



MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Advisory: Upcoming B.C. *Human Rights Code* public educational session on services

Vancouver B.C. – On October 19, 2022, BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner will hold a free, virtual session to help people understand B.C.'s *Human Rights Code* and how it can help address discrimination, with a specific focus on services that are usually available to the public.

The *Code* protects against discrimination in relation to employment, housing and services in B.C. This includes hotels, stores, restaurants, schools, libraries, campgrounds and government and community programs.

Every person has the right to be free from discrimination whether they are providing or receiving such a service in British Columbia. This 90-minute interactive session will help participants learn about their rights and responsibilities in this area.

By the end of this session, learners will be able to:

- Identify discrimination under B.C.'s *Human Rights Code*
- Recognize terms used in the B.C. human rights system
- Recognize what kinds of discrimination can form the basis of a human rights complaint (including on the basis of race, ancestry, Indigenous identity, place of origin, sex, gender identity, disability, age and religion)

WHO:	BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (BCOHRC)
WHAT:	B.C.'s <i>Human Rights Code</i> educational sessions: Services
WHEN:	Wednesday, October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2022 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (PDT)
WHERE:	Virtual, via Zoom videoconferencing
REGISTER:	<a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cwraZjG-T7Sou6IMbStyFw">https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cwraZjG-T7Sou6IMbStyFw</a>
LANGUAGES:	Simultaneous translation will be available in Arabic <b>Note:</b> If you have a translation request, please contact us at least 2 weeks prior to the event and we will do our best to accommodate

Registration is free. Please register in advance on [Zoom](#) or by contacting [engagement@bchumanrights.ca](mailto:engagement@bchumanrights.ca).

When registering, please advise us of any accessibility needs or translation requirements you may have by contacting [engagement@bchumanrights.ca](mailto:engagement@bchumanrights.ca). We will work to accommodate you.

Kindly note that this session will host a maximum of 50 participants.

Please note we are not the BC Human Rights Clinic and we do not offer legal advice or provide representation. We also do not accept individual human rights complaints, which may be directed to the BC Human Rights Tribunal.

## More about BCOHRC's Code workshop educational sessions

These sessions are held throughout the year on topics related to areas protected by the *Human Rights Code*: housing, employment and services.

Closed captioning will be available at this event. If you have other accessibility requirements, please contact us at [engagement@bchumanrights.ca](mailto:engagement@bchumanrights.ca).

These sessions are meant for a broad audience. If you are interested in booking a session for your organization or group, please contact us through our event request page (specify if you would like a focus on housing, employment or services).

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## Media contact

To request an interview with Commissioner Kasari Govender, please contact Charlotte Kingston, Director, Communications, at [media@bchumanrights.ca](mailto:media@bchumanrights.ca) or 1-250-216-4534.

## Media kit

[Download](#) our media kit for images of Commissioner Kasari Govender.

## About BCOHRC

BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner exists to address the root causes of inequality, discrimination and injustice in B.C. by shifting laws, policies, practices and cultures. We do this work through education, research, advocacy, inquiry and monitoring. Learn more at: [bchumanrights.ca](http://bchumanrights.ca)

## About the Commissioner

B.C.'s Human Rights Commissioner, Kasari Govender, started her five-year term on Sept. 3, 2019. Since then, our Office has been working swiftly to build a strong team, to listen deeply to the concerns of British Columbians, to deliver education materials on our rights and responsibilities, to issue policy guidance to protect marginalized communities and to lay a human rights-based foundation for our work. As an independent officer of the Legislature, the Commissioner is uniquely positioned to ensure human rights in B.C. are protected, respected and advanced on a systemic level throughout our society.

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