



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 111

January 19, 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.

MAP Meeting Thursday January 27, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Presentation from IRCC on the new portal for refugee claimant applications and the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants.

A breakout room has been created after the presentation to take more questions.

If you already have questions for IRCC please send them ahead of January 24 to info@mapbc.org so that our speakers can include information in their presentations or address your question as a priority. Thank you!

REGISTER for the meeting at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsceGgrjssGtllxtnVs5XINtc3v-3ejCjU>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

MAP is looking for more volunteers for the Information Working Group!

If you have a passion for public education, getting out an important message about refugee claimants or have skills in presenting, social media and marketing we need you!

Please join us – email Jenny at info@mapbc.org for more information.

Please consider this a valuable experience for any of your clients building their resumes – MAP prioritizes folks with lived experience to provide a knowledgeable voice to the project. References always provided for volunteers.

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!

Message from the BC Government regarding refugee claimant housing:

The BC State of Emergency has ended as of midnight January 18. The agreement with IRCC regarding the hotel states that there will be a 1-2 week transition period after the state of emergency ends. This means that no new claimants would be housed in the hotel as of today, January 19th and the transition period would allow those who are currently housed time to move onto other accommodations.

Referrals will now revert back to how they were done before the State of Emergency.

Should you experience any challenges with this transition, please let us know.

Joni Rose

Senior Program Advisor

Immigration Policy and Integration Branch

Ministry of Municipal Affairs

5th Floor, 605 Robson Street

Vancouver, BC, V6B 5J3

778-572-5650

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Update – from



The Province has updated its COVID-19 testing recommendations. People who may have been exposed to COVID-19 but are not experiencing symptoms, or who are vaccinated and experiencing mild symptoms with no risk factors, do not require a COVID-19 test. Rather, they should self-isolate and monitor their symptoms.

Booking an Appointment in Fraser Health

Due to the high volume that Fraser Health testing and vaccination centres are seeing currently, **an appointment is now required for most people to receive a COVID-19 test or vaccination.**

Patients can use the [Fraser Health online booking system](#) to make an appointment. They can also call 604-587-3936, seven days a week, from 8:30am to 4:30pm to for assistance.

**Saira Abrar, Physician Engagement and Practice Support
Manager**

saira.abrar@snddivision.ca

604-365-0764



News highlights:

Refugee claimant-related articles from Canada and around the world

January 19, 2022

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

Thanks to Journey Home's **Barry Growe** for his research and compilation:

- [Lessons from Roxham Road show it's time to scrap the Safe Third Country Agreement](#)
Ottawa Citizen
- [200 Afghan refugees arrive in Vancouver, the most since the Taliban took over](#)
Canadian Press
- [Federal government announces \\$35 million in new funding to expand refugee settlement services in small towns and rural communities](#)
CBC
- [Deportation: Ottawa woman says her daughter will be harmed if sent back to Nigeria](#)
Ottawa Sun
- [Calgary non-profit MD international delivers information to newcomers](#)
Calgary Herald
- [Ladysmith church secures housing in Duncan for refugee family](#)
Chemainus Valley Courier

Dear Service Providers,

Do you have clients who are hands-on people looking for a job in Public Works? Water waste management? Traffic Control? Or Landscape Maintenance?

Are you an immigrant or local Canadian with a background in Engineering and looking to get back to your field? Or are you a professional worker looking for a career change in one of our most in-demand industries in BC?

Then the **PBLMT Public Works Technician Training Program** is for you!
Find out more in our **Info Session** on **20th Jan at 10AM!**

To register for our FREE Info Session event, you can visit: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/250570652567>

I look forward to meeting you all!

You can also register with our FREE PBLMT Public Works Technician Training Program:

<https://freetrainings.ca/Public-Works>

Best Regards,
Ahana Roy

Job Developer & Facilitator
Project-Based Labour Market Training (PBLMT)

Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society

8153 Main Street, Vancouver, BC V5X 3L2

Tel: 778 814 9671

ahana.roy@pics.bc.ca pblmt@pics.bc.ca

www.pics.bc.ca <https://freetrainings.ca>

Poster attached





Upcoming free webinars



Photo by Wade Watson/123RF.com

Legal issues in times of disaster
Monday, January 31 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM PDT
The session will cover various legal issues and processes that arise from disaster situations like wildfires, floods or pandemics. We will identify when a lawyer can (or must) assist and what other measures of assistance can be identified and supported by community workers within the Province of BC.

This session is open to all community workers in BC.

Click below to register.

[Register now!](#)



Photo by court house - iStockphoto.com

The new Provincial Court Family Rules
Wednesday, February 2 | 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM PDT
This session will shed light on the changes to the Provincial Court Family Rules. The Surrey and Victoria Provincial Court Registries have put into place a pilot project for Early Dispute Resolution for Family Law cases. This webinar will talk about the pilot project and how it will affect people involved in a family law case.

This session is open to all community workers in BC.

Space for this session is limited. Click below to register.

[Register now!](#)



Photo by William P. Jones - iStockphoto.com

Domestic violence and protection orders under the new Provincial Court Family Rules
Thursday, February 10 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT
Neena Randhawa, Coordinator at Harmony House, and Taruna Agrawal, Lawyer at Rise Women's Legal Centre, will discuss protection orders under the new Provincial Court Family Rules. They will review the procedure and discuss how to complete the court forms. They will share practical tips on how to gather evidence to help make these applications successful. They will also talk about peace bonds and conduct orders. If you assist clients leaving abusive relationships, we urge you to attend this workshop.

This session is open to all community workers in BC.

Space for this session is limited. Click below to register.

[Register now!](#)



Surrey Parents Legal Centre and overview of child protection law
Thursday, February 17 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM PDT
Jeff Speed, Managing Lawyer at the Surrey Parents Legal Centre will examine the court process for child protection cases and explain what the legislation allows the Ministry to do and what it cannot do without a court order. Jeff Speed will discuss out of court cases, including safety plans and voluntary care agreements with a special emphasis on how the Parents Legal Centre is able to assist families with Ministry involvement, whether their case is court-involved or not.

This session is for community workers in Surrey, Langley, Abbotsford, Hope, Chilliwack and surrounding communities.

Webinars are free but space is limited. Click below to register.

[Register now!](#)

Have a question about child support?

Watch these 5-minute animated videos!



More learning videos are available on our website. Click [here](#) to start browsing!

To sign-up for this newsletter, please [click here](#)



If you encounter any technical issues when using the links to sign up, please email us at al@mapbc.ca published on the traditional ancestral territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the amniskwiyam (Nasqwan), Sqwep'mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ/Selwítlak (Tlel'Wautw) Nations.
BC's Legal Services Society holds the copyright to all information on this site. None of this material may be commercially reproduced, but copying for other purposes, with credit, is encouraged.
© 2022 Legal Services Society | Privacy Statement | Freedom of Information / Disclosure

Learn with Legal Aid BC January Newsletter PDF attached.

BCSIS Virtual Information Session

FRAUD PREVENTION

January 26 2022 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. PST

In this Virtual Information Session, representatives from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canada Border Services Agency, and the Bank of Canada will provide an overview of the top scams affecting British Columbian residents, especially in the time of COVID-19.

Every year, thousands of Canadians fall victim to fraud. Fraudsters are quick to adapt their techniques to the latest trends and technologies, using a variety of tactics to defraud their targets. In the first eight months of 2021 alone, British Columbians reported losses of \$3.5 million from crypto investment scams. Fraudsters are quick to capitalize on global events. During the COVID-19 pandemic, new scams emerged. For example, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre received reports of a text message scam tied to COVID-19 vaccine invitation notifications.

As newcomers are especially vulnerable to fraud, it is essential for frontline settlement workers to be aware of existing scams and to know how to inform their clients to help protect them. This session will include an overview of the top frauds newcomers should be aware of and how criminals are contacting victims, information on common immigration and customs fraud schemes, and guidance on how to support and protect newcomer clients. After the presentations, there will be a live Q&A period.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

QUESTIONS?

Send an email to Rebecca at rferguson@amssa.org



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Kinbrace is hiring again!

You may be interested - or know someone else who might be a good candidate - in this exciting 8-month, 25hours/week job opportunity: [Community Coordinator](#)

The Community Coordinator, with support from other staff and volunteers, will steward and nurture the Kinbrace community to create a transformative environment where residents, Host Community, staff, volunteers and neighbours flourish together.

The Community Coordinator is responsible for leading and caring for Kinbrace's Host Community; this includes ensuring all Host Community members are supported, listened to, and advocated for. The Community Coordinator will also work with each Host Community member to develop a Sustainability Plan to ensure ongoing health of the host community.

The Community Coordinator is also responsible for creating opportunities for Kinbrace residents to develop friendships with other residents, volunteers, neighbours, and staff members; this includes cultivating and stewarding volunteers and volunteer groups. In addition, the Community Coordinator will create community building events that help residents discover and experience belonging.

To find out more and to apply, please go to: <https://kinbrace.ca/current-opportunities/>



Flavours of Hope NEW Dream Cuisines Opportunity!

Please see the **poster attached** about an information session for newcomer women entrepreneurs to join a new cohort in our [Dream Cuisines food business program](#).

Online lunch time session: Wednesday, January 26 from 12pm to 1pm.

If you know any individuals or organizations that I should reach out to who would be interested in our program, please let me know - I appreciate the connection!

Trixie Ling

Founder and Executive Director, Flavours of Hope

P: 604.773.7511

E: trixie@flavoursofhope.com

W: www.flavoursofhope.com



Calling all newcomer women entrepreneurs! Interested in starting your own food business and building a community? Dream Cuisines is now recruiting participants for our 2022 cohort! 🌟

If you're interested in taking part in our program, we are hosting an online lunchtime info session on Wednesday, January 26 from 12 - 1 pm (PST). You'll find out more about Dream Cuisines, hear from alumni, and get the chance to ask questions about the program.

Bring your lunch and meet us on Zoom! Email trixie@flavoursofhope.com to register and receive the Zoom link. We look forward to meeting you!

You are invited to EDUCATION IN AFGHANISTAN – a virtual panel discussion

Mon, January 24, 2022

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM PST

Online event. Register Today:  bit.ly/3ldUWS5

What is the future of education for Afghan Children? Join us for a live virtual panel discussion where we discuss the challenges ahead.



The United Nations General Assembly declared January 24 as the International Day of Education in 2018. The IDE has been commemorated since then to highlight the role of education in peace and development across the world. To attain 'Quality Education' is one of the seventeenth United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

In August of 2021, the world witnessed the fall of the Afghan Central Government to the Taliban. Overnight, the right to primary education was immediately robbed from the school-aged girls. The efforts of the past twenty years were lost, and five months later, the faith of millions of young school aged girls remains uncertain.

This January 24, please join ***Beacon of Hope for Afghan Children Society** and our esteemed panelists as we dive deep into a discussion focusing on the current challenges, what the future holds for Afghan children, and what we can do as the Afghan diaspora and international community to ensure that the efforts of the last twenty years do not go in vain.

* Beacon of Hope is led by Froozan Jooya who spoke at MAP's [In Focus event on Afghanistan](#) in October last year .

Poster attached

The YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth and their partners in the anti-violence and settlement sectors invite you to join the discussion and contribute to raising awareness on Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Register for their on-line introductory course ***Bridges to Safety*** to learn about the Settlement Sector GBV Partnership. Be part of the first cohort for the **course in French starting January 24th, 2022 and the second course in English starting in April**. Register today at: <https://www.ngbv.ca/online-course>

The ***Bridges to Safety*** is an online, no cost, 6-week professional development course to build a common base of knowledge, increase awareness and education, and enhance the capacity of those in the settlement sector to recognize and respond to gender-based violence in ways that meet the unique needs of immigrant and refugee communities. It also aims to increase the capacity of the settlement and anti-violence sectors to work collaboratively in this area, and to focus on building bridges, not silos, between sectors. Since April 2019, the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth has partnered with the Canadian Immigrant Settlement Sector Alliance – Alliance canadienne du secteur de l'établissement des immigrants (CISSA-ACSEI), the Ending Violence Association of Canada, and the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants, to develop a settlement sector strategy to address gender-based violence. Ending gender-based violence is everyone's responsibility and we all have a role to play.

For all enquiries, please contact Kathryn Bates-Khan, Manager Gender Based Violence Prevention Project at the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth, Centre for Immigrant Programs:

T: 902-457-1959 M: 902-456-7223 E: kathryn.bateskhan@halifax.ymca.ca & ghita.rhammaz@halifax.ymca.ca

Submitted by Joni Rose, BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs, for your interest.



Refugee Research Network

**- RRN Research Digest -
Jan 13, 2022**

[Read Digest on the RRN Website](#)

The RRN digest is issued bi-weekly to highlight the latest academic and non-academic resources on Refugees and forced migrants. We encourage readers to [email us](#) any articles, reports, or research related to refugee/forced migration studies to be considered in the forthcoming editions. Open-access versions are always a preference

REPEATS

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



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



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)

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





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