



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 144

October 26, 2022

Dear MAP members,

How are you doing? Three years into the pandemic this question is even more important and one that MAP will 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 if you have information that you would like to share with MAP please email info@mapbc.org.

MAP NEWS

MAP Meeting – Thursday October 27, 9:30 am at Surrey Central Library: New Initiatives

AGENDA INSIDE

Please let us know if you require call-in from Vancouver Island or if you have health reasons for not being able to attend in person. We have a better system on hand for this meeting!

National news about detention – thanks to CCR’s post:

The CBSA just released the [National Immigration Detention Framework](#) and confirmed the transfer of the Laval Immigration Holding Centre to a [new facility](#).

Also, Matt Galloway from CBC Radio [interviewed](#) Sara Gómez today, a former Mexican asylum seeker (now holding PR) who was detained by the CBSA without ever knowing the reason for her detention or for how long she would be detained, illustrating the effect of a carceral system linked to migration and the kind of power that the agency still holds.

(Sara Gómez is a MAP member and is on staff at VAST. She is a member of the MAP BCIHC Support Program Advisory Committee and a frequent contributor to the team’s development and knowledge.)

Thank you for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants

Thanh Lam, Sireen ElNashar and Jenny Moss. MAP Executive





MAP Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 27, 2022: 9:30AM – 12:00PM

In person: Surrey Library: City Centre Room 120: 10350 University Dr, Surrey, BC V3T 4B8
(Please arrive early for coffee and refreshments)

9:30AM Welcome from Surrey Public Library – Naomi Morgan, Information Services Librarian
MAP Co-Chair: Sireen El-Nashar, Zaytuna Services Society

- Acknowledgements
- Introductions
- Housekeeping, Outline of Agenda
- Review of September Minutes

9:45 AM Announcements:
IRB Updates
Update on Strategic Planning and the Advisory Council

10:00 AM: Presentations: NEW Initiatives!
HOUSING
a) What should be done with all those empty buildings? The 'Meanwhile Spaces' initiative
Doug Peat / Barry Growe – Journey home Community

PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION & INFORMATION
b) My Refugee Claim - a guide for refugee claimants in Canada
Chantel Spade/ Loren Balisky/ Masi Allahverdi - Kinbrace

10:45 AM Break

11:10 AM BC CHARMS Report

11:20 AM MAP updates for Fall 2022: gathering meeting themes, using the MAP Website

11:35 AM Information WG Report: IN FOCUS events in November!

11:45 AM Agency Updates concerning refugee claimants only please

11:55 AM Feedback forms

12:00 PM Adjournment – Next meeting: November 24 at ISSofBC, Victoria Drive, Vancouver

MAP gratefully acknowledges the funding provided by the BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI)

Final MAP Agenda October 27 – we hope to see many members at the meeting in Surrey Centre.

PDF attached

News highlights:

Refugee claimant- related articles from Canada and around the world

October 12, 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:

[Will a former refugee's trip to see his dying father cost him his status in Canada?](#)

Toronto Star

October 25

[With 271,000 vacant jobs, Quebec business leaders challenge immigration targets](#)

National Post

October 17

['YouTube has changed my life.' How Afghan refugees stuck in limbo built a global following.](#)

Toronto Star

October 12

[Precarious immigration status hurts families. It's time we do better.](#)

The Star

October 15

[Rwandan family, including PSW mother, fear pending deportation](#)

Ottawa Citizen

October 12

[Immigrant Youth Wellness Summit builds much-needed peer leadership](#)

The Canadian News

October 22

[Slave Lake approved for entrepreneur immigration](#)

Lakeside Leader

October 19

Seeking Asylum

Everything you thought you knew about Canadian Refugee Law

JOIN US FOR A DISCUSSION ABOUT CLAIMING ASYLUM IN CANADA

HEAR FROM EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF REFUGEE LAW, STORIES OF SETTLEMENT, AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTS FROM THOSE WHO HAVE GONE THROUGH THE CLAIMANT PROCESS

Surrey City Centre Library - Room 120
Nov 8, 6-7:30 pm - Free to attend



Presenting MAP's first public education event of the Fall:

Seeking asylum: everything you thought you knew about Canadian Refugee Law

A dynamic presentation by a person who experienced the claim process, a lawyer and a settlement worker documenting the journey along the way. Thank you to our speakers and moderators – we anticipate lots of discussion and learning!

Designed to appeal to members of the public, students, those outside the settlement sector - please let your friends and neighbours know if you live in or near Surrey.

We especially appreciate any outreach to SFU students on the Surrey campus, community colleges and churches.

Speakers:

Dennis Juarez (formerly at Options)

Karen Jantzen – lawyer at the Immigration/Refugee Law Clinic

Ana Yancie Parada – settlement worker, Options

Moderated by MAP Co-chair Sireen El Nashar

Please share the poster attached widely!



Presented by MAP in partnership with





To register: Contact us at office@impactnorthshore.ca or 604-988-2931

Essential Online Safety Skills (Farsi)

Monday, October 31st

1:00-2:30 pm

This online workshop provides you with information on the different ways by which you can protect your identity and privacy online.

Online Mental Health and Immigration Workshop (Farsi)

Monday, October 31st

6:15-7:30 pm

This workshop helps you learn about self-care, mental health, coping strategies, and relaxation techniques.



SD44 & 45: Post Secondary Education Information Week (English, support in Farsi & Mandarin)

Thursday, November 3rd

4:00-6:00 pm

Join this online workshop to learn about post-secondary education programs at the University of Toronto and University of Victoria.

Online Newcomer Information Session (Farsi)

Friday, November 4th

1:30-3:30 pm

This orientation will help you to understand and connect to the services available on the North Shore as well as Canada.

MOSAIC is excited to announce that the Refugee Settlement and Integration Program will be hosting a series of **Art Therapy** for both **Refugee Claimants and Convention Refugees** this coming Winter.

The 6 sessions for Refugee Claimants will be offered in Spanish from 10:00AM to 11:30AM every Tuesday from November 8th to December 13th. (Zoom)

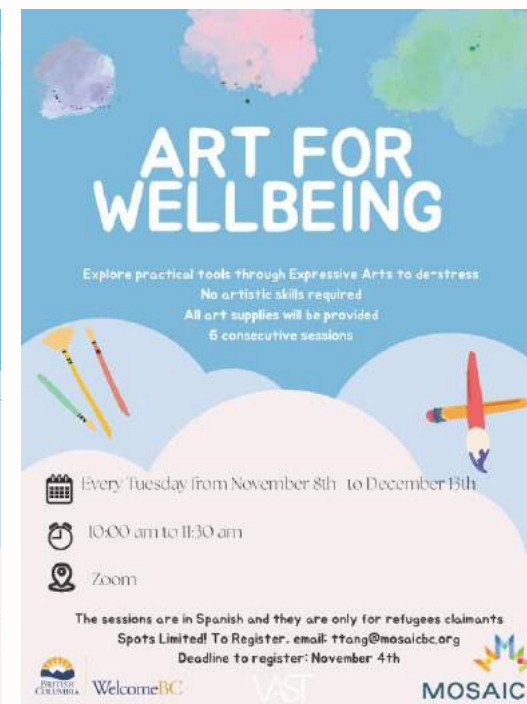
The 6 sessions for Convention Refugees will be offered in English from 12:00PM to 1:30PM every Tuesday from November 8th to December 13th. (Zoom)

Our facilitator will work with the participants to explore practical tools through expressive arts to de-stress.

No artistic skills are required, and all the art supplies will be provided.

The spots are limited. Please email ttang@mosaicbc.org to register.

Posters attached!



Settlement & Integration Program

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



ART SESSIONS FOR NEWCOMER CHILDREN AGE 7-12

FROM NOV 5 TO NOV 26
SATURDAYS, IN-PERSON
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM



At 4460 Beresford Street, South BNH

- This class is for newcomers children ages 7 to 12
- Weekly sessions to make friends by drawing and enjoying time
- Parent's participation is required

If interested please register now:

parisas@burnabynh.ca ; 236 878 6295

WWW.BURNABYNH.CA

The Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a Charitable Non-Profit Organization. We are a volunteer driven community-funded agency with a unique focus on Neighbours supporting Neighbours.

BNH Newcomer programs

see Posters attached

Settlement & Integration Program

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



Let's Chat Conversation Club



Come and join us to:

- Practice and improve your English
- Meet friends from different cultures
- Obtain information and resources
- Share your thoughts and talents

To register, please scan



Date: Every Wednesday,
Nov 2nd--- Dec 14th

Time: 1:30-3:00pm

Location: Online by Zoom

Or email:
daliq@burnabynh.ca

www.burnabynh.ca

Burnaby Neighbourhood House is a community driven and community funded agency located on the unceded territories of the Tsleil-Waututh (salilwataʔ), Kwikwetlem (k'ik'wəlam), Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw) and Musqueam (x'məɬk'əyám) 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

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



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Settlement & Integration Program

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LA CASITA-THE LITTLE HOUSE

Programa en español para padres con niños pequeños (1-3 años)

Program delivered in Spanish for parents with small children (1-3 years)



Sábados/Saturdays 10:00am - 11:00am

4460 Beresford Street, Burnaby (BNH South House)

Durante las sesiones, participantes podrán disfrutar de la narración de historias, actividades de danza y canto, show de títeres, manualidades y mucho más.

During the sessions, participants will enjoy story time, sing and dancing activities, puppets show, art & craft, and much more.

*El programa será guiado en español para motivar el desarrollo del lenguaje en los niños.

*The program will delivered in Spanish to encourage the development of language skills in the children.

October 29, November 12 & 26, and December 10, 2022

For more information or register, please email lauraj@burnabyhh.ca

Para mayor información o registro, mandar un email a lauraj@burnabyhh.ca

www.burnabyhh.ca

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Burnaby Neighbourhood House Newcomer programs

see Posters attached

Settlement & Integration Program

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



Conversation Circle (in-person)

Tuesdays 9:30am - 11:30am 4460 Beresford Street, Burnaby (BNH South House)



Do you want to improve your English language skills? Come and join us!

¿Quiere mejorar sus habilidades de comunicación en Inglés? ¡Regístrese y aprenda con nosotros!

- Friendly environment
Small group setting
Individualized support

- Ambiente amigable
Grupos pequeños
Apoyo individualizado

November 1 - December 13, 2022

For more information or register, please email lauraj@burnabyhh.ca

Para mayor información o registro, mandar un email a lauraj@burnabyhh.ca

www.burnabyhh.ca

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Thanks to Erin Goheen Glanville (Worn Words) and Ermin Badzak for this [8-minute film trailer](#).

<https://vimeo.com/762122884>

It's a call to amplify wellbeing, belonging, and dignity with refugee claimants, in response to what is heard and documented in [From Humanitarian to Human: Changing the Way We Welcome Refugee Claimants](#).

<https://kinbrace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Report-From-Humanitarian-to-Human-Changing-the-Way-We-Welcome-Refugee-Claimants-2021.pdf>

If you feel it's helpful, reference the film and the report in your grant applications to support your innovative, quality-rich project or program, drawing on one or more of the nine recommendations.

Warmly,

Loren Balisky (he/him)
Director of Engagement
Kinbrace

INVITATION TO REGISTER FOR IRCC BC-Yukon Fall 2022 Hybrid Summit
Momentum Into the Future: Supporting Transition Through Connection
November 30 & December 1, 2022 (2 pages)



Dear Settlement and Integration Service Providers and Programs,

The 2022 IRCC BC-Yukon Fall summit will provide space to share initiatives and ideas that foster human connection through collaboration and equitable partnerships. AMSSA would like to invite you to register for our online and hybrid portions of the Fall 2022 BC-Yukon Hybrid Summit.

Registration is open to all levels of staff from IRCC BC-Yukon funded settlement organizations, IRCC NHQ funded organizations, and other programs and organizations with interest in or related to settlement and integration.

Please click on the link below to register for the event. You will receive a confirmation email with instructions after registration:

[REGISTRATION](#)

Please Register by November 25th, 2022

For questions, please contact mwang@amssa.org or ideleon@amssa.org

About the Summit

Theme: Momentum into the Future: Supporting Transition Through Connection - see more information over



Theme: Momentum into the Future: Supporting Transition Through Connection

British Columbia's Settlement Sector is in a time of transition. After two long years of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are shifting towards a post-pandemic period of recovery. Following a rapid emergency response to support Ukrainian newcomers, we are now working to develop sustainable methods of settling and integrating all those fleeing crisis situations. This work follows closely on the heels of the Settlement Sector's special operations to welcome Afghani and Syrian refugees.

As we are embracing this period of transition and reimagining ways to assist newcomers and further improve service delivery, we hope to carry the momentum of these rapid emergency responses into the future.

Building on the work of the last few years, we hope these connections will allow the sector to best respond to the evolving needs of newcomers. The Summit will include a broad range of topics addressing the existing challenges being experienced by both newcomers and settlement workers, while also sharing solutions that can be developed to strengthen the sector's capacity and support the changing immigration landscape.

The Summit will focus on four key pillars:

- **Connections between SPO staff and newcomers** – discussions focused on providing support for newcomers
For example, this will include sessions centred on arrival supports for refugees, affordable housing solutions, and trauma-informed practice
- **Internal Connections** – conversations centred on internal organizational supports for SPOs
For example, this will include sessions focused on staff retention strategies and hybrid service delivery
- **Connections between SPOs** – dialogues centred on facilitating connections between the Sector
For example, this will include sessions focused on building connections and understanding between Francophone and non-Francophone organizations
- **Connections between Indigenous communities, SPOs, and newcomers**
Discussions about Truth, Reconciliation and Decolonization, and the connection with the Settlement Sector



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

A Burnaby Community Celebration

**Join us for a morning of learning & sharing resources for newcomers.
Lunch will be served!**

This half-day event is to celebrate the conclusion of two Burnaby-based research projects investigating the experiences of newcomers.

We'll explore the impacts of racism, stigma, social isolation, and how Burnaby is now focused on addressing communication barriers experienced by newcomers.

Live translation will be available! Please note, photos will be taken at this event.

Do you have a toddler who won't be in school that day?

Child care for ages 18 months to five years is available upon request.

Are you taking transit to the event?

Limited number of transit subsidies available. Rides will be also available upon request from the nearest bus stop to the Ismaili Centre.

NOVEMBER 3
9:00am - 1:00pm

Ismaili Centre, 4010 Canada Way, Burnaby

Learn more &
register to attend:
bit.ly/everyone-is-welcome



The Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table would like to invite you to attend

[Everyone is Welcome: A Burnaby Community Celebration](#)

November 3rd, 2022 9:00AM - 1:00PM @ Ismaili Centre, 4010 Canada Way, Burnaby.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

With presentations by the [Burnaby Primary Care Networks](#) and the [Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table](#), this event will explore issues of racism, stigma, social isolation, and how Burnaby is now focused on addressing communication barriers experienced by newcomers.

Arabic, Farsi, Mandarin, and Tigrinya live translation will be available!

Please note, photos will be taken at this event.

Registration for this event closes on Friday, October 28 – don't miss out!



Data on refugee claim recognition rates by RPD and RAD members for 2021 has now been released.

You can find the 2021 data here:

<https://refugeelab.ca/projects/refugee-law-data/>

As usual, there is lots of variation in recognition rates. At the RPD, the recognition rate range is from 0% (D Mungovan) to 100% (K. Bugby, D. Coyne & H Savage including). And at the RAD, the appeal allowal rate range is from 1.1% (L. Mokhtar) to 71.7% (J. Corry).

Also, I am excited to report that my Refugee Law Lab will soon be launching a web portal to share this sort of data in a more accessible format with better visualizations – and the portal will have constantly updated Federal Court data as well. If you'd like to see what the RPD portion of the portal currently looks like (and if you have any feedback for us), you can check out a video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNF4Sv8qlzw>

Finally, if you'd like to stay up to date about what the Refugee Law Lab is up to, you can join our email list here:

<https://crs1.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=41245>

SEAN REHAAG

Director, Centre for Refugee Studies (on sabbatical leave)

Director, Refugee Law Laboratory

Associate Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School

York University, Toronto, Canada



Refugee Research Network

**- RRN Research Digest -
October 20, 2022**

[View full notice in your browser](#)

[Read Digest on RRN website](#)

REPEATS

Impact North Shore Workshops available for Refugee Claimants for the week of October 24-28

REGISTRATION: For all events clients can email: office@impactnorthshore.ca or call us at 604-988-2931.

Parenting Teens Support Group

October 27th, 9:30-11:30 am- Online via Zoom

This is a monthly session for Mandarin-speaking parents for self-reflection and share experiences and challenges of parenting adolescents aged 13-19. This workshop covers topics such as supporting your children's physical and mental health, family communication skills, and stress and coping strategies.

North Vancouver City Fire Department: Tour and Safety Talk

October 27th, 10:00 am-12:00 pm- English

Join Impact North Shore for a tour of the North Van City Fire Department and a fire safety talk presented by the North Vancouver City Fire Prevention team. Discover tips on fire prevention and emergency preparedness and learn about fire department services and roles in the community. Bring your questions and participate in Q & A time. This workshop helps you learn about fire department services & role in the community, fire safety in the home, how to prevent a fire, what to do when there is a fire, and meet new people and practice English.



Impact North Shore Workshops available for Refugee Claimants for the week of Oct 24-28 continued



Employment Mentoring: Software Engineers

October 27th- 4:00-6:00 pm- Online via Zoom

Join this mentoring session if you worked as a software or computer engineer, programmer, or web developer in your first country, or are interested in learning about or working in this field. Learn about creating a resume, searching for a job, and preparing for a job interview in this field.

Mental Health and Immigration

October 31, 6:15-7:30 pm Online via Zoom- Farsi

Join this workshop to learn more about self-care, mental health, coping strategies, and relaxation techniques. This workshop covers general mental health and wellness information, how to maintain positive mental health during immigration, and strategies for self-care including mindfulness, stress management, and relaxation exercises.

REGISTRATION: For all events clients can email: office@impactnorthshore.ca or call us at 604-988-2931.

ANNOUNCEMENT from Rainbow Refugee



Erick Rodas is the newest addition to our Inland team. Erik has been supporting our members, especially the Spanish-speaking community members for a while and steps into this role with a wealth of experience and expertise.

Erick's time is split between Inland support (supporting LGBTQI+ refugee claimants who are submitting their claims in Canada) and volunteer coordinating at Rainbow Refugee.

Cagri Koçyigit is our full-time Inland Coordinator, with Erick working part-time in that capacity too.

We continue holding in-person walk-in times on Tuesdays 12 to 4pm. The best way to contact us is: inland@rainbowrefugee.ca

Announcement from SOS-ISSofBC

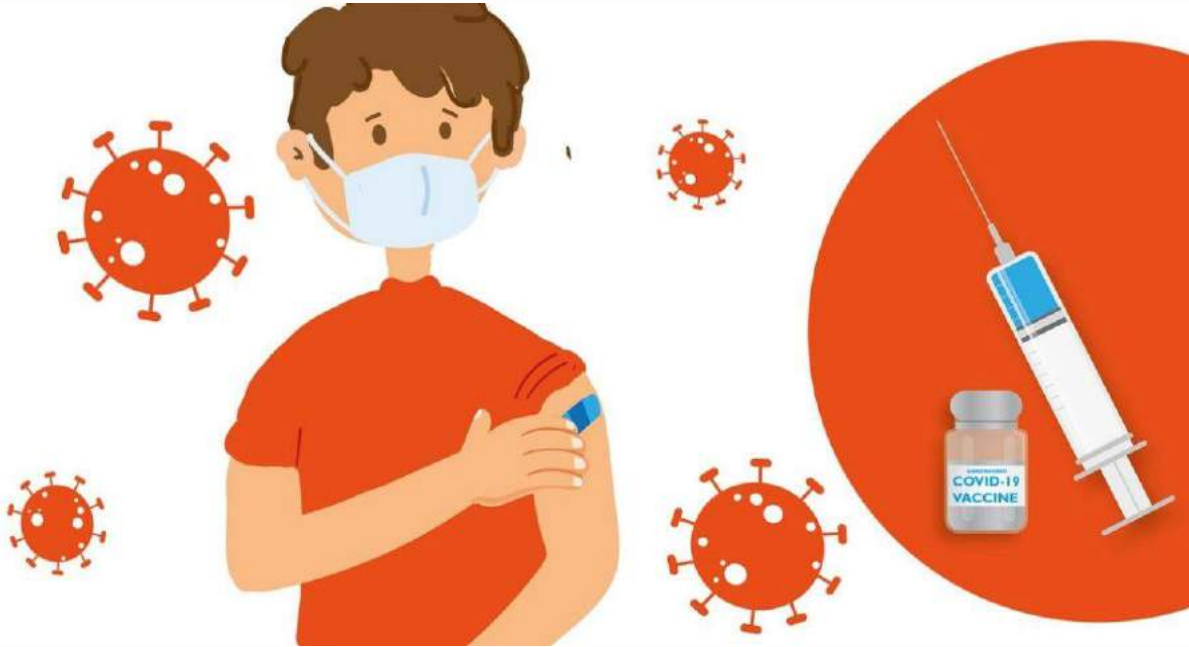


NEW staffing to help refugee claimants!

- 2 new housing search workers (Farsi and Spanish) were hired, and SOS has expanded the scope of the housing services beyond searching for the temporary shelters to long term housing options.
- Two SOS house search workers are now trained to use the BC CHRAMS data base system.
- 2 new Farsi speaking settlement workers are hired and hiring one Spanish SW is in process, to support the increasing demands for refugee claimant settlement services.

Mohsen Eslami

Manager: SOS-ISSofBC services for Refugee Claimants



COVID-19 Booster Dose Information and Resources

Recently, Health Canada shared a list of resources containing important, up-to-date information about COVID-19 booster doses.

Some of these resources may be helpful for your organization. To view them, click on the link below.

[See Resources in PDF link and Attached](#)

Thanks for this resource go to



Are you a LGBTQI+ refugee claimant looking for assistance with preparing for your hearing?

Here is a new resource developed in Ontario but relevant across the country:

[Queer Refugee Hearings Program](#) designed and supported by Capital Rainbow Refuge

This interactive toolkit is very helpful for claimants and service providers. Available in 4 languages

Please share widely

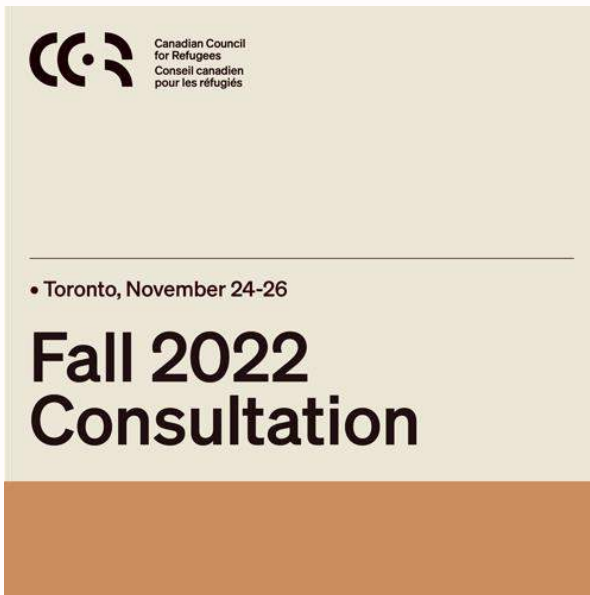
For more information, please contact Nicholas at herish@capitalrainbow.ca



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

Great news: because many of you asked for it, Early Bird rates for registration have been extended!
Early Bird registration rates for the CCR Fall 2022 Consultation are now ending on Monday, October 31!
Don't forget:

- The event will take place from **November 24-26**, including a Social event
- The [Human Trafficking Forum](#) will take place on Wednesday, November 23
- Registration Early Bird rates run until October 31:** [access the fee scale](#)
- Accommodation Early Bird rates run until October 17:** [hotel rooms at the Marriott Courtyard](#)



Event details

- View our [detailed program](#) (updated regularly)
- For assistance:** either with the registration process or to discuss reductions or group rates, please do not hesitate to email us at consultation@ccrweb.ca



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre for Migration Studies

CMS New Voices Speaker Series | Fall 2022

Event Dates:

November 7 & 28 | December 7

Time: 12:15 - 1:45 PM (PT)

Location: [Case Room, Liu Institute for Global Issues](#)

In-Person Events

**CMS New Voices
Speaker Series | Fall 2022**

Register to attend each event here:

Monday November 7 | [Aryan Karimi, UBC Sociology](#)
[Reconsidering the Origins of Assimilation Theories](#)

Monday November 28 | [Elif Sari, UBC Anthropology](#)

Details to be announced

Wednesday December 7 | [Jemima Baada, UBC Geography](#)
[Climate Change, Domestic and Foreign Investment, and Migration in Ghana](#)

British Columbia | October 2022

YOUR CENSUS NEWS UPDATES FROM STATISTICS CANADA

DATALENS



NEXT CENSUS RELEASE

Next Census release on October 26, 2022

- Immigration, place of birth, and citizenship
- Ethnocultural and religious diversity
- Mobility and migration

For more information about other releases, please click the following link: [2021 Census Release Dates](#)

UPCOMING WEBINAR

Statistics Canada is delighted to invite you to our **free** upcoming webinar.

2021 Census Webinar Series: Immigration, Ethnocultural & Religious Diversity, and Migration

The census webinar will provide you with key information including:

- Concepts and definitions;
- High-level national, provincial, and territorial findings; and
- Instructions on how to access data products and resources online

Following the presentation, Statistics Canada officials will be available to answer questions.

In English: November 2, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Eastern Time

Self-Register: [English Webinar on November 2, 2022](#)

MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin October 26, 2022