



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 96

September 15, 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

SPECIAL REQUEST!

The Muslim Food Bank is looking to support many refugee and low-income families who need school supplies. Please consider how your agency, or you, could partner on this. Please contact Ali Mustafa at ali81uc@gmail.com with your questions and offers. Thank you!

MAP MEETING: Thursday September 23, 9:30 – 12pm

REGISTER NOW at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrd-yqrjktH92zfXMeVYpx-Qcq_X_dM1pd

Featuring:

- MAP's role around the Afghan crisis and assistance to families. PLUS: Breakout room discussion on Afghanistan.
- Update on Journey Home Community's Reception Center Project
- Report and Discussion on MAP's Emergency Plan

The meeting is followed by MAP's Housing Working Group meeting at 1pm.

MAP's IN FOCUS #3: AFGHANS IN SEARCH OF A HOME: crisis awareness and welcoming refugees to a brighter future.

Tuesday October 5, 7pm online - register [here](#)

An update on life in Afghanistan under Taliban rule – how local projects are coping – and what's happening here in BC to provide a welcome to Afghan families reuniting after the violent upheaval.

All Afghan-Canadian speaker/host roster: see information inside

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!

AFGHANISTAN CRISIS RESOURCES THIS WEEK

IRCC Special Measures page updated Sept 10: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/afghanistan/afghans-canada.html>

IRCC Figures of those Afghans assisted, Sept 14: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/afghanistan/key-figures.html>

Provided by CCR:

IRCC has published revised instructions for officers on “Resettlement – Outside country of nationality or habitual residence”.

These instructions explain what to consider when assessing

- the reasons why an applicant fled their country of nationality or habitual residence
- the circumstances when an applicant returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/updates/2021-resettlement-outside-country.html>

*****PLUS:** Information and links provided by **CCR from Sept 10 meeting** attached – thanks to Janet Dench and CCR for granting permission to share these valuable resources.

UNHCR Canada – information available: <https://help.unhcr.org/canada/family-reunification/>



MAP's In Focus Lecture Series Presents:

AFGHANS IN SEARCH OF A HOME

Crisis Awareness & Welcoming Refugees to a Brighter Future

Tuesday October 5th, 7:00 PM

Register online:
bit.ly/3zWaZjY

Questions? Email:
info@mapbc.org

Join our host **Zarghoona Wakil** from MOSAIC in conversation with:

Froozan Jooya - Beacon of Hope for Afghan Children

Gulalai Habib - Burnaby Neighbourhood House

Fatima Haidari - VAST

Register now to learn about the current situation in Afghanistan and what is needed to provide a welcome to Afghan refugees as they arrive in Canada.



MAP's In Focus Lecture series presents an all Afghan-Canadian panel and host to discuss the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan and Canada's responses.

Pose your questions to the speakers:



HOST:
Zarghoona
Wakil:
MOSAIC



Froozan
Jooya:
Beacon of
Hope for
Afghan
Children



Fatima
Haidari:
VAST



Gulalai Habib:
Burnaby
Neighborhood House

[More info here](#)



Walk with your Doc

Date: September 22, 2021

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Tynehead Park (16689 96th Ave, Surrey - Fish Hatchery entrance off 96 Ave)

To Register: RSVP to Joan at jlarochelle@divisionsbc.ca



Do you want to connect with patients and fellow physicians in a fun, active setting? Join us for this year's Walk With Your Doc!

What Is Walk With Your Doc?

Developed by Doctors of BC, Walk with your Doc provides a great opportunity for doctors to connect with groups of patients and walk side by side, while discussing the health benefits that come with regular movement, and demonstrate their commitment to supporting patients in leading a healthier lifestyle.

This year, Walk With Your Doc events are being hosted by communities across BC, including Surrey-North Delta!

--> [Watch Promotional Video](#)

Why Participate?

In Surrey-North Delta, Walk With Your Doc has been very popular in previous years among community members, who really enjoy connecting with their family physicians in a fun, relaxed setting.

And our Family Physicians have enjoyed connecting with patients while promoting healthy activity in our community. Right now it is more important than ever to be able to connect in person in a safe and healthy way.

How Will The Event Stay COVID Safe?

Every community that is hosting a Walk With Your Doc event has agreed to abide by provincial and local COVID guidelines. This includes our community. We will be monitoring the guidelines and organizing our event.

What Are Some Other Perks of Participating?

Every participant in this year's Walk With Your Doc will receive a hip bag (fashionable and practical!).

Additionally, participating doctors will also receive a t-shirt and a hat!

COVID-safe snacks and water will be provided, and a physiotherapist will lead a warm-up before the walk.

Please see the link below for a survey being conducted on the barriers that people face to accessing government services. This information will help inform the approach to race-based data collection.

https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism/data?fbclid=IwAR3S8RPExy_k1Nr0nG-TZuzk2StjPUwhWny9yT6qG5zD5vsa4h9Fuq4ye98 (need to open in Chrome or Edge).

Further, this link connects to an opportunity for those who would like to do community consultations:
<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism/community-grant-information/>

Thanks,

Joni Rose

Senior Program Advisor
Immigration Policy and Integration Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

FALL 2021 EVENTS

SEPT
10-19

THE GOOD DAUGHTER
2021 VANCOUVER
TAIWANESE FILM FESTIVAL

SEPT
20

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON
UBC CENTRE FOR MIGRATION
STUDIES, C.K. CHOI BUILDING

SEPT
26

DR. ANTJE ZIETHEN
REVERSE DIASPORA: THE
"BRAZILIANS" IN WEST AFRICA

SEPT
24

DR. DAVID W. ANTHONY
HOW ANCIENT DNA REVIVED
ANCIENT MIGRATIONS IN
ARCHAEOLOGY

SEPT
28

DR. TAMSIN BARBER
MODERN SLAVERY AND
CONSTRUCTIONS OF
UNDOCUMENTED VIETNAMESE
MIGRATION IN THE UK

SEPT
29

PRE-CONFERENCE
MIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP
SECTION APSA

OCT
4

DR. JUSTIN GEST
MAJORITY MINORITY: BOOK
TALK

OCT
7

DR. CAROLINE LENETTE
ARE PARTICIPATORY ARTS-
BASED METHODS CULTURALLY
SAFE?

OCT
13

DR. LAN ANH HOANG
MIGRATION WITHOUT MOBILITY:
VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS IN
RUSSIA

OCT
14

RADICAL DIVERSITY
DISRUPTING CURRENT COLONIAL
PRACTICES AND STRUCTURES IN
THE IMMIGRATION AND NON-
PROFIT SECTOR

OCT
15

ROUNDTABLE
DR. ANTJE ELLERMANN'S
"THE COMPARATIVE POLITICS
OF IMMIGRATION"

OCT
18

SYMPOSIUM
MIGRATION DYNAMICS OF
NORTH AMERICA BEFORE,
DURING, AND AFTER COVID-19

OCT
19

DR. MARTIN CARVER
GENETICS AND MEMORIALS:
PEOPLE AND THEIR
REMEMBRANCE IN BYZANTINE,
ISLAMIC AND NORMAN SICILY

OCT
20 & 22

WORKSHOP
DR. PE METAWE BOARD GAME

NOV
1

DR. MARIE SANDBERG
TITLE TBA

NOV
4

RADICAL DIVERSITY
AN INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION
OF TRANSFORMATIVE NARRATIVE
FROM AN INDIGENOUS, JEWISH
AND IMMIGRANT PERSPECTIVE

NOV
9

DR. CHINMAY TUMBE
MIGRATION AND PANDEMICS

NOV
23

**ANDREA SOLNES AND DIANA
JEFFRIES**
THE CO-CREATED STORY PROJECT

Poster also attached

UBC CENTRE FOR MIGRATION STUDIES Events and Programs

CMS has a busy fall term packed with more than 20 events and counting. Visit migration.ubc.ca/events to RSVP and to see the latest updates and schedule.

For the complete Migration Studies newsletter go to:
<https://mailchi.mp/951c297272b9/june-update-5652316?e=9fba11ae0c>



[Open Call for Applications:](#)
[The UBC Centre for Migration Studies Community Advisory Board](#)

Applications due: October 15, 2021 - For wide distribution in British Columbia

The UBC Centre for Migration Studies is seeking interested individuals from community-organizations and service providing agencies that work with immigrants and refugees in British Columbia to become members of its Community Advisory Board in the fall of 2021. A diverse mix of Community Advisory Board members is being sought to guide the priorities and research initiatives of the Centre for Migration Studies. In exchange for their service, members will have the opportunity to build networks of relationships with fellow experts and leaders in issues relating to the experiences of immigrants and refugees across the province.

Currently, an open application process is being held by the Centre for Migration Studies to invite expressions of interest. **Applications can be completed by filling in and submitting our online expression of interest form at: <https://bit.ly/CommunityAdvisoryBoard>**

More information? Click on the link in the Open Call above



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés
Canadian Council for Refugees

For CCR Members:

We will be holding a virtual meeting on issues for refugee claimants on **Tuesday 5 October** - one of our regular quarterly meetings.

Virtual meeting on refugee claimants

When: Tuesday 5 October 2021

11am Pacific

The meeting will last 60 minutes.

Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsf-yqqzgoG9eWJeWmuGHTxxx6_ULUGzqR



Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés
Canadian Council for Refugees

The CCR is inviting members to join us to share memories of [Francisco Rico-Martinez](#) and pay tribute to a longstanding, visionary leader of the CCR at a virtual session on **Thursday September 23**.

MEETING DETAILS

When: Thursday 23 September 2021

2 pm Pacific

The meeting will last 60 minutes.

Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtf-isqjMuGN3AFw6mvgAQ67fhtn3...>

Updates on Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)

On October 5, Vancouver City Council will decide on one of CEAP's gamechanger actions, the [Climate Emergency Parking Program](#). Please watch for an invitation from me to a network webinar coming up later in September, where our policy staff will give a briefing of what's headed to Council on October 5.

From the network

Starting September 1, [children 12 and under can ride TransLink services free](#). This new program supports Big Move 2 - ensuring 2/3 of trips in Vancouver are by active transportation and transit by 2040 - by making it easier and more affordable for families to get around car-free. Learn more by visiting TransLink's website, and feel free to share this news with your networks.

Current opportunities to engage with and amplify CEAP

1. The City is expanding its [School Streets program](#), which reduces traffic and carbon pollution by designating blocks adjacent to schools for walking, biking, and rolling during school pick-up and drop-off times. In its pilot year, 29% of families at participating schools reported driving less.

The pilot is continuing during the 2021-22 school years at Hastings Elementary, Lord Roberts Elementary and Van Horne Elementary schools, and is [taking volunteers for these locations](#).

Staff are also seeking to expand the program further – please [share this survey](#) if you know of any schools interested.

https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/school-streets.aspx?utm_campaign=School-Streets&utm_medium=Vanity&utm_source=School-Streets_Vanity

Tina Barisky | Strategic Relationships Coordinator

Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability | City of Vancouver

t. 604.829.9223

tina.barisky@vancouver.ca

REPEATS

Update on Burnaby Neighbourhood House Afghan Support Program

The Settlement and Integration Program at Burnaby Neighbourhood House in conjunction with other agencies, is supporting the local needs of Afghan individuals and families impacted and displaced during the current crisis in Afghanistan.

Initial plans include:

- Support with access to reliable information on Canadian responses to the crises
- Help with completing sponsorship applications
- Information and orientation on community resources in BC and cultural relevant networks
- Mental health services and group therapy sessions – Trauma informed counselling in first language in collaboration to specialized agencies
- Access to a pool of trained interpreters/translators in Farsi/Dari and Pashtu languages to support communication for those applying for refugee protection and extra settlement support
- Advocacy and awareness raising efforts for displaced Afghans
- Referrals to specialized programs in the Lower Mainland

The project is just getting started, and all inquires will be responded to within two business days. Please contact us at BNH via the following:

Arman Zamani, Settlement Case Manager (Farsi/Dari & Pashtu)

ArmanZ@burnabynh.ca

Cell: 604-657-2163 Tel: 604-431-0400

Maryam Torabizadeh, Settlement Case Manager (Farsi)

MaryamT@burnabynh.ca

Cell: 236-877-2531 Tel: 604-431-0400

General contact

Email: settlementprogram@burnabynh.ca

Tel: 604 431 0400

Address: **Burnaby Neighbourhood House (BNH South House)**, 4460 Beresford St. Burnaby (beside Metrotown Skytrain Station)



CANADA'S PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The BC Refugee Hub would like to invite you to join this webinar to learn about Canada's private sponsorship program, updates on Afghan nationals private sponsorship pathways, the role of Sponsorship Agreement Holder's (SAH's) at the community level, steps to take to become a private sponsor, along with tools and trainings available about private sponsorship in Canada.

Hosted by:

- Bahar Taheri, Project Consultant, BC Refugee Hub

Speakers:

- Michelle Ndizeye, BC Refugee Sponsorship Trainer, Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)
- Iris Challoner, Manager, Refugee Sponsorship Program, MOSAIC

We will have time for Q&A sessions with our speakers.

Date: September 27, 2021

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm PST

Online via Zoom

[REGISTER HERE](#)



ART-MAKING IN COMMUNITY GROUP

The earth without “art” is just “eh”



Make art with us!

Explore different art modalities (Drawing, Painting, Collage, Modelling with clay, Movement, Poetry, Voice, Drama)

Art materials provided to participants

No artistic skills required

Interpretation available

Six consecutive Thursdays (September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7, 14)

10 am-12:30pm

On Zoom

**Registration required. Contact: matias.hacker@vast-vancouver.ca
elena@vast-vancouver.ca**

Poster attached also

VAST ART-MAKING IN COMMUNITY GROUP

Starts Sept 9 – until October 14

10 am – 12pm

Online

RAINBOW REFUGEE NEWS!



Rainbow Refugee now has its first ever Inland Coordinator, Khalil Al Zahran!

Some of you who are involved in national Rainbow Coalition work will know Khalil from coalition meetings this year and he has recently worked in resettlement, crisis support, and case management on Vancouver Island. We are excited for Khalil to join us, beginning September 15th. He will work remotely from Victoria for a month or two before relocating to Vancouver.

At Rainbow Refugee society, we continue to offer weekly virtual hearing support for LGBTQI claimants who are currently in BC. If you want to refer a member, please contact Nazanin at: support@rainbowrefugee.ca

Nazanin Moghadami نازنین مقدمی
Support Manager
Phone: 613.604.5024



Mount Pleasant
Neighbourhood House

There are a few positions we are hiring for at Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House:

<https://www.mpnh.org/join-us/work-with-us/>

Positions:

- [Newcomer Preteen/Youth Worker](#)
- [Vietnamese-speaking part time settlement worker](#)
- [Manager, Vancouver Local Immigration Partnership, South Vancouver Neighbourhood House & Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House](#)

[Work with Us » Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House](#)

Current Opportunities. A part of the Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia (ANHBC), Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House values a diverse workforce and encourages qualified candidates from all communities to apply. Please refer to the specific contact and application instructions in each posting. Cook Contract; Spanish Speaking Settlement Worker
www.mpnh.org

Here are the upcoming sessions for September and October 2021

The Intercultural Connections Working Group is offering the following sessions to Settlement workers and community members:



Understanding and Addressing Oppression – 9:00 – 11:00 am September 22, 2021 (see poster attached)

Allyship Continuum to Collaboration – Professional Development Training – three part series 8:30 – 11:00 am
Certificate of Attendance to those attending the three sessions

Sep 28, 2021 **What is Allyship? Why Allyship?**

Oct 5, 2021 **The Inner Work of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion**

Oct 12, 2021 **Moving into Structure – From Individual Actions to Collaboration**

The Employment Working Group is offering to newcomers the Soft Skills Series: (see poster attached)

1.Sep 21, 2021 9:00 -10:30 am **What are Soft Skills And Why Do I need Them?**

2.October 19, 2021 9:00 – 11:00 am **Soft Skills and Job Interviews**

3.November 16, 2021 9:00 – 11:00 am **Building Skills / LinkedIn**

Registration is required for all the sessions.



[Join us this September](#)

Jumpstart would like you to invite you to a couple of exceptional evenings this month!

- Sept 16 - Our networking event is designed for Canadian professionals as well as refugees and claimants
- Sept 23 - Our Interview prep event is designed for refugees or refugee claimants seeking to jumpstart their careers.

Please register for events and share them with your network!

September 16, 2021, 6 PM EDT
**Miss networking?
We do too!**

JOIN US
For an evening of informal conversations & numerous opportunities to network with fellow professionals & senior executives.

Guest Speakers:

 Marlene da Costa VP Human Resources at Cority	 Darrell Pinto Financial Services Executive	 Omar Salaymeh CEO at Bonfire Interactive
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Thursday, September 23, 2021
6 PM eastern, 4 PM mountain, 3 PM pacific

Interview Prep

JOIN US
To better prepare for interviews and learn more about hiring processes in Canada.

Speakers:

 Vanja Kajic Human Resources Generalist at MiQ Digital	 Malaz Sebai Director, Operations at Jumpstart Refugee Talent
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www.eventbrite.ca/e/169391850585

Dear Partners, please see below re: important survey and a procurement opportunity.

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:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/committees/42ndParliament-2ndSession-rpa> [leg.bc.ca]

Procurement for Public Partner and Community Anti-Racism Working Group

The purpose of this communication is to inform interested individuals and organizations of the following procurement opportunity.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain a coordinator to support the work of the Public Partner and Community Anti-Racism Working Group has now been posted on the City of Vancouver website.

A group of public partners have agreed to work together with representatives of Indigenous, Black, African diaspora, and other racialized communities to form a Public Partner and Community Anti-Racism Working Group (PPCAWG) in order to advance common and aligned approaches to anti-racism.

This flexible part-time 1-year term role is responsible for coordinating the PPCARWG initiative. Working as part of a project team, this position supports and coordinates the meetings and activities of the PPCARWG and the development and implementation of resulting PPCARWG programs and activities, including fostering partnership and community collaboration, increasing public understanding of anti-racism issues and challenges, and undertaking priority actions and projects. Knowledge of anti-racism strategies, initiatives, practices, policies, and programs; experiences in partner and community engagement and collaboration, and demonstrated project management skills are key for this position.



Continued...

Procurement documents may be downloaded from the City's website at:

<https://bids.vancouver.ca/bidopp/RFP/RFP-PS20210920.htm>

It is the proponent's sole responsibility to regularly check the City's website for Amendments, Questions/Answers and Addendums to procurement opportunities.

All enquiries regarding the RFP must be addressed to: Dino Goundouvas, Contracting Specialist with the City of Vancouver (dino.goundouvas@vancouver.ca)

Please share the survey!

The City of Vancouver has launched a survey on gender-based and sexualized violence and harassment in public spaces as part of the UN Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces initiative.

This survey will help create a deeper understanding of gender-based and sexualized violence and harassment in public spaces and inform what the City needs to prioritize in order to respond to and prevent this violence in our communities. Examples of gender-based and sexualized violence include: unwanted touching, catcalling, homophobic or transphobic harassment, sharing intimate images or videos without consent and sexual assault.

The survey is open until September 30th to anyone who has EXPERIENCED or WITNESSED gender-based and sexualized violence in Vancouver. We encourage people of all genders who live, work or spend time in Vancouver to take the survey. The survey is available in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Tagalog, Vietnamese and Spanish.

We would greatly appreciate if you, your staff, volunteers and participants/members/service users could take the survey and share with your communities and networks. If you have any questions, please reach out to the project lead Sonmin Bong by emailing sonmin.bong@vancouver.ca.

Do you have any questions or comments about our Anti-Racism and Culture Redress work? You can share them with us at equity@vancouver.ca



REMINDER: You have until Sunday, September 19 to nominate someone for the Province's Medal of Good Citizenship.

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.

