



THE ST. VINCENT AND GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC. (SVGAT)
KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY INFORMED THROUGH COMMUNICATION

Quarterly Newsletter October 2013

As President of the St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto Incorporated, I accepted an invitation along with other Caribbean colleagues to meet with Minister Michael Coteau, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) on August 8, 2013. The meeting took place at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration office 6th Floor, 400 University Avenue, Toronto.

The Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration is the Ministry charged with the responsibility to create and maintain a constructive dialogue with groups that have a stake in the success of Ontario's immigration system. As representatives of the Caribbean community in Ontario, the Honourable Minister deemed our input and ideas essential to the development of practical and effective public policy.

In particular, the meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the progress of Ontario's Immigration Strategy, how the province can be better equipped for the successful integration of immigrants to Ontario's and Canada's future economic prosperity and cultural diversity and what steps Caribbean organizations intend to take to strengthen the Immigration system.

Collectively, the group brought a vast experiential knowledge of community organization, thus it was imperative for us to speak with one voice about the impact of marginalization in our community regarding the eligibility and process of the Honours and Awards offered by the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration and to talk openly about Bill C-31 and Bill C-43 caption, "Protecting Canada's Immigration System".

On June 28, 2012, the *Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act* (Bill C-31) received Royal Assent. This legislation brought further reforms to the asylum system, added measures to address human smuggling, and also added the requirement to include biometric data as part of a temporary resident visa, work permit, and study permit application.

Bill C-43, An Act to Amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (short title: Faster Removal of Foreign

Criminals Act) was introduced in the House of Commons on 20 June 2012 by the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration, and Multiculturalism, the Honourable Jason Kenney.

Bill C-43 focuses on the inadmissibility-related provisions of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA), which determines who may not enter or remain in Canada. Background information provided by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) suggests that the legislation is the outcome of an inter-departmental review of IRPA's inadmissibility and other related provisions.

Specifically, Bill C-43 makes several changes related to: evaluating inadmissibility; the consequences of being found inadmissible on certain grounds and of having an inadmissible family member; and granting relief from inadmissibility. In addition, it gives the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration the power to prevent an individual from obtaining or renewing temporary resident status.

Finally, the bill introduces two other changes: it provides for new regulatory authorities for immigration applications; and it creates a formal procedure for the renunciation of permanent resident status.

Under IRPA, people are inadmissible to Canada on the following nine grounds: security; violation of human rights; serious criminality and criminality; organized criminality; health; financial reasons; misrepresentation; non-compliance with the Act; and being a family member of an inadmissible person (*source: Library of Parliament Research Publication – Bechard J. and Elgersma S. 2012*). Needless to say, Bill C-31 and Bill C-43 do not provide a recipe for a successful strategy due to the fact that opportunities to include actors who represent a cross sector of society to provide valuable feedback before the implementation of both Bills were not present (*The Final Report by Ontario's Expert Roundtable on immigration – Expanding Our Routes to Success*). However, members present asked Minister Coteau to dialogue with the Federal government regarding Funding cuts to established Black community groups.

MARCIA FARRELL - PRESIDENT



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St. Vincent and the Grenadines: A Young Ambassador Makes Her Mark

Thomas Cromwell

A cluster of 32 islands in the Caribbean, St. Vincent and the Grenadines is one of the smallest nations in the world but has one of the longest names. Just twice the size of Washington, DC, SVG, as it is sometimes called in abbreviation, is home to some 118,500 people.

One of seven members of the Organization of East Caribbean States (OECS), SVG is represented by an attractive and dynamic lawyer, La Celia A. Prince. Previously the second ranking diplomat at the embassy on New Mexico Avenue, she was promoted to ambassador by the Government of Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves in April 2008.

In a recent interview, the ambassador told DiplomaticTraffic.com about her work in Washington and the priorities for her mission.

Ambassador Prince sees one of her primary roles here as promoting investment in her country. This is the main goal of the SVG government's strategy to diversify the economy and move away from a narrowly focused dependence on tourism and the export of bananas. SVG already has a financial services sector, which it wants to expand, and it also wants to develop its ICT, agro-processing and light manufacturing sectors as well.

A major obstacle to economic development has been the lack of an international airport. The ambassador noted that to get to SVG now, travelers have to fly via St. Lucia, Barbados or Trinidad and Tobago. And since getting to those destinations from the United States can mean changing planes at hubs in Miami or Puerto Rico, a trip from most US cities takes a whole day and requires two layovers. She said that an international airport is under construction, and will be operational in 2011. This should have a huge impact on flows of tourists and businesspeople. To get the airport built, SVG is receiving assistance from a wide range of countries, including Austria, Cuba, Malaysia, Mexico, Taiwan, Trinidad & Tobago and Venezuela. "We have to think strategically," the ambassador said in describing how SVG plans to take advantage of the airport.

For tourists, who already number some 200,000 a year, SVG is offering a range of destinations, from the traditional sand, sun and sea of the Caribbean, to ecotourism and health/wellness tourism. "We are a complete package," she said. "We have destinations that are second to none." Investors, on the other hand, could take advantage of the inexpensive but skilled and highly-trained labor force, tax concessions, repatriation of capital, a stable economy as well as a stable, democratic political environment.

The ambassador pointed out that in many respects her country is fertile territory for investors, offering many

areas in which new investors can be the first in a sector or industry.

A core strategy is to add value to agricultural products. "We want to start adding value to what we produce, in order to target a higher-end market," she said.

For example, the Taiwanese, who have an Agricultural Mission in SVG, have developed a range of innovative agriculture-based products, and are "making wonderful things," the ambassador said. These include fudge made from sweet potatoes and pepper sauces. SVG grows Arrowroot, from which starch can be made, and grows coconut palms for coconut oil.

For many years bananas were the main export, but when preferential agreements with the European Union expired, SVG lost its competitive edge and the industry has suffered since. "We learned never to put all your eggs in one basket," the ambassador said, "and this is why the diversification of the economy is of the utmost importance." In this regard, she is concerned about a bill in the Senate, S.681 the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act, sponsored by senators Obama, Levin and Coleman, that targets Americans with companies and/or bank accounts in states that offer tax incentives in an effort to clamp down on tax evasion. The law, if passed, would impose restrictions on US financial transactions with 32 countries that are perceived to be offering Americans unregulated financial services.

Ambassador Prince said there is no good basis for SVG to be included on this list. It has since the late 90s regulated its financial services sector in a manner which adheres to the strictest compliance codes of the OECD (Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development) and FATF (Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering) and is currently not on any watch-lists of any international regulatory bodies.

She has met with legislators on the Hill to make representations that S.681 would impose harmful restrictions on SVG's financial services sector, and work against the desirable objective of the United States assisting the economic development of the Caribbean.

There are several issues that are of particular interest to the ambassador. One of them is boosting the educational opportunities for SVG citizens. There is no university in the country, and higher education students have long benefited from scholarships to study in other countries. One of the most successful such programs has been provided by Cuba, which has trained so many doctors and nurses from SVG that the small nation is able to consider offering some of these professionals to other countries in need, especially in Africa.

Prime Minister Gonsalves is making education a top priority, and building a number of schools. As far as tertiary level education is concerned, the ambassador is seeking out scholarship opportunities for as many SVG students as possible to study in America.

One unique connection SVG has with part of its Diaspora community is through the Garifuna culture, which got its start on St. Vincent in the 1700s when a population of indigenous Caribs and African slaves inter-married, giving birth to the Garifuna peoples. When exiled from St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 1795 by the French colonialists, they first moved to Roatan Island, now part of Honduras, but later some of these 'Black Caribs' moved on to several other Central American countries.

In 2009, to mark the 30th anniversary of the nation's independence, SVG will host a Homecoming celebration for all Vincentians living in the Diaspora. One element of this Homecoming will be a Garifuna reunion for Garifuna descendants, who regard St. Vincent and the Grenadines as their spiritual homeland. The ambassador said that it is hoped the occasion will bring about a rebirth of SVG as the center of Garifuna culture, something of value to the country and of interest to tourists.

SVG is also developing energy alternatives, including wind, solar and geothermal. A major volcano last erupted in 1979, the year of SVG independence from Britain, and it is hoped that, rather like Iceland, SVG can tap into the earth's heat to produce energy for commercial and residential uses, as well as for export.

Ambassador Prince said that she is one of a group of young citizens whose talent and potential the prime minister and his government have tapped in an effort to keep young people front and center of the nation's development, as well as to ensure that this talent is not lost through migration to other countries. Among other youthful appointees are the deputy speaker of parliament, three senators and the country's Ambassador to the United Nations. "If you don't use them you lose them," she said simply of SVG's up and coming professionals.

The ambassador studied law in Barbados, Trinidad and Cambridge, England, and as a lawyer is interested in international trade negotiations. Shy to reveal her age, but admitting that she is indeed the youngest Ambassador currently accredited in Washington, she has found that her youth is no impediment to her being able to effectively represent her country and that she has been very well received and regarded so far.

Biography of H.E. La Celia A. Prince

Ambassador La Celia Prince was born in Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In 1999 she obtained an LLB (with honours) from the University of the West Indies in Barbados and then went on to gain her Legal Education

Certificate from the Sir Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad, qualifying as a lawyer in 2001. In that year, she was enrolled at the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) as well as the Supreme Court of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Ambassador Prince first practiced as a Barrister-at-Law and Solicitor in St. Vincent and the Grenadines before going off to do Masters studies in Law at Cambridge University.

Her experience in the international sphere includes a diverse exposure. In 2003, through a technical cooperation agreement between the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Ambassador Prince took up a Fellowship in multilateral trade negotiations. She was assigned to the CARICOM delegation at the Secretariat of the Free Trade Area of the Americas in Puebla Mexico, followed by a brief stint at the World Trade Organisation in Geneva, Switzerland.

At the end of this assignment she worked at the Secretariat of the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) in Brussels, Belgium on matters pertaining to multilateral trade and development, and in particular the negotiations of the Economic Partnership Agreements between ACP countries and the European Union. Her final assignment in Belgium was as a consultant with the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery where she focused exclusively on CARICOM-EU trade and development partnership.

Arriving in Washington DC in September 2005 she has served as Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Alternate Representative to the Organisation of American States (OAS), working on bilateral agreements between St. Vincent and the Grenadines and partners in Latin America, as well as actively participating as a delegate of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Government in various multilateral trade fora.

Ambassador Prince also speaks French and Spanish.

Source: Diplomatic traffic *Access to the World Leaders*

Independence Gala on Saturday, November 02, 2013 at the Riviera Parque Banquet and Convention Centre, 2800 Hwy 7 W (Major intersection Hwy 7 W and Jane)Vaughan.

The Independence Gala is all inclusive (full course dinner, open bar, door prizes, complimentary parking, and complimentary coat check). Price: \$80.00; Youths 25yrs and under \$60.00

Guest speaker: Her Excellency La Celia Prince - Ambassador to Washington.

Special presentation: Dr. Melanie Kirby-Allen for Sick Kids. Dr. Kirby-Allen is a Vincentian living in Canada.

adopt-a-child

The St Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto (SVGAT) has made its Adopt-A-Child Program one of its main priorities for 2013. This year, the Association has adopted two children from St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Each child will receive sponsorship for five years from Grades 2 to Grades 6 (primary education).

This is the second five year term for the Association and Mr. Allan John a Vincentian living in London, Ontario, partnered together to provide primary education to two students. The schools chosen this year were -- The Fairhall Government School and the Tourama Government School.

Both schools were contacted and one child from each school was selected by a committee that was put in place by the principal of each school. The Fairhall Government School selected student Fredriq John.



And the Tourama Government School (Overland) selected Sheriann



Baptiste. SVGAT will receive updates from time to time of the progress of the students.

All funds to sponsor the two children have been sent to the schools. The SVGAT has put out a call to the community for an increase in the number of students sponsored. Anyone wishing to sponsor a student in SVG can contact the Association's adopt-a-child program at secretary@vincytoronto.com or president@vincytoronto.com. All inquiries will be answered promptly.

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BB122 Prospect, 17,117 sq. ft. ECD\$427,925.00



BB126 Calder Cocoa Rd., 15,994 sq. ft. ECD\$85,000.00



BB135 Rivulet, 11,443 sq. ft. @ \$8.50 p.s.f. ECD\$97,265.50



BB701 Chester Cottage, 11,030 sq. ft. ECD\$66,000.00



BB151 Union Island, 43,560 sq. ft. ECD\$152,460.00



BB270 Fountain, 8,579 sq. ft. ECD\$72,000.00



HB802 Arnos Vale, 3 beds, 4,862 sq. ft. ECD\$490,000.00



BB306 Union Island The Valley



BB903 Union Island Richmond Union Is., 1 ac 3 rod, 12 p. Open to offers



BB325 Union Island, 96,200 sq. ft. ECD\$721,500.00



BB326 Rose Hall, 5 acres, ECD\$50,000.00



BB327 Carapan, 8,156 sq. ft. ECD\$81,560.00



BB900 Calder, 43,560 sq. ft. @ \$6.00 p.s.f. ECD\$261,360.00



BB503 Union Island, 2,527 sq. ft. ECD\$22,743.00



BB505 New Prospect, 9,452 sq. ft. ECD\$37,808.00



BB515 Biabou, 14,000 sq. ft. ECD\$112,048.00



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SVGAT

General Meeting will take place at Northwood Community Centre

Date: Sunday, November 24, 2013 at 4:300 p.m.

Address & Direction:

*Northwood Community Centre,
15 Clubhouse Court, (off Arleta
between Keele & Jane Streets)*

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ASSOCIATION NEWS

Once again The St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto will be conducting its popular Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Program in the community free of charge. Refreshments and Lunch would be provided. Book your group early. Funding provided by Toronto Public Health (TPH). The program consists of five core sessions:

Session 1: Assessing your risk for Type 2 Diabetes

- Assessing risk factors for developing Type 2 diabetes
- How **you** can reduce **your** risk of developing Type 2 diabetes
- How to set SMART weekly goals for yourself

Session 2 Health Benefits of Regular Physical Activity

- The health benefits of regular physical activity
- Ways to increase your physical activity
- Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines for Adults
- Benefits of walking for your health

Session 3 Eating Healthy with Canada's Food guide

- Learn about Canada's Food Guide
- Learn how to make healthy choices based on Canada's Food Guide

Session 4 Planning and Shopping for Healthy meals...while on a Budget

- Learn how to plan healthy meals using recipes that you already use at home
- Learn how to make decisions at the grocery store based on nutrition, cost and cultural food preferences

Session 5 Dealing with Stress Review and Celebration!

- Discuss ways to deal with stress
- Celebrate new friendships and support you received during the Program

We will be conducting the five sessions free of charge in the community. Our program targets a population of Caribbean, East African and Latin American but is not limited to those populations. All are welcome.

We are currently booking for November and December 2013. TTC tokens will be refunded to participants. To register to have one or more of these sessions conducted at your organization or church.

Email: secretary@vincytoronto.com or president@vincytoronto.com or phone 647-716-0181 and ask for Marcia.

Diabetes...One step at a time program

The St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto will be providing social services to seniors within the community. We will provide services and workshops for seniors under any of the three categories listed below:

Connecting isolated seniors to informal & formal health services

- Community network to identify isolated and marginalized seniors
- Community outreach, including home and hospital visitations
- Accompaniment and interpretation at medical appointments,
- Connection of seniors with community and other health related services
- Referral to community services, follow-up to ensure service delivery

Home based supports/services

This category of activities can be described as any home based support that is provided for seniors to maintain their health at home.

Some examples of this could include, but are not limited to:

- Providing home visits and home support services such as help with medication checks, laundry, shopping and simple meal preparation
- Friendly visiting, emotional support and one-on-one counseling
- Transition from hospital to home or palliative care
- Resident support network for seniors' safety
- Volunteer network to provide home-based support

Health information and navigation

- Health promotion workshops on diabetes prevention and management, mental health prevention/awareness, home safety, and healthy eating, etc.
- Sessions, information packets and support for seniors to navigate health system and services
- Support groups that address specific issues of health and aging

The closing date for the Seniors Services Program is March 20, 2014. Please contact the association if you are a senior or know a senior who may need our assistance or want to attend any of our workshops.

Contact us at secretary@vincytoronto.com or president@vincytoronto.com or farrellmarcia@hotmail.com

This Project is funded by WoodGreen Community Services for seniors.

THE ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.



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Saturday November 2, 2013
Riviera Parquet Banquet & Convention Centre
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and DJ Fusion
Cocktails: 6:30pm Dinner: 7:30pm
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Community Forum

Sunday November 3, 2013, 3:00pm
York Civic Centre
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Through the Arbor Alliance Program offered by Memorial Gardens Canada, **financial members** of St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. (SVGAT) and their families are eligible for preferential pricing on cemetery and funeral services and products.

Financial members and their immediate family are eligible for a 10% discount on products and services when pre-purchased, and a 5% discount when purchased at the time of need at any of the company's funeral homes or cemeteries. Planning ahead allows you to enhance your family's security, spare them unnecessary emotional strain, and potentially save hundreds, even thousands of dollars.

To find out more about the Arbor Alliance Program and the benefits allowed to members please visit www.arboralliances.ca or contact **Gideon Exeter** of Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens by email at gexeter@arbormemorial.com or phone 416-992-4253



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SHARE YOUR ARTICLES WITH US

If you have an article or a story you would like to share with our readers. Please send your Article (s) to:
svgat@vincytoronto.com.

All articles must reach the association by December 14, 2013 to be published in the 2014 January issue.

CARICOM Nationals should have easier access to member states by June 2014

By Alpheia Saunders

KINGSTON, Jamaica (JIS) -- Jamaicans and other Caribbean Community (CARICOM) nationals should, by June 2014, have easier access to member states, and be able to fully exercise their rights to travel, work and seek out other opportunities as provided for under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). This is being facilitated through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)-funded CARICOM Trade and Competitiveness Project (CTCP), under which a critical electronic database is being established.

It will, among other things, provide member countries with aggregated information on the various skill sets available, through a web-based portal being developed by project consultant, A-Z Information Jamaica Limited. Additionally, the consultant is proposing that the CARICOM national skills certificate be standardised across countries, and presented in the form of a stamp in passports. This will eliminate the discrepancies in the format of certificates, as well as the need for a physical document and result in ease of processing at the various points of entry across member countries.

This was outlined during a ceremony held on October 8 in Kingston for the in-country launch of the consultancy to create best practice models and deliver technical assistance to implement national CSME work plans (reform administrative practices and procedures). Addressing the forum, permanent secretary in the ministry of industry, investment and commerce, Vivian Brown, said the consultancy was a platform to learn, and improve operational capacities. "In so doing, we believe that the beneficiaries of the CSME, including Jamaica, will be able to fully access the various regimes and utilize the arrangements that have been established.

The work undertaken by this consultancy will further advance the work of the CSME, particularly since seven years after its inception, the CSME continues to be a work in progress and is currently operating at only a fraction of overall compliance," he said. Brown said the CTCP is the most recent and

comprehensive effort to fully achieve the goal of the CSME. The CTCP is aimed at contributing to the deepening of the regional integration process, and specifically, the harmonisation of administrative practices and procedures relating to the five regimes under the CSME -- the free movement of goods, capital, services, skills, and the right to establish companies and business enterprises and be treated as a national.

Under the CTCP, the CARICOM Secretariat, in collaboration with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat and participating countries will fulfill parts of the mandate given by the Community to work with member states to implement their CSME obligations. The 12 participating states include: Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Suriname and Dominica.

A-Z Information Jamaica Limited is establishing component 100 (harmonisation and standardization of administrative practices and procedures) of the CTCP.

Source: *Caribbean News Now* Published on October 11, 2013

The St. Vincent and Grenadines Association
of Toronto Inc

Christmas Hamper Outreach

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Help us assist members of our community who are less fortunate. Recommend a family or an individual.

Please contact:

Kinda Edwards-Keizer or
P. Mortonsecretary@vincytoronto.com

Contributed by: Sandra Sutherland, RCIC

Proposed regulatory amendments are expected to come into force on January 1, 2014 which would amend the **definition of a dependent child** by reducing the age limit from under 22 to under 19. The current exception for overage dependent children who were and continue to be full-time students shall be removed. Therefore, the only overage dependent children (19 years of age or older) would be those financially dependent on their parents due to a physical or mental condition. The current limitation which stipulates that the child must not be a spouse or common-law partner would still remain.

Applicants who submit any sponsorship application and/or permanent resident application on or after January 1, 2014 would be subjected to the new regulations. All applicants who submitted a permanent resident application prior to January 1, 2014, the existing definition of a dependent child would continue to apply. Dependent children must meet the definition of a dependent child on the date the complete sponsorship and permanent resident applications are received by CIC (**the locked-in date**) and **must not** be married or be involved in a common-law relationship at the time of visa issuance and when they enter Canada.

In November of 2011 a 2-year halt was placed on the **sponsorship of parents and grandparents** to Canada as permanent residents. On January 2, 2014, when proposed regulatory amendments are slated to come into effect, CIC will begin accepting new applications to sponsor parents and grandparents. This is indeed good news. However; sponsors would be subjected new, and more stringent, eligibility criteria that could very well impede their opportunity to sponsor or to satisfy the ability to honour their undertaking once the parent or grandparent arrives as a permanent resident. In addition, CIC will impose a cap of **5,000 new applications that shall** be accepted for processing in the Parent and Grandparent stream.

The proposed eligibility criteria includes an increase of the sponsorship undertaking period from 10 years to 20 years, a 30% hike (in comparison to 2013 figures) of the minimum necessary income (MNI) threshold, as well as mandatory proof of MNI by documents issued by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), notably notices of assessment (NOA). These increases are being implemented as a way of ensuring that sponsors have the means to support their family member(s), thus minimizing the financial burden that may be placed upon the Canadian public to cover needs such as healthcare and social services.

At the time of applying sponsors would have to prove that they meet and have met or exceeded the applicable MNI for three consecutive years. The twenty year undertaking remains in effect even after the parents/grandparents obtain citizenship. This undertaking includes a commitment to repay any provincial social assistance benefit paid to the parent/grandparent and any accompanying family member. *The new definition of dependent child will apply to any accompanying dependent child.*

In order to prove the MNI sponsors have to submit their notice of assessment issued by CRA. They must also demonstrate that they have met this MNI for three consecutive years, and must maintain this MNI up to the date of approval of their parents/grandparents' landing. The twenty year undertaking remains in effect even after the parents/grandparents obtain citizenship. This undertaking includes a commitment to repay any provincial social assistance benefit paid to the parent/grandparent and any accompanying family member(s). If married or in a common-law relationship, the income of the spouse or common-law partner may be included to compute the MNI. Co-sponsors (spouses or common-law partners) must also sign and abide by the conditions of the sponsorship undertaking.

In order that the sponsorship and permanent residence application shall be processed it is imperative that both sponsorship and permanent resident applications be duly completed and received by CIC on or after January 2, 2014 but before the 5,000 cap is reached.

Official news release and backgrounders is expected to be released in December to inform the public, stakeholders and other key audiences of these and other regulatory changes. In the meantime, sponsors should be proactive and submit their applications to sponsor their older dependent child(ren), who are currently eligible to be sponsored under the present criteria, as immediately as possible. If sponsoring a parent or grandparent start gathering any required documentation and information to compose the sponsor and applicant portions of the application so that the application could be received before the 5,000 cap is reached.

Sandra Sutherland is a Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant (RCIC) with the new regulatory and governing body of immigration consultants, the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC). She can be reached at (416) 431-2829 or via e-mail at ssutherland@suthernimmigration.com. View her advertisement in this copy of the *Insight for more information*.

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**THE ST. VINCENT & GRENADINES
ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.**



STRENGTHENING YOUTH FOR TOMORROW

Community Forum

Sunday November 3, 2013

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

York Civic Centre

2700 Eglinton Ave. W (@ Keele)

DOORS OPEN AT 2:30 p.m.

**Join us and Meet with
a Published Author,
Former CFL player, and
Motivational Speaker!**

TOPICS INCLUDE:

Who's the Boss??!

Be Your Own Boss

The Art of Job Finding

Effective Job Skills

Mo' Money, Mo' Money!

Money Management

Raffles! Refreshments! & Prizes!

FOR MORE DETAILS AND UPDATES VISIT WWW.VINCYTORONTO.COM

The St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



(For children 12 years and under)

Sunday, December 14, 2013

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court

Gift for each child

Entertainment

Games

Refreshment

To register, please contact:

Prudence Morton – 905-787-1009; Petra Ryan Phillips – 416-840-7346

Cornetta Mason – 647-829-8155

THE ST. VINCENT & GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INCORPORATED.

Membership Registration Form

Become a Member! Join with us in achieving our goals.

Mission Statement

The St. Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto Inc. (SVGAT) is a non-profit community-based Association. We are committed to providing assistance and support to groups and institutions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Ontario, and wherever the Association deems fit. We are also committed to provide an anti bias forum for Cultural, Educational, and Social and Recreational enrichment and to maintain a network of communication through information and referral.

Objectives:

- To maintain a high level of volunteerism through recruitment, training and effective utilization of skills
- To provide a forum to promote leadership and advocacy for the enrichment of Culture and Education
- To provide an anti bias environment for the discussion of matters of general interest to its members
- To plan, implement and participate in fundraising activities to meet urgent human needs.
- To promote social and recreational events to enrich the lives of Children, Youths, Adults and seniors
- To maintain a network of communication through information and referral

Our membership meetings are held on the LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH from 4:30 p.m. at Northwood Community Centre, 15 Clubhouse Court, (Keele St. & Sheppard Ave. W. area), North York. We hope to see you there!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS: _____

ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP: (1) Single individual - \$40.00; (2) Husband & wife or Common-Law Spouses with no children - \$70.00
(3) Family (Husband and Wife/Common Law spouses with minor children) - \$60.00

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP: (1) Employed (full-time) \$25.00; (2) Employed (part-time/part-time student) \$20.00;
(3) Student (full-time) \$10.00

MEMBERSHIP (please tick): Ordinary Seniors \$20.00 (65 years and over) Youths AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
\$ _____ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please make cheques payable to **THE ST. VINCENT AND GRENADINES ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO INC.** and mail to:
P.O. BOX 392, STATION F, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M4Y 2L8