



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS 2021 marks the 70th anniversary of the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 60th anniversary of the 1961 United Nations Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and

WHEREAS the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted, on December 4, 2000, a resolution naming June 20 every year as World Refugee Day to honour the courage, strength and resilience of forcibly displaced persons around the world, and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia upholds the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted by the Government of Canada in 2018, and

WHEREAS Canada has demonstrated international leadership by transitioning refugee claimant hearings online to ensure that access to asylum continues in the face of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, and

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia recognizes the additional barriers that the COVID-19 pandemic places on individuals seeking a prosperous and secure future, and recognizes the innovation and resilience of service provider organizations in providing continued access to services and supports for refugees and refugee claimants in the province throughout the pandemic, and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and its people provide welcoming communities and make resources available for refugees and their families to live dignified, healthy and safe lives;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that June 20, 2021, shall be known as

“World Refugee Day”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this twenty-seventh day of May, two thousand twenty-one and in the seventieth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General and
Minister Responsible for Housing
(counter signature for the Great Seal)

Lieutenant Governor