



The CCVT Newsletter, which is published monthly, is intended to inform the Centre's volunteers of important news, events and meetings and, in doing so, to acknowledge the vital role they play in fulfilling the CCVT's mandate.

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The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture aids survivors in overcoming the lasting effects of torture and war. In partnership with the community, the Centre supports survivors in the process of successful integration into Canadian society, works for their protection and integrity, and raises awareness of the continuing effects of torture and war on survivors and their families. The CCVT gives hope after the horror.



The CCVT Connection

April 2010

CCVT Volunteers - The heart of the Centre





T is to thank you for sharing your time, talents and friendship



H is for the hope that you give to so many newcomers to Canada



A is for acceptance, openness and support that you give so generously



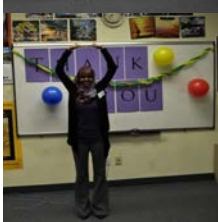
N is because none of the work we do is possible without your support



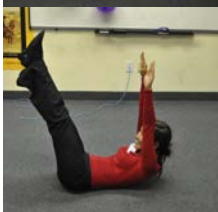
K is for knowing that we can always learn from each other



Y is for you, as volunteers, who are the heart of our centre



O is for offering to tutor, befriend, interpret, and assist



U is for understanding that you make such a difference in the lives of our clients, CCVT and the Community at large

What our clients have to say about our volunteers...

Thanks CCVT.

And Thank you Volunteers.

I need Volunteers, because They help me a lot. Volunteers are very important to us

They are our friends and for everything

I appreciate them very much.

They show us the way and explain

To my about life in Canada.

Volunteer is important for us first we can get Canadian exprians. and help us for getting work if we do volunteer the same place we can get work. and we can get our English language more better in CCVT the volunteer teachers they help the newcomers people to help strong their English and their life better Thanks.

Volunteers are important because there are lot of things to be done by them and has been done by volunteers. They help in different aspects without any payments. Sacrifying their time and skills. As CCVT is non profit organization. Volunteers' help is very important to CCVT. so we really thank to all volunteers who are helping in CCVT.

Did you know...

- ☺ CCVT has more than 300 volunteers!
- ☺ Between April 2009 and March 2010, 152 new volunteers joined CCVT!
- ☺ Between April 2009 and March 2010, 56 Befriending and 90 ESL tutoring matches were made!
- ☺ CCVT volunteers speak more than 60 languages altogether! Between April 2009 and March 2010, over 250 cases were assisted through our interpreters.
- ☺ CCVT Income Tax Clinic Volunteers helped more than 150 clients fill out their income tax form in 2010!

Welcome, new volunteers!

Renee West
Banafsheh Zia
Tina Abu
Rola Ossesran
Smriti Upadhyay
Winnie Liao
Janice Buchanan
Wendy Bhshke
Semhar Tesgazzion
Robel Weldyohans

Sasha Singer Wilson
Ricardo Rivera
Alisha Watts
Fatuma Koli
Bahar Parvizi
Sirus Kashefi
Esther Lensiak
Sahar Abd
Draquan Acimpvic
Nicole Arghandewal Amanjeet Singh



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT NIGHT

Thursday, April 29th, 2010

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

At CCVT - 194 Jarvis St., 2nd Floor

The Singh Decision, Bill C-11, & the Recent Proposed Changes to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act



April 4, 1985 was a milestone for refugee rights in Canada. On that day, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the right of refugee claimants in Canada to life, liberty and security of the person, and that claimants are therefore entitled to an oral hearing, in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice and international law. This ruling has become known as the 'Singh decision', and April 4th is now marked as Refugee Rights Day in Canada in recognition of the seven people who brought their cases to the Court. April 4, 2010 marked the 25th anniversary of the Singh decision.

Do you want to learn more about the current Refugee Determination Process in Canada?
Are you wondering how the recent proposed changes of Bill C-11 will affect this?

The speaker for the evening is **Andrew Brouwer**, a refugee lawyer with Jackman and Associates, and a member of CCVT's Legal Committee. With a focus on refugee protection and the rights of non-citizens, he is also a former board member of the Canadian Council of Refugees, and a former staff member of the Citizens for Public Justice and the Maytree Foundation.

Please join us for an informative and engaging evening!

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, please contact **Hillari Blumfald, Volunteer Coordinator** at 416-363-1066 ext. 239 or hblumfald@ccvt.org



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada



Helping Survivors of Torture Since 1977

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If you are no longer a volunteer at CCVT or do not want to receive the newsletter, please contact Chizuru Nobe at 416-363-1066 ext. 22. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please write to Chizuru Nobe at cnobe@ccvt.org from the account to which you want the newsletter to be sent. Thank you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The information provided in this publication is not controlled by the CCVT and therefore may not reflect the Centre's views.

Hope After Horror

Upcoming events

Volunteer Orientation at downtown office:

Tuesday, May 4th
Wednesday, June 2nd
Thursday, July 8th
Tuesday, August 10th

Training at downtown office:

Monday, May 10th: Homework Club Workshop
Thursday, May 20th: ESL Tutoring Workshop
Wednesday, August 18th: Crisis Intervention Workshop

Social events

Sunday, June 20th: World Refugee Day/ Luminato
Saturday, June 26th: U.N. International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
Tuesday, July 20th: Cultural Café at downtown office



Featured Befriending Event

Saturday, May 29th & Sunday, May 30th: Doors Open Toronto

"For one weekend a year, buildings across Toronto open their doors to the public during the Doors Open Toronto festival. In its 11th year, the festival's theme and central focus is architecture.

Each building participating in the event, there are 150 of them, has architectural, historic or cultural significance and most are not generally open to the public. Guests can explore places of worship, bedrooms, boardrooms, theatres, banking halls and modern landmarks. Once inside the buildings there are tours, activities, exhibits and talks.

The 2010 program consists of ask the architect, guided architecture walking tours by the Toronto Society of Architects, a showcasing of green and sustainable projects in Toronto including gardens and the green roof at City Hall, and more" (Editorial Profile by www.toronto.com).



***Befrienders, this is a great opportunity to explore Toronto with your match. It is a FREE event.**

For more information, please visit <http://www.toronto.ca/doorsopen/about.htm>