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September 2023 Newsletter

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- Council debates Toronto Financial future as Chow presses for refugee shelter help
- I Am London: Colombian immigrant shares struggles, successes in new campaign
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9/29/23, 10:12 AM



12th Annual Health Equity Summit

Register for the Health Equity Summit here

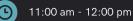
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COUNCIL OF AGENCIES SERVING SOUTH ASIANS

Community-Leader, with a Go-Getter Mindset!

Brainstorming Meeting (Grant Writing)

September 18, 2023



Zoom

Only for CASSA Members. If you want to know more about CASSA membership benefits please contact <u>qurat@cassa.on.ca</u> or visit <u>www.cassa.ca/membership</u>



Special Guest



Aisha Khaja Founder and Principal Consultant - Red Tree

Consultant - Red Tree Strategic Consulting Inc

Since 2018, Aisha Khaja has been working with Gibraltar Leadership Academy as the Director of Partnerships to seek out grant opportunities and produce innovative educational programming ideas. With a background rooted in not-for-profit empowerment, Aisha founded Red Tree Strategic Consulting Inc., where she served as the Founder and Principal Consultant. The vision of Red Tree Strategic Consulting Inc. is to empower not-forprofit organizations to raise their standards of operation by expanding their professional networks, establishing policies and diversifying their funding streams. Through the eight years spent working in government, she learned the ins and outs of funding, program and policy development. She has also held various leadership positions in her community as the former host of the TV show Let the Quran Speak, a Professor at Seneca College, a Research Fellow with the Tessellate Institute and as the founder of Charity Week Canada. To date, Aisha has secured more than \$3M in funding (and counting!) in grants for various community organizations, and has trained more than 60 organizations through the Grant Writing 101 Course!

Community-Leader, with a Go-Getter Mindset!

To register for the meeting, member agencies can email <u>qurat@cassa.on.ca</u> for the Zoom link.

CASSA Went To Geneva!

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CASSA IN GENEVA

With the Colour of Poverty: Colour of Change and South Asian legal Clinic of Ontario





The Executive Director of CASSA, Samya Hasan, recently traveled to Geneva along with South Asian Legal Health Clinic Ontario (SALCO) to represent Color of Poverty-Color of Change to participate in the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights in Canada. CASSA presented on the state of racial discrimination in Canada. They presented the issues and recommendations for these issues which you can find at CASSA's Website.



ISSUES THAT WERE TALKED ABOUT

Collection Over-Representation Of Racialized People In Criminal Justice, Corrections, Policing, and Child Wolfare

Hate-Crime and Online hate Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Racialized and Indigenous Women



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Translate <

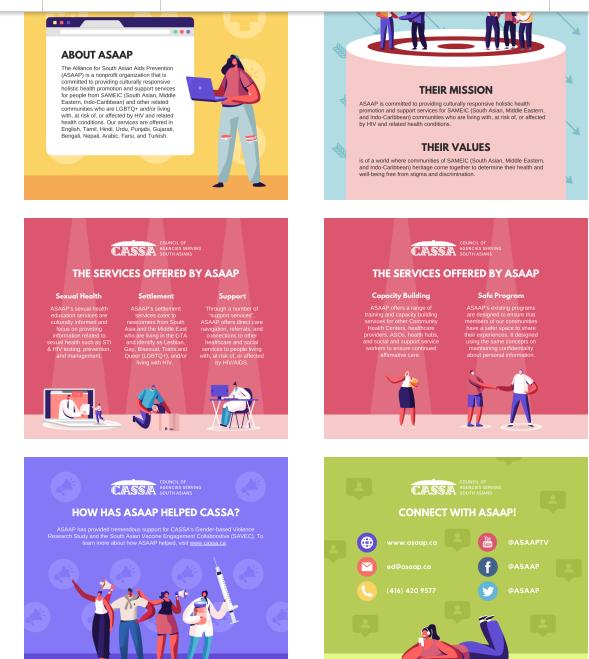
Subscribe Past Issues South Asian and Muslim, woman is a "cultu issue. Although the problematic title of this been removed, it continues to operate as a legislation.⁵ Andate provinces, territories and municipalities to prioritize community and social supports over criminal justice system, incarceration, and child welfare for racialized communities. Sherew the Federal Covernment's create and implement a renewed, enhance create and implement a renewed, enhance relational Action Plan Againt Reaction Plan Againt Reaction Plan Anti-hate Strategy and support provincial RACE-BASED DISAGGREGATED DATA COLLECTION ing the Arab and West Asian population ncreased by **46%**, the East and Southeas populations which have increased **16%**, juth Asian population which has increas COLLECTON Statistics Canada has recently launched the Disaggregated Data and Analytics Framework DDAP, obseque to establish disaggregated data sources, and liverage innovative data foundation projects. However, Canada's approach to the collection of disaggregated data has still not progressid at a rate that acknowledges the growin populations of racialized people in Canada and the populations of racialized people in Canada and the 3rd UPR Cycle State Recommendation to Canada (Status: not implemented): 142.2007: "continue working with partners at all levels to address the significant levels of violence against aboriginal women, and its root e increase in nace crimes has coincided with i somential increase in hate speech and hate intent on online platforms. Online hate proportionately impacts women, youth and se who are racialized or Indigenous. There ar rrently no mechanisms to track, report, construit against aboriginal women, and its toot 142.208: contune to strengthen protection of the rights of indigenous women and grits against violence, in particular by systematically conducting investigations and ensuring the collection and dissemination of data on violence against indigenous women." 142.2188: ristigu perforts to protect victims of violence and ensure a sufficient number of adequate shates for them." Anti-hate Strategy and support pr and territorial ministries in establi ministerial committees to comba-time of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the strategy and support of the support of the strategy and support of the strategy an UPR Cycle State Recommendation to Canada: 142,72: "ensure the consistent collection of data on ethnic and racial discrimination in the criminal justice system, and intensify the fight against racial profiling and ethnic and religious intolerance." [Status not fully implemented] sterial committees to combat hat trimes and hate speech; immediately develop an effective r framework based on a set of comp basic minimum standards, to white service providers would be require adhere as a condition of operating a significant sanctions regime white compel all online service providers Reinstate a provision akin to the pu section 13 of the Human Rights Ac-individuals accountable for promoti harder developmental online. st targeted populatio uded the Muslim po (17%) n (14%), and the Black population 3rd UPR Cycle State Recommendations to 0 142.52: "strengthen its efforts to fight rac discrimination, including by enhancing institutional capacity to systematically document, investigate and prosecute ra methode drivers." [Contemposition] OVER-REPRESENTATION OF RACIALIZED PEOPLE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CORRECTIONS, POLICING, AND CHILD WELFARE RECOMMENDATIONS Di CHILD WELFARE dec paople in Canada continue to be racially filed and over-represented across the Cana-minal justice system, corrections and policin ckc Canadians account for 9% of federal imm canada despite making up only 4% of the tional population. Moreover, Black offenders represented among those involved in use-ce incidents in federal corrections.² 1. The Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Municipal governments in Canada must mandate the collection, monitoring and tracking of disaggregated data with respect t ethno-racial and faith backgrounds across all inuividuais accountable for promoting hatred, especially online; Repeal the Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act, providing more greater economic and social support for rivestigate and prosecute racially rimes." (Status: not implemented) ure the consistent collection of dat id racial discrimination in the • 142.72: artment; istries, Divisions and relevant institutions justice system, and int racial profiling and eth hce." (Status: not fully in Plan on Gender-based Vio unique barriers for victims for addressing systemi id human rights violat n 2022, the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies noted that Black children in Ontario make up 7% of the population but account for 13.9% of the mvestigations from child welfare agencies. Data submitted by the Black Legal Action Centre for the Brd UPR cycle is relatively the same, and that systemic racism and discrimination continues to antly increase the Federal iment's contribution to legal ms in all provinces and territ ant portion earmarked for ri-GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST RACIALIZED AND INDIGENOUS WOMEN al aid mitments; ide equitable funding to community ed and ethnic organizations serving slized and Indigenous survivors of der-based violence ring the pandemic, shelters and service pro re overwhelmed and at capacity. Canada's ities, who are over-represented minal justice, immigration law and elated law: ig system does not currently recogni eeds and benefits historically funded the over-representation of Black people in liustice, corrections, and policing, ³ leaving smaller organizations apply for funds on a continuous basis. Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act is 2400 foreforce for barbanc cultural includes Acc not based on statistical data or research, and will continue to perpetuate myths about practices of polygamy and forced marriages. The Act targets racialized women and perpetuates the myth that violence against racialized women, and in this cas HATE-CRIMES AND ONLINE HATE mes targeting race or ethnicity ad from 2019-2021, with a **72%** ir eported hate crimes. Hate crim

This Month's Member Shout-Out

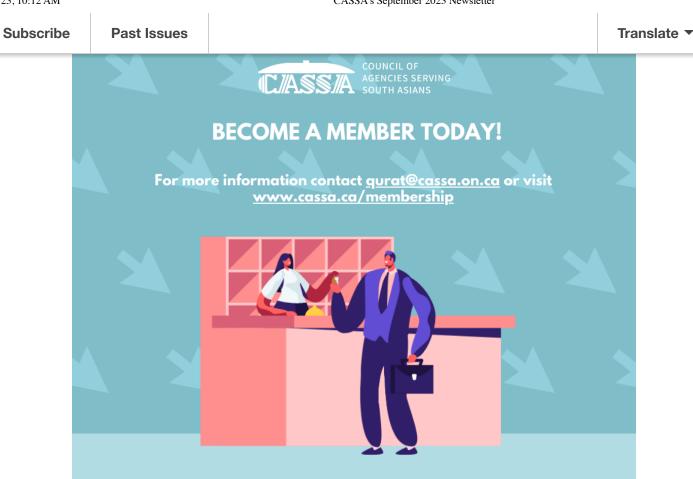




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9/29/23, 10:12 AM



CASSA Project Updates

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#EraulcaleFiale 2.0

Download EradicateHate on Google Play Store and Apple Store Anti-hate App for Children and Youth to Combat Online Hate



The App includes content such as tutorials, reflection activities, and infographics to equip youth-focused organizations, educators, parents and young victims of online hate with digital literacy tools to combat online hate.

The content also addresses hateful attitudes and beliefs which stem from racist and xenophobic ideologies which result in online hate content.



CASSA.CA/ERADICATEHATE-2-0/







#EradicateHate 2.0

We are excited to share with you that we are now ready for the launching of our Anti-hate App for Children and Youth to Combat Online Hate.

The App includes content such as tutorials, reflection activities, and infographics to equip youth-

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from racist and xenophobic ideologies which result in online hate content. The Toolkit can be found in the form of an App and Web Page and is intended for children between 8-14 years old, youth between 15–24 years old, educators, and parents.

Download the Eradicate Hate 2.0 app at Google Play Download the Eradicate Hate 2.0 app on Apple Store:



Toxic Masculinity and Its Impact on Gender-Based Violence

CASSA's Toxic Masculinity Project is nearing final ethics approval by the Community Research

Past Issues

recruitment process will be held by the study's Project Manager for project partners in order to maintain consistency and follow through on ethics guidelines.

We are also in the process of recruiting members of the South Asian community for our advisory committee which will meet a few times a year at various stages of the project to advise on steps and process within the project. If you are interested, please contact <u>dinoba@cassa.on.ca</u> with the title "Inquiry: Advisory Committee Member". Looking forward to hearing from our community members.

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WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

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

Join us in promoting equity and inclusivity for Muslim students and staff! Combat racism and Islamophobia to create a welcoming and just future together.

APPLY NOW: <u>www.cassa.ca/apply-to-join-the-coalition-for-racial-</u> equity-in-education-project/



The Coalition for Racial Equity in Education

The Coalition for Racial Equity in Education is currently inviting parents and youth volunteers from the YRDSB and DDSB regions to join their dedicated efforts. These volunteers will undergo comprehensive training regarding Islamophobia in schools.

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interested in contributing to this important project, we invite you to sign up <u>here</u>. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to samaha@cassa.on.ca.

"A brown friend was beaten up in a park
they called him paki, go back to your country. A pharmacist refused to serve me in English after Bill 21 became law. She is perfectly bilingual and had served me in English before the existence of Bill 21."

Bill 21 has led to an increase in hate crimes and prejudicial remarks. This is a real-life example of remarks faced by religious minorities. This information is based on a survey conducted by Association for Canadian Studies conducted in 2022.

Policies that Perpetuate Systemic Racism



Canadian Fondation Race Relations canadienne des Foundation relations raciales



AGENCIES SERVING SOUTH ASIANS

Subscribe	Past Issues			Translate
	"These Muslim wome heads , if they are no let them return to	t able to integrate ,	"My friend's hijab was pulled off on the metro."	3
	Bill 21 has led to an increase in ha crimes and prejudicial remarks. is a real-life example of remarks faced by religious minorities.	This survey conducted by Association for Canadian	Bill 21 has led to an increase in hate crimes and prejudicial remarks. This is a real-life example of remarks faced by religious minorities.	ian
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	Bill 21 has led to an increase in ha crimes and prejudicial remarks. is a real-life example of remarks faced by religious minorities.	This survey conducted by Association for Canadian	Bill 21 has led to an increase in hate crimes and prejudicial remarks. This is a real-life example of remarks faced by religious minorities.	ian
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"A **policewoman** in Quebec City called me *a dirty immigrant*."



https://mailchi.mp/cassa/cassas-september-2023-newsletter-6186703

Subscribe	Past Issues			Translate
	"I was asked to remove my kippah by my employer while working as a multifaith chaplaincy student."		country and bullied. None of the incidents were reported because it feels like this is what minorities have to deal with in Quebec."	
cr	ill 21 has led to an increase in ha rimes and prejudicial remarks. a real–life example of remarks iced by religious minorities.	survey conducted by	crimes and prejudicial remarks. This	als information is based on a rwey conducted by sociation for Canadian udles conducted in 2022.
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Policies that Perpetuate Systemic Racism

We will be sharing public awareness content created for the three policies starting this month on social media. We are continuing to record episodes for our podcast on "Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices" Act and working on visualizing stories of individuals who have been negatively impacted by these policies. As part of our incoming campaign, below is some of our public awareness content for social media for Bill 21. Bill 21 has significantly exacerbated microaggressions faced by faith minorities in Quebec. Unfortunately, these are only a few examples of instances of harassment and abuse faced by faith minorities in Quebec regularly. Through our primary research, we have found that these instances are very common and most commonly go unreported or unrecorded.

Opportunities

Subscribe

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PARTICIPANTS FOR RESEARCH ON AGING

Help us learn about risk and protective factors for dementia

- Target population: Individuals who identify as East Asian, South Asian, or White
- Compensation will be provided



Seeking Healthy Participants For Research on Aging:

\$50 Honorarium

\$10 Food Voucher

FREE Parking!!

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CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS Barriers to Employment for

Canadian Muslim Women PROJECT ASPIRE

THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to better understand the employment experiences of Canadian Muslim women. Specifically, this project will focus on experiences of finding, retaining, and advancing in paid work.

THE RESEARCHER

Dr. Sarah Shah is a research associate at the Muslims in Canada Data Initiative (MiCDI), the Institute of Islamic Studies, and an assistant professor at the Department of Sociology, The University of Toronto Mississauga. MiCDI has been engaged by the Canadian Council of Muslim Women to conduct this study.

For more information, or to participate in the study, please contact:

Dr. Sarah Shah, PhD 647 637 8514 sarahshah@ccmw.com

PARTICIPANTS

You are invited to participate if you are a Muslim woman residing in Canada (including self-identified and trans women) and have experience with the employment sector. Translate

PARTICIPATION DETAILS

- Online group discussion
- Online pre-interview questionnaire
- Some participants may be interviewed one-on-one
- Participants will receive honoraria

CONFIDENTIALITY AND ANONYMITY

Your information will be kept completely confidential.

You can withdraw your participation (and anything you shared during the study) at any point, even after the interview.

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ACTION ON VIOLENCE

Job Posting: 3 Part-Time Positions Respect in Action (ReAct) Youth Program Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educator

August 2023

If you are 16-29 years of age and have a passion for social justice and an interest in working with youth to prevent gender-based violence this posting may be of interest to you. The three Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educators will work in person and online facilitating ReAct's Youth Violence Prevention Program.

ABOUT METRAC: Formed in 1984, METRAC is an award-winning not-for-profit agency, historically devoted to advancing safety, justice and equity for women and youth. Most recently, METRAC's priority groups have expanded to include Two-Spirit, transgender, and nonbinary people, also known to be impacted by higher rates of gender-based violence. METRAC partners with individuals, communities, and institutions, to change ideas, actions and policies toward ending gender-based violence. Our activities are focused on public education, legal information services, youth prevention programs, community safety audits, community-based research and social policy initiatives designed to improve systemic responses to gender-based violence.

Website: www.metrac.org or www.metrac.org/what-we-do/react/

Respect in Action (ReAct) is a youth **outreach, education and violence prevention** program offered by METRAC's youth Peer Educators. ReAct's Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educators (Peer Educators) support the development and distribution of engaging violence prevention resources through ReAct's social media platforms and via in-person outreach opportunities. Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educators facilitate interactive and structured activities to raise awareness, foster critical thinking and discussions, and introduce community resources, while inspiring youth to take action towards preventing and ending violence in their communities.

We prioritize working with youth communities affected by higher levels of violence, higher rates of isolation and social marginalization (e.g., racialized youth, immigrants, newcomers, urban low-income youth, youth with disabilities, and 2SLGBTQIA+ youth, youth at risk of being trafficked or becoming traffickers, hood youth, and youth who have less access to resources).

Position summary

Guided by the ReAct Program Manager, Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educators are trained and supported to conduct online/in person outreach to youth, to engage youth in a needs assessment, to identify issues of violence impacting youth and to develop and facilitate responsive online/in person violence prevention education programs with youth. Peer Outreach and Violence Prevention Educators are part of a team responsible for mentoring other youth utilizing a respectful, youth-positive approach. Students learn about warning signs of abuse, healthy relationships, how to access help and support each other. Program participants also learn how to lead community safety initiatives in their neighborhoods and contribute to social change in their communities.

	Subscribe	Past Issues			Translate •
		 Unversp engaging youri-centric resources consert, healthy relationships, anti-racions, implement the MeAct curriculum both in-person against youth with attention to those nonbinary/Two-Spirit communities) Attend ReAct team meetings to lopian and develor innovided of current issues affecting youth Engagin in poject activities as funding opport Other dules as required. 	inti-oppression, etc. son and online out the prevention of gender-based violence at higher risk (i.e., women/girls/trans, brief program activities and experiences) opment trainings towards building skills and	METRAC is grateful to the City of Toronto, Canadian Women's Foundation, and The I Education for generously funding the ReAct Youth Program.	Ministry of
Summary of qualifications Experience working with youth and/or a common Support of the second seco		Experience working with youth and/or a com Experience conducting outheast ho promote Strong facilitation and group work skills Strong analysis of and control with challen women and youth and discriminationoppr tempoprotect, transphola, agains, and abia Experience utilizing online platforms and too Instagram A desire to make a positive difference in you A willingness to support the work of other co- A solid understanding of human rights issues peer education and popular decutation is an object of the strong packing apparticity of the Decidation to maintaining a positive image of Comfortable doing public speaking, sepseting Flexible schedule required (e.g., days, eveni Crastify and enthuisasm; reliability, willings)	resources and programs is an asset reging gender-based violence, violence against ession issus (e.g., racism, classism, sexism, sm) within a youth-centred model a content is such as: Zoom, Canva, PowerPoint, Kahoot, r community educators/facilitators s. equity, inclusion, anti-appression, s. equity, inclusion, anti-actism, anti-oppression, s. equity, inclusion, anti-actism, anti-oppression, s. equity, inclusion, anti-actism, anti-oppression, s. equity, inclusion, anti-actism, anti-oppression, manuella anguages a strong asset languages a strong asset y with other youth ngs, weekdays, weekends) iness to learn; openness		
Hours of Work 21 hours a week, \$16.50 per hour					
		Duration This is a 10-month contract ending in August 2024			

Deadline for Applications Sunday September 17, 2023, at 11:59pm

Please apply with a cover letter and a resume describing your relevant work experience, and 3 references to https://www.com/communications-interest. However, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

FOR STAKEHOLDERS - PUBLIC SOCIAL MEDIA/NEWSLETTER

How can we better protect Muslim communities in Canada against hate?

Canada has had the highest number of deadly attacks against Muslims over the past six years than any other G7 country. And between 2021 and 2022, Muslim communities here have experienced a 71% increase in police-reported hate crimes.

We need to work together to address this dangerous phenomenon. Launched in eight countries across Europe and translated into 10 languages, the <u>Understanding Anti-Muslim Hate Crimes –</u> <u>Addressing the Security Needs of Muslim Communities: A Practical Guide</u> is a valuable tool for law enforcement, public safety officials, policy makers, community organizations and others who are committed to address hate against Muslim communities in Canada.

Interested in learning more about the guide and how it can be used in Canada? We invite you to attend the hybrid launch event on September 21, 2023 via Zoom by registering at this link. If you are in Ottawa and would like to attend the event in person, please email programs@crrf-fcrr.ca.

This event is organized jointly by:

- the Office of the Special Representative on Combatting Islamophobia
- the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)
- the Canadian Race Relations Foundation
- the Canadian Commission of UNESCO
- the Government of Canada's <u>Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat</u>



Canadian Race Relations Foundation Fondation canadienne des relations raciales







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Serving Newcomers and Immigrants in York and Durham regions.



8400 Woodbine Ave, Suite 102-103 (289) 846-3645 **Richmond Hill** 9325 Yonge Street, Unit 31A (289) 842-3124

> Vaughan 9100 Jane St Building H, Units 56-67 (416) 238-1033

Markham North



Newmarket

16655 Yonge Street, Unit 26 (289) 841-3032



Ajax 458 Fairall Street, Unit 5 (289) 482-1037

Pickering 1400 Bayly Street, Unit 16b (905) 420-3008



CASSA's Blogs/Podcasts

1-877-761-1155 www.welcomecentre.ca

Blog Posts:

UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights in Canada

(SALCO) to participate in the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights in Canada

Introduction to The Legal Education for Refuge Women toolkit

The Legal Education for Refuge Women toolkit was introduced in 2020. CASSA's 'Legal Education for Refugee Women' Toolkit aims to bridge the various barriers that stand in the way of refugee women integrating into their communities by helping them understand their rights and responsibilities in Canada and giving them the information needed to advocate for themselves.

In the News

High rents, scams and paperwork make housing a struggle for international students in Winnipeg

Students share challenges of finding affordable, safe housing so they can pursue their studies

SCO 'Every Child Matters' campaign launches in support of reconciliation

Manitoba First Nations leaders have launched a September campaign for the third year in a row, as they hope to see Manitobans reflect on the history and the legacy of Canada's residential school system and the harm they caused to generations of Indigenous people.

<u>He's been in Canada since childhood. His family is allowed to stay, but he's facing</u> <u>deportation</u>

Kemo Montique moved to Canada from Jamaica at age 11 and doesn't remember much about his life in the country where he was born.

International student pounded the pavement and crashed on a couch on path to coveted room in Thunder Bay

Aakash Chakor of Lakehead University says he's not alone in scrambling to find housing before school starts

International students pay sky-high fees. Whose job is it to house them?

Around 800,000 international students currently call Canada home, with thousands more expected to come with every new academic year.

<u>McMaster University says criticism it's not doing enough to house students</u> <u>'completely off base'</u>

Hamilton and Niagara post-secondary schools say they're trying to quickly build more on-campus housing

the year, according to a new staff report, a situation Mayor Olivia Chow called "desperate" as she pressed the federal government for immediate support.

I Am London: Colombian immigrant shares struggles, successes in new campaign

When Sandra Pineda arrived in London from Colombia with her two small children, language and housing barriers made her feel lost until unexpected help surfaced.

<u>New Black health-care provider directory aims to improve access to doctors for Black</u> <u>Canadians</u>

A new directory of Black health-care professionals across Canada launched Thursday, and creators of the database say its goal is to help improve access to practitioners for Black Canadians who often struggle to find providers who understand their backgrounds.



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