



Helping Immigrants Build a Future in Canada

Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Bulletin – August 2012

Statistical highlights: April 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012:

- 249 individuals – 48% female / 52% male - 116 family units including 7 units or 10 individuals who self transferred to BC from other provinces;
- 95 individuals or 38% were children and youth under 18 years old; 6% or 15 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 17% or 43 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 15% or 37 children were under 6 years;
- 1 individuals or 1% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 73 (29%), Coquitlam 54 (22%), Burnaby 28 (11%), New Westminister 28 (11%) and Port Moody 17 (7%);
- Out of a total of 9 different source countries, the top 5 source countries were: Iran 101 (41%), Afghanistan 75 (30%), Iraq 22 (9%), Ethiopia 21 (8%), and Bhutan 13 (5%);
- As of June 30, 2012 41% of the annual calendar year target (844) had arrived in BC. This is in comparison for the same period last year where 44% of GARs had arrived.

(Breakdown of statistics by municipality are available upon request)

Looking ahead:

- CIC Minister Kenney reversed the proposed cuts to the Interim Federal Health program that were to take effect June 30. At this time this reversal is only for government assisted and privately sponsored refugees;
- CIC Minister Kenney recently announced that the total number of GARs to Canada will be reduced by 1,000 spaces. The revised annual target for BC has not yet been announced.

**Chris Friesen,
Director, Settlement Services
August 8, 2012**