



# BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM

## *NEWSLETTER*

**November, 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](mailto: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](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)) to learn about available classes and eligibility requirements.



**BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)**

**FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN SAANICH**

**FREE ENGLISH**

**WHO CAN REGISTER?**

- Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits \*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens \*

(\*restrictions applied)

**Every Wednesday, starting April 2024**

- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM: ELT I & II
- 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM: ELT III & IV

At 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, V9A 1K5 (City Light Church)

**To register, please email us:**  
[bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)

**We also provide**

**Immigration and Settlement Services**

- 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

English Language Training (formal/ informal)

Let's stay connected!  
You can find more information about us at:  
<https://www.vircs.bc.ca/bcnsp>

Funded by / Financé par:

**BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)**

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**FREE ENGLISH**

**WHO CAN REGISTER?**

- Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits \*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens \*

(\*restrictions applied)

**Every Wednesday, starting April 2024**

- 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM: ELT I & II
- 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM: ELT III & IV

At Greater Victoria Public Library – Juan de Fuca Branch  
(1759 Island Highway, Victoria, V9B 1J1)

**To register, please email us:**  
[bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)

**We also provide**

**Immigration and Settlement Services**

- 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

English Language Training (formal/ informal)

Meet us at our info table - outreach in the library

**Every Wednesday**  
**12:00pm - 2:00pm**

for more information!

Funded by / Financé par:

**\*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](mailto:natasha@vircs.bc.ca)



**LGBTQ2S+ AWARENESS FOR ESL STUDENTS WORKSHOP SERIES**

**SESSION 1**  
QUEER BASICS  
SEPT. 5, 5-7 PM

**SESSION 2**  
COLONIZATION & 2 SPIRIT  
OCT. 5, 5-7 PM

**SESSION 3**  
QUEERNESS & THE GLOBE, IMMIGRATION  
NOV. 7, 5-7 PM

**SESSION 4**  
FAMILY & ALLYSHIP  
JAN. 30, 5-7 PM

**LOCATION** 777 Fort St.

Funded by / Financé par:

**This workshop Series will**

- 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

Please contact **Natasha** for more details of Workshop Series.  
[natasha@vircs.bc.ca](mailto:natasha@vircs.bc.ca)

**Facilitated by:**  
Corey Keith, BSW, MED  
Educator, Consultant

Corey Keith's Website:

**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](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)



## *E-Connect for Temporary Foreign Workers in BC*

The online learning program offers flexibility in hours and the convenience of studying from home so you can continue working while you study.

Online Topics Include

- **Understanding the Canadian Workplace**
- **Job Search Support & Webinars**
- **Practicing Assertiveness, Stress Management and Conflict Resolution**
- **Learning Tips on Clear Communication**

For more information, please contact

[tfwonline@issbc.org](mailto:tfwonline@issbc.org)  
604-374-3405





# NOVEMBER 2024 SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

## MENTAL HEALTH Workshop Series

Facilitated by Dr. Nasserri from VICCIR

- **Session 1: The art and science of well-being. How to create your personalized wellness plan**  
Thursday, October 17th  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 2: Healing from trauma. Trauma-informed response and self-care**  
Tuesday, October 29th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
1004 North Park St (VICRS)
- **Session 3: Creating healthy conflict-free relationships. The art of effective communication**  
Thursday, November 14th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 4: Race unity, cultural diversity, and world citizenship. The antidote to racism, micro-aggression, and hate**  
Thursday, November 28th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 5: TBA**  
Thursday, January 16th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 6: TBA**  
Thursday, January 30th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 7: TBA**  
Thursday, February 13th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 8: TBA**  
Thursday, February 27th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 9: TBA**  
Thursday, March 13th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)
- **Session 10: TBA**  
Thursday, March 27th  
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM  
550 Obed Avenue (City Light Church)

**FOR FREE REGISTRATION**  
email: [bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)

To learn more about VICCIR and their services, please visit:  
<https://www.viccir.org/>

## Mental Wellness Series

### Facilitated by Dr. Nasserri from VICCIR

Each session is designed to address key aspects of well-being, from developing a personalized wellness plan to healing from trauma and enhancing communication skills. Participants will gain practical tools and insights to foster healthier relationships and promote cultural understanding.

Join us to connect, learn, and grow together!

**Date & Time & Location:** please see the poster

For free registration, please contact:

[bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)

JOIN US FOR A

## Community Planting Party

**Esquimalt Gorge Park**  
November 1st | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Help restore the Gorge Waterway! Participants will help plant native vegetation to support coastal resilience and conservation efforts at the Gorge. This event is for diverse community members who wish to strengthen their connection to nature through hands-on experience. Visit the link below for more information.

**What to bring:**

- Water bottle
- Gardening gloves (optional)
- Weather-appropriate shoes and clothing

**What is provided:**

- Tools
- Gardening gloves
- Light snacks
- Instruction & guidance

ESQUIMALT  
GREEN SHORES

STEWARDSHIP CENTRE  
FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

Link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/4tdf9td>

## Community Planting Party

Join us in planting native to help improve ecosystem health, create valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, and protect against flooding and erosion along the Gorge Waterway.

This event welcomes members of diverse communities who wish to strengthen their connection to nature and their community, including People of Colour, Indigenous peoples, 2SLGBTQ+ folk, persons with disabilities and other functional or access needs, new immigrants, women, seniors, and youth.

To register for this event : [Eventbrite page.](#)



# WORKSHOP CALENDAR

Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Friday	
<b>Program Eligibility * Restrictions apply</b> · Work Permit Holders · Study Permit Holders* · Naturalized Canadian Citizens · Refugee Claimants* · CUAET visa holders · BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates.			<b>*Law Clinic (By appointment only)</b> Contact BCNSP team to book an appointment. <a href="mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca">bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca</a>  <b>**Pronunciation Class</b> To register, please contact Jennifer, <a href="mailto:esl@vircs.bc.ca">esl@vircs.bc.ca</a>			<b>1</b> <b>Community Planting</b> 11:00am – 2:00pm @Esquimalt Gorge Park <b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena <b>Pronunciation Class**</b> 1:00-3:00pm David	
<b>4</b> <b>Online Functional English for Daily Life</b> 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	<b>Law Clinic* (M)</b> In-person 1:30-3:30pm	<b>5</b> <b>Law Clinic* (A)</b> In-person 2:00-3:00pm	<b>6</b> <b>Law Clinic* (I)</b> 1:00-3:00pm	<b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL-Juan de Fuca	<b>7</b> <b>Beginner Grammar and Conversation</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  <b>Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation</b> 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	<b>Queerness and the Globe, Immigration</b> 5:00 - 7:00pm Corey Keith & Mary @ VIATEC	<b>8</b> <b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena <b>Pronunciation Class**</b> 1:00-3:00pm David
<b>VIRCS Closed</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Law Clinic* (I)</b> 1:00-3:00pm	<b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL-Juan de Fuca  <b>Drop in Peer Support</b> 1:00-3:00pm @VIRCS	<b>14</b> <b>Beginner Grammar and Conversation</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  <b>Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation</b> 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	<b>Mental Health workshop Series-Session 3</b> 11:30 am – 1:30 pm VICCIR @City Light Church  <b>Intermediate/Advanced English Conversation</b> 5:00 - 7:00pm Mary@ VIATEC	<b>15</b> <b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena <b>Pronunciation Class**</b> 1:00-3:00pm David
<b>18</b> <b>Online Functional English for Daily Life</b> 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra		<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Law Clinic* (I)</b> 1:00-3:00pm	<b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL-Juan de Fuca	<b>21</b> <b>Beginner Grammar and Conversation</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  <b>Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation</b> 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	<b>Intermediate/Advanced English Conversation</b> 5:00 - 7:00pm Mary@ VIATEC	<b>22</b> <b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena <b>Pronunciation Class**</b> 1:00-3:00pm David
<b>25</b> <b>Online Functional English for Daily Life</b> 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	<b>Law Clinic* (M)</b> In-person 1:30-3:30pm	<b>26</b> <b>Mini Drum Making</b> 1:00-3:00pm OASIS @OASIS *Please email <a href="mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca">bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca</a> to register	<b>27</b> <b>Law Clinic* (I)</b> 1:00-3:00pm	<b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena @ GVPL-Juan de Fuca	<b>28</b> <b>Beginner Grammar and Conversation</b> 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  <b>Pre intermediate Grammar and Conversation</b> 1:45pm - 3:45 pm Zahra @ Coastal Offices	<b>Mental Health workshop Series-Session 4</b> 11:30 am – 1:30 pm VICCIR @City Light Church  <b>Intermediate/Advanced English Conversation</b> 5:00 - 7:00pm Mary@ VIATEC	<b>29</b> <b>Employment Cafe</b> 12:00-2:00pm Serena <b>Pronunciation Class**</b> 1:00-3:00pm David
<b>• Employment services</b> (*Open to certain eligible clients only) -Pre-employment training -Resume /Cover Letter Review Contact Serena Lee, Employment Coordinator at <a href="mailto:serena@vircs.bc.ca">serena@vircs.bc.ca</a>					<b>@VIATEC:</b> Tectoria, 777 Fort Street, Victoria, BC <b>@Coastal Offices:</b> 328 Wale Rd #132, Colwood, BC <b>@GVPL-Juan de Fuca:</b> 1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC <b>@City Light Church:</b> 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria bc. <b>@Esquimalt Gorge Park:</b> 1070 Tillicum Rd, Esquimalt, BC V9A 2A1		



## November 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](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca)





# ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (ELT) CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Do you want to join English class?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Email Settlement Worker at <a href="mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca">bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca</a> to register.</li> <li>Have a short assessment with Mike to determine a suitable class for you.</li> <li>Meet our ELT Instructors and enjoy the classes.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>GVPL Juan de Fuca Branch</b> - 1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC V9B 1J1</li> <li><b>City of lights Church</b> - 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, V9A 1K5</li> </ul>			<p><b>Program Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temporary Foreign Workers*</li> <li>Naturalized Citizens*</li> </ul> <p>* Restrictions apply</p>	1
<p>4</p> <p>ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow</p> <p>ELT I D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley</p>	<p>5</p> <p>ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow</p>	<p>6</p> <p>ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley</p>	<p>7</p> <p>ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow</p>	8
<p>11</p> <p><b>VIRCS CLOSED</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p>ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow</p>	<p>13</p> <p>ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley</p>	<p>14</p> <p>ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30PM – 1:30PM @City of lights Mike Carrow</p>	15
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## November 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](mailto:bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca).