



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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Endurance and teamwork tested

By Andrew Lahodynskyj

First-year cadets at Royal Military College in Kingston were put to the test on Friday as they raced against the clock to complete their mandatory obstacle course.

Naval Cdt. McClellon is at RMC because he said he wants a challenging career and to get a university degree.

“(I expect to get) an unreal amount of leadership skills and to become part of the biggest network in Canada,” said McClellon, after his squad completed the obstacle course.

Cadets can learn a lot from completing this roughly hour-and-a half-course. It is designed to test the mental and physical limits of a cadet, as well as teach them that working as a team is stronger than working on your own.

“I learned that you just have to push yourself to the limit. Nothing is going to be easy. You have to push yourself past anywhere you’ve gone before and it’s not just about yourself. You are only as strong as your weakest link, so get everybody through,” explained McClellon.

His favourite challenge on the course was the 7th Squadron obstacle. First years had to crawl through ice cold muddy water then get under a massive log with some comrades and do sit-ups. This helps teammates support each other through an exercise that is both physically and mentally gruelling.

Asked about what it takes to make a great leader, McClellon said, “A good leader needs to have control of their troops. I think first and foremost you need to become a good follower. Once you do that, you know what to expect and what you need to do to become a good leader.”

Capt. Zack Gatehouse said life experiences and how you apply them are an important part of leadership.

“Being a good leader is any number of things. There are the obvious ones like looking after your people and making sure you do your job to the best of your ability, but it’s not always just being at the forefront or leading the charge. We have brilliant leaders at RMC and in the Canadian Forces who are making large decisions every single day from all walks of life and all aspects – Army, Air Force and Navy. It’s different experiences, how you use those experiences and it’s how you attack problems in logical and well thought-out manners.”

For most of these students, the next four years are going to put them through one of the greatest tests of their lives and show them whether they have what it takes.

McClellon said he is prepared for what’s to come. “It’s kind of a daunting school to come to. It’s not the easiest life you will be leading, but it’s so rewarding – the skills you get out of it, the people you meet, the experiences you have – it’s comparable to no other.”



Photo by Andrew Lahodynskyj

First-year cadets of the 7th squadron help each other get over an obstacle during the first-year obstacle course at Royal Military College in Kingston, last Friday. Dubbed “the red wall,” teammates had to get everyone over the wall to complete the challenge. It is a physical and mental test.

Artists celebrate culture and and create art

By Franki Ikeman

South Foster Park was a colourful place on Sunday as over 50 Belleveillians came together for a day to celebrate culture and create art.

The Culture Days-featured event, Artists in the Park, ran from noon until 5 p.m. Its aim was to bring together people of all walks of life and all levels of artistic ability in a free and interactive event.

The day was organized by three members of the local group, Artists Below the Line – Peter Paylor, Lisa Morris, and Mi-

chael Rutland.

“We were involved in Culture Days last year and didn’t really feel we had a chance to do an event that really approached that core Culture Days value of interactive, free events where everybody can take part and not just watch,” said Paylor.

People of all ages joined local artists. Council candidates made paintings, children created jewellery, and friends sat around reading plays and writing poetry.

The idea behind the event came from the group’s regular meetings in people’s backyards.

“Recently, we’ve been painting in people’s backyards and doing art and realizing when creative people are surrounded by other creative people their creativity increases,” said Paylor.

That was definitely the case on Sunday, as people left the park feeling accomplished, with something they made in hand.

Local artist Norman Fieldhouse spent his day working on watercolour paintings, enjoying the atmosphere and being surrounded by other artists.

“There’s lots of activity going on and

everything’s different. And it’s actually inspiring to see somebody else looking at the same thing and doing it really differently.

I got to meet some people I haven’t met before,” said Fieldhouse.

The event was featured on the national Culture Days website, and was one of only two events for Culture Days in Belleville on Sunday. Organizers wanted to make sure that the event stuck to the Culture Days values and didn’t piggyback on specific organizations in an attempt to make it as grass-roots and in-

clusive as possible.

Organizers were happy with the turnout at the park and with the variety of artistic mediums that were on show throughout the day.

“We’ve had photographers, we’ve had knitting, painting, carving, print-making, model painting, jewellery making with copper and rubber, play reading, poetry writing, and that’s about it.

“I’m pretty happy. It was a beautiful day to see so many creative people from our community be creative together,” said Paylor.

Morale high for Lancers men’s volleyball

Team places focus on enthusiasm with young roster

By Daniel Luk

Last Wednesday, the boy’s volleyball varsity team fell shy of victory against Fleming College.

With a fresh young roster and a gym full of excited fans backing them up, the Lancers managed to hold their own and keep the sets close. One thing that the Lancers did display, however, was high morale.

With the loss of last year’s coach, Dave Templar, and a majority of last year’s players, the Lancers started off the game strong, scoring point after point and dominating Fleming. With amazing attacks from No. 8 Adam Strickland, the Lancers pulled ahead with an outstanding 25-15 set. Unfortunately for the next three sets, the Lancers weren’t on their game and were unable to bring the same intensity they had their first set.

From predators to prey in this particular game, the team was put into place. Going from winning the first set to losing the next three, the team managed to hold onto its hope and keep morale high. First-string player No. 3 Gareth Martin and Strickland both agree that the key to future success is to keep playing positively.



Photo by Daniel Luk

Adam Strickland, 20, “I bring all the guys together during a game when their attitude is poor or things aren’t going our way and calm them down. I tell them to shake it off and to just focus on the next point,” as one of the leading offensive players on the Lancers starting string Strickland knows that no matter what, even if your losing, the best thing to do in that situation is to keep your head up high and keep thriving for better.

“I bring all the guys together during a game when their attitude is poor or

things aren’t going our way and calm them down. I tell them to shake it off

and to just focus on the next point,” says Strickland.

“Throughout the game, a positive outlook keeps the team together. Being one of the players portraying a positive flow makes it easier... and I honestly just appreciate the good volleyball even when the points are against us,” says Martin.

With the team holding themselves together so well and practicing hard, fans can expect a great season. While this is the opinion from first-string players, the second-string players have their own thoughts on the topic.

“There’s a lot of new players this year but we’re feeling pretty determined,” says No. 5 Jake Unger. “Although I didn’t personally see a lot playing time, I have seen a lot of progress from when we started practicing, to our last game and even to our most recent practice. But as I said, we have a lot of new players and we’re just starting to grow as a team.”

The team is growing together but other areas need work as well. Players will have to work on their court skills. Offensive first-string player No. 9 Joseph Bresee says the team will need to work on communication, passing, serving and defense if they want to see a victory next game.

With a rough start to their first game, it’s clear that positive thinking will play a big role in this season’s outcome. With focus and growth and a gym full of fans, the team will hopefully overcome their first loss and move to victory in upcoming games.

Rugged east coast living



Fishermen are about to depart for an expedition. A shift normally ranges between 15 and 20 days. The most remunerative catch is the snow crab but this time of the year, it is not uncommon for them to come back with some seals. Seal hunting is a traditional Inuit practice that recently has sparked debate and criticism.

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"We are allowed to deploy only a certain number of pots, according to the size of the vessel. Most of the boats in Newfoundland do not exceed 20 metres. Life is pretty boring while we wait to recover the traps, unless the weather conditions change and get really bad... We don't have much time to relax on board. There is always something to do or take care of to ensure the safety of six people."

Most of the fishermen in Newfoundland co-own the co-operatives that process the fish. Once the crabs reach the port, they are packaged and shipped to their final destination.

Canada is one of the leading global producers of snow crab, its second most valuable fishery export. Between 2011 and 2014, the average value of the export was an estimated \$500 million per year.

The island is also famous for its seal hunt, a traditional Inuit practice adopted by the European settlers that has sparked

worldwide debate and criticism.

"Maybe you don't want to hear that, but when we are out there in the ocean on a crab expedition, it's not unusual to bump into some seals. While I know most people consider that inhumane, for us it's a blessing and a very rewarding day," said Payne.

Most of the fisheries on the island do not allow visitors. Officially, authorities claim this is due to safety reasons, but the restrictions are more likely to do with increasing tensions brought about by clashes between animal rights activists and seal hunters.

J.M.S., a fisherman who asked to remain anonymous, shared his perspective on the seal hunt:

"Most of the seals we find out there would die of starvation; hence to shoot them is basically relieving their suffering. Is there anything called suffering in nature or is it just an urban paranoia? At the end of the day, Newfoundland does not grow its own veggies and it's been like that ever since."



(Above) Brett Payne, a Fogo Island native, is the skipper of the family fishing boat. He attended the Marine Institute in St. John's to obtain his maritime licence. Brett is the man behind all the instruments necessary to be safe out in the subarctic Atlantic Ocean.



(Left) Ludovic Gignac and his nephew Hubert are originally from Tadoussac, the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. They navigate on a regular basis to Fogo Island to fish crabs. The crew of four spend roughly 25 days per shift out in the ocean. Ludovic is busy cooking a meal, while his nephew relaxes with some video games.

Photos by Giovanni Capriotti



Gavin Richards's grandfather moved to Newfoundland from Wales at the beginning of 1900. A family of fishermen, they have always lived off the sea. Gavin currently works for the Fogo cooperative a fish plant owned by the local anglers.



Roger Payne and his cousin Terry mending the crab pots. Every time they come back from a fishing trip, the crew has to check all the traps.



Spring is approaching when the ice pans get close to the shore of Fogo. A new busy season is ready to start for the crabbers of the island. Crab is the most remunerative catch of these frigid waters and is one of the most lucrative exports for Canada.