



MAP Multi-Agency
Partnership BC
Working Together for Refugee Claimants

MAP Member Agency News

MAP Bulletin # 18

June 7, 2023

Dear MAP members,

How are you doing? Surviving the pandemic and the many upheavals in the refugee claimant sector this is a question we will keep on asking, while providing support through 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!

**You are invited to attend our World Refugee Day event:
The Right to Seek Safety: Is Canada Failing Refugee Claimants?**

June 20th marks [World Refugee Day](#), a day that honours the people who have been forced to flee their home countries to seek safety for themselves and their families elsewhere. Historically, Canada has welcomed refugees and given opportunities for those who seek to start a new life free from fear and persecution.

Today there are over 100 million refugees and forcibly displaced persons worldwide, and an urgent debate is happening over Canada's recent expansion of the "**Safe Third Country Agreement**" (STCA) with the United States.

Many experts and advocates argue that the implications of the STCA are severe: Canada is closing its border to countless refugee claimants arriving by land. So is Canada shirking its humanitarian responsibilities?

Join us for a lunchtime event where we'll feature **stories of resilience** from refugees who journeyed to Canada by land, a **musical performance** by refugee musicians, and a panel conversation on the current controversy over the STCA featuring the following speakers:

- [Aleks Dughman-Manzur](#), President of Canadian Council for Refugees
- [Amanda Aziz](#), Staff Lawyer with Migrant Workers Centre BC
- [Olamide Olaniyan](#), Associate Editor at The Tyee



*Thank you for all you are doing to support vulnerable refugee claimants
Thank Lam, Sireen El Nashar and Katya Avalos, MAP Executive*

News highlights:

Refugee claimant- related articles from Canada and around the world

May 2023

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

*Thanks to **Barry Growe** from Journey Home for his research and compilation!*

- **Canada and the US have turned back the clock on refugee protection**
Ottawa Citizen
- **Some 'refugees' have found a way to exploit Canada's generous immigration system**
National Post
- **Canada is reuniting loved ones through new immigration measures**
Government of Canada
- **Province tabs \$4M for newcomer support groups**
Winnipeg Free Press
- **Parliamentary committee calls for modernized Safe Third Country agreement**
City News
- **Massive increase in migrants crossing the Channel to UK in small boats**
The Express



Canadian Council
for Refugees
Conseil canadien
pour les réfugiés

You are cordially invited to join us at our virtual World Refugee Day event.

Date: June 19th

Time: 2 pm ET / 11 am PT

Location: Virtual on Airmeeet

As World Refugee Day approaches, [Jumpstart Refugee Talent](#) and [New Canadians TV Network](#) have organized an exciting event for you: **Refuge(E)xpo - A Celebration of Culture and Creativity!**

Join us to experience a unique expo featuring refugee businesses, authors, artists, and community organizations supporting newcomers. Engage in insightful panels with renowned refugee authors and inspiring refugee advocates among others.

By attending all panels and workshops, you stand a chance to win prizes and receive virtual goodie bags. Enjoy a captivating live music performance and an interactive afrobeat dance exercise. Connect with refugee entrepreneurs and network with various community organizations.

To learn more and register for this exciting event, please follow [this link](#).

We eagerly anticipate your presence at the event. If you are unable to attend, kindly support us by sharing this invitation with your peers and network.

For questions, please contact elie.bahhadi@jumpstartrefugee.ca





SOUTH VANCOUVER NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

6470 Victoria Dr., Vancouver, BC V5P 3X7 ph: 604-324-6212 fax: 604-324-6116 website: www.southvan.org

Welcome Bienvenue Chào mừng Quý Vị c ̣ S T S o ̣ Bienvenidos □□□□□

Facilities Coordinator

(Internal/External)

Posting Period: June 5, 2023 to June 23, 2023

South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (SVNH) is located on the unceded, occupied, ancestral and traditional homelands of the x̣ṃəθḳẉəỵəm (Musqueam), Sḳẉẉụ7̣mesh (Squamish) and Saḷiḷẉ ̣aṭaʔ/Seḷiḷẉiṭuh (TsleiḷWauṭuh) Nations. We recognize the vast cultural diversity of Indigenous people and acknowledge the heterogeneity of their opinions, representation, needs and desires. We dedicate ourselves to walking in solidarity beside our Coast Salish neighbors and South Vancouver community members as we work collectively towards community building.

SVNH is seeking a full-time (35 hours/week) Facilities Coordinator. Working collaboratively and under the general direction of the Operations Director, the Facilities Coordinator is responsible for overseeing building and equipment maintenance at SVNH-operated facilities, including life and safety systems, electrical, mechanical, water, sewer, plumbing, carpentry, garbage/recycling, janitorial, painting, landscaping/grounds, equipment, furniture, and vehicles. In addition, the Facilities Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive preventative maintenance program, which includes budgeting, planning, monitoring, coordinating and implementing weekly, monthly and seasonal priorities.

Responsibilities

- Repair and maintain buildings and associated structures, equipment, landscaping, and grounds.
- Establish standards, practices and procedures for annual and long-term maintenance to ensure full compliance with regulations and codes. Coordinate building and equipment maintenance schedules.
- Establish, develop, and maintain system to keep records of maintenance contracts, schedules, expenditures, warranties, and vendor contacts.
- Assess facility needs and evaluate performance of building systems; oversee the acquisition, installation and operation of these systems and various construction projects at SVNH facilities.
- Respond to urgent maintenance calls.
- Provide guidance to maintenance contractors, staff, volunteers in interpreting relevant policies and procedures
- Manage equipment and supply needs, including furniture, kitchen appliances, office equipment, and vehicles.
- Liaise with vendors and suppliers on behalf of SVNH management, including contracted cleaning crews, maintenance workers, etc.
- Ensure MSDS are maintained and accessible in full compliance with WCB requirements; Provide training to staff on WHMIS
- Prepare for emergencies by maintaining building evacuation and other action plans.
- Perform regular building safety and security inspections and promote safety within the SVNH-operated facilities.
- Participate as an employer representative on the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee

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- Report to the Operations Director on a regular basis.
- Document processes and keep records.
- In collaboration with Operations Director, establish budget and make recommendations for annual and ongoing maintenance of the facilities. Monitor maintenance budget spending.
- Other facilities coordination and maintenance duties as required.

Qualifications

- A minimum of 2 years of experience in facilities maintenance or related field
- Extensive experience in building and equipment maintenance
- Advanced knowledge of maintenance planning and schedules
- Ability to respond to building and equipment emergencies
- In-depth knowledge of building safety regulations and security protocols
- WHMIS Certification
- Class 5 Driver's License
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office software, such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook
- Excellent organizational and communication skills

Compensation: \$30.93 per hour for 35 hours/week, plus benefits (paid sick and vacation leave, extended health and dental, pension, and professional development).

To Apply:

All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply, with subject line "Facilities Coordinator" by 11:59pm on Friday, June 23rd, 2023. Please send your cover letter and resume in confidence to:

Email: careers@southvan.org
Paul Riley, Director of Operations
6470 Victoria Drive
Vancouver, BC, V5P 3X7

To help us track our recruitment effort, please indicate in your cover letter where you found this posting.

The Association of Neighbourhood Houses of BC is an equal opportunity employer. We place a high value on diversity and encourage qualified individuals from all backgrounds and identities to consider applying for the position.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls please.



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South Asian PT Settlement Counsellor Internal/External Job Posting

South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (SVNH) is located on the unceded, occupied, ancestral and traditional homelands of the x'maŋkwajam (Musqueam), Skwamli7mesh (Squamish) and Saliw'ata7/Selilw'ituth (Tsleil'Waututh) Nations. We recognize the vast cultural diversity of Indigenous people and acknowledge the heterogeneity of their opinions, representation, needs and desires. We dedicate ourselves to walking in solidarity beside our Coast Salish neighbors and South Vancouver community members as we work collectively towards community building.

South Vancouver Neighbourhood House is looking for an experienced and trauma-informed South Asian Settlement Counsellor focusing on Bengali and Nepali communities. This part-time position will focus on supporting newcomers to Canada. This includes social group programs, volunteer programs, employment and/or academic support services, drop-in community connection programs, special events and workshops, as well as one-on-one support. This position is part of SVNH's settlement team, which will liaise with IRCC eligible clients with the intention of providing a full range of settlement, adaptation, service support, resources, and referrals to promote self-advocacy and full participation for newcomers in Canadian Society.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Identify clients' settlement needs and goals to create settlement plans, case manage, one-to-one para-counselling or crisis counselling, and ongoingly assess newcomer clients.
- Provide group social programming for displaced and newcomer to ensure they have a safe space to be connect to the community, build friendships, and seek resources/referrals for mental health, employment, physical health and/or recreation as needed.
- Plan, organize, facilitate group volunteer and social-emotional engagement opportunities.
- Outreach and recruit for programs via presentations, community events, and meetings with service providers.
- Prepare and create events and program flyers, posters, and brochures.
- Connect newcomer to community organizations and service agencies.
- Collaborate and network with groups, employment supports, language training services, agencies, schools and government departments and other stakeholders currently working with immigrant communities to discuss issues and trends, co-facilitate programs, and develop new initiatives to meet clients needs.
- Evaluate and keep records of client profiles and key statistics including input into government required iCare database system, including intake forms, narrative, and statistical reports.
- Apply for grants to enhance settlement programs.
- Support the development of newcomer in the Canadian multi-cultural context.
- Maintain information and support resources.
- Adheres to confidentiality and privacy policies.

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- Promote SVNH programs and services.
- Provide support to Neighbourhood House sponsored events and activities.
- Attend staff meetings/retreats/ training.

Qualifications:

- Post secondary education in social work, community support, multicultural work, or related field in combination with experience in the field.
- Minimum 1 year experience working with refugees & vulnerable newcomers in a multicultural environment.
- Oral and written proficiency in English, Bengali and Nepali languages.
- Work and/or lived experience with newcomer/immigrant/refugee vulnerable clients facing multiple barriers.
- Demonstrated understanding of the immigration process and issues affecting immigrants and refugees.
- Demonstrated understanding of intercultural knowledge and BIPOC awareness.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a multicultural team environment and independently.
- Knowledge of group social programming and ability to facilitate programs that encompasses building peer-to-peer connections, group volunteering.
- Knowledge of basic counselling skills and crisis intervention skills.
- Knowledge of employment skills and ability to provide employment support services.
- Excellent organizational, leadership, communication, and community development skills.
- Experience facilitating groups and designing workshops.
- Successful criminal record search
- Training in Nobody's Perfect, Mother Goose, My Tween & Me and other family resource programs an asset.
- Demonstrated report writing and administrative tracking.
- Computer proficiency.

Compensation: \$28.54 per hour at 21 hours per week + benefits after probation

Closing date: June 9, 2023

Start date: June 19, 2023

Please send cover letter and resume by email with subject heading South Asian PT Settlement Counsellor to: Huda Bolbolan, Manager of Settlement & Family Programs at Huda.bolbolan@southvan.org.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls please. ANHBC is an equal opportunity employer.



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WORLD REFUGEE DAY: CONNECTING REFUGEES WITH EMPLOYERS

Looking for work?

Come to our virtual job fair!

Meet with employers who are actively hiring.

June 20, 2023 | 9:30am to Noon

Register today at: <https://tinyurl.com/jobfair062023>



World Refugee Day Event:

Connecting Refugees with Employers

*Please note the poster has been updated since previous bulletins

PDF ATTACHED

REPEATS



New Hope
COMMUNITY SERVICES

New Hope has suffered a huge loss as the carport they use as a communal space was set on fire on April 25th. This is another devastating blow to the housing crisis refugees are facing in BC. To learn more about how you can donate and support New Hope, please follow this link: <https://newhopecs.org/donate-fire/>





Trauma Informed Care Workshop

with
Laura Brook

Counsellor, BSW, MSW, RSW, EAT

20 spots available



Trauma Informed Care Workshop with counsellor Laura Brook

You are invited to attend – June 13th 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at

Sevenoaks Alliance Church 2575 Gladwin rd, Abbotsford

Laura's presentation will be focused on what is trauma and how to embody trauma-informed care with refugees

- What is the difference between stress and trauma?
- The biological impact of trauma
- Social justice lens
- Critical incident stress symptoms
- Vicarious trauma
- Core principles of trauma-informed care

RSVP to admin@inasmuch.ca – 20 spots available

Poster attached

About Laura

Besides her credentials, Laura brings with her nine years experience providing holistic settlement support for Refugee Claimants.



Tuesday June 13, 2023
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm



Sevenoaks Alliance Church
2575 Gladwin Rd, Abbotsford
(park in parking lot by
Centennial Park school)



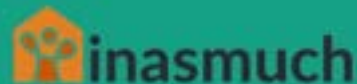
RSVP to admin@inasmuch.ca

You are Invited to Attend:

Laura's presentation will be focused on what is trauma and how to embody trauma-informed care with refugees.

Topics Will Include:

- What is the difference between stress and trauma?
- The biological impact of trauma
- Social justice lens
- Critical incident stress symptoms
- Vicarious trauma
- Core principles of trauma-informed care



Legal Aid now has **Legal Navigators** that can assist client regardless of whether they are eligible or in-eligible for Legal Aid services. Legal Navigators can provide information and resources for clients facing legal issues such as immigration and/or refugee matters, family, criminal, or civil matters.

The Legal Navigators phone line is 604-601-6166. Clients who might need more information before starting a legal aid application can also contact the legal navigators phone line to learn about the process. Please see the link below:

https://legalaid.bc.ca/legal_aid/legalInformationOutreachWorkers



Every year, Pacific Immigrant Resources Society (PIRS) holds **the Vancouver Half Marathon (VHM)** as the highlight event to spread awareness of our important work to the larger community.

[In 2022, British Columbia had the second largest number of immigrants in Canada, with 83,200 newcomers arriving last year.](#)

Canada is known for its cultural diversity, attracting millions of people selecting Canada as their new home. PIRS understands the difficulties faced by new immigrants in adapting to a new environment. In order to support them, we are running this year to raise funds for our trauma-informed programs. These programs are specifically designed to assist immigrant and refugee women to integrate into the society.

As of May 24th, we have raised \$2,992.92. This year, our goal is to raise \$15,000. One of the programs that will benefit from the funding is our Community English Classes. Our instructor in New Westminster shares that, "the class has always shown empathy and support for each other. Even during the current world crisis, it is evident that the class is a non-biased, safe and inclusive environment for all women and their families."

Join us for a walk/run on June 25th to support immigrant and refugee women and their children. Together we can make a lasting impact.

For more information on race details, location, time, and more, click [here](#).

To register, click [here](#).

Unable to participate? Donate to support immigrant and refugee women and their children!

[Donate Today](#)



Are you
looking
for work?



WorkBC Employment Services
can help you find a job

- Job search help, access to jobs and connections to employers
- Workshops to help you prepare for work
- Job search resources including computers/copiers and telephones
- Resume and interview preparation
- Employment counselling
- Work experience placements
- Foreign credential assessment and language interpretation services
- Financial support to start a job
- Skills training

www.workbc.ca or 1-877-952-6914

Refugee Claimants are now eligible for WorkBC services!

MOSAIC has provided flyers outlining the services WorkBC offers for newcomers including refugee claimants. You will find the flyer in English and translated into Chinese, Farsi, Ukrainian, Tagalog and Punjabi.

(refugee claimants need to have their Confirmation of Referral letter issued by IRCC or CBSA to receive services – sample attached)

6 Posters attached

MOSAIC recently hired a **Disability Benefits Community Advocate**. The Advocate is under the MOSAIC Legal Advocacy Program and a partnership with the Disability Alliance of BC, to increase access for newcomers with disabilities in applying for provincial disability assistance.

The Advocate will be responsible for individual and community advocacy relating to B.C. provincial disability benefits (known as Persons with Disabilities - PWD) and newcomer issues.

Key Duties:

Assist people with disabilities with applications and appeals relating to provincial disability (Persons with Disabilities and Persons with Persistent and Multiple Barriers)

Contact:

LAP@mosaicbc.org

Office number: 604 324 7979

Different language Interpreters Opportunity for Virtual Ready Tours

Ready Tour administration has recently struggled to find interpreters for Ready Tour sessions, we need all languages, especially Spanish, Farsi, and Arabic interpreters.

Virtual Ready Tour sessions are on every other Friday, from 9:30 to 11:30 am (PST)

Below there is a link to a Google form that explains all the requirements and payment details.

Different Language Interpreter-Virtual Ready Tour:

<https://forms.gle/CACGFwMuriAyhiWf9>

Please circulate the message among your colleagues, volunteers, and refugee claimants who are fluent in English and one other language and would like to join the Ready Tour program as an interpreter!

Please send your inquires to Masi: masi@kinbrace.ca



Refugee Research Network

- RRRN Research Digest - May 26, 2023

[Read Digest on RRRN Website](#)

The RRRN 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