

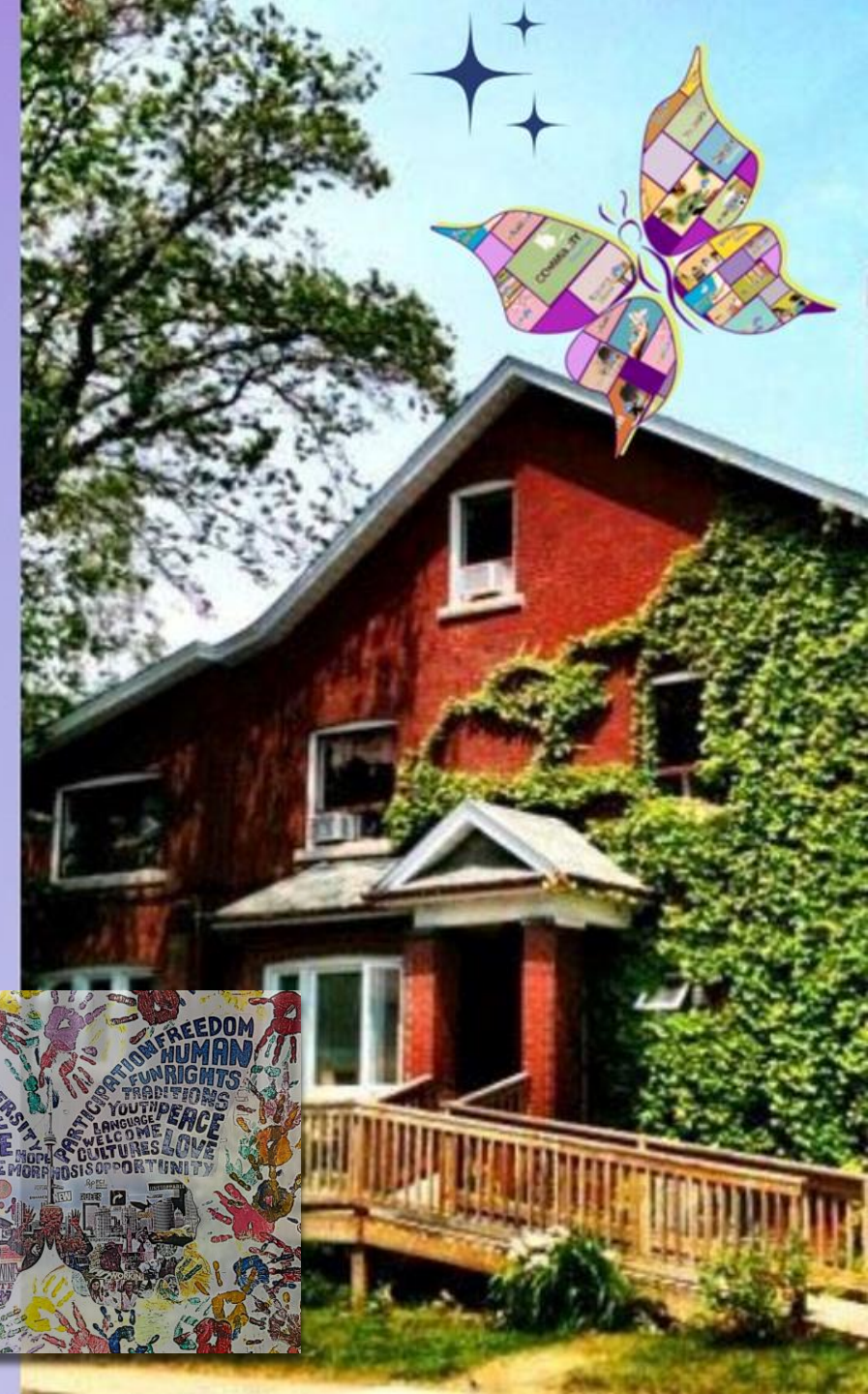
TDSB ENROLLMENT WEBINAR

Presented by:

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Youth & Access To Education Coordinator – FCJ Refugee Centre

Supported by funding from Maytree



OVERVIEW

- Land Acknowledgement
- FCJ Refugee Centre
- Precarious Status & Implications with Education
- Education System in Canada – Ontario Education Act
- Fee Eligibility & Accessing Education
- School Boards & TDSB Registration Process

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The land we are gathering on today is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation; and the Williams Treaty signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

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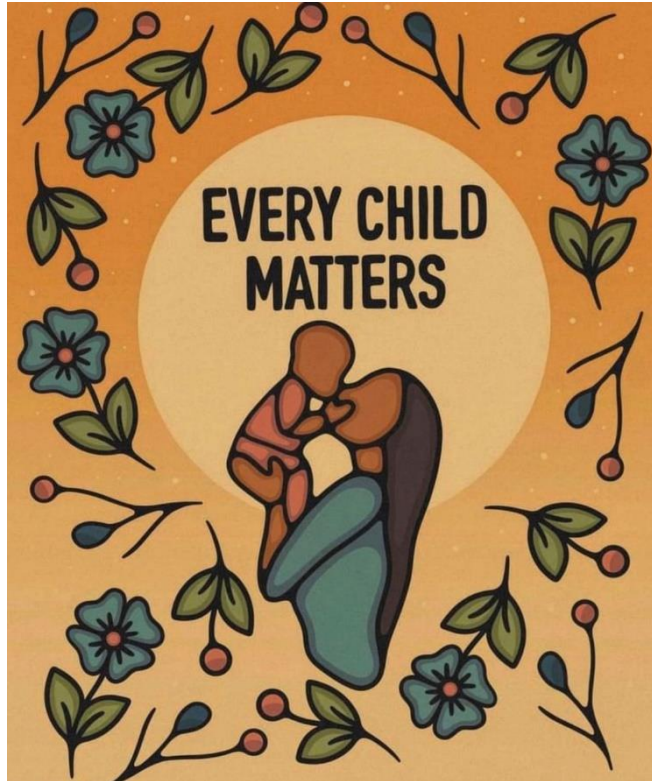


Image by Alanah Jewell,
Morning Star Designs
<https://www.instagram.com/morning.star.designs/?hl=en>

We must reflect upon the true and terrible foundation upon which Canada was built.

On stolen land.

With stolen sons and daughters.

On July 1st we did not celebrate.

On September 30th we did not celebrate.

We reflected. We mourned.

We stand in solidarity.

This time demands from us thoughtful consideration of the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Report.

We must demand action from our elected officials.

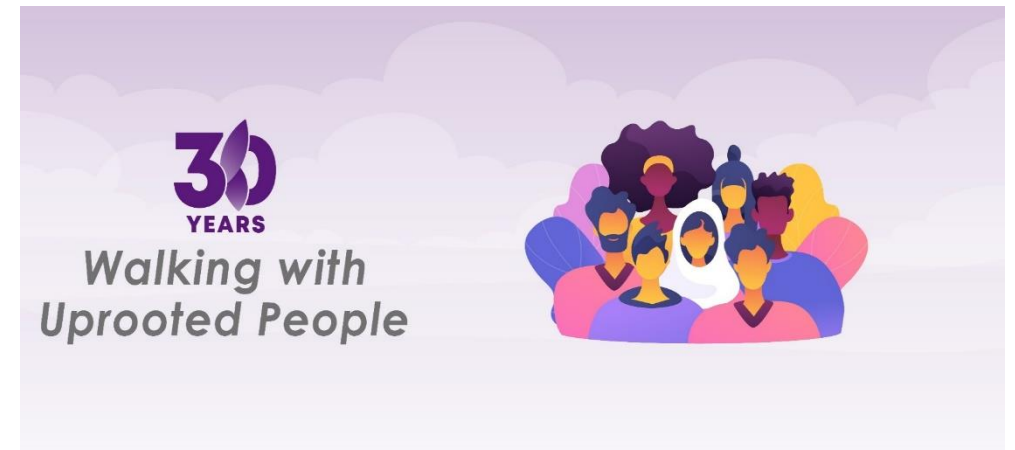
We must demand that all children are taught the true history of the land upon which we live.

...and still counting

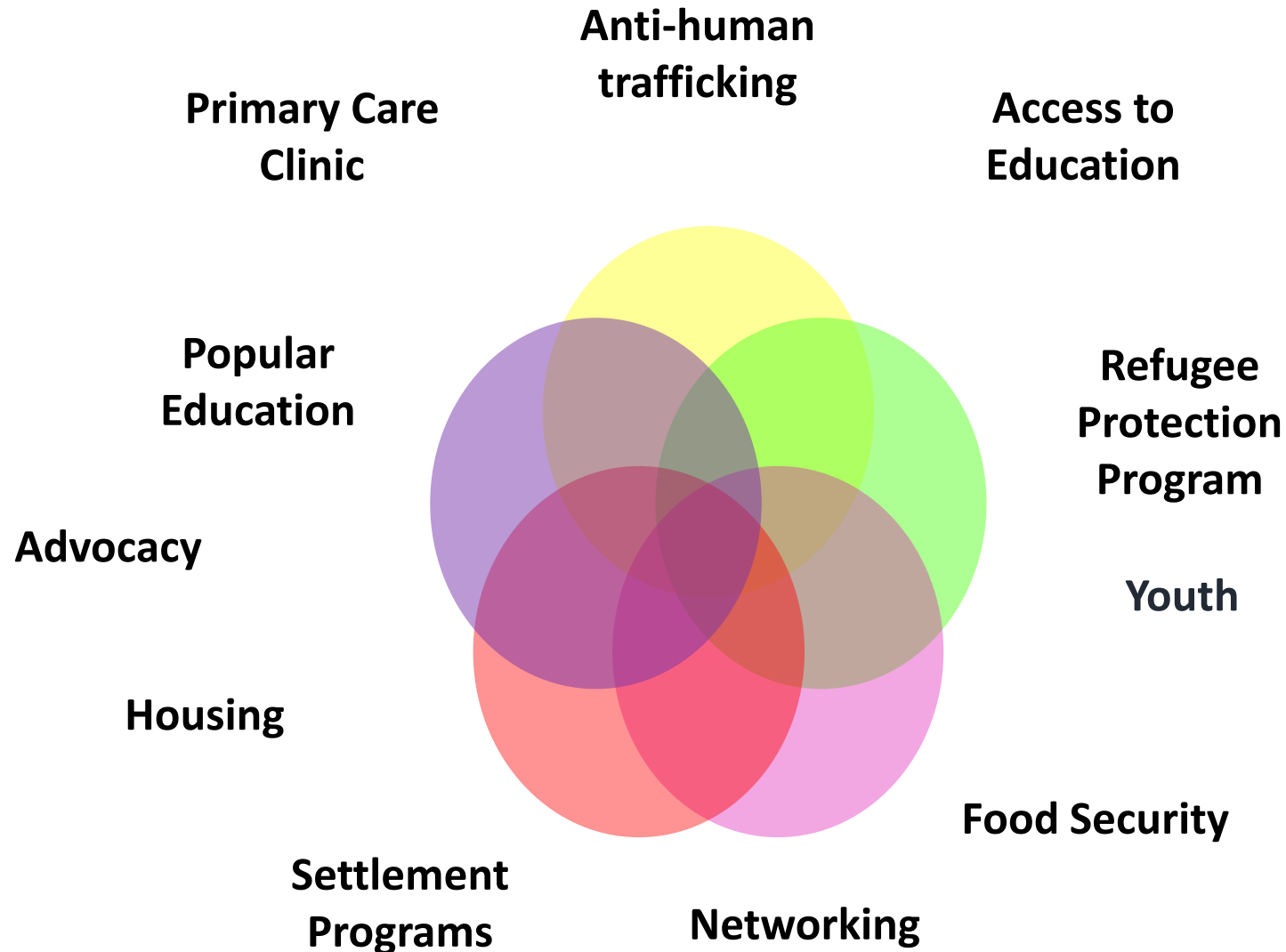
FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE WALKING WITH UPROOTED PEOPLE

- We are a non-profit organization which serves refugees and others at risk due to their immigration status
- We welcome anyone asking for advice, counsel and support regarding these issues.
- We address systemic issues that newly arrived refugee claimants and persons with precarious immigrations status face in Canada including: lack of resources, marginalization, and discrimination.



FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE



REGULARIZED VS. PRECARIOUS STATUS

What are examples of 'regularized' status?

- Canadian Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- Convention Refugee
- Protected person
- International student*
- Visitor*

What are examples of 'precarious' status?

- Refugee Claimants
- Refused Refugee Claimants
- International student*
- Visitor*
- Those caught in limbo due to immigration policy changes
- Victims & Survivors of Human Trafficking
- Those involved in sponsorship breakdown
- Anyone without official immigration status living in Canada

IMPLICATIONS OF LIVING WITH PRECARIOUS STATUS

- Immigration Policies are ever changing - ability to regularize status becomes more difficult
- Lack of access to public and social services – healthcare, education, stable and secure employment.
- Lack of financial stability
- Lack of recognition of academic or professional credentials/experience from country of origin
- Separation from family, personal networks
- Fear of contacting police or authorities in an emergency, for fear of detention or deportation
- Living in fear and with uncertainty about the future
- Manipulation & oppression from institutions and individuals in positions of power

EDUCATION SYSTEM IN CANADA

- Education in Canada is Provincially Administered
- The Ministry of Education is the ministry of the Government of Ontario responsible for government policy, funding, curriculum planning and direction in all levels of public education, including elementary and secondary schools.

EDUCATION ACT

Section 49.1

Section 49.1 was added to the *Education Act* in 1993 to ensure that minor children are not denied an education because of their immigration status or that of their parents. The section reads as follows:

“

A person who is otherwise entitled to be admitted to a school and who is less than eighteen years of age shall not be refused admission because the person or the person's parent or guardian is unlawfully in Canada.

FEES: DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

What are examples of 'domestic' status?

- Canadian Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- Convention Refugee
- Protected person
- Refugee Claimant*
- Rejected Refugee Claimant*
- Non-status*
- Minor Child of International Student*
- Minor Child of Work Permit Holder*

What are examples of 'international' status?

- Visitor/Tourist (less than 6 months in Canada)
- Foreign National outside Canada

ACCESS TO ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

- School aged children who have arrived in Canada as visitors must wait 6 months before entering school
- School aged children who have made a port-of-entry refugee claim can enter right away as they will have the Letter of Acknowledgement of Claim
- School aged children who have made an inland refugee claim need to wait for their refugee documents to enter school
- School aged children with parents who hold a valid Study or Work Permit before the child is enrolled in school have the same fee exemption as domestic students

However...

- School aged children who have arrived in Canada as visitors must wait 6 months before entering school*
 - *students must prove date of entry
 - *students 'can' enter right away if one parent has been living in Canada for over 6 months
 - *parent must prove date of entry into Canada
 - *family must prove residence in Toronto – added complications if outside GTA
 - *challenges with different visa type
 - *alternative custody arrangements from outside Canada are not respected
- School aged children who have made an asylum claim in Canada can enter right away*
 - *delays caused by assessment tests
 - *schools refusing admission without additional documentation from Board
- *lack of communication between Boards *TDSB/TCDSB and partner institutions (schools, assessment centres etc.)

PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS IN TORONTO

- TDSB (Toronto District School Board)
- TCDSB (Toronto Catholic District School Board)

TDSB (TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD)

- Newcomer students will be directed to the *International Students and Admissions Office*

Email: studytoronto@tdsb.on.ca

Telephone: 416-395-8120

Fax: 416-395-8476

Mail:

**International Students and
Admissions Office**

Toronto District School Board

5050 Yonge Street 1st floor

Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M2N 5N8

HOW TO FIND YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL?

Find Your School By Address

Find Your School by Searching the Street Name

To find the school that serves your residential address for REGULAR PROGRAMS, please enter the name of your street.

[CLICK HERE!](#)

NOTE: do not add street number, street type, or punctuation.
(For example, type in st andrews, instead of 100 St. Andrew's St.)

Number of Records Per Page:

Find the Streets in Your School Attendance Area

To find all streets in a school attendance area, please select a school from the dropdown list.

Number of Records Per Page:

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

WHERE CAN I REGISTER?

- You can register your child at the school in-person

OR

- You can register online here - [CLICK HERE!](#)



Registration

Important Notes:

A link to the registration form for the upcoming school year (**beginning September 2023**) will be available here on **Wednesday, February 1, 2023**. Please do not use any of the below links for 2023-24 registrations.

Recommended browsers to use are Google, Edge and Firefox.

Use this link to register your child for the current school year 2022-23:

[Register K – Gr 12 for the Current School Year](#)

If your address is linked to a technical or commercial boundary and you would like to register your child at one of the schools listed below for the current school year, please use this form:

[Register Gr 9 – Gr 12 for Schools with Technical or Commercial Programs](#)

(Application to Central Technical School, Central Toronto Academy, Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute, Northern Secondary School, Victoria Park Collegiate Institute, Western Technical-Commercial School)

WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED?

- Passport (parents + child(ren))
- Birth Certificate (child(ren))
- 2 different Proof of address (this can be rental agreement, bank statement/letter, phone bill, utility bill, etc.)
- Refugee status documents if you are a refugee (parents + child(ren)); or
- Entry stamps/plane tickets/boarding passes from the day you entered Canada if you are non-status (parents + child(ren)); or
- Immigration documents if you are a Study/Work permit holder (parents + child(ren))

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

**YOU CAN REACH OUT TO US IF YOU NEED
SUPPORT SECURING AN ENROLLMENT LETTER
OR SUPPORT LETTER FOR YOUR PROCESS**

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

Connect with us:

 416-469-9754

 437-217-3786

 info@fcjrefugeecentre.org

 fcjrefugeecentre.org

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 FCJ Refugee Centre

QUESTIONS?

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