

# RSTP BULLETIN

February 03, 2017

Image: UNHCR

## Responding To Negative Decisions

The following are some steps that sponsors can take to respond to a negative decision. These are: contacting the visa office, writing to the case management branch and filing a judicial review.

**Contacting The Visa Post** – when a sponsoring group believes that a visa office made a mistake in rejecting a refugee sponsorship application. The group members can e-mail the visa post and express their concerns or questions. They are normally expected to get a response within 30 days. Knowing the name and contact information of the manager of the visa post or the visa officer who made the negative decision can help in addressing the concern to the right person.

### **Writing To the Case Management Branch (CMB)**

When sponsors do not hear from the visa office within 30 days, they can write to the CMB, National Headquarters at [Case-Review-imenquiry@cic.gc.ca](mailto:Case-Review-imenquiry@cic.gc.ca). When contacting the CMB, sponsors are required to submit a signed copy of the consent to receive personal information. Although the CMB office cannot change the decision, it can facilitate communication between the visa office and the sponsoring group.

### **File a Leave for Judicial Review**

Sponsors can also demand a leave for judicial review at the federal court within 60 days of the negative decision. The court reviews the decision of the visa post to determine if it was fair and reasonable. And, the court can order the visa office to re-interview an applicant if it finds procedural errors in the initial assessment of the case that lead to the negative decision.

For more details, refer the following IRCC material :  
[http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/E7\\_Refusal-Enquiries\\_EN-002.pdf](http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/E7_Refusal-Enquiries_EN-002.pdf)

### **Volunteer Management Handbook: A Resource for Service-Providing Organizations Assisting Newcomers to Canada**

A handbook recently published by Volunteer Canada provides a general overview of the volunteer management process with a focus on volunteers supporting newcomers. The materials includes links to useful tools, resources and templates that can be used to develop and implement these practices in your organization. To access the materials, please follow the link below :

[https://volunteer.ca/volunteer\\_management\\_handbook](https://volunteer.ca/volunteer_management_handbook)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **NEW materials on the RSTP website: Translated versions of additional RSTP fact sheets**

Courtesy of OCASI , the following RSTP resources have been translated to Arabic language and posted on the RSTP website .

#### **Transportation and admissibility loan**

(English) <http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Transportation-Admissibility-Loans-Fact-Sheet-6.pdf>

(Arabic) [http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Transportation-and-Admissibility-Loans\\_Arabic\\_final.pdf](http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Transportation-and-Admissibility-Loans_Arabic_final.pdf)

#### **Canada Child Benefit**

(English) <http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CCB-revised-December-2016.pdf>

(Arabic) [http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Canada-Child-Benefit\\_Arabic\\_final.pdf](http://www.rstp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Canada-Child-Benefit_Arabic_final.pdf)

# UPCOMING RSTP WORKSHOPS SESSIONS WEBINARS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NATIONAL WEBINAR:

### SAH allocations and deciding who to sponsor

**Date:** Tuesday February 14th, 2017

**Time:** 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm EST

The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program (RSTP) would like to invite you to the above webinar offered in collaboration with the SAH Council and the SAH Secretariat.

SAHs often receive many more sponsorship requests than they can accommodate within their annual allocation. In this situation, SAHs have to make decisions on how to prioritize sponsorship requests. We hope that this webinar will help new SAHs with their decision-making process on how to use their allocation. Established SAHs that already have a process in place might gain additional ideas on how to adjust their process.

Please register for the webinar by clicking the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2719253164598831363>

## WEBINAR on

### Supporting Settlement and Integration: BC Child Care Subsidy

**Date:** Friday February 3, 2017

**Time:** 11:00 am – 12:30 pm PST

**Description:** RSTP would like to remind about our upcoming webinar session for sponsors in British Columbia that will focus on financial assistance for child care. A guest speaker from the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development will deliver a presentation session that will talk about eligibility criteria for child care subsidy and application process. After the presentation, a Q&A session will follow.

UPDATE: The webinar session has ended; however, a recording of this presentation will be posted on our website shortly.

## Online Survey

**Please complete prior to Monday, Feb 6**

RSTP is kindly asking you to please complete a short survey (three questions) about the way in which your SAH prioritizes sponsorship requests. RSTP will collect the results and present them during the upcoming webinar with Sabine Lehr and Rob Shropshire as our resource guests.

The information collected in this survey is anonymous and confidential and the results will be used for the sole purpose of developing a webinar that provides SAHs an opportunity to share and learn from each other. Information will not be further analyzed or shared with IRCC.

We appreciate the time that you are taking from your busy day to answer the three questions in this survey.

Link to survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SNK25XW>

## WORKSHOP on

### Managing Expectations

**Description:** The topics covered in this workshop will include: What are sponsors' and refugees' expectations of each other and how can expectations be managed to avoid potential conflict? What are some ethical practices that private sponsors may wish to consider?

**Date:** Wednesday February 22, 2017

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm EST

**Venue:** McClure Hall, Bloor Street United Church  
300 Bloor Street West, Toronto

**To register:** Please email Michiko at:  
[michiko@bloorstreetunited.org](mailto:michiko@bloorstreetunited.org)