



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 161

March 15, 2023

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 March 23 – ISSofBC Welcome Centre**

You are invited to attend the monthly meeting of MAP BC on Thursday March 27 at 9:30 am
ISSofBC Welcome Centre – 2610 Victoria Drive, Vancouver upstairs classrooms

Presentation: MSDPR: "Financial Supports for Refugee Claimants"

The Ministry's Community Integration Specialists will present the services available and address your questions.
Watch for the full Agenda coming out tomorrow!

THANK YOU!

To the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) and especially Joni Rose, for funding MAP via the BC CHARMS project for the past 3 years! Your guidance, wisdom and also your listening ear has been most appreciated. Although this phase comes to an end March 31st, we look forward to future collaboration and mutual support.

On behalf of the

MAP Executive and Advisory Council

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

Thanh Lam, Sireen El Nashar and Jenny Moss. MAP Executive



Dear stakeholders,

I am pleased to inform you that the [2023-24 Departmental Plan](#) was tabled in Parliament on March 9, 2023. The Departmental Plan presents the Board's priorities, planned results and associated resource requirements, including key risks related to achieving those results. It also outlines how the Board will continue to deliver on its commitment to access to justice for those who appear before the Board while maintaining public confidence.

Budget 2022 provided the Board with permanent funding of \$150 million annually, starting in 2023-24, and 2 years of top-up investments totalling \$87 million. With this funding, in 2023-24 the Board will continue to:

- implement its multi-year Growth and Transformation Agenda, maintain access to justice and become an increasingly high-performing, fully digital and healthy organization;
- recruit, train and support decision-makers and employees supporting adjudication to meet its performance targets across all divisions, including deciding up to 52,500 refugee protection claims and up to 14,000 refugee appeals;
- build on the quality assurance measures already in place as guided by its [Quality Assurance Framework](#);
- implement its Information Management Strategy, which builds on previous technological investments made in response to the pandemic;
- work with IRCC, the CBSA and central agencies to deal with the growing inventory and wait times to improve access to justice, and better support Canada's refugee determination system;
- renew its Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan to create an environment where all employees contribute to the success of the organization, implement its *Strategy for Psychological Safety and Mental Health in the IRB Workplace* and launch its *2023-2025 Accessibility Plan* to remove barriers for people with disabilities.

I encourage you to read the Departmental Plan for more detail on the Board's strategic priorities for the coming fiscal year. I count on your continued collaboration as we deliver an effective refugee and immigration determination system for those who appear before the Board.

Please share this message with your membership as you deem appropriate.

Richard Wex, Chairperson, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada



Applications still open!

Please spread the word

GROWING ROOTS: Art for belonging

Are you a refugee claimant? Are you interested in getting to know more about this land and its history?

If so, perhaps you'd like to be part of an art project that will take place this Spring. Please fill this Registration Form by **March 15th**. This project is funded by [The Only Animal](#), an organization that creates immersive art work that arises from a deep engagement with place - focused on climate change.

We are forming a group of refugee claimants with whom we'd like to explore and get to know local trees, through art-making. We'll also be learning about the challenges facing us with climate change, and about the indigenous people who are the original stewards of this land. No art experience required !

First two sessions will be Sundays March 19 and 26 with proposed following dates April 30, May 7, May 28, June 9, June 10. Please note that attendance at all 8 sessions will be expected. A small honorarium payment will be provided in return for your participation.

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

Questions?

Contact Mohammed Zaqout
Achieving Financial Mobility
Coordinator
604-255-9691
604-446-4431



MOSAIC's Employment Specialist, Justine Kowal, is pleased to be able to hold an Interview Skills Workshop for all interested clients on Thursday, March 23rd at our Boundary Head office location.

Poster also attached



Interview Skills Workshop

**Are you ready for job interviews?
Do you need some interview practise?**

Join this workshop to learn about:

- Different types of job interviews
- How to prepare for a job interview
- Common interview questions from employers
- Questions you can ask during an interview

Date: Thursday March 23
Time: 10:00AM - 12:00PM
Location: 5575 Boundary Rd., Vancouver

*Bring a laptop if you wish (or you may borrow one)

**To register email Justine:
jkowal@mosaicbc.org**



WelcomeBC



MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin March 15, 2023





Workshop Highlights

ایمپکت نورت شور از شما دعوت میکند در جلسه اطلاعاتی رایگان که برای تازه واردین برگزار می شود شرکت فرمائید. این جلسه به زبان فارسی برگزار میشود و شما با خدمات موجود در کانادا و بریتیش کلمبیا آشنا خواهید شد.

این جلسه حاوی اطلاعات زیر می باشد:

- خدمات درمان از جمله

(IFHP, MSP, BC Services Card)

- خدمات آموزشی

- خدمات کارایی

- حقوق و مزایای فرزندان

For more information and to register contact:
Front Desk, office@impactnorthshore.ca or
604-988-2931

Newcomer Information Session

جلسه توجیهی برای مهاجرین تازه
وارد به زبان فارسی

Wednesday, April 5
6:00pm – 7:30pm

This no-cost information session will help you and your family to understand and connect to the services available on the North Shore as well as in Canada.

Details:

This workshop will be presented in Farsi.

This workshop is open to newcomers and immigrants.

Online via Zoom

Details provided after registration.

This program is government funded and free of charge.



WelcomeBC

IMPACT NORTH SHORE is hosting Sara Rahnama on **April 5th from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm** to inform clients who are refugee claimants about their claim process, educational and employment services, medical services, and child benefits.

The flyer for this workshop, which will be held in Farsi (Persian), is attached. I would appreciate it if you could kindly promote it in the next MAP Bulletin.

Best regards,

Shiva Babu

Settlement Worker

Impact North Shore

207 - 123 East 15th Street, North Vancouver

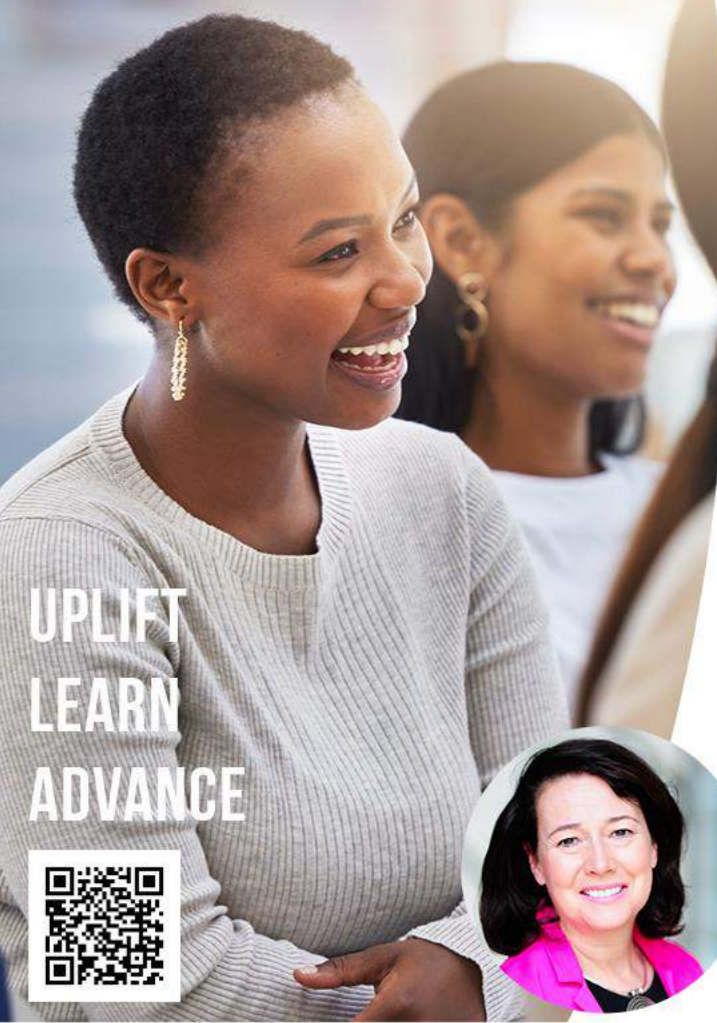
BC Canada V7L 2P7

604 988 2931 ext. 246

www.ImpactNorthShore.ca

Poster also attached

FREE



UPLIFT
LEARN
ADVANCE



REGISTER: [DCRS.CA/WOMEN](https://dcrs.ca/women)



WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP FORUM

TUESDAY
MARCH 28, 2023
10 AM – 2 PM

ANVIL CENTRE
777 COLUMBIA ST.
(NEAR NEW WESTMINSTER
SKYTRAIN STATION)

DIVERSETALKS PANEL ON
“ADVANCING WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP”
INTERACTIVE GROUP ACTIVITIES
LAUGHTER YOGA & ARTISTIC MIND MAP
NETWORKING & LIGHT LUNCH



WITH WELCOME REMARKS FROM HER HONOUR,
THE HONOURABLE JANET AUSTIN, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BC

You're invited to the DIVERSEcity X Minerva Women's Leadership Forum

When and where

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

10 am – 2 pm

Anvil Centre (777 Columbia Street, New Westminister,
BC)

Parking off Eighth Street; close to New Westminister
SkyTrain Station

Register

Register today via Eventbrite! Limited spots
available. [https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/diversecity-x-
minerva-womens-leadership-forum-tickets-](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/diversecity-x-minerva-womens-leadership-forum-tickets-570009472677)

[570009472677](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/diversecity-x-minerva-womens-leadership-forum-tickets-570009472677)

[Learn more](#)

SPONSORED BY:



CALL FOR CITY OF VANCOUVER 2023 CORE SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATIONS

Core Support Grants (CSG)

Core Support Grants provide funding that addresses inequity and mitigates conditions that create vulnerability for residents of Vancouver

NOTE: If your organization applied for a CSG in the fall of 2022 and it is awarded a grant at the March 28, 2023 Council meeting, please wait until the fall of 2023 to make any new applications.

Application Deadline: Friday, April 21, 2023 at 4:30 PM.

Find Out More [HERE](#) and in the **Attached Notices**

Watch a 20 Minute Video with Tips on Using VanApply (the City's online grant application system) for a CSG Grant [HERE](#)

Contact Info:
socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca

Information Sessions

An online info session will provide an opportunity for applicants to learn more about the Core Support Grants and ask questions:

Please join us: **Thursday, March 30, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**
Register by emailing socialpolicygrants@vancouver.ca

Social Policy Grant Team
Art, Culture & Community Services
City of Vancouver

- [Expanded Services at Whalley UPCC](#)
- Delta Early Childhood Education Program | [Register for Free Info Session](#)
- [Surrey Seniors Programs and Services](#)

Organizational Supports

- *March 16 Webinar: Preparing for Year-end Audits* | [Register](#)
- *March 21 Webinar: Welcoming and Supporting Older Refugees to Canadian Communities* | [Register](#)
- *March 21 Webinar: BC Housing Programs and Services* | [Register](#)
- *April 11 Webinar: FNIM Children's Health and Wellbeing Assessment App* | [Register](#)
- *April 13 Webinar: How to Lead Organizations and People with Resilience* | [Register](#)

Client Supports

- Free Virtual Tax Basics Workshops | [Registration](#)
- Webinar: [Understanding, Supporting and Connecting with Teens with Depression](#)
- Webinar: [A Conversation for Families About Digital Wellbeing and Mental Health](#)
- Research Study: [Advancing Virtual Primary Care for People With Opioid Use Disorder](#)
- Cold & Flu Information For Caregivers:
 - Video Series: [Dr. Yvette Lu Discusses Children's Cold & Flu](#)
 - [Children's Fever and Pain Medication Info Sheet](#)
 - [When to Bring Your Child to the ER](#)

Poster attached also



Application for Canadian Permanent Residency

Pathways to Permanent Residency for International Students

Would you like to extend your stay in Canada upon graduation?

- Join this workshop to learn about your options from an Immigration attorney
- Use the opportunity to ask your questions!

Date: **Thursday March 30th**
Time: **4:30PM - 6PM**
Location: **VIRTUAL**

Guest Speaker: Prabhpreet K. Sangha - Immigration Attorney

To register email Rayehe:
raghili@mosaicbc.org



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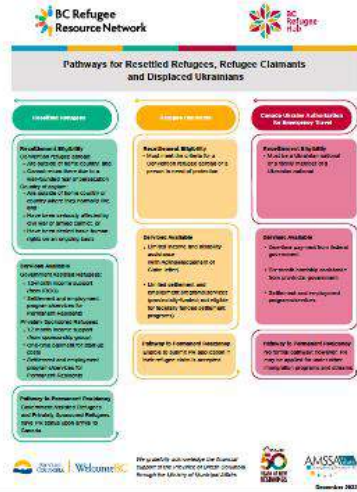
SEEKING REFUGE

AMSSA's BC Refugee Resource Network Bulletin

Pathways for Resettled Refugees, Refugee Claimants and Displaced Ukrainians Info Sheet

AMSSA's BC Refugee Resource Network initiative has developed the [Pathways for Resettled Refugees, Refugee Claimants and Displaced Ukrainians Info Sheet](#) to support understanding of these three categories in comparison to one another. The Pathways Info Sheet summarizes the key differences between CUAET, resettled refugees and refugee claimants, including entry to Canada, supports available upon arrival and how each gain permanent residency in Canada. This resource is intended to be a quick reference for anyone supporting newcomers arriving in Canada, with a stand-alone one-page summary that can be used on its own.

To download the Pathways Info Sheet, [click here](#):



AMSSA would like your feedback on this Pathways infosheet for possible updates as the situation changes and the development of future resources. Please take the time to [fill out this short feedback survey](#).

PS MAP did provide early input to the refugee claimant information included.



Hi ,

Starting March 10, Vancouver Foundation is **piloting a flexible four-day work week where we will be open for longer hours Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday**. Our core office hours will be 8:00am – 4:30pm and individual employees may start and end their days a little earlier or later.

Throughout the pilot, which ends in September, we are committed to providing the same level of service to you and to communities throughout BC. **Online resources for donors and grant-seekers will continue to be available 24/7.**

This means if you have a fund with us, **you can access information about your fund through [The Hub](#) 24/7**. And if you're applying for a grant or want to check on a grant application you've submitted, **our [grant application system](#) will also be available to you 24/7.**



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

As is our mission, we keep advocating for respect for the rights and dignity of all those seeking Canada's protection. This translates into publicly reminding the Government of their obligation as a [signatory to the Convention on the Status of Refugees](#) with regards to the situation happening at Roxham Road (QC).

The CCR put out a statement reaffirming Canada's duty to protect people fleeing persecution as well as to give a broader view into the barriers faced by many to access regular channels:

- Canada **has legal obligations** towards refugees at our borders
- The USA **is not safe** for all refugees
- Canada is receiving **only a small number** of the world's displaced people
- People use irregular channels because **Canada blocks regular channels**
- All levels of government should **respect the dignity** of refugee claimants and **provide basic support**

[Read the statement on Roxham Roads crossings here](#)



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

We're happy to invite you to a webinar on **Supporting refugee claimant arrivals: updates and resources for an evolving situation**, on Wednesday, March 29.

Increased numbers of refugee claimant arrivals and quickly changing government processes have created difficulties for settlement and legal service providers.

Join this webinar, to:

- Receive an update on the current situation of refugee claimant arrivals to Canada, including the provision of federally funded accommodations.
- Be presented with a resource tool to help service providers and legal professionals stay up to date on evolving front-end processes for claimants.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided to accommodate French and English speakers.

This webinar is open to both CCR members and non-members, please share in your networks!

When: Wednesday, March 29 starting at
11:00am Pacific

The meeting will last 90 mins

If you have questions in advance of the meeting, please contact Sophie Zala Kanza at szalakanza@ccrweb.ca.

REGISTER

Hello all,

I'm hoping you might be interested in completing and sharing this survey with colleagues and sector folks in your networks. We're hoping to get it out there widely. We're interested in hearing from all folks and organizations that work with Newcomers. Not just IRCC- or even formally-funded organizations. If you work to serve and support Newcomers (including those with temporary or no status), we want to hear from you.

Back in 2020 when the sector pivoted to online/remote services we sent out a sector survey to gauge how everyone was doing. My research partner and I are sending out a follow-up survey and I was hoping you could distribute it within your organization, with community partners, on your social media, and in your newsletter. Below is a long message, but [you can also find more messages to copy and paste to share the survey in your newsletters, emails, or on social media here.](#)

Three years ago [Jennifer Chan and I surveyed the Canadian immigrant and refugee-serving sector during the first month of working remotely as a result of COVID-19.](#) We are again interested in how you are doing, both individually and organizationally.

I'm hoping you can take 10-15 minutes to [complete this follow-up survey](#), as well as share it with your colleagues and co-workers, and with your networks.

Why it matters

It's been 3 years since we all suddenly had to switch to remote and digital work. We've learned a lot in the past 3 years. We're heading in a different direction as an Immigrant and Refugee-serving sector, moving increasingly towards hybrid service delivery. We have witnessed our sector adapt quickly and often without formal resources/support to being able to offer remote services, then grapple with the back and forth of re-opening and now transitioning to various levels of hybrid services and hybrid work. The nonprofit sector is reporting a higher rate of burnout and stress than ever before.

[Tell us how you're doing.](#) *By filling out this national survey you will help the sector and funders:*

- * Understand how the shift to hybrid service delivery and hybrid work models are going across the sector and what folks need;
- * Get a sense of sector and frontline well-being; and
- * Understand differences between frontline and leadership perspectives

[Fill out the COVID & Canada's Settlement Sector Follow-up Survey by April 7, 2023.](#)

The primary research team is made up of Jennifer Chan from the Department of Imaginary Affairs and me! We are working collaboratively to understand the current shifts being made in the delivery of settlement services and what has changed since the beginning of the pandemic to now.

Thank you - Marco



CMS SPRING SPEAKER SERIES

DECOLONIZING MIGRATION

Broken Angel
Film Screening + Filmmaker Q&A



Jules Arita Koostachin | March 23

PhD, UBC Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice; poet & filmmaker

Thursday, March 23
6:00 - 8:30 pm
Choi Building, Room 120



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Centre for Migration Studies

Broken Angel
Film Screening + Filmmaker Q&A
with **Jules Arita Koostachin**

Thursday, March 23
6:00 - 8:30 pm
Choi Building, Room 120

Join us for a screening of the feature film, [Broken Angel](#), written and directed by Cree filmmaker and poet, [Jules Arita Koostachin](#) (PhD, UBC Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice). Dr. Koostachin will be in attendance for an engaging Q&A after the film, moderated by CMS Affiliate and scholar of new media, [Elizabeth "Biz" Nijdam](#) (UBC Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies). This is the third event in our Spring Speaker Series, *Decolonizing Migration*.

You can find a trailer and synopsis for the film [here](#), as well as more info about [Dr. Koostachin](#).

Please RSVP [here](#).



REPEATS

WELCOME - We've saved a seat for you at The Welcome Table.

Our 2023 Spring Gala - Thursday, May 11
Royal Palace Banquet Hall (7485 Edmonds Street, Burnaby).



Join us at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$95 or purchase a table for \$760.

Around our shared tables, you will enter the story by hearing, what does it mean for refugees to leave behind all they have known, flee from danger, and begin to build a new life in a new country?

Our evening together will feature refugees sharing their journeys, live music, an amazing feast, and a keynote speaker. We're also planning a few fun fundraising activities, like a dessert auction and a balloon game.

At Journey Home Community, our vision is to see a society where all refugees experience hope and belonging. Funds raised this evening will be used throughout the year to welcome refugee claimants, then provide housing, settlement support, and community while journeying with them during their initial months in Canada.

Journey Home Community's Spring Gala is a unique opportunity for you to align with a charity and event dedicated to walking alongside refugee claimant families at the time they need it the most.

Journey Home Community's Spring Gala is a unique opportunity for you to align with a charity and event dedicated to walking alongside refugee claimant families at the time they need it the most.

[Purchase your tickets today](#)



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

Save the date

Thursday, November 16 to Saturday, November 18 in Calgary

Venue

The Best Western Premier Calgary Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre

Registration

Registration will open at the latest during the Summer

Stay tuned!

Over the next months, we will provide you with various updates.

All the updates will be available on the [event website](#) and well as on the [CCR website](#)!

Have a great day!



Call for proposals: WhereWeStand

DEADLINE: Mar. 22, 2023



WhereWeStand is a multimedia storytelling collaboration that brings together a **cohort of Indigenous peoples and newcomers** to co-create expressions of identity on the colonial construct of Canada, situated on Turtle Island. The project will pair an Indigenous participant with a newcomer participant and support their process towards creating a story that will be widely shared with a public audience. This may include dance, music, film, theatre, installation or other forms of expression.

Open to undergraduate and graduate students from all Canadian universities, **WhereWeStand** is seeking participants who: 1. are interested in a multimedia storytelling collaboration with another participant; 2. are open to learning at an accelerated pace; 3. are available to engage in the project between **May 2023 and August 2023**; and 4. identify as an Indigenous person living on Turtle Island, or a newcomer to Canada. The program will be delivered in a hybrid format (virtually and in-person) as per the cohort needs, where possible.

Participants will retain full ownership of their final collaborative creations. Upon completion of the project, each participant will receive a \$500 honorarium.

Experience in creating any form of media is welcomed but not required. Applicants are invited to apply individually and will be paired upon selection. Applicants who wish to apply as a pair are encouraged to do so, but they are still required to submit individual applications indicating and explaining their reasons for their pairing.

Application deadline: Mar. 22, 2023 at 11 PM local times.

[Application Details and Form](#)

Building Connections

An Interactive Resource Fair for Refugee Claimants

A great opportunity for refugee claimants to connect with the community!

Join us for free refreshments and learn about resources available to you!



April 1st
4pm - 6:30 pm

Free to attend!

Learn more about

- Housing
- Health & Wellness
- Legal Advice
- Financial Advice
- Employment
- Food Security

Hosted by MAP BC



Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
800 E Broadway, Vancouver

Near the Skytrain and on the #99 bus route

Posters attached also!
AND available from
info@mapbc.org



نمایش گاه رهنمودی
برای متقاضیان
پناهنده گی تازه وارد!

تامین ارتباطات

فرصت عالی برای پناهنده گان تازه وارد، به منظور برقراری روابط با جامعه میزبان و آگاهی یافتن از منابع و خدمات جاری برای پناهنده گان

این مراسم تنها به آن عده از پناهنده گانی برگزار می شود که به تازه گی وارد شهرهای ایالت بریتیش کلمبیا شده اند.

برای صرف تنقلات (خوراکی های مختصر) و کسب آگاهی درباره امکانات موجود برای پناهنده گان تازه وارد، با ما همراه شوید.

در باره موارد زیر آگاه شوید:
تهیه مسکن

- سلامت و بهداشت
- مشورت های حقوقی
- مشورت های مالی
- کاریابی و استخدام
- تامین امنیت غذایی

زمان : اول اپریل
۲۰۲۳ - ساعت ۴ تا
۶:۳۰ بعد از ظهر

محل برگزاری نمایش گاه :

Mount Pleasant Neighborhood House
800 E Broadway, Vancouver



MAP (Multi-Agency Partnership) Bulletin March 15, 2023

April 1st, 4pm – 6:30 pm

Just drop in!

Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
800 East Broadway, Vancouver

Construyendo Comunidades

Una feria de recursos interactivos para solicitantes de refugio.

Una gran oportunidad para que solicitantes de refugio se conecten con la comunidad

Acompáñenos para disfrutar de refrigerios gratuitos y conocer los recursos disponibles para usted.

Aprenda mas sobre:

- Alojamiento
- Salud y bienestar
- Consejo legal
- Consejo financiera
- Empleo
- Banco de Alimentos

1o de abril
4p-6:30p

Entrada gratis!

Sirve como anfitrión:

Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
800 E Broadway, Vancouver

Cerca del Skytrain y en la ruta del autobus #99

