

Attention: *Advisory to CUAET holders about the availability of free 14-day hotel stays in the Toronto area*

In recent weeks, CUIAS Immigrant Services, who are welcoming CUAET holders upon their arrival in the Greater Toronto area, have been receiving an extraordinary number of calls and inquiries about the availability of short-term emergency hotel accommodation from people who have come to Ontario through the CUAET program and who are finding themselves in a "housing crisis" upon arrival in Canada.

About 250 Ukrainians arrive in Toronto through the CUAET program every day. Throughout the month of March, we expect a significant increase in arrivals. It is for this reason that we would like to remind you to please plan your journey to Canada in advance of your arrival. This includes having a contingency or back-up plan for securing accommodation upon arrival.

CUAET visa holders often report that they did not search for accommodation prior to arriving in Canada, because they expected to stay in a hotel provided by the Canadian Government, for free, for 14 days. The issue is however, that there are a finite number of rooms available at any given time, meaning that not everyone will be able to be accommodated.

Please be aware that these government sponsored hotel rooms are intended to primarily help people who have nowhere else to stay. This emergency accommodation is not guaranteed for all arrivals and is, first and foremost, intended to help those who are most vulnerable and have no other options available to them. As such, priority will be given to women with children; the elderly; people with disabilities and unaccompanied minors.

We thank you for your understanding and patience with regard to this matter. Please note that CUIAS intake staff is working very hard to identify and determine, in a fair and equitable manner, everyone's immediate housing needs upon their arrival in Canada.