

BULLETIN

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



SUPPORTING LGBTQ2+ REFUGEES: THE RAINBOW REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP & BVOR PROGRAM

Did you know that LGBTQ2+ refugees face unique challenges and persecution in many parts of the world?

We are committed to creating a safe and inclusive space for all, including LGBTQ2+ refugees.

Here's how YOU can make a difference:

- The Rainbow Refugee Assistance Partnership (RRAP) is a collaborative blended refugee sponsorship initiative that enables LGBTQ2+ refugees who are fleeing violence and persecution to be sponsored for resettlement to Canada. The RRAP is administered by [Rainbow Refugee](#) and was introduced in June 2019, building on the Rainbow Refugee Assistance Pilot. Through this partnership, the Government of Canada provides start-up costs and three months of monthly income support, with sponsors providing the remaining nine months of monthly income support. Sponsors also provide the refugees with vital settlement and emotional support to ensure a smooth and successful settlement process.

To learn more about the RRAP, please [click here](#).

- The Blended Visa-Office Referred (BVOR) program offers a unique opportunity for individuals and groups to sponsor LGBTQ2+ refugees to Canada. The BVOR program is also a blended partnership where sponsors provide start-up costs and six months of monthly income support, with the Government of Canada providing the remaining six months of monthly income support. Sponsors also provide vital settlement and emotional support for twelve months.

To learn more about the BVOR program, please [click here](#). If you are interested in sponsoring an LGBTQ2+ refugee via the BVOR program, please email bvor@rstp.ca

By participating in the RRAP and the BVOR program, you can provide a safe and welcoming environment to LGBTQ2+ individuals fleeing persecution, discrimination, and violence and help build more inclusive communities.

As a sponsor, you will be crucial in providing support and guidance that will enable LGBTQ2+ refugees to rebuild their lives in a safe and accepting environment.

To learn more about the unique challenges and persecution LGBTQ2+ refugees face on account of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, please [click here](#).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: WORLD REFUGEE DAY WEBINAR - A CELEBRATION OF RESILIENCE AND UNITY

Join us for an unforgettable World Refugee Day webinar on **Tuesday, June 20th, at 2 PM Eastern Time**. Together, we will embark on a journey of inspiration, celebrating refugees' remarkable resilience, hope, and unity worldwide.

During this powerful webinar, we will shine a spotlight on the refugee experience, shedding light on their stories of courage and determination. Through engaging discussions and thought-provoking insights, we will explore tangible ways we can create a more inclusive world where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and contribute.

But that's not all! We are thrilled to showcase the transformative impact of the Blended Visa-Office Referred (BVOR) program. Discover how you can actively sponsor refugees to Canada, provide them a safe haven, and support their journey toward a brighter future.

This is an incredible opportunity to learn, connect, and make a difference. Together, let's break down barriers, foster understanding, and embrace the values of compassion and inclusion.

Save the date and mark your calendars for this pivotal event on **Tuesday, June 20th, at 2 PM Eastern Time**. Don't miss the chance to be part of this meaningful celebration of resilience, hope, and unity. Stay tuned for more details and registration information. Together, we can create a world where every refugee finds warmth, acceptance, and opportunity.

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT NOW](#)



UPCOMING RSTP WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

POST-ARRIVAL RESPONSIBILITIES: COMMUNITY SPONSORS & GROUP OF FIVE SPONSORS – FOCUS ON ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND MANAGING EXPECTATIONS (VIRTUAL)

Join our webinar session on "Post-Arrival Responsibilities: Ethical Considerations and Managing Expectations" for Community Sponsors & Group of Five Sponsors.

Discover the financial & settlement responsibilities, ethical considerations, and strategies for managing expectations.

Date: June 6th, 2023
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM EST
Virtually: via Zoom

[REGISTER HERE](#)



UNLOCKING THE PATH TO SPONSORSHIP: INTRODUCTION TO PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF REFUGEES PROGRAM FOR GROUP OF FIVE AND COMMUNITY SPONSORS (IN-PERSON)

Join our informative webinar session, "Introduction to Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program," focusing on Group of Five and Community Sponsorship.

Gain valuable insights into the sponsorship process, eligibility criteria, and the responsibilities of sponsors.

Whether you're new to sponsorship or looking to enhance your knowledge, this session is perfect for you

Date: June 10th, 2023
Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST
Where: Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, 808 Douglas ST., Suite 102, Victoria BC

[REGISTER HERE](#)

EMPOWERING REFUGEE SPONSORS: INSIGHTS FROM HELEN SMITH-MCINTYRE WORKSHOP SERIES

Join us for an extraordinary workshop series featuring the incredible Helen Smith-McIntyre as our trainer! In this comprehensive series, Helen will guide you through every step of the refugee sponsorship journey.

Filling out the Forms: Learn the intricacies of completing sponsorship forms accurately and efficiently. From application forms to settlement plans, gain the confidence to navigate the paperwork easily.

What to do Between the Application and Arrival: Explore the crucial actions and preparations needed during the waiting period between submitting your application and the refugees' arrival. Maximize your time and ensure a smooth transition.

How to Prepare for Pre-arrival: By understanding the pre-arrival process, prepare to welcome the sponsored refugees. From logistics to cultural orientation, you'll learn how to create a supportive environment for their arrival.

After the Refugees Arrive to Month Thirteen: Discover the essential post-arrival responsibilities and strategies for effective integration during the first year of sponsorship. Empower the newcomers and foster their successful settlement.

Date: June 13th to July 25th, 2023
Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM PDT
Hybrid Sessions

[REGISTER HERE](#)



SESSIONS NOW OPEN

A BILINGUAL INFORMATION SESSION ON BECOMING A SAH

This information session is specifically for organizations that have been incorporated for at least two years and intend to apply to become a SAH in 2023.

In this webinar, you will learn about the eligibility requirements, the application process, and the required supporting documents for applying to become a Sponsorship Agreement Holder.

[LEARN MORE](#)