



**Helping Immigrants Build a Future in Canada**

## **Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Bulletin – 2012 Calendar Year**

### ***Statistical highlights (4th quarter) - October 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012:***

- 175 individuals – 69 family units
- Top 5 source countries – Somalia 55 (31%), Iraq 36 (21%), Afghanistan 20 (11%), Bhutan 18 (10%) and DRC 9 (5%);
- 86 individuals or 49% were children and youth under 18 years old; 14% or 25 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 16% or 28 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 19% or 33 children were under 6 years;
- 1 individuals / 1% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 95 (54%), Tri-Cities 24 (14%), Burnaby 12 (7%), Vancouver and Richmond 9 (5%) each.

### ***Statistical highlights (Year 2012 roll-up) January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012:***

- 655 individuals – 48% female / 52% male - 312 family units (not including self-transfers);
- 78% of BC's GAR target arrived in 2012 (655 out of 844);
- 46 individuals (27 units) self-transferred from other provinces to BC;
- 19 individuals who originally were sent to BC, resettled out of the province, primarily to Alberta and Ontario;
- 20 different source countries - top 5 source countries – Iran 172 (26%), Afghanistan 168 (26%), Somalia 92 (14%), Iraq 92 (14%), and Bhutan 28 (4%);
- 256 individuals or 39% were children and youth under 18 years old; 9% or 62 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 13% or 88 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 16% or 106 children were under 6 years.
- 3 individuals / .5% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 217 (33%), Tri-Cities (primarily Coquitlam) 134 (20%), Burnaby 87 (13%), Vancouver 56 (9%), and New Westminster 35 (5%).



**Helping Immigrants Build a Future in Canada**

***(Breakdown of statistics by municipality are available upon request)***

- 487 individuals (74%) settled in the Fraser Region.
- GAR Source regions: Middle East –454 individuals (69%), Africa – 165 individuals (25%), and Asia – 36 individuals (6%).

**Looking ahead to 2013**

- GAR BC target (although not met in 2012 largely due to the situation in Syria and the closing of the Canadian Embassy) will be 800 individuals. The overall GAR target to Canada will be reduced by 1,000 individuals, largely impacting destinations in Ontario and Quebec.
- Source countries will likely remain similar as in 2012 but without any Bhutanese and a reduction of Afghans. There will likely be an increase coming from certain regions in Africa – Somalis, Congolese.
- CIC is moving (likely in 2015) to less source countries (in the past 20+ source countries) and towards more multi-year refugee resettlement commitments from certain regions. These regions have not been finalized.

**Chris Friesen,  
Director, Settlement Services  
January 24, 2013**