



BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM *NEWSLETTER*

August 2026

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

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



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

WHO ARE WE?

BCNSP program is to provide free services to temporary residents and Naturalized Canadians living in the Greater Victoria. The program aims to help clients achieve their best possible settlement outcomes and successfully integrate into the Canadian society.

Contact information

 bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

 www.vircs.bc.ca

 250-361-9433

 1004 North Park St



EVENTS HIGHLIGHT



Funded by / Financé par:
 

FREE

Beach Exploration and Wellness

Thursday, August 13, 2026
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Rainbow Park (201 Robert St, V9A 3X1)

Are you looking for activities to do during summer break? Come and join our **FREE** Beach Exploration and Wellness workshop! In this intertidal exploration, get an up-close visit with our weird, wacky, and wonderful coastal neighbours! Learn how we can explore our new homes while still being respectful to the non-living and living (including humans!) things that we find and who have called these places home for thousands of years. Then discuss how we, as a community, can make positive and impactful choices in our everyday lives.





Environmental educator Stephanie Chong (she/her) believes in encouraging curiosity, a joy of being outdoors, and environmental responsibility. In her spare time, you'll find her looking for wiggly creatures or in the garden. Stephanie has been fortunate to call the traditional territories of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples her home for the past four years.

For free registration and more information, please contact:
wing@vircs.bc.ca /
236-638-4749

**LIMITED SPOTS
PLEASE REGISTER
IN ADVANCE!**

children, youth,
adults welcome!

Bus tickets
available

Beach Exploration and Wellness

This is a great outdoor activity for summer break. You will get an up-close visit with different coastal creatures and learn how to be respectful in their natural habitats.

Join us on:

Thursday, August 13, 2026
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Rainbow Park (201 Robert St)

For more info, please email
wing@vircs.bc.ca

Horse Farm Visit

This is a free, limited opportunity to take horse riding lesson and enjoy the farm experience.

Date, time, and location To Be Determined

Prior registration is required. Please email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca



EXPLORE Job opportunities

In this section, you will find information about job fairs and employment workshops taking place in the Greater Victoria area, as well as in other regions such as Vancouver.

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 the job market.

Our labor market support includes:

- Information, Orientation, and networking
- Information on workplace rights and responsibilities and supports
- Employment counseling
- Short-term pre-employment training
- 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



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BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM (BCNSP)

Employment Clinic

Are you feeling stuck in your job search? Unsure about the next steps to take? We are here to help!

Our employment coordinator can provide you with:

- resume and cover letter review
- networking and job market navigation
- information and resources tailored to enhance your job search journey
- pre-employment training (First Aid, Food Safe, and WHMIS)
- skilled-based workshops to enhance your skills

Services are available to VIRCS clients who are

- Work permit holders*
- Study Permit Holders*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens*
- Refugee Claimants*

* Restrictions apply

FREE



Available Online or In-person

To book a free appointment, please email: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

Training Available

Elevate Your Skills!

Training Available:



Emergency First Aid

Food Safe

Availability:

- Limited spots available
- One course per person
- Waitlist available when the course is full
- Register by emailing bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca with your name, phone number, and a brief reason for taking the course
- Questions? Contact Hiro at bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca

Register Today

WorkBC Centre | Westshore Sooke

FREE WORKSHOP

Mature Workers Workshop

Thursday, August 20 | 1:00 PM

#202 - 3179 Jacklin Rd, Victoria

WorkBC Centre Westshore
(250) 478-9525
<https://workbccentre-langford.ca/>



This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.



WorkBC Centre Sooke
(250) 642-3685
<https://workbccentre-sooke.ca/>

To Register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/mature-workers-workshop-tickets-1994882958630?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Overview

Are you a seasoned professional seeking work? Join the Mature Workers workshop at WorkBC Centre Westshore!

Join the Mature Workers workshop to:

- Explore the unique qualities of each generation in the workforce
- Discover the latest job search techniques
- Gain insights on highlighting your lived experience in resumes and interviews
- Boost your confidence and empower yourself to showcase your skills
- Explore free employment services and resources available with WorkBC Centres.

Leaving this workshop, you will be equipped with resources to help you succeed and the confidence to take the next steps in your job search.



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

FREE ENGLISH CLASSES



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 *
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders (*restrictions applied)

English for Everyday Communication

Pre-intermediate/Intermediate Level

- Every Thursday
- 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

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

For free registration, please email:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

We also provide free

Settlement Services

- Immigration appointments through law clinic, 1-on-1 settlement services & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms, community connections

Employment services

- Pre-employment trainings
- Information sessions, support related to workplace issues, job search resources, resume/cover letter review

English classes (online/ in-person)

- Formal English classes and Grammar & Conversation practice

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

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BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)



FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN WESTSHORE

FREE
ENGLISH

WHO CAN REGISTER?

- Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits *
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens *
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders (*restrictions applied)

English for Everyday Communication

Pre-intermediate/Intermediate Level

- Every Wednesday
- 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM

1759 Island Highway, Victoria, V9B 1J1 (GVPL- Juan de Fuca Branch)

For free registration, please email:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

We also provide free

Settlement Services

- Immigration appointments through law clinic, 1-on-1 settlement services & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms, community connections

Employment services

- Pre-employment trainings
- Information sessions, support related to workplace issues, job search resources, resume/cover letter review

English classes (online/ in-person)

- Formal English classes and Grammar & Conversation practice

Let's stay connected!
You can find more information about us at:
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FREE ONLINE ENGLISH CLASS

FREE
ENGLISH

WHO CAN REGISTER?

- Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits *
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens *
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders (*restrictions applied)

Online Formal ELT Intermediate Level

Tuesdays, starting March 24, 2026

- 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
- Through Zoom

For free registration, please email us:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

About the instructor

Sedi is an experienced and excellent English language instructor. She is passionate about creating engaging, meaningful learning experiences in a welcoming, student-centered classroom.

"I enjoy helping learners build confidence in their English and connect what they learn to real life. I create a space where everyone feels comfortable joining in, taking risks, and growing together."

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

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BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)



FREE ONLINE BEGINNER ENGLISH CLASS

FREE
ENGLISH

WHO CAN REGISTER?

- Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits *
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens *
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders (*restrictions applied)

Everyday English for

Beginners - Online Course

Saturdays, starting May 9, 2026

- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
- Through Zoom

For free registration, please email us:

bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

About the instructor

Sedi is an experienced and excellent English language instructor. She is passionate about creating engaging, meaningful learning experiences in a welcoming, student-centered classroom.

"I enjoy helping learners build confidence in their English and connect what they learn to real life. I create a space where everyone feels comfortable joining in, taking risks, and growing together."

What you can learn:

Build confidence in everyday English!
Learn basic English skills and useful daily/life conversations.

Funded by / Financé par:





ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (ELT) CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
How to register for free English class? 1. Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to assess your eligibility. 2. Have a short assessment with Mike to determine your level.	Program Eligibility - Temporary Foreign Workers* - CUAET-visa holders - Naturalized Canadian Citizens* *Restrictions apply	Class Locations - GVPL Juan de Fuca Branch - 1759 Island Hwy, V9B1J1 - City Light Church - 550 Obed Avenue, V9A 1K5 - VIRCS - 1004 North Park St, V8T 1C6			1 Online Everyday Beginner Class (ELT 1) 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Sedi)
3 B.C. Day VIRCS Closed	4 ELT 2 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike Online ELT 2-3 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (Sedi)	5 ELT 3 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David English for Everyday Communication 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	6 English for Everyday Communication 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Light Church - Mike	7	8 Online Everyday Beginner Class (ELT 1) 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Sedi)
10 ELT 1 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT 1a 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT 1_D 9:15 AM - 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	11 ELT 2 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike Online ELT 2-3 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (Sedi)	12 ELT 3 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David English for Everyday Communication 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	13 English for Everyday Communication 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Light Church - Mike	14	15 Online Everyday Beginner Class (ELT 1) 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Sedi)
17 ELT 1 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT 1a 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT 1_D 9:15 AM - 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	18 ELT 2 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike Online ELT 2-3 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (Sedi)	19 ELT 3 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David English for Everyday Communication 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	20 English for Everyday Communication 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Light Church - Mike	21	22 Online Everyday Beginner Class (ELT 1) 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Sedi)
24 ELT 1 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT 1a 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT 1_D 9:15 AM - 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	25 ELT 2 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike Online ELT 2-3 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (Sedi)	26 ELT 3 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David English for Everyday Communication 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	27 English for Everyday Communication 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Light Church - Mike	28	29 Online Everyday Beginner Class (ELT 1) 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Sedi)

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



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

August 2026

The English Language Training (ELT) is available for **FREE** for Temporary Foreign Workers, CUAET-visa holders and Naturalized Canadian Citizens only (restrictions applied).



WORKSHOP CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 B.C. Day VIRCS Closed	4 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	5 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	6 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	7 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM David @VIRCS
10 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	11 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment Horse Farm Visit Date and time TBD Prior registration is required. Please email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca	12 Income Assistance Clinic 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Heather @VIRCS *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	13 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM David @VIRCS Beach Exploration 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Email wing@vircs.bc.ca for free registration	14 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM David @VIRCS
17 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	18 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	19 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	20 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	21 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM David @VIRCS
24 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	25 *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	26 Income Assistance Clinic 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Heather @VIRCS	27 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	28 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM David @VIRCS
31 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) *Employment Clinic Hiro – by appointment	Program Eligibility - Work Permit Holders - Study Permit Holders** - Naturalized Canadian Citizens Refugee Claimants** - CUAET visa holders - BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates. Locations VIRCS: 1004 North Park St Hotel Inn Express: 318 Wale Rd *Employment Clinic (online or in-person) *Open to certain eligible clients - Pre-employment training - Resume /Cover Letter Review - Employment workshops and job search navigation. Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to book an appointment ** Restrictions apply			

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



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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