

Spring 2022



WELCOME!

Dear International Students,

Welcome (back) to Canadore College! We are very pleased to have you with us.

After over two years of dealing with the uncertainties of the pandemic, we are hoping that we are nearing the end. Nonetheless, Canadore is truly grateful and amazed at the resiliency of its students and thanks you all for your patience and understanding while we all navigated unprecedented circumstances.

We know though that international students may, at times, still face additional challenges and needs; thus, along with our updated [FAQs](#), website resources and in collaboration with other campus support services, the International department at Canadore College is here to assist you on this journey with Monday to Friday *Summer* walk-in hours from 8:00am to 4:00pm in room C210 - College Drive campus. Should you wish to reach out and ask for guidance on any matter pertaining to international students, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We send the Semester Update each semester. This one is chock-full of our new career tools, information on culture shock and loneliness, upcoming events and services and things to do in the sun this summer. Enjoy!

Best wishes, and welcome again to Canadore College! We hope this semester has started off well for you.

Canadore International

Spring 2022

SPECIAL EVENTS

***Guard Me International Insurance
Orientation - Spring2022***

Monday, June 20

9am - 10:30am **EDT*****Pre-Departure Information Session***

Thursday, July 7

3pm-4pm **IST**Please register **here**

Keep an eye on **iCent** for the
following events:

- ✓ ***IRCC representation at Canadore College***
- ✓ ***CRA Webinar – International Students Presentation***
- ✓ ***Understanding Ontario's Personal Income Tax, Credits and Benefits for International students***
- ✓ ***RNIP Information Webinar***
- ✓ ***Yes Employment - Resume Workshop for International Students***

DID YOU KNOW?

You can find important dates such as breaks,
holidays, tuition fee due dates and
drop/withdrawal deadlines here:

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

And many other events and activities
to discover by watching your
notifications on iCent!

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IN-PERSON EVENTS ARE RESUMING!!

On May 5, the International Department hosted an International Student Appreciation Day. We enjoyed some time indoors and outdoors, some food, lots of good conversation and made new friendships! The International Department plans on having many more such events as the pandemic eases. Keep an eye on social media as well as **iCent** (which is *mandatory* for all international students) for future fun to be had!

One such event will be International Student Orientation set to be held in-person at the end of August/beginning of September!

We hope to see you in-person soon!



A circular graphic composed of various national flags from different countries, arranged in a ring. In the center of the ring, the text reads: "International STUDENT Appreciation Day May 5". Below this, it says "Indoor at 100 Elements College Drive Campus Outdoor weather permitting 3pm to 6pm". At the bottom of the poster, the CANADORE INTERNATIONAL logo is on the left, and the text "Food will be served. Feel free to wear cultural dress. Masking and COVID-19 protocols will be followed" is on the right.

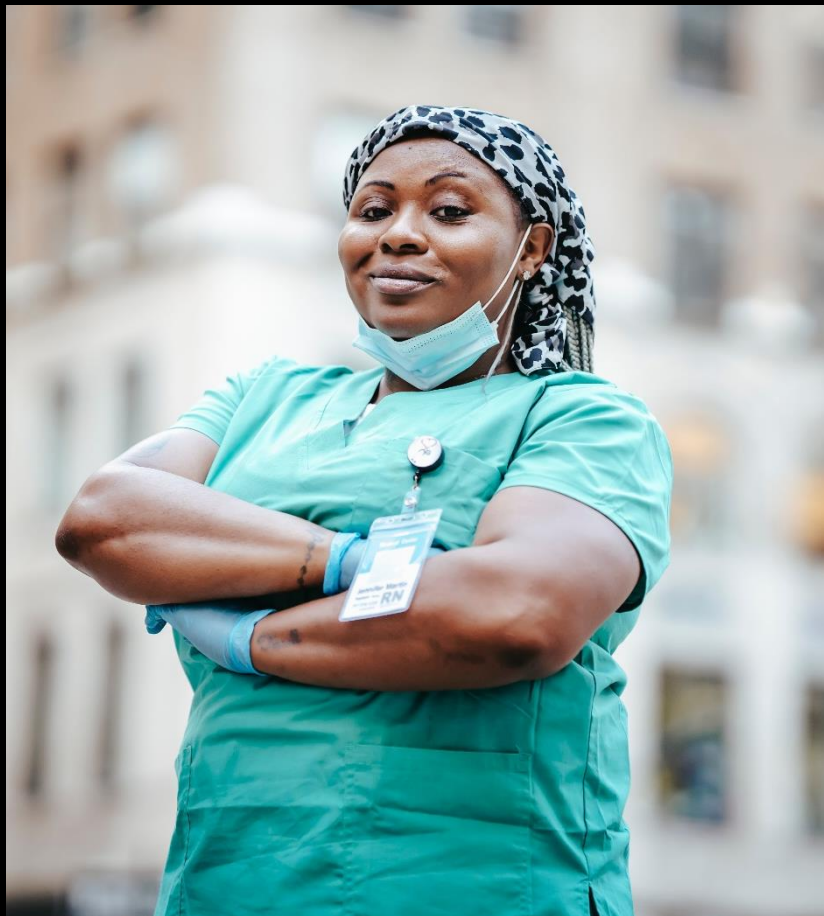
International
STUDENT
Appreciation Day
May 5

Indoor at 100 Elements
College Drive Campus
Outdoor weather permitting
3pm to 6pm

 **CANADORE**
INTERNATIONAL

Food will be served.
Feel free to wear cultural dress.
Masking and COVID-19 protocols will be followed

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DEVANT – Live, Work and Succeed in Canada!

Canadore College has officially partnered with Devant to ensure our students have the tools and resources they need to help them stay, work and succeed in Canada.

Devant understands how challenging the job search process in Canada can be - especially for international students & alumni.

That's why their community of former international students and career professionals have worked together to develop a process that *works* to help you successfully showcase your skills and experiences in the Canadian job market.

With Devant, you have access to their resume tools, live immigration & career Q&As, virtual hiring expos, and can join their Facebook

community of international students & professionals. You will also receive their bi-weekly newsletter packed with job market data!

Tap into Devant's network of professionals and experts! They host regular live interactive workshops, Q&As, and panels on a variety of career development topics so that you can arm yourself with top industry information & advice. Topics include: Job Posting Analysis, Employer Research, LinkedIn Optimization, Interview Skills, and more.

Devant is proud to host 'Get Hired at Home': A FREE virtual career development expo for international students & alumni. Attend online workshops to boost your employability. Then, access 50+ job opportunities and network with 25+ employers live at their virtual booths.

Take a look at this one minute video starring our very own student for more details: [Stay, Work and Success in Canada!](#)

Sign up for FREE today at <https://canadore.devant.ca/>!

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Photo location: [Killarney Provincial Park](#)

SO MUCH FUN IN THE SUN!

North Bay and Parry Sound may only have a few months of warm weather, but we know how to enjoy it! With the many freshwater lakes/beaches, parks, trails, forests, surrounding campgrounds, etc. you never run out of things to do throughout the months of May to October!

Take a leisurely paddle in a kayak on one of our many lakes; or take a fishing rod along and cast a few while you coast; take a cruise on the lake in North Bay or Parry Sound on one of our cruise ships; book a campsite or enjoy the day-use at one of Ontario's many provincial or private campgrounds (some merely 30 minutes away) and spend some time in the sun, on the water and on the trails.

Take a look at what North Bay has to offer throughout the summer months here:

<https://www.tourismnorthbay.com/plan-my-trip/?cat=27>

You could have a Paintball day: [Select Paintball and Airsoft North Bay \(northbaypaintball.com\)](http://northbaypaintball.com)

And don't forget about North Bay's Farmer's Market either: [Homepage - North Bay Farmers Market](#)

Definitely do not miss out on what Parry Sound has to offer either – whether you are attending school there or not, it is just a short 1.5 hour drive away from North Bay. Here's a list of 101 things to do in Parry Sound:

<https://www.parrysoundtourism.com/experiences/101-things-to-do/>

To visit one of Ontario's provincial parks, visit: www.ontarioparks.com

We hope you find the time to soak up some rays and enjoy what North Bay, Parry Sound and Ontario have to offer!

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COMING IN FALL 2022: ONLINE ACCESS TO TRANSCRIPTS AND CREDENTIALS!

Canadore students and graduates will soon have online access to their official transcript and other credentials thanks to a new digital platform.

Launching at Canadore this Fall, transcripts will be issued through MyCreds, powered by Digitary. These digital credentials can be shared securely with post-secondary institutions, employers or other third parties. The documents, which can only be issued at the student's request, are tamper-evident and cryptographically signed, making them authentic and official.

Canadore students and graduates will also be able to download PDF copies of their transcripts and documents from MyCreds platform and print out unofficial paper copies of their transcripts from the PDFs.



**Need a
Completion Letter?**

**You can request
completion letters here:**

[COMPLETION LETTER](#)

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HEALTH INSURANCE

All International Students at Canadore College benefit from inclusion in a health insurance plan. For the health and safety of our students and community this is mandatory and included as part of international students' ancillary fees.

Health Insurance Resources

- A dedicated portal for Canadore College International students to access health insurance has been set-up and may be accessed [here](#).
- Guard.me International Student Health Insurance Orientation can be accessed [here](#).
- For more information, see the Guard.me International [Student Health Insurance Guide](#).

IMPORTANT: Everyone should have received their Health insurance information several weeks ago along with details on how to access your online account.

HEALTH INSURANCE CONTACT

For all questions and concerns related to health insurance at Canadore College, please contact:

International.Insurance@canadorecollege.ca

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING

Whether you are in Canada or studying remotely at the moment, our team of dedicated International Student Advisors (ISAs) are here to help you with a wide variety of topics (including community orientation, housing, immigration-related matters, health insurance, etc.).

Our team also includes a group of current students hired as International Student Ambassadors. Note we hire this group of students every couple of semesters. The next International Student Ambassador could be you! Keep an eye on the Centre for Career Development's webpage for job postings: <https://www.canadorecollege.ca/support/student-employment>

Current international students registered at North Bay or Parry Sound campuses are welcome to walk into our International office room C210 Monday to Friday anytime between 8:00am and 4:00pm. Students are also welcome to book virtual appointments using the following link: [Book a virtual meeting](#)

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EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

The last couple of years have not been easy and many people find themselves struggling to cope with the extra challenges life brings. No matter where you are, there are many services and resources available to support your wellbeing. Please don't be afraid to reach out if you feel like your wellbeing is being affected.

Culture shock and social isolation: You're not alone

Every year, more than 500 000 international students come to

Canada, many of which experience feelings of loneliness, social isolation and culture shock in the first few months.

According to research, international students will experience a sort of rollercoaster of emotions beginning with excitement followed by culture shock and loneliness and finally adjusting and adapting to your new surroundings.

Culture shock is not a sign that anything is wrong. It is normal and eventually goes away leaving you with fond memories when you look back to this time.

Living and attending school abroad is a fantastic opportunity to experience different cultures and traditions – both the positives and negatives are what makes this an adventure!

Many resources are available in the College as well as online to help with your initial feelings of culture shock and isolation. One such resource is the shared experiences of a former international student who was profiled through the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation linked [here](#). This former student offers advice on grocery shopping, finding a part-time job along with other tips such how much you should expect to pay for things in Canada.

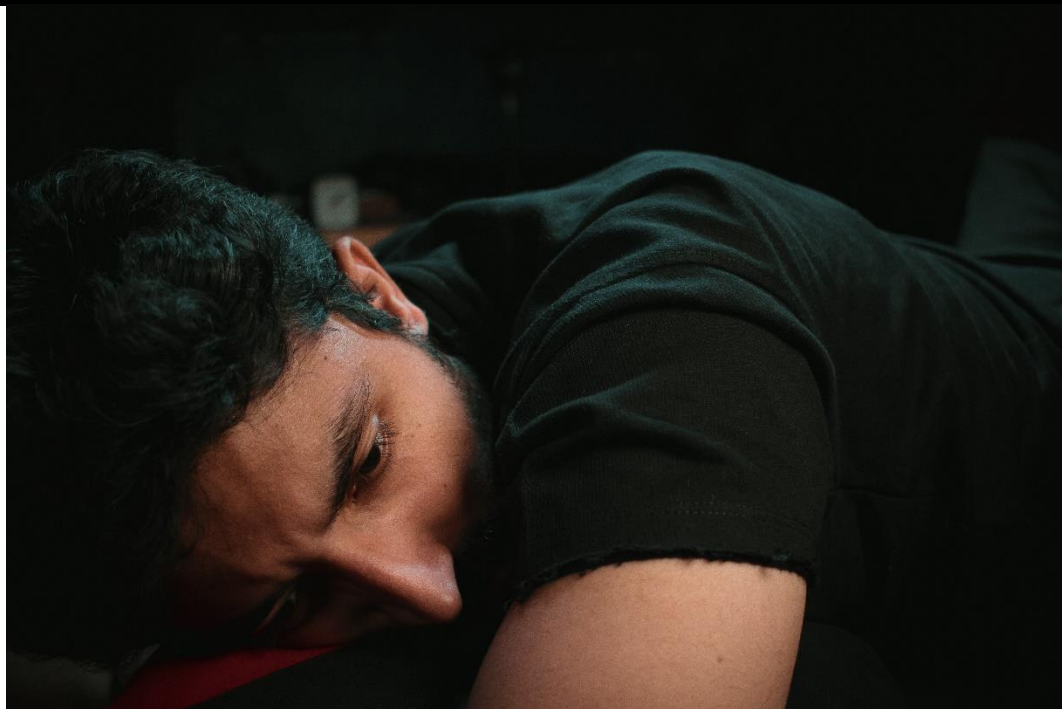
Wishing you a grand adventure here in Canada with stories to share for many years to come!

If You or Someone You Know is in Crisis.

Visit [More Feet on the Ground](#) in the [Are you in Crisis](#) section you will have access to national, provincial and international resources.

*****If you require immediate, in-person emergency care, go to your nearest emergency department, or dial your local emergency services telephone number for immediate help***

Disclaimer: The information provided in this correspondence is not intended as a substitute for medical professional help or advice but is to be used only as an aid.



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COMMUNICATING WITH US

Who can I contact for the quickest response?

For the most efficient response time, please find the most appropriate contact in the below “Who to Contact” sheets separated by campus:

[North Bay/Parry Sound Students](#)

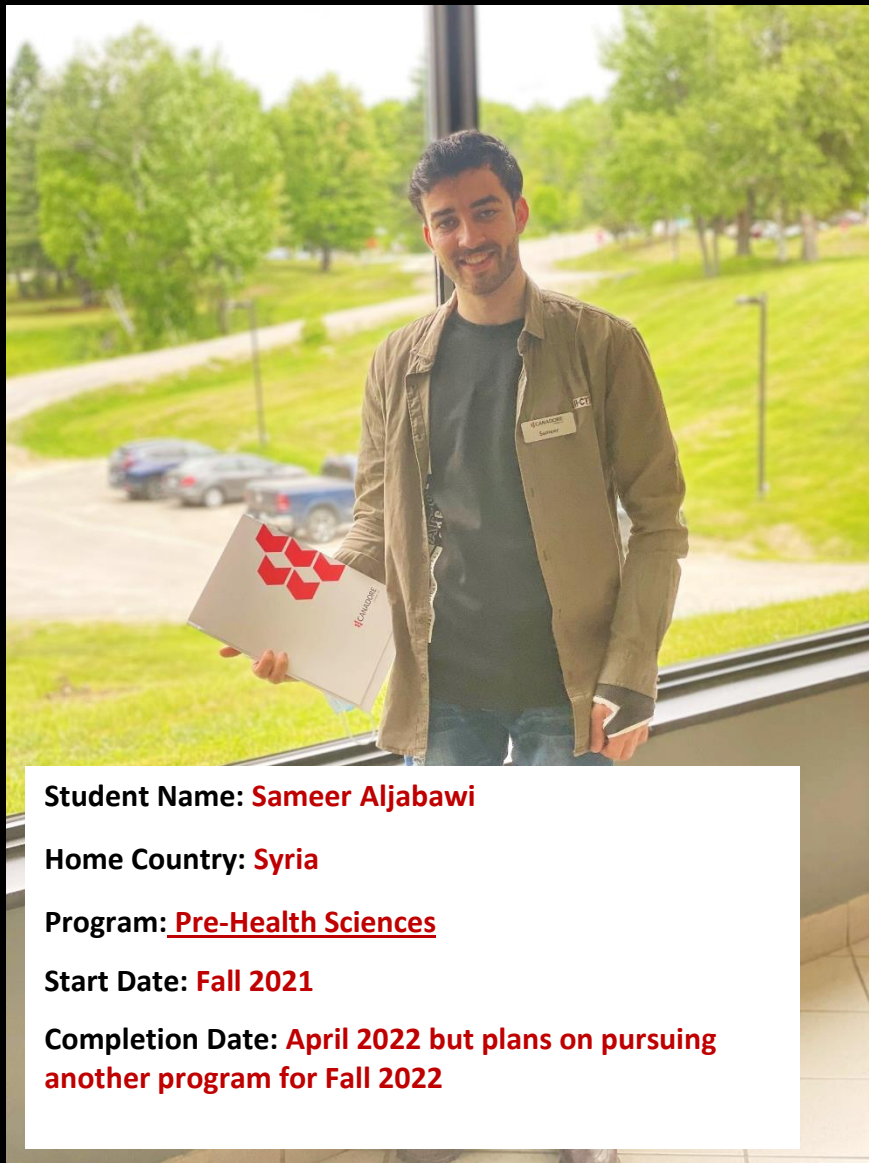
[Toronto Students](#)

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** *contacting more than one person will result in further delays and will not help you in any way. We urge you to review the details outlined above and contact the individual who can direct your query most appropriately.*

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) by International Students

There is a wealth of resources available to international students on our Canadore College website. These include our [FAQs](#). Some of the topics available on our FAQs include: Admissions Requirements, Health Insurance, Travel to Canada, etc.

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INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

For Sameer, the journey to Canada was a fearful and sad one – not the typical international student experience of excitement and awe. It took him and his family a difficult two days to travel from Syria to Jordan where they stayed for a long time before arriving in Canada.

“To come to Canada, required hard work and excellence, such as learning another language, learning the skills you need in your life as a student, and being a strong competitor in a scholarship program in which thousands enrolled; I always sought to develop myself and learn things to help me with my life in Canada.

After finishing high school, I enrolled in many training diplomas, such as managing offices and data analysis, and life skills courses, which helped me get jobs with international organizations in Jordan such as Oxfam and the International Relief Organization. From this point, I started working and enrolled in many volunteer work programs within community support organizations.”

It took much perseverance and hard work to overcome difficult barriers before Sameer was finally accepted as a recipient of the WUSC Student Refugee Program.

Student Name: Sameer Aljabawi

Home Country: Syria

Program: Pre-Health Sciences

Start Date: Fall 2021

Completion Date: April 2022 but plans on pursuing another program for Fall 2022

Sameer arrived at Canadore in Fall 2021 with a warm welcome from the College. He says he chose North Bay as it reminded him of his own hometown. He loves the beauty of North Bay and fondly recalls visiting the Museum to learn of our history. He is especially happy with his experience working in the International Department as an International Student Ambassador.

Sameer graduated this April from the Pre-Health Sciences program and plans on pursuing one of our Mechanical Engineering programs to complete his Engineering degree that he began back home. His ultimate goal is to bring his family here to Canada with him once he graduates.

He says he wants to thank George Burton for receiving him on his first day at the college, Dr. Ahmed Obaide and Dr. Aamir Taiyeb, as well as, the entire staff of the International Department for assisting throughout his academic life at Canadore.

Sameer is very pleased with his experience at Canadore; “My academic experience at the College was an unforgettable part of my life in Canada and I think it is one of the most welcoming colleges for [international] students”.

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WORLD REFUGEE DAY

On June 20th, we observe World Refugee Day - an international day designed to raise awareness of the plight of refugees all over the world. Each and every minute, over 25 people leave their home and everything they own to escape war, terror, and/or persecution. Which is why it is so important for all citizens and governments of the world to think of these refugees, and the issues they face, on this observance day and work together to solve the problem once and for all.

This observance day isn't just to bring attention to the plight of refugees or to encourage people to act on their behalf. It is also a day in which people can honor the bravery, strength and determination of these men, women and children who have to leave the only life they've known to avoid terror and war. Which is why many people hold services to honor refugees who eventually ended up making it.

For more information, please see UNHCR's website: <https://www.unhcr.org/world-refugee-day.html>

A large, high-resolution image of the Earth as seen from space, showing the Western Hemisphere with North and South America. The image is centered in the background of the lower half of the page.

WE STAND WITH REFUGEES