

# OVERSEAS OVERWHELMED

## LET'S GO CANADA . . .

### ***B.C.-Based School Barred from Recruiting New Students***

Kingston College, a private post-secondary school catering to international students, has been ordered to stop recruiting or enrolling new students until a probe into recent allegations is completed.

The school, which has campuses in Vancouver, Burnaby and Toronto, is being investigated by the Private Career Training Institutions Agency, a government-mandated body for the regulation of private schools in B.C. The investigation follows allegations by two Indian students, who said they signed up for a two-year program at Kingston College and paid \$15,000 in fees, on the condition they would get degrees from the American University in London. But according to B.C.'s Advanced Education Ministry, the American University in London is not accredited and Kingston has no authorization to offer degrees from it.

Source: "[Kingston College Ordered to Stop Enrolling Students](#)," *Vancouver Sun*, October 5, 2006

## ABROAD PERSPECTIVE . . .

### ***Australian Industry Now Pegged at \$8.3 Billion (Cdn.)***

The Australian government's estimated value of the country's international education sector jumped by \$2 billion (\$1.7 billion Cdn.) this week, after the Australian Bureau of Statistics revised the assumptions used to calculate it.

The industry is now estimated at \$9.8 billion (\$8.3 billion Cdn.), up from a previous estimated value of \$7.8 billion (\$6.6 billion Cdn.). International education is now Australia's fourth-largest export industry, and employs some 30,000 people.

According to an official with IDP Education, the most recent calculation is based on findings from a recent study by the Department of Education, Science and Training, according to which foreign students spend \$517 (\$436 Cdn.) per week—more than previously estimated.

Source: "[International Education Worth \\$9.8bn](#)," *WA Business News*, October 9, 2006

## OVER THE COUNTER . . .

### ***India Pondering Opening up to Foreign Schools***

A set of reforms now in the works with the Indian government is being watched closely by officials with many foreign universities and colleges.

The new laws would make it much easier for overseas schools to open up branch campuses in the huge, education-hungry country. They are being spearheaded by the current government of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who says he hopes the establishment of foreign campuses in India will allow young Indians to be educated by quality western schools at a fraction of the price they would have to pay to study overseas. But entrenched powers in the country's Union Human Resource Development Ministry are reported to be favouring the continued heavy regulation of foreign-owned campuses in the country.

Among the foreign schools considering expanding its presence in India is Canada's York University, which already has an office in Mumbai.

Sources: "[Will Foreign Universities Come to India?](#)" *BusinessWeek*, October 6, 2006 "[Coming Home to Get a Foreign Degree](#)," *Indian Catholic*, October 3, 2006

## GLOBE TIPPING . . .

### ***Traveling During Ramadan, Part II***

Most Islamic nations are less strict than Saudi Arabia in their observance of Ramadan, the month of fasting, says Mel Broitman, Higher-Edge's director for international outreach. Even among less strictly observant Islamic peoples, however, Western travelers would be well-advised to avoid offending Muslim customs during this important time.

"In all places, one should not eat or drink openly in public in daylight hours, should dress modestly, and refrain from blaring loud music in the open," Mr. Broitman says.

"Bars are usually open in the evening, though dancing and live music usually prohibited. Business is conducted as normal, though the work day is slow and sluggish by mid-afternoon, as Muslims, and even non-Muslims, head home for the 'Iftaar'—the breaking of the fast, which is often done in a festive setting."