



Canadian Council for Refugees Fall Consultation, Calgary 24 - 26 November 2010

On the theme of: **Fairness**



You are invited to attend the CCR Consultation to:

- > Meet service providers, immigrants, refugees, private sponsors, youth, academics, policymakers and activists from across Canada.
- > Gain professional training and new ideas to strategize, plan and carry out actions on a wide range of issues affecting refugees and immigrants.
- > Exchange ideas to improve opportunities for refugees and immigrants.
- > Discuss community engagement to support the full participation of newcomers in Canadian society.

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The Consultation's theme of *Fairness* embodies a model of refugee protection in Canada that centres on individuals and is free from stereotypes.

Here's what some people liked about past Consultations:

"Increased enthusiasm for the issues and increased friendships and resources for the work."

"The high level of youth participation and discussions on issues affecting youth."

"I am new to the sector: This was a good place to orient myself to urgent issues. This is an opportunity to consult, offer feedback, identify barriers, make recommendations."

"It was nice hearing questions, comments and concerns addressed by both people who work in the refugee sector and from refugees themselves."

"For refugee participants, I got a sense of a positive empowerment. It feels good to know that our concerns are heard and that our daily challenges are considered in national forums and at political levels."

Wednesday Reception and Thursday Banquet

Join other Consultation participants on Wednesday, November 24th for a reception with appetizers and a cash bar. Come and unwind after the day's sessions. Youth participants are welcome.

A banquet will be held on Thursday, November 25th at 6:30 pm, also at the Coast Plaza Hotel. Tickets cost \$15 per person and can be purchased together with your Consultation registration.

The CCR acknowledges funding support for this Consultation from Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

CCR Fall Consultation, 24-26 November 2010

Refugee Participation

The CCR is committed to promoting refugee participation. Refugees who have arrived in Canada within the last five years and who are without an organization that can pay their registration fee can register free of charge. Refugee participants must fill in a registration form, checking the REFUGEE category, and send it to the CCR office by **Friday, November 19th**.

Pre-Consultation Meetings

We hope to have orientation sessions in a number of cities for registered participants before the Consultation. These sessions will be an opportunity to share information about the CCR and to meet others who will be attending the Consultation, so that you can get the most out of your participation.

Details on time and location of local orientation sessions will be sent out to registered participants once available.

Caucus Sessions

Participants are invited to schedule caucus meetings - informal discussion sessions on a specific topic - during the consultation. The meetings will be listed publicly and open to all interested. If you are planning a caucus meeting, email marisa@ccrweb.ca with details.

Consultation Program*

Tuesday, November 23rd

5 pm - 8 pm - Registration table open
7:30 - 9 pm - Youth orientation
8 pm - 9 pm - Training for moderators and other leaders

Wednesday, November 24th

7:30 am			
Registration table open			
8 am - 9 am			
Orientation for new participants			
9 am - 10:30 am			
Opening plenary (with focus on temporary workers)			
11 am - 12:30 pm			
Dialogue with prairie provincial governments	Port of entry interviews: Are we being fair?	Shrinking protection space	Communicating our vision of refugee rights in Canada
2 pm - 3:30 pm			
Migrant Workers: Access to services	Upcoming changes to the refugee claim process (Part I)	Environmental displacement and forced migration	Understanding refugee youth settlement experiences
4 pm - 5:30 pm			
Migrant Workers: Barriers to settlement and integration	Upcoming changes to the refugee claim process (Part II)	En français s'il vous plaît? : services d'établissement pour les francophones	Race, gender and policing
Evening			
Reception for CCR Consultation participants			

Thursday, November 25th

9 am - 11 am			
Creating safe and positive spaces for LGBTQI newcomers	Empowering women survivors of violence in refugee and immigration processes	Our vision for Canada's overseas refugee protection system	Convention on Rights of the Child – Canada's compliance
11:30 am - 12:30pm			
Plenary session			
2 pm - 5:30 pm - Working Group meetings			
Immigration & Settlement**	Overseas Protection & Sponsorship**	Inland Protection**	
Evening (from 6:30 pm)			
Banquet hosted by Calgary local organizing committee. A \$15 ticket includes dinner and live entertainment. Proceeds from a raffle will go to the CCR.			

* This is a provisional agenda. Updates will be available online at: www.ccrweb.ca

** These sessions are closed to members of the media and government.

Consultation Program (continued)*

Friday, November 26th

8:45 am - 9:30 am		
Informal session for people wishing to get more involved in the CCR		
9:30 am - 12 noon		
Prioritizing Affordable, Accessible and Appropriate Housing	Colombia	Debunking myths about newcomer youth
1:30 pm - 4 pm		
Annual General Meeting of the CCR (including election of Executive and adoption of resolutions)		

More about workshop sessions...

Are you wondering what Consultation workshops will be about? Short descriptions of all Consultation workshops are now available online at:

<http://ccrweb.ca/files/workshopen.pdf>

and on the Consultation webpage at: <http://www.ccrweb.ca/meetings>

The workshops cover a broad range of themes and deal with current issues and cutting edge perspectives. There's something to interest everyone.

Please share this information with others who would like to participate!

About CCR Consultations

The Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) consultations address issues of refugee protection and immigrant and refugee settlement. Bringing together 300 or more people from across Canada and beyond twice a year, they offer key opportunities for information exchange, networking, strategy development and discussion. Participants include refugees, immigrants, representatives of NGOs, government, UNHCR, academics, community workers, youth advocates and international guests.

People who work with newcomers and those with a personal interest in refugees and immigrants are warmly invited, especially youth.

The consultation is an excellent opportunity to:

- > meet and learn from experts in the field
- > gain professional training and strategize on a wide range of topics
- > exchange information and prepare resolutions and action plans on a broad range of refugee and newcomer issues
- > contribute to the CCR working groups' ongoing dialogue on policy and legislation

The consultation will include participatory workshops, working group meetings to develop specific resolutions and action plans, and a CCR general meeting. These discussions will result in concrete actions.

Online Registration

You can register for the CCR Consultation online at:

www.ccrweb.ca

We encourage you to register online, but you can also fill in the attached registration form.

Registration forms and payment must be received by **Friday, November 5th** to take advantage of the reduced rate.

Meals

The registration fee does not include meals. The Consultation participant's kit will include a list of affordable places to eat close to the Consultation site.

Childcare

During the conference we may be able to provide childcare services for participants who have signed up for this service by **Friday, November 5th**. Children must be at least 19 months and toilet-trained. Email marisa@ccrweb.ca and list your childcare needs on the conference registration form. We will respond and let you know if childcare is available.

Information Tables

Tables will be available for groups to display brochures and resources. If you would like to reserve a table, please send an email to marisa@ccrweb.ca by **Friday, November 12th**.

Photos and recording

Photos and recording are not permitted during Consultation sessions without prior approval. For more details and to apply for approval before **Friday, November 5th**, see: www.ccrweb.ca/meetings

About the CCR

The Canadian Council for Refugees is a non-profit umbrella organization committed to the rights and protection of refugees in Canada and around the world and to the settlement of refugees and immigrants in Canada. The membership is made up of organizations involved in the settlement, sponsorship and protection of refugees and immigrants. The Council serves the networking, information-exchange and advocacy needs of its membership.

The CCR's work

The CCR has issues committees called Working Groups, on Inland Protection, Immigration & Settlement and Overseas Protection & Sponsorship. All NGO representatives are encouraged to participate. CCR policy is established by resolutions adopted by the membership at its general meetings held twice a year.

CCR Membership

All Canadian NGOs are welcome to apply to become voting members. Other forms of membership are available. Please look at our website under *About Us*.

Consultation Site:

Coast Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre
1316 33rd Street NE, Calgary

Accommodation

A block of rooms has been set aside for CCR Consultation participants at the Coast Plaza at the negotiated daily rate of \$129/night + taxes and fees for a single or double occupancy room (2 double beds). Participants must make their own reservations.

Information about the hotel is available at: www.calgaryplaza.com

To reserve rooms at negotiated rates, book your room as soon as possible and **by 3 November 2010**.

Reserve by phone at (403) 248-8888 or toll-free at 1-800-661-1464. You must say you are with the Canadian Council for Refugees Fall Consultation.

To reserve online, send an email to res@calgaryplaza.com with 'Canadian Council for Refugees Fall Consultation' in the subject line. Or go to <https://www.coasthotels.com/rates?selectHotel=CPC> and at 'Group Code:' type **CPC-GFC13867**, to receive the special reservation rate listed above.

For billeting possibilities, email marisa@ccrweb.ca by **November 5th** and a member of the local organizing committee will try to meet your request.

Getting to the hotel

From the airport: A free shuttle bus to the hotel is available. Shuttle pick-up is at Port 10. A taxi costs about \$20 to the hotel.

From the Greyhound bus terminal: A taxi to the hotel costs about \$15.

By public transit: The hotel is a 5-minute walk from the Marlborough C-train station. Bus #33 also passes by the hotel.

Register for the Fall Consultation online at:

www.ccrweb.ca

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