

# PIRS Programs At-a-Glance | Winter 2025

## Community English Classes

Beginner English program where participants practice and improve their English language skills, make friends, gain self-confidence, and learn more about Canada.

### New Westminster

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
January 6 - March 11, 2025	Mondays & Tuesdays 9:30 am - 11:30 am	Holy Trinity Community Hall: 514 Carnarvon St, New Westminster	Zarina Ali (English/Dari/Farsi/Pashto) zali@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 608 4285

### Surrey

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
January 8 - March 13, 2025	Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:30 am - 11:30 am	Surrey Alliance Church: 13474 96 Ave, Surrey	Bettina Davalos (English/Spanish) bdavalos@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 608 4438

## Get Support

### Safe Haven Program

Individualized support for women who are asylum seekers or refugee claimants. Attend Community Workshops. Support is *available in Farsi, Arabic, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Ukrainian.*

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Ongoing	Online and in-person	osw@pirs.bc.ca   604-298-5888

### Ukrainian Women's Employment Support Circle

Employment support group for Ukrainian women to connect and focus on employment, resources and wellbeing. *Facilitated in Ukrainian.*

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
January 13 - March 10, 2025	Mondays 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Online	Olena Zabrodska (Ukrainian/Russian) ozabrodska@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 608 4118

### BC Safe Haven Women's Employment Support Circle

Employment support group for Refugee Claimant women to connect and focus on employment, resources and wellbeing.

<b><u>Dates</u></b> January 13 - March 10, 2025	<b><u>Time</u></b> Mondays 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	<b><u>Location</u></b> Online	<b><u>Contact</u></b> Bettina Davalos (English/Spanish) bdavalos@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 608 4438
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### Arabic Speaking Immigrant and Refugee Women's Support Circle

<b><u>Dates</u></b> January 20 - March 10, 2025	<b><u>Time</u></b> Monday 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	<b><u>Location</u></b> Online	<b><u>Contact</u></b> Nahed Khalil nkhalil@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 608 4018
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## Employment Training and Leadership Programs | For immigrant and refugee women with Intermediate level of English

### Early Childhood Education Assistant Training

Skill training program for immigrant and refugee women to become skilled and certified ECE Assistants. Includes 12 weeks of classroom learning and four weeks of on-the job experience with a local employer.

*Eligibility: Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or protected persons, entitled to work in Canada; at least 18 years old and have SIN; living in BC; unemployed or precariously employed; CLB 6 English or above; able to pass Criminal Record Check, including vulnerable sector check.*

<b><u>Dates</u></b> No winter cohort Next cohort: April 17- August 8, 2025	<b><u>Location</u></b> VCC Downtown Campus, 250 W Pender St, Vancouver	<b><u>Contact</u></b> Alena Worster <a href="mailto:contracttraining@vcc.ca">contracttraining@vcc.ca</a>   (604) 443 8751
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## Pathways to Childcare Careers

Occupation-specific English training program at CLB 5 and 6 level for women interested in working in the **early learning and childcare field**, and includes 80-hour work experience placement, Responsible Adult / First Aid / Foodsafe certification.

*Eligibility: permanent residents, convention refugees or protected persons. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required. Final acceptance is contingent on the Criminal Record Check clearance.*

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
January 6 - March 31, 2025	Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 2:30 pm	Online: Monday & Tuesday In-person: Wednesday & Thursday at Surrey Library - City Center - 10350 University Dr, Surrey, BC V3T 4B8	Pathways@pirs.bc.ca   (778) 653 2014

**Women Leadership and Development Programs** | For immigrant and refugee women with Intermediate to Advance level of English

## Childcare Leadership Group

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
January 21, 2025- March 2026	Virtual	Celeste Project Coordinator CLG - Women's Leadership & Development (236) 607-9882



## Building Bridges

**Dates**

January 29 - June 18, 2025

**Location**

Virtual

**Contact**

Sanzida Habib

Program Coordinator - Women's Leadership and Development

(778) 608-4318 | shabib@pirs.bc.ca