



COUNCIL OF AGENCIES SERVING SOUTH ASIANS

*The Council of Agencies Serving South Asians'*  
**March 2022 Newsletter**

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# Project Updates

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## **South Asian Vaccine Engagement Collaborative -**

### **Wardah Malik, Vaccine Engagement Coordinator**

This month SAVEC is launching an improved and updated website. The new page streamlines information sharing and makes audio and video content readily available without having to navigate the entire website. We took all viewer concerns into account and are excited to share what the VET has to offer, including: new infographics on booster vaccines, our podcast series which features health experts across Canada, and a new community involvement campaign with colorful and powerful illustrations. The launch is set for February 15, 2022 so please follow [cassa.on.ca/vaccine](https://cassa.on.ca/vaccine) closely.

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## **Hate Crime Reporting -**

### **Lakhdeep Dhaliwal, Hate Crime Reporting Project Coordinator**

The Hate Crime Reporting project moved into police consultation phase and now has begun to share the data with police services while exploring next steps in terms of training and capacity building. We welcome our news member to the team, Maiura Muralitharan joins us with a wealth of knowledge and experience to help further this project into actionable benchmarks. Police service meetings wrap up in March 2022, the project will then proceed into its culmination phase. For further information please contact Lakhdeep Dhaliwal - program coordinator.

[lakhdeep@cassa.on.ca](mailto:lakhdeep@cassa.on.ca)

1. The Equity in Education project has been actively equipping student and parent/guardian volunteers with advocacy skills to combat racism and Islamophobia. Volunteers have participated in the following workshops this month:

- **Anti-Islamophobia 1-on-1 Workshop (February 1, 2022)**

This workshop was led and facilitated by the Canadian Council of Muslim Women and focused on unpacking Islamophobia in our school systems. They taught volunteers what gendered Islamophobia is, and engaged volunteers in discussions about their own experiences, while maintaining an intersectional lens.

- **Social Changemakers Workshop (February 22, 2022)**

This workshop was led and facilitated by Harmony Movement and examined steps and the planning required to engage in structural advocacy goals. Facilitators worked with the students & parents to formulate a concrete action plan and implementation strategy to set their initiative into motion.

2. The Equity in Education project prepared student volunteers for a delegation meeting with the TDSB Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee (EPCAC) on February 28th, 2022. Through written statements, seven student volunteers expressed their support to pass an anti-Islamophobia motion, as well as their personal experiences of Islamophobia, hate speech, and religious discrimination within the education system. While four student volunteers presented their statements to the advisory committee. With support from Michael Kerr (Colour of Poverty – Colour of Change) and Trustee Christopher Mammoliti, the advisory committee passed the motion mandating Anti-Islamophobia training across the board and the development of a comprehensive strategy to tackle Islamophobia.

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## ERADICATE HATE

A TOOLKIT FOR COMBATING ONLINE HATE



According to [the National Survey on Online Hate Speech and Racism in Canada](#), 1 in 5 Canadians have experienced some form of online hate. As the culmination of the twelve-week social media campaign and phase two of the Collaborative to Combat Online Hate, in partnership with the Anti Hate Community Leaders' Group, **we recently released the much-anticipated Eradicate Hate: A Toolkit to Combat Online Hate**. This toolkit is for you and your organizations!

It aims to provide more comprehensive insight into online hate, reflection exercises to cultivate better allyship, protocol recommendations for training and preparing your organization, digital security tips, and an extensive resource list. In addition to the toolkit, we've launched video tutorials, additional infographics, and a reflection game, Reflect 2 Connect.

**All material and supplementary resources can be accessed on our website [www.cassa.on.ca/eradicatehate](http://www.cassa.on.ca/eradicatehate) in English or French. Please share widely with friends, family, coworkers, and your network! A copy of the toolkit and the Reflect 2 Connect game have been attached to this email for your convenience**

[Click here to view the Reflect 2 Connect game](#)



### **Gender-based Violence Project - Dinoba Kirupa, Gender-based Violence Project Coordinator**

The gender-based violence research study is progressing well. The team has entered the analysis phase. We will be using the SPSS program for quantitative analysis. If anyone who has worked with SPSS would like to volunteer some time, please reach out to Dinoba. We are also finalizing the third data set on the perspective and experience of service delivery agencies. We can already

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looking forward to sharing with the public. I feel like we should have another image for the GBV part of the newsletter. Does it have to relate to our campaign or can it be something I throw together on Canva or find online (which may be against the rules? More information on the project may be found here: <http://cassa.on.ca/gbvstudy/>

For more information, contact [dinoba@cassa.on.ca](mailto:dinoba@cassa.on.ca)

## Messages from Members



### [Collecting Information on Experiences with COVID testing - StatCans](#)

Statistics Canada is now collecting information on [Canadians' access to and experiences with COVID-19 testing](#), through crowdsourcing. The online questionnaire is accessible until **March 13, 2022**.

**Click here for a [link to the online questionnaire](#):**

In this new crowdsourcing initiative, we are seeking your experiences with testing for COVID-19, particularly with using rapid tests. This information will help assess the use of at-home COVID-19 testing, access to rapid testing kits in Canada and vaccination status. Please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire and feel free to forward this email to others—the more people that participate, the better the data.

**Participating is easy and secure**

Click on the following link to participate: <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/testingvaccine->

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Mental health support based on your **Language & Cultural Background.**

**ABOUT US**  
We connect therapists & patients worldwide through their language & cultural backgrounds to foster better communication & understanding, leading to a superior mental health service and experience!

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- Secure video conference tool for the sessions
- Easy scheduling with the specialists, even in different time zone
- Protected payment within the platform

**OUR SPECIALISTS**

 **Urooj Khan**  
(Psychotherapist)  
English, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi

 **Riffat Yusaf**  
(Therapist)  
English, Urdu, Punjabi

 **Poonam Dhir**  
(Clinical Therapist)  
English, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi


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@myspsymood

## Providing Mental Health in Punjabi, Urdu, Hindi - PsyMood

Here at PsyMood, we have created a platform offering mental health support based on language and cultural background. Our services are nationwide with mental health specialists across Canada, providing support either remotely or in-person, speaking 35+ different languages and from different cultural backgrounds. For more information, visit our [website](#).

We understand that sometimes providing support is challenging especially during a pandemic. Our platform is private and can be accessed on any platform with internet access.



# How to find a job in the nonprofit sector?



## 10 March 2022, Thursday between 11 AM - 12 PM

## Employment Preparation Workshop: Online Drawing for Youth - Scarborough Arts

Introducing our Employment Preparation Workshop to help individuals find a job in the exciting field of the nonprofit sector, on **Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 11 AM - 12 PM EST.**

### **Why The Nonprofit Sector?**

The nonprofit sector job market continues to grow as needs arise. Jobs can be found in three vital areas;

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2. Business nonprofits include organizations such as chambers of commerce, business associations and condominium associations and
3. Government nonprofit organizations include organizations such as hospitals, universities and colleges.

### Researching Migration Through Art Workshop - Scarborough Arts

Explore the concept of migration through artistic and creative expression in our latest workshop series with artist and researcher Sarah Waithe . This FREE program runs Tuesdays from February 15 to March 15. Sign up and learn more at [bit.ly/scarbsatellite](https://bit.ly/scarbsatellite)

# Opportunities



**AN INTRODUCTION TO FOOD AND HORTICULTURE PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING**

*Are you a person on Ontario Works? Are you interested in gaining skills to work in food or horticulture services?*  
**En Route to Employment may be an opportunity for you!**

*The 36-day intensive training includes but not limited to sessions on:*

- food services and horticulture skills • moving forward: re- entering the workforce.
- wellness • work etiquette • diversity issues • resume writing.
- customer service skills
- conflict resolution • interview skills
- self-care • asset mapping, goal setting
- first aid & CPR
- living on OW
- hands-on experience • cultural competency and much more!

**Virtual Training** will begin Mar 1st from 10am-2pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for 12 weeks.

**10 spots are available for the training program!**

For further information, please contact:  
 Lubna Khalid  
 Email [lubna@workingforchange.ca](mailto:lubna@workingforchange.ca)  
 Or Alyssa officeadmin@workingforchange.ca

**Deadline for submitting the applications is Feb 21 2022 until 5 pm.**

**In order to participate it is necessary to have a referral from your Ontario Works worker.**

### En Route to Employment in Food/Horticulture - Working for Change

Are you on Ontario Works? Are you interested in gaining skills to work in food and horticulture services? We have a 36-day intensive training with a variety of sessions on:

- food services and horticulture skills
- wellness & work etiquette
- resume writing
- customer service skills
- first aid & CPR & **much more!**

For further information, please contact: [lubna@workingforchange.ca](mailto:lubna@workingforchange.ca)

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COMMUNITY LEGAL WORKER/PARALEGAL  
INTAKE & CASEWORK  
INCOME MAINTENANCE TEAM

SCLS is a non-profit community based legal clinic funded by Legal Aid Ontario. We provide clinic law services to low income individuals in a culturally diverse community. Our work includes individual case work, public legal education, law reform, and community development activities mainly in the areas of tenants' rights, income maintenance law, immigration law, and workers' rights.

We are looking for an enthusiastic community legal worker to join our income maintenance team.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**Legal Work**

- Conduct intake for all income maintenance law matters except ODSP disability eligibility matters, including providing referrals as required
- Provide summary advice, brief services, and some casework for income maintenance law matters. This position will involve limited attendance at the Social Benefits Tribunal.
- Provide summary advice, brief services and casework in other areas of clinic law as required by the Executive Director
- Collaborate with the legal team on the management and conduct of cases through informal discussions and/or formal case conferences

**Law Reform & Community Organizing**

- Support law reform initiatives on income maintenance issues in collaboration with the Executive Director and the income maintenance law team
- Represent the clinic to community groups by providing resources and expertise on income maintenance law issues when requested by the Executive Director
- Write and present briefs to various levels of government on income maintenance law issues in collaboration with the income maintenance law team when requested by the Executive Director

**Public Legal Education ("PLE")**

- Speak to community agencies and community members on housing law issues, clinic services, and other topics within expertise as required by the Executive Director
- Write, edit, and review clinic produced PLE materials on housing law issues, clinic services, and other topics within expertise as required by the Executive Director

**Qualifications and Experience**

- You must be a paralegal with 2 to 5 years' experience in good standing of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

## Legal Services

We are looking for an enthusiastic community legal worker to join our income maintenance team.

This is a **permanent full-time position** and is part of OPSEU's bargaining unit. The salary range is **\$62,000 - \$66,500**. The compensation package includes a comprehensive health and dental benefits package and membership in DBPlus CAAT pension plan.

The deadline for applications is **5:00pm on Friday, March 11, 2022**. All applicants are asked to submit a cover letter, resume, and the contact info for two professional references to Brad Evoy by email at [evoyb@lao.on.ca](mailto:evoyb@lao.on.ca) using the subject line "CLW Community Development and Caseworker Position" only. [Click here to see the full posting.](#)



COMMUNITY LEGAL WORKER/PARALEGAL  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & CASEWORK  
INCOME MAINTENANCE TEAM

SCLS is a non-profit community based legal clinic funded by Legal Aid Ontario. We provide clinic law services to low income individuals in a culturally diverse community. Our work includes individual case work, public legal education, law reform, and community development activities mainly in the areas of tenants' rights, income maintenance law, immigration law, and workers' rights.

We are looking for an enthusiastic community legal worker to join our income maintenance team.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**Legal Work (approx. 50%)**

- Provide summary advice, brief services, and casework in all aspects of income maintenance matters, particularly Ontario Disability Support Program related issues
- Provide summary advice, brief services and casework in other areas of clinic law as required
- Collaborate with teams on the management and conduct of cases through informal discussions and/or formal case conferences

**Law Reform / Organizing & Public Legal Education (approx. 50%)**

- Lead and organize the law reform and community organizing efforts of the income maintenance team
- Steward existing community relationships and build new community connections through creative outreach and organizing strategies
- Identify and carry out law reform initiatives on income maintenance issues
- Represent the clinic to community groups by providing resources and expertise in income maintenance issues
- Write and present briefs to various levels of government on income maintenance related issues
- Lead and organize the public legal education activities of the income maintenance team
- Write, edit, review clinic produced PLE materials on income maintenance issues

*Please Note: Given the nature of this role, it may require work to occasionally be performed outside regular work hours, including on evenings and weekends.*

**Qualifications and Experience**

- You must be a paralegal with 2 to 5 years' experience in good standing of the Law Society of Upper Canada.
- You have a sound knowledge of the legislative scheme governing social assistance in Ontario, including the *Ontario Works Act*, and *ODSP Act*.
- You have strong advocacy skills and the ability to evaluate legal issues and exercise sound judgment.

## Job Posting: Paralegal for Community Development - Scarborough Community Legal Services

We are looking for an enthusiastic community legal worker to join our income maintenance team.

This is a **permanent full-time position** and is part of OPSEU's bargaining unit. The salary range is **\$62,000 - \$66,500**. The compensation package includes a comprehensive health and dental benefits package and membership in DBPlus CAAT pension plan.

The deadline for applications is **5:00pm on Friday, March 11, 2022**. All applicants are asked to submit a cover letter, resume, and the contact info for two professional references to Brad Evoy by email at [evoyb@lao.on.ca](mailto:evoyb@lao.on.ca) using the subject line "CLW Community Development and Caseworker Position" only. [Click here to see the full posting.](#)



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Trung Tâm Hướng Dẫn Luật Pháp Hoa-Việt-Khmer-Lào  
Trung tâm hướng dẫn pháp luật cộng đồng

**OFFICE MANAGER  
CHINESE AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN LEGAL CLINIC**  
One year Contract

February 7, 2022

Funded by Legal Aid Ontario (LAO), the [Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic \(CSALC\)](#) is a dynamic community legal clinic which serves low-income members of Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian communities in Ontario.

CSALC is looking to hire a contract (one year) office manager to cover a maternity leave. The office manager will be responsible for assisting the Executive Director in ensuring efficient administration and coordination of all Clinic services. The Office manager will also provide administrative and reception support for a team of lawyers and community legal workers to ensure low income clients with multiple and complex legal needs receive high quality legal services.

We are looking for someone who:

- is fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese, can read and write Chinese (fluency in spoken Vietnamese is an asset)
- has extensive experience in office management, book-keeping, accounting and financial management in not-for-profit organizations
- has good computer skills (including but not limited to Word, Excel)
- has excellent oral and written communication skills
- has great client service skills
- can adapt to new case management and other systems operated by legal clinics
- works well in a team as well as independently
- work will require both remote and in person attendance at the office

Salary will be in the range of \$60,000 to \$62,000 per annum, plus a group benefits package and employer RRSP contributions.

Please note that the CSALC office has a mandatory vaccination policy.

**Deadline for application:** March 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**Anticipated start date:** April 4, 2022

Please e-mail your application (cover letter and resume) to [csalchiring@gmail.com](mailto:csalchiring@gmail.com).

We thank all applicants but will only contact candidates shortlisted for interviews.

<https://csalc.ca/job-posting-for-office-manager-one-year-contract/>

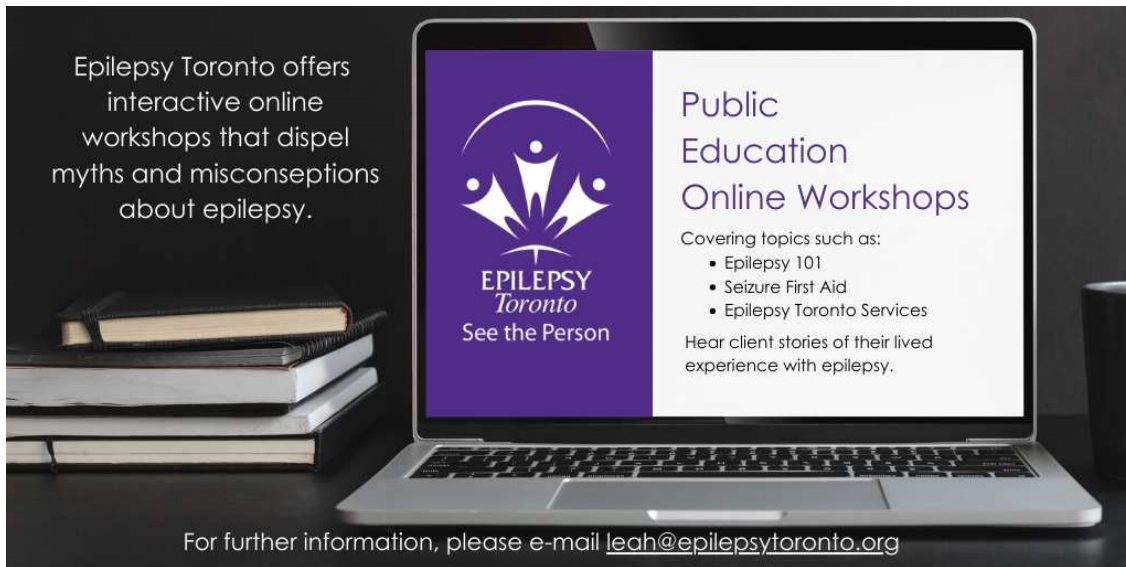
[Clinic](#)

CSALC is looking to hire a contract (one year) office manager to cover a maternity leave. The office manager will be responsible for assisting the Executive Director in ensuring efficient administration and coordination of all Clinic services. The Office manager will provide administrative support for a team of lawyers and community legal workers to ensure low income clients with multiple and complex legal needs receive high quality legal services.

**Deadline for application:** March 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Please e-mail your application (cover letter and resume) to [csalchiring@gmail.com](mailto:csalchiring@gmail.com).

[Click here to view the full posting](#)



For further information, please e-mail [leah@epilepsytoronto.org](mailto:leah@epilepsytoronto.org)

[Combating Epilepsy Misconceptions - Epilepsy Toronto](#)

Here is a new COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin, developed by doctors in partnership with settlement organizations, in 8 languages. It's the first in a series, addressing questions about the vaccine.

Epilepsy Toronto is offering interactive online workshops that dispel myths and misconceptions about epilepsy.

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of their lived experience with epilepsy. For further information, please email [leah@epilepsytoronto.org](mailto:leah@epilepsytoronto.org)

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## Important News

### Ontario to drop school masking requirements after March break, sources say

Ontario is set to drop most mask mandates — including in shops, restaurants, and all elementary and secondary schools — on March 21 [Read more](#)

### Travelling outside of Ontario this March Break? Read this first

1. GET YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATION DOCUMENTS IN ORDER
2. YOU STILL NEED A NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST TO RE-ENTER CANADA
3. DOWNLOAD THE CANADA BORDER SERVICE AGENCY 'ARRIVECAN' APP AHEAD OF TIME. [Read them all here.](#)

### Canada: sloppy police work and racism marred inquiries into Indigenous deaths

Two years later, a landmark report by Murray Sinclair — a former senator and one of the country's first Indigenous judges — found significant flaws in investigations into the deaths of nine Indigenous people, as well as a “clear and indisputable pattern” of racism in the Thunder Bay police force. Following Sinclair's report, the city's police board was dissolved. To read more, click [here](#).

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