

Dear friends and supporters of the Hispanic Canadian Congress,  
We are once again thrilled to share with you our June monthly newsletter.  
We are grateful for your support and encouragement.

Warmly,  
Monique Forster  
President  
Canadian Hispanic Congress

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**King Charles Visits Canada to Reaffirm Sovereignty Amid U.S. Tensions**



CBC News reported that King Charles III and Queen Camilla paid a two-day official visit to Canada, in a symbolic move aimed at reinforcing the country's sovereignty amid recent remarks by U.S. President Donald Trump suggesting Canada is America's "51st state."

At the request of Prime Minister Mark Carney, the royal couple arrived in Ottawa aboard a Royal Canadian Air Force plane and were welcomed by Carney, Governor General Mary Simon, Indigenous leaders, and a military band.

During their stay, they toured the capital, greeted crowds at Lansdowne Park, dropped the puck at a street hockey game, and planted a symbolic tree at Rideau Hall.

Using soil from all 13 provinces and territories, the King planted a blue beech—a tree long associated with resilience and adaptability. The event drew an enthusiastic crowd, who spontaneously sang God Save the King and O Canada. Charles later met privately with Simon, while Queen Camilla was sworn in as a member of the King's Privy Council for Canada, wearing the iconic diamond maple leaf brooch.

The visit's highlight came when King Charles delivered the Speech from the Throne, marking the first time a reigning monarch has done so in Canada since 1977. This ceremonial act opened the new parliamentary session and underscored the enduring constitutional role of the Crown in Canadian democracy—particularly relevant in the face of growing geopolitical tensions with the U.S.



**Carney Reaffirms Immigration Priorities in New Mandate Letter**



CIC News reported that, in a recent mandate letter to his cabinet, Prime Minister Mark Carney outlined two key immigration goals:

- Bringing immigration down to sustainable levels
- Attracting top global talent to grow Canada's economy

These were listed as some of the government's seven main priorities.

Carney's Liberal platform acknowledged that previous immigration growth had strained housing and public services. As a result, the party committed to keeping permanent immigration below 1% of the population per year beyond 2027, with planned targets of 395,000 new permanent residents in 2025, 380,000 in 2026, and 365,000 in 2027.

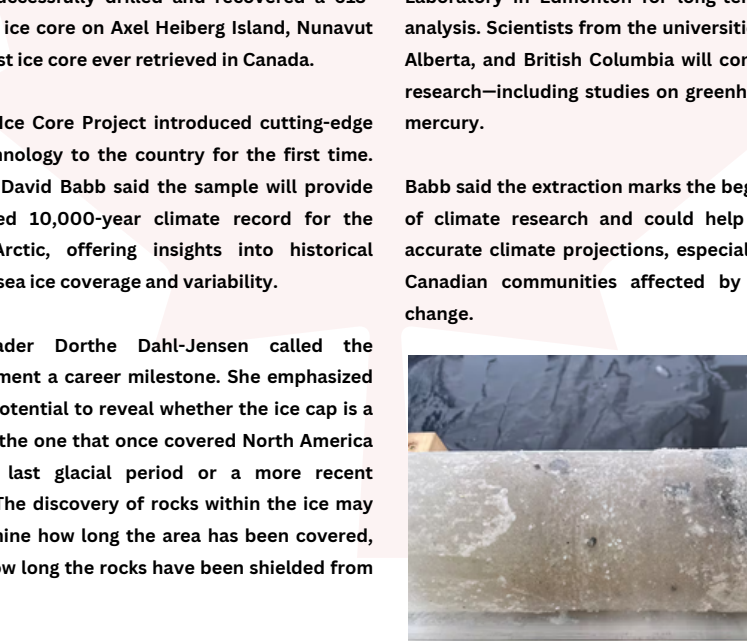
At the same time, Carney emphasized the need to update and expand the Global Skills Strategy (GSS) to bring in high-demand talent through expedited work permits, with processing in as little as two weeks.

The government also pledged to work with provinces and territories to fast-track foreign credential recognition, ensuring that skilled newcomers can more quickly integrate into the Canadian workforce.

These proposals build on policies developed under former Immigration Minister Marc Miller, at the end of Justin Trudeau's administration.



**Poilievre Says Conservatives Will Fight for Change in New Parliamentary Session**



As reported by CBC News, Pierre Poilievre, leader of Canada's Conservative Party, told his caucus that they will push for policies to make the country more affordable, safe, self-reliant, and united. Though he lost his own seat in the federal election, Poilievre addressed MPs in Ottawa ahead of the new session of Parliament.

He reiterated campaign promises such as promoting housing construction by slashing taxes and red tape, scrapping the industrial carbon tax, and toughening penalties for violent crimes. He also introduced a new demand: a spring budget that fully reveals the deficit and cuts government spending, taxes, and inflation.

Despite his opposition stance, Poilievre expressed willingness to work with Carney to eliminate U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods. He also reaffirmed his commitment to domestic economic development through projects like mines, pipelines, LNG plants, and hydro dams.

Having lost his seat in Carleton to Liberal Bruce Farnjoy, Poilievre is expected to run in a byelection in Alberta, where Conservative MP Damien Kurek plans to step aside. Until then, Poilievre will continue living in the Stornoway residence, typically reserved for the Leader of the Opposition.

Mark Carney, for his part, told his expanded Liberal caucus that the government "will fight to ensure that Canadians get the best relationship possible with the United States, and we will take the time to do so."

He added, "At the same time, we will strengthen our partnerships with reliable allies. Canada has what the world needs, and we will defend the values that the world respects."



**Researchers Extract Deepest Ice Core Ever Found in Canada**



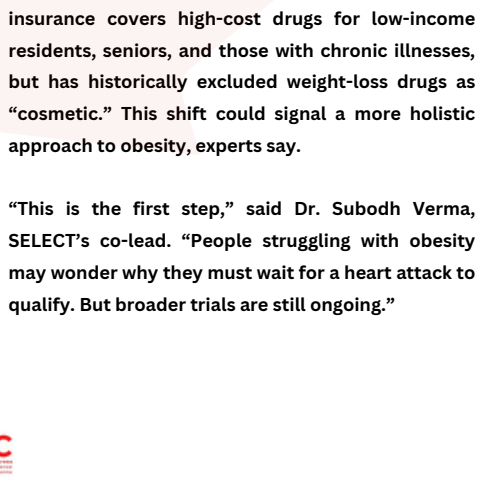
CTV News reports that, a team led by the University of Manitoba successfully drilled and recovered a 613-metre-deep ice core on Axel Heiberg Island, Nunavut—the deepest ice core ever retrieved in Canada.

The Muller Ice Core Project introduced cutting-edge drilling technology to the country for the first time. Researcher David Babb said the sample will provide an estimated 10,000-year climate record for the Canadian Arctic, offering insights into historical patterns of sea ice coverage and variability.

Project leader Dorthe Dahl-Jensen called the achievement a career milestone. She emphasized the core's potential to reveal whether the ice cap is a remnant of the one that once covered North America during the last glacial period or a more recent formation. The discovery of rocks within the ice may help determine how long the area has been covered, based on how long the rocks have been shielded from sunlight.

The ice core was transported to the Canadian Ice Core Laboratory in Edmonton for long-term storage and analysis. Scientists from the universities of Manitoba, Alberta, and British Columbia will conduct extensive research—including studies on greenhouse gases and mercury.

Babb said the extraction marks the beginning of years of climate research and could help develop more accurate climate projections, especially for northern Canadian communities affected by environmental change.



**Fewer Teens Are Learning to Drive – and It's Not Just Because of Uber**



The Globe and Mail says that across North America, fewer teenagers are rushing to get their driver's licences when they turn 16 – and rideshare apps like Uber are only part of the story.

Young people are also discouraged by the cost of driving, the availability of public transit, digitally based social lives, and more accommodating parents willing to give rides. According to Young Drivers of Canada, the average student is now over 20 years old, with many enrolling only when required by work.

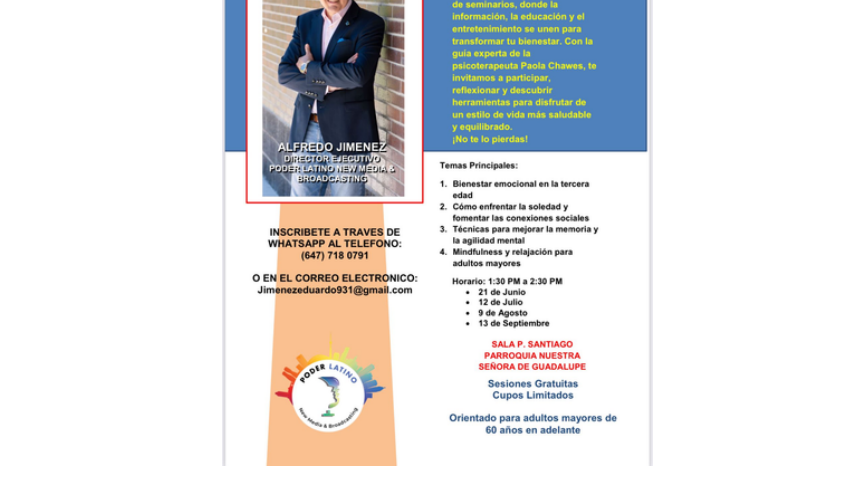
Instructors say today's roads are more stressful and distracting than ever. The increase in traffic and the prevalence of drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians on their phones has led to a greater focus on defensive driving techniques and situational awareness.

Anxiety is another barrier. To address this, driving schools like Young Drivers have introduced online mental wellness courses that teach breathing and relaxation techniques to help students manage the stress of driving.

While some like 16-year-old Anthony Martella in Vaughan, Ontario, still pursue their licence with enthusiasm, more and more teens are waiting – sometimes by years – before getting behind the wheel, as driving instruction adapts to a more chaotic and tech-distorted world.



**Provinces Should Cover Wegovy for Patients With Heart Disease, Says Drug Agency**



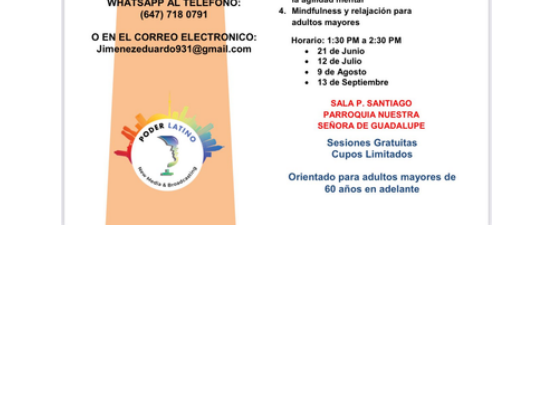
The Globe and Mail says that Canada's Drug Agency has issued a landmark draft recommendation: provincial drug plans should cover Wegovy, a weight-loss drug, for patients with a BMI of 27 or higher and pre-existing cardiovascular disease. The recommendation is based on new data from the SELECT trial, which showed that the weekly injection of Wegovy reduced the risk of heart attacks, strokes, or cardiovascular death by 20%. If adopted, Wegovy would become the first weight-loss medication covered by Canada's public drug plans, though only for patients with prior heart disease or peripheral arterial disease.

Wegovy is a high-dose version of semaglutide, the same drug behind Ozempic, originally approved for Type 2 diabetes but widely used for weight loss. Health Canada updated Wegovy's label in late 2024 to include cardiovascular protection.

The agency estimates public coverage could cost up to \$3.5 billion over three years, though costs could be significantly lower if the manufacturer, Novo Nordisk, cuts its price by 67%. A year's treatment costs more than \$5,000 per patient.

This recommendation reverses a 2022 stance, when the agency dismissed Wegovy due to insufficient data. Now, with strong evidence from SELECT, public funding is back on the table. Currently, public insurance covers high-cost drugs for low-income residents, seniors, and those with chronic illnesses, but has historically excluded weight-loss drugs as "cosmetic." This shift could signal a more holistic approach to obesity, experts say.

"This is the first step," said Dr. Subodh Verma, SELECT's co-lead. "People struggling with obesity may wonder why they must wait for a heart attack to qualify. But broader trials are still ongoing."



**BLUE MOUNTAIN** JUNE 20-22    **ST. CLAIR** JULY 5-6    **TREMBLANT** AUGUST 22-24

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*The Renewed Golden Era*

¡Este es el momento perfecto para que las comunidades hispanicas se unan y se apoyen mutuamente en la lucha por la justicia social y la equidad! En esta oportunidad, la comunidad hispanica de Toronto se une a la comunidad hispanica de los Estados Unidos para celebrar la llegada de la nueva presidenta de la comunidad hispanica de Toronto, la Sra. MARIA GUERRA, y la nueva presidenta de la comunidad hispanica de los Estados Unidos, la Sra. KATIE HERNANDEZ.

Temas Principales:

1. Bienvenidos a la comunidad hispanica de Toronto
2. Bienvenidos a la comunidad hispanica de los Estados Unidos
3. Bienvenidos a la comunidad hispanica de Toronto y a la comunidad hispanica de los Estados Unidos
4. Bienvenidos a la comunidad hispanica de Toronto y a la comunidad hispanica de los Estados Unidos

Horario: 1:30 PM a 2:30 PM  
• 12 PM a 1:30 PM  
• 12 PM a 1:30 PM  
• 12 PM a 1:30 PM

**SALA 4 SANTO DOMINGO**  
PARROQUIA MARISTA  
8800A ST. LAWRENCE  
Scarborough, Ontario

Orientado para adultos mayores de 65 años en adelante

Resources for Everybody

The Canadian Hispanic Congress displays details about government and community services available to all. From health and employment to free language resources and immigration assistance.

For more information, visit:  
<https://canadianhispaniccongress.com/education/>



CHC Community Services

The Canadian Hispanic Congress invites you to visit our website and learn about the different resources and support made available by the government and community organizations!

NEED HELP?



Visit our Webpage

Learn about the different resources and supports for the entire family.

To sign up for our newsletter please email us at:  
[membership@canadianhispaniccongress.com](mailto:membership@canadianhispaniccongress.com)

We ask for your support by following us on our social media accounts shown below.

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