

A HELPING HAND TODAY— INDEPENDENCE TOMORROW

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: Kristijan Kopilovic
Human Resources Management: Jane Mkandla
Clerical Assistant: Anna Sermak
Settlement Worker: Valeriia Horina
Settlement Outreach Worker: Emilia Dirk
RAP Workers: Nadiya Peterson & 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: Erinn Vielman
Case Management Coordinator: Linn Andersen
Intake Worker: Julia Fan
LINC Instructors: Holly Hoffman, Robert Ingram, Sarah Pahl & Sandra Frostad
PBLA Lead: Sandra Frostad
Evening LINC Instructors: Ryan Glover & Catherine Young
LINC Coordinator: Judith Gonzalez
Building maintenance: Ryan Glover
Mentor Partnership Coordinators: Michael Austin & Yusuf Mohammed



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Let
Snow

Saamis Immigration Services Association

WINTER NEWSLETTER

Issue 89

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Winter 2023

Inside this issue:

From the Executive Director
SISA Fall Key Dates and News
Success stories from SISA
Fall Community Connections Programs
SISA Team

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Full Time LINC Classes

Monday-Thursday
8:30 am to 2:45 pm

Friday Online

Evening LINC Classes
Tuesday and Thursday
7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

The days are getting shorter and Christmas lights are being hung on houses and streets, reminding us that the holiday season is rapidly approaching. This is the time of the year when we also look back at the year behind us.

As part of its 35th anniversary celebration, Saamis held an Open House on September 22, 2023. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all of our newcomers who have allowed us to be part of your lives over the past 35 years; our dedicated volunteers, as well as our community partners and our hardworking staff. Without you, none of the work we have done over the past 3.5 decades would have been possible. We hope you will continue to support us in the years to come.

May this holiday season bless you all with peace, love and happiness. As we look forward to the new year, we look forward to seeing you.

CUAET
Community
Resource Guide
Довідник ресурсів
Спільноти MEDICINE HAT, AB
<https://mhlp.ca/sources>



MEDICINE HAT, AB <https://mhlp.ca/resources>

The Resource Guide is now available in the following languages:
Russian, Spanish, Arabic & Khmer
And **French** to be coming available soon

Government
of Alberta



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Key dates

December 10, 2023 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.

December 18, 2023 International Migrants Day

International Migrants Day (18 December) this year falls almost exactly 70 years after the Brussels conference that led 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.

December 22, 2023 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.

December 25, 2023 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 Father Christmas.

SAAMIS IMMIGRATION SERVICES ASSOCIATION

We've updated the SISA website to serve as a helpful tool for our clients, providing them with useful and current information from different sources. Additionally, the website includes details about SISA, aiming to help our community, including Medicine Hat and beyond, understand how Saamis contributes to supporting our clients in adapting to life in Canada. It also outlines ways in which the community can contribute to our efforts.

www.saamisimmigration.ca

February 19, 2024 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

AMAZING PARTNERSHIP STORIES

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Medicine Hat Rotary Club for their generous contribution of gift bags to our clients. Their support played a pivotal role in making the International Men's Day event, held on November 16th, a resounding success. The thoughtful gifts provided to the men not only added to the event's success but also created a special and memorable experience for each recipient, making them feel truly valued and appreciated.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP CLUB 2024

GRADE 7 TO GRADE 12
CONNECT WITH FRAN, MARIZA & PITOU AT SAAMIS IMMIGRATION
(403) 504-1188 EXT 106, 107 & 109

**SALVATION ARMY
KETTLEBELL RINGING
FUNDRAISING EVENT**

SAAMIS IMMIGRATION
YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

DECEMBER 16 | 10AM - 4PM
AT MEDICINE HAT MALL

FAMILIES FIRST HOLIDAYS IN CANADA

Saamis Immigration Services Association invites you to a "come and go" Families First Holidays in Canada event.

Who: Families with kids ages: 0-17 years old
When: Friday, December 8
Time: 10:00 am-12:00 pm
Place: St. John's Presbyterian Church - 504 2nd St. SE
Eligibility: Families who arrived from December 1, 2022 - November 2023 with Permanent Residency or Temporary residency Ukrainian families.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED before November 30, 2023

For more information and to register call or stop by the office: 659-3rd St. SE.
Phone: Aidé or Rokaya at 403-504-1188
Ext. 127 or 129

**UNITED WAY
GIFT WRAPPING EVENT**

SAAMIS IMMIGRATION YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

DECEMBER 9 | 10AM - 6PM
AT MEDICINE HAT MALL