

Spring 2021



WELCOME!

Dear International Students,

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

This semester update is sent once every intake to new and returning international students at Canadore College. It seeks to provide all Canadore international learners with important updates, tips and resources to make them feel right at home at our vibrant college. Our next update will be issued in the Fall of 2021.

While the pandemic has upended our lives in many ways, the staff and faculty at Canadore College have been impressed by the fortitude and resilience shown by members of our entire student body.

We know that international students may, at times, face additional challenges and needs; thus, along with our updated [FAQs](#), our new and comprehensive [International Student Guide](#) and in collaboration with other campus support services, the International department at Canadore College is here to assist you on this journey.

Should you wish to reach out and ask for guidance on any matter pertaining to international students, please do not hesitate to contact us. For the most efficient response, please see the [Who to Contact](#) page on the Canadore College international webpage.

Best wishes, and welcome again to Canadore College! We hope this year will be positive and productive for all of you.

Canadore International

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COME SHARE YOUR IDEAS! Consultations for Canadore's Internationalization Strategy

The development of Canadore's Internationalization Strategy is underway; the opinions, comments, and feedback of our international students are not only needed but are important to help shape the College's strategy.

We invite all of Canadore's North Bay campus registered students to attend this student-only drop-in consultation session on **Tuesday May 18, 2021** from **10am-12pm** via TEAMS.

Come make your voices heard at this special drop-in consultation with the International Department!

[Click here to join the meeting](#). A calendar invitation was also shared in the same email as this Semester Update.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Spring 2021 'Live' International Student Orientation

In collaboration with other service colleagues and The International Department organized a special, live, **International Student Welcome Orientation Event on April 29 from 10 am to 11 am**. All new and returning international students were welcome to attend and notice was sent to students via email.

During this session, hosted by the International Department at Canadore College, we touched on immigration-related matters (including the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program), health insurance, student services, and provided an introduction to the city and community of North Bay.

Recorded Orientation Sessions – Spring 2021

If you missed the above orientation, we have several recorded orientation videos posted to the dedicated Orientation portal for Canadore College. You can access them [here](#).



This includes a special recorded immigration session for Canadore International students. Indeed, earlier this year Canadore College was pleased to offer a webinar for our international students on immigration-related matters.

We invited Elizabeth Long, an immigration lawyer from Long Mangalji LLP, to present via webinar on topics such as maintaining status, conditions of working legally on and off-campus, qualifying for a PGWP, etc.

If you would like a copy of the presentation slides, please email us at Jingxuan.Li@canadorecollege.ca. You can view the recording [here](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

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

[IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES](#)

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INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Student Name: Dhruvraj Jagdish (DJ) Jobanputra

Home Country: Gujarat, India

Program: Broadcasting - Television and Video Production

Start Date: September 2019

Completion Date: June 2021

After beginning his career back home in broadcasting, DJ says he wanted more expertise in *live* broadcast and a “fresh start”. This led him to the decision to attend Canadore College in North Bay where he is pursuing Broadcasting – Television and Video Production. He believed North

Bay would be a unique city where he could meet new people and create new experiences. He arrived in August 2019 and with a limited number of new experiences, we went into our first lockdown in March 2020. DJ was forced to “experience” our beautiful city from the comfort of his North Bay home.

Before lockdown, DJ had one venture he thinks fondly of: when he travelled to Powassan (a small town about 25 minutes south of North Bay) and interviewed a local politician. He says his impression of the people in the community was that they were very kind and helpful.

While he had expected his education abroad to be a little less “virtual”, DJ appreciates the strict guidelines and policies that Canadore College has had in place during the pandemic and credits them for his safety. He is especially impressed by his professors and the education they are providing despite the barriers faced by online learning. He reminisces about when his professor awarded him the opportunity to direct an off-Broadway play, *All in the Timing*, broadcast online and performed at Commerce Court with all safety protocols in place - “The most amazing moment of my time at Canadore”, he says.

Among many activities and lessons, he especially enjoyed his involvement with E-Gaming, the filming of *The International Young Chef Olympiad* and some of the Buy Local Support Local campaigns. DJ appreciates that his professors kept their lessons fun and engaging and believes his knowledge of the broadcasting and television industry has developed beyond his expectation thanks to the interactive and hands-on instruction of Canadore College.

DJ is currently in the process of opening his own digital media production and video advertisement business here in North Bay and has recently created a high-quality video commercial for a local restaurant. We wish you a bright future, DJ!

How welcoming is North Bay? JOIN THE SURVEY!

The North Bay & Area Local Immigration Partnership is asking Canadore College's international students to take 10 minutes to complete an online survey that will help gauge how welcoming a community North Bay is.

It is part of a research project that will help the many community partners prepare programs and activities over the next few years to address issues arising from the survey and community interviews.

Your participation will help North Bay become more welcoming to those international students coming behind you. The survey will be live until May 31, but the North Bay & Area LIP encourages you to respond now, before you forget.

The link to the survey is found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZJNNK2L>

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iCENT APP

A good place for international students to begin their introduction to Canadore College and to the vibrant community of North Bay is the [iCent App](#). Use of the iCent App is **mandatory** for international students at the College.

The iCent app includes access to the [International Student Guide](#), links to our comprehensive [FAQs](#), information on financial aid and student supports, student health insurance, and is also an important mechanism through which international students can receive important messages directly from the institution.

In other words, the iCent app is your one-stop-shop for all matters relevant to international students at Canadore College.

Here is a peak at the iCent notifications sent so far this year:

Webinar: Post-Grad Work Permit & PR	May-06-2021
Art and Design Showcase - Today!	Apr-30-2021
Spring Semester Welcome and Orientation	Apr-27-2021
International Student Advising and Supports	Mar-31-2021
International Student Winter 2021 Semester Updates	Mar-10-2021
Support: Orientation to Ontario – Newcomers	May-11-2021
Beginning Classes Online without Study Permit	Apr-29-2021
Developments in India and Pakistan	Apr-23-2021
Employment Events	Apr-09-2021
CRA/SC International Students Information Session	Mar-25-2021
Mandatory COVID-19 Test during Quarantine	Mar-19-2021
Health Insurance: Pregnancy	Mar-16-2021
Invitation: The Pardesi Project	Mar-15-2021
Event: Challenging Workplace Norms for Better Roles	Feb-23-2021
Upcoming self-isolation changes - Feb 22 onwards	Feb-19-2021

If you would like to view any of these notifications, please download the iCent app and go to *Notifications*.

NEED AN ENROLLMENT LETTER?

You can request your enrollment letter through the Student Self-Serve:

[STUDENT SELF-SERVE](#)

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IMMIGRATION UPDATES

Temporary Public Policies: Temporary Resident to Permanent Resident Pathway

On May 6th 2021, the Government of Canada announced a new Temporary resident to permanent resident pathway. The temporary resident to permanent resident pathway is a limited-time pathway to permanent residence. It is for specific temporary residents who are currently working in Canada and for their families.

You may be eligible for permanent residency if:

- you have work experience in Canada in an essential occupation or the health or health services field, or,
- you recently graduated from a Canadian post-secondary institution.

Streams and application limits

There are 6 streams in this pathway:

- 3 accept both English- and French-speaking applicants;
- 3 are specifically for French speakers.

Check if you can apply:

Each stream has different eligibility requirements.

You can find out if you are eligible for one or more of the streams by answering some questions in IRCC's [eligibility tool](#). If you are eligible, review the [detailed requirements](#) before you apply.

What Canadore College international students should know about the new changes:

- International students can qualify under this program if you have recently (January 2017 onwards) graduated from a program of study at an eligible Designated Learning Institution and have been granted one of the following credentials:
 - A degree from a program that was at least 8 months in length;
 - A degree, diploma, certificate or attestation from a program of any length but which led to an occupation in a trade listed in [Annex A](#) (of this policy); OR
 - One or more diplomas, certificates or attestations, where each program was at least 8 months in length and the combined length of the program(s) was at least 2 years.
- While there is no minimum work experience requirement, the applicant does need to be employed at the time the application is submitted.
- The applicant must have obtained at least CLB 5 in either of the official languages.
- IRCC will be accepting a maximum of 40,000 applications.



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Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) Expression of Interest (EOI) System

The Ontario government has just opened its popular International Student and Foreign Worker streams yesterday. Instead of the first-come, first-serve system of the past, the OINP has launched a new EOI points system that allows applicants who qualify to enter first into a pool. The government will subsequently conduct draws to allow those with points above a certain level to apply under these programs. Here are some details about this system:

The EOI will apply to the Employer-Based Streams (International Student Stream, the Foreign Worker Stream, and the In-Demand Skills Stream) and the Graduate Streams (the Masters Graduate Stream and PhD Graduate Stream).

There will be a number of draws throughout the year (frequency unknown) where the government will issue invitations to apply. Those who receive an invitation to apply will have 14 days to submit their application. Currently only the International Student and Foreign Worker Streams are open. The In-Demand Skills, Masters Graduate, and PhD Graduate Streams are set to open later this year. Further details on the new changes are available [here](#) and [here](#).



Developments in India and Pakistan What Canadore College International Students Need to Know

As you may know, the Government of Canada suspended all flights from India and Pakistan effective April 22, 2021. Full details of the Travel Advisory are available [here](#). For what this means for Canadore College international student, please see [here](#).

Post-Graduate Work Permit Extension

The Post-Graduation Work Permit Program (PGWPP) allows students who have graduated from eligible Canadian designated learning institutions (DLIs) to obtain an open

work permit to gain valuable Canadian work experience. Temporary measures put in place by the Government of Canada to extend international students' eligibility for PGWPs while studying online has been extended to December 31, 2021.

These measures will assist international students by ensuring that studies completed outside Canada will count towards a future PGWP, and by allowing international students to complete their entire program online from abroad and still be eligible for a PGWP. The measures apply to all international students who are enrolled in a PGWP-eligible program and meet all other PGWP criteria. Further details on the IRCC announcement are available [here](#) and operational details are available [here](#).

Disclaimer: The International Department at Canadore College does not provide immigration or legal advice, and the contents of this correspondence should not be construed as such. Students are advised to consult IRCC or a qualified legal representative for advice on how to handle your personal immigration matters. To obtain information related to any immigration-related matter (including study and work permits), you can visit [IRCC's website](#).

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TRAVELLING TO CANADA AND QUARANTINING

If you are an international student that intends to travel to Canada soon, please be reminded that you will need to satisfy the Canadian Government that you will adhere to strict quarantine requirements. This includes having a quarantine plan, sharing it with the College, ensuring you quarantine/isolate for 14 days (3 of these days in a government approved hotel) and providing negative Covid-19 tests. Please see: [A Guide for International Students in Canada Arriving from Abroad](#)

International students that plan to travel to Canada must be aware of the following **Quarantine Steps**:

1. You must submit an isolation plan via the **iCent App** which will be reviewed for approval by the International Dept at Canadore College;
2. After you submit your plans, you **must** then request your travel support letter from: [EmailMe Form - Travel Support Letter Request Form](#);
 - Approval of a quarantine plan will result in the release of a travel support letter;
3. In addition, there is now a requirement to book your first 3 days in a government approved hotel during which time you will be tested before being released to complete the remaining 11 days of their quarantine.

Details on processes to follow for the mandatory 3-day hotel stay are outlined [here](#).

ARE YOUR CLASSES ONLINE?

Find Spring and Fall 2021 academic delivery by your campus here:

[ACADEMIC DELIVERY PLAN](#)

Photo by Ketut Subiyanto from Pexels

QUARANTINE HELPDESK AT CANADORE COLLEGE

Given the public health requirements that international students are subject to, Canadore College has set-up a dedicated team of advisors to assist international students with their travel and quarantine needs. A team of International Student Ambassadors can be reached, Monday to Friday, via email at Quarantine.Approval@canadorecollege.ca or by landline at +1 (705) 474-7600 ext 5425.

Please also consult the [Government of Canada Guide for International Students Arriving in Canada](#) from Abroad, a handy informative document.

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HEALTH INSURANCE

All International Students at Canadore College benefit from inclusion in a health insurance plan. This is mandatory and included as part of international students' ancillary fees.



Photo by Karolina Grabowska from Pexels

Travelling to Canada?

Please contact

International.Insurance@canadorecollege.ca

prior to your arrival in Canada so appropriate health insurance coverage arrangements can be made or you.

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](#).

Pregnancy and Pre-existing Conditions

It is important for international students to be made aware that pregnancy-related expenses may or may not be covered by their health insurance policy. This depends, largely, on the coverage start date for the student.

If a student is pregnant prior to the start date of the policy, their condition may be considered 'pre-existing'*. If this is the case, pregnancy-related expenses may not be covered by the health insurance plan.

*Please note that a Pre-Existing Condition that was not stable in the 90 days immediately before Your Effective Date is not covered. This includes pregnancy before you arrive in Canada and any other medical condition which you knew you would need to or caused you to seek medical advice, diagnosis, care or Treatment in the 90 days before your effective date.

HEALTH INSURANCE CONTACT

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

International.Insurance@canadorecollege.ca

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MEET YOUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISORS

Living and studying in a new country and college can raise lots of questions. Whether you are in Canada or studying remotely, our dedicated team of International Student Advisors (ISAs) are here to help you with a wide variety of topics including:

- Study/work permits;
- Health insurance;
- Quarantine planning;
- Travel support letters;
- International Student Guide;
- Community Orientation.

In addition, our ISAs can help by directing and guiding you to appropriate resources on matters such as mental health and wellness services, financial accommodations, and international student housing.

Current international students registered at North Bay campuses, **meet your International Student Advisors:**

JINGXUAN LI (HINS)

While both ISAs will be able to address and redirect queries as needed, Mr. Li is especially well suited to address study and work permit-related queries. Hins recently received designation as a Regulated International Student Immigration Advisor (RISIA) with the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC).

Current international students registered at North Bay campuses are welcome to book an appointment with Hins by using the following Calendly link:

<https://calendly.com/jingxuan-li>



FRANCINE TELES

While both ISAs will be able to address and redirect queries as needed, Ms. Teles is especially well placed to respond to queries related to health insurance matters.

Current international students registered at North Bay campuses are welcome to book an appointments with Ms. Teles by using the following Calendly link:

<https://calendly.com/francineteles>

Meet Your **New** International Student Success Coordinator – Phi Yen To

Originally from Vietnam, Yen joins us now from Lakehead University where she provided transitional support to international students as well as facilitated events and initiatives that fostered student success and supported student mental health.

Yen supports the cultural transition and experience for Canadore international students. She works through the **Student Success Services** department and can assist with many different elements that pertain to the international student experience at Canadore College.

If you have questions, need assistance, or want to book an appointment please connect with her by email:

yen.to@canadorecollege.ca

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COMMUNICATING WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Correspondence Delays

With several thousand international students registered in 2020-21, and with the pandemic resulting in greater uncertainty for almost all facets of life and study, reaching a staff member for help and support is more important than ever. The International Inbox (international@canadorecollege.ca) consistently receives over 150 emails a day and response times are impacted as a result. At the present time, we are attempting to respond to emails within 5-7 business days.

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 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, Transferring to Canadore College, Health Insurance, Language Proficiency.



**Need a
Completion Letter?**

You can request
completion letters here:

[COMPLETION LETTER](#)

Photo by cottonbro from Pexels

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RAMADAN

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is traditionally a time of reflection, and prayer for Muslims who observe thirty days of fasting from sunrise to sunset as part of the key central tenets of the Islamic faith. It also brings into the fore values such as service to others, gratitude, generosity and compassion. This year, Ramadan began on April 13 and ended on May 12; at the conclusion of Ramadan Muslims celebrate the festival of *Eid al-Fitr*.



Eid al-Fitr mubarak

Photo by Ahmed Aqtai from Pexels