



UGNAYAN SA CANADA 2018

May 10-18, 2018
Executive Report by the
Commission on Filipinos Overseas

Ottawa
Toronto
Calgary
Vancouver



Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS



UGNAYAN

SA CANADA MAY 10-18, 2018

Youth Forum and Consultation with Filipino Migrants in Canada



OTTAWA, ONTARIO

May 10, 2018 (Thursday)

Sentro Rizal Inauguration
Philippine Embassy, Ottawa
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Consultation Meeting with Filcom
Chancery's Mindanao Hall, PE Ottawa
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

TORONTO, ONTARIO

May 12, 2018 (Saturday)

Youth Forum and Consultation
Venue: TBA
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sentro Rizal Inauguration
Philippine Consulate General, Toronto
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm



CALGARY, ALBERTA

May 14, 2018 (Monday)

Youth Forum and Consultation
PCCF, Bay 206, 4656 Westwinds Dr.
NE, Calgary
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

May 15, 2018 (Tuesday)

Consultation Meeting with Filcom
PCCF, Bay 206, 4656 Westwinds Dr.
NE, Calgary
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

May 17, 2018 (Thursday)

Consultation Meeting with Filcom
Venue: Mosaic, 5575 Boundary Rd.,
Vancouver, BC
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

May 18, 2018 (Friday)

Youth Forum and Consultation
Venue: Mosaic, 5575 Boundary Rd.,
Vancouver, BC
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm



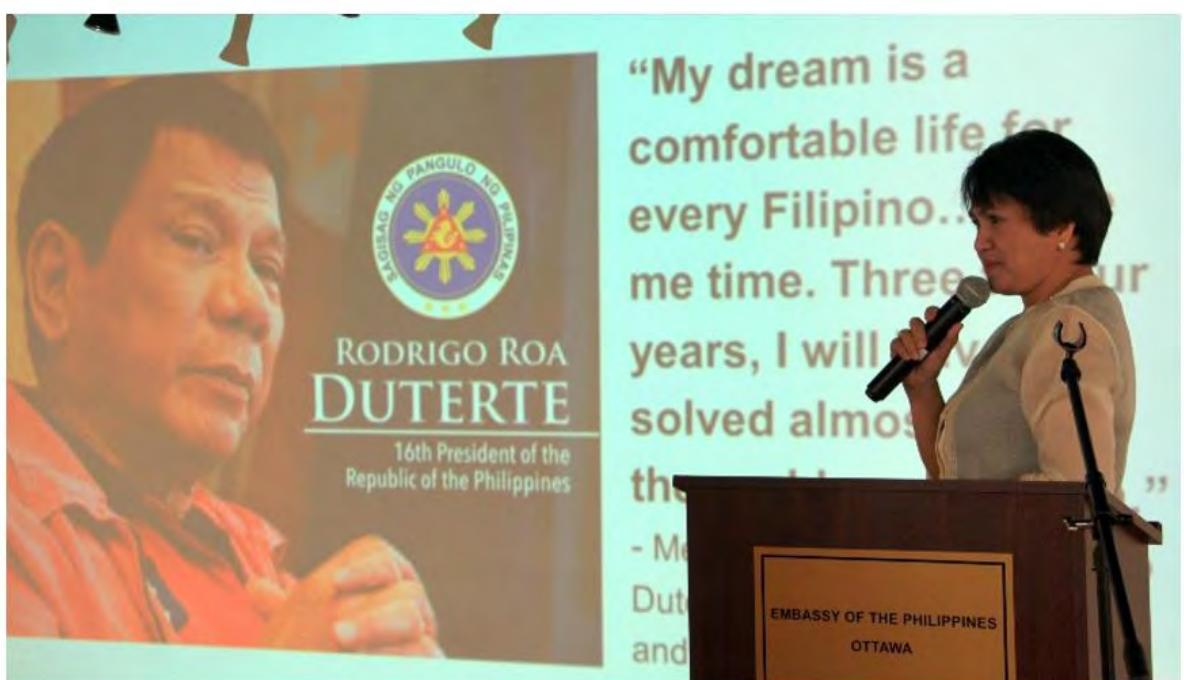
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DFA, CFO, NCCA CONDUCT UGNAYAN SA CANADA 2018

The Commission on Filipinos Overseas, led by CFO Executive Director Astravel Pimentel-Naik, successfully touch-based with the Filipino-Canadian youth and Fil-com leaders during the week-long Ugnayan sa Canada, held from May 10-18, 2018 in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, the top three provinces in Canada with large concentration of Filipino migrants. There are 837,130 Filipinos (based on ethnicity) working and living in Canada, representing 2% of the 35 million total population. CFO records since 1980 also shows that Canada is the second preferred destination of Filipino emigrants, next to USA. In just a few decades, Filipino community has grown from less than a thousand residents to become one of the country's largest immigrant demographics.



Given the policy pronouncement of President Rodrigo Duterte of bringing government services closer to overseas Filipinos and as part of its mandate of

strengthening relations with the Filipino community overseas, the series of activities were conducted in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Embassy in Ottawa, Philippine Consulates in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, ABS-CBN TFC, Rise Tribe, Multicultural Helping House Society and Pathways to Canada.

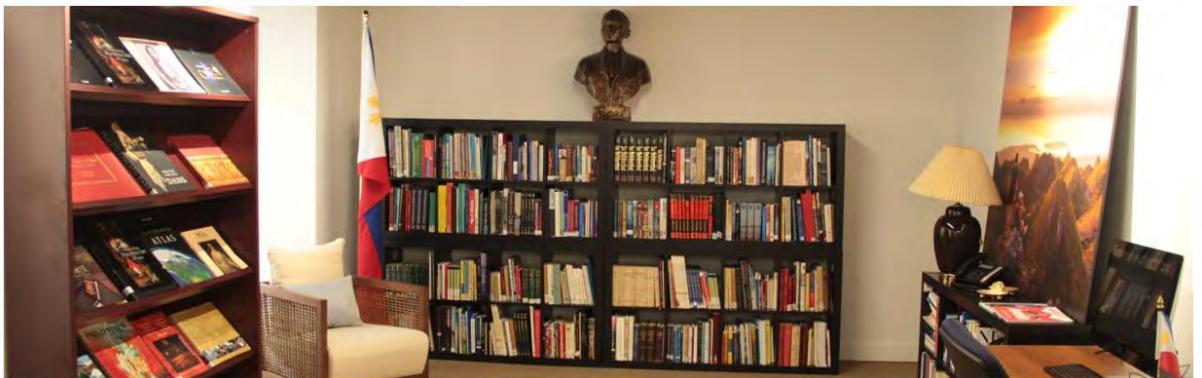
The activities, fully supported by Chairman Virgilio Alamario, Ambassador Petronila Garcia, and Consuls General Rosalita Prospero, Gilberto Asuque and Neil Frank Ferrer, include the Inaguration of Sentro Rizal at Philippine Embassy in Ottawa and Philippine Consulate in Toronto, and series of youth fora and Fil-com meetings, as well as site visits to migrant settlement organizations. Filipino music icon Joey Ayala also graced the events.

During the gatherings, Usec. Pimentel-Naik and her team discussed CFO programs and services (such as pre-departure program, 2018 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas, Youth Leaders for Development, Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino program and BaLinkBayan One-Stop Web Portal for Overseas Filipinos) and provided updates on the accomplishments of the government under President Duterte's administration, which include the inclusion of overseas Filipinos in the Philippine Development Plan, Marawi City Rehabilitation, TRAIN Tax Law, increase in the base pay of the Military and Uniformed Personnel in the government, extension to 5 years of the driver's license validity, extension to 10 years of passport validity, creation of the Overseas Filipinos Bank, free tertiary education in state colleges and universities, Boracay rehabilitation, signing of bilateral agreement between Philippines and Kuwait on the Protection of OFWs, signing of a proclamation declaring Philippine Rise (Benham Rise) as a marine protected area, enhancement of the 4PS Pantawid Pamilya Program, and the Build Build Build Program, among others. She also gave a briefer on the proposed shift to federalism in the Philippines, which is an advocacy of President Duterte and his political party, PDP Laban.

Ugnayan sa Canada also served as a platform to identify issues and challenges of Filipino-Canadian youth and the Filipino community in general (which include high incidence of secondary school drop out among youth, problem in integrating to the society, non-recognition of skills, underemployment, intergenerational gap between the parents and children, not utilizing the services of settlement organizations, breaking barriers in penetrating the industry, non-existent of programs for LGBTQ migrants, family and senior abuse, excessive immigration consultancy fees for migrating Filipinos to Canada, among others); and engage them on how to be partners of Philippine development; strengthen relations/partnership with the Filipino communities and support network groups; and inform the participants of the various government programs and services for migrants.

Inauguration of Sentro Rizal in Ottawa

Philippine Embassy, Ottawa, Ontario, May 10, 2018



Ambassador Petronila Garcia and NCCA Chairman Virgilio Almario led the opening of Sentro Rizal at the Philippine Embassy in Ottawa with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Embassy and the NCCA. Usec. Pimentel-Naik turned over to Ambassador Garcia the Virtual Sentro Rizal and its manuals, and “The Quest for a Federal Republic” to be part of the Filipiniana resource materials of the center. The center, which is the first Sentro Rizal to be established in Canada, contains Filipiniana literature on various subjects, handicrafts, and visual arts by prominent Filipino artists. It is accessible to the public during regular office hours.

Fil-com Meeting in Ottawa

Philippine Embassy, Ottawa, Ontario, May 10, 2018



Ambassador Petronila Garcia welcomed the Fil-com leaders and members from Ottawa and Montreal during the Fil-com meeting in Ottawa. Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and Ivy Miravalles of CFO discussed CFO programs and services and updates and accomplishments of the government under the administration of President Duterte. Joey Ayala gave an inspirational message and song performance.

Meeting and Tour at Kababayan Multicultural Centre Toronto, Ontario, May 11, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik met with Executive Director Flordeliz Dandal and officers of the Kababayan Multicultural Centre to discuss issues and challenges of newly arrived Filipino migrants in the Greater Toronto Area. KMC was founded in 1977, and has been a strong presence in the community, advocating for the rights of Filipinos, while assisting in the settlement of newcomers. Some of their services include settlement information, interpretation and translation, para-professional counselling, civics self-development program, employment-related services, referral services, computer training, and caregiver's support network.

Youth Forum in Toronto

University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, May 12, 2018





The First Filipino-Canadian Youth Forum in Toronto, organized by the CFO and PCG Toronto with the support of Rise Tribe and ABS-CBN TFC, aims to inspire, and identify issues and challenges of Filipino-Canadian youth, and engage them on how to be partners of Philippine development. Ambassador Petronila Garcia welcomed the participants. Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and Chairman Virgilio Almario gave inspirational messages. Resource and motivational speakers for the youth include Dr. Philip F. Kelly, Principal Investigator of the Filipino Youth Transitions in Canada Project of York University; Justice Steve Coroza, first Filipino-Canadian to be appointed at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice; Dr. Eileen de Villa, Public Health Officer of Toronto Public Health, Canada's largest local public health agency; Marivel Taruc, award-winning journalist and host of Our Toronto, CBC News; and Carlos Bustamante, actor and TV host of Entertainment Tonight Canada and Global Television Network (TBC). Rise Tribe chaired by Louroz Mercader and Nezy Lacdao, led a panel discussion on the different issues and challenges faced by Filipino-Canadian youth. Raymond Abog, Country Manager of ABS-CBN Canada-The Filipino Channel discussed media advocacy of Overseas Filipinos. Mayumi Peralta of CFO discussed the YouLead Program. Joey Ayala rendered song performance and conducted Social Artistry Bridge-Building Workshop. Consul General Rosalita Prospero gave the closing remarks and ways forward.

Inauguration of Sentro Rizal in Toronto

Philippine Consulate General, Toronto, Ontario, May 12, 2018



Consul General Rosalita Prospero and Chairman Virgilio Almario led the opening of Sentro Rizal at the Philippine Consulate in Toronto with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Consulate and the NCCA. The ceremonial signing was witnessed by Ambassador Petronila Garcia and Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, who also turned over to Consul General Prospero the Virtual Sentro Rizal and its manuals and “The Quest for a Federal Republic” to be part of the Filipiniana resource materials of the Center. Joey Ayala rendered song performance for the audience. The center, which is the second Sentro Rizal to be established in Canada, contains Filipiniana literature on various subjects, handicrafts, and visual arts by prominent Filipino artists. It is accessible to the public during regular office hours.

Courtesy Visit at Philippine Consulate Calgary

Philippine Consulate General, Calgary, Alberta, May 14, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and MHHS representatives paid a courtesy visit to newly appointed Consul General Gilberto Asuque and Deputy Consul General Zaldy Patron of the Philippine Consulate in Calgary. Usec. Pimentel-Naik turned over to Consul General Asuque the Virtual Sentro Rizal and its manuals and “The Quest for a Federal Republic” to be part of the Filipiniana resource materials of the Consulate.

Meeting and Tour at Calgary Catholic Immigration Society

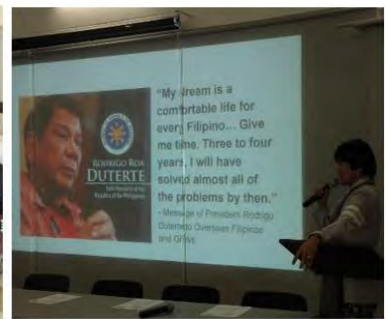
CICC, Calgary, Alberta, May 14, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and MHHS representatives met with Executive Director Fariborz Birjandian and Filipino-Canadian officers of the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society to discuss issues and challenges of newly arrived Filipino migrants in Alberta. The CCIS is a non-profit organization which provides settlement and integration services to all immigrants and refugees in Southern Alberta. It offers comprehensive resettlement and integration services (counselling, bridging classes, LINC, mentorship for integration, family and senior services, etc.) to refugees and immigrants, with a dynamic multicultural, multilingual and multidisciplinary team of professionals, who collectively speak over 60 languages.

Youth Forum in Calgary

Philippine Cultural Center Foundation, Calgary, Alberta, May 14, 2018



The Youth Forum in Calgary, organized by the CFO and PCG Calgary with the support of Philippine Cultural Center Foundation, aims to inspire, and identify issues and challenges of Filipino-Canadian youth, and engage them on how to be partners of Philippine development. Consul General Gilberto Asuque welcomed the participants. Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik discussed CFO programs and services and updates and accomplishments of the government under the administration of President Duterte. Youth motivational speakers include Krizia Carlos, mental health nurse and hip-hop dancer; and Gilmore Junio, Olympic medalist and speedskater. Mayumi Peralta of CFO discussed the YouLead Program. Joey Ayala gave an inspirational message and song performance. Ivy Miravalles of CFO gave the closing remarks and ways forward.

Meeting and Tour at Calgary Immigrant Women's Association

CIWA, Calgary, Alberta, May 15, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and MHHS representatives met with Director of Programs Eva Szasz-Redmond and officers of the Calgary Immigrant Women's Association to discuss issues and challenges of newly arrived Filipino migrants in Alberta. Established in 1982, CIWA is a non-profit organization and a culturally diverse settlement agency that recognizes and responds to the unique concerns and needs of immigrant and refugee women, girls and their families. CIWA has provided best practices in developing customized female focused initiatives, which also include children and their well-being. Their services are focused on career, family, language training and childcare, settlement and integration and workplace. Over the years, CIWA has made the transition to Canada a more comfortable, pleasant and successful one for more than 80,000 immigrant women.

Fil-com Meeting in Calgary

Philippine Cultural Center Foundation, Calgary, Alberta, May 15, 2018



Consul General Gilberto Asuque welcomed the Fil-com leaders and members from Alberta during the Fil-com meeting in Calgary. Usec. Naik and Ivy Miravalles of CFO discussed CFO programs and services and updates and accomplishments of the government under the administration of President Duterte. Joey Ayala gave an inspirational message and song performance.

Meeting and Tour at Mosaic BC

Mosaic, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 16, 2018



The CFO team led by Ivy Miravalles and MHHS representatives met with Director of Employment and Language Services Michael Radano and officers of Mosaic BC to discuss settlement services for migrants. Mosaic is a registered charity serving immigrant, newcomer and refugee communities in Greater Vancouver for the past 40 years. Their services include settlement assistance, English language training, employment programs, interpretation and translation, counselling services, and community outreach for families and individuals, including children, youth and seniors. Their expertise in employment services resulted in Mosaic being the only immigrant serving organization to be awarded a contract to deliver services through the BC Government's Employment Program of BC.

Consultation with Students of John Oliver High School JOHS, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 17, 2018



The Consultation with Filipino-Canadian students of John Oliver High School, organized by the CFO, MHHS, and the school, aims to inspire, and identify issues and challenges of Filipino-Canadian youth, especially the newly arrived migrants. The school caters to the biggest number of Filipino-Canadian enrollees among all the secondary schools in Canada. Principal Pedro Dasilva, Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, Ivy Miravalles of CFO, and Vice Consul Ma. Charmaine Guevarra gave inspirational messages. Joy Jose of JOSH conducted the workshop to identify the problems and issues of youth; results and output of which will be used in the improvement of the peer counseling module for Filipino youth emigrants of CFO.

Meeting and Tour at BMO Financial Group BMO, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 17, 2018



The CFO team led by Ivy Miravalles and MHHS representatives met with Assistant Branch Manager Joey Leung and finance officers of BMO Bank of Montreal to discuss financial services of the bank for migrants. BMO is a highly diversified financial services provider – the 8th largest bank, by assets, in North America. It provides a broad range of personal and commercial banking, wealth management and investment banking products and services.

Mass Oath Taking of Filipino Dual Citizens

Philippine Consulate General, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 17, 2018



Consul Arlene Magno and Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik led the mass oath taking of Filipino dual citizens, as well as the distribution of oath of allegiance certificates, at the Philippine Consulate. Usec. Pimentel-Naik also gave an inspirational message, including the benefits of re-acquiring and retaining Filipino citizenship.

Fil-com Meeting in Vancouver

Universal Learning Institute, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 17, 2018



Consul Arlene Magno welcomed the Fil-com leaders and members from British Columbia during the Fil-com meeting in Vancouver. Usec. Naik and Ivy Miravalles of CFO discussed CFO programs and services and updates and accomplishments of the government under the administration of President Duterte. Labor Attache Margarita Eugenia Victorino of POLO-Vancouver also joined the panel. Joey Ayala gave an inspirational message and song performance.

Courtesy Visit at Philippine Consulate Vancouver

Philippine Consulate General, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 18, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik and MHHS representatives paid a courtesy visit to outgoing Consul General Neil Frank Ferrer of the Philippine Consulate in Vancouver. Usec. Pimentel-Naik turned over to Consul General Ferrer the Virtual Sentro Rizal and its manuals, and “The Quest for a Federal Republic” to be part of the Filipiniana resource materials of the Consulate.

Meeting and Tour at Multicultural Helping House Society

MHHS, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 18, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik met with Founder Tomas Avedaño, Vice President Michael Cayetano and officers of the Multicultural Helping House Society to discuss issues and challenges of newly arrived Filipino migrants in British Columbia, and partnership between CFO and MHHS. Established in 1996, MHHS helps newcomers integrate into Canada successfully. The settlement organization hosted temporary accommodations for newly landed immigrants, respite housing, as well as staff offices, rooms for meetings, counseling, and training/workshops. Their support services include settlement, pre-arrival services, job assistance, and programs for the youth, seniors and families.

Youth Forum in Vancouver

Mosaic, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 18, 2018



The Youth Forum in Vancouver, organized by the CFO and PCG Vancouver with the support of MHHS and Mosaic, aims to inspire, and identify issues and challenges of Filipino-Canadian youth, and engage them on how to be partners of Philippine development. Consul General Neil Frank Ferrer welcomed the participants. Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik discussed CFO programs and services and updates and accomplishments of the government under the administration of President Duterte. Youth motivational speakers include Phebe Minelle Ferrer, graduate student of University of British Columbia; Michael Cayetano, Vice President of MHHS; King Albaña and Kevin Cruz, honor graduates of Simon Fraser University; and Noel Trinidad of BC Hydro. Mayumi Peralta of CFO discussed the YouLead Program. Joey Ayala gave an inspirational message and song performance. Ivy Miravalles of CFO gave the closing remarks and ways forward.

Meeting with BC Legislative Assembly Member Mable Elmore

Java Jazz Café Bistro, Vancouver, British Columbia, May 19, 2018



The CFO team led by Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, Executive Director Jose Antonio Goitia of Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, and MHHS representatives paid a courtesy visit to Mable Elmore, Member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia to discuss partnership and policy initiatives for the benefit of Filipino migrants. She is a member of the BC New Democratic Party, and was elected to represent the riding of Vancouver-Kensington. She made history by becoming the first MLA of Filipino heritage (her mother hailed from Cebu).

Issues and Challenges/ Proposed Policy Inputs and Program Enhancement

The following are the issues and challenges raised during the Youth fora, Fil-com meetings, courtesy visits at the Philippine Foreign Service Posts and site visits to settlement organizations, and the proposed policy inputs and program enhancement for the welfare and well-being of Filipino-Canadians:

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	PROPOSED POLICY INPUTS/ PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT
<p>NON-RECOGNITION OF SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS. Many newly-arrived Filipino professionals (doctors, registered nurses, dentists, engineers, managers, accountants, etc.) are de-skilled and end up in survival or transition jobs</p>	<p>REVIEW POSSIBILITY OF LOBBYING WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF SELECT SKILLS. (For ex. in the US, registered Filipino nurses who passed NCLEX could practice their profession)</p> <p>EXPLORE MORE LABOR OR BILATERAL MOUS BETWEEN PHILIPPINES AND CANADIAN PROVINCES</p> <p>ACCREDITATION OF TESDA COURSES AND TRAININGS IN CANADA</p> <p><i>OPPORTUNITIES: Encourage newly arrived migrants to enroll in bridging courses (some are offered for free by settlement organizations); upgrade their skills and talents. Volunteer in organizations to gain Canadian experience.</i></p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: DFA, PECs, DOLE, POEA, TESDA, CHED, CFO</p>
<p>SOME FILIPINO CAREGIVERS UNDER THE LIVE-IN CAREGIVER PROGRAM EXPERIENCED DELAY IN THE APPROVAL OF THEIR PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS; and thus hindered them to petition their family members back in the Philippines</p>	<p>The Live-in Caregiver Program of Canada is pending review and closed for new migrant applicants; NEED TO MONITOR IF NEW PROGRAM FOR CAREGIVERS WILL OPEN</p> <p>REVIEW CANADIAN POLICY ON CAREGIVERS; LOBBY TO THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT FOR CAREGIVERS THAT THEY CAN BRING THEIR DEPENDENTS (similar to federal</p>

	<p>skilled workers or provincial nominees) UPON MIGRATING</p> <p><i>RECOMMENDATION: Filipinos applying for permanent residency are encouraged to be honest in filling the application forms on their personal/ family information</i></p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: DFA, PECs, DOLE, POEA, CFO</p>
<p>INCREASING NUMBER OF “RELEASED UPON ARRIVAL CASES” – cases of families or couples who break after they are reunited in Canada due to long years of separation (some are already married or in a relationship with other person other than their legal spouse or partner)</p>	<p>INCLUDE THIS ISSUE IN PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTAION SEMINAR MODULE; highlight that the Philippine government does not recognize divorce between Filipino couple if acquired in a foreign country; and that some settlement organizations assist newly-arrived Filipinos undergoing this problem</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, CFO, POEA, PDOS Providers, Settlement Organizations</p>
<p>INCREASING NUMBER OF SENIOR ABUSE – Some Filipino-Canadians abuse their senior parents by giving them domestic work (baby sitters, cleaning of household), kicking them out of the house when they can no longer provide domestic service</p>	<p>DEVELOP PROGRAM FOR SENIORS WHO WANT TO REINTEGRATE BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES</p> <p><i>RECOMMENDATION: Encourage seniors to seek assistance of settlement organizations when experiencing this kind of problem</i></p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, DOLE, NRCO, CFO, Settlement Organizations</p>
<p>HIGH DROP-OUT RATE IN SCHOOL FOR FILIPINO YOUTH. Some youth prefer to work at an early age than finish high school or enter college/ university. Some are financially restrained to acquire post-secondary education.</p>	<p><i>RECOMMENDATION: Encourage the youth to continue university education for them to have better work opportunities once they graduate; Encourage parents to save early for the post-secondary education of their children. Encourage youth to look for non-traditional jobs (IT-related, social media, etc.)</i></p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, CFO, Settlement Organizations</p>
<p>SETTLEMENT PROBLEMS OF NEWLY-ARRIVED FILIPINO CHILDREN -</p>	<p>YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE MENTORING PROGRAM WITH THE YOUTH</p>

experienced language barrier problem, fear of going to school, homesickness, lack of self-confidence, hard time looking for friends, relationship issues with parents (especially if parents have 2-3 jobs and rarely see their children)

CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE WITH THE YOUTH to be undertaken by youth/ settlement organizations/ Philippine foreign service posts

DEVELOP PROGRAM FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

***RECOMMENDATION:** Encourage youth to attend after school program (re honing life skills, addressing bullying, etc.) and avail youth services of settlement organizations*

CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, CFO, RISE TRIBE, MHHS, Settlement Organizations

ISSUES OF FILIPINO-CANADIAN YOUTH BORN IN CANADA; 1.5 GENERATIONS – Identity problem, never been to Philippines to experience Filipino culture

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF SENTRO RIZAL CENTERS IN CALGARY AND VANCOUVER

ESTABLISHMENT OF SISTER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PHILIPPINES AND CANADA

DONATE FILIPINIANA RESOURCE MATERIALS TO SCHOOLS WITH LARGE POPULATION OF FILIPINO YOUTH IN CANADA

DEVELOP PHILIPPINE LOCAL GUIDE FOR YOUNG OFS WHO WANT TO VISIT AND VOLUNTEER IN THE PHILIPPINES

CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, NCCA, CFO, DEPED, DOT, NYC, Schools, Settlement Organizations

HEALTH ISSUES AFFECTING IRREGULAR MIGRANTS – Some irregular migrants with life-threatening ailment (cancer, kidney disease) want to seek assistance from the government; some Filipino Canadians are involve in drug abuse

PROMOTION OF THE DOH'S INTEGRATED MEDICAL REPATRIATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM for Filipinos who want to be repatriated back to the Philippines

CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, DOH Settlement Organizations

<p>DIVERSE/ SEVERAL FILIPINO ORGANIZATIONS that are not united</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION: Encourage organizations to unite and form umbrella organization; conduct unification meeting for organizations</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECs, Filipino Organizations</p>
<p>EXCESSIVE IMMIGRATION CONSULTANCY FEES. Some workers from the Philippines experienced paying \$750-\$1000 to process their working papers</p>	<p>REVIEW THE POSSIBILITY OF REGULATING IMMIGRATION CONSULTANCY IN THE PHILIPPINES, ENGAGING IN WORK RECRUITMENT</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: POEA, DOLE, DFA, CFO</p>
<p>PDOS ENHANCEMENT FOR PERMANENT MIGRANTS, OFWS</p>	<p>UPDATE PDOS MODULE TO INCLUDE CONTEMPORARY ISSUES such as elder abuse and its types, cross cultural parenting, importance of getting health insurance even for visitors, financial literacy, strict laws and policies of Canada, information on skills qualification for skilled workers, information on settlement organizations where migrants could seek assistance</p> <p>REVIEW CFO COUNSELING MODULE FOR FILIPINOS MARRYING FOREIGN NATIONALS</p> <p>STRENGTHEN POST ARRIVAL SERVICES IN CANADA FOR NEWLY-ARRIVED MIGRANTS</p> <p>DEVELOP PDOS MODULE OR COUNTRY FAMILIARIZATION FOR CANADIANS MARRYING FILIPINOS AND WILL BE SETTLING IN THE PHILIPPINES</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: CFO, POEA, PECS, PATHWAYS TO CANADA, PDOS Providers</p>
<p>INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FILIPINO-CANADIANS</p>	<p>POSSIBILITY OF MAKING GOVERNMENT T-BILLS/BONDS AVAILABLE FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINOS; Identify/ Develop Investment</p>

	<p>programs by the OF Bank, where Filipino-Canadians may avail</p> <p>POSSIBILITY OF SELLING IDLE LANDS OF FILIPINO-CANADIANS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND CONVERTING PAYMENT INTO T-BILLS/BONDS</p> <p>ORGANIZE INCOME TAX AND BENEFIT RETURNS SEMINAR/ ORIENTATION FOR FILIPINO-CANADIANS</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: PECS, BSP, OF BANK</p>
<p>PROTECTION OF THE WELFARE OF MIGRANTS AND WORKERS</p>	<p>LOBBY TO CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO SIGN THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES AND C189 DOMESTIC WORKERS CONVENTION</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: DFA, PECs, DOLE, CFO</p>
<p>OTHER CONCERN</p>	<p>CLAMOR FROM THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY FOR PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE TO OFFICIALLY VISIT CANADA</p> <p>CONCERNED AGENCIES: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, DFA, PECs, CFO</p>

Ugnayan sa Canada 2018 is a Project of



Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS



Initiated in 2012, UGNAYAN is a regular activity of the CFO, in partnership with DFA, Philippine Foreign Service Posts and other migrant serving agencies and organizations, which aims to reach out to more overseas Filipinos in various regions of the world to discuss means of cooperation for diaspora engagement and Philippine development and governance initiatives, identify and address issues of the overseas Filipino communities, and enhance and strengthen government services for the welfare and well-being of migrants.

Project implementors and Partners

- ❖ **Commission on Filipinos Overseas.** Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, Director Ivy Miravalles, Frenzel Tingga, Mayumi Peralta
- ❖ **National Commission for Culture and the Arts.** Chairman Virgilio Almario, Joey Ayala, Alya Rodriguez
- ❖ **Philippine Embassy, Ottawa.** Ambassador Petronila Garcia, Deputy Chief of Mission Francisco Noel Fernandez III, Consul Greg Marie Concha-Mariño, Consul Eric Aquino, Consul Jeffrey Salik, Vice Consul Siegfred Masangkay, officers and staff of Philippine Embassy
- ❖ **Philippine Consulate General, Toronto.** Consul General Rosalita Prospero, Deputy Consul General Bernadette Therese Fernandez, Consul Edna May Grecia-Lazaro, Cecilia Santos, officers and staff of PCG
- ❖ **Philippine Consulate General, Calgary.** Consul General Gilberto Asuque, Deputy Consul General Zaldy Patron, officers and staff of PCG
- ❖ **Philippine Consulate General, Vancouver.** Consul General Neil Frank Ferrer, Consul Arlene Magno, Vice Consul Ma. Charmaine Guevara, Josephine Nacisvalencia, Michael Yturriaga, officers and staff of PCG
- ❖ **POLO Vancouver.** Labor Attache Margarita Eugenia Victorino
- ❖ **Multicultural Helping House Society/Pathways to Canada.** Tomas Avendaño, Michael Cayetano, Marius Alparaque, Connie Catanes, Eula Miranda
- ❖ **ABS-CBN TFC Canada.** Raymond Abog, Jocelyn Jimenez, Princesita Babon
- ❖ **Rise Tribe.** Louroz Mercader, Nezy Lacdao
- ❖ **Philippine Cultural Center Foundation, Calgary.** Clem Tigley
- ❖ **Mosaic BC.** Michael Radano, Dina Cherevko, Maria Aleli Poe
- ❖ **Universal Learning Institute BC.** Linda Gavsie, Dennis Li
- ❖ **Calgary Catholic Immigration Society.** Sherrisa Celis, Nick Celis, Ramon Singh
- ❖ **John Oliver High School.** Joy Jose