

# RSTP Bulletin

## Resettled Refugees in Saskatchewan

October 20, 2017

### A LOOK BACK

- Total Syrian refugees resettled in Saskatchewan from November, 2015 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017: **1,535**



Saskatchewan	2015	2016	January 2017 to June 2017
Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs)	640	1,390	360
Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSRs)	125	265	265
Blended Visa Office Referred Refugees (BVORs)	30	165	30
<b>Total Resettled Refugees</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>655</b>

Source: [IRCC](#)

## Support & Resources Available for Privately Sponsored Refugees in SK

Saskatchewan is a vast and diverse province with 17 cities, many towns and large rural municipalities. This means that services vary across the province.

### HEALTH

- [To find a family doctor](#) - If the newcomers are not yet registered with Saskatchewan Health, please check to ensure that the medical service accepts the Interim Federal Health Coverage
- [To apply for Health Card](#) - Saskatchewan Health Coverage is retroactive to the date of arrival

### EDUCATION

- [Regional Newcomer Gateway](#) - Information on learning English
- [Language Training](#)
- [Saskatchewan Ministry of Education](#) - Information for Elementary and High School Students
- Information on [Who Must Attend School](#)



### SETTLEMENT

- [First Things to Do](#) – in Saskatchewan.
- [Find Services near you](#) - For immigration and settlement programs and services near you.
- [Settlement Services](#)
- [Community Programs for New Families in Canada](#) - For families with young children.
- [Regional Newcomer Gateways](#) - Find information and services to settle successfully.
- [Free settlement services in French](#)

### EMPLOYMENT

- [Regional Newcomer Gateways](#) – For résumé writing, employment readiness and job searches.
- [Find and Apply for Jobs](#)
- [Jobs, Working, and Training](#)
- [If a work license is needed](#)

### REMINDERS

-  To update your SAH contact information, email [PSR-PPPR@CIC.GC.CA](mailto:PSR-PPPR@CIC.GC.CA)
-  To update an applicant's contact information or case information, **contact the Visa Office responsible for their country:** <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/apply-where.asp>

# INQUIRIES

## You Asked

If I were to submit a SAH application with my SAH as signatory (Hamilton) with the PA resettling to Kitchener, would IRCC interpret the requirement for 'community of settlement' to be met?

## We Answer

IRCC defines '**Community of Settlement**' as: "the village, town or city and surrounding areas in which the refugee is expected to settle."

Officers use discretion in defining the expected community of settlement. According to IRCC, "the term community is used, as there may be situations in which the sponsor does not live directly in the same village, town or city but could be considered to reside in the same general community. **In determining the community of settlement, the paramount consideration should be the sponsor's ability to provide adequate, in-person support to the refugee, taking into account the distance between the sponsor and the refugee.**"

As you can see from the definition, there is no specific radius used to measure the area of a community of settlement or the distance between the location of a sponsoring group and sponsored refugees' actual place of residence. This is decided on a *case-by-case basis*. IRCC officers look at "**the existence of public transit or the time required to travel between the sponsor's and the refugee's residence,**" and whether distance can hinder members of a sponsoring group from carrying out their sponsorship responsibilities.

You may need to ask yourself if it is feasible for your group, which is based in Hamilton, to provide settlement support to refugees who will be resettled in Kitchener. Having said that, it will be to your benefit if you have a CG, co-sponsors or representatives of your SAH in Kitchener who will help with the settlement of refugees.



Photo: Steve Russell-Toronto Star

## Available BVOR Profiles

### **BVOR PROFILE #: 0020-01-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Preferred destination Hamilton, ON

Syrian family of four with two children. The PA worked in several occupations to help support his family. The PA and his family cannot return to their home country as they fear for their safety. The spouse has a cousin in Hamilton, ON and would benefit from resettling near him. The family would also appreciate the help of a sponsor for resettlement.

### **BVOR PROFILE #: 0586-08-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Linked to mother and brothers XREF: 0585-08-17, 0584-08-17

The PA is an 18-year-old Congolese male, able to communicate in English. He fears persecution due to his political beliefs should he return. The PA would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor.

### **BVOR PROFILE #: 0643-09-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The PA's cousin lives in Windsor, ON  
XREF: BVOR 0644-09-17; BVOR 0645-09-17

The PA is married with one child. He has five years of education in hotel management and experience as a cook. His spouse has 15 years of education and a degree in Family Education and Technical Occupations. All members of the family speak English. There are two X-ref cases, BVOR# 0644-09-17 and 0645-09-17. All should be resettled together in Windsor, ON, where a cousin lives. In their home country they were persecuted based on religion. This family will benefit from sponsorship.

**BVOR PROFILE #: 0650-09-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Brother in Mississauga**

**XREF: 0651-09-17 - Brother**

Iraqi family of five. The PA and his family cannot return to their home country for fear of persecution based on their religion. The PA would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during resettlement.

**BVOR PROFILE #: 0683-09-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Husband's siblings live in Mississauga, ON.**

**XREF: BVOR # 0684-09-17**

The PA is a single Pakistani mother of three, eldest child x-ref BVOR # 0684-09-17. She has 10 years of education, and her daughters have nine years and five years. The PA's husband is missing, but his family lives in Mississauga, ON. For that reason, it is recommended the family resettle in Ontario.

**BVOR PROFILE #: 0642-09-17**

Iraqi family of four. The PA and his family cannot return to their home country as they fear persecution based on their religion, ethnicity and imputed political opinion. The PA would appreciate the assistance of a sponsor during resettlement.

**BVOR PROFILE #: 0644-09-17**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: PA's cousin lives in Windsor, ON X-ref cases:**

**BVOR# 0643-09-17 and 0645-09-17**

The PA is an Iraqi man, married with two children, with 15 years of education and experience in sales and as a concierge. His spouse has 15 years of education, a degree in business and hairdressing experience. All members of the family speak English. There are two X-ref cases. It is recommended that all are resettled together in Windsor, ON, where a cousin lives. In their home country, they were persecuted based on religion. This family will benefit from sponsorship.



## **We Have 14 More BVOR Cases Available!**

**If you are interested in these profiles, log in to the RSTP Matching Database**

➤ **With your username and password: [cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp](http://cathcrosscultural.sharepoint.com/rstp)**

**For more information on the BVOR Program please click this link:**

**[http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Blended-VOR-FAQ\\_2017-1-1.pdf](http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Blended-VOR-FAQ_2017-1-1.pdf)**

## **Available JAS Profiles**

**In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 0630-08-17 Winnipeg, MB**

**Family composition:** The family has three children.

**Medical needs:** Two of the children are disabled and require full time care from both parents. Both parents must accompany them to medical appointments.

**Language:** Both parents are learning English but constrained by full-time childcare. A third child needs to be accompanied to and from school. They would like to learn English at home.

**Support needed with:**

- Daily activities like shopping and transportation for both children in wheelchairs
- Learning English at home
- Moral support and social interaction

## In-Canada JAS PROFILE #: 0595-08-17 Toronto, ON

**Family composition:** The PA is a 41-year-old Syrian male with a spouse and six children (ages 4 - 17).

**Medical needs:** Three children have developmental disabilities. Two of them require full-time care.

**Language and employment needs:** The need for childcare precludes language classes and finding work.

### Support needed:

- Help manage their mail, schedule appointments and attend medical appointments
- Help apply to funding organizations for children with disabilities; find appropriate education
- Emotional support and life skills coaching

## More JAS Cases Are Available!

For more on JAS profiles, contact our Refugee Resettlement Project Worker at [bvor@rstp.ca](mailto:bvor@rstp.ca)

## Upcoming RSTP Workshops & Webinars

### Workshops

#### Ontario

#### Refugee Sponsorship Training workshops at IS-GW

**Date:** Friday October 20, 2017

**Time:** **Morning Session** 9:30 am - 11:30 am EDT;  
**Afternoon Session** 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm EDT

**Where:** 104 Dawson Road, Unit 102, Guelph, ON N1H 1A6

**Description:** This workshop will include:

- Overview of sponsorship
- Changes to Private Sponsorship of Refugees
- A hands-on forms review

**To register:** Please call Dayami at 519-836-2222 ext. 225 or email [dramirez@is-gw.ca](mailto:dramirez@is-gw.ca)

### Webinars

#### Common Mistakes on G5 applications

**Date:** Monday October 23, 2017

**Time:** 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EDT

**Description:** This webinar will cover:

- Common mistakes made on G5 applications

**Registration link:**

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8730535027117275905>

#### Private Sponsorship of Refugees: Supporting Settlement and Integration

**Date:** Wednesday October 25, 2017

**Time:** 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT

**Description:** This webinar will cover:

- Sponsors' responsibilities
- Settlement services for newcomers
- Ethical considerations in sponsorship
- Managing expectations
- Preparing for Month 13

**Registration link:**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4532361038025257218>

Please visit the **RSTP website** for more information on:

#### Webinars:

<http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/webinars/>

#### Workshops:

<http://www.rstp.ca/en/training/workshops/>

This document has been prepared for Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) by  
The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP)

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