



## **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SPONSOR REFUGEES THROUGH THE INTER-CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER VICTORIA UNDER THE PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF REFUGEES PROGRAM IN 2027**

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Thank you for your interest in sponsoring (a) refugee(s) under ICA's Sponsorship Agreement with the Canadian Government. To better understand your proposed sponsorship and to determine whether your case meets the program requirements, we kindly ask that you complete the information below as accurately and fully as possible.

**The Expression of Interest (EOI) process for Private Sponsorship for 2027 is currently OPEN.**

Please email the completed forms to [psr@icavictoria.org](mailto:psr@icavictoria.org) with the subject line: **EOI 2027.**

Paper submissions will not be accepted. Late submissions will not be considered.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- **APPLICATIONS LISTING AN ADDRESS OUTSIDE OF THE GREATER VICTORIA WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**
- **SHORTLISTED GROUPS WILL BE INVITED TO AN IN-PERSON INTERVIEW TO FURTHER ASSESS THEIR READINESS AS PRIVATE SPONSORS.**

### **YOUR INFORMATION**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Full Name                |  |
| Phone Number             |  |
| Email Address            |  |
| Full Residential Address |  |

## PERSON(S) TO SPONSOR

Please answer the following questions about the person or persons you want to sponsor to Canada. Please be as detailed as possible in your answers, as this helps us understand the situation. All information provided is kept strictly confidential.

1. Please list the **name(s)** of the person(s) you wish to sponsor and their ages. Explain their family composition (for example, couple with two underage children; couple with one underage child and one adult child).  
**Please provide the dates of birth for each person.**

2. Explain how they are related to you, or if they are not related, how you came to know them.

3. What is the refugees' country of origin or country of habitual residence? What is their country of citizenship? Please provide this information for each of the persons listed in question #1 above.

4. Where are the refugees currently located? What is their status there (for example, asylum seeker, recognized refugee, permanent resident, visitor, worker)? **Please include a copy of each person's status document(s) in their country of residence (e.g., Refugee Status Determination/Recognition; Refugee Registration; Asylum Seeker Certificate; Study or Work Permit; Visitor Visa). If they do not have any status document, please explain their circumstances.**

5. Why were these persons forced to flee their country? When did they flee? Is it possible for them to return? If not, please explain further.

6. What is their current living situation like in their country of residence? Can they integrate in this country (e.g., can they legally work, receive medical care, education, own real estate?)

7. Have any of the people listed in question #1 above applied for refugee status with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UN Refugee Agency) or with their current country of residence? If yes, what was the result? If they are recognized refugees, please indicate whether it is the UNHCR or their country of asylum that has recognized them.  
**Please also include a copy of their refugee recognition (Refugee Status Determination) or other document (asylum seeker certificate; registration document) when you send back the completed questionnaire.**

8. Do the people listed in #1 above have relatives in Canada outside of Greater Victoria? If so, please list the locations of relatives and how they are related to the people in #1.

## SPONSORSHIP GROUP

Please answer the following questions about your sponsorship group.

**ICA does not sponsor individuals alone. Kindly note that ICA will not help you find other sponsors to join your group.**

All members of the sponsorship groups must reside in the **Greater Victoria area**. To sponsor a single refugee, you must have a group of a minimum of five members. For larger case compositions, more members are required. We require you to have a group that is willing to take on the legal responsibilities of the sponsorship with you.

1. Are you connected with an organization such as a faith community or other incorporated entity that is willing to support your sponsorship (if yes, please provide the name of the organization or entity)? If you are connected with such a group, please explain how they will support your sponsorship (e.g., make a donation; become a party to the sponsorship legally by signing onto the Sponsorship Undertaking).

2. Who are the other individuals willing to take on the legal responsibility for sponsoring with you? Please list their **legal** first and last names of all people who will form the sponsorship group with you.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: ICA only allows people to join a maximum of two sponsorship groups, regardless of whether the groups are sponsoring with ICA, another Sponsorship Agreement Holder, or with a Group of Five/Community Sponsor. Please make sure that the people you are listing in this section are not already participating in more than one other sponsorship.**

3. Have you and/or any of the other proposed sponsorship group members participated in any training on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees program? If so, please list, for each person, which training they have completed and who the training provider was. If you and/or any of the other individuals willing to sponsor with you have completed any PSR Training from ICA or RSTP and have successfully passed the test at the end of the training, please submit the certificate(s) together with the completed Expression of Interest.

4. Have you and/or any of the proposed sponsorship group members sponsored any refugees in the past? If so, please list, for each person, which type of sponsorship and the date when the sponsorship was completed.

## FUNDRAISING

Sponsorship groups must fundraise a sufficient amount of funds to support the sponsored refugees during their first year in Canada. Approximately, to sponsor a single person, the sponsorship cost is a minimum of \$24,000. Approximately, to sponsor a family of 5 (father, mother, three under-age children), the minimum sponsorship cost is approximately \$ 65,000. If there are more adults (persons 18 years or older at the time of arrival in Canada) in the family you wish to sponsor, the sponsorship costs will be higher. The exact costs vary based on factors that will need to be discussed in more detail, but please use these figures as approximations. ICA requires that a minimum amount equivalent to the Resettlement Assistance Program rates issued by the Government of Canada ([Minimum Financial Support Calculator](#)) plus an inflationary market adjustment of 25% be deposited with ICA before an application can be submitted.

1. What is your plan for fundraising (please be as specific as possible)?

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** Please provide details on the source(s) of funding. Answers such as; “We already have all the money in place” or “out of savings” do not provide clear indicators of the source(s) of the funding. **If you already have all the necessary funds in place, please indicate details about the source of the funds (e.g., if the funds are your personal savings, indicate your work history and income levels).** If you anticipate receiving significant funds towards the sponsorship from other persons, please indicate who these persons are, and how they are connected with you or the refugees. Consider the fundraising plan like a business proposal and treat it as such.

If you plan to raise funds through events, etc., please provide details of the fundraising efforts you have already made or a fundraising plan for the next year.

**Please note:** Funds raised through crowdfunding platforms, such as GoFundMe, cannot be used as sponsorship funds, as they do not meet charity and CRA requirements. To ensure compliance, sponsors should

verify that any proposed fundraising activities align with ICA, charity, and CRA guidelines. If you are unsure whether a fundraising plan is eligible, please contact the PSR Team for guidance before launching the initiative.

**Disclaimer:** Due to the limited number of available spaces, submission of an Expression of Interest does not guarantee selection. All applications will be reviewed according to the program's eligibility criteria and number of allocated spaces. All selection decisions are final and not subject to review.