

NEWSLETTER

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My Favourite Holiday in Canada is Thanksgiving Day

I like Thanksgiving because of the turkey, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, stuffing, dessert, and vegetables. The people in Canada make these things very well. For me, this is delicious food. This is a day in my home with my family that we enjoy very much. We watch TV, a nice movie, listen to English music, and eat too much. The whole day is relaxing. We need to keep the turkey in the refrigerator because the turkey is very big for us. On this day, my husband doesn't have to work. He looks fantastic and happy. On this day we go to bed late. *by Gloria Arroyo*



In Canada, Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the first Monday of October.

In the USA, Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November.



My Favourite Meal

I consider that many people have a favorite meal and my case is not exceptional. I have one especially good meal, so that whenever I eat it, I remember my childhood. It is a delicious Mexican dessert that my grandmother cooked on Christmas Day. Its name is the *Salad of Noche Buena*. It is prepared with fruit, vegetables and juice. It is a mix that has something curious. It becomes red from the turnip, and its taste is very exquisite. Maybe I like it a lot because it brings me many memories about those days when all was happiness, above all when I played with my brothers and cousins. So my grandmother, after we played, gave it to us. Since the time that I have been living in Canada (almost six years) I have not had the opportunity to eat it again, and although I have wanted to cook it, I cannot find

all the ingredients to cook it. I hope that over time I can someday eat this dessert again and my daughters have the opportunity to taste it.
by Pilar Avelar



My Favourite Season

Fall is my favourite season in a year because fall is a harvest season. The weather in fall is clear and comfortable. The sky looks higher, bluer and more beautiful. It changes all the time due to the wind. I like taking pictures of the sky, especially the Vancouver sky. The view in fall is wonderful, in the mountains, at the lakes or on the streets. The trees become colorful. I love maple leaves the most.

It reminds me of the red leaves in Xiangshan Mountain and the happiest school time in



Beijing. In Beijing you have to go to the mountains to see the beautiful view of the red leaves, but in Vancouver you just need to go outside your house and enjoy it. So it's a great way to enjoy the fall scene by jogging, hiking and having a picnic.

Thanksgiving Day is my favorite holiday in Canada. The theme of Thanksgiving is harvest, gratitude, and family. Without hard work, you could not harvest happiness and success.

by Helen Yan



My Goal for My Future

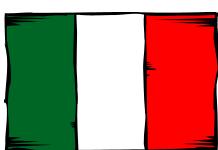
I used to stay home and take care of my children. But now, My children are getting older. I was thinking about my future when they go to elementary school all day. I need to know English if I want make friends or get some jobs in Vancouver. So, I have had a test for an ELSA school, then I started in level 4 about a few month ago.

I come to the school in the morning time. After school I go home and clean the house, then pick my children up at their school. I'm very busy every day, but I try to enjoy my life. Now, I have a dream for my future. I will go to Vancouver Community College when I have enough English for some classes. I would like to study about health care at Vancouver Community College. Then I want to get a job. I hope my dream comes true. *by Kazue Kudo*



Italian Day in Vancouver

On June 10, 2012, I attended an interesting event, Italian Day, along Commercial Drive, in Vancouver. It showed Italian culture, tradition and heritage. It included Italy's music, entertainment, fashion, food, classic cars, and so on.



It was cloudy on that afternoon. When my family went there, I found there were a lot of people there. Some people were watching some performances, and some children were waiting for face painting. In front of a stage, I saw a noodle-eating competition for children. Whoever ate the fastest would win. It was very funny, because the competition didn't allow them to use their hands. So the children put their hands behind their backs, added their heads, and put their faces into the plates to eat noodles. When they finished the competition, I saw there were some noodles on all of the children's faces. Beside the stage, there were some lines for buying some food or drinks. My



husband and my son bought some Italian noodles, but because I don't eat cheese, I only bought some roasted meat. That afternoon, I knew some Italian food.

Overall, we all enjoyed that holiday.

by Mei You



My Goal in the Future

One of my reasons to immigrate to Canada is becoming a member of professional symphony orchestra. It's also my goal in the future. I've been learning violin for almost 30 years. I used to play with a Chinese professional symphony

orchestra. After I came to Canada, I played with Montreal Musicians of the World Symphony Orchestra.

When you feel sad, homesick, or even physically sick, music can soothe your nerves and give you power. I love music very much. I prepared a lot of things to join a professional symphony orchestra. I've taken some auditions in different cities in Canada, such as Ottawa, Calgary, Vancouver. For these auditions, I played violin for almost eight hours each day. It was hard work. You can't imagine it!

I know it's hard to do it, but I will try my best to reach this goal. I believe in myself! *by Mary Mao*



My Favourite Weekend in Vancouver

The first time I went downtown Vancouver was last week, and it was one of the beautiful memories of my life. And what did I see?



Last Saturday, I was bored at home, so I decided to walk around downtown. At first, I walked in Stanley Park. It was a sunny day and it had become warmer than a few days ago. There were many people. Some of them were walking in the park, and others were sitting in chairs talking with their friends. I walked to the middle of the grass and lay down. The sky was so crystal and clear, like I had never seen in China, that I felt very delighted and comfortable. Then I fell asleep quickly. After a short sleep, I began to walk around the next place. I was taking pictures while taking a walk. And I really enjoyed that day. *by Nick Huang*

