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JCS, Prticipate at The Jordanian Abroad CONFERENCE



Al-Mersal-Amman-Jordan:
The Jordanian Canadian Society participated last month in the Jordanians expatriates' abroad conference which was held at King Hussein Bin Talal Convention centre at the resort of the Dead Sea.

His Majesty King Abdullah II opened the conference under the slogan "Jordan Brings Us Together."

The aim of the conference was to strengthen the ties between Jordanians abroad and Jordan, in order to stand together and face the challenges of Jordan.

Also to help develop mechanisms sustainable partnership with Jordan, and to promote their contribution to the development process and improve the services provided to them reflecting the aspirations of Jordanians at home and abroad.

The conference included many themes, interactive sessions, dialogues, issues of concern and round
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Where do you Stand on Canada's Election 2015



By: Harry Ziad Malawi

After Stephen Harper announced the dissolution of the parliament and set the election date for October 19th, 2015, most Canadians began to wonder to whom they should support in the next election.

Should they support the Liberal Party who began to attack the Conservatives fiercely and forcefully, blaming them for mismanagement of the economy, raising taxes, deterioration of the health care system, corruption in the government circles and the Senates scandals, which resulted in criminal charges against number of Senates for embezzlements, bribery and fraud, and the matter is still going before the court... or will they support the Conservative party who ruled Canada for three consecutive terms and managed to elevate Canada's position economically and politically to the top ranks amongst the G8 countries during the harshest financial crises era in the world...?

The Conservatives seems to be losing support and facing real problem, as there about 32% of deciding voters who plans to vote for the Liberals headed by the ambitious, charismatic, and energetic Justin Trudeau, while 29% of the decided voters said that they would vote for the Conservatives, which is 3 points below the Liberals, while 17% of the deciding voters plan to vote for the Democrats. Bear in mind, these figures are preliminary statistics as reported by Canadian media.

The question arises: where are the Arab Canadians stand in this election, in light of the huge number of Arab communities in Canada...?

There are about half a million Arab Canadians in Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto and the GTA, aside from many other Arab Canadian communities in other provinces and territories.

However, before we draw the picture of Arab patriotism, it should be known that Canadian election campaign is not conducted based on ethnicities, race, religions or cultures, rather candidates proudly promote themselves as Canadians, representing all their constituents, regardless of their origin.

Candidates, dare not to represent themselves as Indians, Chinese, Italians, or Arab Canadians, Just Canadians!

However behind the scene, some parties may choose their candidate from an ethnic community where the majority of the voters' background lives

in such riding and many ethnic communities work diligently to support their candidates.

The Arab Canadians Communities participation in the elections, come a long way with noticeable improvement, but they still have more years get ahead and be more active.

From here we must realize that we as Arabs must get more involved in the Canadian political system and be proud as Arab Canadian Citizens.

Although, Canada's foreign policies towards Palestine's issues and the Middle East have become somewhat unbalanced, we as Arab Canadians can change that by working together and participating, and voting in the election, in order to choose a new government that is sympathetic to our needs and issues and be more objective, fair and equitable when formulating a foreign policy towards the Middle East that is consistent with human rights and the international laws.

Although the Arab candidates are few and far in between, but they are significantly influential, extremely effective and vocal.

In this Campaign there are many candidates from Arabic background like; Mr. Omar Algebra who is running for the Liberal Party in Mississauga Square One riding, Mr. Abdoul Abdi a previous Ottawa police officer who is running for the Conservative Party in Ottawa, Mrs. Farah Khan, who is an Executive Director for Women's shelter and Mr. Ali Arif Hamada who is running as an independent candidate for the City of London, as well as many other Arab candidates all over Canada.

The Arabs' participation in Canadian elections is better than before, but we need to keep the momentum and fully indulge ourselves in our great country Canada.

Having a Canadian Citizenship is a privilege and honour and it has its benefits and obligations.

Being a responsible citizen, doing your good deeds, volunteering and voting in Canadian elections is everyone's rights and obligations.

Once we do our part, we have to wait and see the results.

First who is going to form the next government...? and how many Arab Canadians are going to win a seat in the next Canadian Parliament?

The way I see it anyway and may God Bless you and may God Bless Canada...!

Duffy's Trial impacts Harper's Campaign

Al-Mersal-Toronto:
The current election campaign for Prime Minister Stephen Harper is losing momentum as the trial of Michael Duffy puts a negative impact on the campaign.

According to news sources regardless of the outcome of the election the Conservatives are



going to be reduced to a minority government in the Oct. 19 election.

Mr. Harper more likely will stay on to avoid being toppled by

the opposition parties during a leadership convention.

If Mr. Harper formed a minority government, he'd govern for one year, and then would hand off his position to a new leader and prime minister.

The next federal election

Continue Page 6

Ontario's New Retirement Pension Plan

Al-Mersal-Toronto:
Kathleen Wynne introduced a made in Ontario Pension Plan early this month. Her plan was met with oppositions from both sides of the house as well as from Employers, and Employees who have to contribute to the plan.

A recent survey conducted released details showing 44



per cent of Ontarians approve of the ORPP, a slight drop from the last Forum polled in November 2014, when

52 per cent supported the plan.

The Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, which will be introduced in 2017, employees without pensions will contribute 1.9% of their income, which will be matched by employers.

On retirement, the plan will provide an amount equal to about

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\$3.9 Million for Legal Aid ONTARIO..!

In Ontario there is now extra money at hand for low-income workers battling unfair bosses.

The \$3.9 million boost will allow numerous clinics in the Toronto area to launch or expand worker's rights programs.

The new investment will create a more "equal balance of funding per low-income person" for legal clinics across the province, said Nye Thomas, Legal Aid Ontario's Director General of Policy and Strategic Research.

That will mainly benefit clinics in Toronto suburbs, which have seen their low-income population skyrocket in recent years but have not received commensurate funding increases.

The Community Legal Clinic of York Region will see the largest boost relative to other clinics, with a 65 per cent funding increase from last year.

Specialty and ethno-linguistic clinics will also receive annual funding increases of around 15 per cent from 2015/2016.

But even with the increases, many Toronto-area clinics will still be disproportionately underfunded. York Region's legal clinic, which has the largest catchment area in Ontario and serves over a million people, will still be receiving \$10.24 in funding per low-income person even after it's 65 per cent lift. That's just under half the provincial average of \$21.77.

Ensure Your Wedding Goes Off Without a Hitch

Weddings are joyous occasions, but planning one is not always simple.

On average, 59,000 marriages take place every year in Ontario.

And ServiceOntario issues approximately 110,000 marriage certificates and certified copies of marriage registrations yearly.

Among the endless to-do lists and countless decisions to be made, you also need to make sure that your paperwork is in order, and that the person you've asked to perform your marriage ceremony is authorized to perform marriages in Ontario.

A religious officials needs to be registered under the Marriage Act to ensure that your marriage is performed legally.

If you're planning a civil ceremony, a judge, justice of the peace or authorized municipal clerk can perform the ceremony.

"Weddings are an important time in the lives of Ontarians and we want to ensure government is not adding to what can be a stressful experience." Stated, Minister of Government

and Consumer Services, David Oraziotti.

Visit your local city hall, town hall or municipal office to purchase a marriage license.

You'll need two pieces of government-issued identification for each person getting married.

For each person, one piece of ID must include a photo.

If you are remarrying after a divorce, you will also need to have official proof of the divorce.

To register your marriage, you and your spouse, the witnesses and the person who performed the marriage will need to sign the license immediately after the ceremony.

The marriage official will then send a complete and signed marriage license to ServiceOntario.

After your wedding day, ServiceOntario is the best place to get your Ontario marriage certificate.

It's faster, safer and cheaper.

Any other companies offering Ontario certificates collect your information fill out ServiceOntario forms and charge you extra for it.

Longer Campaign, Bigger REBATES FOR CONSERVATIVES

Al-Mersal-Toronto: - The more the parties spend, the bigger the 50 per cent rebates and by spending an estimated \$50-million in the Oct. 19 federal election, the Conservatives will not only outspend the other federal parties, but will also get a larger rebate back from Elections Canada which will give them an edge over other parties after the election regardless of whether Prime Minister Harper wins another government or not.

Tom Flanagan, a former top national election campaign adviser to Prime Minister Harper (Calgary Southwest, Alta.), said the earlier the election call and the longer writ period have two distinct advantages for the Conservatives: they will get a larger rebate and they can spend more on an ad blitz in the final week "if the larger spending cap is hoarded until then."

According to Elections Canada, the spending limit for a national party that runs candidates in all 338 ridings across the country will be \$25,351,880.47 and will increase by 1/37 per day a campaign exceeds 37 days meaning an extra \$685,185.96 for each additional day.

This means an 11-week campaign will allow parties to spend more than \$50-million.

Parties are entitled to receive rebates of up to 50 per cent of their eligible expenses and candidates up to 60 per cent.

A candidate can spend about \$100,000 at the riding level, on average, and for each additional day on top of 37 days, would allow each to spend an extra \$2,700.

In the last election when 308 ridings were in play, the spending cap for the major national parties was around \$21-million.

In that election, the New Democratic Party spent \$20,319,567, the Liberal Party \$19,483, 917, the Conservative Party \$19,457,420, and the Green Party spent \$1,924,478.

Because of the redistribution of electoral boundaries, the House of Commons has been boosted from 308 to 338 seats for the next election, including: 15 new ridings in Ontario, six in Alberta, six in British Columbia, and

three in Quebec.

With new added seats, there will be a total of 121 seats in Ontario, 34 in Alberta, 42 in British Columbia, and 78 in Quebec.

Elections Canada does not keep track of any money spent by a political party or third parties such as unions, interest groups and business

lobbies prior to the start of the election campaign.

Legal spending limits come into effect when the writ is dropped.

For outside groups, the advertising spending cap for the next election is \$4,116 per riding, or \$203,800 for a national campaign. Elections Canada requires third parties to register if they spend \$500 or more during the writ period.

Since the last federal election, the Conservative Party has raised about \$76.2-million, Liberals about \$46.6-million and the NDP \$30.2-million, according to Sun Media.

University of Toronto political science professor Nelson Wiseman said, that if a riding association does not have enough money to compete with other parties, national parties, or other riding associations who have extra money could transfer money to the ridings where money is needed.

But a Conservative source said, theoretically speaking, it's true that money can be transferred from wealthy ridings to the ones that don't have enough money; however, it's a complicated process.

He said there are not a lot of Conservative ridings that can loan or give away extra money especially in an unprecedented election when there will be a lot of three-way races, and after the Alberta provincial election as well as the last federal election results in Quebec, no riding can be considered as a safe riding.

"It's hard to get money from the other ridings and national (party headquarters) seldom give out money," the source said.

Prof. Wiseman said that money is important in elections but past experiences at the provincial and federal level have indicated that money is not necessarily the only determining factor of the outcome in all elections.



Safer to Drink Water Thanks to Minister Approved CTC Source Protection Plan

By: Lana Richards.



An approved protection plan that takes into account the quality and quantity of our drinking water will take effect on December 31, 2015. The most comprehensive plan of its kind ever produced in Ontario.

"This is a significant milestone for the protection of safe, high quality drinking water in the CTC region," Deborah Martin-Downs, CAO of Credit Valley Conservation said. "The Source Protection Plan is the result of collaborative work with public health and safety as the focus."

The committee was spearheaded by 21 members and the chair representing municipalities, businesses and the public who live or work in the area. The plan ensures clean, safe drinking water is made available to everyone. Offering an extra layer of protection for quality,

commercial, as well as ecosystem needs.

Currently, more than 98% of the population in the CTC region depends on Lake Ontario as a source of drinking water. And while they're lucky to have such an abundant source of high quality water, it is vulnerable to spills of contaminants.

For those who depend on rural wells, water quantity issues can occur during prolonged droughts or as the population increases.

There are a number of different types of activities that can affect the quality and quantity of drinking water under the Clean Water Act, 2006: Waste disposal, sewage systems, pesticides, road salt, commercial fertilizer, agricultural and non-agricultural sources, organic solvents, chemicals used in de-



sustainable drinking water for the more than seven million people who rely on it every day

The plan was originally submitted in 2012, undergoing numerous comments and revisions with participating municipalities to ensure additional policies and threats were developed and addressed.

The CTS Source Protection Region contains 25 large and small watersheds and span over 10,000 km², from the Oak Ridges Moraine in the north to Lake Ontario in the south. These are complex and diverse regions in terms of population, geology, and physiology with conflicting water uses, for drinking, recreation, irrigation and agriculture,

icing of aircrafts, activities that take water and doesn't return it, livestock grazing, and activities that reduces the recharge of an aquifer.

"The Source Protection Plan includes a suite of policies based on science with a goal of safeguarding our sources of municipal drinking water." Said Chris Darling, CAO, Central Lake Ontario Conservation.

The Source Protection Plan directs municipalities, provincial ministries and other agencies to adopt specific policies or include the plan in legal decision-making to protect sources of municipal drinking water. Landowners, businesses and farmers are responsible for complying with the policies.

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Iran buying French warplanes?

Al-Mersal-Toronto: There were important security aspects to Laurent Fabius' visit to Iran recently, the first by a French foreign minister in 12 years. After the trip, Iranian government spokesman Mohammad-Bagher Nobakht said that "France could satisfy our need for Mirage warplanes buying new Mirage planes is the first priority of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force [IRIAF]."

During the first Gulf War, Iran gained access to a small number of Iraqi Dassault Mirage F-1 warplanes.



The aircraft were moved to Iran from fear of destruction in dogfights with more modern Western planes. Rather than returning them, Iran seized the aircraft as part of compensation for its 1980-88 war with Iraq.

Iran now possesses 24 Mirage F-1BQ and F-1EQ planes.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an IRIAF major said, "I don't think that our Ministry of Defense wishes to purchase French aircraft for our air force."

We have a lot of weaknesses in the air force fleet; our fourth-generation fighters, such as MiG-29, have not been upgraded to the SMT mode, our F-14s are still 'A' models and our close air support planes, such as F-5 Tigers, are so old.

The reality is that our enemies around the region have the most modern American and Russian warplanes."

Russian warplanes are a more likely option for Iran.

Last month the commander of the Iranian navy visited the

2015 Russian Navy Arms Expo.

During the visit, Iranian military sources said that the Russians requested an arms procurement list from Iran. Additionally, Iran's defense minister, Brig.

Gen. Hossein Dehghan, met with his Russian counterpart during his recent visit to Moscow, and the two sides signed a military cooperation agreement.

Of note, Russia has been the only country that has sold warplanes (MiG-29s and SU-24s) to Iran after its

1979 Islamic Revolution.

Hence, Iranian commanders have more confidence in Russia than Western countries such as France or the United States.

Moreover, over recent years, the Iranian armed forces' doctrine and equipment have changed from Western to Chinese and Russian.

Furthermore, China like Russia has enjoyed good military relations with Iran over the past three decades.

During the Iranian navy commander's visit to China in October 2014, the two sides agreed on military cooperation, and the Chinese defense minister said that China sees Iran "as a strategic partner." Chinese fighters such as the J-10 and J-17, which Pakistan has purchased, are old multirole aircraft.

The newer fifth-generation J-20 fighter is not an option for Iran either; it's still in the final testing phase and China won't sell its latest military technology to another country.

TIME TO STEP UP FOR FOOD SECURITY

Al-Mersal-Toronto: Around the world, 795 million people suffer from hunger and malnutrition.

The good news is that the leaders of the 7 richest countries have big plans to change this.

Just recently, these leaders announced that they aim to lift 500 million people out of

hunger and malnutrition by 2030. This is fantastic news. If translated into action, this will be a significant contribution to ensuring that the people who are currently suffering from hunger and the hundred

millions more who are malnourished will have access to nutritious food year round.

It will allow children to develop their full potential, it will increase economic productivity and it will save

millions of lives currently lost to malnutrition.

In short it will give everyone the opportunity to survive and thrive.

But world leaders need to start now to mobilize the financial resources for food security and agriculture to make this promise a reality.

They need to empower smallholder farmers, promote sustainable agriculture and prioritize the nutrition needs of the most vulnerable in fragile contexts as well as of children and women everywhere.



Duffy's Trial impacts Harper's Campaign

Continue from Page 1

is nine weeks away and most polling numbers show that it will yield a minority government.

A poll of 1,000 Canadians released last week by Nanos Research had the Conservatives at 31.2 per cent, the NDP at 30.4 per cent the Liberals at 28.6 per cent and the Green Party at five per cent.

Prime Minister Harper has never offered any clear indication as to what his plans are after the election but Conservatives agree that if they lose, their leader will resign on his own.

"In a minority government, he may very well stick around and do another one, especially if he thinks he can win," said Keith Beardsley, former deputy chief of staff to Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The only complicated scenario is what would happen if the Conservatives win a minority government because a lot depends on the makeup of the new House.

"Depends on the nature of the minority Parliament ...I think the Prime Minister would make an assessment then," said Tim Powers, vice chairman of Summa Strategies.



The new 338-member House will have a different makeup as more than one-quarter of MPs will be new, 58 replacing retiring MPs and 30 elected from the new ridings.

Both opposition leaders

have claimed that their parties will form the next government. At a minimum, both leaders will have to show an increase in their seat count if they fail to form the next government.

Prime Minister Harper



won the Canadian Alliance leadership in 2002 and, after the merger of the two right-of-centre parties, won the Conservative Party leadership in 2004. If the Conservatives are reduced to a minority, some party members may call on Mr. Harper to step down and let a fresh face lead the party.

Another Conservative source said Mr. Harper could get around that problem with a tactic he's used in the past.

The source said Harper could prorogue Parliament to give them time to hold a convention.

Tim Powers pointed to the historical precedent of the 1980 federal election when Pierre Elliott Trudeau had already stepped down as Liberal Party leader but returned to lead his party after then-prime minister Joe Clark's government was defeated in the House.

University of Ottawa Political Science professor Robert David agreed that Mr. Harper's decision to stay or leave in a minority government scenario would depend on how many seats each major party wins and if any other leader resigns.

"It depends on the score he gets in this particular election," Robert David said.

Pointless Phrases You Keep Including in Emails

Al-Mersal-Toronto: Over 100 billion emails are sent each day, and the average time spent reading each one is 15-20 seconds. Keep it short, especially since 65 percent of all email is opened first on a smaller mobile screen.

Rambling on and on or typing irrelevant phrases is just as bad as verbally spouting out gibberish in front of clients or managers.

One way to ensure your message is received and that your reputation isn't compromised in the process is to eliminate these meaningless phrases from your emails.

1. "Please be advised ..."
This phrase is often used because it sounds professional, but it is always unnecessary. Instead, be direct and concise.

2. "Please do not hesitate to contact me ..."

When you use this phrase, you're once again stating the obvious.



3. "I just ..."

This phrase is a subtle message of subordination, of deference, sometimes it self-effacing even duplicitous.

4. "I think ..."

Whenever you're communicating in emails or in real life you need to appear confident with your message.

5. "Enclosed please find..." or "Attached please find..."

It may seem minor, but nothing can actually be enclosed in an email.

6. "I hope you are well ..."

This phrase is usually written on two occasions. In one instance, it appears

right before you hit the recipient with something that's undesirable.

The other is when you want to feign a close relationship with or genuine interest in someone when there is none.

7. "I thought I would reach out ..."

This seems very timid and portrays insecurity. Instead, simply write out your message or question and be direct.

8. "Can I pick your brain?"

Instead, make a point to share an interesting or helpful insight with the recipient, letting that person know that you

desire a two-way street of collaboration between the two of you in the future.

9. "To Whom It May Concern ..."

Using the above phrase instead of naming the individual makes you seem unconfident and unnecessarily formal.

10. "Sincerely Yours ..."

In the past, this phrase was a popular shortening of more affected closings, but in today's email communication, it sounds very formal and insincere.

Generally, you can close an email with a simple "Thank you" or just your name.

"Cheers" is another fun option that conveys well-wishes without coming across as stuffy or stuck up.

Step up to the plate and write better email. Your colleagues will appreciate the brevity of your messages, and you'll get a better response when your requests are clearer.

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GLOBALIZATION AND THE CHINESE MERCHANT

Al-Mersal-Toronto: - The city of Asyut sits in the heart of Upper Egypt, at a crescent-shaped bend in the Nile River, where the western bank is home to a university, a train station, approximately four hundred thousand people, and three shops in which Chinese migrants sell racy lingerie to locals.

These shops are not hard to find. The two other shops, China Star and Noma China, are less than a block away. All three are owned by natives of Zhejiang province, in southeastern China, and they sell similar products, many of which are inexpensive, garishly colored, and profoundly impractical.

There are butt-less body stockings, and nightgowns that cover only one breast, and G-strings accessorized with feathers.

There are see-through tops decorated with plastic gold coins that dangle from chains. Brand names include Laugh Girl, Shady Tex Lingerie, Hot Love Italy Design, and Sexy Fashion Reticulation Alluring.

Upper Egypt is the most conservative part of the country.

Virtually all Muslim women there wear the head scarf, and it's not uncommon for them to dress in the niqab, the black garment that covers everything but the eyes.

In most towns, there's no tourism to speak of, and very little industry; Asyut is the poorest governorate in Egypt.

Apart from small groups of Syrians who occasionally pass through in travelling market fairs, it's all but unimaginable for a foreigner to do business there.

And yet Chinese lingerie dealers scattered throughout the region.

In Beni Suef, at an open-air market called the Syrian Fair, two Chinese underwear salesmen had somehow embedded with the Syrians

the lightweight, form-fitting dresses that Chinese dealers refer to as suiyyi, or "casual clothes." No Upper Egyptian woman would wear such garments in public, but it's acceptable at home.

This is one reason that

because there are so many restrictions on public attire.

But on the whole this subject doesn't interest Chinese dealers.

Few of them are well educated, and they don't perceive themselves as being engaged in a cultural exchange.

On issues of religion, they are truly agnostic: they seem to have no preconceptions or received ideas, and they evaluate any faith strictly on the basis of direct personal experience.

"The ones with the crosses are they Muslim?" one Chinese dealer asked.

He had been living for four years in Minya, a town with sectarian strife so serious that several Coptic Christian churches had been damaged by mobs armed with Molotov cocktails.

He was under the impression that women who wear head scarves are adherents of a different religion from that of those who wear the niqab.

It was logical: he noticed contrasts in dress and behavior, and so he assumed that they believe in different things; a monolithic label like "Islam" meant nothing to him. In general, Chinese dealers prefer Egyptian Muslims to Christians.

This is partly because Muslims are more faithful consumers of lingerie, but it's also because they're easier to negotiate with.

The Copts are a financially successful minority, and they have a reputation for bargaining aggressively.

This is what matters most to Chinese dealers for them, religion is essentially another business proposition.



who were hawking cheap clothes and trinkets.

Minya, the next city to the south, had a Chinese Lingerie Corner in a mall whose entrance featured a Koranic verse that warned against jealousy.

In the remote town of Mallawi, a Chinese husband and wife sell thongs and nightgowns across the street from the ruins of the Mallawi Museum, which, not long before the Chinese arrived, had been looted and set afire by a mob of Islamists.

Valentine's Day is one of the few times of the year when most China Star customers are male.

Usually, it's only women in the shop, and often they buy

the market for clothing is so profitable: Egyptian women need two separate wardrobes, for their public and their private lives.

Usually, they also acquire a third line of clothing, which is designed to be sexy.

Chinese dealers rarely speculate about their Egyptian customers, even the ones they see frequently.

Kiki said, that some local women visit two or three times a month, and they acquire more than a hundred sets of the nightgowns and panties, so China Star changes its stock every two months.

When pressed the Chinese to analyze the demand, they often said that it's because Egyptian men like sex, and

When Pulled over by a police officer, what must you do?



Al-Mersal-Toronto: - Police can stop a vehicle at any time to determine whether the driver has consumed drugs or alcohol, to see whether the car is mechanically fit, to check whether the driver has a valid licence, or to ensure the driver has insurance.

The police may also stop a vehicle where they suspect the driver has committed a driving offence.

"You have a legal obligation to provide three documents: your driver's license, ownership and insurance - you don't have an obligation to answer any questions beyond those documents," Toronto criminal defence lawyer Reid Rusonik says. "Having said that, you're dealing with an individual whose armed and could be having a lousy day, so having a good attitude can be more important than your rights under the law."

Specific rules vary between provinces. In Ontario, section 216 of the HTA says you must immediately come to a safe

stop when pulled over by a police officer.

If you don't immediately stop, you could face a fine between \$1,000 and \$10,000 and up to six months in jail.

If it turns into a chase, the fines could be up to \$25,000.

If you're pulled over, stay in the car, turn on the interior lights, roll down your window and put your hands on the steering wheel.

A traffic stop is one of the most dangerous things an officer can do because he doesn't know who or what is in the vehicle, stay in your vehicle and wait until the officer asks you for your information if you're digging around in the glove compartment, we might think you have a weapon."

Once stopped, you have to show your documents. If you don't have them with you (it's a \$110 fine for not showing your licence), police can detain you until you identify yourself.

Generally, your passengers don't have to answer questions or provide identification.

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Book-lending kiosk at Union Station

Al-Mersal-Toronto: -The Toronto Public Library hopes to roll out a book-lending machine at Union Station by the end of the year.

If it's successful, more could be on their way.

The move is a novel idea aimed at making the library more accessible to Torontonians and broadening the number of users, which sits around 18.5 million annually.

"You aren't expecting a library presence in Union Station, so it will be a convenient way for commuters to access library content," said Ana-Maria Critchley, the library's



manager of stakeholder relations. Because the organization is still seeking vendors to take on the project and working with stakeholders at Union Station to choose a spot for it, she said the machine's exact functions have yet to be determined.

However, a library report earlier this year said initial planning for the kiosk

"focussed on access to high demand books and DVDs," but "may be adjusted to incorporate downloading e-books."

A report from earlier this year said that if the Union Station machine is well received, others could follow at high-traffic community locations, Eglinton Crosstown stations and library lobbies. The report placed the cost for a single kiosk at about \$200,000, but acknowledged that "There may be ongoing staffing costs associated with kiosks if physical library materials are circulated." The machine will be funded by the city, according to the report.

Ontario New Retirement Pension Plan

Continued from Page 1
15% of the employee's pre-retirement income.

At the same time, outright disapproval is growing as 40 per cent of those surveyed disapproved of the ORPP, compared to 28 % in November.

That's even higher than the 32 per cent opposed in the middle of Ontario's 2014 election campaign.

The poll suggests that as Ontarians learn more about the ORPP, they're increasingly skeptical.

But that opposition may depend largely on region and demographics.

A Mainstreet Research survey for Postmedia found 59 % of Torontonians supported the ORPP, and the more recent Forum survey showed 52 per cent support in the 416 region.

The Forum poll also shows opposition to the plan is highest in the 905, at 45 per cent, compared to 42 per cent support.

Given that all parties are targeting the Greater Toronto Area in the federal election campaign, retirement security could yet prove a wedge issue for voters.

Premier Kathleen Wynne has positioned the ORPP as an investment in retirement security and alternate to expanding the Canadian Pension Plan, and federal Liberal leader Justin Trudeau has promised to help with implementation where Harper has thrown up road blocks.

The Conservatives have dubbed the pension plan a "payroll tax."

The government will start to phase in the Ontario

Retirement Pension Plan in 2017, when the largest companies must either enroll employees or offer what the province deems a "comparable" plan.

Medium, small and other businesses will be added by 2020, when the province hopes 3.5 million residents will be a part of the ORPP.

In 2022, the first crop of retirees will be able to draw down on the plan, though it's unclear how much they will receive.

Someone making \$45,000 a year would pay about \$16 a week into the plan, though the first few thousand dollars of income will likely be exempt, as is the case with CPP.

After 40 years paying into the ORPP, the worker would be eligible for about \$6,400 a year in benefits.

JCS, Prticipate at The Jordanian Abroad CONFERENCE

Continued from Page 1
tables discussions. Jordanian abroad was encouraged to partake and participate in public development services provided to expatriates, and promote investments and tourism especially in the city of Aqaba.

The Jordanian Canadian delegation was one of the largest delegation at the conference, which including the delegation of Jordanian Canadian Society President Mr. Ziad Malawi Freihat, Mr. Mohammed Bondugji, Mrs. Ihsan Saeed Al-Khattab, Mrs. Ilham Qutaishat

and Mrs. Reem Al Zoubi, while Dr. Sahar Al-Majali ED for JCS participated electronically.

While in Jordan, JCS delegation participated in several activities and visited number of cultural and social events to promote the spirit and the goodwill on behalf of all Jordanians in Canada.

Mr. Ziad Freihat also conducted several interviews, with TV, radio and newspapers where he praised His Majesty King Abdullah II efforts in caring for all his sons and daughters at home and abroad and for His Majesty's initiative in

sponsoring and conducting this successful conference with all its meanings and goals.

Mr. Freihat received a thank you message from the Foreign Minister and expatriates affairs the Hon. Nasser Judeh, to all Jordanians in Canada.

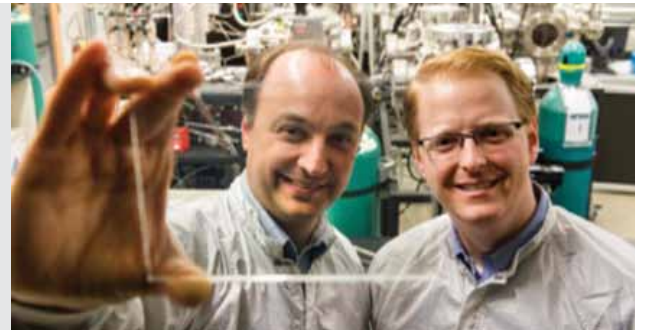
His Excellency Ambassador Bashir Al Zoubi also sends an open letter thanking everyone who participated in the conference and requesting their comments, concerns and feedback, pointing out the following website for the results and the outcome of the conference.

NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT SOLAR ENERGY

Research has boosted solar panel efficiency over time. But some scientists argue that to truly take advantage of the sun's power, we also need to expand the amount of real estate that can be outfitted with solar, by making cells that are nearly or entirely see-through.

Transparent solar is based on a fact about light that is taught in elementary school: The sun transmits energy in the form of invisible ultraviolet and infrared light, as well as visible light. A solar cell that is engineered only to capture light from the invisible ends of the spectrum will allow all other light to pass through; in other words, it will appear transparent.

Organic chemistry is



the secret to creating such material. Using just the simple building blocks of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and a few other elements found in all life on Earth, scientists since at least the early 1990s have been working on designing arrays of molecules that are able to transport electrons—in other words, to transmit electric current.

Harvesting only the sun's invisible rays means sacrificing efficiency. That's why Kopidakis says his team mainly focuses on creating opaque organic solar cells that also capture visible light, though they have worked on transparent solar with a small private company in Maryland called Solar

Window Technologies that hopes to market the idea for buildings.

"There is generally a direct trade-off between transparency and efficiency levels," says Barr. "With the approach we're taking, you can still get a significant amount of energy at high transparency levels."

Kopidakis notes that organic solar has another advantage over conventional silicon solar panels, which typically are manufactured by treating the silica in quartz sand in a high-temperature furnace. It requires far less energy to make organic solar coatings, and should cost far less once manufacturing is underway.

Will Iran Match Words With Deeds?

Al-Mersal-Toronto:
According to the terms of the recently signed Iranian nuclear deal, more than 30 years' worth of sanctions against Iran will be lifted by the end of this year.

It is widely expected that a torrent of foreign capital will rush into Iran, and the Islamic Republic will be open for business.

The Obama administration has unwittingly given Iran its greatest strategic victory since the end of the Iran-Iraq war in 1988.

Iran is no longer an aspiring regional power: it is now a great regional power.

But Iran's new place in the world means that it has exchanged the despondency of isolation for the misery of power. Great powers have great problems.

The deal is bound to set in motion a whole new socio-political and cultural dynamic in Iran's domestic and foreign affairs.

Lifting sanctions means



military leadership against radical Sunni groups will be indispensable given Iran's strong showing against the so-called Islamic State.

However it may be received and digested over the next few months, the nuclear deal with Iran is undoubtedly the opening of a new chapter in global geopolitics, geo-economics, and geo-energy—a new chapter full of opportunity and danger for everyone involved.

Relations between Canada and Iran may now have the potential to change.

It seems that Obama is betting that the Iran Deal and lifting sanctions will enrich and empower factions within Iran that could be described as liberal and friendly to the West.

It is too soon to say how new political and social dynamics within Iran will play out, and Canadian diffidence may well be wiser than American optimism.

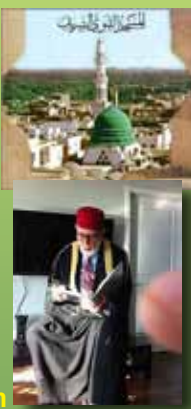
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2nd Annual Lebanese festival "OLOL Lebfest"

Al-Mersal-Toronto: - With great pride and pleasure JCS, was pleased to join Our Lady of Lebanon 2nd annual Lebanese Festival (Lebfest) which was held on August 14,15 & 16 at the Parya Trillium Foundation in Markham, Ontario. The event was held to raise funds for Our Lady of Lebanon Church. During the past two years, the

Festival has become a social event, with greater attendance with more sponsors, volunteers including our own Graphic Designer Mr. Maroun Hage and many participants. His Excellency Msgr. Paul Marwan Tabet, the Maronite Bishop of Canada opened the festival with a mass and thanked everyone for their efforts.

The event included arts craft , vendors, kids activities, baked goods, delicious Lebanese food, live entertainment provided by singers Ziad Imaz, Tony Jalbout and Jad Rahme, with fun and sun for one and all young and old. The event was sponsored by many great samaritans with AC Contractors being as the major sponsor of the Event.



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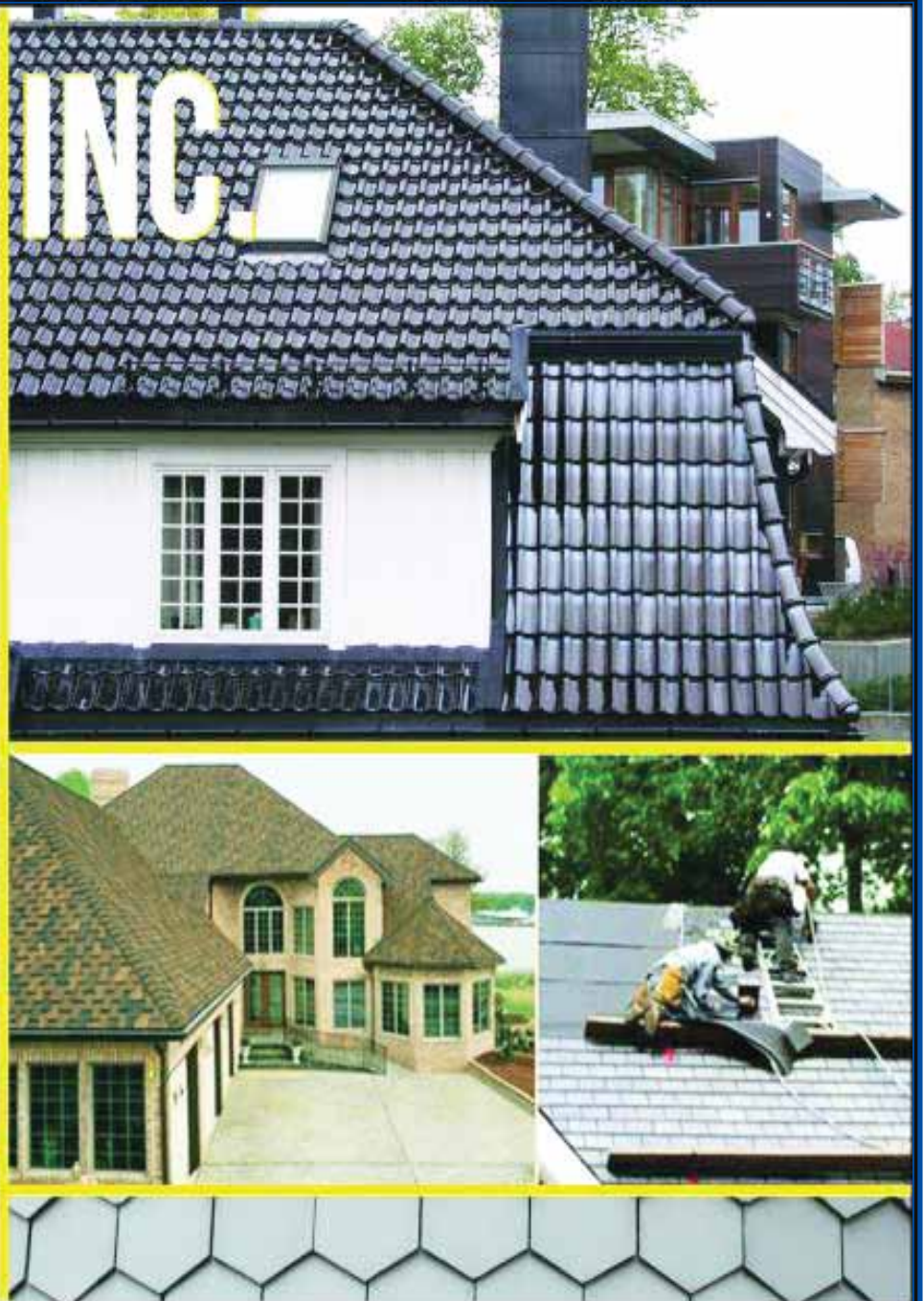
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