

SEEKING REFUGE

AMSSA's BC Refugee Resource Network Bulletin

Edition 1, November 2022

Donations Helping Ukrainians Settle in B.C.

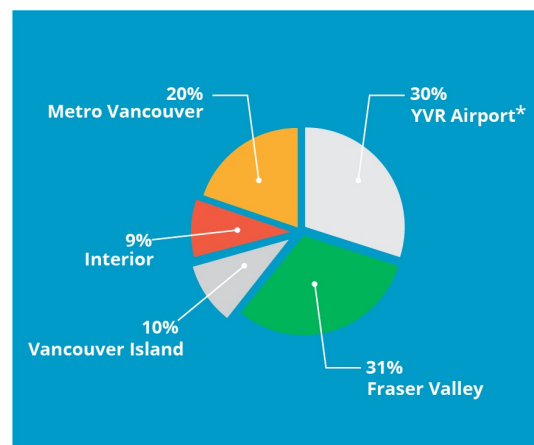
As Ukrainians leave their home in search of safety, many come to B.C. with few resources. Basic needs such as housing and purchasing essentials remain key concerns for their settlement in communities around the province.

Donations have been a key way in which Canadians have been providing help, with gift cards being one way in which businesses have been supporting displaced Ukrainians. As a province-wide association, AMSSA has been facilitating the distribution of corporate donations to regional focal points.

Thanks to donors such as Loblaws, Marks, Sports Chek and Canadian Tire, more than 500 gift cards have been provided to B.C. totalling over \$38,000. These donations have been distributed to service providers who direct donations according to community needs.

Gift cards help newly arrived families and individuals to purchase the most needed items and basic necessities such as groceries, clothing, home essentials and furniture, school supplies and child/infant essentials.

Distribution of Gift Cards within B.C. Regions



*Support provided to the newly arrived migrants at the point of entry at Vancouver International Airport.

If you work with Ukrainian families who can benefit from donations, please contact your local settlement service agency operating in your area. [BC 211](#) also has resources and information to support Ukrainians.

More Health Benefits Announced for Displaced Ukrainians

In April 2022, the Province of B.C. extended Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage and also waived the three month waiting period to all newcomers arriving in B.C. with a Canada Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel visa (CUAET) to help ensure immediate access to health services. As the Province of B.C. looks for more ways to support displaced Ukrainians, the Province has recently announced two more measures to support access to health services:

Prescription costs

Ukrainians arriving under CUAET can now receive coverage for 100% of eligible costs under PharmaCare's Plan C for one year. Plan C coverage is automatic for those with a CUAET visa and have enrolled in MSP. For those who have arrived under CUAET and do not have MSP coverage yet, Emergency drug coverage is available, but only if the prescriber completes the Emergency BC PharmaCare Coverage for Ukrainian Arrivals Form.

You can find more information about PharmaCare Plan C and Emergency drug coverage for Ukrainians arriving under CUAET on the Province of B.C.'s [Ukrainian \(CUAET arrivals\) and BC Pharmacare webpage](#).

Medical Diagnostic Testing costs

Ukrainians arriving under CUAET will now have the costs of the federally mandated medical diagnostic testing managed by the Province of B.C.'s Ministry of Health, meaning that they will not be billed for this service. The requirement is that they must have CUAET documentation and have enrolled in MSP. In addition, these costs can be reimbursed if already paid by filling out a [request for reimbursement](#).

It is strongly encouraged that any Ukrainian arriving under CUAET to B.C. [enroll in the Province of B.C.'s Medical Services Plan](#) as soon as possible. This will help ensure that health services are accessible, and that they would be eligible to receive possible future health supports as they are made available.



Afghans who have arrived in Canada since August 2021 as of November 2nd, 2022:

22,915



Ukrainians who have arrived in Canada since January 2022 as of November 2nd, 2022:

108,836

Source: [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada \(Afghans\)](#), [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada \(Ukrainians\)](#)

[Afghan Resettlement Resources](#)

[Ukrainian Migration Resources](#)

Please take the time to fill out the feedback survey so AMSSA can make Seeking Refuge more relevant to your needs

Survey



AMSSA's BC Refugee Resource Network is an initiative to strengthen community capacity to support resettled refugees and displaced Ukrainians through education, information dissemination, research and training. The Seeking Refuge has been created to keep service providers up-to-date on news, resources, and to provide information on frequently asked about topics related to recent migrations of displaced Ukrainians and resettled refugees. If you know someone who would like to receive this bulletin, please share this [link](#).

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs



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