



Hello! Bonjour! Intro to Canadian Life EX. version

Hello everyone! It's your Coordinator of International relations (CIR) Mary again. In the Kyotanabe City newspaper-*Hotto Kyotanabe* 2018 April issue, I introduced about official languages in Canada. Here I will talk about Canada's immigration system and its history. Canada is often being called the "Country of Immigration". As a country that uses English as its official language, Canada is a popular choice among those who wants to study abroad or experience working holidays. After that, many people wants to permanently live in Canada but how do they do that?

Immigration System and History

The immigration system in Canada has a revolutionary change in the 1960s. Before then, European Caucasians used to be the main source of immigrants to Canada. The environment was severe towards non-white Asian immigrants entering the country. However, after the World War II, the racist issues within the immigration system were examined and improved since then.

The first step of this change was that limits towards immigrants with certain ethnic backgrounds were abolished in 1962. Then, the points system was introduced in 1967 as an objective instrument to evaluate one's qualification for immigration.

Different qualifications such as language skills, educational background and working experiences are measured by points. For example, 20 points for education, 10 points for age and 10 points for language ability and other criterias make up to a total of 100 points. Regardless of one's original country or ethnicity, every applicant will be reviewed under the same standards.

Since 1980 Canada experience a huge increase of immigrants and criterias such as education background and language skills were demanded at a higher level. In order to pass the evaluation, one must score above 67/100.

As more immigrants come to Canada from worldwide and increasing number of application, the application period has become longer to proceed than ever. Some takes over 10 years to proceed. Under Prime Minister Harper's administration, applications were rejected and with limits to certain trades.

