



Winter Newsletter

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE

WINTER 2016

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO EDUCATION *for precarious immigration status youth*

When: APRIL 15TH
FROM 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
*Registration @ 9:30 AM
Followed by a light lunch*

Where: STEELWORKERS HALL
Address: 25 CECIL ST. TORONTO, ON M5T 1N1

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: pacherman@fcjrefugeecentre.org



Community Roundtable to Improve Access to Education for Newcomer Youth

With a particular focus on youth here with some form of precarious immigration status, this is the first of two roundtables to address the inequitable experiences of newcomer youth in Ontario High Schools. This discussion will build on the Uprooted Education Project – a year-long participatory research project undertaken by members of the FCJ Youth Network, resulting in *The Uprooted Education 2016 Ontario Report*.

The *Uprooted Education 2016 Ontario Report* is the result of a project undertaken by members of the FCJ Youth Network to explore how the unique trajectories and social locations of migrant youth

with precarious immigration status intersect with access to, and involvement in, Ontario high schools. The report attempts to detail these experiences through five salient themes, and offer insight into promising practices and possibilities to ignite change.

We would like to especially thank the Laidlaw Foundation for their support, as well as the many organizations and individuals that lent their voices to this project.

We consider this report to be an organic document, and hope that it is valuable in not only raising awareness of this issue in Ontario, but laying further groundwork for its continued exploration across

Canada. As such, this project has been inspired and influenced by many others, and we hope that it will continue to be improved upon and made relevant to other institutions, organizations and areas of work.

Please join us for a short panel presentation, followed by a day of lively discussion, complimented by light refreshments and some artistic performances.

When: Friday, 15 April 2016
From: 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM
Where: 25 Cecil Street Toronto, ON M5T

Registration at
accesstoeducation.eventbrite.ca

SETTLEMENT PROGRAM



Temporary shelter for women and Support Groups

Beside temporary shelter for women and children, we provide on-going information-sharing on issues relevant to women adapting to a new culture.

Some of the settlement programs include: Counselling, English classes, Community kitchen and Yoga classes.

Primary Health Care Clinic new schedule


FCJ Refugee Centre has a Primary Care Clinic that is open on Wednesdays (09:30am to 12:00pm) and Saturdays (09:00am to 1:00pm) with appointments. We are funded by Inner City Health Associates (ICHA). Please note that this is a free service for uninsured clients or those who don't have a care provider elsewhere. The service is provided by a health team: Dr. Jim Sugiyama, Dr. Ritika Goel, Dr. Susan Woolhouse, Dr. Naheed Dosani and our nurse Sister Ann McGill. Please contact Haben at (416) 469-9754 ext. 230 to book an appointment.



Thank you cake for Georvina and Auri who finished their work period at FCJ Refugee Centre. We wish you all the best.



Haben, Loly, Julia and Dr. Ritika (from left to right)



FREE YOGA CLASSES

TIME
From 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Every Friday
One session per week
12 sessions

FREE CHILDCARE & SNACKS

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE
208 Oakwood Ave.
Toronto, ON
416-469-9754 ext.230
www.fcjrefugeecentre.org
February 19, 2016 to May 6, 2016

START DATE:
FRIDAY 19/02/16

YOGA CLASSES

Yoga is about creating balance in between the mind and body through meditation and poses, designed to increase strength, flexibility, and energy.

Location: 208 Oakwood Ave, Toronto

DROP-IN SESSIONS

COME AND JOIN OUR CLASS AND MEET NEW PEOPLE.

FCJ Refugee Centre
Welcoming the uprooted for 25 years!

I joined the Primary Health Care Clinic team with Ritika, Sister Anne, Haben and Loly. Since volunteering here, I have learned so much about Ontario's healthcare system, its lack of resources for refugees, and moreover how confusing it is to navigate through. I wanted to help vulnerable populations and I always really admired refugees, so decided to learn more about this group by doing some volunteer work. FCJ was the perfect place for me to come to learn about refugees because of the range of services they provide to them. Every day I come to FCJ Refugee Centre, I learn something new, and I know there is much more for me to learn before I have a full of understanding of the policies related to refugees in Toronto.

Julia Oloif

Immigration and Refugee Protection Program

We welcome anyone asking for assistance, counsel and support regarding immigration issues. New clients are welcome to benefit through The Immigration and Refugee Protection Program. We schedule intakes for new clients on Mondays from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and Thursdays from 9:30 am to 12:00 .

Some of the components of this program are: Helping refugee claimants within Canada with every step of the refugee determination process; helping with Humanitarian & Compassionate applications, spousal sponsorship applications, work permit, etc.

Uprooted U Junior

Members of the FCJ Youth Network started a small program to support young students who come to Canada and cannot access school immediately due to their status. The Ontario Education Act says that any student regardless of immigration status is allowed to gain access to schools, yet many are turned away and are made to go through various processes in order to prove their residency in Canada. One of the many types of students that get turned away are visitors – those who come to Canada with a visitor's visa with their parents but cannot go to school unless they pay 'international fees'. The program runs on Thursdays and Fridays from 3 to 5pm at FCJ Refugee Centre location.



Mini Travelling Service Hubs

This initiative aims to provide services to underserved and marginalized newcomer populations in the Toronto South area who do not traditionally seek out services at agency sites. The project is coordinated by the Toronto South LIP agencies, providing travelling services in host spaces in the Toronto South area. The goal of the Mini Hubs is to reduce barriers to service access by providing marginalized, underserved newcomers in the Toronto South area with customized services based on their needs and location. FCJ Refugee Centre is participating by offering services that we provide to the wider population.



I am working as Immigration and Refugee caseworker. The main task is to help people who haven't



regularized their immigration status. The majority of the cases are those who have been denied their applications for permanent residence for different reasons. But there are also people who want to sponsor their family members whether for temporary visit or for permanent residence, who need a work permit, new refugee claims and legal aid processing. It is not an easy task as the people find it difficult to understand the complexity of the process. It takes patience and resilience to win or facilitate a case to win. Some of the clients come with little documents and information to support their cases which slows down the process. However, as I am passionate about helping people, I enjoy the work.

Semere Kesete



Youth presentation during the Coalition of Service Providers meeting at FCJ Refugee Centre.

Hearing preparation and Refugee Appeal process

CALENDAR	
Ready Tour	RAD
March 17	March 24
April 7	April 14
April 21	April 28
May 5	May 12
May 19	May 26
June 2	June 9
June 16	June 23

Upcoming sessions of Hearing Preparation and Refugee Appeal Session. Both sessions are free and take place in the afternoon time at the IRB location. If you have clients who would like to participate in these sessions contact

Carolina Teves: cteves@fcjrefugeecentre.org
 Front line workers are welcome to join the sessions with their clients. If you need interpretation please let us know in advance.

FREE ORIENTATION FOR REFUGEE CLAIMANTS APPEALING THEIR NEGATIVE DECISION TO THE REFUGEE APPEAL DIVISION (RAD) OF THE IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE BOARD (IRB)

RAD Info-session

I received a negative decision in my hearing, what should I do?
 Am I eligible to appeal?
 Where should I go if I want to appeal?
 Who can help me to prepare an appeal?

RAD information session
 RAD information sessions will provide the Appellant with a FREE opportunity to be better prepared for the submission of their appeal before the RAD:
 -What you need to do to appeal your negative decision?
 -The documents you need for your appeal
 -What happens during an appeal to the RAD?

REGISTRATION
<http://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org>
 E-mail: Carolina Teves
cteves@fcjrefugeecentre.org

RAD info-sessions are hosted by the Coalition of Service Providers for Refugee Claimants in Southern Ontario in partnership with the Refugee Appeal Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.

Supported by

The READY TOUR provides Refugee Claimants with a FREE opportunity to be better prepared for their hearing, see a hearing room, learn what happens at the hearing, and ask questions about the process.

RAD information sessions are a FREE opportunity to be better prepared for the presentation of their appeal before the RAD. During the last year more than 300 participants received information about Hearing preparation and the appeal process.

We want to thank the The Law Foundation of Ontario for their support of our training workshops and informative sessions.



Are you a refugee claimant?

You are invited to participate in a tour of one of the IRB-RPD refugee hearing rooms in Toronto!

Ready tour

What is going to happen during my hearing?
 How can I be ready for my refugee hearing?
 Who is going to be there?
 What is the place like where I have to go for my hearing?

LEARN

- How to navigate the refugee hearing process
- What is a refugee hearing
- What to expect at the hearing
- Who might participate at the hearing

READY tours take place twice a month at 74 Victoria Street, Toronto, ON the 4th Floor.
 Registration: www.readytour.ca
 E-mail: info@readytour.ca
 First Contact toll-free phone number 1-866-902-1993
 Refugee Hearing Guide available at: <http://www.kimbrax.ca>

READY Tour is hosted by the Coalition of Service Providers for Refugee Claimants in Southern Ontario and the Canadian Red Cross First Contact program in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Refugee Protection Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.

Supported by