



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 91

July 14, 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. 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

- **SUMMERTIME PICNIC AND REUNION!**

Fed up meeting over zoom? MAP invites you to attend the first annual MAP picnic at Bear Creek Park on July 27 from 4pm. Let's get together and enjoy some summer sunshine and relaxation! See all the details on the poster following and attached! See you there!!

- **WORLD REFUGEE DAY EVENT RECORDINGS**

We have nearly uploaded all the World Refugee Day events to the MAP website – check them out [here](#)

Please note – if you don't see it right away we are still uploading! Thanks to Richard for his web techie skills!

Also note that the EVENTS pages have been reorganized – enter via the [homepage](#) by clicking the EVENTS button then choose between current programming and past events.

Did you know MAP members can always revisit past Minutes, Agendas, Bulletins and other MAP business by joining the [MEMBERS AREA](#). Register today!

- **Does your agency want to be 'Agency of the Month' on MAP's website?**

MAP regularly features a member agency as 'Agency of the Month' on its website. The objective is to provide more detail about an agency for fellow members and the public. We have a standard set of interview questions and just require a little of your spokesperson's time plus 3-4 photos to make it live. You can see the current focus on South Vancouver Neighbourhood House [here](#)

If you are interested, please contact Jenny at info@mapbc.org and we will get you on the schedule.

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!



Umbrella Multicultural Health Co-op



COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

**Tuesday, July 27, 2021
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Umbrella Co-op
715 Carnarvon St. New Westminster**

Confidential, free COVID-19 vaccine clinic
For people aged 12 and up, no MSP needed.
Interpretation provided. Walk-ins available.

To register for this clinic, please complete this form
<https://forms.gle/AcuZq5qvYGq3kNNAA>
or contact us at +1(236)513-8307 (text/call/WhatsApp)

First doses are prioritized; second doses are welcome, as capacity allows.

- To be eligible for a second dose, you need to have received an invitation from the provincial Get Vaccinated system to book or have waited eight or more weeks since your first dose.
- If the clinic is at capacity, you will be added to a virtual wait list and texted to come back later that day if there are enough vaccines.
- Bring your Personal Health Number (medical care card) and photo ID, if you have them.
- Wear a mask. Do not attend if you are sick, have COVID-19 or have been asked to self-isolate.

Please see attached the same poster in:

- Arabic
- Dari
- Spanish
- Tigrinya
- English



COVID-19 Information

Please click on the link as other languages are available

[COVID-19: Getting your Second COVID-19 Vaccine \[English\]](#)

[COVID-19 Resources to call](#)

[COVID-19: Health, employment and financial information during COVID-19](#)

[Link to EASI, neighbourhood clinics: \[www.fraserhealth.ca/easi\]\(http://www.fraserhealth.ca/easi\)](#)

[COVID-19: Overview of Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit \[English\]](#)

[COVID-19 Information for Workers \[English\]](#)

[mRNA Vaccines Poster \[English\]](#)

[AstraZeneca as the first dose- 2nd dose options](#)

[How to talk to your friends about the COVID-19 Vaccines \[English\]](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information \[English\]](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information Poster \[English\]](#)

Fraser Health COVID-19 Information

The links are to resources in different languages as good resources for caseworkers.

PDF Attached also

Imtiaz is also available for presentations. Please contact him at imtiaz.popat@fraserhealth.ca

Imtiaz Popat

Program Assistant

**Sehat Program | South Asian Health Institute
Fraser Health | Better Health. Best in health care.**

www.fraserhealth.ca/sahi

FROM Fraser Health:

The additional languages for **Carpooling during COVID-19** are now available on the **Patient Education catalogue**. The English record will take you to all the languages or use the PDF links below.

Carpooling during COVID-19 (English): <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/search/results/558537>

French - <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/file/covid-19-carpooling-during-covid-19-591459.pdf>

Polish - <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/file/covid-19-carpooling-during-covid-19-591460.pdf>

Russian - <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/file/covid-19-carpooling-during-covid-19-591461.pdf>

Swahili - <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/file/covid-19-carpooling-during-covid-19-591462.pdf>

Vietnamese - <https://patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca/file/covid-19-carpooling-during-covid-19-591463.pdf>

Jaime Donato, Graphics & Production Specialist

Population & Public Health

Fraser Health – Central City Tower, 1150 – 13450 102nd Avenue, Surrey, BC V3T 0H1

Tel: 778-938-2444

MAP'S FIRST EVER SUMMER

PICNIC



WHEN
☑ Tuesday July 27th from 4PM

WHERE
☑ **Bear Creek Park:** <https://www.surrey.ca/parks-recreation/parks/bear-creek-park>
We suggest you come via the **140th Street entrance** that has lots of parking.
MAP and Options CS will have the familiar signs up to indicate where we are meeting!

BRING
☑ Yourself and your family
☑ Chairs or a blanket for seating
☑ A BBQ if you need one, your picnic food and drink

We will provide some tables as well as some iced tea and nibbles!

Please confirm you will attend by emailing info@mapbc.org - thank you!

This will be a lovely opportunity to meet up again after such a long time apart.

See you there!



On behalf of Richard and Jenny, MAP Co-chairs, we would like to invite you to a **SUMMER PICNIC** - an excuse to meet up again after this long time apart!

Please confirm you can attend by emailing Jenny M at info@mapbc.org

Poster attached also

SURVIVOR ADVOCATE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

Summer 2021

WHAT: An experiential-based learning program that bridges the experience of social injustice with advocacy skills building, and the capacity for social change. The program will focus on advocacy skills, advocacy themes, and opportunities to engage in advocacy work in the community.

WHEN: Starting August 2021. Weekly for 10 Sessions (exact date to be determined)

WHO: Offered by the Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture (VAST) in collaboration with the Victoria Coalition for Survivors of Torture (VCST). Funded by the United Nations (UN), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

WHO IS ELIGIBLE: Persons who are Convention Refugees (CRs); Protected Persons (PPs); Government Assisted Refugees (GARs); Privately-Sponsored Refugees (PSRs); Blended Visa Office-Referred Refugees (BVORs); Permanent Residents (PRs); or Citizens.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: The program will be delivered in English. Access to a stable internet connection. Access to Zoom (free virtual conferencing software). Brief conversation 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: Those interested are invited to complete a brief (5 minute) application form at: <https://forms.gle/hD7Mj8BDENW3VoDr8>. Please email: fatima@vast-vancouver.ca for more information, or call Luke at 604.283.6618



PDF attached
also

Settlement & Integration Program

Burnaby Neighbourhood House located on the traditional unceded territories of Coast Salish Nations



ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

EVERY MONDAY
12:45PM -02:00 PM



- Practise your English in a safe and friendly environment
- Explore key topics that can help you feel at home in Canada
- Connect with your community and meet new friends online

For registration, please email /call Siham at: sihamaa@burnabynh.ca
PHONE: 236-877-2517

Starting Date: July 12, 2021

WWW.BURNABYNH.CA

The Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a Charitable Non-Profit Organization. We are a volunteer driven community-funded agency with a unique focus on Neighbours supporting Neighbours.

From Burnaby Neighbourhood House

To register or for more info:

contact Siham at sihamaa@burnabynh.ca

Posters attached also

Settlement & Integration Program

Burnaby Neighbourhood House located on the traditional unceded territories of Coast Salish Nations



DIGITAL LITERACY IN ARABIC

EVERY FRIDAY
10:00 AM -12:00 PM



- Learn how to use your computer/tablet/iPhone
- Develop computer skills and navigate the internet
- Get in-person support in a safe and friendly environment
- Childminding is available with registration

- تعرفي على كيفية استخدام جهاز الكمبيوتر / الجهاز اللوحي / iPhone
- تطوير مهارات الكمبيوتر والتنقل عبر الإنترنت
- احصل على الدعم الشخصي في بيئة آمنة وودية
- يتوفر رعاية الأطفال عند التسجيل

For registration, please email /call Siham at: sihamaa@burnabynh.ca
PHONE: 236-877-2517

starting date: July, 16th 2021

WWW.BURNABYNH.CA

The Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a Charitable Non-Profit Organization. We are a volunteer driven community-funded agency with a unique focus on Neighbours supporting Neighbours.

- **Do you want to join our team?**
- **We're hiring some key positions**

- Settlement Supervisor
- Volunteer and Event Supervisor
- Meanwhile Spaces Coordinator
- Settlement Worker (6-month contract)
- Settlement Worker (18-month maternity leave contract)

Please visit our website for additional information about these jobs including full position descriptions. Positions will be removed from our website as they are filled.

[Click to see the job openings](#)



www.journeyhomecommunity.ca



Two opportunities for you:

[Join the Kinbrace Ride for Refuge - 02 Oct 2021](#)

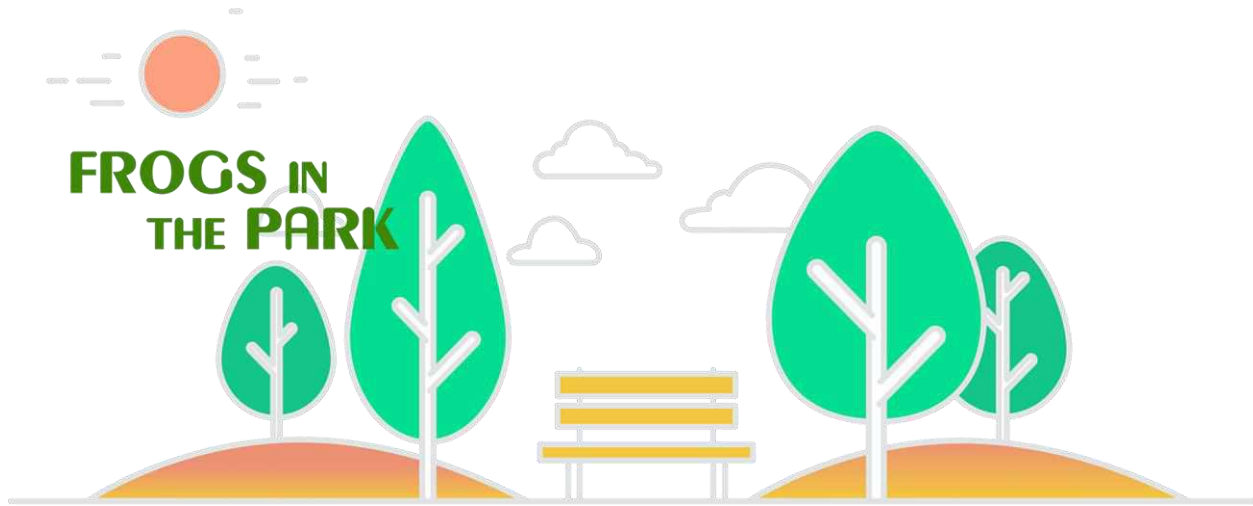
Lead a team. Participate. Give. Your involvement is key to refugee claimants' ability to find housing, get connected, gain clarity on the refugee hearing process, and experience safety and belonging. Learn more. Sign up today.

[Apply: Refugee Hearing Preparation Guide Project Coordinator](#)

One-year, 15 hr/wk. The Refugee Hearing Preparation (RHP) Guide Project Coordinator implements and coordinates activities that lead to the new national RHP Guide for refugee claimants. Learn more. Apply. Share. (Job posting closes Wednesday 21 July @ 5:00 pm Pacific.)



Summer is here What's happening at Frog Hollow....



Yes, it's FROGS IN THE PARK time! Your favourite summer program at Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House.

This year, FROGS IN THE PARK runs every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9:30 am - 11:45 am, from July 20 to August 26, [@Clinton Park, 2690 Grant St. Vancouver.](#)

What's in for you ✨


- Family Fun Circle
- Seniors Dance, Taichi & Exercise
- Indigenous Art Workshops & Library
- Gardeners' Hangout
- [#CreatingANewTogether Fundraiser NEW](#)
- Unlimited sunshine & fresh air

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES ARE OBSERVED

[Check the Schedule and sign up!](#)

**BURNABY FAMILY LIFE INVITES YOU TO WATCH THEIR WORLD
REFUGEE DAY EVENT: HUMANITY BEYOND BORDERS:**

<https://youtu.be/iecBAfeMb-c>




*Humanity
Beyond Numbers*


EVERY MINUTE, 20 PEOPLE LEAVE EVERYTHING BEHIND TO ESCAPE WAR, PERSECUTION, OR TERROR.

*June 17, 2021
5:30pm - 6:30pm*

This event will present Stories of Refugees and will include a refugee panel.

Register at: tinyurl.com/byndmbrs

 **BIPT** | BURNABY
BI-CULTURAL
INSTITUTION

 **BURNABY TOGETHER**
COALITION AGAINST RACISM AND HATE

NEW! Queer Refugee Hearings Program (QRHP) Toolkit <https://capitalrainbow.ca/qrhp>

The QRHP Toolkit aims to assist individuals claiming refugee protection based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and/or sex characteristics (SOGIESC) by:

1. Learning about the refugee claim process in Canada based on SOGIESC;
2. Writing a complete and correct narrative about their life experiences;
3. Collecting evidence that may best support their claims; and
4. Addressing common misunderstandings about SOGIESC refugee claims in Canada.

We believe this toolkit will result in well prepared refugee claims, resulting in positive outcomes at the Immigration and Refugee Board.

The key part of the QRHP Toolkit is its questionnaire, containing over 300 questions to address claimants' understanding of their SOGIESC over time, same-gender and opposite-gender relationships, and circumstances leading them to leave their countries, among other topics. Legal counsel, settlement workers, and claimants can decide how to approach the questionnaire – for example, having claimants work on parts or the whole questionnaire alone, or working with their settlement worker and/or counsel to navigate the questionnaire.

Users may download the QRHP Toolkit in full or certain sections as word documents. Or, they may use the "Interactive Online QRHP Toolkit," on a safe and secure online platform. Some of the features in the online interactive version include: Questions adjusted based on claimants' answers; an auto-generated draft evidence list; typing or leaving voice recordings as answers; and e-mailing the questionnaire to counsel or settlement workers for further review.

The QRHP Toolkit is free and available in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic.

If you or your organization are interested in a presentation but are unavailable on the dates below, please contact me at <hersh@capitalrainbow.ca> to re-schedule.

[Tuesday, July 20 at 12:00pm EST/9:00am PST](#)

[Wednesday, July 21 at 8:00pm EST/5:00pm PST](#)

[Monday, July 26 at 4:30pm EST/1:30pm PST](#)

If you have any questions, please contact me at <hersh@capitalrainbow.ca> We are also looking for feedback for a final version.

In Solidarity, Nicholas Hersh

On behalf of the **Refugee Law Lab at York University's Centre for Refugee Studies**, and in partnership with Osgoode Hall Law School, I am delighted to announce the launch of the **Refugee Law Lab Reporter**.

The RLLR publishes positive decisions from the Refugee Protection Division of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board. We publish these decisions because the vast majority of Canadian refugee decisions published elsewhere involve refugee claims that were denied at first instance. The disproportionate publication of refugee decisions that involve negative first instance decisions distorts jurisprudence, prevents lawyers from drawing on positive examples in their arguments, and makes it difficult for scholars to study refugee adjudication.

The RLLR obtains redacted RPD decisions through Access to Information and Privacy requests. If you would like to see us publish a specific decision or a particular type of decision, you can let us know on our webpage.

Check us out here:

<https://refugeelab.ca/rllr/>

This project was made possible through funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

SEAN REHAAG

Director, Centre for Refugee Studies CRS: www.yorku.ca/crs

Director, Refugee Law Laboratory: www.refugeelab.ca

Associate Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto, Canada: www.osgoode.yorku.ca/rehaag-sean

Research: <https://ssrn.com/author=404046>

A new report is just out, “**Putting Home at the Heart of Refugee Resettlement**”, published by Policy Alternatives.

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/publications/reports/putting-home-at-the-heart>

The culmination of a 5-year study based on interviews with recently arrived former refugees finds that securing good housing is a key part of successful settlement. However, a tight rental housing market, insufficient financial support and limited supply of public housing means many are barely making ends meet, making resettlement challenging.

Putting Home at the Heart of Refugee Resettlement by Ray Silvius (University of Winnipeg), Emily Halldorson (Community Researcher) and Hani Ataan Al-Ubeady (Immigration Partnership Winnipeg) brings into focus to the need for adequate housing in Winnipeg and how it positively contributes to the multitude of settlement needs in the first years after arrival.

Updates on Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)

On July 6, Council approved new EV readiness requirements for new non-residential buildings. These requirements are designed to encourage EV uptake in Vancouver while supporting building owners and managers and minimizing retrofit costs.

Learn about our progress through the following [news release](#). You may also read the detailed Council report here:

<https://council.vancouver.ca/20210706/documents/r4.pdf>

Please watch our @greenestcity social feeds for highlights you can re-post.

Current opportunities to engage with and amplify CEAP

1. A reminder that, in support of our [Green Home Retrofit Plan](#), we are still looking to conduct 30-min interviews with a cross section of Vancouverites living in detached houses and duplexes that use gas heating and hot water to learn about their situation and their house, identify energy renovation barriers, and potential solutions.

Please share our webpage with your network to help us find interview participants – the sign-up form is located there and we hope to wrap up interviews by mid-July. <http://vancouver.ca/home-retrofits>

2. In support of measures to increase our EV charging infrastructure in Vancouver, the City is announcing a new program that offers City-owned [EV chargers in rental buildings](#) at no cost to renters.

Information about how to participate in the EV chargers in rental buildings program is available on our EV webpage below shortly. Renters are invited to share this news with their property managers.

<https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/electric-vehicle-charging-for-rental-buildings.aspx>



3. This summer, the City is launching the [Climate Leaders pilot program](#). The program provides training to people seeking to have dialogues with their community on climate action and climate preparedness, situated within a local and equity-focused context.

There are a limited number of spots available to participate in this pilot (30 people maximum) and training would take place in Late July/August. See below for details and application and feel free to share with your networks. <https://survey.vancouver.ca/s3/Climate-Leaders-Application-Form>

4. I'm also sharing an initiative related to our climate adaptation work: The City is launching the [Sea2City Design Challenge](#) to help inform a framework and vision to guide urban development and ecological revitalization in Vancouver's False Creek floodplain. This design challenge will engage two multi-disciplinary teams through a competitive process to work cooperatively with the City and project partners, exploring coastal adaptation approaches that respond to sea level rise in ways that embrace equity, and economic and ecological resilience.

We're seeking members of the public to join [Sea2City's community advisory group](#), which will guide the design teams, explore challenge sites from a community perspective and provide feedback on outputs. Applications are open until July 19. Members will be selected by the end of August. Feel free to share this with your interested networks. <https://vancouver.ca/green-vancouver/sea2city-design-challenge.aspx>

From the network

David Suzuki Foundation is currently seeking a [Director of Sustainable Communities](#) with extensive skills in relationship building and strategic progressive community leadership. The position will remain open until filled.

If you have resources to share or upcoming events that may interest this network, please reach out to me about including them in a future update.

Stay in touch and stay well!

Tina Barisky | Strategic Relationships Coordinator

Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability | City of Vancouver

453 West 12th Ave, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

t. 604.829.9223

tina.barisky@vancouver.ca



ISSofBC announces appointment of new CEO

After a nationwide recruitment process, ISSofBC's Board of Directors is pleased to announce **Jonathan Oldman** as new Chief Executive Officer following the retirement of outgoing CEO, **Patricia Woroch**.

"CEO leadership transition is a critical moment for any organization, not least one that has had such stability and success in leadership," said Board President **Jack Wong**. "I know Jonathan will work hand-in-hand with the communities we serve, our staff, volunteers, funders and sector partners to continue to help immigrants and refugees build a strong and vibrant future in this country," he added.

Jonathan has over 20-years senior leadership experience in BC's not-for-profit sector, working with a range of organizations and systems serving populations including the homeless, individuals with mental health and addiction challenges, seniors, and those at end-of-life. Jonathan was formerly Executive Director of The Bloom Group, one of the largest community organizations in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. In the last two years he has been working in a variety of roles in the cancer care sector, including with the Canadian Cancer Society.

"I have spent my entire career working to strengthen communities and support systems. I'm humbled and proud to continue this journey with ISSofBC and look forward to building on the incredible success Patricia and the ISSofBC team have achieved to date," said Jonathan.

"As we continue to address the impact of COVID-19 and other critical challenges facing our society and country, I particularly want to make a strong commitment to furthering our diversity, equity, and inclusion as an organization, our broad work to promote social justice, and our support of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. This work will be a key priority for me."

As CEO, Jonathan will support leadership of all ISSofBC's operations including Settlement, LINC, Career Services and the fee-for-service Language and Career College. These programs are delivered by 400 staff and serve close to 20,000 immigrant and refugee clients annually in 14 offices in Metro Vancouver, Squamish and Northern BC.

MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin July 14, 2021

Jonathan begins his new appointment on September 8, 2021.



Board President Jack Wong (left) sits with newly appointed CEO Jonathan Oldman at ISSofBC Welcome Centre.

HONOURS & AWARDS



**The call for nominations is open for the
Province's Medal of Good Citizenship.
Nominate someone today!**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic we have seen incredible contributions from citizens across this province. This year the B.C. Medal of Good Citizenship will recognize people who have gone above and beyond to offer help and kindness to others during the COVID-19 pandemic without expectation of reward.

Please nominate people you feel meet the criteria and forward this information to others in your organization and/or community. You can also download or share a promotional poster by clicking [here](#).

To be considered for this year, nominations must be received by **September 19, 2021** and must have a **COVID-19 response focus**. Nomination forms and the details regarding the criteria are available [online](#).

Thank you in advance for your consideration in nominating exceptional citizens, students, community members and volunteers in your community.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Honours and Awards Secretariat at 778-974-6259 or bchonoursandawards@gov.bc.ca.



Dignidad Migrante Society

Announces its postcard campaign to demand rights for Temporary Foreign Workers from the Federal and Provincial government

I am **attaching the letter** that we sent to PM Trudeau and to Premiere Horgan. If an organization wants to send a postcard please contact us to send them the card, and afterwards we will collect it and send to the authorities. I am attaching samples of the postcards that we have in order for people to request what kind of card they want.

Raul Gautica

imfarmworker@gmail.com

778-683-3419 || 778-791-3419 || 604-754-3419 || 778-536-3419

dignidadmigrantesociety.org



These and others attached also