

# BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM

# NEWSLETTER

## November 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




# WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS




## Create, Connect, and Stay Moving

This is a wonderful opportunity for you to connect, have fun, and engage with body and mind in a welcoming environment. Join us on:

**Friday, November 13 & 27**
**12:00 PM - 1:30 PM**
**VIRCS (1004 North Park St)**

For free registration, please email farnoush@vircs.bc.ca




## Career Success in Canada_Module 3: Create

**In this session, you will explore your business ideas, learn the basics of marketing and budgeting, and discover funding opportunities and resources to help you start or grow your business.**

**Wednesdays, Nov 18 & 25, 2026**
**4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**
**VIRCS (1004 North Park St.)**

Please email Serena@vircs.bc.ca for more information

# 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**




Click here for more information




Click here for more information




## VIATEC AI Meetup: Business Track

**Are you curious about how AI can transform your business and career?**

**Join us at the VIATEC AI Meetup. Everyone is welcome.**

Click here for more information

## The ABC's of the ESA

**Scheduled sessions:**
**November 10, 2026 from 9:30 to 11 am**

Learn the basics of the Employment Standards Act.

**Topics include:**

- Basic definitions
- Regular wages
- Hours of work
- Statutory holiday pay
- Deductions
- Annual vacation

Click here for more information

# FREE IN-PERSON ENGLISH CLASSES

## How to register for BCNSP free English classes:

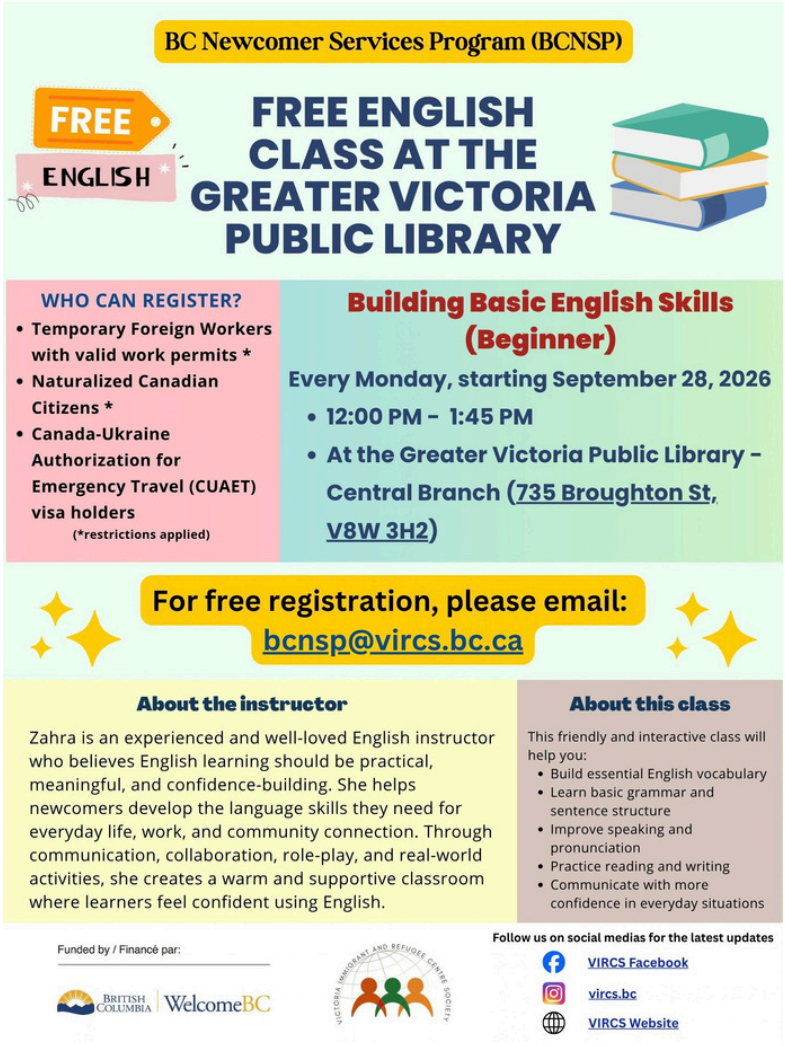
**Step 1:** Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

**Step 2:** Indicate your immigration status and your self-assessed English level (low beginner, beginner, upper-beginner, pre-intermediate, intermediate, upper-intermediate).

**Step 3:** A settlement counsellor will email you an intake form to fill out. You also need to send a picture of your immigration document to verify the eligibility.

**Step 4:** Depending on the type of class, you may need to do a short speaking assessment with our English instructor. A settlement counsellor will let you know.

**Step 5:** Enjoy the class!






# FREE IN-PERSON ENGLISH CLASSES
## (CONTINUED)

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

Follow us on social medias for the latest updates
- VIRCS Facebook
- vircs.bc
- VIRCS Website



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BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

## FREE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE IN WESTSHORE

FREE ENGLISH

**WHO CAN REGISTER?**
- Work Permit Holders
- Study Permit Holders*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens
- Refugee Claimants*
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders
- BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates
(*restrictions applied)

**English Grammar & Conversation**

Every Thursday,
- 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM: Upper Beginner/Elementary*
- 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM: Pre-Intermediate/ Intermediate**

At Hotel Inn Express (318 Wale Rd, Colwood, BC, V9B 2W3)

**For free registration, please email us:**
bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

***Upper Beginner/Elementary:**
Join our friendly and supportive English class designed for beginners and elementary learners! Build your confidence in speaking, listening, reading, and writing through simple lessons, everyday vocabulary, and practical conversations.
In this class, you will:
- Learn basic grammar and sentence structure
- Practice speaking with confidence
- Improve listening and pronunciation
- Build reading and writing skills
- Meet new friends in a welcoming environment

****Pre-Intermediate/Intermediate:**
Take your English to the next level in our engaging and supportive class for pre-intermediate and intermediate learners! Strengthen your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills through real-life conversations, practical grammar, and interactive activities.
In this class, you will:
- Expand your vocabulary for everyday and workplace communication
- Improve grammar accuracy and sentence structure
- Build confidence in conversations and discussions
- Practice reading comprehension and writing skills
- Enhance pronunciation and listening abilities

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## FREE ENGLISH CLASS IN VICTORIA

FREE ENGLISH

**At VIRCS (1004 North Park St, V8T 1C6)**

**Mondays,**
- ELT 1_D, Low Beginner, 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM,
- ELT 1, Upper Beginner, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM,
- ELT 1a, Pre-intermediate, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Tuesdays**
ELT 2 – Pre-intermediate/ Intermediate, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Wednesdays**
ELT 3 – Upper Intermediate, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**For free registration, please email:**
bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

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

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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

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# FREE ONLINE ENGLISH CLASSES

BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

## FREE ONLINE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE

FREE ENGLISH

**WHO CAN REGISTER?**
- Work Permit Holders
- Study Permit Holders*
- Naturalized Canadian Citizens
- Refugee Claimants*
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) visa holders
- BC Provincial Nominees or BCPNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates

(*restrictions applied)

**Online Functional English for Daily Life (Intermediate)**
- Every Monday
- 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- Through Zoom

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

**About the instructor**

Zahra is an experienced and well-loved English instructor who believes English learning should be practical, meaningful, and confidence-building. She helps newcomers develop the language skills they need for everyday life, work, and community connection. Through communication, collaboration, role-play, and real-world activities, she creates a warm and supportive classroom where learners feel confident using English.

**What You'll Learn**
- Practical language for everyday situations
- Improve your conversation & speaking skills
- Learn about Canadian culture & holidays
- Improve your reading & listening skills
- Practice through fun discussion questions

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## FREE ONLINE INTERMEDIATE 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 Everyday English: Grammar & Sentence Structure (Intermediate)**
- Every Tuesday
- 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."*

**What You'll Learn**
- Build stronger everyday English skills with this intermediate course focused on practical grammar and clear sentence structure.
- Strengthen your accuracy, improve sentence flow, and reduce common errors. Gain the confidence to communicate with ease at work, in the community, and in daily conversations.

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## FREE ONLINE ELEMENTARY 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 Everyday English (Upper Beginner / Elementary)**
- Every Saturday
- 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.

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vircs.bc
VIRCS Website

Please check each poster for eligibility requirements. Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca for free registration and more information.



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING (ELT) CALENDAR

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2**<br>**ELT 1_D** *(Low Beginner)*<br>9:15 AM - 12:15 PM<br>@VIRCS - David<br><br>**ELT 1_Z** *(Beginner)*<br>12:00 PM - 1:45 PM<br>@Central Library - Zahra<br><br>**ELT 1** *(Upper-Beginner)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike<br><br>**ELT 1a** *(Pre-Intermediate)*<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike | **3**<br>**ELT 2** *(Pre-intermediate/Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS – Mike<br><br>Online **English Grammar & Sentence Structure** *(Intermediate)*<br>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM by Sedi | **4**<br>**ELT 3** (Upper-Intermediate) by David<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)* by Mike<br>12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca | **5**<br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 1:30 PM<br>@City Light Church - Mike | **7**<br>Online **Every English** *(Upper-Beginner / Elementary)*<br>10:30am-12:00pm<br>by Sedi |
| **9**<br>**ELT 1_D** *(Low Beginner)*<br>9:15 AM - 12:15 PM<br>@VIRCS - David<br><br>**ELT 1_Z** *(Beginner)*<br>12:00 PM - 1:45 PM<br>@Central Library - Zahra<br><br>**ELT 1** *(Upper-Beginner)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike<br><br>**ELT 1a** *(Pre-Intermediate)*<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike | **10**<br>**ELT 2** *(Pre-intermediate/Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS – Mike<br><br>Online **English Grammar & Sentence Structure** *(Intermediate)*<br>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM by Sedi | **11**<br>**Remembrance Day**<br>**VIRCS Closed** | **12**<br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 1:30 PM<br>@City Light Church - Mike | **14**<br>Online **Every English** *(Upper-Beginner / Elementary)*<br>10:30am-12:00pm<br>by Sedi |
| **16**<br>**ELT 1_D** *(Low Beginner)*<br>9:15 AM - 12:15 PM<br>@VIRCS - David<br><br>**ELT 1_Z** *(Beginner)*<br>12:00 PM - 1:45 PM<br>@Central Library - Zahra<br><br>**ELT 1** *(Upper-Beginner)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike<br><br>**ELT 1a** *(Pre-Intermediate)*<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike | **17**<br>**ELT 2** *(Pre-intermediate/Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS – Mike<br><br>Online **English Grammar & Sentence Structure** *(Intermediate)*<br>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM by Sedi | **18**<br>**ELT 3** (Upper-Intermediate) by David<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)* by Mike<br>12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca | **19**<br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 1:30 PM<br>@City Light Church - Mike | **21**<br>Online **Every English** *(Upper-Beginner / Elementary)*<br>10:30am-12:00pm<br>by Sedi |
| **23**<br>**ELT 1_D** *(Low Beginner)*<br>9:15 AM - 12:15 PM<br>@VIRCS - David<br><br>**ELT 1_Z** *(Beginner)*<br>12:00 PM - 1:45 PM<br>@Central Library - Zahra<br><br>**ELT 1** *(Upper-Beginner)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike<br><br>**ELT 1a** *(Pre-Intermediate)*<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike | **24**<br>**ELT 2** *(Pre-intermediate/Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS – Mike<br><br>Online **English Grammar & Sentence Structure** *(Intermediate)*<br>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM by Sedi | **25**<br>**ELT 3** (Upper-Intermediate) by David<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)* by Mike<br>12:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ GVPL Juan de Fuca | **26**<br>**English for Everyday Communication** *(Pre-intermediate / Intermediate)*<br>9:30 AM – 1:30 PM<br>@City Light Church - Mike | **28**<br>Online **Every English** *(Upper-Beginner / Elementary)*<br>10:30am-12:00pm<br>by Sedi |
| **30**<br>**ELT 1_D** *(Low Beginner)*<br>9:15 AM - 12:15 PM<br>@VIRCS - David<br><br>**ELT 1_Z** *(Beginner)*<br>12:00 PM - 1:45 PM<br>@Central Library - Zahra<br><br>**ELT 1** *(Upper-Beginner)*<br>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike<br><br>**ELT 1a** *(Pre-Intermediate)*<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>@VIRCS - Mike | **Program Eligibility**<br>Temporary Foreign Workers*<br>CUAET-visa holders<br>Naturalized Canadian Citizens*<br>* Restrictions apply | **Class Locations**<br>VIRCS: 1004 North Park St<br>Central Library: 735 Broughton St<br>GVPL Juan de Fuca: 1759 Island Hwy<br>City Light Church: 550 Obed Ave | **How to register for free English class?**<br>1. Email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to assess your eligibility.<br>2. Have a short assessment with the ELT Instructor to determine a suitable class for you. | |

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

BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

## November 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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2**<br>**English at Workplace** by Zahra<br>*(Intermediate/Upper-Intermediate)*<br>2:00 PM - 3:45 PM @Central Library<br><br>**Online Functional English for Daily Life** by Zahra *(Intermediate)*<br>6:00 PM – 7:30 PM through Zoom | **3** | **4**<br>**Income Assistance Clinic**<br>10:00 AM – 11:30 AM<br>@VIRCS<br><br>**MWC Clinic***<br>2:00 PM – 4:00 PM<br>@VIRCS<br><br>**Career Success in Canada (Module 2)**<br>4:00 PM - 6:00 PM<br>@VIRCS<br>✉serena@vircs.bc.ca<br>for free registration | **5**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>9:30 - 11:30 AM<br>David @VIRCS<br><br>*Upper Beginner/Elementary*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @ Hotel Inn Express<br><br>*Pre-intermediate/Intermediate*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>1:45 - 3:45 PM @ Hotel Inn Express | **6**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>David @VIRCS |
| **9**<br>**English at Workplace** by Zahra<br>*(Intermediate/Upper-Intermediate)*<br>2:00 PM - 3:45 PM @Central Library<br><br>**Online Functional English for Daily Life** by Zahra *(Intermediate)*<br>6:00 PM – 7:30 PM through Zoom | **10** | **11**<br>**Remembrance Day**<br>**VIRCS Closed** | **12**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>9:30 - 11:30 AM<br>David @VIRCS<br><br>*Upper Beginner/Elementary*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @ Hotel Inn Express<br><br>*Pre-intermediate/Intermediate*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>1:45 - 3:45 PM @ Hotel Inn Express – | **13**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>1:00-3:00 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**Workshop with Brittany**<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @VIRCS<br>✉farnoush@vircs.bc.ca<br>for free registration |
| **16**<br>**English at Workplace** by Zahra<br>*(Intermediate/Upper-Intermediate)*<br>2:00 PM - 3:45 PM @Central Library<br><br>**Online Functional English for Daily Life** by Zahra *(Intermediate)*<br>6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) | **17** | **18**<br>**Income Assistance Clinic**<br>10:00 AM – 11:30 AM<br>@VIRCS<br><br>**MWC Clinic***<br>2:00 PM – 4:00 PM<br>@VIRCS<br><br>**Career Success in Canada (Module 3)**<br>4:00 PM - 6:00 PM<br>@VIRCS<br>✉serena@vircs.bc.ca<br>for free registration | **19**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>9:30 - 11:30 AM<br>David @VIRCS<br><br>*Upper Beginner/Elementary*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @ Hotel Inn Express<br><br>*Pre-intermediate/Intermediate*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>1:45 - 3:45 PM @ Hotel Inn Express | **20**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM<br>David @VIRCS |
| **23**<br>**English at Workplace** by Zahra<br>*(Intermediate/Upper-Intermediate)*<br>2:00 PM - 3:45 PM @Central Library<br><br>**Online Functional English for Daily Life** by Zahra *(Intermediate)*<br>6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Zahra) | **24** | **25**<br>**MWC Clinic***<br>2:00 PM – 4:00 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**Career Success in Canada (Module 3)**<br>4:00 PM - 6:00 PM @VIRCS<br>✉serena@vircs.bc.ca for free registration | **26**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>9:30 - 11:30 AM<br>David @VIRCS<br><br>*Upper Beginner/Elementary*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @ Hotel Inn Express<br><br>*Pre-intermediate/Intermediate*<br>**Grammar & Conversation** by Zahra<br>1:45 - 3:45 PM @ Hotel Inn Express | **27**<br>**Pronunciation Class**<br>1:00-3:00 PM @VIRCS<br><br>**Workshop with Brittany**<br>12:00 - 1:30 PM @VIRCS<br>✉farnoush@vircs.bc.ca<br>for free registration |
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**For free registration and more information, please email bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca**

BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

## November 2026

Check out our upcoming activities. We look forward to seeing you. Send us an email at: **bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca**