Issue 85 December 2022



Inside this issue:

Word from the	1
Executive Director	

- SISA Winter Key **Dates and News**
- Success story from 2 SISA
- Reading & Writing 3 Matters
- Winter Community 3 Connections Pro-
 - SISA Team

Full Time LINC Hours:

All Classes Monday-Thursday

8:45-12:00 & 12:45-2:45

Friday online

Part Time LINC Hours:

Monday's & Tuesday's

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm















Winter Newsletter

SAAMIS IMMIGRATION SERVICES





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

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

Happy Winter everyone!

Word from the Executive Director

Greetings to all. I cannot believe that we are almost at the end of 2022 - wow, the whole year flew by so quickly. Looking back at the year in retrospective, 2022 was a very busy year, filled with lots of changes and new programs which resulted in a significant growth for us. I would like to highlight three areas which marked the 2022 for us:

We have started the year by welcoming a large group of Cambodian arrivals in Medicine Hat. About 40 of them arrived within the first few months of 2022. It has been a long time since we settled the refugees from Cambodia, so we were glad to see this community growing and contributing to the diversity of our city.

Throughout the year we lost some staff who decided to pursue something new in their career, but then we also recruited some new staff, allowing us to maintain a solid team of professionals dedicated to serve and assist newcomers settling in our community. We sadly said goodbye to: Stephen A., Jennifer D. and Dayana G., and welcomed

Sonia T., Erin V., Rokaya N., Pitou Y., Dean H., Linn A., Lloyd F. and Dean G. We wish them all a warm welcome and a long and prosperous career with Saamis.

Many Ukrainians fled the war zone in their home land and found a safe haven in Canada. Quite a few of them chose to come to Medicine Hat. By the end of November Saamis served over 100 persons from Ukraine, assisting them with intakes, school registrations, youth programming, finding them volunteer language coaches and volunteer mentors, and connecting them to the local resources. Happy to have them here.

I wish you all Happy Holiday Season to enjoy it with your family and friends, and a Prosperous, Peaceful and Happy New 2023!







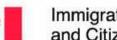






Funded by:

Financé par :



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada





Key Dates







Dec 10, 2022



. Human Rights Day- Human Rights Day is observed and celebrated on 10 December across the globe to raise awareness about rights that all human beings are entitled to, irrespective of factors such as religion, sex, language, race, colour, nationality and so on. The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations on 10 December, 1948.

Dec18, 2022



• International Migrants Day -International Migrants Day (18 December) this year falls almost exactly 70 years after the Brussels conference that lead to the establishment of the organization that, in 1989, was renamed the International Organization for Migration. A broad range of factors continue to determine the movement of people. They are either voluntary or forced movements as a result of the increased magnitude and frequency of disasters, economic challenges and extreme poverty or conflict.

Dec 20, 2022



Dec 25, 2022



• International Human Solidarity Day—On International Human Solidarity Day, governments are reminded of their commitments to international agreements on the need for human solidarity as an initiative to fight against poverty. People are encouraged to debate on ways to promote solidarity and find innovative methods to help eradicate poverty.

• Christmas Day - Christmas Day is a holiday in many, but not all, countries. Many homes have Christmas trees and other decorations in the weeks leading to Christmas Day. Some workplaces hold Christmas parties prior to December 25. Festive activities include exchanging presents, singing Christmas songs, going to parties. It's a special time when children get presents from family, friends and Santa Claus, or



February 20, 2023 • Family Day—Family Day is observed in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and New Brunswick on the third Monday of February. This holiday celebrates the importance of families and family life to people and their communities.

SAAMIS IMMIGRATION SERVICES ASSOCIATION

is happy to announce the following new staff joining our team:

Building maintenance:

Emeric Vasile Kozsan

Settlement Workers in Schools:

Pitou Yin







The Church of **Jesus Christ** of Latter-day

Phase II Boutique Consignment

MEDICINE HAT & REDCLIFF



Thank you to our volunteers and partners for supporting our "Families First Holidays" event. We couldn't have done it without you!

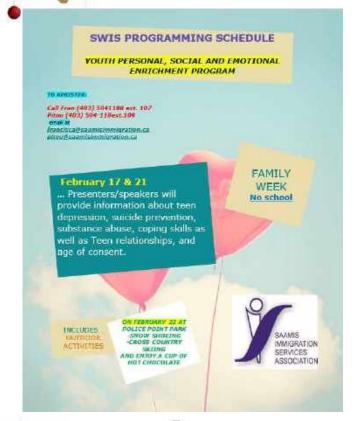






Conversation Circle













Dec. 1st & 8th Jan. 12th, 19th & 26th Feb. 2nd, 9th & 16th

SAAMIS

SERVICES

IMMIGRATION

ASSOCIATION

- Homework Help
- Reading & Writing
- Speaking & Listening
- Improved test scores
 - Social Skills

To Register, please contact: Fran: Francisca@saamisimmigration.ca 403-504-1188 ext 107

Pitou: Pitou@saamisimmigration.ca 403-504-1188 ext 109



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



Executive Director: Marijana Agicic Manager of Programming: Mihaela Craciun Manager of Settlement: Marie-Claude Scahill

Financial Manager: Sonia Toor

Human Resources Management: Jane Mkandla

Clerical Assistant: Anna Sermak
Settlement Worker: Dean Halbert
Settlement Outreach Worker: Emilia Dirk
RAP Workers: Aishat Sarumi & Kristijan Kopilovic
RAP Digital Navigators: Lloyd Ford & Dean Gray
RAP Enhancing Life Skills Worker: Jennifer Erfle

Settlement Workers in Schools: Pitou Yin, Erinn Vielman (Interim) & Francisca de Wever

Community Connections Coordinators: Aidé Hilsendeger & Rokaya Nasser

Case Management Coordinator: Sara Brar 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: Holly Hoffman (Interim), Michael Austin & Anna Hansen

LINC Coordinator: Judith Gonzalez **Circles of Care Coordinator:** Julie Veskioja

Mentor Partnership Coordinators: Michael Austin & Yusuf Mohammed

Building maintenance: Emeric Vasile Kozsan

Funded by:

Financé par :



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada







