



National Fall Consultation

Niagara Falls, 30 Nov – 2 Dec 2017

Human rights have no borders



Join us to explore issues affecting refugee protection and newcomer settlement at the Canadian Council for Refugees Fall Consultation. All are welcome to participate!

With views from all Canadian provinces and with participants in fields as diverse as access to education and the law, the conference offers opportunities for professional development, networking and strategy.



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Here's what some people like about Consultations:

“I learned a lot, not only through the workshops but also through connections with people from different organizations.”

“My clients face these issues and it's important for me to hear from other workers about possible solutions.”

“It takes extra effort to keep updated when you do it on your own so being a part of the CCR and the energy of people who care was absolutely wonderful, refreshing, and a good reminder of what matters.”

“A lot of the consultation was useful to me and my work. I feel that I will be able to bring a lot of what I learned back to my team.”

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

“I appreciated the open environment and the speakers' abilities to navigate a conversation so that everyone felt heard.”

This is a provisional program.
Check updates at:
ccrweb.ca/meetings

Online Registration

You can register for the CCR Consultation online at:

ccrweb.ca/meetings

Registration forms and payment must be received by

Friday 10 November to take advantage of the reduced rate.

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 online, checking the REFUGEE category, and send it to the CCR office by **Sunday 26 November**.

Youth Participation

Participants must be over 16 years.

Youth under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult: we note that the program is not necessarily suited to this age group.

Scholarships are available for local youth between 18 and 25 years old in the Niagara Falls area for the first 30 applications received **before Friday 10 November**.

For more information, see:

ccrweb.ca/en/youth-participation

Thursday 30 November

7:30 am

Registration table opens

8:30 - 9 am

Orientation for first-time participants

9 - 10 am - Working Group meetings (Part I)*

Immigration and Settlement

Overseas Protection and Sponsorship

Inland Protection

10:30 - 11 am - Opening Plenary

11 am - 12 noon - Caucus sessions

Legacy claimants

Youth Network

Complementary pathways

Mental health

African Network

1:30 - 3 pm - Workshops

Literacy and language learning

A Journey into Exile: the refugee experience

Irregular crossings from the USA

Criminality and immigration status

3:30 - 5 pm - Workshops

Combatting racism and Islamophobia

Global compact on refugees

Alternatives to detention

Youth migrant crossing and detention

Evening

Reception, organized by the Niagara Local Organizing Committee

Friday 1 December

9 - 10 am - Plenary

With Minister of Public Safety, Ralph Goodale

10:30 am - 12 pm - Workshops

Access to post-secondary education

Going beyond the trafficking divides

Refugee hearing changes

Public Education: Refugee campaign

12:45 - 1:30 pm

Informal session for people wishing to get more involved in the CCR

1:30 - 3 pm - Workshops

Barriers to citizenship

Forgotten refugee crises: South Sudan, Burundi

Working with people with precarious status

Strategy Session: Advocacy how-tos*

3:30 - 5:30 pm - Working Group meetings (Part II)*

Immigration and Settlement

Overseas Protection and Sponsorship

Inland Protection

Evening

Activities organized by the Niagara Local Organizing Committee

Saturday 2 December

9 am - 10:30 am - Workshops

Dialogue with IRCC

Complementary Pathways: Education

Violence against women (training)

11 am - 1 pm - Closing Plenary

With guest speakers, adoption of resolutions and Annual General Meeting

* These sessions are closed to members of the media and government. NGO representatives are encouraged to attend to network and strategize about the issues.

Related meetings

Forum on Trafficking Issues, 3 December 2017

Join a full-day meeting on all forms of human trafficking. This annual event brings together service providers, NGOs, anti-trafficking, social justice and migrant rights advocates, as well as lawyers, government representatives and others. For details: ccrweb.ca/en/national-forum-human-trafficking-2017

Forum on Migrant Worker Issues, 3 December 2017

Join the CCR and local organizations on **Sunday 3 December** at Brock University in St. Catharines for a full-day meeting for migrant workers and people working with or advocating for the rights of migrant workers. More information at: ccrweb.ca/en/forum-migrant-worker-issues

There's no better time to become a member...

If your group or organization is not yet a member of the CCR, you may be missing out on member perks like Consultation registration discounts, free webinars and online resources for CCR members only.

Coming to the CCR Consultation in Niagara Falls? There is no better time to apply for membership as a Member (for groups and organizations) or as an Associate Member (for unaffiliated individuals).

Submit a membership application and your Consultation registration **by 10 November 2017** to receive member registration rates and membership for 2018. See for more details.

CCR Consultations address issues affecting refugees and other vulnerable groups of migrants, and newcomer settlement. The 300 participants from across Canada 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, learn from and network with 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

CCR consultations are designed to move from issues to action. The Working Group meetings frame the discussions, introducing the issues at the beginning, and then, after the workshops, strategizing on next steps. At the Concluding Plenary, we adopt any new policy positions through resolutions and review key action items.

Caucus Sessions

Caucus sessions are informal discussions on a specific topic. They are open to all interested participants, unless otherwise noted. To reserve space for a caucus session, email: marisa@ccrweb.ca

Meals

Meals are not included in the Consultation registration fees.

The Consultation participant's kit will include a list of nearby, affordable places for meals during breaks.

Information Tables

Tables are available for groups to display brochures, etc.

Reserve a table on your registration form. Include the reservation fee with your registration.

Questions? Send an email to marisa@ccrweb.ca

About the CCR

The Canadian Council for Refugees is a national non-profit umbrella organization committed to the rights and protection of refugees and other vulnerable migrants 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 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](#) or go directly to ccrweb.ca/en/join

Consultation Site:

Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls
5685 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls ON

Accommodation

A block of rooms has been set aside for CCR Consultation participants at the Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls. Participants must make their own reservations:

Standard suite with 2 queen-sized beds: \$99/night

Standard suite with 2 queen-sized beds and a view of the Falls: \$129/night

To reserve rooms at negotiated rates, book your room as soon as possible and by **7 November 2017**. Rooms may be available after this date, subject to availability.

Participants can reserve their rooms [online here](#) or by phone at **1-800-519-9911**. When making a reservation, say you are with the Canadian Council for Refugees conference to receive the quoted rate.

For billeting possibilities, email marisa@ccrweb.ca by **Friday 10 November**. A member of the local committee will try to meet your request.

Getting to the Consultation site

From Toronto Pearson International Airport: Conference shuttle service is offered by Niagara Airbus for \$88 round trip or \$64 one way per person (plus HST) to and from Toronto Pearson Airport (YYZ). Reserve at niagaraairbus.com

From downtown Toronto (Union Station): There are several Go buses daily, with transfers in Burlington. A one-way fare is approximately \$20.

For schedules: gotransit.com/timetables/en/schedules/full_schedules.aspx

From the (Niagara) bus station and VIA Rail train station: Located across the street from one other, on the corner of Bridge Street and Erie Avenue. A taxi from the bus and train station is approximately \$10.

Public transit routes: Plan your route at: niagarafalls.ca/living/transit/bus-routes.aspx Cash fare \$3, or \$2.75 for seniors and students. Exact change is required.

By car: Directions to the Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls are available at: niagarafallscrowneplazahotel.com/information/hotel-driving-directions/

Parking: Parking for guests staying overnight, with in and out privileges, is \$29 (plus HST). Parking is a flat fee of \$35 for day visitors. Street parking options may be available.

Register for the Fall Consultation online at:

ccrweb.ca/en/meetings

You can also reach us at:

CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES

6839A Drolet #301, Montréal QC, H2S 2T1

tel. (514) 277-7223 email: consultation@ccrweb.ca web: ccrweb.ca



Canadian Council for Refugees
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés