



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 73

February 23, 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

- Because of a very positive response to her MAP meeting presentation on frontline worker mental health support we are inviting Asli Kucukbumin to present Part 2 at a special participatory meeting online – date/time TBA. Watch for the message and invitation to attend!
- Please register now for the first **IN FOCUS** presentation: **'A Bitter Pill – utilizing the talents of refugee women doctors'** on Thursday March 4 at 7:00pm. Registration is available [here](#) along with access to speaker profiles, research and campaign 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)
Watch the video! <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14aWlIMYyuo33wcbuxXSzPG5zIAEVu8IT/view?usp=sharing>

OTHER NEWS:

- Federal Court Appeal of the decision to strike down the STCA ongoing: Feb 23 & 24 see the CCR 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!

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/3pal2LL>

- 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:

Damilola Toki – Western University

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

Our Partners





Safe Third Country Agreement

On **February 23 & 24th** the Federal Court of Appeal will hear the Canadian government's appeal of a decision finding that the Canada-US Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA) is unconstitutional. Amnesty International (AI), the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR), and The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) will once again join individual refugee claimants as their lawyers reiterate to the court that the STCA violates the right to life, liberty, and security of the person, as well as equality rights guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Everything is not resolved under the Biden administration

Refugee protection in the US drastically deteriorated under the Trump administration, but many laws and policies that violate refugee rights preexisted his administration, and will not be easily reversed by the new Biden administration. Indeed, Amnesty International, the CCR and the Canadian Council of Churches have been challenging the STCA since before it was signed and won a previous Federal Court ruling finding the US unsafe for refugees in 2007 (though this decision was subsequently overturned on appeal, based on a technicality).

We invite you to amplify the conversation by:

- Sharing [our press release](#) in your networks
- Sharing our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) posts once they are live on Tuesday 23 Feb.
- Participating in [Amnesty International's video campaign](#) to raise awareness about the true impact of this unconstitutional agreement on people's lives

"Every day that the Agreement remains in force, people are at risk of being sent back to detention and potential deportation to persecution," said Dorota Blumczynska, CCR President. "The US has never been safe for all refugees, and the fact that President Biden is in the White House does not change that. Women are particularly affected, because of US policies that close the door on women fleeing gender-based violence."

Thank you for your support!

REFUGEE CLAIMANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY WELCOME



VIBRANT IN VANCOUVER

10 Days of Short Virtual Wellness Sessions
Mindfulness | Photography | Community | Yoga

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME?
HOW CAN LIFE FEEL MORE VIBRANT?

TO REGISTER OR
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
refugeeclaimant@mosaicbc.org

MARCH 1 - 10
10:00AM - 10:20AM DAILY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



FEATURING:



AdhiJoga



VCST

POSTER ATTACHED ALSO

- How do you spend your time?
 - How can life feel more VIBRANT?
 - Please join us over the next 10 days for short Virtual Wellness Sessions.
-
- Check out our Vibrant in Vancouver video here: <https://youtu.be/dHtZlCegeKE>
-
- We will be exploring a wide variety of topics: mindfulness, photography, community and yoga.
 - We will "meet" each day on Zoom.
 - Date: March 1st – 10th, 2021
 - Time: 10:00 am – 10:20 am daily
 - Location: Zoom (an app on your phone or computer)
 - To register or for information: please email refugeeclaimant@mosaicbc.org



AN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT

Women Leaders in a Post-COVID World

Six in 10 women say they sometimes find it difficult to picture themselves as leaders!
Let's **#ChoosetoChallenge** and empower each other to lead!

Join us for a panel discussion with local women leaders who will share their experiences and strategies as women and racialized women leaders.



Date: **Friday, March 5, 2021**

Time: **1-2:30 pm** Location: **Online via Zoom**

RSVP: Please RSVP to marketing@dcrs.ca or register via Eventbrite.
iwd-diversecity-mlarachnasingh.eventbrite.ca

Panellists: Neelam Sahota, CEO, DIVERSEcity
MLA Rachna Singh, Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives
Marlyn Graziano, Vice President, External Affairs, KPU; CEO, KPU Foundation
Shahnaz Rahman, Executive Director, Surrey Women's Centre
Ritu Khanna, Executive Director, South Surrey & White Rock Chamber of Commerce



DIVERSEcity will also be announcing a donation to Nisa Helpline, in honour of International Women's Day.

Jumpstart Refugee Talent is a refugee led non-profit organization and the only national organization exclusively serving refugees seeking meaningful employment.

New: Employment Support through [Refugee Talent Hub](#) is now available to all refugees in BC, regardless of their status, as long as they are eligible to work in Canada.

Jumpstart supports newly settled refugees in overcoming hiring barriers and securing meaningful employment. We equally support employers so they can easily and efficiently source and recruit refugee talent.

We also continue to offer our [Welcome Talent Canada mentorship program](#), the only national mentorship program for refugees in Canada.

You can find [attached](#) the referral form with easy-to-access links and for easier navigation of our new [JumpstartRefugee.ca](#) website.

You can now contact us by phone! Whether you're a refugee, an organization, an employer or a Canadian professional who wants to be involved in strengthening the economic inclusion of refugees in Canada.

Our number is **(888) 99REFUGEE** or (888) 997-3384.

Follow us on Social Media: **#ByRefugees #ForRefugees**

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Youtube](#)

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments or feedback.

Masa Kateb (Preferred pronouns: she/her/hers)

Manager of Projects, Jumpstart Refugee Talent

P: (888) 997-3384 Ext:757

masa.kateb@jumpstartrefugee.ca



POSTER ATTACHED ALSO



Burnaby Public Library
www.bpl.bc.ca

PARENTING LEARNING EVENT 2021 EMBRACING CHALLENGES

Adjusting to the rapid changes imposed by the pandemic has taken its toll and this has left many of us exhausted and anxious about what will come next. The PLE2021 explores topics that will help families remain connected and resilient.

THURSDAYS, MARCH 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2021
6:30 - 8 P.M. * FREE
BFLGROWSCOMMUNITY.ORG

Working in collaboration with Burnaby Public Library, and others in the community, Burnaby Family Life is hosting free online sessions to bring families creative solutions and emerging research findings to help parents and children thrive and sustain their resiliency during and beyond the pandemic.

You are invited! Join us as experts share their valuable knowledge and expertise on one of four themes to be explored during this adapted version of BFL's annual Parenting Learning Event. Each night, a 60-minute presentation will follow with questions from participants. This will be a live event on Facebook.

1. THE POWER OF SELF COMPASSION - The importance of parent/caregiver self-compassion

2. SHIFTING SCREEN HABITS - The need for parent flexibility in a rapidly changing world with the increased use of screens

3. NATURE... A PLAYGROUND FOR ALL CHILDREN - The long-lasting benefits of play and the outdoors for the physical and mental wellbeing of children

4. BELONGING TO THE VILLAGE - We need connections to thrive and grow. (Details will be available soon at bflgrowscommunity.org)



MARCH 4 @ 6:30 p.m.
Georgianna Lee
THE POWER OF
SELF-COMPASSION



MARCH 11 @ 6:30 p.m.
Michele Maurer
SHIFTING SCREEN HABITS



MARCH 18 @ 6:30 p.m.
Jarrett Krentzel
NATURE... A PLAYGROUND
FOR ALL CHILDREN

FREE * facebook.org/burnabyfamilylife
info: bflgrowscommunity.org/ple2021

Thank you MCFD for your support of this event!



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

With the number of surveys happening all the time these tools can assist you in supporting refugee claimants requested to participate in a survey. Provided through Canadian Council for Refugees:

The "Your Rights in Research" document for researchers working with people in contexts of displacement is now available in:

- [English](#)
- [Your rights in research \(French\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Arabic\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Somali\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Pashto\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Dari\)](#)
- [Your rights in research \(Swahili\)](#)

All documents (Guidelines, Executive Summary and Rights in Research documents) are available on the CCR website:

<https://ccrweb.ca/en/ethical-considerations-research>

Many thanks to Access Alliance for the translations, Amélie Cossette for the graphic design, SSHRC and uOttawa for funding, and CCR, CARFMS and CRS for your early and continued support to this project.

Canadian Council for Refugees Winter WG meetings Reminder



The Virtual Winter 2021 Working Group meetings are 2 weeks away!

Here are reminders and new information that will help you make the most of the meetings:

Dates:

- Tuesday 2 March - [Overseas Protection and Resettlement](#)
- Wednesday 3 March - [Immigration and Settlement](#)
- Thursday 4 March - [Inland Protection](#)

All meetings will last 2.5 hours including a 15 minute break, Start time: 11 am PST

Objectives:

- Planning workshops at CCR Spring consultation (26 May – 10 June)
- Identifying priority actions for members and CCR
- Key information-sharing

Participation:

We need you to go to Slido (Ideas section) to **vote up the workshop suggestions there and propose others!** Also, use the Q&A section to identify new or important issues that you think might be relevant for the WG to discuss or know about:

- Slido for OPR: <https://app.sli.do/event/mmplzic6>
- Slido for I&S: <https://app.sli.do/event/0avyre9c>
- Slido for IP: <https://app.sli.do/event/u0s3vwwi>

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](#)

If you have a question ahead of the meetings you can contact:

- For OPR and IP: Janet Dench at jdench@ccrweb.ca
- For I&S: Sandra Gasana at sgasana@ccrweb.ca

"The [Vancouver Youth Choir](#) (VYC) is starting a new choir for **newcomer youth aged 13-18** years old. There is no cost associated, no previous experience of music required, and all levels of English are welcome. This is a wonderful opportunity for young people to connect to others and explore new skills in a community-oriented setting.
Open to all youth throughout the Lower Mainland

See the attached poster. It has a clickable registration link and is translated into a number of languages. If you have any questions feel free to email the VYC director, Carrie Tennant at carrietennant@gmail.com"

POSTER ATTACHED ALSO



VYC Kindred

A new choir for newcomers aged 13-18. Singers will participate in song-learning workshops and a recording project in April and May 2021. This program is free of cost, with no experience required. All youth who are new to Canada and have a love of singing are welcome.

- MEET NEW FRIENDS
- SING TOGETHER WITH OTHER YOUTH
- LEARN ABOUT YOUR VOICE
- NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
- ALL ENGLISH LEVELS WELCOME

REGISTER

ONLINE AT [VANCOUVERYOUTHCHOIR.COM/CHOIRS/VYCKINDRED](https://vancouveryouthchoir.com/choirs/vyckindred)

中文登記 MAGREHISTROSA TAGALOG MATRICULATE EN LENGUA ESPAÑOLA
रिजिस्ट्रेशन के लिए जायें
سجل باللغة العربية كيت نام به زبان فارسی

Regular matters: Credibility determination and the institutional habitus in a Swiss asylum office

Laura Affolter

Comparative Migration Studies – Open access journal | Revue en libre accès

Published online January 29, 2021 | Publié en ligne le 29 janvier 2021

Abstract | Résumé

"This article seeks to understand a common and regular feature of asylum decision-making, namely, that the majority of asylum claims are rejected mostly on the basis of non-credibility. It draws on a bottom-up, qualitative study of an administration in which asylum decision-making takes place at the Swiss Secretariat for Migration. By adopting a practice-theoretical approach to administrative work, it advocates paying attention to caseworkers' routinised, self-evident and largely unquestioned behaviours, not only in terms of what they do, but also of what they think, feel and know. Building on Bourdieu, it introduces the concept of institutional habitus, which refers to the dispositions caseworkers develop on the job. On the basis of a specific decision-making practice termed 'digging deep', the article shows how these dispositions are structured and how, through the practices institutional habitus generates, these 'structuring structures' are continuously reaffirmed, leading to the relatively stable outcomes of administrative decision-making that can be observed from the outside. The article argues against the assumption that regularities of administrative work should be understood as the outcome of strict rule-following, top-down orders and political instrumentalism. At the same time, it challenges the individualist quality sometimes ascribed to discretionary practices in street-level bureaucracy literature and in critiques of credibility assessment practices in asylum adjudication."

Read or download the full article | Consulter ou télécharger l'article complet (en anglais) :

<https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-020-00215-z>

RESEARCH at a Glance
RECHERCHE en un coup d'oeil



External publication alert | Alerte de publication externe

REPEATS



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 attendees 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 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."