



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 77

March 24, 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

- MAP Meeting tomorrow! **Thursday March 25 at 9:30 am** – [register here for the meeting](#) : **Preparing for a possible increase in refugee claimant arrivals to BC.** Hear from UNHCR about the global situation and from an emergency planner with years of experience to enable us to start the collaborative planning process. Fraser Valley MAP members will be joining us so we can all work together.

- **In Focus 2** – ‘Canadian Refugee Law – who is it protecting?’ – more news at the announcement tomorrow at MAP!
- CBSA held a consultation to update us on the **Alternatives to Detention Program** on March 8 and have shared the slides. MAP has permission to share the slides and you can find them in the Member's Area on the [MAP website](#)

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!

An announcement was made on Tuesday re: - [People deemed clinically extremely vulnerable prioritized for COVID-19 vaccine](#)

[BC Gov News:](#)

- Prioritization and process for clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV)
- Age based booking schedule is being accelerated; where applicable

Age/Group	Date booking eligibility starts	Comments
76+ (1945)	Wednesday March 24 @ noon	Moved up one day from March 25
75+ (1946)	Thursday March 25 @ noon	Moved up two days from March 27
74+ (1947)	Friday March 26 @ noon	Moved up
CEV	Monday March 29 to Friday April 2	Total CEV population

Please provide this information to your networks. It is extremely critical that the information for the CEV reaches those that are most vulnerable. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards

Lizette

Immunize BC Project - lizette@umbrellastrategies.ca

Stay Informed: gov.bc.ca/COVID, bccdc.ca, 1.88.COVID19

Dear MAP members,

Please see a major change (**attached**) in the vaccine roll-out that may affect your staff and/or clients.

Plus here is the accompanying press release: [Front-line workers prioritized as COVID-19 vaccine rollout accelerates | BC Gov News](#)

Best wishes and stay safe

Join Us!

The Canadian Law System webinar will provide participants with a general overview of the Canadian legal system, focus on the courts and tribunals in British Columbia. It is our hope that after completing this workshop, participants will go away knowing which court to go for a particular issue and whether or not they need a lawyer and what to do if they can't afford to hire a lawyer.

Event Details and registration

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Location: Zoom Webinar: [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Zoom : <http://bit.ly/3cAej9E>

VIRTUAL INFO-NIGHT



THE CANADIAN LEGAL SYSTEM

**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 24
6:00PM**

This workshop will provide you with a general overview of the Canadian legal system, focus on the courts and tribunals in British Columbia.



LEARN ABOUT:
Canadian Legal System
Courts in BC
Tribunals in BC
Self-representation



FOR MORE INFO
604-220-3057
TEXT, CALL,
WHATSAPP



ZOOM REGISTRATION
<http://bit.ly/3cAej9E>



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In Partnership with
The South Asian Legal Clinic of
British Columbia
www.salcbc.org

Poster attached also

Introducing Changemakers Across BC: A Speaker Series Panel Discussion

How to have a voice in your future: affordable housing and labour in Vancouver



Moderator
MOHAMMED ZAQOUT
Refugee Housing Specialist



Panelist
JADE HO


Housing Justice Organizer



Panelist
STEVE TORNES

Data specialist NexTech AR

 MARCH 25, 2021

 4:00 PM PST

 Register Now

Join us for this free webinar and live discussion on this important topic for today's youth



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Have a voice in your future: affordable housing and labour in Vancouver

About this Event

Many youth are working a job that barely covers basic living expenses and find themselves with little to no savings for the future. In this panel, we are addressing the housing and labour crisis that has manifested in Vancouver, what we can do about the issue and what we can do to make our voices heard.

Youth Changemakers across BC are excited to launch speaker series part 2, moderated by **Mohammed Zaqout**, hosting: **Yi Chien Jade Ho 何宜謙** and **Steve Tornes**, on **Thursday, March 25th, 2021 at 4pm (PST) / 7pm (EST)** for a discussion on ways to make your voice heard in your future: affordable housing and labour in Vancouver. By attending this panel, you will learn how:

- To understand that the housing and labour crisis is a collective struggle.
- To be a part of the solution: why organizing for housing justice and getting involved is important (to your future).
- To get involved.

Please note that this event will be recorded. Attendees will receive an email with a link of the recording from our session.

Dear Valued Community Partner,

Would you like to know what's happening with health care in our community? As part of the ongoing [Primary Care Network](#) (PCN) development process, we invite you to attend the following online session:



Surrey North Delta PCN and the Community Moving Forward

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m

[RSVP Today](#)

The session will bring together community, family physicians and Fraser Health leaders to hear what emerged from our initial community engagement, to understand how it informs and aligns with the developing PCN plan, and to define and confirm the future engagement process. The goals of the session include:

- Creating common understanding of community engagement process and inputs to date
- Creating common understanding of PCN Service Plan development and submission process and planning to date, including how community engagement inputs align
- Gaining input into PCN Plan/Service Plan development and potential scope
- Present and confirm further engagement process

If you have any questions or input prior to the session about the session itself or the PCN plan, please don't hesitate to connect:

Jody Friesen, PCN Director for SND Division jfriesen@divisionsbc.ca

What is a Primary Care Network?

Primary Care Networks (PCNs) are local networks of primary care service providers. This means greater access to the type of care that patients need - including specialized services.

PCNs allow family physicians to work with other health care providers and community partners to provide the best possible care for their patients.

Some benefits of PCNs for patients include:

- *extended hours
- *quicker access to urgent care
- * culturally safe care

Hello Service Providers:

AMSSA's **BCSIS Informal English Language Learning Podcast** mini-series promotes the sharing of expertise, innovative approaches, programs, and resources in ELL delivery. The third episode, **Volunteers and Supporting Specialized Learner Needs in ELL Programming** is now available now on the AMSSA website Resource Centre at the following link: <https://www.amssa.org/resource/informal-ell-podcast-episode-3-volunteers-supporting-specialized-learner-needs-in-ell-programming/>

This podcast touches on two important themes. Volunteers contribute to organizational capacity and can be essential in the delivery of informal English language learning. In the podcast, ELL experts explain how they recruit volunteers and provide orientation and training to make sure they get a strong start. They describe the ways they retain volunteers through ongoing support, professional development, and recognition. Volunteers as well as service providers support literacy learners, newcomers with multiple barriers, and learners with low digital literacy skills. Speakers discuss improvisations made to program delivery during the pandemic and a post-COVID future that will likely include in-person and online blended learning, in the context of the needs of multi-barriered individuals.

The speakers share their top ELL resources in the Podcast Show Notes information sheet that corresponds to the video. Be sure to download the infosheet, and look for the other podcasts in the series:

Everyday Adaptations for Innovative ELL Programming

<https://www.amssa.org/resource/everyday-adaptations-for-innovative-ell-programming/>

Employment Related Supports in ELL Programming

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



Lori Cameron lcameron@amssa.org

MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin March 24, 2021



Currently, PeaceGeeks is conducting research on how people give feedback about their experience using settlement services. I suggested the team share the survey with MAP to ensure the experiences of settlement agencies working with refugee claimants in BC are well represented in our research.



Do you have something to say about your settlement experience?

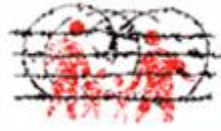
PeaceGeeks is conducting research on how people give feedback about their experience using settlement services. We're looking for newcomers and settlement workers alike—how do you give and receive feedback? How does your organization respond to feedback?

Take the survey: <https://lnkd.in/gTHWnit>.

Thank you so much in advance.

Meaad Alharbi, *International Projects Manager (she/her/hers)*

E: meaad@peacegeeks.org



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés
Canadian Council for Refugees

The CCR is asking everyone involved in an NGO that offers immigration and refugee services to participate in a survey on a proposed framework for high quality immigration and refugee services.

At the recent CCR Working Group meetings, everyone was encouraged to complete the survey, and to share it with colleagues and other NGOs that may be interested:

<https://ccrweb.ca/en/survey-quality-immigration-services>

Background information

This survey is part of a project focused on work done by NGOs to assist people with refugee, immigration and citizenship processes. Some argue that NGOs' activities in this area should be restricted through Section 91 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. We take the position that this approach is harmful to people who need support, especially the most vulnerable. Instead of restricting NGOs, we should support NGOs in constantly aspiring to the highest quality immigration and refugee services, with measures put in place to make sure people are not abused.

Do you want to be a resident advisor to Vancouver City Council?

Resident Advisory Committee Applications are now open!

What are they?

Resident advisory committees function as spaces where volunteer residents, or those who work or have significant experience of life in Vancouver, can come together to problem-solve various public policy issues the City is facing, and provide strategic advice back to Council and staff. These are unpaid volunteer positions, but some accommodation costs may be covered and others may be considered.

What is the City looking for in candidates who want to apply?

The City is looking for individuals passionate about and willing to be a voice that values:

- Equity and Civic Participation
- Representation and Open-Mindedness
- Lived Experience and Empathy

Preferred skills and abilities are:

- Being able to work in a team environment
- Being able to communicate effectively across different cultures and perspectives
- Being able to provide strategic policy advice and transmit community input to City Council and Staff

What do I get out of it?

You will be a resident advisor to Council and staff on many different issues the City is facing. If you are interested in advising City Hall and our local government, this is a great way to sharpen your policy advising, team building, and problem-solving skills!

Where and when can I apply?

Applications are open from Tuesday, March 16th to Wednesday, March 31st at 11:59pm.

Please go to vancouver.ca/volunteer to apply for the committee you would like to join and learn more about our resident advisory committees. Only successful applicants will be contacted and orientation/training will be provided to all new and returning members.

Please also see the info-sheets attached for more information and list of vacancies, or to forward to friends, family, community members, or other individuals who may be interested in this opportunity!



#MHFORALL
A WEBINAR SERIES

When? Tuesday April 6 or Tuesday April 20 at 6 am – 7 am PDT
Recordings available at: <https://bit.ly/3ritLNS> afterwards

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Presentation: Mental Health and Marginalised Communities: Migrant Populations

This session will be focused on **migrant populations, examining some of the barriers to care and the urgent action needed to overcome them.**

This session's line up of speakers includes:

- Gulli Schininà, IOM
- Monica Blotevogel, Coreszon
- Dr. Juliet Cohen, Freedom from Torture
- David Karorero, Youth Activist and Founder of Burundian Youth for a Brighter Future
- Prof. Dinesh Bhugra (Chair)

If you have any questions you'd like to ask our panelists, please submit them to our Webinar Team at webinars@unitedgmh.org before tomorrow.

This series of fortnightly webinars is run by United for Global Mental Health, The Lancet Psychiatry, Mental Health Innovation Network, and MHPSS.net. These webinars are designed to provide policymakers and the wider health community with the latest evidence on the most pressing and often neglected issues of mental health around the world, including the impact of COVID-19 on mental health. The webinars provide practical solutions to the challenging issues we are all grappling with. Participants are encouraged to join from around the world, including those with lived experience of mental health, and of COVID-19. UPCOMING TOPICS - March 23rd – Mental Health and Marginalised Communities: Migrant Populations The full webinar recordings and summary notes will be posted on our website: <https://bit.ly/3ritLNS>

Want to share the registration link for this webinar? Please direct registrants to this link: <https://bit.ly/387UuoQ>

If you have any questions or would like to submit a question to our panel, please contact us at: webinars@unitedgmh.org

Are you a new immigrant or refugee to Canada?

欢迎

خوش آمدید

Faillte Croeso
Bienvenido

MALIGAYANG PAGMATING

Bienvenue Witamy

خوش آمدید

Welcome

Bemvindo नी आइयाँ कुँ

ようこそ Willkommen

Velkommen Καλώς ήλθε

أهلاً وسهلاً
مرحبا שלום

Benvenuto
Vitame vás

स्वागतम्

به خيز بين

Welkom

Hosgeldiniz

Добро пожаловать



We are here to answer your questions and support your adjustment to life in Canada

BURNABY NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE:

(South House) 4450 Beresford Street Burnaby, BC V5H 0B8 T: 604-431-2400 F: 604-431-9499	(North House) 4908 Kings Street Burnaby, BC V5R 1P6 T: 604-294-5224 F: 604-431-9499
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FOR SETTLEMENT SERVICES:

Cantonese/Mandarin: 335 877 2615

Arabic: 236-877-2517	Pashtu: 335 833 2756
Farsi/Dari: 236-877-2521	Spanish: 335 833 5215
French: 604-431-0400	Tamil: 335 889 4065

settlementprogram@burnabynh.ca

Supporting new immigrants and refugees in adjusting to life in Canada by providing:

- Help with applying to all Canadian Federal and Provincial benefits (PR, SIN, MSP, IFH, CTB, GST/PST, LINC, Citizenship, Passport/Visa, Income Assistance, PWD, EI, B.C. Housing, banking, etc.)
- Providing settlement information and orientation sessions in first languages
- Help with completing sponsorship applications
- Basic language translation/interpretation services
- Food aid through referrals to community programs to help with the cost of living
- Apply for government and social support, language programs and referrals to other support centers in the Lower Mainland

Professional Support:

- Case management, and developing personal settlement plans for initial needs in Canada
- One on one counselling for emotional and social issues
- Accompaniment trip in the community for settlement tasks (within the recommendations of Health Authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Home-visits to support home life (within the recommendations of Health Authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic)
- Transitional life skills facilitation
- Referrals to specialized programs in the Lower Mainland

Long-Term Community Engagement and Social-Economic Integration:

- Volunteer and community involvement opportunities
- Employment services such as pre-employment readiness career planning, employment connections, resume writing, and connections with vocation training opportunities
- Youth Employment through three levels of leadership training, and building practical experience to enhance job-readiness skills
- Promoting and sharing your cultural values and experiences in contributing to an inclusive and multi-cultural Canada
- Learning opportunities for newcomers on the Indigenous Nations in Canada
- Fostering understanding of settlement and integration process, and bring an anti-oppression lens

Referrals to In-House Programs & Resources for All Age Groups:

Volunteer opportunities, food security, access to community grants/initiatives, seniors' outreach/therapeutic programs, youth leadership, children pre-school/afterschool/day camps, school-age childcare, family drop-in programs, community kitchens, income-tax clinic, legal clinic, English conversation, adults' literacy programs, digital literacy for newcomers, and opportunities for community inclusion and civic engagement.



Funded by:

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

On behalf of Dr. Michaela Hynie, Dr. Branka Agic & Dr. Kwame McKenzie and the Promising Practices in Accessing Virtual Mental Health: Supporting Refugees during COVID-19 team. (York University, Ontario)

You are invited to participate in a **10-minute** anonymous online survey about mental health services for refugee newcomers during COVID. We are interested in hearing from:

- 1.service providers** (primary care workers, settlement workers, etc.) who have **referred** refugee newcomers to mental health services during COVID
- 2.mental health providers or counsellors** who have provided individual or group **psychosocial support, counseling or therapy** to refugee newcomers during COVID
- 3.managers or directors** of social or health services that serve refugee clients

This survey is **voluntary**. Your answers will be **anonymous** and your name will not be attached to your responses.

Your responses will help identify key concerns and promising practices in virtual mental health services for refugee newcomers, and to develop guidelines for referring refugee clients to these services. The findings of this work will be widely distributed in through settlement, health care, and mental health networks, as well as to refugee communities.

To participate in the English version of the survey, please click [here](#).

You can also paste the following link directly into the address bar of your web browser: https://yorkufoh.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2gYmde7WrQXAgNo

If you have any questions about the research, or on how to complete this survey, please contact the project coordinator Anna Oda at: annaoda@yorku.ca We would be grateful if you would share this email with colleagues.

Thank you.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Dixon Transition Society is looking for a community support worker** whose main role would be to evaluate and ensure that their programs and staff have cultural competency. **Information attached.** Please send your resume and cover letter to: manager@dixonsociety.ca.