



## IN THE NEWS

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# Happy Birthday Canada

Submitted by Britney Lucier

Canada Day is Canada's national day, a federal statutory holiday celebrating the anniversary of the July 1, 1867, enactment of the British North America Act (today called the Constitution Act, 1867), which united two British colonies and a province of the British Empire into a single country called Canada.

Frequently referred to as "Canada's birthday", the occasion marks the joining of the British North American colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Province of Canada into a federation of four provinces (the Province of Canada being divided, in the process, into Ontario and Quebec) on July 1, 1867. Although Canada is regarded as having become a kingdom in its own right on that date, the British Parliament kept limited rights of political control over the new country that were shed by stages over the years until the last vestiges were surrendered in 1982 when the Constitution Act patriated the Canadian constitution.

Most communities across the country will host organized celebrations for Canada Day, usually outdoor public events, such

as parades, carnivals, festivals, barbecues, air and maritime shows, fireworks, and free musical concerts, as well as citizenship ceremonies for new citizens.

Locally, Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan, since the 1950s, celebrated both Dominion or Canada Day and the United States' Independence Day with the International Freedom Festival. A massive fireworks display over the Detroit River, the strait separating the two cities, is held annually with hundreds of thousands of spectators attending. This year, the fireworks display was held on June 21, 2010.

Wikipedia - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada_Day)

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, WEST held its annual Canada Day celebration. WEST participants *Merita Katana, Fatima Aburayyan, Su Xiu Hu, Muzna Beel and Nazik Doha* spoke proudly of their Canadian experiences at the event. Topics, such as women's rights, freedoms, opportunities for training and education are among some of the things WEST participants attribute to a positive experience in Canada.



# How to Become a Canadian Citizen?

Submitted by *Sufang Zhang - ISAP*



Every year, approximately 150,000 permanent residents elect to become Canadian citizens. Every permanent resident must go through a series of steps to obtain the Canadian citizenship:

## 1. Requirements for becoming a Canadian citizen:

- be 18 years of age or older;
- be a permanent resident of Canada;
- have lived in Canada for at least three of the four years before applying (1095 days);
- be able to communicate in either English or French;
- have knowledge about Canada (history, geography, government);
- have knowledge about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship;
- Time spent in Canada as a Permanent Resident counts as a full time, while you may count ½ time (up to a maximum of 730 half days which equals 365 days full days) for the time you resided in Canada before you became a permanent resident.



## 2. Make sure you have the right application form:

There are two forms available. One is for adults. The other is for children, under 18 years of age.

## 3. Read the guide "Application for Canadian Citizenship" before you fill out the form:

The fee for processing your form and your children's forms is not refundable, so make sure you are ready to become a citizen before you apply.



## 4. Complete the application form and attach the necessary documents:

Failure to provide the necessary documents will result in delays in the processing of your application:

- Application for Canadian Citizenship-Adults (CIT 0002) - completed, signed and dated
- Photocopies of identity and immigration documents. If your documents are not in English or French, you must provide the original document, a translation of it and an affidavit from the person who did the translation. Translations by family members are not acceptable.
- Canadian immigration record/paper, PR card and Record of Landing (IMM 1000) or Confirmation of Permanent Residency
- Two pieces of personal identifications, one of which must have your photo ID on it.



## 5. Mail the form and documents to the Case Processing Centre:

Remember to:

- sign and date the form and sign your photographs;
- Include the receipt of payment (form IMM 5401); the fee for adults is C\$200, which includes a C\$100 processing fee and a C\$100 right of citizenship fee. For children under 18, there is a C\$100 processing fee only.
- include your application;
- include your photographs; and
- include photocopies of all your documents.

## 6. Get ready for the test

The entire process, from application to test, takes 15-18 months and CIC will generally provide 2 weeks notice before the test date. The Canadian Government will test your knowledge of Canada by asking all applicants who are between the ages of 18 and 54 either pass a written or oral examination. On average the written test is completed within 30 minutes, while the oral exam takes anywhere between 15-30 minutes. The citizenship examination is conducted in either English or French.

## 7. Take the oath of citizenship at a citizenship ceremony

*(Resources from: Citizenship and Immigration Canada)*

WEST Citizenship Preparation workshop is to help newcomers to learn about Canada, your rights and responsibilities, the history and geography of Canada and the Government of Canada. If you are interesting in attending the workshop, please call WEST at 519-256-6621 for more information.



# To Be a Canadian

*Submitted by Tawnie Grayer - MTP*

To be a "Canadian", what does that mean?

Does it mean looking and behaving like someone else? Does it mean dressing like your neighbor, eating the same food or worshipping in the same place, if at all?

While some would answer "yes", the truthful answer is "no".

Being Canadian means having freedom to be who **you** are.

Being Canadian means you can expect legal rights and protections to practice your faith, express your ideas and observe cultural traditions while being "Canadian."

Being Canadian means respecting and appreciating the diversity of humanity; expanding your own abilities through gracious and peaceful interaction with fellow citizens.

Being Canadian means sensing the connection of all who wave the red and white flag, knowing that the success of one creates success for all; failure of one leads to failure of all.

Being Canadian means extending kindness and help to those in need.

Being Canadian means recognizing that we are **all** strangers, sharing borrowed land - for none of us created it.

To be a Canadian, what does that mean? Only you have the right to define your Canadian identity.

Define yourself with confidence, knowing that your Canadian identity has the same value as every other proud Canadian.



## Networking for the Shy

*Submitted by Corina Ailenei—MTCU*

Networking is the process of getting connected in order to advance your career and utilizing the contacts made for the purpose of exchanging information, exploring careers, obtaining referrals and job searching. Since 70-80% of jobs are found through networking it often becomes difficult for introverted individuals to stand out against the competition and network successfully. Here are a few tips for the shy on being successful at networking:

1. **Start small** – start with known contacts and build up your comfort level; successful conversations will give you the confidence to approach those not well known to you.
2. **Stop apologizing** – networking is not bothering someone, so you do not have to apologize, you are worth their time and you have to convey that message – apologizing demonstrates lack of confidence.
3. **Discover the source of your shyness** – identify what are your weaknesses and work to address them.
4. **Be yourself** – be authentic, people will remember you for being you; do not be a schmoozer.
5. **Tap into your passions** - when you talk about things you are passionate about, you will lighten up and appear more engaging – you will not always find a shared interest with the other person, you just have to share your interests.
6. **Ask for introductions** – shy people tend to find one person with whom they spend all their time at an event with and this defeats the purpose of networking – ask the friend to introduce you to people they know.
7. **Be generous** – show sincere interest and use some flattery but do not overdo it (ex. "your organization has such high reputation and wonderful programs that service our community").
8. **Be prepared** – create a personal commercial and have it ready to pitch, anticipate questions you may be asked and have clear and concise answers ready.
9. **Follow-up** – helps build credibility and professionalism (ex. "if you say you will send them a copy of a newsletter you developed, send it when you say you will"). It conveys the message you are reliable and keep your word.
10. **Get over your fear of rejection** – do not take it personal if people do not want to help you, or if they are not pleasant when you approach them. Pick yourself up and try again.
11. **Take risks** - approach persons you normally would not have the courage to approach (ex. the person sitting next to you at an event will appreciate you breaking the ice. They might also be the director of a company you would love to work for). Take every situation as an opportunity.

# WEST of Windsor Events

# July 2010



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 <b>CANADA DAY</b>	2 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
5 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.  School age program starts New beginnings students start	6 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	7 Orientation: ELT/MTP 10:00 a.m. / WEST 1:00 p.m.  Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	8 WEST Orientation 9:30 a.m.  Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	9 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
12 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	13 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	14 Orientation: ELT/MTP 10:00 a.m. / WEST 1:00 p.m. Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	15 WEST Orientation 9:30 a.m.  Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	16 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
19 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	20 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	21 Orientation: ELT/MTP 10:00 a.m. / WEST 1:00 p.m. Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	22 WEST Orientation 9:30 a.m.  Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	23 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
26 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	27 Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	28 Orientation: ELT/MTP 10:00 a.m. / WEST 1:00 p.m. Conversation class 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.	29 WEST Orientation 9:30 a.m.  Women's Club 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	30

**Did you know that O Canada became the official anthem on Canada Day in 1980?**

*O Canada's lyrics were first written in French by Adolphe-Basile Routhier in 1880, then in English by Robert Stanley Weir in 1908. Its music was composed by Calixa Lavallée in 1880. O Canada was the de facto anthem of Canada since 1939 and became the de jure anthem in 1980.*



*by Dolor Torres*

### Contributors

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Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST) exists to provide training for severely employment disadvantaged visible minority women in order to improve their employability in the workforce and/or to further their education.

WEST Programs are sponsored in part by:



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