

RSTP Bulletin

August 11, 2014

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW CIC VIDEOS

CIC has recently created two CIC videos dealing with language training and recognition of foreign education, and the content of these videos could be relevant to all immigrants including privately sponsored refugees.

Language Training for Canada

The first video, entitled *Language Training for Canada*, aims to raise newcomer awareness on the importance of official language skills for settlement in Canada. It highlights the Canadian Language Benchmarks Online Self-Assessment tool, promotes language training options available to newcomers upon arrival, and encourages them to get started on improving their skills as soon as possible. To watch the video go to this [link](#).

Advancing Foreign Credential Recognition

This [video](#) shows "how the International Qualifications Network (IQN) has successfully addressed the need for a centralized tool to promote and support the sharing of information related to the recognition and assessment of international qualifications in Canada," and it also highlights some of common issues related to recognition of foreign credentials.

CALL FOR PAPERS - The Indo-Chinese Refugee Movement and the Launch of Canada's Private Sponsorship Program

Possible topics that could be of special interest to SAHs include:

- The contribution of religious groups, community organizations and NGOs in shaping Canada's response to the Indo-Chinese refugees.
- The character of the Canadian public's response to the Indo-Chinese refugee crisis and the introduction of a public-private sponsorship program.
- The nature of the settlement and integration schemes created for the arriving refugees and the relationship between these programs and later incarnations.
- The long-term impact of the Indo-Chinese refugee movement on the evolution of Canada's settlement and integration policies, strategies and immigrant serving institutions.

For more information contact Mike Molloy (joandmikeca@yahoo.com), and James C. Simeon, (jcsimeon@yorku.ca). Also, click [here](#) to learn more about a previously conducted conference at York University on the same topic.

Upcoming Webinar

Caps & Allocations for 2014

Participate in this webinar presentation with Capper Tracker, Elizabeth Walton of the SAH Secretariat to learn more about the allocations process for 2014, trading spaces, recording spaces and everything you need to know about allocations. This will also be a great opportunity to ask questions and get clarification.

Date: August 14, 2014

Time: 1:00 pm - 2:30 PM

To register, go to the [registration link](#).

Upcoming Events

CCR Summer Working Group meetings

When

Date: Friday, September 5, 2014

to Saturday, September 6, 2014

Time: 9h30 - 17h

Where

The Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul

3415 rue Redpath

Montreal, QC H3G 2G2

Canada

For more information, click [here](#)

AVAILABLE BVORS

VOR 030

Family Size: 1

Composition: 28 year old male

Case Summary

The PA was recruited forcibly by the military and after suffering forced labour, he eventually deserted. He travelled by foot and fled to Djibouti where he is currently being held at a detention centre. He fears returning to Eritrea because he will be arrested and imprisoned for military desertion and illegally fleeing the country.

Recommended Destination: None

VOR 035

Family Size: 5

Composition: 35 year old male, 28 year old spouse, 6 year old daughter, 3 & 1 year old sons

Case Summary

The PA is an Eritrean refugee who was forced into mandatory national service in 1998. While training, he developed a kidney problem that limited his ability to work. In 2005, he was treated and was given one year leave of absence. However, he overstayed his leave by six months, and was arrested. His wife & daughter have also been arrested.

Recommended Destination: None

VOR 084

Family Size: 1

Composition: 28 year old male

Case Summary

The PA was two years old when his family fled to Sudan from Eritrea due to violence and insecurity in their village. The PA has lived in Sudan ever since and has not returned to Eritrea. He fears returning to Eritrea because he will be conscripted by the authorities and sent for indefinite and compulsory national service.

Recommended Destination: None

INQUIRIES & RESPONSES

YOU ASKED... Can signatures be scanned/can we submit electronic signatures?

OUR REPLY... No. CIC requires original signatures.

YOU ASKED... I prepared all application forms months ago and they sat there while I waited for the allocations. Now all of the application forms have old dates. Can I submit them with the old dates, or do I have to re-do the applications to insert a new date? This includes having photographs that are a few months old.

OUR REPLY... It's ok, because CIC did not send out the allocations, it is fine that the forms are a few months old, and that the photograph that is sent in is a few months old.

YOU ASKED... Syrian refugees got married in Lebanon but were told that they can't register their marriage. There is no proof of their marriage whatsoever. Should they apply for sponsorship on the same application form, or on separate application forms?

OUR REPLY... Ultimately, situations like these are determined by CPO-W on a case-by-case basis. However, since they are married, they should be submitted together in the same undertaking. That being said, it is important to explain the situation in a cover letter. The explanation should be quite thorough and they should describe in detail their attempts to obtain a marriage certificate (for example, where did they go and when? What else did they try? When did they get married? Etc.). Also, it might be useful to obtain supporting documents that confirm that the couple is married, such as an affidavit or a letter of support from a reputable figure, such as a church leader, a doctor, a lawyer, etc.

YOU ASKED... How can I access BVOR profiles on the website?

OUR REPLY... Website to access BVOR profiles: http://www.cic.gc.ca/jas-pac/loginSearch_e.aspx . The password is: **bv9x6i4u**

YOU ASKED... I have a quick question regarding the new regulation for dependents. I was browsing the lately updated immigration forms and I realized that Schedule A and Schedule 2 is still not updated. It is still asking for dependents over 18 to fill the forms. So based on the new information if someone is let's say 18.5 (not yet 19) and is a dependent, would they need to fill any forms?

OUR REPLY... The short answer is yes. Any child between ages of 18-19 needs to complete Schedule A and 2 because these forms are completed by anyone over 18. Previously, they were filled out by dependents over 18 but less than 22, but now they are completed by one who meets the new definition of a "dependent" and is 18 or older. We do not foresee any revision of these forms and we do not even think it is necessary as the Instruction Guide has already been revised and incorporated the changes. Having said that since the changes allow for "locking in" of age of dependents; i.e. it considers the age of a dependent at the time of submission even if the applicant turns over 19 during the process. For information about the changes, please refer to this [link](#).