



**MAP** Multi-Agency  
Partnership BC  
*Working Together for Refugee Claimants*

# MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 89

June 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. 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](mailto:info@mapbc.org).

## MAP NEWS

It's not too late to sign up for **MAP's June 24 Meeting at 9:30 am**

**Register at:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtcO6qpjsiGdNnVQPC2Eo6A9IR7xB95LIh> The AGENDA is attached.

Presentations include:

- Report on **MAP's World Refugee Day** program with video clips
- **IRIS project** - update on research re: **access to health care for refugee claimants** including COVID-19 testing.
- Presentation from **Kinbrace** and research staff: **From Humanitarian to Human: Changing the Way We Welcome Refugee Claimants.**
- Update from **CBSA about their programs**
- **And a special Farewell!**

**The Housing Working Group will meet at 1pm – 2:30pm at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83978359239?pwd=YnVjV0YwRGdmNkVYeFk3eFl4Y3N4QT09>

**Information Working group will meet at 3pm – 4pm**

**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 COOP VACCINE CLINIC PRIMARILY FOR THOSE WITHOUT MSP

**Umbrella will host a COVID-19 vaccine clinic THIS FRIDAY June 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Priority for people without MSP and who may need support in other languages (onsite support in Tigrinya, Arabic, Dari, Spanish).

Please share with your community members! Posters attached in Arabic, Dari, English, Espanol, Tigrinya,

Here is a reminder for the booking process:

If you have a patient who is interested, please support them with the link

<https://forms.gle/Acuzg5qvYGq3kNNAA>

We will contact them with an appointment time.

When confirming appointment with patients, please relay the following message:

- Appointment time.
- Umbrella Co-op is located at 715 Carnarvon St, New Westminster.
- Please arrive at assigned time, remember to wear a mask and open arm clothing.
- A registration number is needed for receiving the vaccine. To make the clinic day more efficient, please try to get patients registered in the provincial system prior to Friday.
  - If the patient has MSP or PHN they could register online at: <https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/>
  - If the patient does not have MSP/insurance, you could help them get a temporary PHN and register by calling +1-833-838-2323.

If they are not able to complete the registration in advance, that is fine. We can assist on the day of.

More multilingual information session information from Fraser Health re: COVID-19 Vaccinations **Posters attached**

# Vaccine Information Session in Thai

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM  
Monday  
June 28, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82211849822>

Meeting ID: 822 1184 9822

To call in June 28, dial 778-907-2071 and enter Meeting ID 822 1184 9822.

This event will be recorded. Watch after at: [fraserhealth.ca/translated](https://fraserhealth.ca/translated)

Learn how, when and why you should get the COVID-19 vaccine and come with your questions.

Featuring Fraser Health Medical Health Officer Dr. Ingrid Tyler, a Thai Interpreter and members of our Thai-speaking community.



# การประชุม ข้อมูลเกี่ยวกับวัคซีน เป็นภาษาไทย

วันจันทร์  
วันที่ 28 มิถุนายน 2021  
เวลา 3:30-4:30

เข้าร่วมการประชุม Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82211849822>

รหัสการประชุม 822 1184 9822

โทร วันที่ 28 มิถุนายน โดย โทร 778-907-2071 และกรอก รหัสการประชุม 822 1184 9822

การโทร-ประชุมจะถูกบันทึกไว้ สามารถดูได้ที่: [fraserhealth.ca/translated](https://fraserhealth.ca/translated)

มีทีมผู้แปลภาษาจะ จัดวัคซีน โควิด-19 ได้ด้วยโร- สือโร- และทำไม่ มากที่สุดให้กับท่านของคุณ

มีแพทย์โดยมีหน้าที่ดูแลที่ การดูแลสุขภาพ Fraser Health คือ คุณ Ingrid Tyler, หมอที่พูดภาษาไทย และสมาชิกของชุมชนไทยของเรา



# Vaccine Information Session in Gujarati

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM  
Monday  
July 5, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87904217388>


Meeting ID: 879 0421 7388

To call in July 5, dial 778-907-2071 and enter Meeting ID 879 0421 7388.

This event will be recorded. Watch after at: [fraserhealth.ca/translated](https://fraserhealth.ca/translated)

Learn how, when and why you should get the COVID-19 vaccine and come with your questions.

Featuring Fraser Health Medical Health Officer Dr. Ingrid Tyler, a Gujarati Interpreter and members of our Gujarati-speaking community.



# ગુજરાતીમાં રસી માહિતી અધિવેશન

બપોરે ૩:૩૦ થી ૪:૩૦  
સોમવાર  
૫ જુલાઈ, ૨૦૨૧

ઝૂમ મીટિંગમાં જોડાઓ  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87904217388>

મીટિંગ આઈડી: ૮૭૯ ૦૪૨૧ ૭૩૮૮

૫ જુલાઈએ કોલ કરવા માટે ૭૭૮-૯૦૭-૨૦૭૧ ક્રમલ કરો અને રજાનો મીટિંગ આઈડી ૮૭૯ ૦૪૨૧ ૭૩૮૮

આ ઘટના રેકોર્ડ કરવામાં આવશે.  
આ પર પછી જુઓ: [fraserhealth.ca/translated](https://fraserhealth.ca/translated)

જાણો કેવી રીતે, ક્યારે અને શા માટે તમારે કોવિડ-૧૯ રસી લેવી જોઈએ અને તમારા પુશો સાથે લાવો.

આમ લેનાર છે કેવળ કેવળના મેડિકલ આરોગ્ય અધિકારી ડૉ. ઇન્ગ્રિડ ટાઇલર, એક ગુજરાતી ઇન્ટરપ્રીટર અને આપણા ગુજરાતી બોલતા સમુદાયના સભ્યો.



## IMMUNIZE BC

### You can get vaccinated faster

Thanks for booking your first dose vaccine appointment.

B.C. has received more vaccine and in some locations we've added extra appointment times. You can choose to reschedule your appointment and get vaccinated faster.

If you have an appointment booked at a community clinic, no extra appointment times will be made available. No action is required on your part.

#### I want to reschedule my appointment and get vaccinated faster

You have two options to reschedule:

- Online, using your existing booking link (You can find this in the booking email we sent you)
- By phone, call 1-833-838-2323

#### I want to keep my existing appointment

No action is required on your part.

By getting vaccinated, we're all doing our part to keep each other safe. For more information, visit [gov.bc.ca/covid19](https://gov.bc.ca/covid19)

Now that BC's vaccine supply is improving in the second half of June, we anticipate the time for people to book their second dose will also become shorter. As always, the best way to secure your first or second dose is to register in the system.

We continue to advance our mass immunization program across the province. The mass vaccination clinics will see increased capacity in the coming weeks. This is our summer of shots!

With increased supply of vaccine, the clinics are now able to offer more options for people to get vaccinated. While registering and booking through the get vaccinated system is the best way to secure your first or second doses, we understand that some people haven't yet made arrangements to get their first dose.

To improve access to help people get their first shot, **many clinics are now offering drop-in times where you can simply show up at a clinic and register and get vaccinated at the same time. Check the respective health authorities for the availability of drop in times.**

Improving access to vaccines will help increase our overall vaccination rate in B.C. and help put the pandemic behind us. More people vaccinated equals more protection against the virus.

**We encourage British Columbians to check their health authorities for all the ways they can get vaccinated, including drop-in, mobile and drive-thru clinics.**

In addition, with this new increased supply we are able to shorten the wait times between the time you receive your invite for your second dose and the time you can secure your appointment.

Immunize BC Project

Stay Informed: [gov.bc.ca/COVID](https://gov.bc.ca/COVID), [bccdc.ca](https://bccdc.ca), 1.88.COVID19

## IMMUNIZE BC

While you may not be in the Vancouver Coastal Health Region this CHINESE LANGUAGE INFORMATION may be useful.

### In-language resources on [VCH website](#) (listed below)

- COVID-19 vaccine information sheet: [English](#) | [Traditional Chinese](#) | [Simplified Chinese](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine poster (registration and booking process): [English](#) | [Traditional Chinese](#) | [Simplified Chinese](#)
- COVID-19 vaccine safety poster: [English and Traditional Chinese](#) | [English and Simplified Chinese](#)

We are hoping to host another series of info sessions in the coming months, providing up-to-date info and preparing people for dose two.)

### Social media posts

- We began a Facebook ad campaign on May 21 encouraging registration. The ads use in language artwork from the Province and are targeted to the 50 to 65 year old demographic residing throughout our region, including Richmond. Please see attached for visuals of the ad (Registration for Dose 2).
- We're sharing registration and vaccine information on WeChat to ensure accurate content is available in language.

### Media outreach

- We announced the COVID-19 vaccine clinic in Richmond and shared this information with [media](#) (in English and Traditional Chinese) and with our community via social media: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

### Upcoming tactics and timeline

- Mid-June and on: WeChat, social influencer and media campaign targeting Mandarin–speaking audience.

## ***Notice of Interest for Short Notice Hearings (previously circulated via email)***

**The Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB)** continuously strives to ensure access to justice. The Refugee Protection Division (RPD) has some extra capacity this summer and is instituting a temporary measure for counsel to voluntarily identify claims that could be scheduled for a hearing on short notice with the RPD.

To begin, we are looking for counsel who have claims they deem ready to be heard and that could be added to our schedule for the weeks of June 21<sup>st</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Priority will be given to claimants on a first come, first served basis and those ready to proceed on earlier dates.

Counsel should send their expression of interest via email to the following email address of the respective region or Task Force for Less Complex Claims:

- Western: [x-rpd.scheduling.WesternRegion@irb.gc.ca](mailto:x-rpd.scheduling.WesternRegion@irb.gc.ca) / [x-spr.miseaurole.regionouest@cisr.gc.ca](mailto:x-spr.miseaurole.regionouest@cisr.gc.ca)
- Central: [irb.TOR.RPD.Scheduling-TOR.SPR.MAR.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca](mailto:irb.TOR.RPD.Scheduling-TOR.SPR.MAR.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca)
- Eastern: [irb.scheduling-emails-rpd-eas-mar-courriels-spr.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca](mailto:irb.scheduling-emails-rpd-eas-mar-courriels-spr.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca)
- If you have received a letter advising that a file is under review with the Less Complex Claims task force, then please send your email to [irb.SchedulingInventoryReductionTaskforce-MAR-EquipeSpecialepourReductionInventaire.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca](mailto:irb.SchedulingInventoryReductionTaskforce-MAR-EquipeSpecialepourReductionInventaire.cisr@irb-cisr.gc.ca) regardless of the region the file is located in.

### **Important:**

- The subject of the email should state “Short notice files from [insert Counsel name].”
- Only use the UCI and/or IRB file number to identify cases. Do not provide any other identifying information of the claimant via email.
- Eligible files for scheduling on short notice must not have Ministerial intervention or unaccompanied minors.
- Please indicate whether an interpreter is required and the language of interpretation.
- Please identify whether the case is a gender-related claim.

As soon as we have hearing slots available, we will contact you with a time and date to determine your availability.

Note that we will be exploring the addition of a similar mechanism to our Portal in the near future.



**The US-Canada Cross-Border Network** has written a short text explaining the current conditions on the US-Canada border, along with links for more information.

If your organization is near the border or receives inquiries from people in the US, we would encourage you to put a notice on your website (using our suggested text or similar) to inform people about the current conditions at the border.

TEXT BELOW – please email if you would like it as an attachment to [kathryn.dennler@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.dennler@gmail.com) Kathryn

*This information is valid as of June 23rd, 2021*

The U.S. and Canadian governments are making changes to rules at the border, and more people are allowed to enter Canada. **However, at this time, the US-Canada border remains closed for most asylum seekers - this includes official ports of entry and unofficial crossings such as Roxham Road in Champlain, NY.** If you wish to travel to Canada to apply for asylum, you should talk to a qualified Canadian refugee lawyer or support organization first.

If you attempt to cross the border and are not eligible to cross, you will be directed back by Canadian authorities, and there is a real risk that you will be detained and placed in removal proceedings by U.S. authorities.

People who can prove they meet an exception to the Safe Third Country Agreement will be permitted to enter at official ports of entry. If you think you might be eligible under the Safe Third Country Agreement, **you should still seek legal advice before going to an official port of entry.**

**For up-to-date information about conditions at the border and who can enter Canada:**

Bridges not Borders/ Créons des ponts - <http://www.bridgesnotborders.ca/info-1.html>

UNHCR Canada - <https://www.unhcr.ca/in-canada/making-refugee-claim/>

New York Office for New Americans - 1-800-566-7636

**Information and resources for asylum seekers:**

About the refugee process in Canada - <https://www.unhcr.ca/in-canada/making-refugee-claim/>

Exceptions to the Safe Third Country Agreement - <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/refugee-protection/canada/processing-claims-protection-safe-third-country-agreement.html>

## Settlement & Integration Program

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

### 安置与融入服务：在线信息说明会 Renting a Place in BC BC省租房须知（国语）

Date 日期: June 24, 2021 (6月24日)  
Time 时间: 19:30 (晚七点半)

China Time 中国时间:  
10:30am June 25, 2021  
6月25日上午10:30

Register 报名:

Scan (扫描二维码) :



#### Everything you need to know as a Tenant/Landlord:

- Decide the best type of Housing
- What should be included in a lease
- What risk you might have
- Money matters

无论您是房东还是租客，您应该了解的一切：

- 怎样选择合适的住房
- 租约中应包括的内容
- 您可能面临的风险
- 相关费用一览

Service in Mandarin/普通话咨询: 236-877-2616

[WWW.BURNABYNH.CA](http://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.

Poster also attached

This event is tomorrow Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> !!

For registration and/or more information, please contact Dali Qu, our Settlement Case Manager, at [DaliQ@burnabynh.ca](mailto:DaliQ@burnabynh.ca)

Settlement & Integration Program

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

# TEA PARTY FOR ARAB WOMEN

EVERY THURSDAY  
11:30 AM -12:30 PM

- Learn about the migration/settlement-related issues, challenges and support systems
- Connect with your community
- Meet new friends while enjoying your tea.

- تعرفي على القضايا المتعلقة بالهجرة / الاستيطان والتحديات وأنظمة الدعم.
- تواصل مع مجتمعك.
- التقى بأصدقاء جدد مع استمتاعك بكوب شاي.

تجمع للمجتمع العربي عبر الزوم

Virtual gatherings in Arabic language

For registration, please email Siham at:

[sihamaa@burnabynh.ca](mailto:sihamaa@burnabynh.ca)  
PHONE: 236-877-2517

[WWW.BURNABYNH.CA](http://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.



Hope you are well. FYI and help with sharing through your contact networks, attached please find a poster about **Newcomer Women's Conversations in Arabic**.

For more details, please contact Siham, our Settlement Case Manager for Arab communities at [sihamaa@burnabynh.ca](mailto:sihamaa@burnabynh.ca)

Poster attached

**We would like to invite you to an event**

**Three Ways Your Church Can Prepare to  
Welcome Refugee Claimants in the Post-Pandemic World**

**Date:** Thurs June 24 **Time:** 7:00 PM

We are participating with Missions Central in this timely online seminar.

Join us to learn how you and your church can welcome unsupported refugee claimants, collaborate with local organizations and care for refugees.

[Click here to register on Eventbrite.](#) **Learn more:** [missionscentral.ca](http://missionscentral.ca)

RCMP VICTIMS  
SERVICES PRESENTS

# HATE MOTIVATED CRIMES AND INCIDENTS

Join us for a conversation on  
hate motivated crimes and  
incidents, the laws around them  
and support services available  
for victims.

**JUNE 29, 2021**  
**9:00 – 11:00 AM**

PRESENTED BY: CORPORAL LAURA HIRST  
CRIME PREVENTION/VICTIM SERVICES NCO  
BURNABY RCMP

Registration Required:  
<https://tinyurl.com/jczvv9b5>



Burnaby Together and BIPT would like to invite you to a conversation with the RCMP around Hate Motivated Crimes and Incidents.

Registration is required, please use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/jczvv9b5> to receive the link for the access the event.

Poster attached





# BC Newcomer Camp is open for registration!

**2 attachments!**

The camp is open to children from refugee claimant backgrounds.

We are excited to be recruiting our 2021 cohort of children (from refugee backgrounds) for our BC Newcomer Camp this summer.

We are holding sessions in-person in Vancouver and Surrey. Sessions begin July 5th - August 27th.

The camp is free for all children.

All of the information is attached, along with the application form.

Complete application forms can be sent to: [info@bcnewcomercamp.org](mailto:info@bcnewcomercamp.org)

Free summer camp for those in the Sunset area of East Vancouver.

Registration

Link: [SherbrookeMennonite.org/SummerBridge/](https://SherbrookeMennonite.org/SummerBridge/)

Questions? Contact:

Kevin Barkowsky, Pastor  
Sherbrooke Mennonite Church  
250-863-5987


**POSTER ATTACHED**

MCC  
**SUMMER BRIDGE**  
Kids Day Camp  
For Kids Ages 4-13


**Afternoons**  
1 - 4 pm

3 weeks to choose:


- July 12-16
- July 26-30
- Aug 9-13




**Fun Times**



**Crafts**



**Bible Stories**



**Games**

**Cost:** Free of Charge  
**Location:** Sherbrooke Mennonite Church  
7155 Sherbrooke St.  
Vancouver BC

Limited spaces available.

**Register online at [SherbrookeMennonite.org/SummerBridge/](https://SherbrookeMennonite.org/SummerBridge/)**  
All COVID protocols will be in place. Please do not bring your child if they are exhibiting any COVID symptoms.

**BC CHARMS PROJECT – RFP DEADLINE EXTENDED INNOVATIVE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR REFUGEE CLAIMANTS**

As lead agency of MAP’s **BC Claimants Housing Referral and Management System Project (BC CHARMS)**, MOSAIC is seeking proposals from experienced researchers to conduct qualitative research with a spectrum of housing providers as a step towards finding **innovative housing solutions for refugee claimants**. The title of the project is Innovative Housing Solutions for Refugee Claimants. The deadline for submissions is June 25th at 11:59 pm.

You can find instructions for submission in the **RFP ATTACHED**.



# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## Journey Home Community: (2 PAGES)

### We're hiring three key positions

Please take a look at these job descriptions, and if you or someone you know might be interested in these positions, please apply and feel free to share widely within your network.

#### 1. Settlement Supervisor (perm. full-time: 40 hrs/week)

[download the full position description \(PDF file\)](#)

This permanent full-time position will provide an exciting and challenging opportunity for an individual interested in providing oversight of Journey Home's housing and settlement program, supervision of a small settlement team, and engaging with volunteers and sector partners.

**Mandate:** Provide leadership, support, and training for the Settlement Team, oversee/manage the organization's transitional housing spaces, and provide coaching and mentorship for Communities of Welcome partners.

Position to commence as soon as a suitable candidate is found. Please send a resume and cover letter as soon as possible to [employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca](mailto:employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca). Be sure to reference the position title in the email subject line.

#### 2. Volunteer and Event Supervisor (perm. full-time: 35 hrs/week)

[download the full position description \(PDF file\)](#)

This permanent full-time position will provide an exciting and challenging opportunity for an individual interested in building excitement and inspiring others to support Journey Home Community through volunteerism and by participation with us in organizational events. 

*Journey Home positions contd.*

**Mandate:** Oversee and supervise all aspects of Journey Home Community's volunteer program AND plan and coordinate development events and key social gatherings.

Position to commence as soon as a suitable candidate is found. Please send a resume and cover letter as soon as possible to [employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca](mailto:employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca). Be sure to reference the position title in the email subject line.

### **3. Meanwhile Spaces Supervisor (contract: 37.5 hrs/week)**

[\*download the full position description \(PDF file\)\*](#)

**Meanwhile Spaces** are vacant buildings, homes, or housing units that are awaiting demolition for the purpose of redevelopment. Relationships will be formed with the owners/property managers/developers and prior to demolition, these units will be repurposed - in the "meanwhile" - to provide housing for vulnerable, homeless refugee claimant individuals/families.

This contract position is perfect for an entrepreneurial individual interested in exploring this new initiative and innovative approach to solve a challenging homelessness problem in Metro Vancouver. An extension of this contract is dependent on further funding and revenue leading to sustainability.

**Mandate:** Locate and utilize Metro Vancouver's empty buildings to provide transitional housing for refugee claimants facing homelessness. Position to commence on August 1, 2021. The position remains open and applications will be received until a suitable candidate is found and the posting is removed. Interviewing will commence with qualified candidates as they emerge.

Please send a resume and cover letter as soon as possible to [employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca](mailto:employment@journeyhomecommunity.ca). Be sure to reference the position title in the email subject line.

Brad Kinnie - Executive Director

Journey Home Community: [www.journeyhomecommunity.ca](http://www.journeyhomecommunity.ca)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### UMBRELLA MULTICULTURAL HEALTH CO-OP

See attached PDF's for all positions



Umbrella Multicultural  
Health Co-op

- Part time **Physiotherapist** position
- **Nurse Practitioner** (updated posting)
- **Mobile Clinic Medical Office Assistant** (temporary)
- **Clinics+ Medical Office Assistant** (temporary).

## PeaceGeeks – 3 Question Survey on Settlement



Dear PeaceGeeks Community Members:

What are your thoughts on priorities for Canada's Settlement Sector?

Settlement 3.0 is a project which asks how we can empower newcomers to be agents in their own settlement journey and build the overall capacity of the sector to embrace technology, innovation, and collaborative processes.

PeaceGeeks led a national team of researchers conducted key informant interviews and focus group consultations across Canada. The project's research produced the following **six high-level recommendations**. We want to know which of these recommendations you think are most important and why, so we are asking for a few minutes of your input.

**Take the survey here:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TSKXXM7>

As we'd like to hear from newcomers, people working in the sector, and funders, please share this survey with your networks. We'll be sure to share the report when it's published in the coming weeks. Thanks for your time!

**Alysha Baratta**, *Community Engagement (she/her/hers)*

**p. (Canada)** 604.349.5221

**e.** [alysha@peacegeeks.org](mailto:alysha@peacegeeks.org)



Your provincial government has the power to give all doctors an **#EqualChance**

Implement **equity-based changes** and **democratize access to residency positions.**

Let's stop the discrimination.  
**Everyone deserves an equal chance.**



Dear MAP

We are pushing forward to get internationally trained doctors to work in their profession in Canada.

Thanks to your support, we're continuing to gain momentum and attention to the fact that 70% of Canadians feel that they need more doctors in their communities, and we have the solution waiting on the sidelines.

Change requires **consistent passionate advocacy**, and we're grateful that you share this desire for change. Please take a moment to learn more about the challenges doctors are facing:

[Learn about Vahid's story](#)

- [Read our Media Release](#)
- [Watch the story of Wegdan](#)
- [SpiceRadio Interview](#)

Please consider making a gift to the campaign, as little as \$5 allows us to advocate for equity for internationally trained doctors. [Click here to help.](#)

Our community is growing: Alberta International Medical Graduates Association, The Canadian Arab Institute, IMG Career Counselling, Immigrant Services Calgary and Windmill Microlending have joined as Community Partners.

If you are an internationally trained medical doctor navigating the process to practice in Canada, we want to hear from you. Contact us at [advocacy@inclusion.ca](mailto:advocacy@inclusion.ca)

Thank you from all us, #EqualChance Team at The Institute for Canadian Citizenship





Refugee Research Network

RRN Research Digest – June 17, 2021

[Read digest on RRN Website](#)

The RRN digest is issued bi-weekly to highlight the latest academic and non-academic resources on Refugees and forced migrants. We encourage readers to [email us](#) any articles, reports, or research related to refugee/forced migration studies to be considered in the forthcoming editions. Open-access versions are always a preference. This will be the last issue before we break for the summer. Please continue to share with us your work, especially if open access. We hope you have a wonderful summer and see you back in the Fall.

## REPEATS

Poster  
attached

### SURVIVOR ADVOCATE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM *Summer 2021*

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

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

**WHO:** Offered by the Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture (VAST). Funded by the United Nations (UN), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE:** Former clients of VAST (including anyone who has accessed groups or individual counselling sessions) 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 interview 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/Psfwf37ysacjM816A>





Upcoming workshop on Burnaby Public Library services in English and Farsi.

For more details, please contact Maryam Torabizadeh, our Settlement Case Manager at [maryamt@burnabynh.ca](mailto:maryamt@burnabynh.ca)

POSTER ATTACHED

**Settlement & Integration Program**

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

**BURNABY LIBRARY SERVICES - FREE**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 25TH 2021  
12:30PM - 2:00PM**

- Learn about library services
- Connect with your community

Virtual Farsi speaking community gathering (by Zoom)

- درباره خدمات کتابخانه اطلاعات کسب کنید
- با انجمن خود ارتباط برقرار کنید

دوره‌ی مجازی فارسی زبانان با استفاده از نرم افزار زوم

For registration, please email Maryam at:  
[maryamt@burnabynh.ca](mailto:maryamt@burnabynh.ca)  
PHONE: 236-877-2531

**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.

## Where are all the Black People?

In the spirit of organizational commitments to and increasing interest in anti-racism, I would like to share with you a speaker series on [Black Underrepresentation in the Academy](#). This series foregrounds actionable and measurable strategies to increase Black representation and Black excellence in fields where Blackness is particularly underrepresented.

Ismaël Traoré, PhD, Director, Faculty Equity, UBC

[ismael.traore@ubc.ca](mailto:ismael.traore@ubc.ca)

**Upcoming:** [Click here to register](#)

### Black Futures – July 5

Speakers: [Celina Caesar-Chavannes](#), previous Member of Parliament, and Senior Advisor of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Initiatives, Queen's University, [Dr. Wisdom Tettey](#), Vice-President and Principal of University of Toronto Scarborough, and [Donna Young](#), Dean, Faculty of Law, Ryerson University

**EVENT POSTER ATTACHED**



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – SENT BY CITY OF VANCOUVER EQUITY OFFICE

Please see attached:

- Decriminalizing Poverty Community Panel – see attached PDF  
Call for Co-chairs of the panel – see PDF attached
- Funding Information + 2 job opportunities – Heritage Canada Anti-Racism Secretariat – see attached

## New Funding Opportunities from the WES Mariam Assefa Fund

The WES Mariam Assefa Fund is thrilled to announce that we have launched [two new funding opportunities in Canada](#), which seek to identify catalytic leaders and organizations across the country that share our vision of a more inclusive economy and society for immigrants and refugees. One funding opportunity is focused on *employer practices* to support economic integration of immigrants and refugees, and another one is a more *general call for proposals*, focused more broadly on ideas aligned with the Fund's overall grantmaking priorities. Prospective partners will be able to share their ideas and apply for funding through the WES Mariam Assefa Fund's [new online application portal](#).

More detailed information about these funding opportunities and links to the application portal are below. I would really appreciate **if you could share this information with any relevant organizations and leaders in your networks**, since we are trying to reach organizations that are outside of our immediate community. Please also note a [webinar on Employer Practices](#) that we will be conducting on Jun 15<sup>th</sup> – with a panel on best practices on employer engagement and more information about the Employer Practices funding opportunity.

### [Funding opportunities in Canada:](#)

#### Employer Practices

The WES Mariam Assefa Fund is looking to identify and fund promising solutions that can improve employer practices in Canada and engage employers in the economic integration of immigrants and refugees. For funding in 2021, please submit letters of intent (LOIs) through their application portal by June 30. Immigrants and refugees are key to Canada's economic health today and to its future growth. Canadian employers, who have consistently reported labour shortages across a range of occupations, have a critical role to play in building more inclusive economies and supporting the success of immigrant and refugee workers. The Fund seeks ideas from organizations that directly engage with employers to do work toward these goals. [Learn more here](#).

To learn more about this call for proposals and to hear a discussion of best practices in employer engagement, please join our **webinar on Jun 15<sup>th</sup>**, 12pm-1pm EDT, called: ***Engaging Employers in the Economic Integration of Immigrants and Refugees: Discussion of Best Practices Within a Broad Workforce Development Ecosystem***. [Register here](#).

#### General Application

The WES Mariam Assefa Fund is seeking a broad range of funding ideas aligned with the Fund's social impact goals and mission to ensure all immigrants and refugees can achieve their goals and thrive. For funding in 2021, please submit letters of intent (LOIs) through our application portal by August 2. Building on the Fund's launch in Canada in 2020, we seek to continue learning about the great work of organizations across Canada and identify impactful, innovative solutions that support the success of immigrants and refugees. Learn more here. [Learn more here](#).

I write to share a recently-published paper (with the PDF just made available this week; it should be available online soon): "Aiming at Civic Integration? How Canada's Naturalization Rules are Sidelining Refugees and Family-Class Immigrants," *Revue Européenne des Migrations Internationales*, 2020, 36 (4), pp. 77-97.

It is the fruit of several years of research, thanks to the hard work two Ottawa U academics (Professors Delphine Nakache and Elke Winter). It brings to light the significant impact that increased language & testing requirements for Canadian citizenship, along with the increased fee, have had on naturalization rates, and in particular it highlights what groups have been most impacted by this: family class sponsored immigrants and refugees.

Please feel free to share it in any submissions or advocacy opportunities you have around barriers to citizenship. <https://ln4.sync.com/dl/a809d4990/ddk53v2p-dbg378bt-wc7v6ag9-4gq3sjg2>

**Jennifer Stone** (pronoun she/her)  
**Executive Director, Neighbourhood Legal Services**  
101-163 Queen St. East, Toronto, ON M5A 1S1  
Tel: 416-861-0677/ Fax: 861-1777  
Nlstoronto.org  
@nlstoronto  
&  
**Manager, Health Justice Program**  
80 Bond St., Lower Level, Toronto, ON M5B 1X2  
Tel: 416-864-3005/ Fax: 416-864-5016  
stmichaelshospital.com/hjp  
@justiceprogram