

# January/February 2015 Newsletter

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# Things To Do...



### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

In Canada, the new year of 2015 will begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>. It is a *statutory holiday*.

Many Canadians celebrate the arrival of the new year by hosting a party on the night of December 31<sup>st</sup>, or by attending a public celebration or party with friends and family. Often these parties continue until very late at night, so many people spend the first day of the new year trying to recover.

It is a tradition to make one or more resolutions as the new year begins. These are promises or commitments people make to change and improve their lives. For example, someone might make the resolution to stop smoking in the new year. Many of these resolutions are broken by the end of January.

# What Does This Mean?

A statutory holiday is a day when all government offices and banks, are closed. Most other employees are allowed, by law, to take the day off with pay.





# WINTERLICIOUS

Toronto's winter culinary celebration is the perfect opportunity to discover diverse cuisine in a variety of local restaurants.

Details here: Winterlicious 2015 - Winterlicious - Special Events Office | City of Toronto

Guide here: http://wwwToronto.com – Winterlicious: Jan. 30 – Feb. 12 2015.toronto.com/guides/winterlicious/

DID YOU KNOW? ...

Level 1 (Beginner) Some Canadians swim in a lake on New Year's Day. This is a <u>Polar Bear Dip</u>.

To see a Polar Bear Dip Click Here: <u>http://www.chch.com/hundreds-</u> <u>take-polar-swim/</u>

## Winter Driving Safety from the CAA

What do you need to be ready for winter driving in Canada? What do you need for an auto emergency?

Find a complete check list and more:

Hyperlink: Winter Driving

### What if I am in a Collision?

Learn what to do if you are in a collision. The information is provided by the Government of Ontario. Hyperlink: http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/topics/reporting.shtml



Level 2 (Intermediate) Some Canadians swim in an icy lake on New Year's Day. It is called a <u>Polar Bear Dip</u>. The people swim to raise money for a charity.

#### Level 3 (Advanced)

Some Canadians celebrate New Year's Day by participating in a group *Polar Bear Dip*. These organized events take place throughout Canada. Brave participants plunge into a bitterly cold lake on this day, in nothing but a bathing suit, despite the freezing temperatures. They do it to raise money for a charity and for the bragging rights!

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### March Break is Coming...

February is the time to start thinking about things for the kids to do during March Break. You will need to register them early.

For some **March Break Camps** offered in the GTA:

#### **Toronto:**

http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contento nly?vgnextoid=9dd59473c79e7410VgnVCM100 00071d60f89RCRD

and **Sportplay:** <u>http://www.sportplay.ca/#!camp-</u> <u>locations/c1qt7</u>

Mississauga: http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/c amps

#### Markham:

https://www.markham.ca/wps/wcm/connect/markh ampublic/00081807-50d1-46b4-8886c2c3db6768a5/spring+-+March+Break+programs.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHE ID=00081807-50d1-46b4-8886-c2c3db6768a5



http://jccc.on.ca/event/march-breakkamp-kodomo/

### Monday February 16th is **Family Day.**

We celebrate the importance of Families and Family Life. Schools and many businesses will be closed on this day. Many communities have fun activities for families to enjoy on this day. Check to see what is happening in your community and have FUN!

If you travel often and follow innovative technology trends in the news, you may want to watch for a suitcase called:



Observe a demonstration on YouTube: <u>Bluesmart - Prototype Demo</u> #02 - YouTube

ZIPPERLESS ENTRY REMOVABLE BATTERY +USB PORT DIGITAL SCALE COMPLETE CONTROL HANDLE GPS ENABLED UNCONDITIONAL 5 YEAR WARRANTY February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day

In Canada, Valentine's Day is celebrated on **February 14th**. On this day people give chocolates, flowers, or cards to people that they love. It is the one day in the year when husbands must give their wives flowers or chocolates. Many couples also go to a restaurant for dinner on this day.



Young school children will give little valentine cards to their classmates and teachers. Sometimes they give candy with these cards. Your child may come home with a list of names of the children in

their class so that no one in the class is forgotten. Often the child's class will have a party to celebrate the day. As well, some people may wear red, white or pink clothing.

### Outdoor Skating

One way to enjoy the winter is to go skating on an outdoor rink.

For a complete list of outdoor rinks in **Toronto** click here: Outdoor Rinks - Leisure Spaces - Parks & Trails | City of Toronto

For a complete list of outdoor rinks in the **Town of Markham**, click here: City of Markham - Arenas and Ice Rinks

For a complete list of outdoor rinks in the **City of Mississauga**, click here: <u>Mississauga.ca - Residents - Skating/Hockey/Arenas</u>



# Consider the Caribbean

March Break Vacation Find out more: The Official Tourism <u>Medsities of the</u> <u>Cartiblean 1</u> CAREBELANTRAVEL.COM

For your

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