



Photo by Gabrielle Smith

Flying fun

Oliver Stanford, 5, bounces down the slide in the Children's Village at Brighton Applefest last Saturday in Brighton. Stanford and his father were two of over 5,000 people who attended the Children's Village on Saturday. Over 45,000 people who attended Applefest during the weekend event. Visitors from the United States and all over Ontario came out to enjoy the unseasonably warm weekend of apples and family fun.

International student recruitment draws mixed reaction on campuses

By Moush Sara John

When the federal government declared earlier this year that it aims to attract more international students, it had a strategic plan in place.

As Ed Fast, minister of international trade has said: "International education is critical to Canada's success. In a highly competitive, knowledge-based global economy, ideas and innovation go hand in hand with job creation and economic growth. In short, international education is at the very heart of our current and future prosperity."

In an effort to fill the gaps in the job market, and to boost the Canadian economy, the International Education Strategy states it wishes to attract more than 450,000 international students by 2022. <http://international.gc.ca/global-markets-marches-mondiaux/education/strategy-strategie.aspx?lang=eng>

This has been met with varied reactions across the country's university and college campuses. "Toronto is a melting-pot of cultures, and it is what defines University of Toronto. Being an international student myself, I think this is an excellent move," says Aarti Venugopal, a media studies student at the University of Toronto.

"I think by bringing in more international students, we will be creating jobs for our teachers and professors in academia. When my mum came to Toronto in 2013, she found it very difficult to get a full-time position as a faculty member. And I think it is important to make our faculty members and academic professionals be at peace," says third-year U of T diaspora student Aakanksha Anna John.

But there is a section of domestic students who disagree, as this means more competition and a higher bar to get into courses of their choice.

"There will be more competition, but because international students pay a lot more fees than Canadian students, it makes perfect sense for universities to increase their international student quota," says Thilini Walgamage, a medical sciences student from Sri Lanka. "I have a lot of Canadian friends who are home students and they are concerned about not being able to get through to these universities. As long as it is not creating a huge change in the enrolment criteria, maybe it's a great idea."



Photo by Moush Sara John

Daniella Kalinda is an international student at the University of Toronto. Originally from Rwanda, she now lives in an off-campus residence in the city of Toronto. In her room there are a lot of cherished photographs, but this picture resonates with her the most: "This photograph was taken on my fifth birthday. And is very special to me. I miss photos with my family, midnight talks in the kitchen, African food, and African music."

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medical science student Thilini Walgamage

"I look upon this as an exciting time for research and funding. International students provide financial resources for the universities, which means a higher number will create more financial awards and grants in the long run. We should allow this to challenge us, not to weigh us down," said U of T student

Malsha Walgamage.

Karen McBride, president and CEO, Canadian Bureau for International Education said, "Canada's International Education Strategy takes a critical step forward. It will significantly improve our capacity to be competitive in attracting international students at

all levels of education, with all of the benefits that this will bring to Canada. But, importantly, it also points to a broader vision of the value of international education for Canada and for our partners around the world, as international education builds the diplomacy of knowledge and gives the next generation of Canadian and international students the tools they need to contribute to global society in meaningful ways."

If the government can make the required recruitment by the cut-off year, it will create at least 86,500 net new jobs for a total of 173,100 new jobs in Canada sustained by international education, and also generate approximately \$910 million in new tax revenues, according to the International Education Strategy.

The hard life of Newfoundland community

No easy life for fishermen on this subarctic island

By Giovanni Capriotti

It's only when the ice pans get really close to shore that a true Newfoundlander admits the approach of spring. It's not uncommon to spot silent white giants from the window of a well-situated living room or at the end of a bend along any coastal road.

Truthfully, this hard-to-recognize April marks the awakening of most of the major activities on this subarctic island. Home to the most eastern tip of Canada, Newfoundland joined the Confederation of the second largest country of the world back in 1949, after having claimed for years to be England's oldest colony.

Previously inhabited by the Dorsets, a community indigenous to the island, anthropologists claim that the same ethnicity left the island, following a more or less peaceful visit by Leif the Viking in 11th century. Ever since then, the shores of Newfoundland have been a port for sailors, pirates and explorers alike. John Cabot travelled there as an employee of King Henry VII, and according to local folklore, Sir Francis Drake and his crew were quite fond of the island rum.

While Newfoundland is known for its abundance of moose, the majestic mammal was only introduced to the colony in 1878. Islanders live off the sea, with the fishing industry having always played a crucial role in their economy. Currently, the most lucrative catch for local anglers is the snow crab, followed by lobster, turbot and shrimp.

Brett Payne, a Fogo Island native, and skipper of his family boat, spent a year in St. John's to obtain his maritime licence.

"My dad has been in this business for over 35 years. You got to love this game and the sea to be able to tolerate a seven-to-10 day fishing shift. The sea can get really rough sometimes and it's dangerous to be out there without the proper experience."

Crab fishing consists of submerging traps, called crab pots, at a depth ranging between 60 to 280 metres, as the prey prefer frigid waters and muddy bottoms, explained Payne. The pots, filled with herring, mackerel and squid bait, are left at sea for two days before they're retrieved.

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