



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

# MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 151

December 14, 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](mailto:info@mapbc.org).

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### MAP NEWS

#### • **Gifts to those detained over the Holidays**

We would like to thank the **Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS)**, and especially their managers Devinder Chattha and Raminder Kang, for generously donating all the funds to cover the costs of the **gifts to those detained at the IHC** over the holidays.

With PICS' assistance we have been able to provide a journal to each person detained over these holidays as well as a pen donated by MOSAIC. Fran is writing the cards which she has provided and will drop off the gifts at the IHC this week.

Fran's card reads 'Thinking of you this holiday season' - the message we hope that the gift conveys: that there are folks that care and are committed to alleviating the loneliness and uncertainty of being in detention.

Thank you everyone for working together on this project and demonstrating your care.



#### • **MAP Strategic Planning – Meeting January 13, 2023**

As a MAP member you are warmly invited to attend the morning session on Friday January 13 (doors open 8:30 am) at Journey Home Community, 7175 Royal Oak Ave, Burnaby, BC V5J 4J3 (free parking). The Agenda is included in this bulletin. Lunch will be provided so if you wish to attend please respond to the Eventbrite invitation coming out this week. Your voice is important!

***Building a better MAP BC!***

- **The weekly bulletin will take a break until January 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure you get any time-sensitive notices in to [info@mapbc.org](mailto:info@mapbc.org) by January 3 midday to be included in the first edition of 2023. .**
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**Thank you** for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants  
Thanh Lam, Sireen El Nashar and Jenny Moss. MAP Executive

# MAP Strategic Planning Day January 13<sup>th</sup> at Journey Home Community.

## Tentative Agenda

Provided by HIP Strategic Planning



### **Morning: Membership, Partner Agencies, & Advisory Council (3 Hours)**

**Purpose:** Gather insights from the Membership in relation to the SOAR analysis that can inform the Advisory Committee to assist with decision making / prioritization

Present the results of the survey to ensure all voices heard

**Outcome:** Understand the perspective of the membership as a whole and what they see as the strengths, opportunities and aspirations for MAP BC. This foundational information will influence the Results and Goal discussion in the afternoon.

### **Afternoon : Advisory Council & Partner Agencies (3 hours)**

**Purpose:** Results discussion and establish top 5 goals & related objectives for the next 3 years.

This discussion will be reflective of what was learned / heard in the AM from the broader membership.

**Outcome:** Set a clear direction and goals / objectives to guide MAP BC in the next 3 years as they continue to grow and evolve. To provide a framework for MAP BC's Advisory Council to use in decision making and prioritization.



Dear stakeholders,

I am pleased to inform you that the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada's (IRB) [2021 to 2022 Departmental Results Report](#) was tabled in Parliament on December 2, 2022

During the 2021 to 2022 fiscal year, the Board implemented the third year of its **Growth and Transformation Agenda** and achieved notable results. We continued to grow our workforce to meet the Board's challenging operating context and increasing volume of cases. As a result, the Board achieved significant outcomes as it finalized about 70,000 cases across all four divisions. We also reduced case inventories and wait times to their lowest levels in years.

Of note:

- the **Refugee Protection Division** finalized more than 48,000 claims, the most ever in the Division's history;
- the **Refugee Appeal Division** finalized more than 11,000 appeals, the most in its history;
- the **Immigration Division** finalized 1,200 admissibility hearings, decreasing this inventory by 20%;
- the **Immigration Appeal Division** decreased its inventory by 24% by finalizing more than 3,100 appeals and also decreased its wait time for all appeals to 9 months; and
- the Board continued to accelerate its efforts to becoming a digital organization with the digitization of all new and existing case files across the four divisions.

Importantly, after extensive consultation with stakeholders, subject-matter experts, and IRB employees, the revised [Chairperson's Guideline 9: Proceedings Before the IRB Involving Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics \(SOGIESC\)](#) was published in December 2021. The Guideline promotes greater understanding of cases involving SOGIESC and the harm individuals may face due to their non-conformity with socially accepted SOGIESC norms in a particular cultural environment.

Substantial work was also completed on the revised [Chairperson's Guideline 4: Gender Considerations in Proceedings Before the IRB](#). Updates were concluded in fiscal year 2021-22 and the Guideline was published in July 2022 after the completion of Board-wide training. The revised Guideline includes a broadened gender-inclusive scope and is applicable to all divisions. It also incorporates the Board's already-established best practices and reflects expert advice, evidence-based developments in social science, and developments in law since Guideline 4 was first published in the 1990s.

The Board benefits from your on-going advice, collaboration and support, and I look forward to our continued cooperation. I encourage you to read the report and share this information with your membership.



Dear stakeholders,

The Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) is seeking candidates for full-time Governor in Council (GIC) appointed decision-makers ("members") for the Immigration Appeal Division and Refugee Appeal Division in Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, and Vancouver.

Interested candidates are invited to [apply online to become a Member at the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada](#) before the closing date. For additional information, please consult the following resources:

- [Video - Members of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada: Working for Canada](#)
- [How to apply](#)
- [Frequently asked questions about GIC Appointments and the online application systems](#)
- [Compensation, terms and conditions of employment for GICs](#)

The IRB is committed to fostering an inclusive organizational culture, with a workforce that reflects Canada's diversity. All candidates who believe they are qualified are encouraged to apply. This includes members of the four Employment Equity groups (women, Indigenous peoples, visible minorities/racialized persons, and persons with disabilities), as well as other equity seeking groups who may experience barriers based on factors that include race, ethnicity, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, religion or any other prohibited ground of discrimination under the [Canadian Human Rights Act](#). Preference may be given to applicants who self-identify as members of one or more of the four Employment Equity groups or other communities as outlined above.

Some member positions require bilingual proficiency. As such, bilingual proficiency may be considered in assessing applicants. Applicants are therefore encouraged to clearly indicate their second official language proficiency.

In addition, throughout the next three weeks, the IRB will be tweeting, posting, and sharing a series of messages to attract as many qualified candidates as possible. [Stay connected by following us on social media.](#)

Thank you

Paula Thompson, Deputy Chairperson, Refugee Appeal Division, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

Suzanne Gilbert, Deputy Chairperson, Immigration Appeal Division. Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

# News Highlights:

Refugee claimant-  
related articles from  
Canada and around the  
world.

December 14, 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:*

[The detention of migrants in Canadian jails is a public health emergency](#)

National Post

November 28

[Thousands assigned to inactive immigration officers and IDs. Are you one of them?](#)

CBC News

December 12

[A few countries take responsibility for most of the world's refugees; as a proportion of total population, Canada is not in the top ten](#)

Norwegian Refugee Council

June 29

[App launched to welcome newcomers to Lambton County](#)

Sarnia This Week

November 25

[Newcomers face 'alarming' discrimination in finding housing, report says](#)

Toronto Star

December 13, 2022

**PROGRAM  
Start Dates**

January 16, 2023

May 29, 2023

**Make a DIFFERENCE.**  
Help bridge the communication gap.

**Community and Healthcare Interpreter  
Training Program**

**INFORMATION  
SESSIONS**

**This program offers:**

- 11 weeks of online learning of employability and occupational skills training
- 12 weeks of work experience at an organization that matches the Participants interests and abilities (including peer mentorship and job search support)
- 2 weeks of follow-up support
- Possible living allowance provided

**Eligibility:**

- Must be referred by WorkBC\*
- EI Eligible: currently receiving EI or EI Reachback
- Earned more than \$2,000 in insurable earnings and paid EI premiums on those earnings in at least 5 of the last 10 years
- BCEA/BCEA-PWD clients
- Must have a LINC 7 or 8

**Earn certificates in:**

- Community, Healthcare and Mental Health Interpreting
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training
- Emergency First Aid /CPR Level C
- Basic Counselling - Statement of Completion

**DATES**

December 6, 7, 8, 12, 13,  
14, 19, 20 & 21

**TIME**

**Morning Session**  
10:00 - 11:30 am

**Afternoon Session**  
1:00 - 2:30 pm

For details, please  
contact the program:

**Email:**

[pblmt\\_3@options.bc.ca](mailto:pblmt_3@options.bc.ca)

**Phone:**

604-308-9116



This program is funded by the Government of Canada  
and the Province of British Columbia.

Dear Community Partners,

Please feel free to share with clients and volunteers:

**Do you want to start your career as a Community and Health Interpreter, but need to enhance your skills? Then this training program is for you!**

**Options Community Services has launched the Community and Health Interpreter training program to give you the know-how employers are looking for.**

**For more info, register for an upcoming info session! See the flyer attached.**





# Invisibles y Desechables

## DIA INTERNACIONAL DEL MIGRANTE

FECHA: Diciembre 18, 2022 de 3 PM A 7 PM

LUGAR: Collingwood Neighbourhood House (Gym). Localizado en:  
5288 Joyce St., Vancouver V5R 6C9

VENGA Y DISFRUTE DE:

POZOLE, PONCHE, RIFAS, REGALOS, JUEGOS Y BAILE.



Para mas informaci3 llame al: (778) 683-3419 || (604) 754-3419 || (778) 723-3419  
O escriba a: [info@dignidadmigrantesociety.org](mailto:info@dignidadmigrantesociety.org)

*Dignidad Migrante +  
Collingwood Neighbourhood House +  
Muslim Food Bank*

Invite you to an

**International Migrant Day Celebration** that  
DIGNIDAD Migrante, the Collingwood  
Neighbourhood House and the Muslim Food Bank  
are organizing this

- December 18, 3pm – 7pm
- at the Collingwood Neighbourhood House Gym

**Aprovechala!**







## Introducing our new website!

We've just launched the new [vancouverfoundation.ca](https://vancouverfoundation.ca) and invite you to come check it out

Be assured that you will continue to receive the same level of support from us. The new site does not affect any current grant applications or upcoming grant program timelines.

### What's new on our website

- Homepage is easier to navigate
- Mobile and tablet-friendly
- More [stories of funded projects](#)
- [All our grant programs on one page](#)
- Improved digital accessibility

[Visit the new  
vancouverfoundation.ca](https://vancouverfoundation.ca)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Centre for Migration Studies



**New episode of the Global Migration Podcast is now available:**

[Belonging in Unceded Territory](#)

Canada is lauded for its multiculturalism and being a welcoming host society to migrant newcomers. But discourses around settlement and integration tend to ignore the realities of Canada's status as a settler colonial state. What would it mean to take seriously the fact that these are Indigenous lands to which Canada has no right to offer welcome? Can practices of immigration and settlement be reconciled with the possibility of decolonization? These are the questions that brought together partners in Coast Salish territories – or, Vancouver, BC – for a multi-year research collaboration called "Belonging in Unceded Territory." With newcomer and Indigenous community members from [Frog Hollow Neighborhood House](#), [migration scholars from CMS](#), and staff from [Immigrant Services Society of BC](#) and the [Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC](#), space is being made for new narratives of belonging. What will they be?

Visit our [website](#) to tune in and discover other episodes!



## Call for Community Partner Projects: Information & Data Design Course

UBC's **INFO 300 (Information and Data Design)** course is looking for Community Partners to provide Community Engaged Learning projects for students.

**Description:** User experience (UX) is concerned with every aspect of the user's interaction with a product, service, or organization that make up the user's perceptions of the whole. UX design as a discipline encapsulates elements such as website design, applications design (desktop or mobile), interaction design, user research, and usability assessment of products or services.

In this course, undergraduate students will **learn the fundamentals of UX design and work on a major group project to apply the skills learned throughout the course**. The students' projects can be focused on a variety of topics/areas related to UX such as (but not limited to):

- Conducting user research to identify opportunities for re-design of a product or service;
- Designing a user interface prototype for a product or service based on a series of requirements;
- Conducting a usability evaluation of a product or service to identify current interaction pain points and propose design solutions to mitigate findings.

**Course timeline:** From January 9th, 2023 to April 14th, 2023.

**Engagement Details:** The community-engaged learning (CEL) model in this course is a **project-based engagement**. Students will meet with their partnering organization three to four times throughout the semester. Meetings will be held in person or virtually (whichever is preferred).

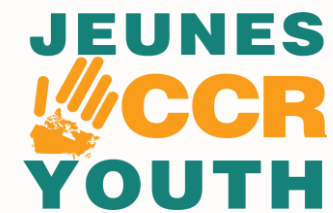
### What will students learn from this experience?

- 1.How to execute a UX project with an organization in our community
- 2.How to interact with different stakeholders from different milieus
- 3.How to recognize and account for the needs of a not-for-profit organization in their design practice; and 4) contribute to the life of a not-for-profit organization in our community.

For more information please contact St-Cyr, Olivier: [ostcyr@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:ostcyr@mail.ubc.ca).



Canadian Council  
for Refugees  
Conseil canadien  
pour les réfugiés



The CCR Youth Network (YN) is seeking 6-9 youth newcomers/refugees to join its Core Team for the year 2023-24. **Our Core Team consists of young refugees and newcomers from across Canada, ages 16-25, regardless of status.**

Each member takes on a specific role in collaborating virtually to plan in-person and online initiatives on issues youth newcomers care about! These initiatives include [webinars](#), workshops, campaigns, [Youth Action Gatherings](#), CCR events, and [much more](#).

By being part of the core team, youth will be provided the opportunity to:

- Influence the future directions of the Youth Network and the CCR in policy and government relations.
- Work with Core Team members to plan the '23 Youth Action Gathering, participate in CCR events and create additional Youth Network initiatives.
- Travel to in-person events (happening throughout the year) such as Core Team retreats, the CCR Consultation and meetings, and the Youth Action Gathering
- Develop leadership, organizational, facilitation, and public speaking skills.
- Bring the voice of your community into policy related conversations.
- Stay up to date with immigration and settlement policies.
- Network with CCR members, academics, policy makers, advocates and mentors.

### **Application process**

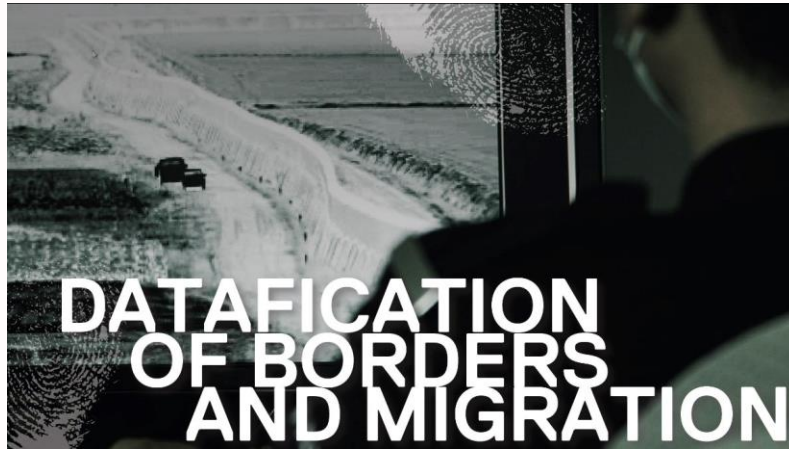
The CCR encourages applications from refugees, immigrants, people of color, Indigenous people, those with disabilities, and LGBTQIA+ people. Do you work with or know of youth that would be interested in this volunteer position? Share this opportunity and encourage them to **apply online before January 16, 2023!**

If you have any questions or need any accommodation, please email: Shilik Hamad, Youth Network Coordinator at [shamad@ccrweb.ca](mailto:shamad@ccrweb.ca).

Follow us on Instagram for more updates about the Youth Network at: @CCRYouthNetwork

Issue: December 2022 –

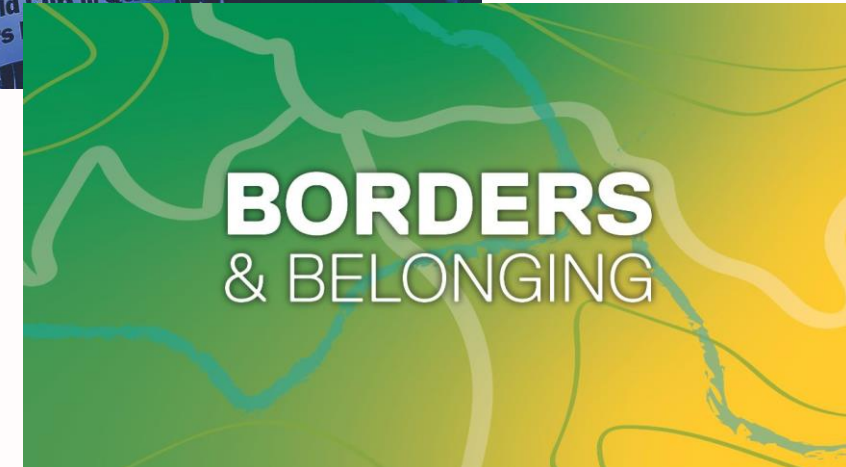
READ THIS IN YOUR BROWSER



WORKING PAPERS

Immigration policy 'on the fly':  
A critical review of pandemic policymaking in Canada

Maggie Perzyna, Marshia Akbar, Claire Ellis, Stein Monteiro,  
Lucia Naibandian & Craig Darrien Smith  
Working Paper No. 2022/13  
November 2022



And much, much more!

## REPEATS

The Child and Youth Refugee Research Coalition (CYRRC) is pleased to share our new **podcast mini-series, *The Refuge: Policy Matters***. This three-episode series features discussions between policy makers, academics, community partners and people with lived experience about how to better support children, youth, and families with refugee experience in Canada. The episodes cover the following three themes:

- How to foster collaboration between policy makers, academics, and community
- School supports for children and youth with refugee experience
- How to help newcomers feel a sense of belonging in their new communities

Each episode has an accompanying policy brief with recommendations supported by evidence and lived experience.

We hope that these materials may help to inform your research and services for newcomers and to advocate for policy changes that will benefit newcomers to Canada. We would be very grateful if you would also share these materials within your organization and your networks.

The policy briefs and the podcast episodes can be found on our [website \(https://cyrrc.org/the-refuge/\)](https://cyrrc.org/the-refuge/). The episodes can also be found on [YouTube](#) or on any podcast streaming service by searching "The Refuge CYRRC".

About Us: The Child and Youth Refugee Research Coalition (CYRRC) is a national network of academics, community partners, and government agencies committed to promoting the integration of refugee youth and their families in Canada. We are funded by a 2.5M Partnership Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and have carried out more than 80 studies in the past five years.

# DATALENS

## CANADA LEADS THE G7 FOR THE MOST EDUCATED WORKFORCE, THANKS TO IMMIGRANTS, YOUNG ADULTS AND A STRONG COLLEGE SECTOR, BUT IS EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT LOSSES IN APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATE HOLDERS IN KEY TRADES

Leveraging these credentials is important [as more of the population nears retirement age](#). Moreover, Canada faces a labour crunch, with [high employment](#), [record-low unemployment](#) and [record-high job vacancies](#). Capitalizing on our highly educated population is key to ensuring that Canada has enough trained workers to fill the spaces left by retirements..... [Read more](#)

## JOBS IN CANADA: NAVIGATING CHANGING LOCAL LABOUR MARKETS

Over several decades, the Canadian labour force has been shaped by many long-term demographic and social trends. The aging of the baby boom generation has contributed directly to declines in the proportion of adults participating in the labour force, raising questions about the future supply of labour and living standards. Given the need to ensure that there are enough workers with the right skills to fill the spaces left by retirements, education has played an increasingly important role in shaping employment opportunities, especially for higher-paying jobs.....[Read more](#)



## HAS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CHANGED COMMUTING PATTERNS FOR GOOD?

Pandemic lockdowns and changes in how and where Canadians work during the pandemic alter the face of commuting in Canada in 2021.

Just over 2.8 million fewer Canadians were usually commuting in May 2021 than in May 2016. This includes just under 1.7 million fewer people travelling to work mainly by car, close to 1 million fewer usually taking public transit and 289,000 fewer usually walking or cycling to work....[Read more](#)

[Infographic: Going to college after finishing a degree](#)

[Infographic: Commuting in Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic: What changed from 2016 to 2021?](#)

Click [here](#) for more [analytical products](#), 2021 Census





# Refugee Research Network

## - RRN Research Digest - December 1, 2022

[View full notice in your browser](#)

[Read Digest on RRN website](#)