

# BULLETIN

The latest news and updates on Canada's Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Programs

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** sponsoring group wants to sponsor a minor 16-year-old Afghan refugee, living alone in Pakistan while his parents are back in their country of origin. Is there any way to sponsor the children alone?

**A:** There is currently a moratorium on sponsoring unaccompanied or separated minors for resettlement to Canada. There are two exceptions to the moratorium:

1. Unaccompanied/separated minors with a guardian over the age of 18 (where the minor is a de facto dependent of the guardian) and both the guardian and the de facto dependent minor are sponsored together on separate PSR application packages (the minor is considered to be a Principal Applicant in their own right in this scenario); and,
2. Unaccompanied/separated minors with family members in Canada that are willing to assume legal guardianship of the minor after arrival (the sponsors would submit a regular PSR application to ROC-O to start the process).

For both of the above exceptions, IRCC will conduct a best interest determination (BID) using UNHCR's BID guidelines to see if it is in the best interests of the child to be resettled to Canada and a cover letter included with the application explaining the child's situation may assist with this. If the child's parents' whereabouts are known, they will be expected to sign and submit the IMM 5604 form as an indication that the parent/s consent to their child travelling to Canada.

For the first exception, evidence of emotional and/or financial dependency between the minor and the de facto guardian (the test for de facto dependency) would need to be included with the application package. The evidence can be documentary (e.g. death certificates, guardianship/custody documents etc.), but a cover letter explaining the emotional and financial dependency should be included with both application packages.

For the second exception, the family member in Canada will be asked to sign an IMM 5590 form to acknowledge that they have obtained information on how to get legal guardianship in Canada and that they have the intention to do so after arrival. The family member should speak to a family lawyer about the procedure for obtaining legal guardianship as it varies from province to province.

## IRCC-PHAC INFORMATION SESSION ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES

As Canada continues with our COVID-19 immunization response, there is a need for reliable information on staying up to date with vaccines, including boosters, as we head into the fall and winter seasons. You play an important role in sharing reliable information with Canada's newcomers.

We would like to invite you to an information session on **November 22** or **November 23** about Canada's latest vaccination plan against COVID-19 with **Dr. Howard Njoo, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer** from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

This session will include a brief presentation on the steps the Government of Canada is taking to ensure access to a safe, effective and free COVID-19 vaccine this fall/winter. We would also like to take this opportunity to answer your questions and address your concerns during a question-and-answer period.

Please submit questions in advance to [engagement@phac-aspc.gc.ca](mailto:engagement@phac-aspc.gc.ca) by **November 15**. When submitting your questions, please indicate in the subject line "PHAC vaccination briefing for the Settlement and Resettlement sector".

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT, CLICK ON YOUR LANGUAGE PREFERENCE BELOW:**

ENGLISH

FRENCH

## TORONTO REFUGEE HIRING EVENT

Unlike a Career Fair, the ultimate goal of the Toronto Refugee Hiring Event is meaningful employment via action-oriented steps. Should you succeed, you will be provided either a job offer on the spot, an opportunity for a second interview, or be flagged for inclusion into further hiring processes of the employers you interview with.

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW, CLICK HERE**



## UPCOMING RSTP WEBINARS

### INTRODUCTION TO THE PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF REFUGEES PROGRAM

Learn in-depth, about the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program: who can sponsor, who can be sponsored and the responsibility of the sponsors.

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2022  
Time: 3:00 PM CST OR 5:00 PM EDT  
Virtually: via Zoom  
In-person: 106-129, 3rd Avenue North, Saskatoon

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW, CLICK HERE**



### GROUP OF FIVE SPONSORSHIP TWO-PART WEBINAR SERIES

Details of this series are divided into **TWO** parts:

**Part One** will mainly focus on the eligibility criteria for sponsors and sponsored refugees plus the financial responsibilities.

**Part Two** will cover the settlement support, application process, forms and supporting documents.

Date: **Part One** Tuesday, November 22, 2022  
**Part Two** Tuesday, November 29, 2022  
Time: 6:00 PM PST OR 9:00 PM EDT  
Virtually: via Zoom

**FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT, CLICK ON THE SESSION PART BELOW:**

PART ONE

PART TWO



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