

About the Canadian Council for Refugees' Working Groups and their work

The Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) is a network of organizations across Canada committed to the rights and protection of refugees in Canada and around the world and to the settlement of refugees and immigrants in Canada. As part of the CCR, the Youth Network gives youth and youth allies a voice to address challenges faced by newcomer youth and a space to share ideas.

The CCR has 3 Working Groups. These are the forums for CCR members and other people who care about refugee and immigrant rights to share information, network and develop policy positions. Basically, they're the meetings where stuff gets done! These groups prepare resolutions - policy positions that are passed by a vote of CCR member organizations. They're also responsible for planning workshops at Consultations - CCR national meetings, and for giving advice to the CCR Executive on policy. The Working Group meetings are closed to representatives of government and the media.

We strongly encourage youth to attend the Working Group meetings! Youth issues are discussed in all 3 Working Groups. The Immigration and Settlement Working Group has the largest concentration.

The Working Group meetings are an excellent opportunity to:

- > **Join the action** - Promote refugee protection and resettlement, and the settlement of refugees and immigrants
- > **Discuss issues** affecting refugees and immigrants in Canada with people who listen and want to do something about it
- > **Share information and strategies** with others from across Canada.

"I've learned a lot when I got involved within the CCR working group. It gave me the opportunity to be part of a wonderful team that tries to make change in building an inclusive welcoming community for newcomers to Canada."

*- Ihab Elmlafi, Hamilton ON
CCR Youth Network member*

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES

6839A Drolet #302, Montréal QC, H2S 2T1

tel. (514) 277-7223, fax (514) 277-1447

email: info@ccrweb.ca website: www.ccrweb.ca



Canadian Council for Refugees
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés

and the

CCR Youth Network
Réseau des jeunes du CCR



invite you to...

Summer Working Group Meetings 27 and 28 August 2010 Montreal



Do you want to be part of efforts to promote rights for refugees?

Want to participate in discussions on issues affecting refugees and immigrants in Canada?

Looking for an opportunity to share information and ideas with others from across Canada?

Come to the Canadian Council for Refugees Summer Working Group meetings in Montreal!

*Overseas Protection and Sponsorship Working Group
Friday, August 27th, 9:30 - 5:00 pm*

*Inland Protection Working Group
Saturday, August 28th, 9:30 - 5:00 pm*

*Immigration and Settlement Working Group
Saturday, August 28th, 9:30 - 5:00 pm*

*Anglican Diocese of Montreal, 1444 Union Street, Montreal
<http://www.ccrweb.ca/meetings>*

Overseas Protection & Sponsorship Working Group
Friday, August 27th, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Looks at issues relating to the selection of refugees overseas (refugees sponsored by either the government or private groups) and the programs for them here in Canada.

Interested in protection issues for refugees around the world.

The Overseas Protection and Sponsorship Working Group focuses on the following key issues:

- > Long processing times
- > Family reunification (especially children)
- > Transportation loans for refugees

The working group also collaborates with the other working groups in addressing overseas processing for family reunification.

In addition, the working group regularly addresses threats to the rights of refugees outside Canada, as well as promoting resettlement as a durable solution in Canada and internationally.

Inland Protection Working Group
Saturday, August 28th, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Is concerned for the protection of refugee claimants in Canada or seeking to come to Canada.

The Inland Protection Working Group focuses on the following key campaign:

- > Refugee reform

And on the following key concerns:

- > Access to asylum (Interdiction /Safe Third Country/ Excluded cases)
- > Refugee appeal
- > Family reunification
- > Regularization of Non-Status Persons

The Working Group also regularly looks at issues of detention, the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB), security inadmissibility and the wide variety of problems facing refugee claimants.

Immigration & Settlement Working Group
Saturday, August 28th, 9:30 am - 5 pm

Looks at all issues relating to refugee and immigrant settlement in Canada (such as language training, access to employment, counselling).

Ensures that immigration and settlement issues receive high priority at CCR conferences.

In addition, the working group gives attention to emerging issues, such as the increasing numbers of people in Canada on temporary work visas.

The Immigration and Settlement Working Group focuses on the following key campaigns:

- > Access to services
- > Family reunification

Key campaigns (continued):

- > Erosion of immigrant and refugee rights
- > Youth issues
- > Professionalization of the settlement sector

And on the following key concerns:

- > Violence against newcomer women
- > Temporary foreign workers
- > Migration and education curriculum issues