



BC NEWCOMER SERVICES PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER

November 2025

Welcome, everyone! This is the newsletter from the BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP) team. Here, you can find the latest updates, schedule 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 support the social and economic integration of newcomers to the BC province who are not eligible for federally funded settlement services. The program aims to help clients achieve their best possible settlement outcomes.





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.



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)	Every Wednesday • 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)
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For free registration, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

We also provide free Immigration and Settlement Services • immigration consultation through law clinic, information & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms Labour market services • 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!
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Funded by / Financé par:



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)	Every Wednesday, • 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)
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For free registration, please email us: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca

We also provide free Immigration and Settlement Services • immigration consultation through law clinic, information & referrals, assistance with non-immigration forms Labour market services • 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
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Funded by / Financé par:



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

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025

The evening will be a wonderful opportunity to come together, share our successes, and celebrate the incredible contributions of our staff, clients, volunteers, community partners, and funders, whose dedication continues to strengthen and support immigrant, refugee, and newcomer communities across Victoria and beyond.

Tuesday, November 18, 2025
6:00 PM
At VIRCS (1004 North Park St)

BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)





VIRCS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

And **CELEBRATION!**

LOCATION: Victoria Social Innovation Centre
1004 North Park St, Victoria

DATE: Tuesday November 18, 2025

TIME: From 6:00 pm

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.

All BCNSP services are provided at no charge and are delivered with cultural sensitivity and confidentiality.

Our labor market support includes:

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



To Register: <https://ai.specialists.club/club/events/d/global-ai-expo-4xxqeh21ctmy2e?con=9kpr6q1mqod1>

2025 WELCOME EXCHANGE JOB FAIR FOR IMMIGRANTS

November 20, 2025
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM PT

Ambrosia Banquet & Events
638 Fisgard St, Victoria, BC



To Register:

<https://cfbc.ca/we-event-2025-welcome-exchange-job-fair-for-immigrants/>

Funded by: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada



Welcome EXCHANGE | An initiative of CFBC

NOVEMBER 2025

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



BC Newcomer Services Program (BCNSP)

Are you immigrants or newcomers?

**Do you have questions about
Canada's Tax systems and benefits?**

Come and join our **DROP-IN FREE** tax clinic:

**Thursday, November 6, 2025
Between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM
1004 North Park Street (at VIRCS)**

**By the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), Community Volunteer Income
Tax Program (CVITP) and Service Canada**



- Old Age Security
- Canada Pension Plan
- General Government of Canada info
- SIN numbers info
- My Service Canada Account



- Canada Dental Care Plan
- Canada Child Benefit
- GST/HST credit
- Canada Workers Benefit
- NEW Disability Tax Credit



- Free tax clinics
- CRA tools and services (how to file tax for the first time,...)
- How to protect yourself against scams



- Tax Slip info
- Notice of Assessments (NOAs)
- Assistance with CRA correspondence
- Account updates

Drop-in Welcome!
**Please bring your IDs and
relevant tax documents.**

For more information, please contact
Settlement Counselor - Wing at:
wing@vircs.bc.ca / 236-638-4749

Funded by / Financé par:



Tax Clinic with CRA, Service Canada, and CVITP

This is a rare opportunity that Service Canada, the CRA, and Income Tax Preparer will be present at VIRCS.

They offer wide range of services that you can find more details in the poster.

**Thursday, November 6, 2025
Between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM
At VIRCS (1004 North Park St)**

No registration required. Drop-in welcome!
Please bring your IDs and relevant tax documents

Job Search Project Plan

Our Employment Counselor has arranged a very interesting course for job search skills. This course is a **6-part series** of workshops that will teach you how to plan your job search like a project and create a plan for your career in Canada. Please see the attached poster and course description for more information.

**Wednesday, November 5, 2025
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
At VIRCS (1004 North Park St)**

If you would like to register, or have more questions, contact Hiro,
bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca

Job Search Project Plan

Career Navigation and Job Search Project: Using Project Management to Build Your Canadian Career

Course Description:
This course will guide you to create a plan to find a job in Canada. Over 6 weeks, you will learn how to plan your job search like a project. You will set goals, make a plan, avoid risks (like job scams), and work step by step to reach 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, PMI-RMP, CISA
Executive Director of Project Management Connectivity at the Ministry of Citizens' Services, BC

Key Features:

- Hands-on project: Finish with a real job search plan.
- Learn practical skills for Canada: Resume, LinkedIn, networking, and AI tools.
- Focus on Canadian jobs: Everything follows Canadian standards.

6 sessions:

Every Wednesday from Nov 05, 2025 - Dec 10, 2025

4:30 pm-6:30 pm

VIRCS multipurpose room
1004 N Park St, Victoria, BC V8T 1C6

Light refreshments provided!

Bus tickets provided!

GET Certificate of Completion

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

NOVEMBER 2025

SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS



CANADIAN STREET SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Proud National Partner to the Homeless World Cup



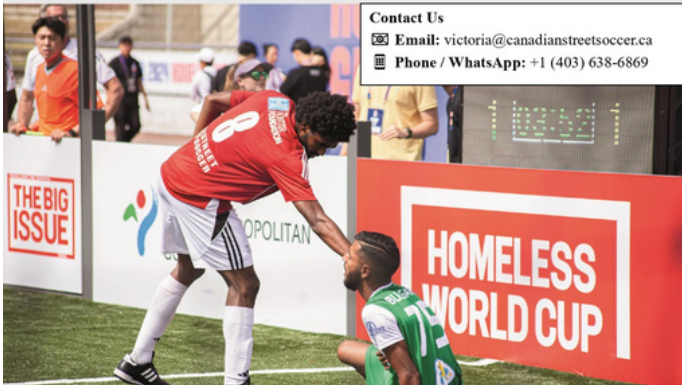
Braefoot Park Turf Field - 3970 Braefoot Rd #3944, Victoria, BC



Every Sunday - Starting November 16th, 2025 from
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM



Open to everyone! **Free** to participate & inclusive of all skill
levels and abilities



Contact Us

Email: victoria@canadianstreetsoccer.ca
Phone / WhatsApp: +1 (403) 638-6869

Free Soccer Practice and Community Connections for Immigrants

- Every Sunday, starting Nov 16, 2025
- 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- at Braefoot Park Turf Field - 3970 Braefoot Rd #3944

Phone/ WhatsApp: **403-638-6869**

Email: victoria@canadianstreetsoccer.ca

LGBTQ2S+ Awareness Workshop Series

Dates: Thursday, November 27, 2025

Time: 10:45 - 12:15 PM

Location: 550 Obed Ave (City Light Church)

In these workshops, you can learn about allyship, experiences of Queer & Trans folks, and cultural & belief differences.

For more information and free registration, please contact Settlement Counselor - Natasha:

natasha@vircs.bc.ca



WORKSHOP CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	4 Law Clinic* (E) 10:00-12:00 noon	5 Law Clinic* (I) 9:00-10:00am Job Search Project Plan (Career Navigation and Job Search Project) 4:30-6:30pm @VIRCS	6 Pronunciation Class** 9:30-11:30am David @ VIRCS Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Thomas@ Coastal Offices FREE Tax Clinic (with CRA, Service Canada, and Tax Preparer) Between 10:00 and 2:00 PM @VIRCS No registration required! Drop-in welcome	7 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Hiro @ VIRCS Pronunciation Class** 1:00-3:00pm David @ VIRCS
10 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	11 VIRCS CLOSED Remembrance Day	12 Job Search Project Plan (Career Navigation and Job Search Project) 4:30-6:30pm @VIRCS	13 Pronunciation Class** 9:30-11:30am David @ VIRCS Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Thomas@ Coastal Offices	14 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Hiro @ VIRCS Pronunciation Class** 1:00-3:00pm David @ VIRCS
17 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	18 Law Clinic* (E) 10:00-12:00 noon	19 Job Search Project Plan (Career Navigation and Job Search Project) 4:30-6:30pm @VIRCS	20 Pronunciation Class** 9:30-11:30am David @ VIRCS Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Thomas@ Coastal Offices	21 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Hiro @ VIRCS Pronunciation Class** 1:00-3:00pm David @ VIRCS
24 Online Functional English for Daily Life 6:00 – 7:30 PM Zahra	25 Law Clinic* (E) 10:00-12:00 noon	26 Law Clinic* (I) 9:00-10:00am Job Search Project Plan (Career Navigation and Job Search Project) 4:30-6:30pm @VIRCS	27 Pronunciation Class** 9:30-11:30am David @ VIRCS Beginner Grammar and Conversation 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm Thomas@ Coastal Offices Queer Basics 2SLGBTQIA+ 10:45am-12:15pm Cory @ City Lights Church	28 Employment Cafe 12:00-2:00pm Hiro @ VIRCS Pronunciation Class** 1:00-3:00pm David @ VIRCS
*Law Clinic (By appointment only) - Contact BCNSP team to book an appointment: bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca **Pronunciation Class To register, please contact: esl@vircs.bc.ca Program Eligibility - Work Permit Holders - Study Permit Holders - Naturalized Canadian Citizens - Refugee Claimants* - CUAET visa holders - BC Provincial Nominees or BCNP Entrepreneur Immigration candidates. * Restrictions apply • Employment services (*Open to certain eligible clients only) -Pre-employment training -Resume/Cover Letter Review Contact Hiro, Employment Counselor at bcnsp.hiro@vircs.bc.ca @Coastal Offices: 328 Wale Rd #132, Colwood, BC @Juan de Fuca: 1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC. @City Light Church: 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, V9A 1K5				

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



November 2025

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
3 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I_D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	4 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	5 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	ELT I- II 12:00Noon – 1:30PM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	6 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30AM – 1:30PM @City Light Church Mike Carrow	7
10 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I_D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	11 VIRCS Closed Remembrance Day	12 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	ELT I- II 12:00Noon – 1:30PM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	13 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30AM – 1:30PM @City Light Church Mike Carrow	14
17 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I_D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	18 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	19 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	ELT I- II 12:00Noon – 1:30PM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	20 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30AM – 1:30PM @City Light Church Mike Carrow	21
24 ELT I 9:30AM – 12:30PM ELT I A 1:00 PM-3:00 PM Mike Carrow ELT I_D 9:15AM-12:15PM David Bradley	25 ELT II 9:30AM – 12:30PM Mike Carrow	26 ELT III 9:30AM – 12:30PM David Bradley	ELT I- II 12:00Noon – 1:30PM ELT III- IV 2:00PM – 3:30PM @GVPL-Juan de Fuca Mike Carrow	27 ELT I- II 9:30PM – 11:00AM ELT III- IV 11:30AM – 1:30PM @City Light Church Mike Carrow	28
Do you want to join English class? 1. Email Settlement Worker at bcnsp@vircs.bc.ca to register. 2. Have a short assessment with Mike to determine a suitable class for you. 3. Meet our ELT Instructors and enjoy the classes. • GVPL Juan de Fuca Branch -1759 Island Hwy, Victoria, BC V9B 1J1 • City Light Church - 550 Obed Avenue, Victoria, V9A 1K5				Program Eligibility • Temporary Foreign Workers* • CUAET-visa holders • Naturalized Citizens* * Restrictions apply	

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

November 2025

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.

