

**Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training**  
**Settlement Support to Refugee Claimants in Metro Vancouver**  
**Immigrant Support Services**

- All Locations Specified
- Supplier Attachments do not exist
- This document may not be responded to Online

**For more information contact:**

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 **Final** 

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Close Date & Time:	2014/03/20 14:00
Time Zone:	Local Time

**Approx. Time Left:**

All dates are yyyy/mm/dd

**Summary Details:**

Notice is hereby given by the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training (the "Ministry") of its intent to contract with the Immigrant Services Society of B.C. to deliver settlement information and counselling support to refugee claimants in Metro Vancouver. The purpose of this contract is to continue to support refugee claimants who have been receiving services under settlement programs administered by the Ministry but who will no longer be eligible for the same services due to the transitioning of program administration from British Columbia to Canada on April 1, 2014.

These contracts will allow for the continuation of the following activities/services for this group of federally ineligible clients:

- Orientation information, referral and service accompaniment that meet and support the target client group during their refugee determination process;
- Short-term trauma support services and connecting clients into the provincial system for longer term mental health support;
- Supporting client access to federal settlement services as they acquire permanent resident status;
- Training and coordination of peer support for clients;
- Collecting information on the specific needs of the target client group and best practices to address those needs.

The vast majority of refugee claimants reside in Metro Vancouver. Clients receiving these services will therefore be primarily from Metro Vancouver and may include some who may have chosen to live in the Fraser Valley.

The term of the contract will be twelve months, from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015, with two one-year options to renew subject to Ministry funding availability. The total dollar value of the initial contract will be \$400,000.

The agency is deemed uniquely qualified for the reasons outlined below:

- They have long term relationships with Settlement Orientation Services and Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture who are experts in supporting the target client group while they go through the refugee determination process by providing mental health and trauma counselling and will continue to deliver services in partnership with them;
- They have strong connections to the BC mental health system;
- Established processes and service delivery models are in place to continue the above noted services to clients;
- They have the required background, depth of knowledge, skill and expertise to deliver the services;
- They have a long history in providing first stage housing for refugees;
- They will further integrate services through a new regional Welcome House which is a hub for temporary housing for refugees, a health clinic, trauma support and treatment, a food bank, a law clinic and first language settlement support staff; and,
- They will deliver federal settlement services to permanent residents, including health related settlement support for refugees in 2014/15 under a Contribution Agreement with Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

Vendors wishing to object to this decision must contact David Groden at [David.Groden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:David.Groden@gov.bc.ca) on or before 2:00 p.m. (PST) on March 20,, 2014 presenting in writing, specific reasons for their objection, including detailed information on how their services, meet or exceed the direct award reasons as stated above. Vendors providing an objection must provide information to support relevant experience and ability to provide the described services for the same or better price. This information will be key in considering the validity of an objection.

Where objections are not received on or before the deadline stated above, or where objections made are not substantiated, the Ministry will continue to undertake direct award as outlined within this NOI.