April Showers... Bring May Flowers

We wish a big congratulations to all those expecting to graduate this year. You're almost at the finish line - hang in there, and before you know it, you'll be done! Bon courage!

This month's newsletter also highlights:

- Immigration Updates
- Programming

Stay tuned for our final newsletter on May 1st with tips for the summer.

And remember that ISS is closed on Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18 for Good Friday and Easter Monday long weekend.

Best wishes,
The International Student Services Team

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IMMIGRATION UPDATES

Special Message to International Students

ISS is here to offer support to all international students in times of humanitarian crises, including interpretation and advice related to new and existing immigration policies. Global events affect us all, including many of us in the McGill community, and we are committed to assisting as best we can. With Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine, our thoughts are with those students and their families affected by the ongoing war.

Immigration Canada recently announced the new Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel program (CUAET). Under this program, Ukrainian nationals and their dependents (regardless of their dependents' nationalities), can apply for, or extend, their visitor visa, study permit or open work permit for up to three years. They will also benefit from faster processing times, the waiver of most processing fees and the elimination of the need for a medical exam to travel (medical tests may be requested after arriving in Canada). Valid biometrics are required but will be exempt from fees.

For more information about the CUAET and how to apply, please see Immigration Canada's Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel and Immigration measures for people affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine webpages. IRCC has developed a dedicated web form and call center for the CUAET program. There you will find details on how to apply, your in-process application or more details...
about the CUAET. To receive email updates on Ukraine immigration measures, please contact IRCC directly.

If you will have any additional questions about the CUAET or require immediate assistance on how to apply for temporary residence under the program, please contact us.

Are your Immigration Documents Expiring Soon?

If your CAQ and/or Study Permit are going to expire soon, you will need to renew these immigration documents as soon as possible. For more information, you can register for an upcoming Renewing Immigration Documents webinar, view a recording of the previous Renewing Immigration Documents webinar, and you can read our step-by-step instructions on the ISS website.

PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Income Tax Sessions for International Students

New! This year, the Canada Revenue Agency and Revenue Quebec will present together to give you the information you need to file both your provincial and federal income tax returns in one session. Please see the schedule for a list of general sessions and sessions tailored to international students.

Monday, April 4th, 4pm - 6pm ET
Monday, May 2nd, 10am - 12pm ET
Register via the Frugal Scholars Website

Coffee with your Career & Wellness Advisors For International Students

"Drop in" to our open zoom forum to meet some of your CaPS Career Advisors and your Local Wellness Advisor (LWA). Our experienced team will answer your questions as we want to make it easy for you to get the career and health information you need, to make the most of your McGill journey.

Wednesday, April 6th from 2-3pm
Register on MyFuture.

Student-Parent Support Group

Our Local Wellness Advisor for International Students is facilitating a Student-Parent Support Group this semester. Are you a student as well as a parent? Do you find it challenging to balance family and academic obligations? Do you feel disconnected from your peers? Join this group and connect with other student-parents to receive support, ideas, and encouragement.
Want to share your knowledge and help new international students?  
Be a Buddy Volunteer!

The International Buddy program is currently recruiting volunteers for Fall 2022!

We expect over 1000 new international student applicants wishing to be connected with a seasoned McGill Student. With the International Buddy Program, you can:

- Make a difference in a new student's life.
- Supplement your co-curricular record.
- Meet new students and ease their transition to Montreal/McGill.

Not sure what to say? The mandatory training webinar covers topics like intercultural communication, will get you ready.

Apply NOW

Still have questions? E-mail us at international.buddy@mcgill.ca

APRIL CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

| April 2: Ugadi                  | April 14: Maundy Thursday |
| April 2 - May 2: Ramadan       | April 15: Good Friday    |
| April 2: Gudi Padwa            | April 17: Easter Sunday  |
| April 5: Qingming Festival     | April 19: Nuzul Al Quran |
| April 6: Tartan Day            | April 21: Ridván         |
| April 10: Palm Sunday          | April 22: Coptic Good Friday |
| April 10: Ram Navami           | April 24: Coptic Easter  |
| April 12: Ghode Jatra          | April 24: Fasika         |
| April 13-15: Songkran (Thai New Year) | April 25: Sechseläuten |
| April 13-16: Maha Thingyan     | April 25: Sham El-Nessim (Egyptian Spring Festival) |
| April 14: Sinhala and Tamil New Year | April 28: Laylatul Qadr (Night of Power) |
| April 14-16: Khmer/Cambodian New Year | April 30-May 1: Walpurgis Night |
| April 14: Baisakhi             |                           |

**If we missed a celebration in your country or region, send us more information at events.iss@mcgill.ca!**