

Issue 86
March 2023



SAAMIS IMMIGRATION SERVICES

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Spring Newsletter

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Save a TREE

Saamis Immigration is going **GREEN**. Please sign up for electronic version of Newsletter

Send "**Sign me up**" to emilia@saamisimmigration.ca

Happy Spring everyone!

Word from the Executive Director

In February we finally received long anticipated Afghani arrivals. 21 people from Afghanistan arrived to Medicine Hat, but unfortunately, shortly after the majority decided to relocate on their own to larger cities. So far, only one family stayed here and we are happy for them. Besides Afghans, we also welcomed many other arrivals, originating from Eritrea and Congo.

In February we sadly said good bye to Sara B., our Case Management Coordinator who has left S.I.S.A. after 11+ years to pursue a new career with the Government of Alberta. We wish her all the best in her future career endeavors, she will be missed.

We continue to support Ukrainian evacuees arriving in Medicine Hat and area with their settlement and language needs. In partnership with the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) and through a generous grant from the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta, Saamis has developed a Resource Guide to assist all Newcomers, including Ukrainian evacuees in navigating the local resources. The Resource Guide is currently available in English and Ukrainian and could be accessed by visiting this website: <https://mhlip.ca/resources/>

Full Time LINC Classes

Monday-Thursday

8:45 am to 2:45 pm

Friday

Online

Evening LINC Classes

Monday and Tuesday

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm



CUAET Community Resource Guide

Довідник ресурсів

Спільноти MEDICINE HAT, AB <https://mhlip.ca/sources/>



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Immigration, Refugees
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KEY DATES

March 17, 2023

- **Saint Patrick's**

Day St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for



March 20, 2023

- **International Day of Happiness**

Every year on March 20th, the International Day of Happiness promotes the idea that part of humanity's progress should include how to increase happiness



April 2, 2023

- **World Autism Awareness Day**

World Autism Awareness Day aims to increase people's awareness about people, especially children, with autism. The day often features educational events for teachers, health care workers, and parents, as well as exhibitions showcasing work created by children with autism.



April 22, 2023

- **Earth Day**

Earth Day is an annual event on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by EarthDay.org (formerly Earth Day Network)^[1] including 1 billion people in more than 193 countries



April 26, 2023

- **Secretaries Day**

Secretaries Day takes place every Wednesday in the last week of April to honor the hard work of secretaries who have long been under-appreciated. This year, it takes place on April 26. This day has developed and had many names over the years, such as Admin Day, and it occurs on Administrative Professionals Week



SAAMIS IMMIGRATION SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Is happy to announce the following staff joining our team:

Building maintenance:

Ryan Glover

Settlement Workers in Schools:

Mariza Rogness (returned from maternity leave)

RAP Worker:

Sofia Winquist



AMAZING SUCCESS STORY FROM SISA!!!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the kid's Passport to the World event at the Esplanade.

The event was a great success. We had volunteers helping us due to craft with the children, henna art, and great performers dancing and singing in the studio theatre.



Volunteer Opportunity

Mentoring Skilled Immigrants

Are you a high-skill professional looking to make a difference in the lives of newcomers to our region?

Register to be a mentor today, and help newcomers break back into their profession here in Canada.

Newcomers looking for a professional mentor can register on our website.



Contact us!
www.mhaem.ca
1.403.866.5151

End of Winter Outdoor Day



Dress appropriate for the weather

- Jacket
- Toque
- Gloves
- Boots



Activities

Nature walk, Games, Fire, & Snacks



PD Day March 17th

Parents drop off at Saamis Immigration LINC at 9:00 am

Parents pick kids up at 12:15 pm

For more information
Call 403 504 1188 ext. 129
Or 403 504 1188 ext. 127



Explore Outdoors Program



Join us for a 6 week outdoor program. We will be exploring nature by visiting different parks, having scavenger hunts, nature walks, songs and stories.

When: Wednesday's from 10:00-11:30am
April 26th - May 31st

Where: Various Parks around Medicine Hat

How to register:

E-mail - rokaya@saamisimmigration.ca
or 403-504-1188 ext. 129



LEARN
LIFE LONG LEARNING



PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Alberta Provincial Family Resource Networks



Bridges Parent Education:

SENSORY GROUP

LEARN ABOUT HOW CHILDREN USE THEIR SENSES TO EXPLORE THEIR WORLD. LEARN ENGLISH WITH SENSORY ACTIVITIES. EVERYTHING IS PROVIDED FREE.



Fridays February 24 - March 17
10:30-12:00

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFO CONTACT SHARON OR ROKAYA



403-526-7473
403-504-1188 EXT129

SMICKEY@MEMLANE.COM
ROKAYA@SAAMISIMMIGRATION.CA

FREE

Registration can also be completed online at:
<https://forms.gle/5LoRkv4ApbzyZrPx5>

SISA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Chair

Dr. Richard Northcott

Directors

Jonathan Tieman

Dr. Lena Derie-Gillespie

Nathan Gale

Syed Naqvi

Kelly McNelly

Stephen Awudi



ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

659 3rd Street SE
Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 0H4
Phone: 403-504-1188
Fax: 403-504-1211

LINC BUILDING

645 3rd Street SE
Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 0H4

SISA TEAM

Executive Director: Marijana Agicic

Manager of Programming: Mihaela Craciun

Manager of Settlement: Marie-Claude Scahill

Financial Manager: Sonia Toor (Kristijan Kopilovic—Interim)

Human Resources Management: Jane Mkandla

Clerical Assistant: Anna Sermak

Settlement Worker: Dean Halbert

Settlement Outreach Worker: Emilia Dirk

RAP Workers: Aishat Sarumi & Sofia Winquist

RAP Digital Navigators: Lloyd Ford & Dean Gray

RAP Enhancing Life Skills Worker: Jennifer Erfle

Settlement Workers in Schools: Pitou Yin, Mariza Rogness & Francisca deWever

Community Connections Coordinators: Aidé Hilsendeger & Rokaya Nasser

Health & Wellness Navigator: Linn Andersen

Intake Worker: Julia Fan

LINC Instructors: Davar Broeckert, Holly Hoffman, Robert Ingram, Sandra Frostad

PBLA Lead: Sandra Frostad

Evening LINC Instructors: Michael Austin, Cameron Meiklejohn & Ryan Glover

LINC Coordinator: Judith Gonzalez

Mentor Partnership Coordinators: Michael Austin & Yusuf Mohammed

Building maintenance: Ryan Glover



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