



The RSTP wishes to say a BIG thank you to all speakers, moderators, members of the SAH Council, and

members of the Conference Organizing Ad-hoc Committee, and RSTP advisory Committee and other SAH representatives for their contribution and participation in making the 2017 National SAH Conference a HUGE success!

Update from IRCC

Please be advised that effective immediately, the Resettlement Operations Centre in Ottawa (ROC-O) will be accepting outdated versions of the IMM008 *Generic Application Form for Canada*, as long as 2-D barcodes are generated and are legible. By “legible”, ROC-O needs to be able to scan them using their barcode scanners so the information can be uploaded into GCMS.



Available VOR Case:

VOR 0387-05-17 (Not travel ready)

Case summary: The PA is a single mother accompanied with her 1 year old daughter. PA's husband disappeared few years ago and she has no contact since then. She fears for her safety and for the life of her child. She can speak English and has 9 years of formal education. The PA and her daughter cannot return to their home country due to ongoing insecurity and they fear persecution based on their ethnicity. The PA will benefit physically, emotionally, and socially to be surrounded by trusted people to help her with her new life in the host community during her resettlement. She is a woman at risk who is seeking to better her family's life by resettling in Canada. This is a VOR case and no government support is provided. The preferred destination is outside of Ontario.

If you are interested in these cases or have questions, contact our BVOR Worker: Parastoo Aznavehzadeh bvor@rstp.ca and she will send you the extended Profile.

MONTH 13 AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM EVALUATION OF REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP DONE BY THE RIPPLE REFUGEE PROJECT

The evaluation of sponsorship was done by the [The Ripple Refugee Project](#)—a sponsor group based in Toronto—as the groups moved into the 13th month.

The survey was conducted on a one-on-one basis between the individual members of the newcomer family and an Arabic speaking volunteer, without any of our sponsorship team members being present. The questions were provided ahead of time, in Arabic, and the family members were encouraged to be as critical as possible.

The key results are provided in the link below:

<http://ripplerefugee.blogspot.ca/2017/05/lessons-learned-post-settlement-self.html>

New Materials on the RSTP Website:

These documents are posted on the RSTP website:

- [FAQ on 2017 Amendment to Age of Dependent Children](#)
- [Refugee Status and Refugee Status Documents](#)

Links IRCC resources:

The following document, available both in English and French, is intended for:

- 1) sponsorship groups participating in the Private Sponsorship of Refugees program outside Quebec;
- 2) Service Provider Organizations (SPOs) funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to deliver Settlement and/or Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) Services; and
- 3) IRCC officers managing Contribution Agreements with RAP and Settlement SPOs.

- [Responsibilities of Sponsorship Groups & Availability of IRCC-funded Resettlement and Settlement Services](#)
- [Responsabilités des groupes de parrainage et](#)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question :

Change of composition of a Group of Five. What would be the process of reporting a change of G5 composition – i.e. of one current group member is being replaced by another person? Our understanding is the group would need to complete a new Undertaking, a new Settlement Plan; the new group member would need to complete a Sponsor Assessment form, submit proof of citizenship or PR status in Canada, and, if contributing funds, then the person would need to complete and sign a Financial Profile and provide proof of Income. All of these documents can be submitted to ROC-O by e-mail. Is this correct? What would be the process once this request to change a group member has been received by ROC-O? Would the case be placed on hold? What is the case already with an overseas visa office? Would this impact processing time?

Answer from ROC-O:

In terms of a change of composition for a G5, yes, you are correct. If a new group member is being replaced by another person, you will need to complete all forms you list above; Undertaking, a new Settlement Plan; the new group member would need to complete a Sponsor Assessment form, submit proof of citizenship or PR status in Canada, and, if contributing funds, then the person would need to complete and sign a Financial Profile and provide proof of Income. The required list of forms can be found here: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/private.asp>

These documents can be submitted by mail or email. If submitted by email, please ensure the email sizes are within the size limits accepted at ROC-O. Please refer to **section 2.15** (How to submit a sponsorship application via email) in the Guide to the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/ref-sponsor/?_ga=2.118536140.491475499.1495830140-589164647.1443472606

Once the complete application is received at ROC-O, it will go into the queue like any new application received at ROC-O. If the application is already overseas and if the applicant is close to having a visa issued and the medical exam validity is close to its expiry date, changing the composition of the G5 may impact processing times. If this is the case, we can expedite the application.



**Important to note:
“Accompanying” vs. “Non-accompanying”
Dependants**

As it was explained during the conference, please indicated all family members who intent to come to Canada as “accompanying” even if they are living in different locations. If family members who plan to come with PA are not in the same location as the PA, the visa officer will do every effort, depending on various factors, including as access to these families, to process the application of the whole family unit and resettle them together.

On the other hand, if the where about of family members are not known or family members do not intent to be resettled with the principal applicant at the time of submission, please indicate “ non-accompanying”. In those circumstances, the visa office will only process the application of the principal applicant. Note that the SAH Council already shared the same information to all Association members.

REFUGEE NEWS CORNER

World Refugee Day Workshops Across Ontario

Guelph

Date & Time: June 20, 2017, 10.00am
Topics: How to sponsor refugees & the rights of sponsored refugees
location: First Baptist church, 255 Woolwich street, on, N1H 3V8
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/world-refugee-day-tickets-35078515785>

Mississauga

Date & Time: June 20, 2017, 11.00am
Topics: How to sponsor refugees & the rights of sponsored refugees (IN Arabic Only)
location: room 211, Newcomer Center of peel, 165 Dundas St. W, Mississauga, on, L5b 2n6
Details: RSTP Trainer May Amouri (mamouri@rstp.ca)

Toronto

Date & Time: June 20, 2017, 5.45pm
Topics: best practices for settlement & demystifying misconceptions about refugees
location: Brookbanks library, 210 brook banks drive, Toronto, on, M3A 2T8
Registration: <https://rstpwrtdtoronto.eventbrite.ca>

St. Catharines

Date & Time: June 27, 2017, 10.30am
Topics: demystifying misconceptions about refugees & the rights of sponsored refugees
location: NIAGARA FOLK ARTS MULTICULTURAL CENTRE, 85 church street, St. Catharines, on, L2R 3C7
Details: email Said Nixon Bangura (sbangura@rstp.ca)

UPCOMING WEBINARS

ALBERTA

Private Refugee Sponsorship: Group of Five & Community Sponsor

Date: Saturday June 24, 2017
Time: 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm MDT
Where: Calgary Catholic Immigration Society, 315 - 1111 11 Ave SW Calgary, AB T2R 0G5
Description: This free workshop is for new sponsorship groups and interested community members who wish to form a Group of Five or submit an application as a Community Sponsor. Please register by June 16 via the link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/group-of-5-sponsorship-training-session-by-rstp-tickets-34921176178> or by contacting the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program at: mnewman@rstp.ca - (403) 515-5858.

Private Refugee Sponsorship: Group of Five & Community Sponsor

Date: Tuesday June 27, 2017
Time: 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm MDT
Where: Mennonite Central Committee Alberta, 2946 32 St NE Calgary, AB T1Y 6J7
Description: This free workshop is for new sponsorship groups and interested community members who wish to form a Group of Five or submit an application as a Community Sponsor. Please register by June 16 via the link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/group-of-5-sponsorship-training-session-by-rstp-tickets-34987898747> or by contacting the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program at mnewman@rstp.ca - (403) 515-5858.

ONTARIO

Family Reunification – How to Sponsor Refugees Info Session (in Arabic & English)

Date: Wednesday July 5, 2017
Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm EDT
Where: Whitby Central Library 405 Dundas Street West, Whitby, ON L1N 6A1
Description: This session will cover: Family reunification through refugee sponsorship; Who can be sponsored? What is proof of refugee status? Who can sponsor? Steps in the sponsorship process and One Year Window applications. For registration, please call Ana Fabroa 905-420-3607 or email afabroa@unemployedhelp.on.ca before June 28, 2017.

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

Tel: 416.290.1700, 1.877.290.1701 | Fax: 416.290.1710 | E-mail: info@rstp.ca | www.rstp.ca