



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

# MAP Member Agency News

Weekly Bulletin # 27

January 29, 2020

# ***It's time to elect a new MAP Co-chair***



**MAP Co-chairs** serve for two years. Nominations are now being accepted for a new co-chair to be elected at the February 27 MAP meeting. If you, or someone you would like to nominate is interested, here's how to get involved:

## **How to apply, or nominate someone else, to be a MAP Co-Chair**

- If someone else – get permission! And make sure the candidate has authorization from their superior to dedicate a number of hours per month to MAP.
- Send an email to MAP ([info@mapbc.org](mailto:info@mapbc.org)) **before midnight on February 13<sup>th</sup>** stating that \_\_\_\_\_ wants to be considered as co-chair
- Provide information / experience to illustrate how the candidate fits the expectations of the MAP Co-chair position and why they want the role.
- MAP will circulate co-chair applications to members with the February MAP meeting agenda.
- The new co-chair will be acclaimed, or elected at the February 27 MAP meeting.
- The new co-chair will shadow the outgoing co-chair until she retires in June.

## MORE MAP News!



Thanks to the dedication of volunteer Patrick Crossman the Member Area **MAP DIRECTORY** is live and running!

Members can now easily connect with staff at all MAP agencies who register.

This is a very good time for you to register in the Member's Area if you haven't done so – it's easy and you will be able to login within a few hours of registering.

Current Members, and those joining, are encouraged to add a photo to their profiles and add more detail to help others get to know them.

### ***PLUS:***

- *The **weekly bulletin** will shortly be displayed in **Resources**  
<https://mapbc.org/resources/organizations/>*
- *Clippings of news about **refugee claimant housing** across Canada will be posted bi-monthly in **Housing***



## 2-Day Job Preparation Workshop for Refugee Claimants

February 6-7 (Thursday & Friday): 10:30 am-12:30 pm

MOSAIC - 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver

- A guide to writing resumes and communicating with employers
- Create or update your resume with MOSAIC one-on-one support
- Language support (French, Spanish, Farsi)

Contact Tracy at (604) 254-9626 or [ttang@mosaicbc.org](mailto:ttang@mosaicbc.org)

We will be offering a **2-day Job Preparation workshop for refugee claimants on Thursday February 6 and Friday February 7 at MOSAIC**. Both days will be from **10:30 am – 12:30 pm**.

These sessions will cover a guide to resumes, references, and other job search information. Participants will also have the opportunity to work one-on-one in our computer lab to either create or update their resume with support. Please circulate it.

Language support is available in **Farsi, Spanish, and French**. The address is 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver.

To register, please contact Tracy at [ttang@mosaicbc.org](mailto:ttang@mosaicbc.org) or call 604-254-9626.



WelcomeBC

*We gratefully acknowledge the financial support  
of the Province of British Columbia through the  
Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology.*



**First Aid training for refugee claimants** will take place at MOSAIC Surrey office from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm - February 15.

- Spanish speaking instructor provided
- Spaces are limited, registration required
- Made possible by the Government of British Columbia.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kuol at 604 254-9626 or via email at [kbiong@mosaicbc.org](mailto:kbiong@mosaicbc.org) if you have any questions.

# First Aid Training for Refugee Claimants

Saturday February 15, 2020

9:00 am—5:30 pm

MOSAIC 200 — 7134 King George Blvd, Surrey BC

- FREE Training: Receive a Certificate
- Occupational First Aid Level 1
- Highly valued by Canadian employers in many industries
- Training in English/Spanish

Contact Kuol at (604) 254-9626 or [kbiong@mosaicbc.org](mailto:kbiong@mosaicbc.org)

## **A MESSAGE FROM LEGAL SERVICES SOCIETY: (3 PAGES)**

Thank you for contributing your experience and providing your feedback to improve this resource (overleaf) about how to make a refugee claim. You should have received a draft design of the resource “Making a Refugee Claim” to provide feedback.

### **Background and context on the “Making a Refugee Claim” resource**

- The scope of this resource is to give a general overview of the process, not to provide a comprehensive understanding or give detailed information about specific situations. This resource is meant to be used by a service provider as an aid in guiding their client through an overview of the refugee claim process.
- The resource has been written and developed closely with a lawyer well-versed in refugee claims. However, the draft content as a whole has not gone through a legal review. The content is going through the legal review right now. Therefore, when you provide feedback, please do not focus too much on the legal aspects. Instead, focus more about if you think the process is explained clearly, or if the design or layout is helpful and clear. Please focus on the questions below.
- **Please send your answers to [Patricia.Lim@lss.bc.ca](mailto:Patricia.Lim@lss.bc.ca) by Friday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you so much for your help!

### **Feedback questions to answer:**

1. Does it outline the refugee claim process clearly? Why or why not?
2. How easily can you find information that you would want to point out to clients who want to make a refugee claim?
3. Is there anything about the general refugee claim process that is missing from the resource?
4. Is there anything in the resource that should be emphasized more?
5. Is there anything in the resource that should be emphasized less?
6. Do you think a “notes” section would be helpful?
7. What do you think of the colors or the imagery? Are they helpful or not helpful?
8. Would you recommend this resource to other community workers or use it with your clients (after it has been legally reviewed)? Why or why not?

## APPEAL OPTIONS

If you are not eligible or your claim is not accepted

Hire a lawyer or apply for legal aid to get a lawyer to discuss these other appeal options



HIRE A LAWYER

- Apply **within 15 days** to the Refugee Appeal Division of the IRB
- Apply **within 15 days** to the Federal Court for a **judicial review** and a stay of removal
- Apply for a Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA)
- Apply to stay in Canada for **humanitarian and compassionate grounds**

## Community support contacts



### SOS

sosbc.ca  
contact@sosbc.ca  
604-255-1881

### MOSAIC

mosaicbc.org  
604-254-9626

### MCC

mcccanada.ca  
(604) 857-0011  
(Greater Vancouver)  
(888) 622-6337  
(elsewhere in BC)

### Rainbow Refugee

rainbowrefugee.com  
604-684-5307

### VAST

vast-vancouver.ca  
778-389-6652  
(Greater Vancouver)  
1-866-393-3133  
(elsewhere in BC)

### ISS

issbc.org  
604-684-2561

### Ready Tour

by Kinbrace Community Society

refugeclaim.ca  
ready@refugeclaim.ca  
{Need ph number}

## IMPORTANT TERMS

**Federal Court of Canada.** The Federal Court of Canada can review decisions related to Immigration. A lawyer must apply for judicial review on your behalf.

**Humanitarian and compassionate grounds.** Humanitarian and compassionate grounds apply to people with exceptional cases. Humanitarian and compassionate grounds are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

**Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB).** The Canadian government agency responsible for making decisions on Immigration, and refugee matters.

**Judicial review.** If the Refugee Protection Division denies your refugee claim, you can ask the Federal Court of Canada to review decisions related to immigration. A lawyer must apply for judicial review on your behalf.

**Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA).** If you are facing removal from Canada, you may be eligible for a pre-removal risk assessment to ensure that you are not sent to a country where you would be in danger or at risk of persecution.

**Refugee Appeal Division (RAD).** The Canadian government agency that decides appeals when the Refugee Protection Division rejects claims for refugee protection.

**Stay of removal.** A court order stating that a person cannot yet be removed from Canada.

# Making a Refugee Claim

## PROCESS OVERVIEW

### How to apply for Legal Aid



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How to apply for Legal Aid

### Contact Legal Aid BC



Apply at a legal aid location near you or call  
1-866-577-2525  
604-408-2172  
(Greater Vancouver)



Legal Services Society

British Columbia  
www.legalsoc.bc.ca

@legalaid

legalaid.bc.ca

# How to make a refugee claim

## On arriving in Canada

### Border Crossing

If you make a refugee claim at an official land crossing

The **Ready Tour Crossing Agreement** applies.

You'll be asked if you're a refugee claimant or a Convention refugee claimant.

Interview with CBSA to see if you're eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

You can lawyer or apply for Legal Aid for help with filing your forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

### Asylum at the Port of Entry

If you make a refugee claim at a Canada land airport or seaport

Interview with CBSA to see if you're eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

You can lawyer or apply for Legal Aid for help with filing your forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

## From within Canada

### Asylum

If you've arrived in Canada before CBSA office

Interview with CBSA to see if you're eligible to make a refugee claim.

If eligible, you receive immigration documents.

You can lawyer or apply for Legal Aid for help with filing your forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the CBSA office within 30 days.

### IRCC Office

If you make a refugee claim at/through the IRCC office

Get the refugee forms from the IRCC office or download from [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

You can lawyer or apply for Legal Aid for help with filing your forms.

Fill out the forms and submit them at the IRCC office within 30 days. Reserve date for an eligibility interview.

Identify your eligibility interview, then an interview with you if you need one.

If you are not eligible to make a refugee claim, see the back page.

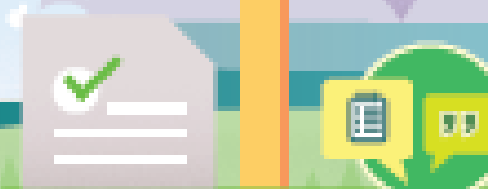
## If you are eligible to make a claim

IRCC or IRCO sends the date to the Refugee Protection Division (RPD) to get a hearing date.

**READY TOUR LASTED TOO** OR **ON TOURS IRCC OR IRCO AT 9000 9000**

1. Gather evidence supporting your claim.
2. Get the forms translated.
3. Submit the documents to the RPD.

**IRCC LINK** This website lists all documents and your list of references and witnesses. It helps build the hearing date. Submit them online if you can.



Take a Ready Tour of the hearing [www.fg-eda.ca](http://www.fg-eda.ca)

Attend your hearing at the RPD.

**Claim Accepted**

If the Minister does not appeal your acceptance within 30 days, you can apply at the IRCC office for permanent residence status.

If the Minister appeals your decision, speak to a lawyer or apply for legal aid.

**Claim not accepted**

Use the back page for your appeal options.

You can lawyer or apply for legal aid to get a lawyer to discuss them.

**More Start Times**

**Speedy Start Agreement**  
 Consider making an agreement if you can verify when you were or were not eligible. This will take appeal.

**Consider the Ready Tour**  
 The Ready Tour is a program that allows you to get a hearing date before you arrive in Canada. It is a special eligibility interview.

**Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the Canadian government agency that provides permanent residence, temporary residence and citizenship. It also provides eligibility and arrival documents.**

**Eligibility interview**  
 This is a hearing where you provide your identity to the CBSA, explain your claim, provide supporting documents, and answer questions. You can bring a lawyer or apply for legal aid to help.

**Document collection**  
 Bring your documents to the CBSA office or IRCC office. You can apply for a lawyer or legal aid to help.

**Ready Tour of the hearing (RT)**  
 The Ready Tour is a program that allows you to get a hearing date before you arrive in Canada.

**Ready Tour Crossing Agreement**  
 An agreement between you and the CBSA that allows you to get a hearing date before you arrive in Canada.



# Apply for a Community Arts Grant by March 4

## Is your group planning a community-based art project or event?

Apply for our Community Arts Grant, cash grants from \$1,000 - \$15,000 to support a wide variety of opportunities for communities to participate in and produce artistic and cultural work.

The Community Arts program prioritizes opportunities that meaningfully reflect the diversity of Vancouver and these unceded lands, as well as opportunities to enrich cultural life in neighbourhoods and public spaces.

Read through the [Community Arts Grants Information Guide \(PDF\)](#), and contact the cultural planner to discuss your eligibility and gain access to the online application form.

Metha Brown, Cultural Planner (primary contact)

Cultural Services, City of Vancouver

604-673-8411

[metha.brown@vancouver.ca](mailto:metha.brown@vancouver.ca)

**Deadline: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 4pm**

This program is open to Vancouver-based, nonprofit organizations, community service co-ops, registered charities, and local First Nation Band Councils; partnerships to support unincorporated groups may be eligible. Applicants do not need to have an arts and cultural mandate to apply.

The Community Arts Grant program is intended to:

- Support communities to experience and create artistic and cultural work.
- Expand equity-seeking communities' access to culturally relevant work.
- Increase opportunities for equity-seeking groups to explore and share their cultural heritage.
- Offer co-creative projects between communities and artists or cultural practitioners.
- Amplify cultural life throughout Vancouver neighborhoods, communities and public spaces.
- Build and strengthen connections across and between diverse communities.

The Community Arts Grant supports a variety of activities including:

- Community-engaged art projects.
- Events, festivals, celebrations and parades.
- Artist residency within a neighbourhood or community.
- Small-scale public art projects.

[Learn More](#)

## 2020 Cultural Learning and Sharing Grant Program

On behalf of the **Cultural Services grants team:**

*Do you know of arts or cultural leaders or non-profit organizations planning residencies, internships, mentorships, workshops, courses, research, organizational planning, gatherings, conferences, or other self-determined learning opportunities?*

This program provides up to \$20,000 to individuals (artists and cultural leaders) and non-profit arts and cultural organizations to access or deliver learning opportunities that will build and strengthen skills, knowledge, relationships, and experience in order to enhance individual, organizational, or sectoral practices. The program is open to a wide array of learning methods and is intended to support diverse contributors and leaders in ways that build knowledge and resources as well as strengthen communities of practice.

Registered non-profit societies, registered community service co-ops, registered charities, First Nations Band Councils on whose unceded traditional homelands Vancouver sits are eligible to apply. Vancouver-based established artists and cultural leaders actively working in the local arts and culture non-profit sector can apply in partnership with an eligible organization as described above.

Applications can be received at any time in advance of these deadlines throughout the year:

- Up to February 7th (funds allocated in mid-April)
- Up to April 10th (funds allocated in mid-June)
- Up to May 1st (funds allocated in late-June)
- Up to Aug. 7th (funds allocated in mid-Oct.)
- Up to Oct. 9th (funds allocated in mid-Dec.)

More information: <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/learning-and-sharing-program-information-guide.pdf>

Questions? Contact Amarshi, Aliyah <aliyah.amarshi@vancouver.ca>

or Masters, Cherryl <cherryl.masters@vancouver.ca>

**Metha Brown, Cultural Planner**

Cultural Services, City of Vancouver, [metha.brown@vancouver.ca](mailto:metha.brown@vancouver.ca)

604.673.8411 cell: 604.679.5179

## Review of IRB Detention guideline

The IRB is inviting the CCR and our members to give comments on the revised **Guideline on Detention**.

They are asking us to send answers to the following questions, by email to the **IRB's Outreach and Engagement team** at [Engagement@irb-cisr.gc.ca](mailto:Engagement@irb-cisr.gc.ca) by **Friday, February 7, 2020**. CCR members are welcome to send comments directly to the IRB - we would also be glad if you gave the CCR your comments, to help us with developing CCR input. You can send your comments to [jdench@ccrweb.ca](mailto:jdench@ccrweb.ca)

## IRB questions

1. Revised Guideline 2 has provided me with helpful guidance for the presentation of cases before the Immigration Division? Please explain.
2. Has revised Guideline 2 created any new or unanticipated challenges with respect to the detention review process? If so, please elaborate.
3. Can you identify areas for improvement regarding the guidance provided within revised Guideline 2? If so, please elaborate.
4. Can you identify any areas for improvement relating to the application of revised Guideline 2? If so, please elaborate.
5. Please provide any further comments or feedback.



Participate in the Canadian Council for Refugees Working Group meetings in Toronto, 28-29 February 2020.

Do you want to be part of efforts to promote rights for refugees? Want to participate in in-depth discussions on pressing issues affecting refugees and immigrants in Canada? Looking for an opportunity to share information and strategies with others from across Canada?

### **FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2020**

9:30am - 5pm: [Inland Protection Working Group](#) meeting

### **SATURDAY 29 FEBRUARY 2020**

9:30am - 5pm: [Overseas Protection & Resettlement Working Group](#) meeting

9:30am - 5pm: [Immigration and Settlement Working Group](#) meeting

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**Participation and registration:** Anyone interested in issues affecting refugees and newcomers to Canada is welcome to participate, especially [CCR members](#); however the meetings are closed to media and government employees. It is free to participate and no registration is required. Lunch is not provided.

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### **Location and how to get there:**

All meetings take place at the Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis St., Toronto [Click here](#) for a map of the area.

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Draft agendas for the meeting will be available on the [Working Group webpages](#) for [logged-in CCR members](#) and will also be sent out by email.

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### **Can't be in Toronto? Join us for a virtual meeting in advance!**

The CCR will be holding a virtual meeting for [CCR members](#) in English on Tuesday 25 February at 2pm Eastern, for those unable to participate in the CCR Working Group meetings in person. [Register online for the English-language virtual meeting.](#)

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For logistic questions, contact Chitra Ramsum at [cramsum@ccrweb.ca](mailto:cramsum@ccrweb.ca) or at (514) 277-7223 ext. 0  
For any other questions, contact Sandra Gasana at [sgasana@ccrweb.ca](mailto:sgasana@ccrweb.ca) or at (514) 277 -7223 ext. 5.

# COMMUNITY FORUM ON INTERFAITH CONNECTIONS



## Building Connections to Support Newcomers

Join us for a conversation about the role that faith plays in the settlement process! This community forum is designed for members of faith communities and those working in, or interested in, the newcomer settlement sector.

**A great professional development opportunity!**

**Date: January 30, 2020**

**Time: 8:30am - 1:00pm**

**Location: Ismaili Centre 4010 Canada Way, Burnaby BC**



## STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

*Entrepreneurship for Newcomers 2020*



**FREE full day conference on starting your own business**

- Learn about successes and challenges from a variety of entrepreneurs
- Start and grow a business in Canada
- Receive advice from experts

Date: February 12, 2020 | Time: 8:10 – 2:30 pm

Location: Ismaili Centre - 4010 Canada Way, Burnaby

Light breakfast and lunch will be served

Please register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EmploymentForum2020>



# BURNABY TOGETHER?

## COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

What do you really think?

Join a provocative forum on how communities are changing

What now?

Share your views on the impact of global migration to Burnaby

Date February 26, 2020

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Location: Burnaby Neighbourhood House  
4460 Beresford St., Burnaby, BC  
(beside Metrotown Skytrain Station)



PHOTO BY: HANNAH JOE



Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada



# PARENTING LEARNING EVENT 2020

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020 | 8:30 AM - 4 PM  
BYRNE CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
BURNABY, BC

RETOOL . RECONNECT . RECHARGE .



A day dedicated to learning about the mental and physical well-being of children. Topics of expert presentations include school/home life balance, understanding anxiety and brain development, nutrition for thriving bodies, smart screen habits and parenting with Indigenous perspective.

Registration includes:

- 2 plenary and 5 sessions of evidence-based information and practical tips presented by experts,
- displays and contacts for community resources and services,
- snacks and a healthy lunch, and
- low-cost on-site child-minding, if required

SAVE WITH EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

\*Space is limited, book before Jan.31st\*

\$75 for 1 registration  
\$125 for 2 registrations



- RETOOL with new ideas and practical tips for everyday parenting decision
- RECONNECT with community resources for families, and with other parents
- RECHARGE with more knowledge and more confidence

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[WWW.BFLGROWSCOMMUNITY.ORG](http://WWW.BFLGROWSCOMMUNITY.ORG)

CUSTOMIZED  
EMPLOYMENT  
SUPPORT FOR REFUGEE  
CLAIMANTS

BC SETTLEMENT & INTEGRATION SERVICES  
UNIT 4—13634 104 AVENUE, SURREY  
NEAR SURREY CENTRE SKY TRAIN STATION

604.954.0484

CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Apply for a work permit
- Apply for a social insurance number
- Information about the labour market
- Job Search Workshop
- Resume Writing workshops
- Meeting Employers Event
- Support to access BC Income Assistance program
- Connections to volunteer opportunities to provide Canadian experience in the workplace
- Employment-related English conversation circles

REGISTER

Contact: Savleen Kaur  
Email: [savleen.kaur@options.bc.ca](mailto:savleen.kaur@options.bc.ca)  
Phone: 604-954-0484 Text: 604-761-1054

## **The Library Champions Project - A Project of the NewToBC Initiative (2 pages)**

### **Job Posting – Facilitator (Contractor)**

**Project Description:** The Library Champions Project provides training and support for immigrants and refugees to conduct outreach with other newcomers with the intent of raising awareness about public library and other settlement and integration programs and services.

Library Champions share their experiences, learn about the challenges faced by other newcomers, and gain awareness of the services and resources provided libraries and community and immigrant serving agencies. Champions are supported to develop communication and presentation skills and to understand outreach strategies and boundaries. Champions utilize these skills, their networks and their cultural understanding and linguistic abilities to reach out to individuals and to share information about the programs, services and resources provided by the libraries and community and immigrant serving agencies. Outreach targets are set and monitored. Through this training and outreach, Champions develop a deep understanding of their communities, build confidence, improve English language skills, build connections to their communities, make friends, and obtain volunteer experience and references.

The Libraries Champions Project is currently delivered in libraries across Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. Each cycle of the project is three months long and fifteen cycles are delivered each year. Since the project's inception in 2013, 1,300+ immigrants have been trained as Library Champions and these individuals have reached out to 78,000+ other newcomers.

**Position Description:** Public Library InterLINK is seeking a Facilitator for the Library Champions Project. The facilitator actively promotes and recruits participants for the project; works directly with libraries and the project team to schedule and plan information, training, check-in and wrap-up sessions; provides all of the training; supports Champions to achieve targets; and compiles and submits reports as required by the project. The Facilitator is an independent contractor and, as such, is required to track hours and expenses and to submit invoices and expense claims on a regular basis.

#### **Responsibilities include:**

- Planning and facilitation of all information, training, check-in and wrap-up sessions
- Working with Champions in groups and in one to one settings to provide training, tools and capacity development opportunities that help Champions build their skills, networks and confidence
- Working one to one to support Champions and their progress and, when required, to assure and motivate them
- Project promotion and recruitment
- Scheduling and organizing all information, training, check-in and wrap-up sessions
- Selecting Champions based on established criteria
- Collection, management and data entry of Champion information
- Tracking and monitoring to ensure all project targets and outcomes are met
- Reporting on project targets and outcomes
- Providing references (letters and / or by phone) as requested by participants
- Attending monthly project team meetings and working with the project team to ensure ongoing project success and continued improvement to project delivery



**Job Posting – Facilitator (Contractor)**

**Knowledge, Skills, Competencies, and Minimum Requirements:**

- Post-secondary degree required in Social Sciences, English or related degree or equivalent experience
- Knowledge of immigrant settlement and integration needs and of the agencies supporting immigrant settlement and integration
- A keen and passionate interest in libraries and the resources, services and supports they provide
- Excellent verbal and written English language and communication
- Five years or more of facilitation experience and experience working with newcomers and EAL speakers
- Understanding of asset-based community development principles and experience using interactive facilitation techniques
- Results driven with ability to work independently
- Experience working in Federal and/or Provincial contracts including demonstrated ability to meet contract objectives and targets
- Proven / exceptional organizational, time management and computer skills
- Supportive and empathetic with a clear understanding of personal and professional boundaries
- Ability and willingness to be flexible on workdays, evenings and weekends
- Must be able to travel to communities across Metro-Vancouver and the Fraser Valley
- Must complete a Criminal Records Check
- Capacity to communicate in a second language (or multiple languages) other than English an asset

**Contract Period:** April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

To apply, send resume and cover letter by **February 14<sup>th</sup>** to Ben Hart at [ben.hart@newtobc.ca](mailto:ben.hart@newtobc.ca)