



Times Colonist Story (June 8, 2016) 'For Syrian Refugee in Victoria, the beat goes on'
 (<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/for-syrian-refugee-in-victoria-the-beat-goes-on-1.2273104>)
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REFUGEE READINESS FUND NEWSLETTER #11

Syrian Resettlement in BC

JULY 27, 2016

Resources to help Refugees

Renting it Right (<http://www.rentingitright.ca/>)

The Tenant Resource and Advocacy Centre (TRAC) and Justice Education Society have collaborated to create a free online course to help renters and those assisting them to:

- Identify rental needs
- Find the right place
- Learn about the rental housing process
- Understand rights and responsibilities
- Increase confidence about tenancy

Participants receive a certificate of completion.

The course outline includes expert answers to frequently asked questions, as well as additional online resources.

Red Cross Refugee Buddy

The Red Cross has recently launched a brand-new free app, available on Google Play for android, that offers mobile resources for immigrants and refugees. This app, entitled "Red Cross Refugee Buddy" provides up-to-date information to refugees in the Netherlands and Canada. With links for translation, latest news, first aid and asylum-seeking procedure, this app will help

counteract some challenges faced by newcomers in Canada.

Download the app at:
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.afrogleap.refugeebuddy&hl=en>

Onboarding Syrian Refugees: A Toolkit for Employers (<http://iecbc.ca/sites/default/files/doc/IEC-BC%20Onboarding%20Syrian%20Refugees%20Toolkit.pdf>) .

The Immigrant Employment Council of BC (IEC-BC) has created a toolkit to help BC employers more effectively recruit, hire, onboard and retain a diverse workforce that includes Syrian refugees. Employers utilizing the resources will increase their:

- knowledge of culturally sensitive hiring and retention practices,
- ability to create more inclusive workplaces

The toolkit provides information, guidelines, tips, and best practices to aid employers in onboarding newly arrived Syrian refugees – and other newcomers – in a variety of workplace environments, as well as providing background information on Syrian refugees.

Refugeehealth.ca (<http://www.refugeehealth.ca/cultures/syria-o>) .

Information on health and mental health for Syrian refugees, including:

- Arabic-speaking community pharmacists
- Dentists in Metro Vancouver who accept IFH, some of whom speak Arabic
- Interior Health Newcomer & Refugee Care

FALL ARRIVALS AND RRF NEWSLETTERS

BC is anticipating approximately 1,300 Syrian Government Assisted Refugees from March 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016, of whom 127 individuals have arrived to date. The majority of remaining arrivals are anticipated from September to December.

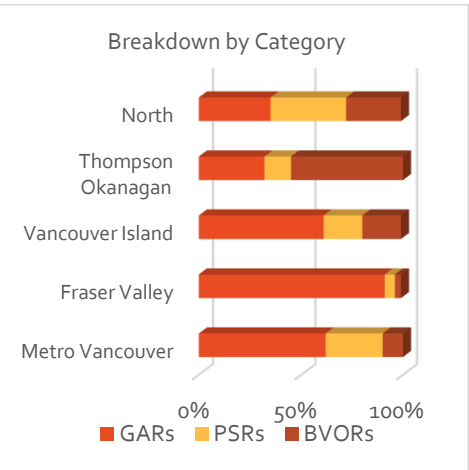
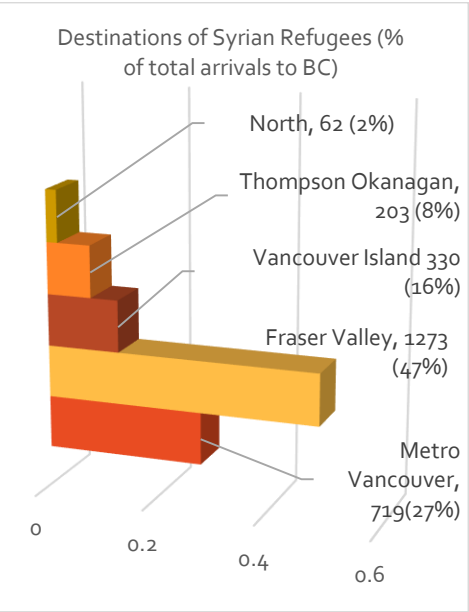
To ensure the provision of up-to-date information ISSofBC RRF Newsletters will be released monthly in July and August, & then bi-weekly until December 31, 2016.



BC Refugee Readiness Fund is part of the WelcomeBC umbrella of services, made possible through funding from the Province of British Columbia

SYRIAN REFUGEES IN BC (NOV 4/15 – JULY 27/16)

The following information reflects PSRs and BVORs admitted, as well as GAR settlement patterns. Geographic regions are consistent with BC Refugee Readiness Team boundaries.



OPERATION SYRIAN REFUGEE & ONGOING RESETTLEMENT

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is providing regular updates (Monday to Friday) on Milestones and Key Figures associated with Operation Syrian Refugee (OSR), as well as ongoing resettlement efforts (ORE) (see <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/welcome/milestones.asp>)

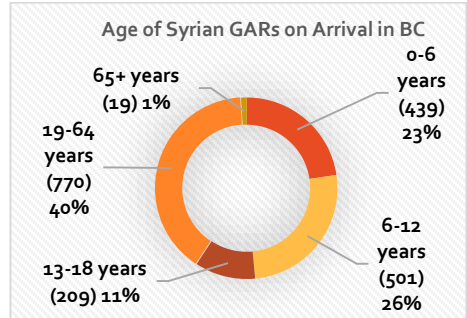
As of July 17, 2016, Canada has welcomed 29,207 Syrian refugees, including: 16,025 Government Assisted Refugees, 2,765 Blended Visa Office-Referral Refugees and 10,417 Privately Sponsored Refugees.

Updates on Syrian GARs in BC

There are two phases of resettlement:

- Operation Syrian Refugee (OSR) - Nov 4/15 – Feb 29/16, and
- Ongoing resettlement efforts (ORE) – March 1/16 – Present.

Since November 4, 2015 and as of July 27, 2016, BC has welcomed **1938** Syrian GAR individuals / **457** family units.

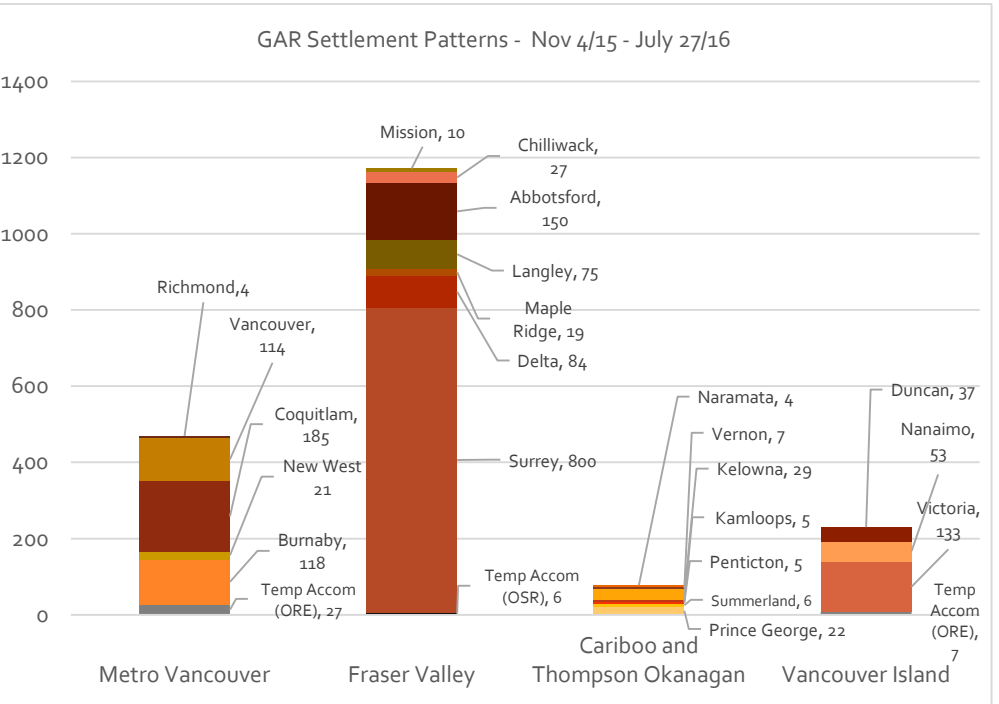


Sixty percent (60%) of Syrian GAR arrivals are age 18 and under. Thirty-five percent (37%) of Syrian GAR arrivals are of school age (6 – 18 years). Almost one in four arrivals are children under age 6.

Syrian GAR Settlement Patterns

As of May 24, 2016,

- 6 Syrian GAR individuals / 1 units remain in temporary accommodations (OSR)
- 50 Syrian GAR individuals / 9 units are in temporary accommodations (ORE)
- 1843 Syrian GAR individual / 441 units have moved into permanent housing



SYRIAN GAR ARRIVALS: NOV 4 – JULY 27

1938
Syrian GAR individuals

457
Syrian GAR units

BC'S RESPONSE: NOV 4 – JULY 27

55
BC communities have welcomed Syrian refugees

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information, resources and training materials are available on our website (<http://www.issbc.org/prim-corp-nav/our-work-with-refugees>), as well as the Refugee Resettlement Hub (www.refugeehub.issbc.org). For further information please contact:

EMAIL: refugee.crisis@issbc.org