



**Thank you to our PIRS volunteers for their contributions to our organization.**

We couldn't do what we do without your help!

In April we celebrated our wonderful volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Tea.

## A Volunteer's Story

Shagoofa's is a volunteer in our Community English for Refugee Women class at Edmonds Community School. Shagoofa became a volunteer after being a student in our program. She is now helping other students through her generous spirit and community building approach. Shagoofa started her own group to further support students with community and social engagement outside class time. PIRS instructor, Diana says, "I'm so proud of Shagoofa for taking on these extra roles outside of the PIRS class and I hope to continue to support Shagoofa in her work in any way I can."



## PIRS gets new Program Manager

Marcela joined PIRS two months ago. She has extensive experience working in the settlement sector. She holds a bachelor degree in Business Administration, Non-Profit Management Diploma and has taken a variety of Leadership and Strategic Planning trainings. Marcela has a long history with PIRS, when she arrived in Canada from Mexico, she participated in our LEAD and Building Bridges programs. She went on to join our Board of Directors for five years. She is a very passionate and energetic person, enjoys outdoor activities, reading and spending time with her family.



## A new partnership

In March, the BC Federation of Labour and PIRS partnered to offer the BC Feds English as an Additional Language Occupational Health and Safety Course with our Entry to Hospitality Careers for Women participants. Upon completion one participant said "We now know our rights at any workplace and we know how to say no to unsafe work situations." Check out our graduates on our [Facebook page](#).



## Digital Literacy Classes at PIRS

We have been fortunate to be able to offer Digital Literacy Classes in two of our classes in Burnaby in partnership with Edmonds Community School and Burnaby Neighbourhood House. The goal of the Digital Literacy Class is to help women who face digital inequities build the basic foundations of computer use. We are very excited about this project and the opportunity to build on our mission of "empowering women to fully participate in Canadian life."





## Graduations

We had a number of graduations this spring including LEAD and Building Bridges LEAD and Cohort 4 of the Entry to Hospitality Careers for Women. Please check out the photos on [Facebook](#).





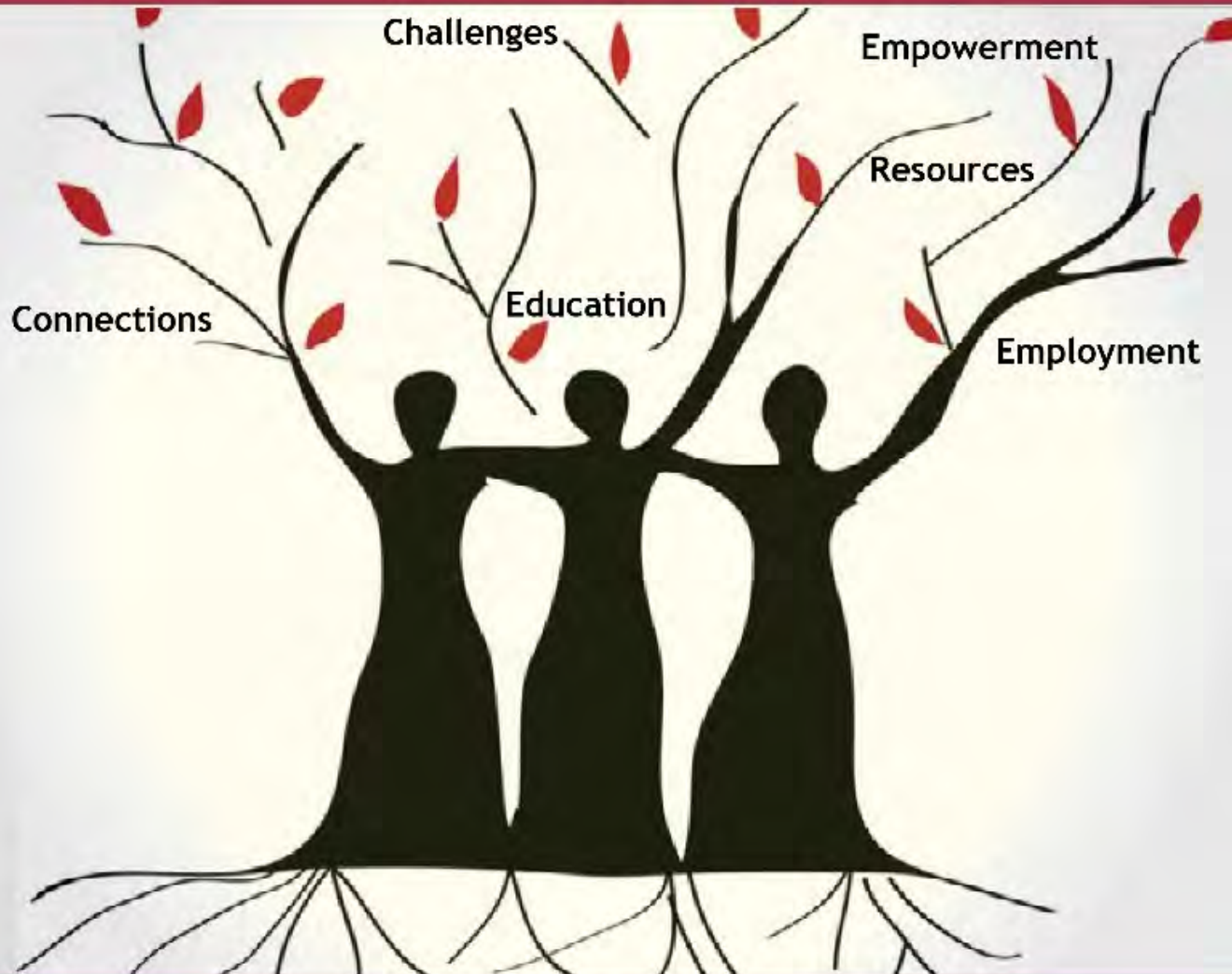
# Upcoming Events



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORKING TABLE

MAY 26, 2018

SATURDAY 12:30 - 5:30 PM



Options Community Services:  
100 - 6846 King George Blvd

A series of interactive workshops delivered by participants of Building Bridges Program, a PIRS Initiative for Women Development and Leadership. Childminding and light refreshments.

Register by May 16, 2018 at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/international-women-networking-table-tickets-45525069709?aff=es2>

Also, RSVP by email: [jsalahuddin@pirs.bc.ca](mailto:jsalahuddin@pirs.bc.ca)

Funded by the Seedling Foundation

## Join us on June 24, 2018 for the Scotiabank Charity Challenge!

Spring is here and we're getting ready to walk/run the **Scotiabank Charity Challenge**

Last year we had so much fun, that we would like to invite you to join our 3rd annual Scotiabank Charity Challenge! This is a fun community event that brings together staff, board, volunteers, and participants to raise funds for PIRS' Trauma-Informed English Classes, Women Development and Early Childhood Development programs.

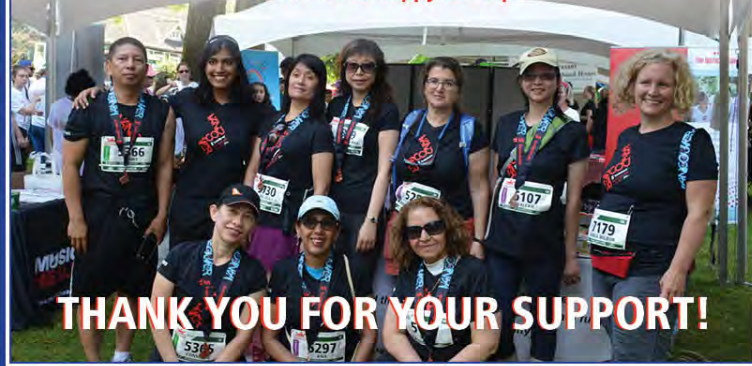
We'd love to have you join the PIRS community for our Scotiabank Charity Challenge this year. Registration is easy!

1. Register at [canadarunningseries.com/scotiabank-vancouver-half-marathon/](http://canadarunningseries.com/scotiabank-vancouver-half-marathon/)
2. Select **5K** or **Half Marathon** and be sure to choose: Pacific Immigrant Resources Society
3. Enter the correct **charity code**
4. Enter final payment amount
5. Get ready to walk/run with PIRS!



PIRS charity codes:  
5K code: **18PIRS5K**  
Half marathon code: **18PIRS21K**

Please call **604-298-5888** if you have any questions about registration. We would be happy to help!



## Calling all runners and walkers

The beautiful weather is here and what better a time to walk/run the [Scotiabank Charity Challenge](#). Please join our third annual [Scotiabank Charity Challenge](#)! You can find out more by visiting our [Scotiabank Charity Challenge page](#).



Starting July 3rd, 2018 [Cohort 5 of Entry to Hospitality Careers for Women](#).

Starting May 17th, English Classes for Caregivers of Persons with Disabilities. Find out more [here](#).

## Media Training

Are you concerned about how the media covers refugee stories? Want to know how to share your story? We will be working with *The Discourse*, an independent Vancouver-based journalism company, to explore how refugees are depicted in media and how we can affect the conversation. The workshop will bring together a small group of people. [Join the conversation or find out more!](#)

## Leave a Legacy

PIRS is now registered with *LEAVE A LEGACY*, a program that guides people through leaving a gift in their will for a non-profit. If you'd like to learn more, please visit the PIRS page on the [Leave a Legacy site](#).

**Find us on Social Media!** Stay up to date with PIRS through our Twitter and Facebook pages!