

Philippine Consulate General and POLO Vancouver Partner with MOSAIC for the First Temporary Foreign Workers (TFW) Convention



19 January 2018 – Consul General Maria Andrelita S. Austria (rightmost, standing) addresses the participants at the start of the TFW Convention. Inspired by comments from the Filipino community about the Consulate’s programs and their desire for more, she said that the Convention is Post’s effort to reach out to the Filipinos and help them achieve their full potential in Canada.



Welfare Officer Lilia F. De Guzman (standing) introduces the invited speakers to the audience at the start of their respective topics. Three of the speakers are based in Kitimat, Saskatchewan, and Ottawa.



Filipino-Canadian Lawyer Atty. Vicente Asuncion (leftmost, standing) responds to questions from the audience during the open forum that followed lunch. He spoke on the topic of legal remedies in case of illegal termination. Other resource speakers were Immigration Consultant Maria Llamanzares-Abad (seated, 2L) who lectured on permanent residency application for TFWs, Ms. Luce Gelinas (center) of the Employment and Social Development Canada who provided a briefing on the BC Migrant Workers Support Network, Mr. Jacky Leung (2R) of SUCCESS Vancouver who discussed BC workers' rights and privileges, and Councillor Edwin Empinado (rightmost) of Kitimat B.C. who shared his struggles and triumphs as a migrant worker in Canada. Not in photo is Dean Teresita Ireneo-Manalo of Acsenda School of Management who talked about financial freedom.



Labor Attaché Margarita Victorino-Marquez (standing) thanks the resource persons at the end of the open forum, acknowledges the generosity of MOSAIC in providing the venue, the invaluable assistance of the Consulate, and hard work of the POLO-Vancouver staff, as well as the participants who took time off their personal weekend schedules to join the Convention.



Some of the more than 50 participants pose with Consul General Maria Andrelita S. Austria (seated, 2nd row, 4L), Labor Attaché Margarita Victorino-Marquez, Welfare Officer Lilia F. De Guzman, and the resource persons at the conclusion of the TFW Convention jointly organized by the Philippine Consulate General and Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Vancouver, in partnership with MOSAIC, one of the large settlement organizations in Canada which provides community outreach services to the immigrant, newcomer and refugee communities in Greater Vancouver.