



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 110

January 12, 2022

Dear MAP members,

How are you doing? As we move into the third year of the pandemic this question is even more important 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.

Happy New Year to everyone!

- This year we are looking forward to the launch of **BC CHARMS** a new tool to help all of us in our work and to provide housing solutions more promptly and effectively.
 - The launch of the **NGO program of service at the Immigration Holding Center!** A new service to detainees to provide non-legal information to those held at the IHC in Surrey.
This service needs a name!!! Here's a Challenge to MAP members to suggest an appropriate name and email it to info@mapbc.org . We even have a gift card for the winner!
 - The **Emergency Plan** is taking shape – it will be laid out at the end of March – watch for more details soon.
 - Our first **MAP Meeting** of the year is on Thursday January 27 with a presentation from IRCC on the new portal for refugee claimant applications. Look for the Agenda in your inbox soon!
-

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, Thanh Lam - and the other Jenny!

Notices from BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs:

1. (Relating to the temporary housing of newly arrived refugee claimants)

The BC State of Emergency has been extended to Jan 18. We have confirmed that the hotel arrangement will stay in place until Jan 18 pending further extensions to the State of Emergency.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022PSSG0002-000033>

2. Dear Stakeholders,

Please be advised that a Call for Responses **CFR22RRF03** has been posted on [BC Bid](#) regarding the 2021 Refugee Readiness Fund.

To find the CFR on BC Bid:

1. Browse for the opportunity under the organization “Ministry of Municipal Affairs” and click on the link.
2. Go to the folder “Supplier Attachments Exist” to download the PDF with the full text and instructions.

For more information and resources on participating in a procurement process, please see the resources at [this link](#).

Thank you,
Immigrant Integration Unit
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

COVID 19 VACCINATION INFORMATION - poster also attached

Here is an upcoming webinar from the Burnaby PCN
DocTalks: COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids.

Join Dr. Birinder Narang as he discusses COVID-19 vaccines for school aged children. Dr. Narang will be joined by SD 41 School Board Chair, Jen Mezei. This is great opportunity for parents, families, and caregivers to learn more from a Burnaby Family Physician and to ask questions they may have. Please share in your networks.

[DocTalks: COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids](#)

Dr. Birinder Narang & Jen Mezei (SD 41 Board Chair)
Monday, January 17, 2022, 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

[Register Here](#)

If you have any questions in advance or about the event, feel free to reach out

Andrea Creamer (she/her)


PCN Community Engagement Coordinator

Burnaby Primary Care Networks

acreamer@divisionsbc.ca

c (604) 781-0964

t (604) 262-8569



PCN BURNABY Primary Care Networks

The best vaccine available is the one in your arm.

BURNABY PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS
DOCTALKS
COVID-19 VACCINE FOR KIDS
WITH DR. BIRINDER NARANG
& JEN MEZEI (SD41 BOARD CHAIR)

MONDAY, JAN. 17, 2022
5:00PM - 6:00PM

REGISTER for the webinar:
<https://bit.ly/bbyvaccinekids>

TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE CONTACT
Manny Sahota
msahota@divisionsbc.ca

LEARN about the latest COVID-19 Vaccine Information.

HEAR from a Burnaby Family Physician.

ASK your own questions!

Here are the READY Tour dates for the next few months! **PDF also attached** with the dates and instructions for referrals.

We are still in the process of hiring the READY Tour organizer who will be in place for Sophia's maternity leave. Before the new person is introduced please feel free to reach out to Loren Balisky at loren@kinbrace.ca in the meantime with any READY Tour related questions.



Upcoming READY Tour Dates
Vancouver
January - April 2022

Virtual READY Tours on Microsoft Teams will be offered on the following dates:

- January 12th (Wednesday) - 9:30-11:30am
- January 28th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- February 11th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- February 25th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- March 11th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- March 25th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- April 8th (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am
- April 22nd (Friday) - 9:30-11:30am

Referral:

To refer a client to the READY Tour please email ready@refugeeclaim.ca, or go to [www.https://refugeeclaim.ca/en/ready-tours/](https://refugeeclaim.ca/en/ready-tours/).

Interpretation:

Interpretation can be provided for anyone who requires it. Please indicate in the referral email what language is required.

Contact:

For more information please contact:

Sophia Underhill
READY Tour Coordinator
ready@refugeeclaim.ca
604-328-3132

Loren Balisky
Director of Engagement
loren@kinbrace.ca
604-803-9024

*(Contact until January 14th, after this
Sophia will be on Maternity Leave)*

(Contact from January 15 onwards)

GRUPO PARA FAMILIAS LATINAS 2021

Un Espacio Seguro para Fomentar la Comunidad, el Autocuidado y la Autorregulación

Encuentra recursos para combatir el estrés en familia durante la pandemia

"Entre más uno se cuida, mejor cuida a los que uno quiere"



¿Cuándo?

Jueves 27 de enero 2022

¿A Qué hora? 10 am - 11:30 am

¿Dónde? Via ZOOM

¿Preguntas? Comunícate al 604-283-6713

Whatsapp +1 (604) 283-6713 o alejandra@vast-vancouver.ca para recibir el Zoom ID y unirte al grupo

VAST program for Spanish speakers

Dear MAP member,

I am making this poster available to you to connect any person who is a member of a family and speaks Spanish – they will benefit from being connected to Mental Health resources and practical tools to deal with this special period of pandemic putting stress on "family life relationships and ourselves". More so this is a trauma-informed safe space for Latin family members - to keep healthy social connections and learn strategies to support their mental health resilience in family life.

This group is facilitated by Matias Hacker (VAST) and Rosa Sevy (VCH)

Thank you for your support,

Alejandra Rodriguez-Klakowicz, BSc. Psych

Outreach Associate

Ph: 604-283-6713

PIRS Employment program

Poster attached also



Building Bridges

Are you a skilled immigrant or refugee woman?

Are you interested in learning new skills and increasing your employability?

Do you have professional goals that you want to achieve in 2022?

We are here to support you!

FREE online 20 week program
January 26 - June 22, 2022
Wednesdays
6-8:30 PM

PROGRAM FOCUS:

- Building healthy self-esteem and self-confidence through public speaking, presentation, and facilitation skills
- Small project development and management
- Building connections and networking
- Planning pathways for meaningful career and profession

REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/CGr3q41AjLjPIUAZA>
CONTACT: Sanzida Habib
Email: shabib@pirs.bc.ca | **Phone:** (778) 608-4318



Settlement & Integration Program

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

Adult Employment Program

JAN 17 & 18, 2022
3:30 - 5:00 PM
IN-PERSON

Learn about:

- Information on BC's labour market
- Write and build a resume
- Tips on job search strategies
- Tips on interviewing skills

Eligibility:

- Be 19 years old or older
- Be fully vaccinated and have proof of vaccination
- Proof of government-issued ID

For registration please contact us by email or phone number:

parisas@burnabyhh.ca
604-657-2163

WWW.BURNABYHH.CA

Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a community driven and community funded agency located on the unceded territories of the Tsəlil-Wəwú:lip, ʕəlilwəʕəw, Kwikwetlem (kwikwetlem), Squamish (Skwəwəʕməsh Dəwəwəw) and Musqueam (muskəwəwəw) nations with a unique focus on neighbours supporting neighbours.

BURNABY NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

- **Adult Employment Program, Jan 17 & 18 - with interpretation in Dari**

- **Housing Information session, Jan 18 - with interpretation in Mandarin**

Posters attached

Settlement & Integration Program

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

About Your Housing in BC

BC省住家须知 (国语在线讲座)

Date 日期: Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Time 时间: 7:00pm (晚上7点)

Register 报名:

Scan (扫描二维码):



Everything you need to know as a tenant/property owner:

无论您是租客还是业主，您应该了解的一切:

- Decide the suitable type of housing
- What should be included in a lease
- What risk you might have
- Money matters
- 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
- 相关费用简介

Service in Mandarin/普通话咨询: 236-877-2616
www.burnabyhh.ca

Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a community driven and community funded agency located on the unceded territories of the Tsəlil-Wəwú:lip, ʕəlilwəʕəw, Kwikwetlem (kwikwetlem), Squamish (Skwəwəʕməsh Dəwəwəw) and Musqueam (muskəwəwəw) nations with a unique focus on neighbours supporting neighbours.

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

Funded by: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Financed par: Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

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

Funded by: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Financed par: Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada



Rainbow Refugee Society is going to move to a new location by the end of January. If you would like to connect a person to us, please do so by email or phone - contact Nazanin: support@rainbowrefugee.ca or 604-339-2424.

We continue to support LGBTQI+ refugee and refugee claimants online and mostly by virtual appointments, as well as weekly online hearing support drop-ins.

Employment Opportunity

PIRS: Project Coordinator - Building a Childcare System that Works for Immigrant and Refugee Women

Hours: 35 hrs/week

Location: Virtual and in-person at Vancouver Office

Start date: February 2022

End date: March 31, 2024

Deadline to apply: February 7, 2022

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION AND HOW TO APPLY IN ATTACHED PDF

Employment Opportunity

Position: Project Coordinator - Building a Childcare System that Works for Immigrant and Refugee Women

Hours: 35 hrs/week

Location: Virtual and in-person at our Vancouver office

Compensation: \$26.52 - 28.14/hour depending on qualifications

Start date: February 2022

End date: March 31, 2024

Deadline to apply: February 7, 2022

About PIRS

Established in 1975, Pacific Immigrant Resources Society (PIRS) is a pioneer and leader in the provision of programs that develop immigrant and refugee women's knowledge, skills and confidence. Our mission is to empower immigrant and refugee women and children to fully participate in Canadian life through neighbourhood-based, accessible and inclusive programs. For more information visit <http://pirs.bc.ca>

Job Purpose

The purpose of the Project Coordinator position is to coordinate all aspects of the *Building a Childcare System that Works for Immigrant and Refugee Women* project. This is a key leadership role within the project that requires a passion for changing the childcare system to become more equitable and accessible, and a commitment to empowering immigrant and refugee women.

The *Building a Childcare System that Works for Immigrant and Refugee Women* project is a new 2.5-year PIRS initiative that supports a feminist response and recovery from the current impacts of COVID-19 through systemic change in the childcare sector.

Key projects activities involve:

- Building and maintaining partnerships;
- Engaging with stakeholders within the childcare sector in BC and nationally;
- Convening immigrant and refugee women with lived experience of interacting with the childcare system in various roles and supporting their engagement in the system change work through a series of cohorts;
- Developing and implementing a media campaign in support of project goals.

This project is funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada.

Key Responsibilities

1. Program Coordination and Delivery

- Working closely with project team members, plan and implement all project activities
- Provide support to other team members in their roles within the project as needed
- Liaise and coordinate with other teams within the organization as needed



1874 Kingsway, Vancouver BC V5N 2S7
Call 604.298.5888 | Email: info@pirs.bc.ca

Hi everyone,

I am pleased to let you know that the recording and materials from the BCSIS Virtual Information Session on Employer Paid Sick Leave are now available on the AMSSA website.

You can find them here: <https://www.amssa.org/resource/bcsis-virtual-information-session-employer-paid-sick-leave/>

Kind regards,

Rebecca Ferguson (she/her), Provincial Integration Coordinator

E-mail: rferguson@amssa.org

4445 Norfolk Street, Burnaby, BC V5G 0A7

Toll Free 1 888 355-5560 • T 604 718-2780

www.amssa.org





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 February 1** - one of our regular quarterly meetings.

Virtual meeting on refugee claimants

When: Tuesday 1 February 2022

11am Pacific

The meeting will last 60 minutes.

Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUod-GgpjkuGtBi2Go4Ajlipqc_j1Usk2a0



Upcoming CMS events

- **Jan 20**, 11:00 AM - 12:30 AM (Virtual)

[Radical Diversity: An International Discussion of Transformative Narratives from an Indigenous, Jewish and Immigrant Perspective](#)

A panel with Jules Koostachin, Kristi Pinderi, Mohamed Amjahid, and Max Czollek

- **Feb 7**, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Virtual)

[Extending the reach of academic research through photovoice: The Lived Experience of Aging Immigrants project](#)

Sharon Koehn, Simon Fraser University

More CMS news [here](#)

The January Migration Working Group addresses the theme **migration governance narratives and migration practices on the ground.**

The discussion will be moderated by [Younes Ahouga](#), Research Fellow, CERC Migration, Ryerson University.



Presenters include:

- **Andrea C. Bianculli** and **Juan Carloa Triviño-Salazar**, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals
- **Angel Escamilla García**, Cornell University
- **Adèle Garnier** and **Danièle Bélanger**, Université Laval
- **Brandon Green**, London School of Economics
- **Antoine Pécoud**, University of Sorbonne Paris Nord
- **Mercedes Eguiguren**, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences/ San Francisco de Quito University

Tues. Jan. 25, 2022, 12-2:30 PM EST

The Migration Working Group meets monthly to discuss the migration research of emerging and established scholars. Our meetings give researchers an opportunity to present their ongoing projects, learn about each other's work and share feedback.

UBC SPRING CAREER FAIR 2022

Wednesday, March 2nd
11AM - 4 PM PST

**Early Bird Registration
ENDING SOON**



Register by Jan 15th on CareersOnline for Early Bird Rate
spring.fair@ubc.ca

<https://hireastudent.ubc.ca/career-fairs>



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Centre for Student Involvement & Careers



REPEATS



BC's **VIRTUAL**
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2021 | #HOUSINGCENTRAL

The BCNPHA Conference recorded sessions are now available on the conference platform by logging into the conference site and navigating to the "Sessions" tab. Recorded plenaries can be found in the "Main Stage" tab.

NOTE: MAP Members: The **MAP BC CHARMS** session is available here:
https://housingcentral2021.junolive.co/library/search/T11_library

If you have any questions, please contact BCNPHA at events@bcnpha.ca.

[ACCESS THE PLATFORM](#)



**Supreme Court decision to hear Safe Third Country Agreement appeal is a promising step for refugee rights
Amnesty International, The Canadian Council of Churches, and The Canadian Council for Refugees are welcoming the Supreme Court of Canada's decision to review the constitutionality of the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA).**

This decision follows a long history of legal challenges to the Agreement, including two recent court rulings. In July 2020, the Federal Court found that the STCA violates the fundamental human rights of refugee claimants and is therefore unconstitutional. The Federal Court of Appeal overturned that decision in April 2021 – not on substantive grounds, but on the basis of how the arguments were framed.

The organizations presented extensive evidence showing that the STCA has particularly negative impacts on women fleeing gender-based persecution, in violation of section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The organizations hope that these arguments will now be thoroughly considered by the Supreme Court of Canada through this appeal.

This is the second time that the three organizations have challenged the constitutionality of the STCA. Twice the Federal Court has found that STCA violated refugee claimants' Charter rights and twice the Federal Court of Appeal has overturned the decision on technical grounds. After refusing a previous request to hear the constitutionality of the STCA, the highest court will now finally review this rights-violating Agreement.

The evidence is overwhelming that the US is unsafe for many refugees, and that many people sent back to the US under the STCA suffer serious rights violations in detention. Because of this evidence, the organizations call on the government to suspend the Agreement. None of the previous court rulings – or the upcoming Supreme Court decision – prevent the government from taking action immediately to end this harmful Agreement.

Under the STCA, most refugee claimants who arrive at an official port of entry seeking protection in Canada are denied entry and turned back to the US. Because the agreement only applies at official border crossings, many refugees have been forced to cross the border in between ports of entry, sometimes in perilous conditions. Withdrawing from the Agreement would not only ensure that Canada meets its Charter and legal obligations but would also allow people to present themselves in an orderly way at ports of entry, ending the need for irregular crossings.



Media contact: Andréa Viens, Communications Coordinator, media@ccrweb.ca

Justin Mohammed, Programs Manager, Amnesty International Canada (English branch), 613-744-7667 x 249, jmohammed@amnesty.ca

Dr. Nicole Roccas, Communications Coordinator, The Canadian Council of Churches, 416-972-9494, communications@councilofchurches.com



Canadian Council for Refugees
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés

Feel like sharing the news?

- [Facebook post](#)
- [Twitter profile](#)
- [YouTube backgrounder video](#)

A promising step for refugee rights!

