

# **The Connection**

"Keeping our Community Connected"

# **MARCH 2024**

Monthly Newsletter of the East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc. acknowledges that we are on Treaty 4 territory, the ancestral lands of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota and the Métis Nation.



We have adjusted our office hours to align with the holidays

Our adjusted hours are as follows:

## CLOSED on March 29 & April 1

Otherwise, our staff is available Mon to Fri from 8 am to 12 pm and 12:30 pm to 3:45 pm. Call (306)783-2777 to book an appointment.

Information from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)...

# Additional information about International Student Program reforms.

As of 8:30 a.m. ET on January 22, 2024, most new postsecondary international students at the college or undergraduate level must provide a provincial attestation letter (PAL) from a province or territory with their study permit application.

## **CLICK HERE**

For more information



# This is HOME

Meet Maria Cole-Gayle

Settlement Worker in Schools (SWIS)

Maria Cole-Gayle is a multifaceted individual whose life revolves around empowering others and making a positive impact in her community. As a dedicated and loving mother of two children, ambitious entrepreneur, and a passionate community activist, Maria exemplifies resilience, compassion, and a relentless drive for change.

Born and raised in the vibrant Caribbean nation of Jamaica, Maria spent her former years studying and garnering experience in the business field. Driven by a thirst for knowledge and a desire to create a better future for herself and her family, she made the bold decision of migrating to Canada.

With a background in education and her love for people, Maria currently holds the role of a Settlement Worker in Schools (SWIS) at the East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre. In this capacity, she dedicates herself to supporting newcomer students and their families, facilitating their smooth transition into the school system and helping them become integral members of the broader community.



Maria Cole-Gayle stands as more than just a community figure; she's a cultural ambassador. Every summer, Maria organizes two of the city's most anticipated cultural festivals, that serve as a cultural fusion, making room for diversity, inclusivity, and heritage.

In October 2023, Maria's dedication and exceptional contributions were rightfully recognized when she was bestowed with the prestigious honour of being among Canada's Top 100 Black Women to watch. Wow!

As a mother, entrepreneur, and community activist, she continues to inspire those around her to dream big.



# **Community Activities & Events March 2024**

Here is a list of some of the upcoming activities or events happening in our community!

If you are interested in any of these please call our office at

(306) 783-2777 and we can help you register and /or attend with you.

## **Fitness and Integration**

What: Guided Workout for Newcomer Women

When: Thursday March 7 - 7:00pm

Where: Anytime Fitness Gym-216 Smith St Yorkton, SK S3N 3S6

Cost: FREE



### **YAC Presents - Piano Heist**

What: A musical Adventure with Nico & Patrick When: Wednesday March 13, 2024 - 7:30 PM

Where: At the Anne Portnuff Theatre Cost: Tickets available at YAC Website



## **Post Secondary Information Session**

What: An informational Forum for Grades 11 & 12 Students and individuals wanting to

further their education

When: Friday March 22, 2024 - 6:00 pm - 8:00pm

Where: At East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre INC., Unit H, 132 Broadway St. West

Cost: FREE.



### **SINP Information Session**

What: learn more about the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP)

When: TBA

Where: At East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre INC., Unit H, 132 Broadway St. West

Cost: FREE



### **Conversation Café**

What: A fun and Interactive Group Hangout for Newcomers

When: March 27, 2024 — 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Where: At East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre INC., Unit H, 132 Broadway St. West Cost: FREE Contact: Contact Ruel - rguthrie@ecnwc.ca or call (306)-783-2777 to register



### **Multifaith Festivals in March**

**Buddhism** - March 17-23 - Festival of Higan-e M - jõdo-shū Hinduism - March 25 - Holi\*

Judaism - March 24 - Purim Christianity - March 31 - Easter

Islam - March 12 - First of Ramadān\* Shinto - March 20 Shunbun-no-hi

These dates were highlighted in the Multifaith Calendar which is distributed by the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan



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and Citizenship Canada



