

Canadian Council Conseil canadien for Refugees pour les réfugiés

# **Annual Report**

### September 2023 — August 2024





Canadian Council Conseil canadien for Refugees pour les réfugiés

## **Table of Contents**

- 3 | Message from Our President
- 5 Who Were Are
- 5 How We Work
- 6 Our Team

9

13

- 7 Membership
- 8 Meetings and Events
- 9 Policy and Advocacy
  - a. Highlights
  - b. Legal Affairs
- 13 c. Government Relations
- 14 d. International Engagement
- 15 CCR Working Groups
- 16 The Youth Network
- 17 The Francisco Rico-Martinez Award
- 17 The Anti-Racism Project
- 18 Fundraising
- 20 Financials





## **Message from our President**

The past year was characterized by relentless advocacy, coordination, and policy engagement aimed at defending the rights and dignity of refugees and migrants. As the number of individuals seeking safety continued to rise globally, we witnessed a surge in anti-migrant and anti-refugee rhetoric at home. A small but increasingly vocal minority began calling for restrictive migration policies. Despite our dedicated efforts over the years and decades, we faced another year where the necessity of our work remained critical.

In a year marked by an increase in refugee claims, which were erroneously labeled as a crisis, we took action by launching the Asylum with Dignity campaign. This campaign proposes a five-pillar plan aimed at upholding the rights of refugee claimants and ensuring that Canada's response to those seeking protection at or within our borders sets them up for success. Unveiled in April on Refugee Rights Day, the campaign by the CCR presents concrete, community-based solutions to provide adequate shelter, legal support, and pathways to success for asylum seekers. By leveraging the strength of our members, the campaign outlines a vision where existing resources can be mobilized to create a more effective asylum system. This system treats individuals fleeing persecution not as burdens, but as future members of Canadian society, recognizing their rights, aspirations, and dignity.

Our advocacy went beyond just setting a vision; it aimed for a tangible impact. In a significant victory for refugee rights, the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) collaborated with partners on a coordinated campaign against critical elements of the federal Budget Implementation Act 2024 (BIA). This legislation posed a threat to Canada's asylum system by introducing unnecessary procedural barriers and outrageously increased the use of



**Diana Gallego** President of the Canadian Council for Refugees



federal correctional facilities for immigration detention. Through written submissions, expert testimonies before Parliamentary committees, and sustained public pressure, the CCR successfully helped secure the withdrawal of the proposed amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

CCR also focused on challenging the inequities in Canada's emergency immigration responses. We called on the government to adopt a more equitable and robust approach for individuals displaced in Palestine and Sudan. This effort highlighted the importance of a pro-equity and anti-racism stance in how Canada addresses global crises.

Throughout the year, CCR continued advocating for a comprehensive regularization program. Alongside partners and allies, we engaged in letter-writing campaigns, national mobilizations, and direct advocacy to keep this issue on the political agenda.

The work ahead is urgent. Displacement is rising globally, and within our own country, systemic inequalities continue to exist. However, as we enter the next year, the CCR is strengthened by the progress we have made and the collective commitment of our members, partners, and allies.

On behalf of the entire Executive Committee and the CCR staff, I am pleased to present this year's annual report. We want to express our gratitude to the staff, volunteers, members, and donors for making CCR's work possible and our impact inevitable. With so many dedicated individuals and organizations like you tirelessly working for change in your communities and urging our leaders to ensure that refugees and migrants find safety, compassion, and support, we have plenty of reasons to be hopeful about our collective future!

Thank you for standing with us.

In solidarity, Diana Gallego

## Who we are

Created in 1978, the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) is a leading voice for the rights, protection, sponsorship, settlement, and well-being of refugees and migrants, in Canada and globally. The CCR is driven by member organizations working with and for these communities from coast to coast to coast.

Committed to social justice and transformation by challenging racism, colonialism and intersecting oppressions, we undertake policy monitoring, advocacy, network building, and public education to empower members and communities to bring about systemic change.

### How we work

#### Our members bring forward an issue

Members can bring issues forward in various ways. An issue can be anything that affects our members' work and thus newcomers' rights on the ground, from the impact of racism to immigration detention to our commitments to UN resettlement and beyond.

#### Understand and discuss the issue

Depending on the needs of the specific issue, it can be addressed in workshops during our Consultations, webinars, virtual meetings or discussions between members to consider next steps.

#### The CCR's Working Groups take on the issue

Depending on the subject, it is taken up in one of our three working groups (Immigration & Settlement, Inland Protection, or Overseas Protection & Resettlement) or in one of our other committees or networks (Legal Affairs Committee, the Youth Network, etc.).

#### CCR acts on the issue

Collectively, members decide whether and how the CCR should act regarding this issue: pass a resolution to define our position, create practical or policy resources, bring attention to the issue in the media, launch a public opinion campaign, take legal action, or engage in dialogue with government or other stakeholders.

This leads to the impact of our work: changes in government policies and practices, changes in the practices of community actors, increased awareness of the issues, supporting CCR members to learn and grow, and bringing forward legal challenges.

## Our team

#### → Executive Committee

#### President

Diana Gallego

#### Vice-President

Jenny Jeanes

#### Treasurer

Jasjeet Ajimal (stepped down in May 2024)

#### Secretary

Jacques Bertrand

#### Counsellors

Alphonse Ndem Ahola	Deepa Mattoo
Antwone Aslan*	Allan Reesor-McDowell*
Jessica Chandrashekar	Jyoti Singh
Abdulla Daoud	Mariana Martinez Vieyra

\*Members who resigned in early 2024 because they left their positions in member organizations and were no longer eligible to be on the Executive Committee

#### $\rightarrow$ Working Group Co-Chairs

#### Immigration and Settlement

Jennifer Rajasekar Tihana Radojcic (Dec. 2023-April 2024) Varka Kalaydzhieva (interim)

#### Inland Protection

Basel Abou Hamrah Anne Woolger (Sept. 2023 - Nov. 2023) Francesca Allodi-Ross

#### $\rightarrow$ Staff

#### **Co-Executive Directors**

Lauren Lallemand (Finance and Operation) Tanja Maleska (Communications and Development) Gauri Sreenivasan (Policy and Advocacy)

#### Senior Policy Advisor

Janet Dench

Settlement Policy Director María José Espejo Rivas

#### **Overseas Protection and Resettlement**

Hugo Ducharme Bran Dyck

#### Member Services Coordinator

Alice Alvarez-Pereyre

#### Administrative Coordinator Audrey Pasinetti

#### Projects Coordinator Basel Dakak

Youth Network Coordinator Shilik Hamad

## Membership

We are an umbrella organization that brings together refugee, newcomer and immigrant serving organizations from coast to coast. These organizations are our members.

CCR members are settlement organizations, faith-based organizations, lawyers' associations, private sponsors, unions, and other organizations that work to protect human rights and welcome newcomers. We serve the networking, information-exchange and advocacy needs of our members.

### 222 member organizations

#### 14 associate members

#### Membership Engagement Success Story

A Call for Proposals for workshops for our Consultation was introduced in April 2024, following members feedback. We decided to provide a more accessible and participatory way for members to submit ideas for workshops that are not only proposed by members who attend our Spring Working Group Meetings. For the first year, we received more than 20 proposals. This has helped with the engagement from the membership.

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- We are looking into a charter of values for our members. Older members would sign it upon renewing their membership, and new members would sign it when they become members
- We will be developing a Welcome Kit for new members.

Location	
Atlantic	5%
Central	68%
Prairies	15%
West Coast	11%
North	0.5%
International	0.5%

### Membership strategy success story

Progress reports were created by the Member Services Manager to share with the Membership Committee. The purpose of the reports is to give a general picture of the membership in terms of renewal, lapsed and potential new members so Membership Committee Members can support with the outreach and identify key contacts in organizations. These led to lapsed members renewing their membership as well as encouraging potential new members to submit their application.

## **Meetings and Events**

Meetings organized by the CCR represent key opportunities for networking with members and partners, allowing for discussion and organizing regarding matters of policy and advocacy.

#### Fall 2023 Consultation

The CCR's Fall 2023 Consultation took place in Calgary from November 16 to November 18, on the theme "The Power of the Collective: Decolonizing and Advocating for Systemic Change." The Consultation addressed address key challenges present in the immigration sector by bringing a lens of anti-colonization and indigeneity to the discussions. In a series of workshops, caucuses, and meetings, participants learned, brainstormed, and gave input on how we can work together towards building collaborative and inclusive frameworks to support individuals in becoming part of the systemic changes. 324 attendees 23 sessions 51 resource persons 40 moderators Number of meetings per type Sept. 2023 to Aug. 2024, inclusively Webinars: 2 **Consultation: 1** Government: 4 Working Groups: 4 **Other Meetings: 10 General Meetings: 2** 

#### Looking ahead

• The 2024 Fall Consultation will be held in Ottawa on the theme "Reclaiming Public Support: Building the Movement for Refugee and Migrant Rights." The day before the Consultation, the CCR will have a Parliamentary Outreach Day, titled "CCR on the Hill," where membership and staff will meet with Members of Parliament, Senators, and senior officials to advocate for and reinforce Canada's commitment to and compassion for refugees and migrants.

## **Policy and Advocacy**

### **Highlights**

These are some of the highlights of our work and activities this year:

#### September 2023

#### Campaign for an equitable framework for response to emergencies

In September, CCR launched a letter writing campaign, encouraging members and supporters to write to IRCC Minister Miller and their MPs to call for the government's immigration measures in response to emergencies to be effective and equitable, no matter where in the world they occur. Our government's response to crisis situations in Afghanistan and Ukraine were exemplary and CCR's campaign seeks to encourage that future responses to urgent crisis situations be modeled on these precedents to ensure equity, with particular attention to the many crises on the African continent.

#### #StatusForAll campaign

CCR members participated in the #StatusForAll campaign, calling on the federal government to deliver a broad and inclusive regularization program. CCR and members participated in events organized by the Migrant Rights Network (MRN) in support of mass mobilization on this demand across the country.

#### October 2023

#### Statement on Canada's decision to support only 11,000 migrants from the Americas

After expanding the STCA, the Canadian government reneged on its commitment to offer protection to 15,000 migrants from the Americas. CCR put out a press release criticizing the government's choice to reduce the number to 11,000 and to allocate the remaining 4,000 spots for temporary foreign workers under a program that does not provide pathways to permanent residence and is marred with serious human rights violations.

#### November 2023

#### Letter to the Prime Minister calling for a ceasefire in Gaza

In early November 2023, CCR urged Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to call for a ceasefire to protect the lives of civilian populations in Palestine and Israel, as Israel's assault on Gaza continued to escalate. We called on the Canadian government to advocate for a humanitarian corridor that would allow the safe passage of food, medical supplies, fuel, water and other essential aid to millions of people trapped and displaced in Gaza. We urged Prime Minister Trudeau to devote additional resources to work for the safe return of Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents stuck in the region and to allow them to be accompanied by their family members who may not hold Canadian status.

#### Diana Gallego elected President of the Canadian Council for Refugees

Diana Gallego was elected President of the CCR during the Annual General Meeting on November 18th, 2023. Gallego, who is Senior Director of the FCJ Refugee Centre in Toronto, had been a member of the CCR Executive Committee since 2022. She is proudly the first Amina Malko Fund recipient to become CCR President.

#### February 2024

#### CCR letter on the temporary immigration measures in response to humanitarian crisis in Gaza

In a letter addressed to Minister Marc Miller, the CCR welcomed the government's call for a ceasefire and increased access for humanitarian efforts in Gaza, as well as the launch of temporary immigration measures to provide a humanitarian pathway for Palestinians seeking refuge to join family members in Canada. However, the CCR also outlined major concerns with the program, which displays the racism and inequity of Canada's responses to humanitarian emergencies.

#### #OpenWorkPermitsNOW campaign

CCR took part in the Open Work Permits NOW campaign asking the government to replace closed work permits for migrant workers with unconditional open work permits. With the widespread abuse and mistreatment of migrant workers in Canada, closed work permits have long made it extremely difficult for people to change jobs, restricting labour mobility within the country. The campaign called for CCR members, advocates, and civil society to write letters to their MPs, Minister Miller, and Prime Minister Trudeau to address the rampant violations of migrant workers' rights.

#### Press release on the federal government siding with employers and their exploitative practices

In response to the government's decision to double down on maintaining closed work permits as a feature of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP), the Open Work Permits NOW campaign released a statement expressing disappointment with the government's refusal to address the long-standing concerns with closed work permits and the human rights abuses they enable. CCR once again urged the federal government to institute open work permits and reform the flawed TFWP.

#### CCR letter on the immigration measures in response to the conflict in Sudan

While CCR welcomed the government's decision to support a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Sudan and to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions displaced by the violence, we also laid out a strong critique of the immigration measures announced in response and called for Minister Miller and the federal government to provide a more significant and equitable emergency response commensurate with the scale of the humanitarian crisis unfolding in the country.

#### March 2024

### CCR letter to the Prime Minister and renewed call for #StatusForAll: Time to deliver a broad and comprehensive regularization program

CCR renewed its call for the Prime Minister to act on his government's longstanding commitment to introduce a broad and comprehensive regularization program that would provide permanent residence to those among us who live precariously without status and access to basic rights.

CCR underscored how Canada's immigration system itself directly contributes to many people falling out of status and that the government has an obligation to offer pathways to permanency for those who have been pushed to precarity.

#### #StatusForAll letter writing campaign

Along with the letter to the Prime Minister, we encouraged members and supporters to write to their MPs, Minister Miller, and the Prime Minister calling for Status for All and a broad and comprehensive regularization program.

#### April 2024

#### Refugee Rights Day: Launch of the "A National Plan for Asylum with Dignity" campaign

On Refugee Rights Day, the CCR unveiled "A National Plan for Asylum with Dignity." CCR laid out how there is community-based shelter infrastructure in the country that can be scaled up, and existing settlement and legal services that can be made available to refugee claimants—all at a fraction of the cost of what is spent on emergency measures. With some key adjustments to the infrastructure in place and a proactive mindset, governments together with civil society can repurpose what already exists, redirect wasteful expenses, and replicate what we know works, so that those fleeing persecution are treated fairly and set up for success.

The CCR proposed the following five areas for federal government action:

- 1. Establish reception centres in cities with large numbers of claimants to orient arrivals and coordinate services, in collaboration with provincial and municipal governments and civil society.
- 2. Provide sustained federal funding for short term and transitional housing for refugee claimants, scaling up the successful experiences of civil society, diaspora and community groups, to complement provincial and municipal efforts.
- 3. Make refugee claimants eligible for the support services offered to other newcomers under the Settlement Program run by Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC).
- 4. Ensure that adequate legal aid coverage is available for refugee claimants in all parts of the country supported by multi-year funding.
- 5. Streamline the initial stage of the claims process and eliminate the backlog in the subsequent determination process with small but significant adjustments.

To read more about the five key areas and the full Policy Brief, click here.

To read and join the call to action for a National Plan for Asylum with Dignity, click here.

#### CBA - CCR letter on refugee family reunification

In a joint effort with the CBA and its National Immigration Law Section and Child and Youth Law Section, CCR called on Minister Miller to end the agonizing wait times endured by refugees who have found protection in Canada but remain separated from their families abroad. Our proposal to the Minister is to issue Temporary Resident Permits (TRPs) to dependents of protected persons and ensure that those who are already headed to Canada can get here faster and reunite with their family here.

#### May 2024 - June 2024

#### Refugee family reunification letter writing campaign

The CCR created a letter writing campaign for members, advocates, and civil society to write to their MPs and to Minister Miller asking them to take action and provide sustainable pathways towards family reunification.

#### CCR fights the Budget Implementation Act 2024

On April 16, 2024, the Budget Implementation Act (BIA) 2024, also known as Bill C-69, was tabled in Parliament. The BIA 2024 contained major problematic elements pertaining to reform of the immigration and refugee system. These included legislative reforms to the asylum process and the government's intent to use federal corrections facilities in immigration detention. A proposed change of particular concern to the CCR was the creation of a new step in the refugee determination process, imposing new requirements and introducing potential new delays before the refugee claim. The full brief of our comments on the legislation can be read here.

CCR appeared before the Senate Committee for National Security, Defence and Veterans Affairs and the Parliamentary Finance Committee to urge that many of these elements be withdrawn from the Budget bill. By June 2024, amendments to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act were withdrawn from the BIA 2024 based on the CCR's submitted views and recommendations-- a major victory for refugee rights. To read the CCR's statement on the withdrawal of the refugee provisions, click here.

#### July 2024

#### **Immigration Levels**

CCR submitted recommendations to the government as part of the consultations for the 2025 Levels Plan. CCR noted that Canada must increase its commitments to reflect our values of being an open and welcoming society and maintain our role as a global leader for refugees focussing on key principles of greater equity, transparency and additionality. Recommendations included that the government:

- Ensure a minimum of 15% of total immigration admissions come from resettlement streams, including at least 20,000 Government-Assisted Refugees per year.
- Ensure that immigration levels for Protected Persons be sufficiently high so that accepted refugees and their family members abroad can receive permanent residence within 12 months.

• Review its policies so that people who will be living here long-term either arrive as permanent residents or transition quickly to permanent residence.

### Legal affairs

As part of its advocacy work, the CCR engages in strategic litigation to further the rights of refugees and immigrants. This work is overseen by the CCR's Legal Affairs Committee.

#### Key highlights of our legal cases

- In **June 2023**, consideration of CCR's legal challenge of the designation of the US as a safe third country for refugees was sent back to the Federal Court so that the section 15 (equality) arguments could be considered (you can read our response to the ruling here). Throughout this year, with guidance from our Legal Affairs Committee and in consultation with our partners, Amnesty International and The Canadian Council of Churches, our counsel team led by Leigh Salsberg has been steering the case through the preliminary stages at the Federal Court. The hearing will come at a future date.
- The CCR appeared before the Supreme Court in April 2024 as an intervener in Auer vs Auer, a case concerning the standard of review applicable to Guidelines. While the facts of the case concerned guidelines on child support for a divorced couple, CCR assisted the court in understanding how their decision would affect guidelines that apply in the refugee context. (The judgment was rendered in November 2024)
- In **April 2024**, the CCR appeared before the Federal Court to challenge the rules on loss of status for refugees, as a public interest party in the Gnanapragasam case. Read our statement regarding the case here. In 2012 the Canadian government changed the rules so that permanent residents who originally came as refugees could lose their permanent residence as well as their refugee status if they returned to their country of origin, even for urgent family situations. The CCR argued that the cessation provisions in the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act since 2012 violate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

### **Government relations**

The CCR meets regularly with relevant government decisionmakers and parliamentarians to advance our advocacy goals:

**Nov. 27, 2023** Diana Gallego and Gauri Sreenivasan met with Minister Marc Miller. The meeting focused on proposals for creating a more effective system for refugee claimants, addressing migrant workers rights, revising the interpretation of Section 91 of the IRPA, and the need to work in partnership with the CCR on a range of other issues.

**May 6, 2024** IRCC/CCR/CBSA Roundtable meeting: the CCR met with the government to discuss the five pillars of the National Plan for Asylum with Dignity campaign and the government's proposed new policy framework for crisis response among other issues.



**May 16, 2024** Minister Marc Miller met with CCR staff and leadership at the CCR offices for a productive discussion on supports for refugee claimants, regularization, equitable responses to crises around the world, and public support for refugees and migrants.

**May 30, 2024** Gauri Sreenivasan, Basel Abou Hamrah and Jenny Jeanes represented the CCR at the IRB Consultative Committee meeting.

Throughout the year, the CCR met with the Canadian Border Service Agency (CBSA) as part of our regular quarterly meetings.

### International engagement

**In December 2023**, CCR President Diana Gallego participated in the Global Refugee Forum meetings in Geneva as part of Canadian Government Delegation to discuss the Global Compact on Refugees.

**In June 2024**, a CCR delegation participated in Consultations on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways (CRCP) annual meeting in Geneva.

 The CCR co-drafted a joint NGO statement delivered by Refugee Council of Australia CEO Paul Power calling for international action to expand resettlement and additional migration pathways for refugees. The statement was in response to UNHCR's new report detailing that 2.9 million of the world's refugees will be in priority need of resettlement in 2025. Read the full statement here.



CCR President Diana Gallego with UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi

## **CCR Working Groups**

The three Working Groups are the forums in which CCR members exchange information, network and develop policy positions in particular areas of concern. They are responsible for preparing resolutions and planning workshops at the consultations, as well as for advising the Executive on policy.

The Working Groups meet three times a year: in early fall (September) in Toronto, and early spring (March/April) in Montreal, as well as during CCR's annual Consultations in November.

This year, they met in September 2023 in Toronto, November 2023 in Calgary for the Consultation, and in April 2024 in Montreal.

### **Immigration and Settlement**

For the year, the Immigration and Settlement Working Group focused on the following priorities:

- Regularization
- Access to Housing
- Family Reunification
- Migrant Workers
- International Students
- Access to Justice

Access to services was identified as a long-term priority.

### **Inland Protection**

For the year, the Inland Protection Working Group focused on the following priorities:

- Regularization
- Access to Asylum, including access to shelter and support on arrival
- Family Reunification

Refugee claimant processing was identified as an internal priority.

### **Overseas Protection and Resettlement**

For the year, the Overseas Protection and Resettlement Working Group focused on the following priorities:

- Equity (in processing of resettlement applications and in responses to emergencies)
- Reduced Access to Resettlement (addressing new obstacles to resettlement)
- Family Reunification

Root causes were identified as a long-term concern.

## **The Youth Network**

The CCR's Youth Network (YN) centers and amplifies the voices of refugee and newcomer youth in Canada (ages 16-29) in programs, settlement, organization, and policy. Started in 2006, the Youth Network is represented by a Core Team made up of 6-9 newcomer youth from across Canada. Working within a gender justice and anti-oppression framework, the Youth Network focuses on creating safe spaces for networking and information-exchange for young people doing newcomer advocacy work, while prioritizing skill building, government relations opportunities, and youth leadership.

The group has evolved through online discussions and virtual conferences, organizes youth-led workshops and strategy sessions, and develops youth-driven projects.

#### Youth Action Gathering (YAG)

From **September 29 to October 1**, the Youth Network hosted its **9th annual Youth Action Gathering (YAG)** in Montreal. A one-of-a-kind event, the YAG creates a safe space for youth of all regions to build a national community of support and connection that persists even when they go back home. The 9th YAG was centered around the theme **Embracing Youth Inclusion and Diversity.** 

With participation of over 60 youth newcomers and refugees from coast to coast to coast, the YAG focused on topics such as mental health, 2SLGBTQIA+ rights and intersectionality, Indigenous solidarity and reconciliation, and antiracism.



In **April 2024**, in collaboration with the FCJ Refugee Centre Youth Network, Mary Ward Center, and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, the Youth Network hosted a webinar titled **"United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Collaborative Youth Action"** where they discussed how young newcomers and refugees are essential in Canada's efforts to achieve a more sustainable and equitable future. They hosted their second webinar on June 6.

#### The Daniel Schickedanz Scholarship Award

This award supports young people of refugee and/or migrant backgrounds in their efforts to pursue higher education. It encourages youth engagement within their local communities. The award is facilitated through the collaborative efforts of the Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) and CCR and made possible by a generous donation from Daniel Schickedanz.

Each year, 10 scholarships are awarded: five of them on an educational basis and the other five on a community-engagement basis. This fiscal year, we distributed **11** awards.

## The Francisco Rico-Martinez Award

Named after the late Francisco Rico-Martinez, former President of the CCR (1997-2001) and founder and Co-Director of the FCJ Refugee Centre, and as a way to honour his leadership over three decades with the CCR, the Francisco Rico-Martinez Access to Justice Award is given on an annual basis to an individual, groups of individuals, or an organization to support a project aligned with Francisco's core commitments.

This fiscal year, the award was given to the **Montreal City Mission (MCM)**, a non-profit community organization of the United Church of Canada that is open, diverse, and interfaith. Founded in 1910 and having started in Montreal before expanding throughout Quebec, the organization aims to advocate for the rights and interests of the most vulnerable individuals to create a welcoming, inclusive, and just society.

Their project, the **"Danaïdes Project: Diversity Without Discrimination,"** consists of several components, including a research component focused on access to legal services for undocumented migrants and those with precarious status, an advocacy component, and a public awareness component aimed at combating prejudices and myths about this population.

## **The Anti-Racism Project**

As an organization, the CRR has long been aware of the destructive effects of racism on newcomers and communities and the lack of comprehensive initiatives at the national level. Between 2022 and 2024, CCR is implementing the Anti-Racism project with funding from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF). Our goal is to support member organizations across Canada to lead information collection sessions through focus groups with racialized refugees and newcomers and to identify key issues they face. Informed by this, we will work with our community of members to identify 5 priority areas for advocacy and engagement based on issues that affect newcomers and refugees, particularly those of African descent.

#### What you can expect next year

- Issue papers focused on five priority areas:
  - 1. Turning the tide on stigmatization of Black and other racialized newcomers in public opinion
  - 2. Ending inequity in responses to global refugee crises
  - 3. Challenging systemic racism and particularly anti-Black racism at the border
  - 4. Ending inequity in processing of resettled refugees, particularly from Africa
  - 5. Realizing the right to adequate housing for racialized refugees and newcomers



In 2023/2024 we diversified our funding sources and increased revenues by 30%.

Revenues from government sources are higher this year due to the support from the Government of Canada's the Community Services Recovery Fund. We also received support from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation for our Anti-Racism Project, as well as a core support grant from the Foundation of Greater Montreal.

For the 2023 Calgary Consultation, we received sponsorships from Primacorps (with a commitment to sponsor Consultations for the next four years) and the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants (CICC). We also received a grant from Heritage Canada under the Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Anti-Racism Initiatives Program (CSMARI) and the Official Languages Program.

For the Youth Action Gathering, we received support from Projet Orion, the Fondation Lucie et André Chagnon, the Child and Youth Refugee Research Coalition (CYRRC), World Education Services (WES), FCJ Refugee Centre, and the Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth.

The CCR is grateful for the many contributions of our members, donors, volunteers, and funders who make possible the CCR's work to make Canada more welcoming for refugees. We are particularly grateful for our community of long-term individual donors who continue to sustain our work through one-time or monthly donations – our work would be impossible without you!

We acknowledge with gratitude the support from the following organizations in 2023/24:



### Fondation du Grand Montréal





Foundation

Canadian Fondation Race Relations canadienne des relations raciales





Collège des consultants en

immigration et en citovenneté









College of Immigration

and Citizenship Consultants

## Financials

Copies of full audited statements including notes are available from the CCR office.

Statement of operations for the year ended August 31, 2024	2024 \$	2023 \$
GRANTS		
Government grants	277, 088	56, 953
Other grants	112, 582	73, 524
	389, 670	130, 477
OTHER REVENUES		
Membership fees	160, 808	149, 105
Donations	153, 863	236, 009
Investment income	76, 582	20, 571
Conference registrations	52, 370	68,035
Others	36, 176	1, 650
	403, 217	475, 370
	792, 887	605, 847
EXPENSES		
Salaries and benefits	623, 702	442, 279
Administrative expenses (Schedule A)	151, 034	108, 544
Fundraising	96, 850	65, 993
Conference expenses	85, 929	90, 917
Working groups	79, 385	29, 419
Executive committee	44, 988	9, 183 52, 440
Public education and networking	42, 842	53, 442
	1, 124, 730	799, 777

#### Balance sheet as of August 31, 2024

Assets* Liabilities	2,085,016 91,075	2,280,077 245,227
Net assets		
Externally restricted	35,153	35,153
Internally restricted	1,757,769	1,957,769
Unrestricted	201, 019	41,928
	1,993,941	2,034,850
	2,085,016	2,280,077

\*Assets include \$1,792,922 in the CCR's Endowment Fund – made up of amounts that are externally or internally restricted in order to provide a secure income to support and sustain our mission.