



BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM *NEWSLETTER*

February 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.

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.





BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)		BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)		BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)	
 FREE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE IN WESTSHORE		 FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN WESTSHORE		 FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN SAANICH	
FREE ENGLISH		FREE ENGLISH		FREE ENGLISH	
WHO CAN REGISTER? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Permit Holders • Study Permit Holders* • Naturalized Canadian Citizens • Refugee Claimants* • Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders • BC Provincial Nominees or BCNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates 	English Grammar & Conversation Every Thursday, starting January 9th, 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: Pre Beginner / Beginner* • 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM: Elementary / Pre-Intermediate** At Coastal Offices (328 Wale Rd # 132, Colwood, BC, V9B 1J2)	WHO CAN REGISTER? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits * • Naturalized Canadian Citizens * • Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders 	Every Wednesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: ELT I & II • 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM: ELT III & IV At Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) - Juan de Fuca Branch (1759 Island Highway, Victoria, V9B 1J1)	WHO CAN REGISTER? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Foreign Workers with valid work permits * • Naturalized Canadian Citizens * • Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders 	Every Thursday, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)
For free registration, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca		For free registration, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca		For free registration, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca	
*Pre Beginner/Beginner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideal for those new to the English language. • Focus on basic grammar, vocabulary, simple sentences, and everyday conversation skills. • Friendly and supportive environment. 	For more information about schedule, please contact: Zahra Dehini Settlement Counsellor & ELT Instructor Zahra@vircs.bc.ca / 778-587-9205	We also provide free Immigration and Settlement Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • immigration consultation through law clinic, information & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms Labour market services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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!	We also provide free Immigration and Settlement Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • immigration consultation through law clinic, information & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms Labour market services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
					

*Please see page 5 and 6 for full details of our English classes schedule

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) to learn about available classes and eligibility requirements.



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




BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM (BCNSP)

Employment Café

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
- and more.

Come and meet us at:

@ VIRCS
(1004 North Park St, Victoria, V8T 1C6)
Fridays,
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

FREE

Services are available to VIRCS clients who are

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

* Restrictions apply

For more information or to book an appointment, please email:
bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca

Funded by / Financé par:



DUNCAN JOB FAIR

March 5, 2026 | 12 - 4 pm
Cowichan Community Centre
2687 James St



WorkBC Centre Duncan
250.748.9880
workbccentre-duncan.ca
centre-duncan@workbc.ca

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

Vancouver Island Events Industry Social

Tuesday, February 17th, 2026
4:30pm-6:30pm
Oak Bay Marina



Registration link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/.../vancouver-island-events...>



GREATER VICTORIA CAREER AND EDUCATION EXPO

SKIP THE LINE!
REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS!
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
FREE ADMISSION

TITLE SPONSOR
BC Corrections

FEB. 5 | 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

BAY STREET ARMOURY
715 Bay Street, Victoria, B.C.

All BCNSP services are free of charge and delivered with cultural sensitivity and confidentiality



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

FEBRUARY 2026 WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS



Project Management Tools for Job Search

Every Monday, starting February 9, 2026
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
At VIRCS

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

Job Search Program
Using
Project Management Tools

Course Description:
Find a job in Canada or change careers with confidence. In this 6-week course, you will learn how to plan your job search like a project, set goals, build a clear strategy, get noticed by employers and AI systems, and take step-by-step action toward your career goals.

Instructors

Olga Gould
MSc, MEng
Instructor of UVIC and
Camosun College
Founder and Chief Data
Officer of GLF Venture Inc.

Iván Rincón
P.Eng., PMP, PgMP, PM-RMP,
CISA
Executive Director of Project
Management Connectivity at the
Ministry of Citizens' Services, BC

Light refreshments provided!

Bus tickets provided!

GET Certificate of Completion!

Key Features:

- Organise your job hunt
- Set goals & tasks
- Track your progress
- Boost your efficiency

6 sessions:
Every Monday from
Feb 9, 2026 - Mar 23, 2026
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
VIRCS ESL Room
1004 N Park St, Victoria, BC V8T 1C6

Registration contact: bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca

2SLGBTQIA+ 1-on-1 Clinic

Every Tuesday, starting February 3, 2026
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
at VIRCS

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



Self-care and Well-being Workshop By VICCIR

Date and Time: To Be Determined

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





WORKSHOP CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Functional English for Daily Life (Online) 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra)	3 Immigration Law Clinic* (E) 10:00 AM -12:00 PM 2SLGBTQIA+ 1-on-1 session 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Corey @VIRCS	4 Immigration Law Clinic* (I) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Income Assistance Clinic 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Heather @VIRCS	5 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	6 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM David @VIRCS Employment Cafe 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Hiro @VIRCS
9 PM Tools for Job Search 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM @VIRCS Functional English for Daily Life (Online) 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra)	10 Immigration Law Clinic* (E) 10:00 AM -12:00 PM 2SLGBTQIA+ 1-on-1 session 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Corey @VIRCS	11 Immigration Law Clinic* (M) 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	12 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	13 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM David @VIRCS Employment Cafe 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Hiro @VIRCS
16 VIRCS Closed Family Day	17 Immigration Law Clinic* (E) 10:00 AM -12:00 PM 2SLGBTQIA+ 1-on-1 session 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Corey @VIRCS	18	19 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM David @VIRCS	20 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM David @VIRCS Employment Cafe 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Hiro @VIRCS
23 PM Tools for Job Search 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM @VIRCS Functional English for Daily Life (Online) 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra)	24 Immigration Law Clinic* (E) 10:00 AM -12:00 PM 2SLGBTQIA+ 1-on-1 session 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Corey @VIRCS	25 Immigration Law Clinic* (M) 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Immigration Law Clinic* (I) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Income Assistance Clinic 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Heather @VIRCS	26 Pronunciation Class 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM David @VIRCS Queer Basics 2SLGBTQIA+ 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM Corey @City Lights Church	27 Pronunciation Class 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM David @VIRCS Employment Cafe 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Hiro @VIRCS
Program Eligibility - Work Permit Holders - Study Permit Holders* - Naturalized Canadian Citizens - Refugee Claimants* - CUAET visa holders - BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates. * Restrictions apply		Locations VIRCS: 1004 North Park St, V8T 1C6 Coastal Offices: 328 Wale Rd #132, V9B 0J8 City Lights Church: 550 Obed Ave, V9A 1K5		Employment services *Open to certain eligible clients - Pre-employment training - Resume /Cover Letter Review - Employment workshops and job search navigation Contact bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to know more about eligibility requirements and registration info.

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



ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (ELT) CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 ELT I 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT I A 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT I D 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	3 ELT II 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike	4 ELT III 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David ELT I - II 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM ELT III - IV 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	5 ELT I - II 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ELT III - IV 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Lights Church - Mike	6
9 ELT I 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT I A 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT I D 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	10 ELT II 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike	11 ELT III 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David ELT I - II 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM ELT III - IV 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	12 ELT I - II 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ELT III - IV 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Lights Church - Mike	13
16 VIRCS Closed Family Day	17 ELT II 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike	18 ELT III 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David ELT I - II 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM ELT III - IV 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	19 ELT I - II 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ELT III - IV 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Lights Church - Mike	20
23 ELT I 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM ELT I A 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM @VIRCS - Mike ELT I D 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM @VIRCS - David	24 ELT II 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - Mike	25 ELT III 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS - David ELT I - II 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM ELT III - IV 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca - Mike	26 ELT I - II 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM ELT III - IV 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM @City Lights Church - Mike	27
How to register for free English class? 1. Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to assess your eligibility requirements. 2. Have a short assessment with the ELT Instructor to determine a suitable class for you.		Class Locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GVPL Juan de Fuca Branch - 1759 Island Hwy, V9B 1J1 City Lights Church - 550 Obed Avenue, V9A 1K5 VIRCS - 1004 North Park St, V8T 1C6 		Program Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Foreign Workers* CUAET-visa holders Naturalized Citizens* * Restrictions apply

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

February 2026

The English Language Training (ELT) is available for **FREE** for Temporary Foreign Workers, CUAET-visa holders and Naturalized Canadian Citizens only (restrictions applied). For registration, please send an email to: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca.

