



## Refugee Sponsorship @ Bow Valley Christian Church



**Rangin, Abde & Jala**

### **Are Enjoying Their First Summer in Canada**

The Sidi family is settling into Calgary and Canadian life. Abde has completed one level of English classes and is starting the second level. Rangin is attending Saturday English classes and hoping to get into part-time classes, which would be 4 days/week. For both of them, English is improving.

Abde is looking for part-time work while he attends school. If you are aware of any job opportunities or can facilitate his entry into a company you know, please reach out to him or a member of the Refugee Sponsorship Team.

They have been enjoying summer in Canada and are amazed that it could be so warm given that was so cold when they first arrived. Jala celebrated her second birthday at the end of June with an outdoor party. They participated in their first Canada Day celebrations, have tried kayaking, had picnics, and went camping near Revelstoke with 5 other families. Did you know that the Rocky Mountains are beautiful? Participating with them in these first time experiences is a blessing. Seeing our own country through the eyes of newcomers is a wonderful reminder to us of how blessed we are. So, reach out to them and find that you are blessed as much or more in the process.

Remember, we are their stepping stones to becoming fully integrated into Canadian life. This involves building friendships, having conversations to help with language development, explaining and modeling the customs and culture of Canada. This is an opportunity for all of us at BVCC to unleash love!

To learn more about these families visit the church webpage:  
<https://bvcchurch.ca/bvcc-refugee-sponsorship-landing-page/>  
Email: [refugees@bvcchurch.ca](mailto:refugees@bvcchurch.ca)



### **A, B & Z (from Pakistan)**

This family had “the interview” with the Canadian government in May and were accepted for immigration to Canada. Praise the Lord. They are so excited and relieved that they will be allowed to come to Canada.

Based on how timelines unfolded with the Sidi family, we anticipated that this family would be arriving by early September. But, here we are in the first week of September and still waiting for notice of their arrival. Waiting! The Lord is teaching them and us patience in this process.

Little “Z” turned 5 this summer and should be starting kindergarten. Pray that they would be in Canada early this fall so that she can start kindergarten with other children her age.

### **Khalid, Enaam, Noor, Ahmed & Wajdy (from Syria)**

We are co-sponsoring the refugee applications of Jamal's immediate family (parents Khalid & Enaam, sister Noor, brother Ahmed) and cousin (Wajdy) with him and his aunts who live in Calgary. Jamal, a young man originally from Syria, was the first refugee Bow Valley sponsored. He arrived in Canada in 2019 and has done very well for himself. He is currently enrolled in university to finish his degree.



The applications for these family members have been submitted and are in the earliest stages. We anticipate a 2 to 3 year wait before their arrival.

Pray for their protection and safety. Pray that God’s love would be evident to Jamal and his aunts here in Calgary as we work with them to bring their family members to safety.



### **Wassim, Reem, Melanie, Miriam (From Syria)**

Meet the newest family that Bow Valley is sponsoring. Wassim is a priest in the Orthodox Church. The family experienced persecution in Syria because of their Christian faith and Wassim had several attempts on his life. They fled to Lebanon, where they are currently in asylum.

Life in Lebanon is not easy. Syrians are not welcome there and are persecuted. He is unable to find work. They were robbed of all their money and possessions. The children are not able to go to school. Church members provided them with housing, but they struggle to provide food for the family.

The refugee application for this family is in its earliest stages. Bow Valley Christian Church is sponsoring them in collaboration with other family members who are currently here in Calgary. Bow Valley has committed to raising \$15,000 to support this family on arrival. It is anticipated that there will be a 2 to 3 year wait until their arrival in Canada.

Pray for this family. For their safety. Provision of basic needs. That their faith would remain strong and grow stronger during this time of waiting.

## **Financial Update**

Thank you for the generous donations of money and gifts-in-kind that you, the Bow Valley Church family, have provided. God is demonstrating His faithfulness through your faithfulness. As we continue to sponsor more refugees the financial need continues. While the government stipulates a minimum amount of financial support, the reality of each families' needs varies and unanticipated expenses often arise. Please consider donating regularly to the Refugee Sponsorship Project at Bow Valley Christian Church.