



The Connection

"Keeping our community connected"

FEBRUARY 2021

Monthly Newsletter of the East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc.

happy Valentine's day

ECNWC OFFICE UPDATE

Our office hours are Monday to Friday from 8am to 12pm and 12:30pm to 3:45pm. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we are closed to the public but still booking individual client appointments. Call (306)783-2777 to book an appointment.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

International students bring so much to Canada, contributing over \$21 billion annually to our economy. Yet the pandemic has presented challenges for international students. Most notably, for many holders of a post-graduation work permit (PGWP), the pandemic's uncertainty has jeopardized chances of obtaining the work experience they need to apply for permanent residence. As part of the Government of Canada's efforts to support international students, it was announced that former international students who hold or held a PGWP will have the opportunity to apply for an open work permit. Foreign nationals in Canada affected by the pandemic with an expired or expiring PGWP will have a unique chance to apply for another open work permit. These will be valid for 18 months and allow former international students to remain in Canada, continue to seek employment and build their future in this country.

FUN Fact about Canada!

At the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965, Canada's red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the first time on Parliament Hill.



On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared.

The history of the Canadian flag is very interesting. Before being adopted as the National Flag in 1965, the Canadian flag underwent several changes, influenced primarily by Europe. The first flag known to be placed on Canadian soil was the St George's Cross carried by the explorer John Cabot in 1497. In 1534, Jacques Cartier flew the Fleur-de-lis on behalf of France. With the promulgation of the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Canada became a colony of the British and the Union Flag, more commonly known as the Union Jack, became its flag. The Great Flag Debate which took place in 1964 in Canada decided in favor of a new flag in place of Union Jack. It was only in 1965 that the current flag of Canada came into existence.

The national flag is a symbol that unites all Canadians and reflects the common values we hold so dear — equality, diversity and inclusion.

For more information and updates, please visit and like our [East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Facebook Page](#).



We provide free settlement services to newcomers and their families within the East Central region. It's our goal to provide the information, referrals and advice you may need to assist in your settlement!

Call our office at (306) 783-2777 if you have ANY questions. We are happy to help you!

This is Home

Meet Babatunde Olalaye

Babatunde moved to Canada from Nigeria in 2013 and now called Yorkton HOME. Currently, He works as a Settlement Worker here at the East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc.



"I like Canada because of the friendly environment and the people especially. Saskatchewan in particular has been home for over 7 years, and I appreciate the easy going and communal nature of its city structures. These have been some of the most awesome experiences I have had with any environment I have lived in. An interesting fact about me is that I am an avid country music fanatic and some of my favorite artists are Thomas Rhett, The Hunter Brothers, Luke Combs, Old Dominion and several others."

- Babatunde

EXPLORE our Community!

Winters here in Saskatchewan can be a lot of FUN! There's lots of opportunities to get outside and get active during the winter months!

Join the East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre in some "Winter Fun for Newcomers" starting February 15 as we explore some fun winter activities!

- 1) Tobogganing— Bring your own toboggan or borrow one from us and join in a fun morning on February 15th from 10am to 12pm at Deer Park in Yorkton!
- 2) Snowshoeing - Come strap on a pair of snowshoes and try out this fun activity while you explore Logan Flats in Yorkton.
- 3) Snowman Building – Get creative at home and send us your pictures to show us your snowmen! If you need a kit to spark some ideas, we have the perfect kit to borrow you!

To learn more or register for any of these activities, please email Shanley at sallard@ecnwc.ca.

Thank you to Parkland Valley Sports, Culture and Recreation District for the Opportunity to offer these activities!



Community Activities & Event

Here is a list of some of the activities or events happening in our community this month!
If you are interested in any of these please call our office at (306) 783-2777 and we can help you register and /or attend with you.



Valentine's Day Paint Classes for Newcomer Students

Arts /Students

WHAT? Join our SWIS team for a fun, online paint class for newcomer students.
WHEN? February 3, 2021 from 6 to 7:30pm (Ages 5 to 10)
February 10, 2021 from 6 to 7:30pm (Ages 11+)
WHERE? ONLINE through Zoom. Must register as supplies will be provided in advance.
COST? FREE (Contact Imcneill@ecnwc.ca or our office for help registering.)



Resume Writing Workshop for Newcomer Students

Education / Students

WHAT? A virtual workshop in partnership with ECNWCI and Partners in Employment that provides information to newcomer students on creating an effective resume.
WHEN? February 25th and March 4th, 5:30pm to 8:30pm
WHERE? Online. Participants will be supplied with a workshop package.
COST? FREE. Must register by emailing jtolentino@ecnwc.ca, Imcneill@ecnwc.ca or call our office.



***Please note there will also be an Adult Resume Writing Workshop on April 14th & April 21st. Registration will open at a later date.**

Project SCAR – Support for Covid-19 Adaptability & Recovery Program

WHAT? Community Future Ventures is hosting a series of webinars to help small businesses.
WHEN? There are a number of sessions in February. Register for what interests you.
- Leadership Training Webinar by Achieve Centre for Leadership - February 9 - 9am to 11am
- Word - February 11 - 9am to 12pm
- Creating Business Social Media Accounts - February 23 - 9am to 11am
- QuickBooks Online - February 25 - 9am to 12pm
WHERE? ONLINE but you need to register in advance for the session you are interested in.
COST? FREE (Contact sallard@ecnwc.ca or our office for help registering.)



Multifaith Festivals in February

Baha'i Faith	Feb 6 – Mulk (Dominion)	Hinduism	Feb 16 – Vasanta Panchami
	Feb 25-28 – Ayyam-i-Ha	Judaism	Feb 26 – Purim
Buddhism	Feb 12 – Lunar New Year / Losar	Shinto	Feb 3 – Setsubun-sai
	Feb 15 - Nehan-e (Nirvana Day)	Wicca	Feb 2 - Imboloc
	Feb 27 – Magha (Sangha Day)	Aboriginal Spirituality	Feb – Aboriginal Storytelling Month
Christianity	Feb 16 – Shrove Tuesday	Supplemental	Feb 14 – Valentine's Day
	Feb 17 – Ash Wednesday		Feb 15 -Family Day (Saskatchewan)
			Feb 24 – Anti Bullying (Pink Shirt) Day

These dates were highlighted in the Multifaith Calendar which is distributed by the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan.

RECIPES

from
Around the World!



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

What's your favourite recipe from home?

Please email recipes to sallard@ecnwc.ca. Recipes will be featured here and you will win a prize from ECNWCI.

Traditional Filipino Lumpia

INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp vegetable oil	1 tsp ground black pepper
1 lbs ground pork	1 tsp salt
2 cloves garlic, crushed	1 tsp garlic powder
½ cup chopped onion	1 tsp soy sauce
½ cup minced carrots	30 lumpia wrappers
½ cup chopped green onions	2 cups vegetable oil for frying
½ cup thinly sliced green cabbage	

DIRECTIONS:

- Place large skillet over high heat, and pour in 1 tbsp vegetable oil. Cook pork, until no pink is showing. Remove pork from pan and set aside. Drain grease from pan. Cook garlic and onion in the same pan for 2 minutes. Stir in the cooked pork, carrots, green onions, and cabbage. Season with pepper, salt, garlic powder, and soy sauce. Remove from heat, and set aside.
- Place three tbsp of filling diagonally near one corner of each wrapper, leaving a 1 1/2 inch space at both ends. Fold the side along the length of the filling over the filling, tuck in both ends, and roll neatly. Keep the roll tight. Moisten the other side of the wrapper with water to seal the edge. Cover the rolls with plastic wrap to retain moisture.
- Heat a heavy skillet over medium heat, add oil to 1/2 inch depth, and heat for 5 minutes. Slide 3 or 4 lumpia into the oil. Fry the rolls for 1 to 2 minutes, until all sides are golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve immediately.

Recipe from "All Recipes" Website



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