Agreement

OTTAWA – The Safe Third Country Agreement will be back in court on Feb. 23 and 24, as the Canadian government seeks to overturn a decision that the US-Canada refugee pact is unconstitutional.

Amnesty International, the Canadian Council for Refugees, and the Canadian Council of Churches, will once again join individual litigants in arguing the agreement is harmful to those seeking protection north of the US-Canada border.

In July 2020, the Federal Court ruled that the Safe Third Country Agreement is unconstitutional, as it violates the s. 7 Charter right to life, liberty and security of the person. Civil society groups and refugees have long maintained that the agreement violates human rights, because many refugee claimants returned to the US are arbitrarily held in appalling conditions in immigration detention centres or county jails, and are not eligible for the same legal protections that are available in Canada.

Under the Safe Third Country Agreement, most refugee claimants who arrive at an official border post seeking protection in Canada are denied entry and turned back to the United States. Because the agreement only applies at official border crossings, many refugees have crossed the border in between ports of entry, sometimes in perilous conditions.

Date: Tuesday, February 23 and Wednesday, February 24 **Time:** 9:30 a.m.

How to access the hearing:

Journalists and members of the public wishing to access a remote hearing should email Information@fca-caf.gc.ca and provide the following information in relation to the hearing that they would like to view remotely: case name (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration v Canadian Council for Refugees et al), case number (A-204-20) and hearing date (23 and 24 February). Instructions on how to join the remote hearing will be sent by email.

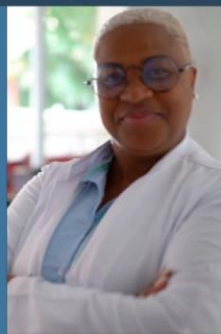
MAP's In Focus Lecture Series Presents

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:





Annual Income Tax Clinic is back – virtually

Need help filing your income taxes? We have a free income tax clinic from March 1 to April 30, 2021 for low-income Surrey residents. Connect virtually with a DIVERSEcity volunteer, trained by the Canada Revenue Agency, to help you prepare and file your tax return. Morning, afternoon and evening appointments (except Sundays and holidays) are available via Zoom. To register, please call 604-597-0205 or email volunteer@dcrs.ca. [Learn more here ...](#)

Last week, [Employment and Social Development Canada](#) launched a call for proposals for projects to ease access to the Canada Learning Bond, which are part of the Registered Education Savings Plans available to families living on low incomes.

Here's some quick snapshot details:

- Eligible organizations (charities, not-for-profit organizations, organizations from the education, social services and employment services sectors, municipalities and Indigenous organizations) may receive up to \$1M in funding over two years for projects that test ways to help people access Registered Education Savings Plans and the Canada Learning Bond.
- Projects will focus on children from families with low incomes, children of single parents, children in care, children and families living in rural or remote regions of Canada, and youth transitioning to post-secondary education. They will also need to take into account barriers related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Application deadline is March 17th, 2021

This might be a great opportunity for settlement agencies to apply for funding to help the community access as many benefits offered by the government at this time.

Here is the [press release \[canada.ca\]](#)

Here are the [instructions for the applicants \[canada.ca\]](#)

Here is [the applicant guide \[canada.ca\]](#)

This information was shared by ESDC with Vancity to share with our networks.

Job Opportunity

Burnaby Neighbourhood House: Therapeutic Activation Program for Seniors Coordinator
(see attached PDF for details)



“The combination of meticulously documented research ... with personal testimony from the lived experience ... gives voice to an authenticity and truth that must challenge our consciences and our actions.”

-CHRISTOPHER J. H. WRIGHT

author of The Mission of God

New book launched: *Refuge Reimagined: Biblical Kinship in Global Politics*.

Excerpt is attached or listen/read:

Podcasts: Mark and Luke Glanville discuss the book.

Inverse

<https://inverse.podiant.co/e/luke-glanville-and-mark-glanville-refuge-reimagined-394bcd0382fe96/>

OnScript

<https://onscript.study/podcast/mark-and-luke-glanville-refuge-reimagined/>

Purchase: [Refuge Reimagined: Biblical Kinship in Global Politics \(IVP\)](#)

Blog: www.markglanville.org

Global Public Health and Migration: People, Borders, and Health Systems in the Time of the Pandemic

REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/global-public-health-and-migration-people-borders-and-health-systems-tickets-140737163645>

This webinar is the first in a two-part event organized to launch the ***Public Health & Migration area at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health.***

The webinar is open to the general public and will be held on **Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 12:00pm-1:30pm EST.**

Migration is one of the defining phenomena of our time and a major global determinant of health. Designed to reach a broad audience, from health systems and services researchers to clinicians, policy makers, social scientists, and the general public, this event will explore the significance and complexity of the migration phenomenon with the help of two exceptional speakers. Dr. Heide Castañeda and Dr. Miriam Orcutt will guide attendants through a broad exploration of the links between migration and public health, reflecting on migrant identities, mobility and borders in a pandemic and post-pandemic worlds; global health policy and governance; health systems responses; and structural and political determinants of health impacting migrants and societies in general.

Speakers:

Heide Castañeda - Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Florida

Dr Miriam Orcutt - Senior Research Fellow in Global Public Health and Forced Migration at the Institute for Global Health, University College London

Please [register](#) to secure your spot. You will receive a link and password for the webinar two (2) hours before the event. A recording of the event will be made available on the DLSPH YouTube page.

Questions? Email globalhealth.dlsph@utoronto.ca

****Please feel free to share with your networks****

UBC Migration – Winter Speaker Series

This is a friendly reminder that on Friday, February 19th, 2021 at 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (PST), **Dr. Claudia Moatti** (Professor, Université Paris 8 and University of Southern California) will discuss "On the Road: Mobility and Social Differentiation" as part of our Winter 2021 Speaker Series.

We would also like to invite you to the next Speaker Series event on Monday, February 22nd, 2021 at 12:15 – 1:30 PM (PST) with **Dr. Hannah Alarian** (Assistant Professor of Political Science University of Florida) on "Local Suffrage Increases Citizenship Acquisition: Evidence from the European Union."

Please visit our Events page to [RSVP](#). You will receive the Zoom link before the event.

We look forward to seeing you at our events!

Online talks by:

Dr. Claudia Moatti



Friday, February 19, 2021

11 AM - 12:30 PM (PST)

"On the Road: Mobility and Social Differentiation"

Abstract: Based on examples taken from different periods of history, but mainly from the Roman period, this lecture proposes some insights on the social use of the road and the experience of mobility. Who was found on the roads in the ancient societies, and how did the meeting between the different social categories take place? According to what criteria were routes chosen or even imposed: rank, class, gender or function? What objects did the travelers take with them? What knowledge was accessible? And for what purpose, with what imaginary was the road taken? Since antiquity, novels have taken the road as a privileged setting because it embodied the place par excellence where people normally separated by social hierarchy or by space could meet and at the same time ostentatiously display social division, where destinies mingled and intrigues were woven. It is up to the historian to reread these narratives in the light of other sources, to put mobility to the test of social differentiation, and, beyond a study of practices, to pose the question of spatial justice. Although space is naturally common, it is often "qualified" by the people who move in it and access to it can be the subject of tension and conflict, even abuse of power.

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

Dr. Hannah Alarian



Monday, February 22, 2021

12:15 - 1:30 PM (PST)

"Local Suffrage Increases Citizenship Acquisition: Evidence from the European Union"

Abstract: Do local immigrant voting rights increase citizenship acquisition? Although some contend immigrants acquire citizenship when the relative benefits of acquisition are greater than its costs, Prof. Alarian posits that immigrant inclusion is path dependent – such that early suffrage could encourage rather than deter naturalization. This theory was tested with a series of cross-national and quantitative case-study analyses. First, Prof. Alarian examined the effect of municipal suffrage on naturalization in the EU using bilateral OECD acquisition figures among 14 EU destinations and 127 non-EU origins between 2007 and 2014. Second, she estimated the causal effect of non-EU suffrage by exploiting origin-specific variation in access to Spain's 2011 municipal elections. Across each analysis, Prof. Alarian finds local voting rights increases formal membership. She further reveals these patterns are not present for other forms of non-citizen political rights. These findings challenge cost-benefit approaches to national membership, revealing suffrage reinforces rather than degrades citizenship.

*Co-sponsored with the UBC Institute for European Studies

Please visit our events page to RSVP.

You will receive the Zoom link before the event.



UBC Centre for Migration Studies is pleased to announce the release of our [Global Migration Podcast](#) Season 2 entitled "*Geographies of the Heart: Life-writing from Newcomers to Canada.*" Bringing together a diverse array of newcomer voices, each episode shares compelling, first-hand experiences of coming to and living in Canada. This season is born out of a year-long writing project with a group of newcomers who have been authoring their own stories of migration on topics such as love, loss, displacement, exile, belonging and disruption. Most importantly, this series creates a space in which newcomers can share their experiences and perspectives with policymakers, academics and the media.

The new season is hosted by [Mohammed Alsaleh](#): an international speaker and award-winning advocate. After losing cousins to cancer, Mohammed decided to become a physician with a specialization in oncology. But during a final exam in medical school, he was arrested by Syrian state-security then was brutally tortured for the next 120 days. After surviving death in prison, he was forced to flee his home and made an extraordinary journey to Vancouver, BC, arriving in Canada as a refugee in late 2014. Today, he is an inspirational speaker that brings the voice of refugees to the international stage. He has been recognized by the likes of Canada's Justin Trudeau and Hollywood's George Takei, and in 2018, he received the RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award for his refugee advocacy efforts. From Syria to Canada, his journey was famously featured in the documentary "Welcome to Canada."

[Episode 1 \(February 8, 2021\): Stories about Gathering Stories: Creating the Story Bus](#)

In the first episode of the second season of the Global Migration podcast "Geographies from the Heart: Life-writing from Newcomers to Canada," host Mohammed Alsaleh speaks to Dr. Amea Wilbur (University of the Fraser Valley), Raymonde Tickner, and Zahida Rahemtulla. They discuss the power of migration stories and the impact of multiple narratives that emerged through a year-long writing project with newcomers to Canada. Raymonde, Zahida and Amea discuss how life writing can inform teaching and learning and provide a context for trauma-informed practice. They also touch on the power of mentorship, as an educational framework, to support embarking on life-writing projects.

REPEATS

First come first served!
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www.zaytuna.ca
contact@zaytuna.ca



Zaytuna
Services
Society

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](#)