



December 2022 Newsletter

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Annual General Meeting 2022

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CASSA held its Annual General Meeting on November 16, 2022.

In case you weren't able to attend, here are two videos that explain all the projects going on at CASSA.

[CASSA AGM 2022 YouTube Video](#)

[CASSA AGM 2022 Short Video](#)

Unlocking your Social Justice Potential: Capacity Building 101

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UNLOCKING YOUR SOCIAL JUSTICE POTENTIAL: CAPACITY BUILDING 101

A series of 12 training sessions

[REGISTER NOW](#)



CASSA members, partners, and other service providers are invited to CASSA's first 2-Day capacity building conference for social justice-focused service delivery. Over the course of 12 training sessions, participants will be introduced to the various tools and resources developed by CASSA and its partners in 2022. CASSA hopes participants will benefit from the introductory training sessions, seek further knowledge, and share what they've learned with their staff and clients.

When: February 7-8, 2023

Time: 9:00 am- 1:15 pm (EST)

Where: Zoom

The Eventbrite link will be shared in 2023

New Staff at CASSA

Pirathajini Chandrakumar:

Project Manager, Combating Online Hate, Children and Youth:

Pirathajini (பிரதாயினி - she/her) is continually learning and taking part in community-based social justice initiatives. As a project manager at CASSA, she is working collaboratively to adapt the #EradicateHate Toolkit specifically for children and youth in Ontario. When she is not at CASSA, she is undertaking a knowledge-shared project in pursuit to teach the next generation and to keep in touch with her roots. Pirathajini holds a degree in Justice Studies and a diploma in Community and Justice Services.

Ridah Asghar:

Director of Development:

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Relief and the Scarborough Health Network Foundation where she gained a wealth of experience in fundraising, event planning, donor relations and direct marketing. She is passionate about social justice for people of color and understands and relates to the rich diversity of communities that CASSA serves. As an expert in fundraising, she is responsible for implementing the annual fundraising plan through direct marketing appeals and donor cultivation strategies to help raise funds for CASSA to continue building diverse and inclusive communities in Canada.

Sonia Baweja:

Project Manager, Community Engagement & Advocacy:

Passionate about community building and social justice, Sonia is working at CASSA as the Project Manager for Community Engagement & Advocacy. As the manager, she is conducting primary and secondary research, creates a public awareness campaign, and does media and legislative outreach against policies that perpetuate systemic racism. Sonia holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts in International Development and South Asian Studies from York University and a Masters in Immigration and Settlement Studies from Toronto Metropolitan University. She brings her lived experiences as an immigrant and 6+ years of professional experience working in community organizations as a research assistant, organizer and educator to the project.

CASSA Project Updates

Toxic Masculinity and Its Impact on Gender-Based Violence

The project exploring the impacts of toxic masculinity on gender-based violence is currently working on applying to a Research Ethics Board (REB) for approval. If you are interested in this project, have expertise on the process of applying to an REB, or would like to contact the project managers, you can get in touch with Maryam: maryam@cassa.on.ca or Wardah: wardah@cassa.on.ca

Hate Crime Reporting Project

The hate crime reporting project concluded 3 of 4 training sessions with our partnered police services, with the last one set to occur in January. The project also welcomed guest speaker Dr. Wesley Crichlow on November 23rd, 2022 to give a talk to our partnered police services about intersectionality and applying this lens to approaching hate crime investigations. The project is gearing up to work on our educational campaign which will take place in 2023.

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NATIONAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESEARCH

National GBV Research Project

The national gender-based violence project is in its final stages of content creation and editing its toolkit. We will next be working with an advisory committee of service providers, activists, authors and the like for feedback on the toolkit and strategies for the dissemination phase. Additionally, we will be devising training workshops for service providers in various regions of the country. Finally, we will soon be putting together material and strategies to create a national awareness campaign about GBV in the Canadian South Asian community.

South Asian Vaccine Engagement Collaborative

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VAXBOOK

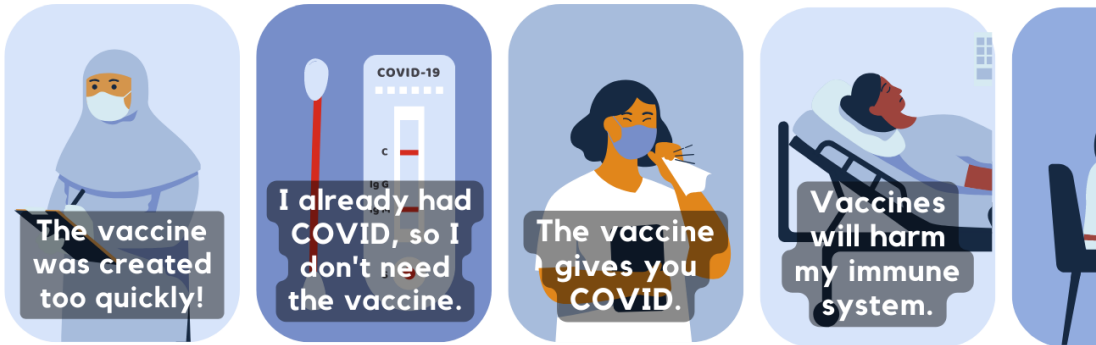


What's on your mind?



What's Your Vaccine Hesitancy?

Stories



Debunking Vaccine Myths #GetVaccinated

Quick science does not equal unsafe science. The COVID-19 vaccine was created quickly, but was carefully tested for safety through clinical trials authorized by Health Canada. (Health Canada)

Think you can't get COVID again? Wrong! COVID re-infection is likely but vaccination reduces your risk of experiencing symptoms, spreading, or being hospitalized. (Toronto Public Health)

Vaccines do not weaken your immune system or give you COVID. Most side effects are mild and last for 1-3 days, and are a sign that your immune system is learning how to recognize and fight COVID. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)



To book an appointment:
Visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/> or call 1-833-943-3900 (TTY 1-866-797-0007).





WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The Coalition for Racial Equity in Education is recruiting Muslim high school students and parents/guardians with children attending schools in York and Durham Region

Would you like to combat racism and Islamophobia in the education system? Here is your chance to make the education system more equitable for Muslim students and staff!

APPLY NOW: <https://forms.gle/6U3VrUQWZ7rgVaD8>



The Coalition for Racial Equity in Education

The Coalition for Racial Equity in Education project seeks to equip Muslim high school students and parents/guardians with advocacy skills to make the education system more equitable for

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forums. Our goal is to influence regional school boards and the provincial government to implement specific policy changes.

We invite Muslim high school students or parents/guardians with children attending school in the York or Durham region to [join](#) this project.

Please note that each student and parent/guardian will get \$100 for completing all of the workshops!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact samaha@cassa.on.ca.

#EradicateHate 2.0

#EradicateHate 2.0 is an adaptation of the #EradicateHate Toolkit specifically for children and youth in Ontario. The goal of this Toolkit will be: to create interactive and relevant content for children and youth which will raise awareness about the impact of online hate and the harms it can cause on individuals and communities, to provide support and resources to build the capacity of children and youth to recognize, to combat and take down online hate. The age groups that we will focus on for this project will be children between the ages of 8-14 years old and youth between the ages of 15-24 years old. In this #EradicateHate 2.0 project, modes and styles of communication will be specifically targeted toward children and youth such as the use of storytelling, social media, animations, graphics, posters, cell phone apps, and games. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

Opportunities

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SUPPORTING NURSES BACK INTO PRACTICE

Host a CARE Centre Information Session to learn how we assist Internationally Educated Nurses

Learn About:

- One-on-one, unlimited support from a designated Case Manager
- A Nursing Readiness Assessment, Customized Service Plan and Communication Skills Assessment
- A one-year student membership with the RAO or the Registered Practical Nurses Association of Ontario (WeRPN)
- Referrals for language, settlement, financial, community and academic resources

Ontario 

www.care4nurses.org | 416-226-2800 ext 221 | info@care4nurses.org

CARE: Supporting Nurses Back Into Practice:

Do you employ Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs)? Are you part of an IEN group?

CARE Centre offers free, virtual information sessions for those interested in learning how we can help IENs succeed in the Canadian workplace.

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Women's Association



invites you to

Multicultural

Day celebration 2022

Venue: Mill Woods Seniors Association
2nd Floor, 2610 Hewes Way
Edmonton AB. T6L 0A9

Time: 2:00 PM- 3:30 PM (MT)

FEATURING

Significance of Cultural Festivals & Celebrations by Various Community Leaders

15TH | 2022
Thursday | December

Kindly register at the front desk or Visit <https://forms.gle/N6YboZnHmVagnZY39>

Refreshments will be served, RSVP by December 12th

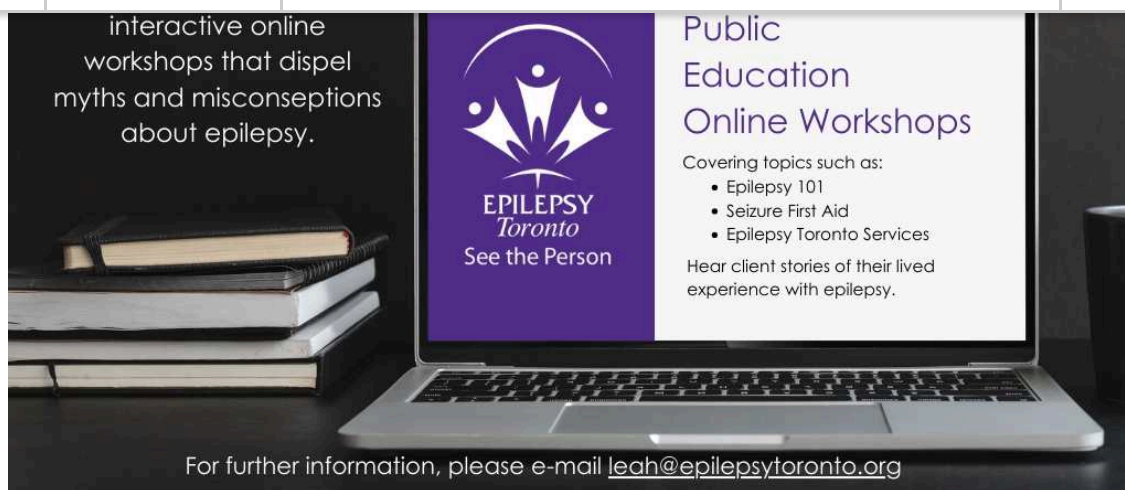
For more information:
Please email info@icwaedmonton.org/7804900477

Annual Multicultural Day Celebration

Date: Thursday, December 15th, 2022

Venue: Millwoods Seniors Association, 2nd Floor, 2610 Hewes Way, Edmonton AB. T6L 0A9

Register [here](https://forms.gle/N6YboZnHmVagnZY39)

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interactive online workshops that dispel myths and misconceptions about epilepsy.

Public Education Online Workshops

Covering topics such as:

- Epilepsy 101
- Seizure First Aid
- Epilepsy Toronto Services

Hear client stories of their lived experience with epilepsy.

For further information, please e-mail leah@epilepsytoronto.org

Social Planning Toronto: Our City, Our Budget

Date and time: **Monday, January 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**

Join Social Planning Toronto to learn more about Toronto's budget, the budget process, and how the budget affects the services you use everyday — such as affordable housing, transit, community programs, libraries, and recreation.

We will cover the basics of the 2023 budget process, key dates, and how you can make your voice heard on the services and priorities important to you. You will hear about the recent "strong mayor" change and how it affects Mayor Tory's and Councillors' powers, as well as the power communities have, to create change.

This event is an opportunity for you to ask questions, and to share ideas on how to mobilize your communities to advocate for a budget that improves life in Toronto. Please register to secure your spot to this virtual event.

Interpretation will be available in the following languages: ASL & Mandarin

Register [here](#)

Social Planning Toronto 2023 Toronto City Budget Townhall

Date and time: **Monday, January 16, 2023, 2-4 p.m.**

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the first that will be proposed by the mayor rather than City staff. We will talk about what is in the budget and offer insights on its impact on critical programs and services, then hold a dialogue on collective priorities and action.

For decades, Social Planning Toronto has been offering budget town halls that translate complex budget documents for community organizations, groups, and residents so they can more effectively shape the City Budget. With the current state of the city and recent pieces of legislation eroding local democracy, it is more important than ever that we come together to analyze the proposed budget and discuss what communities need moving forward.

Please register [here](#) to secure your spot for this virtual event.

CALL OUT: HEAL Co-Create Event Curriculum Development

Hubs for Expressive Arts for Life - HEAL Project

Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services plans to deliver the HEAL Program to improve the mental wellbeing of newcomer women survivors of gender-based domestic violence. HEAL Program will be offered to the following implementation populations in Toronto:

- Bengali, Arabic, Dari and/or Farsi, Tigrinya and/or Amharic speaking newcomer women, LGBTQ+ asylum seekers, women living in shelters for those fleeing abuse



Co-design is about researching "with" people rather than "on" people

Seeking Art-Based Facilitators

Engaging in the HEAL Co-Create Event, you will:

- Exchange knowledge and lived experiences with other art-based facilitators
- Contribute to the development of the HEAL Program
- Engage in co-design activities towards mutual goals
- Integrate trauma informed and anti-oppressive practices
- Be integral in improving the mental wellbeing for newcomer women
- Provide feedback on the HEAL Program as needed

Do you meet the criteria below, if so, come join us!

- Registered art therapists, art-based facilitator, community artists, and/or psychotherapist specializing in art-based practices;
- Extensive experience with newcomer women populations;
- Experience working with the identified language groups above;
- Experience in program development, implementation and facilitation;
- Knowledge of trauma-informed and anti-oppressive practices.

Attendees will be compensated for their time.

Interested in Participating?

Please send your resume to ofaruquzzaman@accessalliance.ca with "HEAL Co-Create Event: Curriculum Development" in the subject heading. More detailed information will be provided.

CASSA's Blogs/Podcasts

Blog Posts:

[The Power of Social Media](#)

As social media has evolved over the years, it has become a huge part of everyone's daily lives. It has become a platform that allows people to connect with one another and get updated on the latest news.

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service providers served women experiencing GBV in the Canadian South Asian community during and after the pandemic.

In the News

[Investments in Inuit housing not enough to address human rights violations: watchdog](#)

From a family living for seven years in a condemned home that was meant to be temporary to people with disabilities having to be carried in and out of their bathrooms

[Canadian engineers call for change to their private 'iron ring' ceremony steeped in colonialism](#)

For almost a century, iron rings worn by Canadian engineers have been shrouded in mystery

[Review of how CRA audits Muslim charities 'inherently flawed,' groups say in open letter to PM](#)

Dozens of Muslim philanthropic groups and several civil liberty organizations are urging Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to ensure that the Taxpayers' Ombudsman office can access all the information it needs to conduct a systemic review of how the Canada Revenue Agency treats and audits Muslim-led charities.

[Canada not doing enough with its highly educated immigrants, StatsCan says](#)

Being a physician has been a lifelong dream for 35-year-old Ayman Jabril. He's passionate about caring for patients, clearly explaining medical treatments, and following up with them over time.

[Newcomers face 'alarming' discrimination in finding housing, says report](#)

Newcomers searching for a home in Toronto's tight rental market face "alarming" levels of discrimination, according to a new report by the Canadian Centre for Housing Rights

[We are rising in strength and power — it's time to end the genocide of Indigenous women](#)

Canada is a killing field of colonial genocide against Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit peoples, who continue to die and disappear at horrifying rates.

[Winnipeg School Division plans to add Filipino bilingual education program](#)

Manitoba's largest school division has plans to offer a Filipino bilingual education program as soon as next year.

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