

Aga Khan To Visit Canada To Celebrate His Diamond Jubilee; Ottawa, Vancouver And Calgary On Itinerary

OTTAWA: Canada has extended congratulations to the head of the Ismaili community on his Diamond Jubilee. The Aga Khan will visit Canada to celebrate this anniversary.

“While in Ottawa from May 1 to 4, 2018, His Highness will attend a dinner at Rideau Hall, the official residence of the Governor General. The Aga Khan will then continue his visit to Canada, travelling to other parts of the country, including Vancouver and Calgary,” Global Affairs Canada said.

Canada and the Ismaili Imamat have a long history of partnership with programs around the world that have a positive impact on people’s lives.

Ottawa and the community have worked together on a number of development and humanitarian initiatives that target the world’s poorest and most vulner-



able, including women and girls. The Government of Canada and the Aga Khan are also partners in the Global Centre for Pluralism, which champions inclusive and accountable governance, respect

for diversity and human rights.

Quick facts

- His Highness the Aga Khan is the 49th hereditary Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims, a global, multi-ethnic community whose

members comprise a wide diversity of cultures, languages and nationalities, and live in Central Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and North America.

- A devoted humanitarian dedicated to improving quality of life in less-developed regions of the world, the Aga Khan is the founder and chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network, one of the world’s largest private development agencies.

- In recognition of his contributions to human development and improving the condition of societies globally, the Aga Khan has received numerous decorations, honorary degrees and awards, including honorary Canadian citizenship and the Order of Canada. In February 2014, His Highness the Aga Khan was the first faith leader to address a joint session of the Canadian Parlia-

ment. The Aga Khan has been a long-time partner to Canada for many decades, which dates back to the early 1970s. Many Ismailis were living in East Africa at the time when dictator Idi Amin came into power as Ugandan President and ordered the expulsion of Asian residents, including Hindus and Muslims.

Thousands of residents were told to pack up and leave Uganda, given 90 days to exit the country. A friend to Pierre Trudeau, the Aga Khan called the Canadian Prime Minister for help, and Canada opened its doors to thousands of Ismailis, the first time the nation had accepted such a large group of non-European refugees.

Since then, Ismailis from Uganda, East Africa, Central Asia, India, and Pakistan have immigrated to Canada.

Today, approximately 100,000 Ismailis call Canada home.

Immigrant Women Earn Less, Face Barriers

OTTAWA: Immigrant women in Canada face greater employment barriers and earn less money than both male immigrants and Canadian-born women, data compiled by the immigration department suggests.

The information, obtained by the Canadian Press through

the Access to Information Act, shows a persistent gap between female immigrants, both new and established in Canada, compared

with their Canadian-born counterparts. The data also shows that more women arrive in Canada as the spouses of economic immigrants or as non-economic

newcomers or refugees and have lower employment rates and earn less than the average wage.

That, the internal government report says, indicates selection policies for immigration programs are not tailored to capitalize on the economic value of female immigrants.

The report uses internal government data to provide an overview of economic and social outcomes of immigrants from all sources, including economic-class, family-class and refugee streams.

It flags labour market integration as more challenging for female newcomers.

“Unlike male immigrants, a persistent gap exists between very recent, recent and established female immigrants and their Canadian-born counterparts,” the report states.

The data shows similar employment barriers also exist for the children of immigrants, especially those whose parents are visible minorities, despite the fact they achieve higher levels of education than Canadian-born children. Children of immigrants from nearly all visible minority groups earn less than their Canadian-born peers.

Pari Karem, general manager of immigrant services at the YMCA in Kitchener, Ont., works directly with newcomer youth and women. She says she has seen the children of immigrants attain master’s degrees and PhDs, yet still have difficulty

finding good jobs. She attributes this partly to a lack of connections among their parents. Some clients have told Karem they felt employers passed over them for jobs because of their race, she added, calling it a form of “hidden racism” among some employers.

“Just because they finished their education here does not take away some of the stereotypical factors that some employers judge these (people) by, which is their name, their visible minority and it’s unfortunate,” Karem said.

But Karem believes it’s more complicated when it comes to why women work and earn less.

“If I, as a female, think it is my role to only stay home and look after my children, no matter how many programs are out there for me, I’m not going to try them.”

She suggests immigrant women instead need better education about balancing family life with employment opportunities.

Karem believes more education among Canadian-born residents should also be a key part of addressing inequalities facing newcomers. - Canadian Press

7 Things you must know before putting your home up for sale

A new report has just been released which reveals **7 costly mistakes** that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a **9 step system** that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clear how the traditional way of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today’s market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don’t get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make **7 deadly mistakes** that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled “The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar.”

To order a **FREE Special Report** or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your **FREE** copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-247-0277 and enter 1000. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

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Toronto’s AA1 Credit Rating Reaffirmed

TORONTO: The international bond credit rating firm Moody’s Investors Service has reaffirmed the City of Toronto’s credit rating of Aa1 with a stable outlook. The rating action reflects Moody’s assessment of the macroeconomic and funding linkages between the Province of Ontario and its regional and local governments and

government-related issuers.

“Toronto continues to be a solid investment in global markets,” said Mayor John Tory. “The City is on stable financial footing thanks to the good work of this City Council and our professional City staff. Over the last four budgets, we have limited property tax increases to at or below the rate of inflation while investing in important services that our residents expect and key initiatives that keep life in Toronto affordable.”

“Toronto’s size, diversity, and vitality provide for an increasing degree of fiscal independence from the Province and have ensured that the City’s credit rating remains strong,” said Councillor Gary Crawford (Ward 36 Scarborough Southwest), Chair of the Budget Committee. “I’m proud to be part of the steady leadership of Mayor Tory’s administration that has produced four balanced budgets and maintained our City’s excellent credit rating.”

Toronto has AA/AA+ credit ratings Backed by the most diversified economy in Canada which provides access to a broad and stable tax base. The City’s strong credit ratings are a reflection of its relatively high liquidity/cash reserves, debt policies and low debt burden, as well as positive operating results. “Toronto is recognized as an important participant in global financial markets,” said Interim Chief Financial Officer Joe Farag.

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50 yrs.	\$27.74	\$23.28	\$48.20	\$35.91	\$93.96	\$65.79
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