



Hindu Heritage Month At Scarborough Temple, page 10



'Glow Around The World Festival' In Barrie, page 12



WINGS Spreads Joy With Christmas Feast, page 13

Ottawa Is Studying Issue Of 'Birth Tourism'

Numbers In Canada Higher Than Earlier Reported And Is A Growing Trend Finds Researcher

OTTAWA: With new research showing that more babies are born in Canada to foreign residents than Statistics Canada realized, the federal government is studying the issue of "birth tourism" in the hope of better understanding how many women travel to Canada to have babies who are born Canadian citizens.

Using numbers from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), which captures billing information directly from hospitals, researcher Andrew

Griffith found over 3,200 babies were born here to women who weren't Canadian residents in 2016 - compared with 313 babies recorded by Statistics Canada.

The finding suggests not only that the numbers are higher than previously reported, but that it's a growing trend, Griffith says.

"(The data) shows the steady growth in the number of babies born in hospitals to women who are residents of other countries, by absolute numbers and percentage, for all provinces except Que-

bec," Griffith wrote in an article in Policy Options, published by the Institute for Research on Public Policy. "These births total just over one per cent of all live births in English Canada."

A petition tabled recently in the House of Commons by Liberal MP Joe Peschisolido calls on Canada to take stronger measures to end birth tourism, saying it abuses Canada's social-welfare system. Immigration Minister Ahmed Hussen responded by

Continued on page 2



Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Ahmed Hussen in the House of Commons. THE CANADIAN PRESS/Justin Tang



Indian Sikh pilgrims at the shrine of Guru Nanak Dev in Kartarpur, Pakistan on Wednesday. Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the first visa-free border crossing between the two countries. (AP Photo/K.M. Chaudary)

Kartarpur Will Be A 'Corridor Of Peace'

Imran Khan Breaks Ground; Harsimrat Hails Modi's Role

KARTARPUR: Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal on Wednesday said the Kartarpur Corridor will be a "peace corridor" to end bitterness between India and Pakistan.

She praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying his efforts have been reciprocated by Pakistan. Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony of Kartarpur Corridor in Pakistan, Badal, who is a Shiromani Akali Dal MP from Bathinda, spoke in a different vein from Congress' Navjot Singh Sidhu who lavished praise on Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan for the decision.

Shiromani Akali Dal is a partner in the ruling BJP-led National

Democratic Alliance at the Centre and is a rival of Congress in Punjab. She said when the Berlin Wall can fall, so can hatred between India and Pakistan after opening of the corridor. A new beginning can be made, she said.

"It is a historic day for our country as a wish of crores of Sikhs is being fulfilled. History is being made. What could not happen in 70 years has happened with the blessings of Almighty," she said.

She said Sikhs and devotees in India were only a short distance from Kartarpur gurdwara but could pay their obeisances from a distance. "They were so near yet so far. Now they have the oppor-

tunity to get the closest -- for the first time."

Badal said she came as a devotee and was experiencing limitless bliss which she had not thought would come her way.

Referring to the foundation stone of the corridor having been laid in India on Monday, she said she had seen history being made again. "This is a miracle of Baba Nanak."

"When the Union cabinet took this decision, there was no limit to our happiness. When the Prime Minister took this decision, there came another good news (from Pakistan). It will be a peace corridor for bitterness between the two

Continued on page 3

Premier Moe Of Saskatchewan In India On Trade Visit

NEW DELHI: Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe is in India on a week-long trade mission where he hopes to create opportunities for the province's uranium and potash players to grow their exports. He left for India on Friday, November 23.

According to a government news release, Moe will meet with government and industry officials to promote opportunities for trade and investment between Saskatchewan and India.

He is looking to "improve market access" for the province's exports, highlight Saskatchewan's investment climate and strengthen post-secondary links. Moe is also to attend the Indo-Canadian Business Chamber Annual National Convention and Canada-India Business Council's Mumbai Business Forum.

Moe tweeted on Tuesday from Mumbai: "Today, we attended a roundtable with Pulse Importers in Mumbai to talk about the challenges we are both facing and how we can move forward together."

"Saskatchewan produces high quality pulse crops, and India is a vitally important market where we can supply these agri-food products."

From New Delhi, the premier send a message: "We witnessed signing of agreement between @SaskPolytech @UofRegina and Emmanuel Hospital in New Delhi to strengthen ties between our educ institutions."

"Giving students more flexibility to study abroad will grow our

knowledge & let talent flow more freely between SK & India

In the meeting held yesterday at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. between "Hon'ble MoS @KrishnaRajMOS and His Excellency @PremierScottMoe, the Indian priorities in agriculture-related international cooperation and India's long term food security was discussed as well as #DoublingFarmersIncome."

Over the past decade, Saskatchewan has exported more than \$11 billion worth of goods to India, including \$1.15 billion in 2017, according to the government. Saskatchewan was India's largest supplier of lentils and peas, with potash and uranium being other important exports. The govern

Continued on page 2

THE TRUSTED NAME IN REAL ESTATE



MANOJ KARATHA
BROKER
647-22-MANOJ [62665]

PERFORMANCE REALTY INC., BROKERAGE
1140 BURNHAMTHORPE RD WEST, #141,
MISSISSAUGA, ON, L5C 4E9 Tel: 905 270 2000

www.manojkaratha.com

INSURANCE

CAR FOR \$98/MONTH
FOR 2019 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
Multi vehicle, Combined policy, Conviction free,
AEB discounts, \$1M coverage, L9T SR3, 45 yr old
\$500 All perils deductible

LIFE FOR \$12/MONTH
\$250,000 Coverage, Male, 30 yrs,
non smoker, 10 yr term,
Preferred Plus

LIFE AUTO
HOME BUSINESS

CALL NOW TO GET YOUR QUOTE

Sachin (Sam) Narang
Broker, R.I.B. (Ont)

Freedom Insurance Brokers
Call: 416-278-5100

Jagmeet Firm On Not Running In Brampton

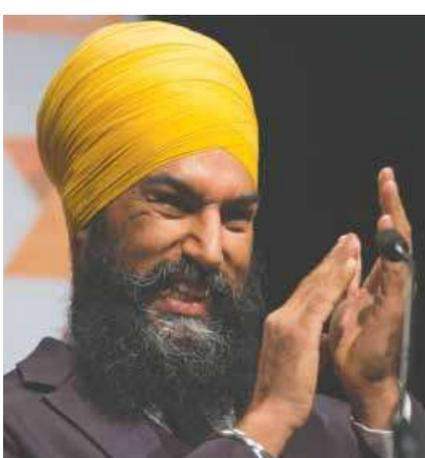
OTTAWA: NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh says he still intends to run in a federal byelection in British Columbia, even though a friendlier riding in his hometown of Brampton, Ont. has suddenly opened up.

Singh says he's chosen to make Burnaby South his federal political home.

"I've made it clear, my decision to run in Burnaby South, and I continue to remain clear on that decision," he said.

On Thursday, Liberal Raj Grewal announced he is resigning immediately as the MP for Brampton East for unspecified personal and medical reasons.

Singh would likely coast to victory in Brampton East, the riding he represented for six years in the Ontario legislature, now held



provincially by his brother Gurratan. Burnaby South, which the NDP won by just over 500 votes in 2015, will be a tougher slog for him.

When he was first elected federal NDP leader last fall, Singh intended to wait until next October's general election to gain a seat in the House of Commons and he said Brampton East was where he wanted to run.

However, under intense pressure to get into the Commons sooner after a shaky start as leader, Singh announced in August that he would run in an eventual byelection in Burnaby South.

That seat was vacated in mid-September by former NDP MP Kennedy Stewart, who ran successfully to become Vancouver's mayor.

Continued on page 3