



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

# MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 92

July 28, 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

- **FIRST ANNUAL MAP SUMMER PICNIC A GREAT SUCCESS!**

Thank you to all those who attended MAP's First annual Summer Picnic at Bear Creek Park yesterday. MAP Executive hosted an in-person outdoors event with members of Options CS, Inasmuch, DIVERSEcity, MOSAIC, PICS, Journey Home Community, MSDPR and Zaytuna CS. Huge thanks to Iris Solorzano and her team from Options for helping with resources – see the pictures inside this bulletin!

- **WORLD REFUGEE DAY EVENT RECORDINGS**

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

**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!***

- **Bulletins scheduled for the rest of summer:**

Regular Bulletins will be sent out on August 11, 25, September 8 and then return to a weekly format after that.

PLEASE try and get your news in to MAP in good time for one of these dates. If an item is extremely urgent we will try to send out a special notice, but these are usually for urgent and refugee claimant-only notices such as Covid-19 announcements or notices from the IRB or IRCC. Thank you so much for your help with this.

**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!

## IMMUNIZE BC NOTICE

On Tuesday Minister Adrian Dix, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Dr. Penny Ballem spoke to the media and issued a press release and backgrounder. The press release and backgrounder: [Vax for BC launches to get more people vaccinated, recognize pandemic heroes | BC Gov News](#)

In addition to complement the announcement a new page has been issued on the government's website [Vax for B.C. - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#).

Please, as always circulate this information to your contacts and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards

Lizette

Immunize BC Project

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

## Fraser Health Walk-in COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

(From Surrey-North Delta Division of Family Practice Bulletin)

Fraser Health is now offering walk-in vaccinations at certain clinics to all Fraser Health Region residents 12+.

Priority will go to those requiring a first dose, but second doses will be administered as supply allows.

For more information, including clinic locations, click the button below.

[Learn More](#)

SND Division Contact:

Saira Abrar, Physician Engagement and Practice Support Manager

[sabrar@divisionsbc.ca](mailto:sabrar@divisionsbc.ca)

604-365-0764





It was with great pleasure that we welcomed MAP agencies to our first ever annual MAP Summer Picnic at Bear Creek Park!

Thanks go to Options CS for all the help with planning, advertising and getting the event off the ground!

Here's some shots of all the fun!



# News highlights:

## Refugee claimant- related articles from Canada and around the world

July 28, 2021

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

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

- **Border strike vote a threat to reopening**  
National Post
- **As Canada eases border restrictions, advocates say refugee travel ‘essential’**  
The Canadian
- **Women’s shelter launches multi-lingual domestic violence awareness campaign**  
Edmonton Journal
- **Taxing churches makes no sense**  
Toronto Sun
- **Smuggling gangs, boats and point scoring: migrant crossings to UK are at record levels**  
The Evening Standard



AN INVITATION TO EMERGING  
WRITERS WITH LIVED  
REFUGEE CLAIMANT EXPERIENCE

FROM HUMANITARIAN TO HUMAN  
**CREATIVE WRITING  
WORKSHOP**



Are you interested in creating a piece of writing, a story, or a poem about what you have learned, experienced, and connected to after arriving in Canada?

You can achieve this through thought-provoking writing exercises, interactive discussions, insights and feedback, in a safe space. This is a free two-session workshop designed to have participants engage in a creative writing process that explores experiences of welcome, belonging, and community in a friendly atmosphere. Following the workshop, which will be run in English language, you will have the opportunity to share your work in a published report book.

Sessions will be led by author Niwar Ameen Obaid.

This is part of the: "Changing the Way We Welcome Refugee Claimants" Project led by Kinbrace Community Society with partners, funded by the Vancouver Foundation.

COVID PROTOCOLS  
WILL BE FOLLOWED

**Date: Saturday July 31 and Saturday August 7**

**Time: 10:00am - 4:30pm**

**Location: MOSAIC, 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver BC**  
(Close to Joyce Collingwood Skytrain)

Coffee, light lunch, paper and pens are provided.  
**Registration required. Email: [nobaid@unb.ca](mailto:nobaid@unb.ca)**

**From Humanitarian to Human: Reflections on Dignity, Belonging, and Wellbeing** project - led by Kinbrace Community Society with partners.

For our creative writing workshop, we are working with people who have refugee claimant experience, and who are interested in creating a piece of writing, a story, or a poem about what they have learned, experienced, and connected to after arriving in Canada. Following our FREE 2-session workshop, which will be held in English, participants will have the opportunity to share their work in a published report book.

**- Workshop Dates/Times:**

Saturday July 31 and Saturday August 7 (Time: 10:00am - 4:30pm)

**Location:** MOSAIC, 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver BC (Close to Joyce Collingwood Skytrain)

- Coffee, light lunch, train/bus ticket, paper and pens are provided!
- Covid protocols will be followed.

**- Spaces are limited! Please email [nobaid@unb.ca](mailto:nobaid@unb.ca) to register before Thursday July 29 (register once for the two sessions).**

Please contact Niwar with your questions: 587-664-1775



# CONVERSATION CIRCLE

FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN



- Drop-in program for immigrant and refugee women to **gather, connect, socialize** and **learn** with peers.
- New and returning participants with **Intermediate level spoken English** skills are welcomed
- Practice spoken English in a **supportive** and **friendly** environment.
- Chat about a topic of **interest**
- **Join one or all sessions as you like!**

**Date:** Wednesdays, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
(July 21 & 28, August 4, 11 & 18)

**Location:** Online on Zoom

**For More Information Please Contact**

**Sanzida Habib**

Program Facilitator / EAL Teacher  
Email: shabib@pirs.bc.ca  
Phone: (604) 298-5888

**Zarmina Ali**

Outreach Support Worker  
Email: zali@pirs.bc.ca  
Phone: (604) 298-5888

REGISTER ONLINE at: <https://bit.ly/36nQzTD>

**Settlement & Integration Program**

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



安置与融入服务：在线信息分享  
Basics of Job Search in BC  
BC省求职入门（国语）



**Date 日期:** July 29, 2021 (7月29日)  
**Time 时间:** 19:00 (晚七点)

**China Time 中国时间:**  
10:00am July 30, 2021  
7月30日上午10:00

**Register 报名:**

**Scan (扫描二维码) :**



**Your new working life in BC begins here: 您在BC省崭新的职业生涯从这里开始:**

- Local Labor Market Information
- Career Decision Making
- Foreign Credential Recognition
- Free Employment Training Programs
- Importance of Volunteering
- 本地劳动市场介绍
- 职业选择
- 海外资格/学历认证
- 省内免费职业培训项目
- 义工的重要性

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

**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 –

### An upcoming Employment Program in Mandarin: Basics of Job Search in BC, July 29th - 10 am

For details, please contact, Dali, our Settlement Case Manager at [DaliQ@burnanbynh.ca](mailto:DaliQ@burnanbynh.ca)



4460 Beresford Street  
Burnaby, BC V5H 0B8  
(In front of Metrotown Skytrain)  
(604)431-0400



Funded by:  
Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par:  
Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

y Partnership) Bulletin July 28, 2021



## From Burnaby Neighbourhood House:

Positive Parenting Skill, ongoing sessions - for details please contact Siham, our Settlement Case Manager at [SihamAA@burnabynh.ca](mailto:SihamAA@burnabynh.ca)

**Poster attached also**

**Settlement & Integration Program**

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



**POSITIVE PARENTING SKILLS PROGRAM**

EVERY TUESDAY  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Starting Date: July 13, 2021 With Mona Alharbi

- Learn how to grow a better relationship with your children
- Learn how you can support your child's growth
- Build parenting skills for a happier, healthier and better life in a new society

**السيرة الذاتية لميسر الدورة، منى:**  
ماجستير علم الاجتماع والأنثروبولوجيا  
بكالوريوس العلوم في علم الاجتماع والخدمة الاجتماعية  
سنتين من الخبرة في العمل مع المهاجرين  
فهم قوي للقضايا المتعلقة بالعنف ضد النساء والأطفال المهاجرين والأجانب

تعلمي كيفية تنمية علاقة أفضل مع أطفالك  
تعلمي كيف يمكنك دعم نمو طفلك  
بناء مهارات الأبوة والأمومة من أجل حياة أكثر سعادة وصحة وأفضل في مجتمع جديد

**Bio of the Facilitator of the session, Mona :**  
-Master of Sociology and Anthropology  
-Bachelor of Science in Sociology and Social Work  
-2 years experience working with vulnerable populations and immigrant  
-Strong understanding of issues related to violence against immigrant and refugee women and children

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

**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.



## Newcomer Women Job Connection program

### For immigrant women

The Newcomer Women Job Connection program is designed to assist immigrant women in finding employment in childcare service settings. The following activities are included.

- A series of paid training component (Foodsafe, Emergency Childcare First Aid & CPR/AED, and Responsible Adult in Childcare Settings)
- Completion of 20 hours volunteer/mentorship placement
- English language and computer skills development programs
- Customized job search skills services
- Settlement and family support services during program participation
- Childminding services and bus tickets

#### **Program eligibilities:**

- Permanent residents or protected persons (IRCC eligible clients)
- Unemployed or underemployed
- Not registered in full-time training/education
- Having multiple or complex barriers to employment
- Ready to work upon completion of the program
- Equivalent to LINK 5 or Grade 8 English skills

**for further inquires and registration, please contact Kwangyoung  
at 604-324-6212 ext 117 or kwangyoung.conn@southvan.org**

We will be launching a new employment program, Newcomer Women Job Connection in September. The program will serve immigrant women trying to enter the workforce in childcare settings. Please find the attached poster as well as the information below for more details.

We are currently accepting 15 women who can join in September. If you are qualified for the program and interested in joining or inquiring more information, please complete the online registration form below. You will receive an email for an intake meeting invitation upon completing the form. Please read the program eligibility before completing the online form. I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

<https://forms.office.com/r/fufJUuxtus>

**Program description next page**





## Newcomer Women Job Connection: Program description

Our program participants will join in a cohort to take a set of training courses (course schedules below) starting in Sept followed by a 20-hour volunteer placement for practical work experience. Each participant will be guided by an assigned case manager who provides full employment/job search support in obtaining employment upon completion of the program.

**Foodsafe Level 1: October 9 @8:30-3:30 ( in-person class)**

**Emergency Childcare First Aid CPR/AED: October 2 @8:30-4:30 ( in-person class)**

**Responsible Adults Childcare: Septmeber 13,14,20, 21, and 27 ( 5 Mondays) at 10-1:30 ( via Zoom)**

The length of the program is 3 months, and our participants are expected to find work in childcare settings such as school-age group childcare, preschool as an ECE Assistant, before and after school care, own licensed family childcare, summer camps etc.

### **Program activities:**

- Series of paid training components (Foodsafe, Emergency Childcare First Aid & CPR/AED, and Responsible Adult in Childcare)
- Completion of 20 hours of volunteer/mentorship placement
- English language and computer skills development programs
- Customized job search skills services
- Settlement and family support services during program participation
- Childminding services and bus tickets

### **Program eligibilities:**

Permanent residents / protected persons / Unemployed or underemployed / Not registered in full-time training/education / Having multiple or complex barriers to employment / Ready to work upon completion of the program / Equivalent to LINK 5/CLB 5 or Grade 8 English skills



WANT TO FIND A JOB?  
NEED HELP GETTING ONE?  
VOLUNTEER WITH



# KARMA CONNECTIONS

AUGUST 10 TO AUGUST 20, 2021

FOR PERMANENT RESIDENT AND REFUGEE  
YOUTH GRADES 9 TO 12

EARN UP TO 30 VOLUNTEER HOURS  
THROUGH PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING  
AND EXCITING VOLUNTEER FIELD TRIPS!



To register: Please contact Salma at [salma.ismail@southvan.org](mailto:salma.ismail@southvan.org)

Other SVNH programs:

*Please check the following group programs via Zoom for English language learning and social connections.*

- ESL Conversation Group on Wednesdays @1-3pm
- Multicultural Women Peer Mentoring Group on Fridays @1-3pm

*Please click the link below for the Zoom meeting information.*

<https://zoom.us/j/3955979455>

Poster attached





## Umbrella Multicultural Health Co-op

### **JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Please see a posting from **Umbrella Multicultural Health Co-op** for a Cross- cultural Health Broker with the Spanish speaking community [attached](#)

Contact Wazhma Wakil at [wwakil@umbrellacoop.ca](mailto:wwakil@umbrellacoop.ca) with any questions you may have.



***Job opportunity:***

## ***DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society - Director, Community Development***

*We are looking for someone with a passion for community building and systems change work, and who embodies a personal commitment to the principles of equity, anti-oppression and social justice to lead the work of DIVERSEcity's Community Development department.*

***Status:*** *Permanent, Full Time (37.5 hours per week)*

***Application Deadline:*** *July 28, 2021*

*To view the full job opportunity:*

<https://easyapply.co/a/1afa6596-c3a8-4c85-bc66-e209bd9e597d>





## DIVERSEcity Awards and Bursaries

DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society offers three annual awards and bursaries of \$500 each.

We are now accepting applications for three DIVERSEcity Awards and Bursaries for 2021: The **Maria Celaje Bursary** (youth employment), **Funke Ilumoka Bursary** (food security) and the **Tom Kwok Award** (community leadership).

***The application deadlines for all 2021 awards and bursaries is Friday, August 20, 2021.***

***Please see full details and the Application Form here: <https://www.dcrs.ca/about-us/organizational-impact/awards-bursaries/>***

## FUNDED TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR B.C. RESIDENTS



### Building Service Worker + Training Program

Are you a recent immigrant (landed within the last 10 years) with permanent resident status or a member of a visible community? Are you experiencing difficulties securing employment? Do you need training/certification and related work experience to find employment? Are you interested in working as a Building Service Worker?

If 'yes', VCC's Building Service Worker + Training Program may be able to help you with your training/work experience needs.

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Building Service Worker+ (BSW+), a 12-week full-time Skills Training for Employment (STE) program is designed to serve 16 eligible participants through classroom training and hands-on work experience and provide them with the skills/certifications needed to secure employment. Upon completion, participants will receive VCC credential and three industry certifications; WHMIS, Pool Operator Level 1 and SuperHost. Program graduates will have the qualifications required to secure employment as janitors, caretakers, custodians, building service workers, housekeepers or general helpers.

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You may be eligible if you are:

- i) A Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person (under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, S.C. 2001, C. 27) legally entitled to work in Canada
- ii) Living in British Columbia
- iii) Unemployed or Precariously Employed (working in unstable employment or self-employment with irregular work hours, unreliable remuneration to support self or family)

#### TRAINING SCHEDULE (Schedule includes 3-weeks of Work Experience)

Cohort 2: September 27-December 17, 2021

Cohort 3: December 06, 2021 – March 11, 2022



#### REGISTER FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION

Alena Worster, Program Assistant  
604-871-7000, ext. 8751  
aworster@vcc.ca



Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Job Fund.



Posters attached

## PHARMACY ASSISTANT DIPLOMA TRAINING

Program Starts: September 7, 2021

A 28-week program that prepares you to be able to work safely and productively within any pharmacy environment.

**100% Fully Funded Training Program**

#### ELIGIBILITY AND ADMISSION

- Unemployed or Precariously-Employed (casual, seasonal, part time)
- Resident of BC
- Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident or Protected Person with authorization to work
- Grade 10 (including English 10 and Math 10) or
- Mature student (19+) & Successful completion of English Language & Math Proficiency Assessment Test

#### BENEFITS

- **100% FREE**
- Receive the following certificates: **WHMIS, Personal Protective Equipment, Pandemic Awareness, Emergency First Aid, Medication Management & SBA+, Privacy Training**
- Get 4-weeks of practical, hands-on work experience
- Earn up to **\$27 per hour**

**APPLY NOW**

For more information contact:  
Marie Cardeon 604.547.2875 mariec@wcc.ca



## From **Canadian Council for Refugees:**

The IRB has sent out a message (below) about continuing virtual operations. As you may know, the CCR is collecting information about the experiences of people appearing at virtual refugee hearings, so that we can give the IRB informed feedback on this model. If you can help gather input, that would be great: <https://ccrweb.ca/en/virtual-hearing-monitoring-interview>

We have also now opened a questionnaire for refugee lawyers - <https://ccrweb.ca/en/virtual-hearings-questionnaire-lawyers>. If you are a refugee lawyer, please consider filling it out. If you work with refugee lawyers, please recommend it to them.

### *Message from the IRB*

For the foreseeable future, the IRB is continuing with its current remote-by-default operating model. We will review our approach again later this fall and communicate any changes at that time. Sufficient advance notice of any changes will be provided to allow all parties time to accommodate any operational adjustments. Further details can be found in a recent announcement posted on our [website](#).

Please share this information with your respective organizations as appropriate.

Wishing you a safe and healthy summer,

Richard Wex  
Chairperson

*From Equity Vancouver:*

**The Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act** has opened the next phase of their consultation and is accepting input from individuals about their experiences and perspectives with respect to policing and public safety in BC.

British Columbians can share their input by completing a [survey \[bclegislature.checkbox.ca\]](#). The survey will remain open until **Friday, September 3 at 5:00 p.m.**

Your participation and assistance in sharing this information with anyone who may be interested in participating in the Committee's consultation would be greatly appreciated.

As a reminder, the Committee is also currently hearing presentations from a number of organizations and individuals who made submissions during the first phase of the Committee's consultation earlier this year. The meeting schedule is available via the following [link \[leg.bc.ca\]](#)

The Special Committee will consider all input and make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly in a report that will be released by April 28, 2022. Further information about the Special Committee is available on its [website \[leg.bc.ca\]](#).

If you have any questions about the consultation or require assistance, please contact the Parliamentary Committees Office by email at [policeactreform@leg.bc.ca](mailto:policeactreform@leg.bc.ca) or by calling 250-356-2933 or 1-877-428-8337 (toll-free in BC).

Warm regards,

Ala / Equity Vancouver / [equity@vancouver.ca](mailto:equity@vancouver.ca)





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.**



# #EqualChance

Thank you for your help in championing the path to an **#EqualChance** for internationally trained medical doctors in Canada. Check out and share some of our latest activities:

- [Listen to Harry's story, an internationally trained doctor living Canada](#)
- [Watch the #EqualChance interview for OMNI Filipino](#)
- [Read our #EqualChance Ask. Equity Changes. Open Residencies.](#)

On Wednesdays, keep an eye out on our socials to learn the life stories of internationally trained medical doctors in Canada. Please share with your friends and networks. This helps our collective quest to give all doctors an **#EqualChance** to practice their profession in Canada. Thank you again from all of us.

#EqualChance

My name is Carly and I am an MA candidate in the Ryerson University Immigration and Settlement Studies program and research assistant for the Canadian Elite Basketball League (CEBL). The CEBL is conducting a study with the purpose of developing a better understanding of Indigenous, Canadian-born, newcomer, and BIPOC youth basketball participation in addition to barriers to engagement prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are currently seeking youth between the ages of 15-30 who are currently residing in Canada and are open to sharing their basketball experiences through a survey that will take between 5-10 minutes to complete.

Responses will be anonymous and participation is completely voluntary. Please share the following survey link with youth who fit the criteria: [bit.ly/2Uno6ug](https://bit.ly/2Uno6ug)

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns!

Carly Nicole McFall

Canadian Elite Basketball League  
cmcfall@ryerson.ca  
2048037061

## 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- 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/sahi)



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

Starting Date: July 12, 2021

[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.

## From Burnaby Neighbourhood House

To register or for more info:

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

starting date: July, 16th 2021

[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.

- **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](http://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.

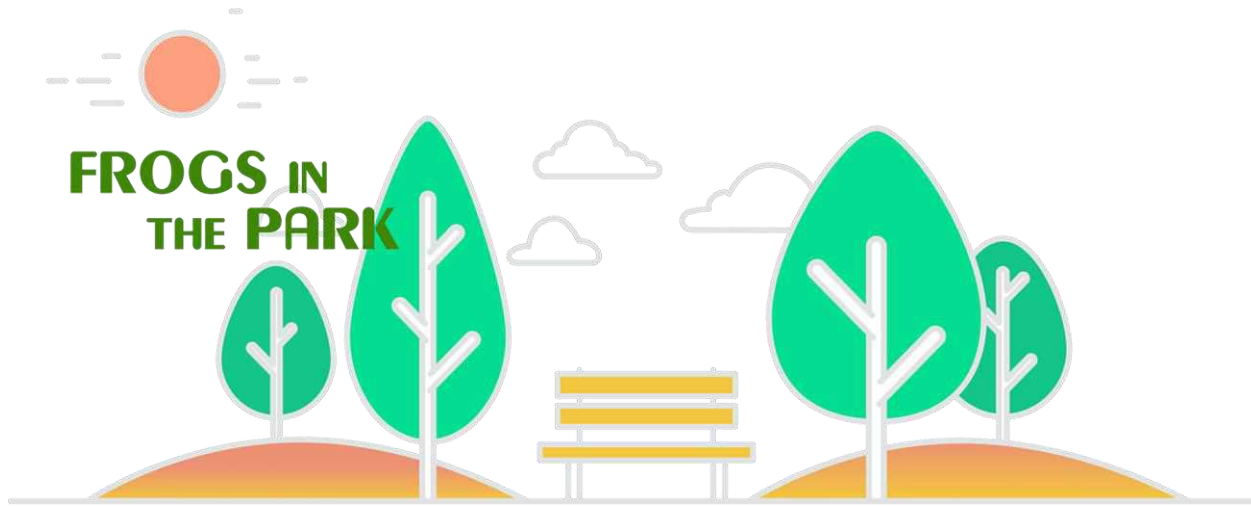
**[Apply: Refugee Hearing Preparation Guide Project Coordinator](#)**

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!](#)



# **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.yorku.ca/crs)

Director, Refugee Law Laboratory: [www.refugeelab.ca](http://www.refugeelab.ca)

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

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