



Helping Immigrants Build a Future in Canada

Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Bulletin – April 2010

Statistical highlights: January 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010:

- 56 individuals – 46% female / 54% male - 25 family units;
- 20 individuals or 36% were children and youth under 18 years old; 7% or 4 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 20% or 11 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 9% or 5 children were under 6 years.
- 1 individuals / 2% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 12 (22%), Tri-Cities 12 (22%), Vancouver 9 (17%), North Vancouver 8 (15%), and New Westminister 4 (7%).
- Top 5 source countries – Iran 17 (30%), Iraq 12 (21%), Afghanistan 8 (14%), DRC 8 (14%), Myanmar 5 (9%)

(Breakdown of statistics by municipality are available upon request)

Looking ahead

- Due to a prearrangement with CIC prior to and during the Olympics, refugee arrivals were minimal, just 7% of the 800 annual target arrived during the first quarter of the calendar year.
- GAR arrivals are now picking up. As of today, 55 GARs have arrived or are expected to arrive in April. We are anticipating the usual high arrival compressed flow during the September – December period.
- The refugee resettlement plan for 2010 has not been released by CIC yet so we cannot confirm the projected source country breakdown for BC arrivals.
- ISSofBC signed an agreement with BC Housing to supply 15 2 bedroom units in three housing premises in Vancouver as part of a pilot program that targets GAR families. To date 4 families have moved into BC Housing units with 11 more families to follow over the next 2 months. Most GAR families are being moved from Burnaby, Surrey and within Vancouver.

**Chris Friesen,
Director, Settlement Services
April 19, 2010**