

# **ISSofBC – Immigration and Integration in BC**

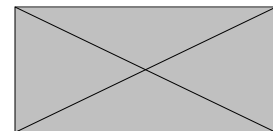
“Helping immigrants build a future in Canada”

# ISSofBC History

- Created in 1968 in response to Ismaili refugees fleeing Idi Amin
- Pioneered settlement services, host program and refugee reception in BC
- Founder of many immigrant and multicultural service agencies in BC



[www.issbc.org](http://www.issbc.org)

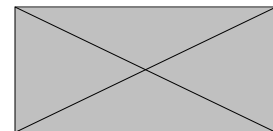


# ISSofBC Today

- One of the largest multicultural, immigrant serving agency in Canada
- \$22 million annual operating budget
  - Federal and Provincial funding; community foundations; fee for service social enterprise
- 350 staff and over 800 volunteers
- 16 locations
- 2 main divisions
  - Settlement Services
  - Language College and Career Services

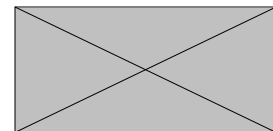


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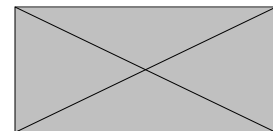
# ISSofBC Today (Cont'd)

- Ability to provide free services in over 45 languages and dialects
- Target population:
  - Permanent Residents, including government assisted refugees, refugee claimants, immigrants (e.g. skilled workers, business class, family class), International Students (fee for service); temporary foreign workers



# ISSofBC Today (Cont'd)

- Specialized, targeted programming for:
  - Government assisted refugees
  - Women
  - Children (0-16)
  - Youth (16-25)
  - Seniors
  - Refugee claimants
  - Newcomers destined for the labour market
  - Vulnerable Populations

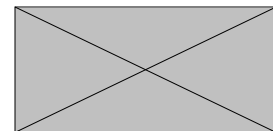


# Settlement Programming – Recent Changes

- Increased emphasis on integration as a process
  - Building capacity of newcomers to understand, adjust and connect to, feel accepted and fully participate in a new society
- Holistic approach to service provision:
  - Settlement, employment, volunteer connections
  - Life Skills and Education



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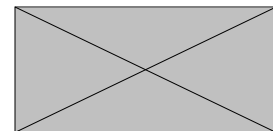


# GOVERNMENT ASSISTED Refugees to BC

- **800-900** resettled refugees arrive in BC annually
- 25+ different source countries –Iraq, Bhutan, Somali, Iran, Afghanistan
- 45% are 18 years old and under
- ‘One-stop shop’
  - Providing wrap around service support in first language
  - Collaborative service approach with government and community services provided on-site
  - Primary Health Care assessment and treatment



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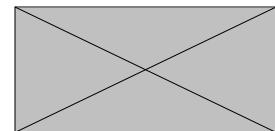




# GOVERNMENT ASSISTED Refugees Process

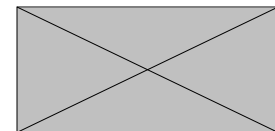


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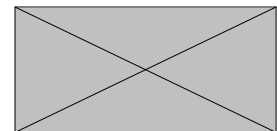


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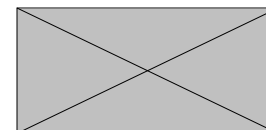




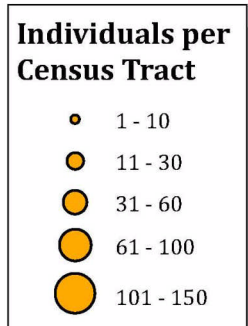
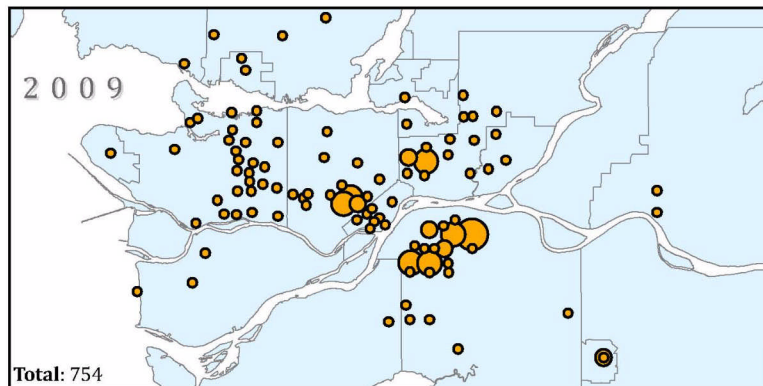
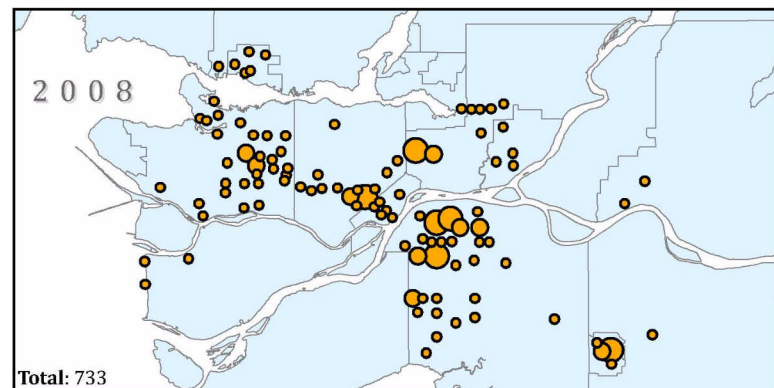
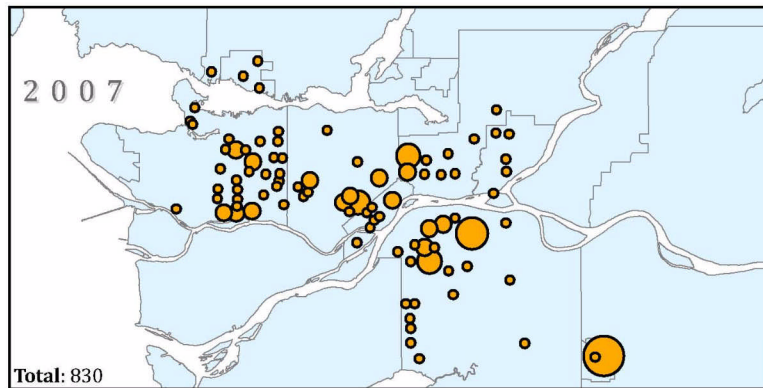
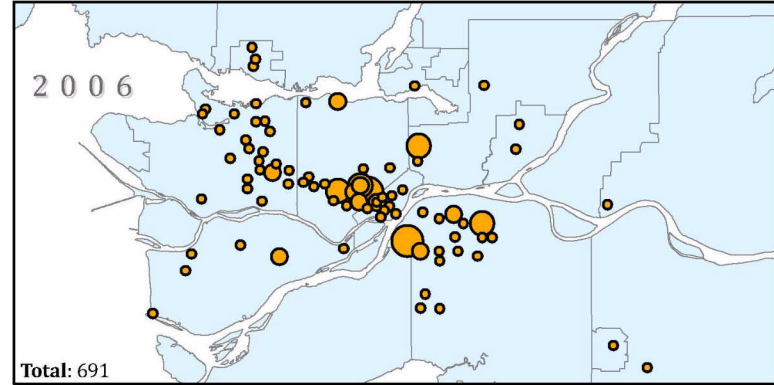
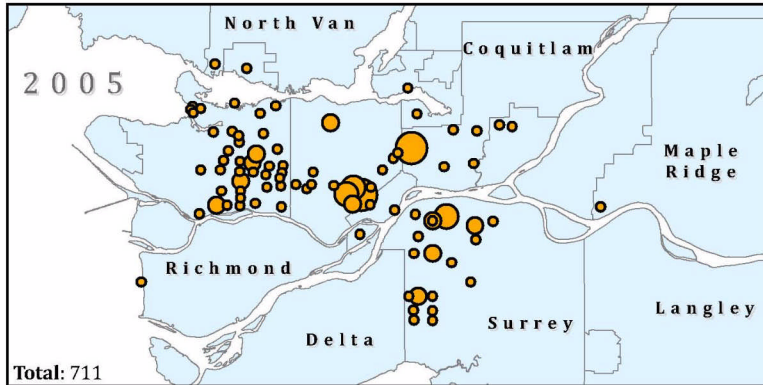
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- As a NGO, ISSofBC plays many roles in addition to service provision, including:
  - Undertaking periodic research
  - Convening community tables
  - Media relations that build more welcoming and inclusive communities
  - Social planning roles (re: destining refugee populations)
  - Next slide is taken from ISSofBC's Changing Faces, Changing Neighbourhood PR campaign

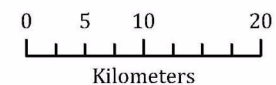


# Metro Vancouver GAR Arrivals, 2005-09



Based on postal codes available for 3719 of 3743 total resettled individuals over 5-year period

Source Data: ISSofBC 2010

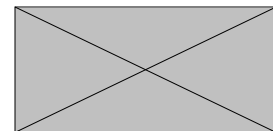


# New Approaches for GARKS in BC

- Pre-Arrival Planning
- Population Case Management
- Increased involvement from Municipal Governments (e.g. Surrey, Coquitlam)



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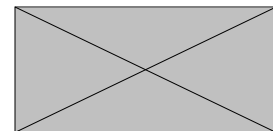


# ISSBC. LOOKING TO THE Future

- Creating the first facility of its kind in the world by 2015 – a fully integrated and coordinated regional service hub that brings together several organizations, public institutions, government services, programs and services under one roof to address the immediate needs of refugees and immigrants arriving in BC annually



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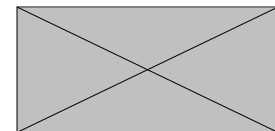




- 74,000+ sq. ft. facility
- First and second stage housing
- First language support services
- Primary and mental health care



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# Thank you!

## Any questions please contact:

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