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IMMIGRATING TO CANADA

SOME HELPFUL HITS

From time to time, I will write commentaries on the processes available to immigrate to Canada. The essence of this is to provide information that will assist individuals to make informed decisions when they are making decisions to relocate from their countries of or origin or residence. In this edition, I will take readers through general information on some immigration programs.

In subsequent editions of the magazine, I will comment on each immigration program, policies etc. The general rule is that every person that wishes to make Canada his/her home must obtain the appropriate visa for that purpose. Generally, permanent residence visas must be applied for from outside of Canada. There are of course, exceptions to that general rule.

I will address the applications that can be made from outside of Canada herein and online. In subsequent editions, I will address the applications that can be made from within Canada. Like the UK, USA, Australia etc, Canada has a number of immigration programs in place. I have addressed some of them briefly below:



Johnson Babalola is a Toronto based immigration and Business lawyer. For more information, see ad on this page

Skilled Worker program: This program is in place for certain professionals that intend to live in Canada. There are some criteria with respect to age, education, occupation, years of experience, language ability that must be met.

Skilled Trades Stream program: To address the shortage of certain skilled trade professionals in Canada, the government recently put this program in place. In general, an applicant must have an offer of employment or obtain a certificate of competence from a Canadian province. There are other criteria to be met including language ability, experience etc

Business Applicants: Canada has in place, the investor program, the self-employed program and the start-up entrepreneur program. Each of these has its unique criteria and it is suggested applicants take the time to be familiar with the requirements before applying.

Sponsorships: Individuals with blood relations in Canada (parents, spouses etc) may be sponsored if their relations in Canada are Canadian citizens or permanent residents. Both the sponsor and the sponsored person must meet certain criteria. Sponsored spouses will not be issued permanent resident status right away unless some conditions are met.

Work Authorization: Those with offers of employment (Live-in Caregivers inclusive) can apply for work authorization before entering Canada. Among other criteria, they must satisfy the interviewing visa officer that they are genuinely heading to Canada to work and not for permanent residence.

Study Authorization: Those with offers of admission into recognized Canadian institutions of learning can apply for study authorizations before entering Canada. Among other criteria, they must satisfy the interviewing visa officer that they are genuinely heading to Canada to study and not for permanent residence.

Visiting Visas: Individuals can visit Canada for a number of reasons: business purpose, tourism, visit relations, attend short professional development programs, medical reasons etc. Applicants must satisfy interviewing officers that such visits are not for permanent residence.

Provincial Nominee Programs: Most provinces have some programs in place for immigration. They include family programs, skilled worker programs, investor programs etc. It is important to be aware that the criteria in place must be adhered to qualify.

Quebec Program: The province of Quebec has its unique immigration programs: investor, skilled professionals etc. It is important to note that the process will commence in Quebec and that the criteria are different from the federal immigration programs.

Note: Please note that the above are not exhaustive and the writer will expand on each of the above as well as other programs available in subsequent editions of this newsletter and online.

The above is not intended as legal advice. Readers are cautioned to seek for legal advice before making any decisions on the contents of this magazine as a whole and this article in particular.



JOHNSON BABALOLA, LLB Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public



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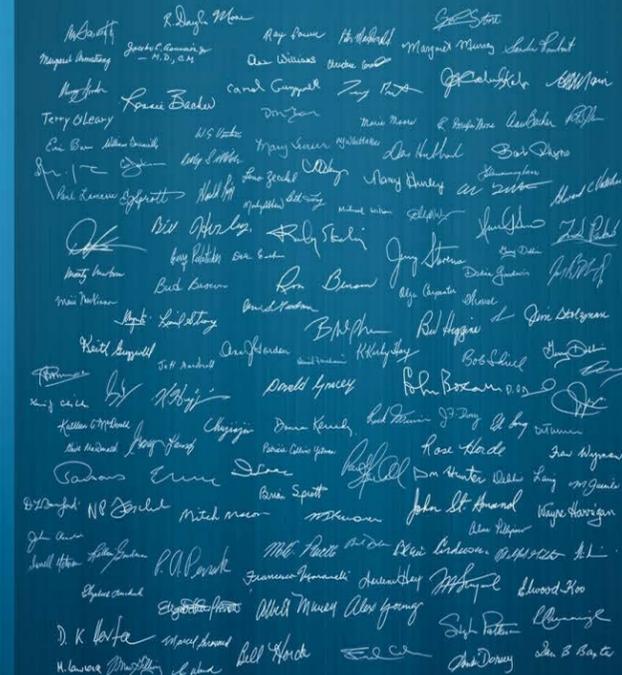
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Prostate Cancer Canada

Nollywood: Nigerian Star Actress Queen Nwokoye Marries Secretly

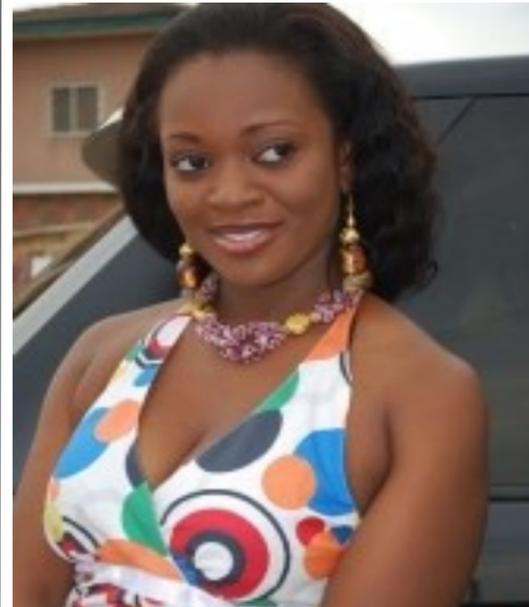
Any still wonder why someone has to be married and hide it but for the Nollywood actress, Queen Nwokoye, her reason for keeping her marriage from public eyes might be very serious.

Hear her, "I am going to say this now, but I do not know if I would actually want you to publish it. It is that I am married! This is a crazy job; my home is where I find peace and that is why I do not like exposing it to people. This is because it is a crazy world out there and that is where I get my peace. I go home and I am treated like a wife, like a woman and I feel like a normal human being. That is why I keep it away from my job, my film life. Because I am married, when it comes to men, I stay far." When she was later asked how long she's going to keep the marriage from the public, she said, "I do not like those who expose their marr-

riages. If your home is private to you, you shut it down. But when you are through with this one you shut down your business life and try to enjoy your quiet family life."

Then she expressed her opinion about Goldie whose marital life too was shielded from the public, "I do not blame her. I understand what she did. On the Big Brother Africa thing, for me she might have acted it. She wanted to win the money. She has a home somewhere. I do not blame her for anything she did. That was the entertainment part of her. Maybe that was why she wanted to keep her home safe from prying eyes so that she can go there, switch off her phone, her business life; that is what I do. Your home is where nobody is looking at you as a star, where you do some things and your husband says, 'excuse me; I am the man of the house.'"

GHOLLYWOOD: Needs Cash, New Ideas & Innovation to Flourish



Ghanaian movie industry stakeholders are not relenting on their calls to business moguls, banks and governments to give some attention to their industry. They believe that giving the industry some serious concentration will not only make it grow and improve the quality of movie productions in Ghana, but also go a long way to lessen the stress on the national economy.

Veteran actors David Dontoh and Akorfa Ejeani Asiedu have reiterated the call on a TV Africa programme, saying the movie industry has 207 job opportunities.

'The last time we checked, we had about 207 job areas,' David Dontoh said on TV Africa's business programme, hosted by Yvonne Ohui McCarthy. It is one of the reasons the movie industry is the best place to invest, they opined. Even though David and Akorfa didn't enumerate the job areas, the movie industry employs actors, directors, cinematographers, costume designers, art directors, makeup artistes, production managers, journalists, accountants, drivers and a host of others. Some other concerns about government supporting the movie industry were also raised on the programme. Yaw Boakyee, a lecturer at National Film & Television Institute (NAFTI), said industry stakeholders should be cautious of how they sought government intervention. His reason was that if governments were given a total control of the movie industry, it could rather use it for political advantage and dictate to independent filmmakers, which shouldn't be so. He, however, urged governments to a certain extent endeavour to create an enabling environment for the industry to flourish.

INSIGHTS

International Students Benefit from New immi- gration Levels

The Canadian Experience Class (CEC) will play a prominent role in shaping immigration for 2013. The program, which was created to streamline Permanent Residency applications for workers and students already in Canada, is expected to issue 10,000 visas next year. This is an increase of 3,000-4,000 from last year's immigration targets. International students who have completed studies in Canada are well-placed to make an easy transition into the Canadian workforce.

They have already assimilated into Canadian culture, speak French and/or English, and will possess educational credentials that will be recognized by Canadian employers. Because of these and other reasons, the CEC was created to help these valuable students remain in Canada, if they wish, after graduation. Before the creation of the CEC, international students who wished to remain in Canada permanently would have to undergo a lengthy application process. With an aging Canadian population and a labour market in dire need of talented, educated workers, it was of the essence that a way was found to retain graduates with the skills the country needs. The CEC has helped provide a way.

Since its inception, the CEC has issued over 20,000 visas to foreign students and workers in Canada. Admission has risen from about 2,500 in 2009 to more than 6,000 new Permanent Residents in 2011. "We are working hard to attract and retain the best and brightest students from around the world," said Immigration Minister Jason Kenney at a ceremony marking CEC's 20,000th visa issuance. The recipient of that visa, a student named Guarav Gore, appeared to agree. "As a student, I saw the wealth of opportunities that are available in Canada," he said. "I felt welcome. I wanted to stay, pursue a career here, and contribute to the economy as well as the country. I was happy to discover that it was possible through the CEC and that I could use my skills immediately upon graduating."

"CEC Requirements

Applications to the Canadian Experience Class are relatively straightforward. Students who wish to apply must satisfy the following requirements, in addition to Federal health and security screenings:

They must successfully complete a program of study of at least two academic years at a Canadian post-secondary institution;

- They must have obtained at least one year of skilled, professional, or technical work experience in Canada within 24 months of the application date (effective January 2nd 2013); and
- They must meet or surpass Canadian Level Benchmark 5 ("initial intermediate") or 7 ("adequate intermediate proficiency") depending on the level of their job in Canada. Students who are living in Quebec may be eligible for the Quebec Experience Class, a similar but separate program. These students must fulfill slightly different requirements:

They must have obtained a degree or diploma from an educational institution recognized by the Quebec Ministry of Education;

- They must have studied in Quebec for at least 1,800 hours (two years); and They must show that they have successfully completed an intermediate level French course at a Quebec educational institution, if their studies were not completed in French.

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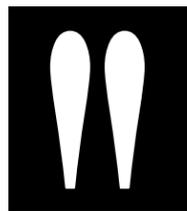
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The Inspiring Journey of **REV. DR. CHARLES MANTEY**

BY PROFESSOR PHIL TAM-AL ALALIBO



INDEED, WHAT TRANSPIRED AFTER MONTHS OF SEARCH FOR A PERMANENT HOME COULD BE LIKENED TO THE PEACE OF GOD THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING. AS DR. MANTEY NARRATED THE SERIES OF EVENTS THAT LED TO THE PURCHASE OF ITS CHURCH BUILDING, IT WAS EVIDENT THAT GOD, IN ALL HIS MYSTERY HAD FAVORED THE CHURCH.”

In his modest office at 30 Gordon Mackay Road, Toronto, Ghanaian-born Rev. Dr. Charles Mantey, Founder and Senior Pastor of Disciples Revival Church in Toronto, chatted with African Immigrant on a wide range of topics that mostly centred on the interesting and fascinating story of his calling into the ministry and his journey from his native Ghana to Canada. Dr. Mantey who recently earned a doctorate degree in Ministry from Tyndale University College and Seminar in Toronto, was a favored son of his family who often traveled with his father to the fetish priest to seek protection from evil.

In those days, the belief was prevalent that protection was only possible by indulgence with the native gods and the appeasement of unseen powers. But little did he know that an epiphany was in store for him and that critical moment came when he met a man in 1969 who introduced him to Jesus and gave him a Bible. He was led by the Holy Spirit to the book of John 5:21 which reads, “Little Children, keep yourselves from idol.” Armed with this word after accepting Christ, he was emboldened to destroy all the fetish protection in the house incurring his father’s wrath in the process.

Devoid of the voodoo protection and seemingly exposed to the affliction of the evil forces, Dr. Mantey feared for his life upon hearing a voice that threatened, “Now you have no protection, and I am going to kill you.” This was soon followed by a flashing light and a soothing and reassuring voice that said, “Do not fear, you are not going to die. You will testify to people about what you have done; and you will carry my name to those in darkness in Ghana, African and the whole world.”

A significant milestone came in his early Christian

journey when his mother fell ill and was taken into the care of a native doctor. Fearing for her life, his hitherto unbelieving father asked him to pray for her and when he did, much to his surprise, she became whole. That experience, according to Dr. Mantey became the turning point in his father’s life. Subsequently, his father, an avouched believer in fetish entreaties converted to Christianity and gave his life to Christ. In 1970, Dr. Mantey whose thirst for knowledge had become insatiable sought educational opportunities in Ghana that would better position him for a role in the vineyard. To this end, with little or no financial means, he attended Christian Service College on the largesse of a total stranger who paid his tuition for the three years he attended the college. Dr. Mantey noted the grace of God that was manifest through this stranger whose identity till this day is unknown to him.

Upon graduating from the Christian Service College, Dr. Mantey was one of the few chosen from Ghana to attend a Billy Graham conference in Amsterdam and soon thereafter, an opportunity to attend the Haggai Institute in Singapore in 1985. Against the backdrop of these experiences, he immigrated to Canada to attend Tyndale University College and Seminary, but was led by the spirit to start a Bible believing church in Toronto that would heal and deliver the people of Toronto. The first service of the new church, Disciples Revival Church, had 13 people and was held on Feb. 25th, 1990 in the basement of the building where he lived at 1779 Jane St.

As with any new endeavor, the church had teething problems and by the 3rd week there were only 5 members. This dwindling membership was amply compounded by noise complaints from the residents of the building that necessitated the management to deny further permission for services to hold in the basement. Not in the least deterred by this setback, Dr. Mantey and his handful of members moved to a banquet hall called Cocoa House at 1776 Weston Road.

The first Sunday at this new location saw a resurgence of members with 25 in attendance, but this euphoria was soon doused by complaints from his members of the banquet hall drowning in the smell of alcohol from the activities of party goers who had used the hall the night before and most times well into the ungodly hours of the night.

However, to Dr. Mantey, all these obstacles were indicative of a grand plan by God to position the church for better things to come. In obedience to the word of God, the church was once again on the move and with prevailing wisdom; it



The Disciples Revival Church, 30 Gordon Mackay Road, Toronto, ON

made an arrangement with a church – St. Stephen’s Presbyterian Church, which saw them use the church in the afternoon after the Presbyterian service. But yet again, there were complaints from members that services were held quite late in the afternoon and that appeared to interfere with their family time. It was



Rev. Dr. & Rev. (Mrs.) Mantey

at this point, the church realized that it had to lease a place of its own where it could operate without many restrictions. Accordingly, in 1994, it leased a space at 549 Oakdale Road, Unit 1. But soon after this move, the Lord told Pastor Mantey that there will be one more move, this time, to its own building. While this feat seemed impossible without the requisite and robust membership, Dr. Mantey and his congregation remained steadfast, holding on to the Master’s promise of “Seek and ye shall find.”

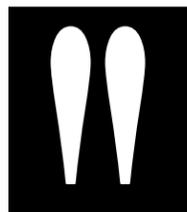
Indeed, what transpired after many months of search for a permanent home could be very much likened to the peace of God that passeth all understanding. As Dr. Mantey narrated the series of events that led to the purchase of its church building, it was evident that God, in all His mystery had favored the church.

Today, Disciples Revival Church owns an impressive edifice located at 30 Gordon Mackey Road, Toronto. “We have been in this building since Jan. 1998 and we give God the glory for His faithfulness to our church,” noted the pastor. Though the church is not without challenges like all others, the pastor was quick to enumerate the successes which include an exponential growth in membership in the last several years, healing and deliverance from demonic powers, the barren giving birth and lives being transformed.

The church’s youth ministry has had significant impact in the community through volunteer services at the Toronto Daily Bread Bank, Yonge Street Mission, Youth Drop-in program at the church, Movie nights, Thanksgiving Dinners for the community and by hosting food drive in the church for community members.

It is worth noting that Dr. Mantey and Rev. (Mrs.) Mantey founded the Disciples Evangelistic Ministries in Ghana before moving to Canada, an effort that has proliferated into 18 branches with thousands of members, an orphanage in Kumasi and two schools. His vision is to expand the church to serve communities throughout Greater Toronto Area and to continue its support of churches in South Africa, Grenada and Ghana.

Dr. Mantey readily acknowledges **Continued on Page 26**



.... This was soon followed by a flashing light and a soothing and reassuring voice that said, “Do not fear, you are not going to die. You will testify to people about what you have done; and you will carry my name to those in darkness in Ghana, African and the whole world.”

12 ACTION STEPS FOR YOUR HEALTHY U TURN

MOST IMPORTANTLY LEARNING TO LISTEN TO YOUR BODY WILL ALLOW YOU TO DISCOVER...

By Dr. Maha Nasr, MD, RHN

Starting your **Healthy U Turn** journey can be a challenge. Research says it takes twenty-one days to implement a new habit. It seems very hard to focus on only one habit at a time. When you start to dwell on all the bad habits you want to change into good habits, it can get overwhelming. A food-mood diary is a great place to start from. It has been scientifically demonstrated that what we eat affects how we feel and how we act. A food-mood diary will help you pinpoint the areas of weakness to work on. More importantly learning to listen to your body will allow you to discover which foods are best for you.

Here are 12 practical **Nutritionist** recommended steps for your **Healthy U Turn** journey—

[1] Drink Pure Water: Drinking enough water is important to ensure flushing out toxins regularly before they reach a toxic level. It can prevent premature aging, eliminate pain and headaches and help with weight loss. Tap water contains chlorine, fluoride, chemicals, and sometimes lead. Invest in a water filter which suits your needs and budget. Go to <http://gtawater.com> to find out more. Try having a bottle of water on your desk or in your bag and sip it throughout the day. If you don't like the taste of water try flavoring it with sliced lemon or cucumber.

[2] Eat more vegetables and fruits: Try to snack on veggies and fruits instead of cookies and crackers. Eat raw vegetables as carrots, bell peppers, cucumbers and celery with healthy dips as tzatziki, tahini, hummus and bean dips. Include fruits and green leafy vegetables as spinach and kale in a nutritious smoothie for break-

fast or as a snack. Add sauces to vegetables and season them with your favorite spices to make them tastier.

[3] Eat more whole grains: Try substituting whole grain wheat products for white flour products as bread, pasta cookies or crackers. Choose brown rice not white rice. You can start by mixing the two together till you get used to the taste.

[4] Avoid Coffee, alcohol and tobacco: Coffee is an addictive stimulant that increases the incidence of stress-related medical problems. If you are addicted to coffee, replace coffee with antioxidant rich green tea, white tea and herbal teas as peppermint, chamomile and rooibos. There are herbal coffee substitutes made from toasted dandelion, chicory and grains which are energizing and detoxifying. You can find them in big health food stores.

[5] Use healthy sweeteners: Start by replacing white sugar with honey, stevia or agave. Use as little as possible and reduce the amount gradually until your taste buds get used to the new taste.

[6] Eat less meat and dairy: Try to eat vegetarian at least once a week. It was scientifically proven that a vegetarian diet helps with many health conditions as high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, overweight and arthritis. It can also protect from cancer.

[7] Eat local produce that is in season as much as possible. Go to local farmers markets, especially in -season for the freshest and cheapest options. Avoid heavily sprayed foods. For the Clean 15 and the Dirty Dozen go to <http://www.ewg.org/foodnews/summary/>. If you wish to buy organic foods, but cannot afford them, buy whole grains and legumes and do more of your own cooking.

[8] Practice Cooking: When you prepare most of your food from scratch you have control over the ingredients. You avoid cheap and low quality ingredients as hydrogenated oils, high fructose corn syrup, artificial flavors, additives and preservatives. You are also eating less fast foods and junk. The most important tip is to plan ahead and set a few hours every week to prepare and cook your meals.

[9] Learn to read ingredient labels and nutrition panels

The five worst ingredients to avoid are: Trans fat (hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated oils), high fructose corn syrup (glucose fructose), monosodium glutamate (MSG), artificial colors and preservatives as BHT, BHA, potassium, sorbate



EATING

sorbate, sodium benzoate, sodium nitrite and sodium metabisulphite. As a rule of thumb, if you don't know what's inside a package, don't eat it.

[10] Substitute healthier ingredients in your favorite recipes

If you have a favorite cake recipe try using honey or evaporated cane juice instead of white sugar and whole wheat or buckwheat flour instead of white flour.

[11] Experiment with new healthy foods:

Try whole grains as quinoa, millet and buckwheat and vegetables as kale, Swiss chard and dandelion. Try using healthy oils as olive oil and coconut oil in cooking.

[12] De-stress: Get 8 hours of sleep every night. Take short rests throughout the day to relax. Just close your eyes and practice deep breathing. Listen to soft music or have a walk around the block where you live or work. Have a regular spiritual practice as prayer or meditation.

Sometime over the next day or so, take twenty minutes out of your day and create a list of habits you want to add in or take out of your life. Prioritize them and work on one habit a time. Share your goals with your family and involve them in your plans. When you make an achievement celebrate your success and start working on new goals.

I wish you good Luck in your journey. If you need further support or specific guidance, contact **Healthy U Turn** for information about our **nutritionist** services.

Maha Nasr, MD (Egypt), RHN

Maha is a Toronto based registered holistic nutritionist. She believes in the healing power of natural nutrition. She works to empower others take control of their health naturally. She ties up her medical background with her knowledge in holistic nutrition to offer her clients the latest scientific based dietary advice. www.healthyuturn.com



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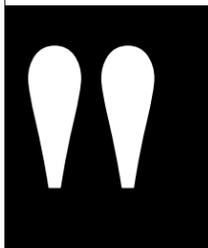


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AFRICA: One Step Forward Giant Strides Backwards

BY FEMI AKOMOLAFE



The result ended a dream run from the Burkinabe, who reached the semifinals for only the second time in their history, before edging Ghana on penalties to book their place in the gold medal match”.

sparkle with their beatific smiles. Don't let us even begin to talk about our women! Yet, our governors (don't let us adorn them with the undeserved title of 'leaders') continue to let us down big time. But we take everything in stride. These governors treat us worse than some feudal lords treat their serfs, but we continue with our 'suffering and smiling' - apologies to Fela Anikulapo -Kuti.

At the end of their ill-service, they award themselves fantastic ex-gratia and dare us to do our worse. We murmur in our bedrooms and keep quite where it matters: public.

Yes, we must be a special brand of humanity as we laugh at even under the most appalling of conditions. But then we have leaders whose sheer stupidity makes you wonder from which pool of the human gene they evolved.

As I write this, it has just been announced that the petty tyrant in the Central African Republic (CAR), Francois Bozize, has been chased out of his presidential palace in Bangui by a coalition of a ragtag army of marabouts and sorcerers. He himself took power in a coup de that some ten years ago. The frequency and circumstances at which presidents get chased out in our continent is what make it all so comical. It happened in Bamako where a mere Captain chased the president out (few days before elections) and had his thugs slapped the Prime Minister around.

I once wrote that Africa is a writer's delight. There is so much happening in our beautiful continent every blessed second that a writer's creative juices are constantly being replenished. Sadly, it is not the ideas that one lacks, but the means to transmute one's fertile ideas onto paper. As I struggle to write this, the light keep going on and off like some monkey is playing with the switches. That is in spite of the fact that I have just received a killer bill from the ECG who charged for services they very clearly did not render. February 2013 was certainly the worst I ever experienced in terms of the erratic power supply, but it was the same month I received the highest bill ever. Try to figure that one out. For sheer beauty, our beloved continent must rank among the best in the world. We have colour all over the place; we have sunshine all year round and our beautiful people lend their own

Some sixty years or so ago, one of Africa's leading visionaries, Kwame Nkrumah, advocated the setting up of an African Military High Command, to take care of the security situation across the continent. It was an eminent suggestion. Given our humiliation by the slavers and the colonialists, nothing should have been more important to us than our security, if only to ensure that such calamities do not befall us ever again. But our rulers, goaded by their Masters in Washington, London and Paris shot Nkrumah's lofty idea down. The great man was accused of attempt to rule Africa bla, bla, blah. So Sad!

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Working Illegally: Americans Top Illegal Foreign Workers in Canada—CBSA

The Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) found 54 Americans working without authorization in Canada last year, according to Global News agency. This number makes the US the largest source of illegal foreign labour, at least among individuals who were apprehended. Following the U.S., the Philippines recorded the second-highest amount of illegal labourers (36), with Israel, India, Ireland, Mexico, and China following suit. Foreign nationals from the US, Israel, and Ireland do not need a visa to enter Canada. One immigration researcher speculated that easy entry to Canada may result in individuals unwittingly breaking the terms of their stay in the country. "Israeli passport holders don't need a visa to enter Canada, nor do American citizens or permanent residents. If you are thinking about who is most likely to overstay a tourist visa it would be people without a special visa," he said. High numbers from other countries may be indicative of overall immigration trends. Most immigrants are from China, & India.

TO SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR — EMAIL PUBLISHER@AFRICANIMMIGRANT.CA

ON THE FLY

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

A Day in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

"Petition started on the family's behalf raised almost 16,000 signatures from Canada and around the world. The efforts of those concerned individuals recently paid off, when a Canadian..."



had not planned on spending the night in the diplomatic capital of Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia when I

boarded the imposing Ethiopian Airlines Boeing jetliner in Toronto headed for Lagos, Nigeria via Addis Ababa on December, 29, 2012. However, on account of significant weather and security related delays in Toronto that kept us on the tarmac at the Pearson International Airport for four hours, it was inevitable that most of us with connecting flights to other African destinations would be spending the night in Addis Ababa.

The direct 12-hour flight from Toronto to Addis Ababa was utterly uneventful, smooth and very comfortable amply complimented by the niceties being given out by the well mannered and professional crew

members. As the flight progressed, it became evident that Ethiopians who have one of the eldest civilizations in Africa not to mention the world, are a very proud people, proud of their heritage, their culture and way of life. Believe it or not, the announcements in the flight were in Amharic, one of the major languages in the country, and it did not matter if the passengers understood the language, the crew ensured that all announcements were made in that language before any English translations are offered, if at all.

Upon arriving in Addis Ababa, I was completely impressed at the organization on the ground. Knowing that most of us had missed our connecting flight due to the delay in Toronto, they had already arranged for a bus to take us to our hotel. The drive to the hotel afforded me the opportunity to see the great city of Addis Ababa. Though it has its slums like most major cities in the world, most parts of the ancient city were clean, well planned and maintained. The service at the hotel was incredible and showcased the enviable hospitality of Ethiopians.

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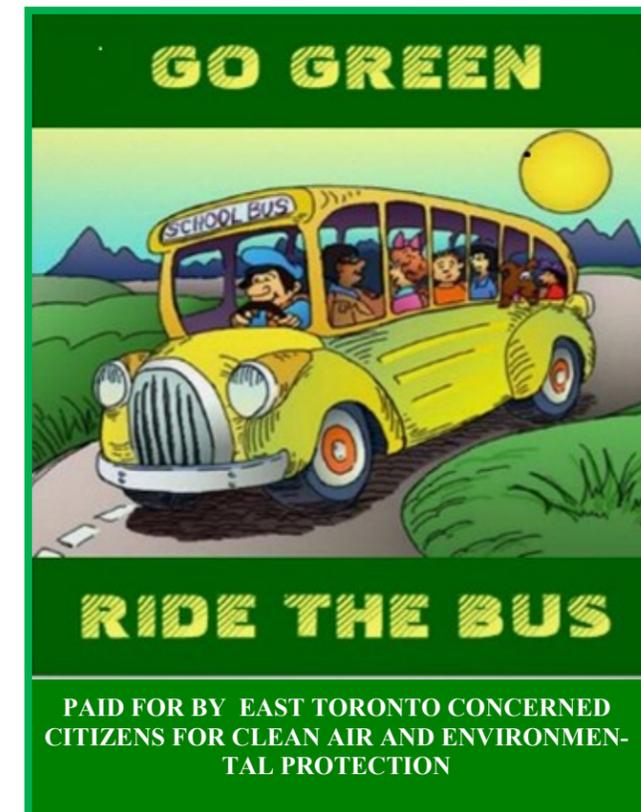
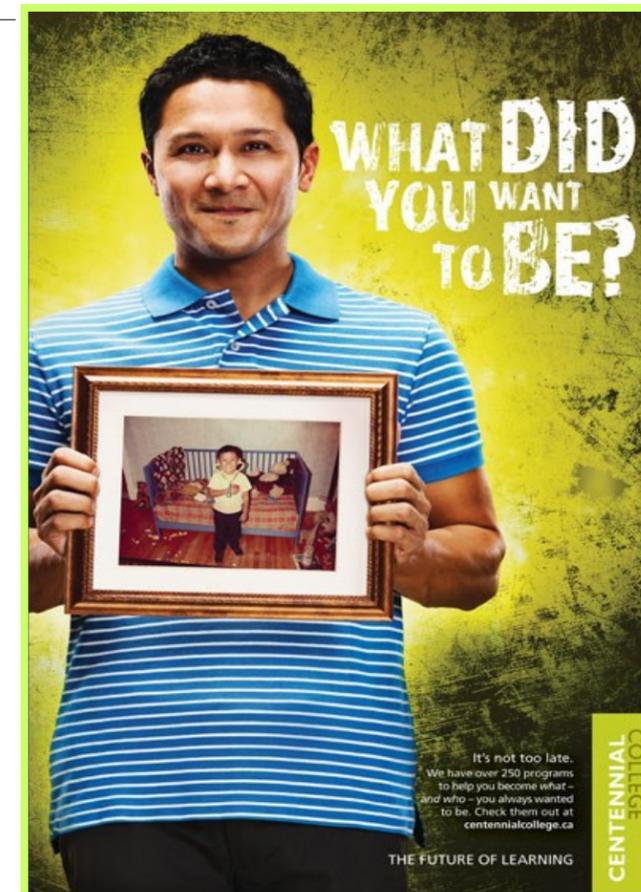
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EMPLOYMENT: Looking for a Job in Canada? An American Work Experience May Be the Key

Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney has noted that one of the primary goals of these consultations is to make the process more efficient so that Temporary Foreign Workers can be brought to Canada quicker. This announcement comes amidst reports that Alberta will soon be facing a labour shortage of more than 100,000 workers over the next ten years and will need to rely upon Temporary Foreign Workers to fill gaps in the labour supply. Minister Kenney has suggested that Alberta and Canada should focus on hiring more Americans as unemployment rates in the U.S. continue to rise and more American workers become available. Certain Americans may qualify to work temporarily in Canada through the NAFTA program, however the number of work visas issued in that program are currently about 5,000 a year, a problem which Minister Kenney has acknowledged. It is not only Americans that the Canadian government would like to recruit. Due to the weakening U.S. economy, many Temporary Foreign Workers in the U.S. on temporary work visas (H-1B visas for example) may find that their visas will not be renewed as U.S. companies lay off more workers. This can be good news for Canadian employers and potential immigrants as Canadian employers have long favoured immigrants with North American work experience and training be-

cause they are able to easily integrate into the Canadian workforce. The typical occupations held by H-1B workers include engineers, I.T. personnel, accountants, doctors, nurses, and business managers, which are all occupations that are in high demand in Canada. Foreign workers with experience in these fields have more opportunities available to them, for both temporary work in Canada or for Canadian Permanent Residency. These occupations are also highly sought after by Canadian immigration programs such as the Federal Skilled Worker Program and Quebec Skilled Worker Program. Applicants may qualify for either program without having a job offer from a Canadian employer and can apply for Canadian Permanent Residency while they are still living in the U.S. Canada has also made it easier for Temporary Foreign Workers who have gained Canadian work experience to apply for Canadian Permanent Residency. Immigration programs such as the Canadian Experience Class and Provincial Nominee Programs offer applicants with as little as one to two years of Canadian work experience a chance for Permanent Residency. This is one reason why many choose to work temporarily in Canada rather than the U.S. as it is very hard to convert an H-1B visa to a U.S. green card (U.S. permanent resident card). (CIC News).



The Rise of Africa's Middle Class

SINCE MOST PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE CLASS ARE SMALL ...”

BY PAUL FRIMPONG—UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

A lot of issues have been raised on the rise of the middle class in Africa and the change that these classes of people can actually cause towards the economic growth and transformation in Africa. Many analysts have raised concerns as to which class of people falls within the so called middle class and what are the responsibilities that these classes of people are supposed to perform? How do we justify the increasing growth of the middle class in Africa to the standard of living of people on the continent? What really are the economic implications of the growth of the middle class in Africa? What economic prosperity does this signify? Should policy makers be concerned about developing policies to increase the number of the middle class in Africa or otherwise? Reports from various distinguished quarters both on the continent and elsewhere have shown that a third of Africans are now middle class.

A report by the African Development Bank (AfDB) states that Africa's middle class will triple to more than one billion people in the next half-century. Another report by AfDB predicts that the number of Africans earning between \$4 and \$20 a day will balloon from 335 million people today to 1.1 billion by 2060, thus representing 42% of the continent's population by that year. That is one in three Africans are in the middle class bracket. A new report from the African Development Bank says: 34%, or 313 million Africans are now middle class (living on \$2-\$20 a day), after several decades without any change, a jump from 27% in 2000.

Over the decades, the numbers have steadily risen from approximately 111 million or 26% of the population in 1980 to around 151.4 million (27%) in 1990. The 2010 figure, however, shows a significant surge of 60% from the 2000 figure of 196 million or 27.2% of total population. That is indeed a tremendous economic achievement. There are many indicators used by various economists to define what really constitute the middle class. This span from the rate of savings and consumption as well as the range of scale of living (\$2-\$20 a day). MIT economists Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo point out that the middle classes are less connected to agriculture, thus they do not derive income from



OTHER DETERMINANTS ALSO INCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STABLE, SECURE, WELLPAID JOBS AND HIGHER LEVEL OF ...”

farming and rural economic activities; and that they are more likely to be engaged in small business activities; and benefit from formal sector employment, with a weekly or monthly salary, which enables them to adopt a longer-term perspective towards their finances. Africa's middle class is highest and strongest in countries that have a robust and growing private sector as many middle class individuals tend to be local entrepreneurs.

Other determining factors also include the establishment of stable, secure, well-paid jobs, and higher levels of tertiary education as well as skills training centers. However, broader perspective should be considered in defining who make up the middle class, like level of education, professions, lifestyle as well as aspirations. Africa's middle class in terms of residence live in urban centers. Middle class households tend to reside in bigger and more permanent dwellings equipped with modern amenities. Have higher levels of education and hold salaried jobs. The growth of Africa's middle class can be attributed to some factors such as the youthful nature of the continent's population.

This means a strong labour force and a large consumer base for expansion of businesses which eventually leads to reduction in unemployment rates. The youth constitute between 60 to 70% of the continent's population with a median age of about 20 years compared with 29 years in Asia and that of Europe is 40 years. Again, the tremendous economic growth in Africa averaging about 4.7% in the last decade compared with 2.5% for the rest of the global economy, has also had impact on the standard of living of most Africans hence leaving them with larger disposable income. Since 2004, Africa has grown faster than the rest of the world. This has indeed contributed to the rise of the Africa's middle class. The question then asked is “What is the link

between a rising middle class and economic growth and transformation? In other words, what are the implications of a rising middle class in a developing continent like Africa? There are indeed economic, social and political reasons why the rise of the middle class in Africa matters for poverty reduction.

First, since most of the people in the rising middle class are small business owners, there is a wider potential to hire employees. This means that as the middle class increases, there is a correspondent reduction in unemployment on the continent.

Secondly, as middle class rises, there is potential of larger consumer market. These classes of people tend to demand higher compared with the poor, hence the potential to drive economic growth and attraction of private investors both locally and from elsewhere.

Thirdly, a rising middle income in Africa means a potential for savings and investment. As people live and still have excess in consumption, they tend to save and eventually invest. This means that adequate capital could be sourced domestically other than depending on development partners' donations.

Lastly, a rising middle class helps to shape political policies on the continent. The middle class are more likely to hold governments accountable for decisions. Strong economic growth in Africa over the past two decades has been accompanied by the emergence of a sizeable middle class and a significant reduction in poverty. It is therefore very imperative that fostering the growth of the middle class in Africa should be of primary interest to policy makers. Conscious economic, political and social policies should be implemented to achieve an enviable and strong middle class in Africa.

Raising Happy Families

By MICKSON ADDO

Parenting is not rocket science, it's just common sense. It is the responsibility of every good parent to make sure their kids get the basic necessities in life. There has been a baby boom, and a whole lot of child-rearing experts with fancy degrees. Parents often ask themselves this question, “How can we get our children to obey?” My answer is simple, “If you expect your child to obey; they will.” I am sure many parents would say that they do expect their children to obey. I am equally sure that many children are not obedient. This sorry state of affairs is the fault of parents, who forever beat around the bush of obedience lest they damage their child's supposedly fragile psyche.

When Parents plead, bargain, bribe, threaten, give second chances, or “reason” with children, they are wishing for, not expecting, obedience. The most common form of wishing takes place when parents argue with children. A parent will make a decision the child doesn't like, and the child screeches, “Why?” but this isn't a question – it's an invitation to do battle. By accepting the invitation, you step squarely into the quicksand. And you cannot win.

No matter how eloquent or correct your explanation is, children can only see one point of view – their own. It is for better, without hint of threat or apology to say simply, “Because I said so.”

A good parent should always take keen interest in the child's studies, by asking simple questions like, “What did you learn at school today? Were you able to answer some questions in class today?” At times, the child might have some problems at school or with the teacher, if you don't find out, by and by the child might drop out from school, sometimes too, a fellow mate is intimidating him or her.

Making decisions is the responsibility of the parent, the fact is, a family is not a democracy – Eventually someone has to have the final say, and that someone better be an adult or everyone is in trouble. It's often said that, you bend a tree when it's younger, you don't wait until it's old. Parents should love their kids, but not to the extent that they can't discipline them. Every good parent should try to explain, at least a bit, about people of different racial backgrounds, to their kids, so that when they come across a person from a different race, they don't become scared. Tell the kids, they are not different people and it's just a different pigment of skin, and their location on the globe. Because the moment the parent brainwashes the child about the inferiority of different races, the kid will believe it and become prejudice.

Parenting is not a popularity contest, be fair, be firm, be consistent. If you make a threat, go through it, don't be a tyrant in your own home.

Don't provoke your children, set a good example. There should be affirmation after affirmation. Develop a relation with your children, respect them. Children should be obedient. Children should remember what Jesus did, when His parents were looking for Him – He was obedient, he followed his parents without arguing with them.

Canada Seeking to Attract Immigrant Entrepreneurs

In today's globalized marketplace, one successful entrepreneur can revitalize the economy of an entire town, province, or even country. Whether large or small, entrepreneurs are an important key to the economic welfare of any community.

The Canadian government actively seeks to promote entrepreneurship as a tool for creating wealth, jobs, and vibrant financial systems. It has taken special care to open Canada to immigrant entrepreneurs who possess the ideas and skill sets needed to fuel the country's next generation of growth.

Entrepreneurship in Canada Today

Canada is home to over 1 million small businesses, including many start-ups, which employ 48 per cent of the country's total workforce. Of these small businesses, a mere 4.7 per cent ‘high growth’ organizations are responsible for 45 per cent of job creation in Canada. According to Industry Canada, such entrepreneurial ventures create approximately 130,000 new small businesses each year.

These figures tell an important story: that roughly half of the Canadian workforce is directly or indirectly supported by the work of entrepreneurs, and that the number is quickly growing. However, fostering an environment in which entrepreneurs can thrive takes hard work on the part of the federal government and its local counterparts. Thankfully, these organizations have stepped up to the plate.

In recent years, Canada has passed measures to encourage its levels of entrepreneurship. 2011 was declared “Year of the Entrepreneur” by Industry Canada, coinciding with a number of Federal initiatives. This action was followed in May 2012 with the creation of Startup Canada, a landmark organization dedicated to fostering grassroots entrepreneurs across the country.

Immigration has remained a cornerstone of the government's entrepreneurship initiatives. In the global competition for the great innovators of the future, Canada has made it clear that it intends to be the leader in bringing these valuable immigrants to its borders.

“Canada's future relies on today's entrepreneurs,” said Immigration Minister Jason Kenney. “Recruiting dynamic entrepreneurs from around the world will help Canada remain competitive in the global economy.”

Immigration and Entrepreneurs

Some of Canada's greatest business success stories have been immigrants. One prominent example is Mike Lazaridis, who immigrated from Turkey as a child. He went on to found RIM, a multinational company made famous for manufacturing the BlackBerry phone. The company today employs thousands of Canadians. Seeking to harness talents similar to Lazaridis, the Government of Canada has a number of programs specifically dedicated to bringing in the ‘best and brightest’ immigrant entrepreneurs. On April 1st, the Entrepreneur Start-Up Visa program opened its doors to applicants. This groundbreaking program, the first of its kind in the world, links successful applicants with mentor organizations in Canada. (CIC.news)

UPDATE

WELCOME TO CANADA: New Guidelines for Newcomers Highlights the Queen, Military & Acceptable Marriage

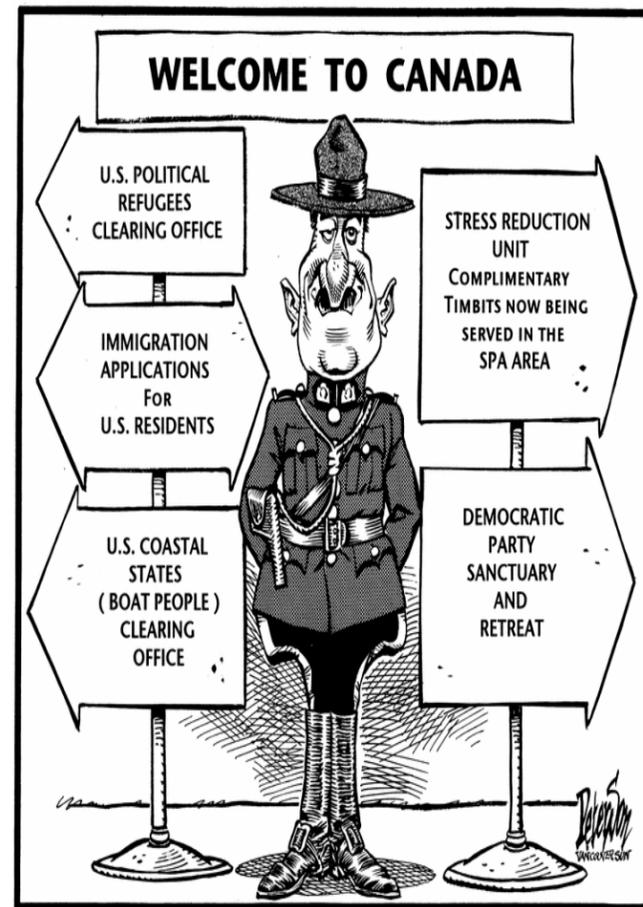
The federal government will unveil today a new guide for immigrants just arriving in Canada that emphasizes the country's relationship with the Queen of England, the role of the Canadian Forces and the marriage customs that newcomers should consider forbidden. More than double the length of its predecessor, the 146-page Welcome to Canada booklet produced by Citizenship and Immigration Canada is chock full of colour photos and personal testimonies, unlike the previous incarnation introduced in 2007.

An advance copy of the document that will be made available to newcomers online and through settlement service providers who often greet immigrants at the airport when they arrive. It will also be available online to download and as an eBook. It includes, for the first time, references to marriage fraud and human smuggling — two areas in which the federal government has launched a crack down in recent years. "It is a crime to marry Canadian citizens or permanent residents only to gain entry into Canada," the book states. "Canadian citizens or permanent residents found to be part of a marriage

of convenience for immigration purposes may be charged with a crime."

A section devoted entirely to "human trafficking" describes it as a "terrible crime" that often involves women and children being exploited for sex, and urges newcomers to report suspected incidents to the police. Like the Discover Canada guide released in 2011 for those studying to pass their Canadian Citizenship test, the guide for newcomers contains strong language condemning "barbaric cultural practices" like spousal abuse, honour killings, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

A section on family law also explains that "there are laws against being married to more than one person at a time" and "you cannot come to Canada with more than one spouse even if you were married to more than one person in the past." While the previous booklet referenced polygamy, this one uses much more basic language to explain the outlawed practice that surged to prominence in 2011 when the B.C. Supreme Court upheld Canada's polygamy laws. Unlike its predecessor — which contained no references to Canada as a constitut-



tional monarchy—this one contains an entire section on Canada's royal connection, complete with photos of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. It's not the first time the Conservatives have sought to give more prominence to Canada's head of state. The government previously stirred controversy by ordering embassies to display the Queen's portrait and including the words "Royal" and "Her Majesty's" in military references. The guide also has a new section on the Canadian Forces that notes Canada's role during the First and Second World Wars and encourages newcomers to learn more about Canada's military history. It also explains that immigrants can serve part-time in local navy, army or air force reserves as well as in the Coast Guard or as police officers or firefighters. The section features a photo of Lt-Col. Harjit Sajjan, the first Sikh to command a

Canadian army regiment. Like its predecessor, the guide also notes the legality of same-sex marriage, although the topic is now under the heading "your rights and freedoms in Canada" rather than "sexual orientation." The booklet contains a single reference to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, compared to two in the previous booklet, and also makes reference to the Bill of Rights. The Conservatives have been criticized for downplaying the role of the Charter, which was entrenched in the Constitution by then-prime minister Pierre Trudeau. It's also not the first time the Conservatives have referenced the Bill of Rights, former Conservative prime minister John Diefenbaker's precursor to the Charter. Prime Minister Stephen Harper also gets a mention for the first time as the booklet notes that the Queen has "known all 11 prime ministers from "Louis St-Laurent (1948-56) to Stephen Harper (2006-)."

Ontario Announces Increase in Funding for Immigrant Settlements



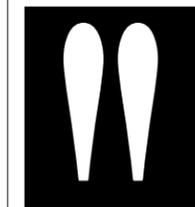
Ontario is increasing support for settlement programs and helping more than 80,000 newcomers get the services they need to settle and find jobs. Through the government's Newcomer Settlement Program, 98 organizations across the province will receive support over the next two years to help connect new immigrants with language and job training, and other community services. This year's investment will allow select agencies to explore new and innovative ways to deliver support to vulnerable immigrants and underserved communities. "When newcomers settle and succeed in our province, everyone benefits. By working with our diverse populations, we are opening up new opportunities for Ontario's newcomers and growing a stronger, globally connected economy," said Michael Coteau, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration at an event announcing the new funding at the Rexdale Women's Centre.

The Centre is one of 98 organizations to have received funding from the provincial government. Enhancing newcomer settlement services is part of the province's Immigration Strategy and supports the new Ontario government's efforts to build a healthy province and a fair society. Since 2003, Ontario has increased funding to settlement programs by almost 80 per cent. More newcomers immigrate to Ontario than any other province — nearly 40 per cent of Canada's immigrants land in Ontario. "Settlement agencies provide newcomers with the important tools they need to get jobs, pursue education and gain access to health and social services. We help them reach their goals, so that they can start contributing to their communities faster. This support from the Ontario government is vital. It will help newcomers succeed and grow Ontario's economy," said Fatima Filippi, Executive Director, Rexdale.

Canada's Immigration backlog Down from 40% from Last Year

The Harper government says it has reduced Canada's immigration backlog by 40 per cent. Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney says the total wait list at the end of 2012 was down to 616,271 from more than a million the year before. Kenney says there would have been more than two million people stuck in the queue by 2015 had the government not taken steps to deal with the problem. Those measures include a moratorium on applications from immigrant investors and entrepreneurs, as well as parents and grandparents of immigrants. However, the government plans to resume accepting a set number of applications under the family reunification program early next year, Kenney said.

"We will re-open that program for a limited number of new applications based on the new criteria in January of 2014 — I stress a limited number of new applications, to avoid an explosion of the backlog again," Kenney said. Next month, the federal government will also launch a new program aimed at luring start-up companies and entrepreneurs to Canada. The government will grant a maximum of 2,750 visas a year for each of the five years of the pilot program. The program replaces two older immigration programs aimed at would-be business owners, which were put on hold after the government decided they weren't luring enough real business to Canada. A big part of the backlog reduction came after the Conservative government's 2012 budget eliminated some 280,000 applications made before February 2008 by skill-workers and their dependents.



THE PROGRAM REPLACES TWO OLDER IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS AIMED AT WOULD-BE BUSINESS OWNERS, WHICH WERE PUT ON HOLD AFTER THE GOVERNMENT

However, the move is now being challenged in court. Meanwhile, Kenney dismissed suggestions that simply accepting more immigrants would reduce the backlog. He says doing so would still leave more than a million people in the queue by 2015. "Increasing the immigration targets, increasing the number of people admitted, would not have been a solution to the large and growing backlogs and wait times," Kenney said. "In fact, they would have continued to deteriorate without our government bringing in the action plan for faster immigration and controls on new applications."

The average time it takes for applications to be processed has also fallen, Kenney said. "Behind every one of those numbers lies a human life, someone who has the hope and expectation of coming to Canada," Kenney said. "We were doing wrong by them and wrong for Canada by making people wait for eight or nine years, and it would be even more wrong to force them to wait for 15 or 18 years, which is where we were headed in many of our immigration programs." (cbc.ca)

EDUCATION



GETTING YOUR DEGREE THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING



DISTANCE LEARNING IN THIS NEW FACE OF ENHANCED TECHNOLOGY HAS PROVED TO BE VERY HELPFUL TO ALL THE CANDIDATES WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO TRAVEL LONG DISTANCE AND ATTEND CLASSES IN A TRADITIONAL COLLEGE. IT HAS ALSO BEEN HELPFUL TO THOSE WHO ...”

Distance education is the most preferred medium of education today. This is because many working professionals and students either do not have time to go to a traditional college or University and attend the classes or do not have enough money to spend on a course. The growing popularity of distance education has brought many changes in it. There has been a lot of development in the way of its presentation and its access.. Many people who have landed up in working with different organizations without higher qualifications opt to enroll in an online program and earn a degree like an online MBA to grow their career. Most of the multinational companies encourage their employees to join and earn degrees for their career growth. This would in turn bring profits to the companies. Programs like 'Study and Work', 'Earn while you Learn' are offered by these companies.

The distance learning programs are no more the way it used to be in the past. Course materials were sent by post or by courier but now, these materials are sent online to a candidate's mail box directly.

These course materials may be Microsoft word documents, power point presentations or PDF files. Moreover, in such online learning there are many benefits that a student can avail. There is a great flexibility of time and place. A student can access the course online from any place and at any time. Online classes are also given, that is virtual classes are arranged where in a student is provided with a user name and password. Using this username and password, a student can log into the website of the University or institution that offers such distance education.

The Universities that offer such distance education take care in resolving the queries of the candidates. They also intimate about the timings of the virtual classes which are usually in the mornings or evenings. This is because working professionals can attend these classes. However, there are some basic requirements that a student should have. He or she should have the basic computer knowledge, should have the necessary software installed in the computer to open the files sent by the Universities. And last but not the least, to access the audio and video access of online training, he or she should know the technical knowledge to plug in the necessary accessories like a head phone etc.

Distance education in this new face of enhanced technology has proved to be very helpful to all the candidates who find it difficult to travel long distance and attend classes in a traditional college. It has also been helpful to those who could not afford a lot of money in enrolling in a renowned business school. Online MBA has been in a boom in the recent times and many candidates from across the world are being benefitted with this form of learning.

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5 TIPS ON FINDING SCHOLARSHIPS FOR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION IN CANADA



“There are also scholarships for single parents, foster children, former military members and so on. In some cases, simply being a woman going into a male-dominated career field can score...”

Did you know there's a scholarship for everyone? You might be surprised to learn that there are tons of scholarships that you are missing out on. Check out this article by ScholarshipsCanada.com on how to search for the right scholarships: Education is a big investment. On average, it will cost you over \$18,000 to attend one year of post-secondary education. Although this investment will pay off in the long-term with greater job prospects and a higher annual income, most students could use some extra cash along the way. Scholarships, bursaries and awards are an ideal way to earn free money that you won't have to pay back! At ScholarshipsCanada.com, we connect students to over \$103-million worth of scholarships, bursaries and awards. We know there's a scholarship for everyone – all you have to do is know where to look and take the time to fill out applications. To help you out, we have organized these top 5 tips for finding scholarships!

[1] Start with Your Activities

Take a look at your past experiences and accomplishments, as well as your future goals. Make a list of your hobbies and interests, places and organizations you've worked with as well as your education and career plans. A part-time job or volunteer work may make you eligible for an employee scholarship.

[2] What Makes You Unique?

Details about your background and situation could lead to opportunities. There are scholarships based on your ethnicity, religion, medical conditions, and physical disabilities. There are also [scholarships for](#) single parents, foster children, former military members and so on. In some cases, simply being a woman going into a male-dominated career field can score you access to additional financial support. Identifying all the things that make you unique is the first step to knowing where to look for scholarships.

[3] Work Your Network

Many scholarships come from non-educational sources so find connections from your personal network. Your parents' affiliations with different organizations, community groups, religious organizations, personal associations, trade unions, or their place of work could connect you to awards offered to family members. Ask your parents to check with their human resources department at work or the community leaders to get the low-down on available

scholarships. Check with your grandparents, aunts, uncles, and family friends for leads on some hard-to-find scholarships they know of through their connections.

[4] Apply All year, Every Year

Scholarship deadlines occur throughout the year – over 4,900 scholarships in our database have deadlines in March, while 4,200 deadlines occur in October. It's never too late to apply! Many scholarships are available based on your year of study. In fact, our database has seen an increase in scholarships for 2nd year students. Make sure you search for scholarships periodically throughout your academic career.

[5] Get Marched to Scholarship

Setting up an account on ScholarshipsCanada.com is FREE and gives you access to our full database of scholarships, awards and bursaries. Simply fill out your scholarships search profile and get matched to a list of opportunities that you are eligible for. You can update this profile at any time, and see the new awards you can apply for. Subscribing to Scholarship Alerts will make sure you never miss another deadline by receiving a reminder email each month just about the same time.

Social Media

How to Use Social Media to Connect with Companies

Back before almost every company had a LinkedIn company page, a Facebook page and a Twitter account, your options were limited for connecting with hiring managers and recruiters at companies. Job seekers found and applied for jobs online or directly on the company website and waited to hear back.

Current Social Media Recruiting Strategies:

You still may wait to hear back, but you'll have a better chance of connecting with companies if you tap into where they are recruiting. Today, more companies than ever are using social recruiting strategies to advertise job openings and find applicants for open positions. The Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) reports that 28% of organizations have a social media strategy in place and 55% of companies plan to increase social media outreach.

Many companies use a multi-faceted social approach. You'll find links to Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter on company career pages. You'll also find links to the company's career page, where you will find job listings, employment information and information on how to apply, from the employer's social media accounts. The companies are seeking job applicants from as many sources as possible and they are candidate-hunting on the sites where they know they will find candidates. The numbers of candidates who are employers. A Society

for Human Resources Management (SHRM) article Find Social Media's Value reports that UPS had a "200% improvement in the conversion-to-hire ratio of those applying through social media outlets vs. traditional channels," thereby reducing the time staff needed to spend reviewing applications and interviewing.

How Connect With Companies on Social Media:

The shift in companies' recruiting efforts means that job seekers need to switch up their job search strategy. When you connect and interact with a company you are showing extra interest in the organization which boosts your chances of getting noticed by a recruiter. Job seekers who connect via social media may see new job listings before they are advertised elsewhere, have a better chance of getting an interview, and have a better chance of getting the job.

In fact, social job searching is becoming a standard job search practice, especially for professional-level positions in some industries. The expectation on the part of the employer is that you will have a social presence and that you will be using it when you're job searching. However, companies are recruiting via social media for all types of jobs - not just professional positions. All level of job seekers from students seeking part-time jobs and internships to hourly employees to experienced top-level professionals can find jobs using social media.

Taking the time to find companies you would like to work for is worth it. Once you have creat-



list of companies, like their Facebook Page, follow their LinkedIn Company Page and follow them on Twitter. To find them, either check the company's Career website or Google the company name and the name of the site you want to find. For example, if I was interested in working at Marriott, I'd search for "marriott careers facebook" and the search results would include Marriott's Facebook page. Searching for "marriott careers twitter" will get me right to Marriott's Twitter.

Taking Your Search Social:

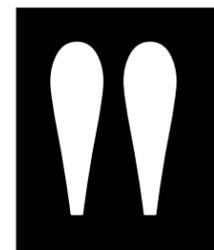
Where should a job seeker have social profiles? At the least, on LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook, with your privacy settings set carefully on Facebook so you can keep personal and professional as separate as possible. If you only have time, to start, for one, it should be LinkedIn. LinkedIn is the leading site for professional networking and it's important to use it when job searching. Taking it a step further, Google+ and Pinterest can be used to your advantage. It can also be helpful to set up a personal website to pro-

mote your candidacy to employers you connect with on your social networks. Here are top sites for social job searching and how to get started taking your job search social

Keep it Confidential and Professional

Do keep it professional when you are using your social media accounts for career purposes. Be aware that everything you post publicly can be read by the person who might be your next boss. Keep it confidential, as well. You don't want your current boss to see how interested you are in working for a new company or you might be out of a job. That's why privacy settings are so important - when you say something inappropriate it can cost you a job offer or even your job. If you don't want your LinkedIn activity to show in your stream, you can turn it off, at least temporarily. That way your current contacts won't see that you are following a new company. Click on your name (top right of page), click on Settings and click on Turn on/off your activity broadcasts.

Study: Ethiopians in Canada Face Racism & Social Exclusion



The research was undertaken to explore how diaspora communities can contribute to peace building and development in Canada and in their countries of origin, and how Canada can better harness their creativity and resources..."

Five studies of immigrants of visible-minority background reveal cracks in Canada's ability to integrate newcomers, undermining the long-held consensus that multiculturalism has been an overwhelming success. The studies, released at an international conference in Toronto on the role of diasporas, illuminated the many challenges that Afghan, Colombian, Eritrean, Ethiopian and Jamaican diasporas in Toronto face, from racism, social and economic exclusion, to a continued identification with their homeland, instead of with Canada. Multiculturalism is a good model... but with the changing face of Canada, it needs to be looked at carefully. It would be wise to identify the gaps and shortcomings," said Digafie Debalke of the United Nations University for Peace, which organized the conference and recently opened a centre in Toronto. "Canada needs to better utilize the positive potential of its diaspora communities."

In the study of 176 Ethiopian youths living in Toronto, two-thirds identified themselves as Ethiopians first, raising questions about dual identity and the meaning of being a Canadian, and the exclusion felt by some newcomers. Only 27 per cent identified themselves as Canadians, even though most were born in Canada or immigrated here when they were very young. It makes you wonder if multiculturalism is really working for more

recent immigrants," said Maraki Fikre Merid, who co-authored the study with several other Ethiopian-Canadians from a group called Young Diplomats. "We talk about Toronto being a mega melting pot, but it is really a lot of segregated communities. Is there something more Canada can do to give people a sense of what it means to be a citizen of this great country?"

The research was undertaken to explore how diaspora communities can contribute to peace building and development in Canada and in their countries of origin, and how Canada can better harness their creativity and resources. Some findings were positive, with the study on the Jamaican and Afghan diasporas both concluding that Canada's democratic tradition and commitment to human rights have helped to contribute to peace-building efforts in their homelands. The studies also revealed the extent to which newcomer groups from visible-minority backgrounds are struggling with unemployment and discrimination. When asked what challenges they faced, 25.5 per cent in the Ethiopian study said being stereotyped was a problem, while 15.3 per cent cited cultural difference between Canada and their country..

"Youth who migrated to Canada had a hard time internalizing ready-made labels such as 'African,' black,' or 'minority'... some felt they were lumped into a group that did not recognize their 'history or uniqueness as Ethiopians,"

the study of the east Africans found.

Respondents said they didn't necessarily relate to rap music and gangsta culture but felt forced to fit into this stereotype. Alpha Adeb, a co-author of the study, said Canada needs to debate the meaning of multiculturalism. The papers, funded by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation, were presented at yesterday's conference, which featured Sheikh Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, president of the UN General Assembly, as well as Omar Samad, Afghanistan's ambassador to Canada. Mr. Samad called on Canada's Afghan diaspora of 100,000 to get more involved in peace and development issues in their homeland. The study of the diaspora from Eritrea found that community doesn't deal well with conflict, with a staggering 100 per cent of female respondents saying they have no trust in their community and would not reach out to their own community to resolve conflicts of a personal, family or social nature. The survey respondents described the diaspora as fragmented, and divided along religious and political lines. (Eritrea was involved in a war against Ethiopia in the 1990s and suffers from poverty and the ravages of AIDS, as does Ethiopia.) Conducted by the Selam Peace building Network, the study interviewed 52 Eritrean-Canadians. They identified as challenges a lack of understanding of Canadian social values, as well as a gap between the "two worlds." Some of the youth respondents wanted their parents to make an effort to understand Canadian values.

A third study on Toronto's Afghan community was conducted by the Afghan Women's Organization. One-third of the 261 Afghan-Canadian respondents said they had contributed to peace and development work in their homeland. With Canada heavily involved in Afghanistan, and 2,300 troops stationed there with the NATO operation, there is potential for the diaspora to have greater involvement. About one-quarter of respondents said the best way to achieve peace there is to promote ethnolinguistic, religious and political unity, while 19 per cent said economic development was paramount. They cited Canada's multicultural values and democratic freedoms as helping to foster peace and development in Afghanistan. In contrast, some respondents found that stereotyping of Muslims in the Canadian news media "frightens Afghans and impedes their activities." The study of Colombian-Canadians found many of the 40 respondents were unemployed or on social assistance, and cited learning English as a central challenge. However, they maintained faith in Canadian institutions, citing them as "responsive" to their issues. (Globe & Mail)

RESUME



WRITING A POWER RESUME FOR 50 PLUS JOB APPLICANTS

BY J. JOHNSON

Use a combination resume format. A combination resume combines the positive elements of a chronological and functional resume. Start with the elements of a functional resume and list your qualifications and skills you've acquired through the years. Then, list the positions you've held up to this point in chronological order, including the company, your job title and dates of employment. Your responsibilities will have already been listed in the functional section. It's more important at this point to highlight your relevant job skills than to explain which company you worked for when you acquired those skills. Pick and choose which job responsibilities you include. This doesn't mean you should skip over the mid-level management position you held five years ago. It means you should focus your resume on the last 10 to 15 years. List all relevant work experience you've had in the chronological section, even if it goes back further than this, but only include more recent skills, qualifications and accomplishments in the functional section. Don't forget

to list your education. Include all degrees you've earned, even if they're not completely relevant to the job you're applying for. However, only list certifications, licenses and classes that are relevant to the job, and that you've received or taken in the last 10 to 15 years. This shows that you've been keeping up with the field and that you're willing to go the extra mile to succeed for your company. Include a "Professional Summary" section at the top of your resume. This is the section that can turn an ordinary resume into a power resume. The summary should be four to six lines long, and it should highlight your most marketable and relevant skills. Emphasize your experience, knowledge, skills and motivation. Show the company what strengths you have and how they will benefit from hiring you. Proofread! A resume can't be a power resume and get results, no matter what career level you're at, if it has typos and mistakes. Make sure your resume is clean, polished and completely error-free before submitting it. Consider asking one or two people you trust to look over your resume. This will ensure that no typos, misspelled words, errors or inconsistencies are missed. A resume should be flawless as it is designed to showcase your abilities in many areas.

Continued from P. 15—Cover Story

that these successes would not have been possible without the support, commitment and devotion of his lovely wife, Rev. Faustina Mantey, who is also a pastor in the church. Amply lost for words to describe his wife's role in the ministry, he stated, "She loves God and is a very committed Christian. She is a mother and a grandmother, loving, caring and embraces everyone, always there for the women in the church. Every Sunday, after church, she holds a program called Riverside Prayer Ministry where the women gather to encourage and find strength in one another. Dr. Mantey and his wife are blessed with five children and six grandchildren. To learn more about their ministry, visit disciplesrevival-church.org.



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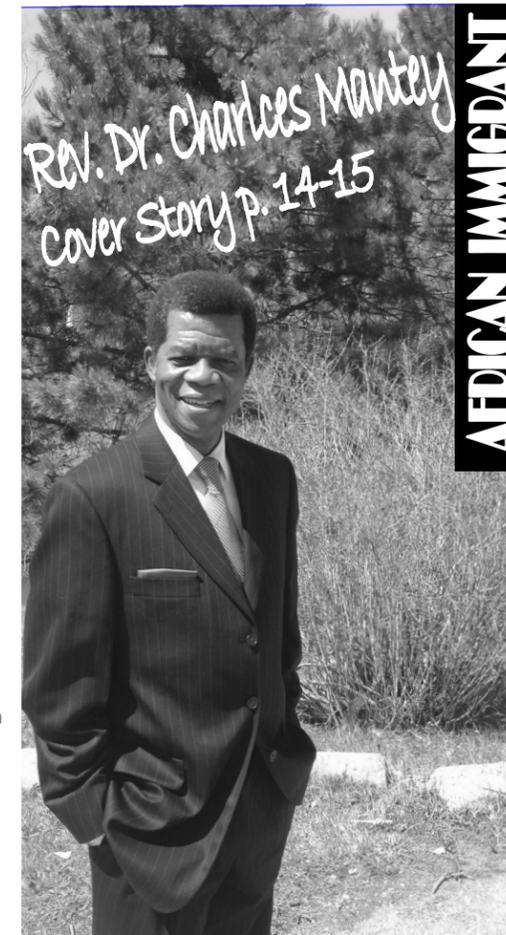
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AFRICAN IMMIGRANT

African Immigrant is Canada's premier African magazine that is distributed nationally to six Canadian cities of Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Calgary, Halifax and Ottawa. Check our site for more distribution locations.



FAMILY MATTERS

When Parents plead, bargain, bribe, threaten, give second chances, or "reason" with children, they are wishing for, not expecting, obedience. The most common form of wishing takes place when parents argue with children.



SETTELEMENT

Ontario is increasing support for settlement programs and helping more than 80,000 newcomers get the services they need to settle and find jobs. Through the government's Newcomer Settlement Program, 98...



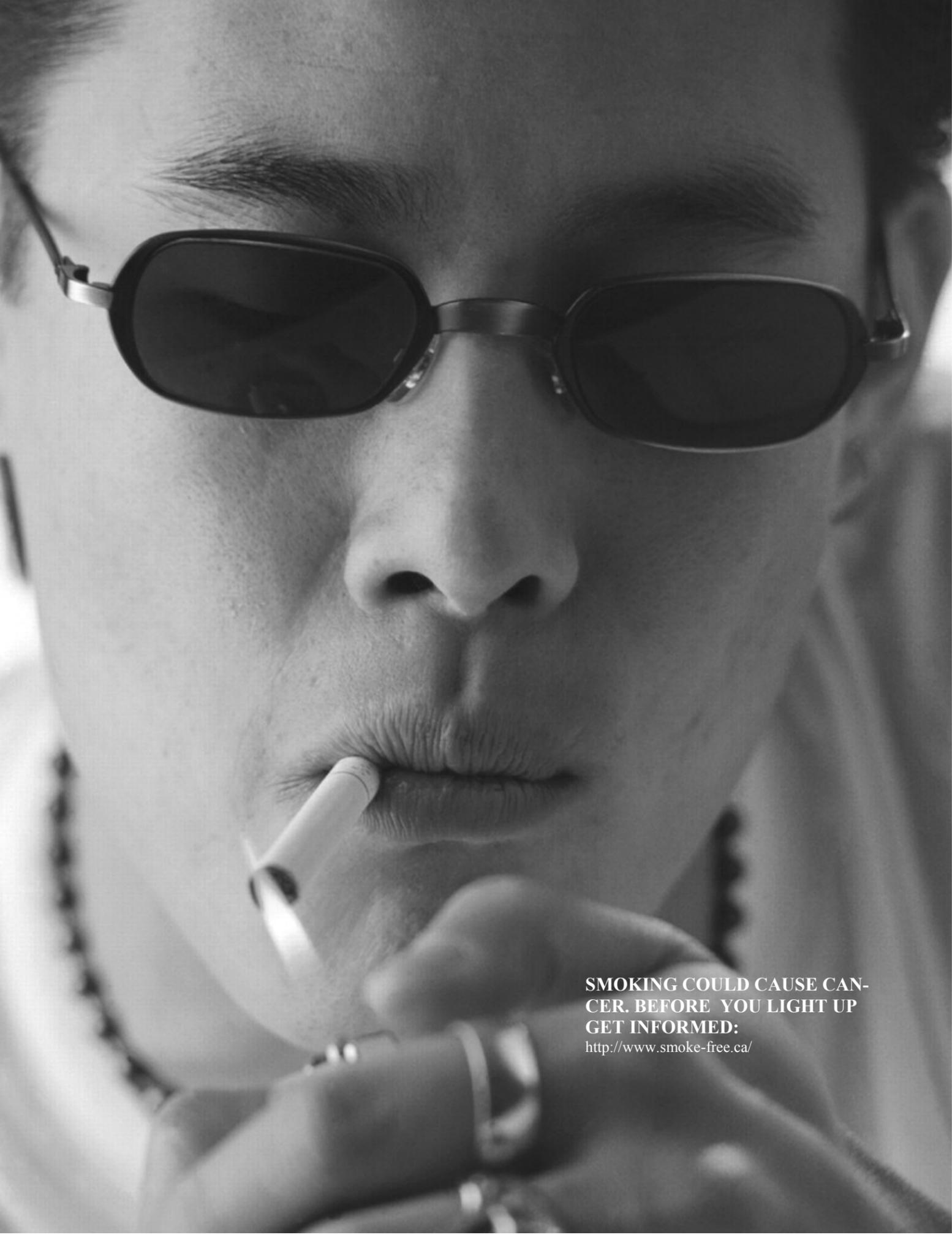
EDUCATION

Distance education is the most preferred medium of education today. This is because many working professionals and students either do not have time to go to a traditional college or University and attend the..



FEATURES

Did you know there's a scholarship for everyone? You might be surprised to learn that there are tons of scholarships that you are missing out on. Check out this article by Scholarship-Canada.com on how to search...



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<http://www.smoke-free.ca/>

IMMIGRATION: ARE CANADIANS TIRED OF IMMI- GRATION?

POLL SHOWS THAT THE MAJORITY (62%) FELT THAT IMMIGRANTS TO CANADA SHOULD ABANDON THEIR NATIVE CULTURAL VALUES...



Of those born in Canada, 50% said that newcomers should only be welcomed from some countries, while 44% of those who were born elsewhere agreed. Mr. Beaujot said this was surprising, because Canada has long been non-discriminatory regarding which countries immigrants are accepted from, but rather rely on eligibility criteria such...

Most Canadians are in favour of restrictions on the number of qualified immigrants accepted into the country each year, a new poll suggests. A survey conducted by Forum Research for the *National Post* found that 70% of the 1,755 Canadian adults polled supported limits, and most Canadians who were born in another country (58%) agreed. Among those whose parents were not born in Canada, 66% were in support of limiting the number of qualified immigrants over admitting all prospective qualified newcomers, the poll showed.

Roderic Beaujot, a professor emeritus of sociology at Western University whose research looked at population and immigration, says he was surprised that there was agreement between the various groups. "It's interesting that the attitudes are not too different... To me, this is a very realistic thing. "Immigrants would know that it would

be difficult Canada to admit all qualified immigrants," he said.

Support for immigration limits was steady across the provinces and across party lines, with a range of between 64% and 77% among all regions and political affiliations, the Forum Poll showed. The poll also showed that 60% of Canadians say that immigrants should be able to hold dual nationality, and 81% were in favour of allowing immigrants to bring their spouse and dependent children along with them. "here is enthusiasm for controlled immigration of immediate families from countries with our values, and Canadians see no reason why immigrants can't hold on to their previous nationality," said Lorne Bozinoff, the president and founder of Forum Research.

"We're actually more welcoming than we make ourselves out to be." The survey comes about two weeks after the Canadian government released its preliminary 2012

immigration figures. The latest numbers showed that the country admitted 257,515 immigrants last year, up from 248,751 the year prior.

The statistics are up, but the Harper government has been taking steps in recent years to tighten the criteria of those admitted into the country to better match economic needs and limit abuse of the system. Under Citizenship and Immigration minister, said most Canadians were satisfied with the number of immigrants coming to Canada. Jason Kenney, the government has tightened language requirements for new arrivals, rolled out harsh penalties for those who lie on immigration forms, and focused more on applicants with needed skills in the Canadian labour market. But Jack Jedwab, the executive director of Montreal-based think-tank Association for Canadian Studies The general feeling is that the majority of Canadians do not feel that there are too many immigrants in the country. Do Canadians want immigrants whose skills match the economic needs? I would say they do ... I think the Canadian government is attempting to respond to that," he said. The Forum poll also found that nearly half (49%) said Canada should accept immigrants only from some countries which share Canadian values, while 43% were in favour of admitting immigrants from all nations.

Of those born in Canada, 50% said that newcomers should only be welcomed from some countries, while 44% of those who were born elsewhere agreed. Mr. Beaujot said this was surprising, because Canada has long been non-discriminatory regarding which countries immigrants are accepted from, but rather rely on eligibility criteria such as education and work experience. "Even in one country, there are some people that have different values," said Mr. Beaujot. "It would be very hard to use that as a criteria for admission. It would be of course impossible to administer. What this says is there is some concern among Canadians.... About how immigrants can not be sharing Canadian values, and how to deal with that."

The poll also showed that the majority (62%) felt that immigrants to Canada should abandon their native cultural values when they conflict with Canadian cultural values. Support for this was also strong among those born in Canada (65%) and those born elsewhere (48%). Mr. Jedwab said there is a concern that there are immigrants who don't share Canadian values on issues such as equality of women. "Their perception is there are certain groups of immigrants who don't adhere to gender equality as a value that most Canadians share.... It's not a concern to be dismissed, but not sufficiently strong that we need to rethink our immigration policy." Forum Research randomly interviewed Canadians 18 and older on March 6 and 7. The results are considered accurate +/- 2%, 19 times out of 20. (National Post/ Post Media)