As many of you likely know by now, Premier Ford announced distance learning will continue to the end of the current school year. This has been a very challenging time for many of our international students, and we have been hearing from several students that they are unsure of their plans to return home. The uncertainty of travel restrictions and valid travel documents was still a challenge for students reentering Canada for studies in the fall.

The WCDSB International Education Department is in the process of finalizing a quarantine strategy for all students returning home. Our team understands the need around travel planning, valid travel documents, quarantine, and student health and safety. We will be sharing these details in the next few weeks.

COVID-19 Refund Policy

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Waterloo Catholic District School Board has added an addendum to their refund policy for the 2020-21 School Year only. It is designed to provide some flexibility to students and families who may find themselves in new financial situations as a result of the pandemic.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on societies, travel, social and economic aspects, as well as health and well-being. The Ministry of Education announced that students registered in a WCDSB international program in 2020 will have their fees refunded for that portion of the summer, including a special section of eLearn OLC40 for international students in July as well as an IELTS Preparation Program in August.

WOW!! ANOTHER OPTION...STAY IN CANADA FOR THE SUMMER!

- JULY – study Literacy OLC course (mandatory to graduate) $700
- JULY – study Advanced Literacy OLC course (mandatory to graduate) $700
- JULY – study English OLC course (mandatory to graduate) $700
- JULY – study English OLC course (mandatory to graduate) $700
- JULY – study Advanced English OLC course (mandatory to graduate) $700
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Survey of WCDSB International Students on Summer Plans

In May, a short survey was sent out to all WCDSB International Students to help plan supports through the summer and year-end celebrations. This survey was important to us and is one of the many important questions that we had as we continue to plan supports for students, especially those who are unsure of their ability to attend school in Waterloo for the fall.

After this time, ‘students might need to travel outside of Canada to complete academic requirements or for personal reasons. Similarly, we need to be prepared to accommodate students who are unable to return home. This was particularly important to help students who may have the ability to attend school in Waterloo, but may still be unsure of their plans to return home.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on societies, travel, social and economic aspects, as well as health and well-being. The uncertainty of travel restrictions and valid travel documents remains a challenge for students reentering Canada for studies in the fall. The COVID-19 Pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on societies, travel, social and economic aspects, as well as health and well-being. The uncertainty of travel restrictions and valid travel documents remains a challenge for students reentering Canada for studies in the fall.

COVID-19 Update from Public Health

The Waterloo Region Public Health (WRPH) has announced that the first case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been confirmed in the Waterloo Region. This case is located in Waterloo Region and is being managed by WRPH. This is important to note for our international students and staff.

Dealing with STRESS during the Coronavirus Outbreak

Are you thinking of returning home for July & August?

Do you want to think carefully about your decision?

Yes, I will return home.

No, I will stay in Canada.

I am still unsure.

If you are considering returning home for the summer, please consider the following:

1. Assess your ability to attend school in Waterloo for the fall.
2. Consider your financial situation and how it will be affected.
3. Consider the impact on your academic progress.
4. Consider the impact on your mental health and well-being.
5. Consider the impact on your family and friends.

WOW!!! Not sure what to do to prepare for the return journey? Here are some tips:

- Check the latest travel advisory from your country of origin.
- Check the latest visa requirements.
- Check the latest immigration requirements.
- Check the latest health and safety guidelines.
- Check the latest quarantine requirements.
- Check the latest travel insurance requirements.

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