



BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER

Octoberber, 2024

WHO ARE WE?

Welcome, everyone! This is the newsletter from the BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP) team. Here, you can find the latest updates, schedule of our services, upcoming events, and community resources.

BCNSP program is to support the social and economic integration of newcomers to the BC province who are not eligible for federally funded settlement services. The program aims to help clients achieve their best possible settlement outcomes.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

The BCNSP offers new workshops and events at no cost! Check out our monthly scheduled agenda below.

Some workshops require registration in advance and have eligibility requirements. Connect with us for the most up-to-date news! Email us at bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca.





Need to improve your English proficiency?

We offer **FREE** English classes & practice for all levels (beginner, intermediate, advanced) that you can join to improve your language skills. These classes are available in-person or online at various locations. Please contact BCNSP team (bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca) to learn about available classes and eligibility requirements.



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

FREE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE IN LANGFORD

FREE ENGLISH

<p>WHO CAN REGISTER?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Permit Holders • Study Permit Holders* • Naturalized Canadian Citizens • Refugee Claimants* • Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders • BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates <p><small>(*restrictions applied)</small></p>	<p>English Grammar & Conversation</p> <p>Every Thursday, starting July 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: Pre Beginner / Beginner* • 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM: Elementary / Pre-Intermediate** <p>At Coastal Offices (328 Wale Rd # 132, Colwood, BC, V9B 1J2)</p>
<p>For free registration, please email: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca</p>	
<p>*Pre Beginner/Beginner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ideal for those new to the English language. - Focus on basic grammar, vocabulary, simple sentences, and everyday conversation skills. - Friendly and supportive environment. 	<p>For more information about schedule, please contact:</p> <p>Zahra Dehini Settlement Counsellor & ELT Instructor Zahra@vircs.bc.ca / 236-638-4750</p>

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BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN WESTSHORE

FREE ENGLISH

<p>WHO CAN REGISTER?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits * • Naturalized Canadian Citizens * <p><small>(*restrictions applied)</small></p>	<p>Every Wednesday, starting April 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: ELT I & II • 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM: ELT III & IV <p>At Greater Victoria Public Library - Juan de Fuca Branch (1759 Island Highway, Victoria, V9B 1J1)</p>
<p>To register, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca</p>	
<p>We also provide</p> <p>Immigration and Settlement Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration consultation through law clinic, information & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms Labour market services • Pre-employment training • Networking info, support related to workplace issues, job search resources, resume/cover letter review <p>English Language Training (formal/ informal)</p>	<p>Meet us at our info table - outreach in the library</p> <p>Every Wednesday 12:00pm - 2:00pm</p> <p>for more information!</p>

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*Please see page 5 and 6 for full details of our English classes schedule

LGBTQ2S+ Awareness Workshop

Join us for private sessions to learn about and share your experiences with Queer and Trans individuals, including communication strategies, allyship, and understanding cultural and belief differences.

Date & Time: please see the poster

Location: Fort Tectoria
(777 Fort St, Victoria, BC)

For free registration, please contact Natasha: natasha@vircs.bc.ca



LGBTQ2S+ AWARENESS FOR ESL STUDENTS WORKSHOP SERIES

<p>SESSION 1 QUEER BASICS SEPT. 5, 5-7 PM</p>	<p>This workshop Series will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide basic understanding of Diversity & Language • Provide in depth understanding & experiences of Queer & Trans folks • Provide Tools to communicate and allyship • Provide multiple learning formats, simplicity for ESL learners & understanding of cultural & belief differences <p>Please contact Natasha for more details of Workshop Series. natasha@vircs.bc.ca</p> <p>Facilitated by: Corey Keith, BSW, MED Educator, Consultant</p> <p>Corey Keith's Website: </p>
<p>SESSION 2 COLONIZATION & 2 SPIRIT OCT. 5, 5-7 PM</p>	
<p>SESSION 3 QUEERNESS & THE GLOBE, IMMIGRATION NOV. 7, 5-7 PM</p>	
<p>SESSION 4 FAMILY & ALLYSHIP JAN. 30, 5-7 PM</p>	

LOCATION 777 Fort St.

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BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

EXPLORE *Job opportunities*



New to Canada Program

Are you **a newcomer business owner** looking to grow your business in Greater Victoria Region?

ELIGIBILITY

You **must** present a valid business license and have been in Canada for three or less years.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Comprehensive support in the development of your business through the provision of two years of membership with the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Community engagement opportunities

Apply Here:



In this section, you will find information about job fairs and employment workshops taking place in the Greater Victoria area. We understand that immigrating and finding a new job can be challenging, and we want to support you during this journey.

BCNSP offers various services to increase workforce readiness and knowledge of job market.

All BCNSP services are provided at no charge and delivered with cultural sensitivity and confidentiality.

Our labor market support includes:

- Information, Orientation, and networking
- Information on workplace rights and responsibilities and supports
- Employment counseling
- Short-term pre-employment training
- Supported access to WorkBC and other provincial/federal employment training programs

**The employment services are open to certain eligibility.*

Email us for more info:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca



Volunteer Fair

Join us to learn about various organizations, discover meaningful volunteer opportunities, and network with fellow volunteers. This is your chance to find a cause you're passionate about and make a real impact in the community.

For more information, please contact

George Colussi

george@volunteervictoria.bc.ca

Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location: Camosun College Lansdowne Campus
(3100 Foul Bay Road Fisher Building, Victoria, BC)

The fair will be held in Sherri Bell Hall in the Wilna Thomas Building.

OCTOBER 2024

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

**Are you temporary residents in Canada?
Do you have immigration questions?**

Our law clinic offer free consultation for eligible clients who are:

- Work Permit Holders
- Study Permit Holders*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens
- Refugee Claimants*
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders
- BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates.




By Registered Canadian Immigration Consultant - Immigration Refugee Board (RCIC - IRB)

Funded by / Financé par: 

For free registration and more information, please email: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

BCNSP is organizing numerous free informative workshops and family activities throughout the Greater Victoria area. Be sure to register early to secure your spot!

Immigration Law Clinic

If you have immigration-related questions such as Pathways to Permanent Residency, Temporary Foreign Worker Programs, or updated information about immigration policies, we can provide for you free limited consultations with a suitable immigration consultant/lawyer.

For free registration, please contact:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)



FORM FILLING SUPPORT CLINIC

FREE

A FREE SERVICE FOR IMMIGRANTS AND NEWCOMERS

Our BCNSP team of settlement counselors can assist you with filling out forms and preparing supporting documents for non-immigration applications including but not limited to:

- BC Services Card
- BC Housing
- Canada Child Benefit (CCB)
- Income Assistance
- Canada Dental Care Plan
- School registration
- LIFE program
- And more



LOCATIONS

- **GVPL-Nellie McClung Branch:** every Tuesday 2 - 4 PM (3950 Cedar Hill Rd, Victoria, V8P 3Z9)
- **GVPL-Saanich Centennial Branch:** every Thursday 11 - 1 PM (3110 Tillicum Rd, Victoria, V9A 6T2)
- **VIRL-Sooke Branch:** 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month 10:30 - 12 PM (6671 Wadams Way, Sooke, BC, V9Z 0A4)

All BCNSP services are free of charge and confidential. We deliver services in different languages and at accessible locations.

To book an appointment or for more information, please contact: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

WHO WE SERVE

- Work Permit Holders
- Study Permit Holders*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens
- Refugee Claimants*
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders
- BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates

Form Filling Support Clinic

Navigating government websites and resources to apply for benefits can be challenging! Our team of experienced settlement counselors can help you with filling out forms and preparing supporting documents for non-immigration applications. Meet us at different Greater Victoria Public Libraries (GVPLs). Details of the locations and time are listed in the poster.

To book a free appointment, please email:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca



WORKSHOP CALENDAR

Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday	Friday
1 Law Clinic (By appointment only) Contact BCNSP team to book an appointment. bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca **Pronunciation Class To register, please contact Jennifer. jen@vircs.bc.ca Program Eligibility - Work Permit Holders - Study Permit Holders* - Naturalized Canadian Citizens - Refugee Claimants* - CUAET visa holders - BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates. * Restrictions apply		2 Law Clinic* (Z) 9:00-10:00am Law Clinic* (I) 1:00-3:00pm		3 Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	Colonization and 2-spirit 5:00 - 7:00pm Corey Keith @ VIATEC	4 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @VIRCS Pronunciation Class** (Week 8 of 8) David 1:00-3:00pm
7 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	Law Clinic* (M) In-person 1:30-3:30pm		9 Law Clinic* (Z) 9:00-10:00am Law Clinic* (I) 1:00-3:00pm	Drop in Peer Support 1:00-3:00pm @VIRCS Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL Juan de Fuca	10 Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	11 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @VIRCS Pronunciation Class** (Week 1 of 8) David 1:00-3:00pm
VIRCS CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY			16 Law Clinic* (Z) 9:00-10:00am Law Clinic* (I) 1:00-3:00pm	Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL Juan de Fuca	17 Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	18 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @VIRCS Pronunciation Class** (Week 2 of 8) David 1:00-3:00pm
21 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	Law Clinic* (M) In-person 1:30-3:30pm	22 Law Clinic* (A) 1:30-3:30pm	23 Law Clinic* (Z) 9:00-10:00am Law Clinic* (I) 1:00-3:00pm	Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL Juan de Fuca	24 Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	25 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @VIRCS Pronunciation Class** (Week 3 of 8) David 1:00-3:00pm
28 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	Law Clinic* (M) In-person 1:30-3:30pm	29	30 Law Clinic* (Z) 9:00-10:00am Law Clinic* (I) 1:00-3:00pm	Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL Juan de Fuca	31 Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	Advanced English Conversation TBA * Employment services (*Open to certain eligible clients only) -Pre-employment training -Resume /Cover Letter Review Contact Serena Lee, Employment Coordinator at serena@vircs.bc.ca @VIATEC: Tectoria, 777 Fort Street, Victoria, BC @Coastal Offices: 328 Wale Rd #132, Colwood, BC @Juan de Fuca: 1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC.



October 2024

Check out our full workshops calendar and don't hesitate join our activities. We look forward to seeing you here. Send us an email at: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca



ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (ELT) CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	2 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	3 ELT I- II 12:00PM – 1:30AM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	4 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow
7 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	8 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	9 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	10 ELT I- II 12:00PM – 1:30AM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	11 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow
14 VIRCS CLOSED HAPPY THANKSGIVING	15 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	16 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	17 ELT I- II 12:00PM – 1:30AM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	18 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow
21 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	22 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	23 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	24 ELT I- II 12:00PM – 1:30AM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	25 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow
28 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	29 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	30 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	31 ELT I- II 12:00PM – 1:30AM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	31 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow
Do you want to join English class? 1. Email Settlement Worker at bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to register. 2. Have a short assessment with Mike to determine a suitable class for you.			3. Meet our ELT Instructors and enjoy the classes. • GVPL Juan de Fuca Branch-1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC V9B 1J1 City of lights Church - 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, V9A 1K5	
				Program Eligibility • Temporary Foreign Workers* • Naturalized Citizens* * Restrictions apply



October 2024

The English Learning Training (ELT) is available for FREE for Temporary Foreign Workers and Naturalized Canadian Citizens only (restrictions applied). For registration, please send an email to:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca.