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Prof. Chidi Oguamanam Awarded University Research Chair



By Stanley Ugagbe
 Chidi Oguamanam, a full professor at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, has been awarded the University Research Chair (URC) in Sustainable Bio-Innovation, Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Global Knowledge Governance.

UNIVERSITY Research Chairs are given to the University of Ottawa's top researchers in recognition of their outstanding and continuous accomplishments in research as well as the training of students. It should be noted that this portfolio is coming on the heels of the fact that Professor Chidi has positioned himself as a leading voice in the effort to stop the harmful appropriation of Indigenous knowledge, and replace decades-old practices

with new, sustainable systems that can equitably bring Indigenous knowledge to the world. In view of the development, Oguamanam's goal is to advance just societies through the equitable participation of the world's Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in global knowledge production and in the resulting benefits. Oguamanam seeks to look at global knowledge governance across the multiple but

■ Prof Chidi, see page 25



MY ADMINISTRATION WILL AGGRESSIVELY TRANSFORM THE ECONOMY PETER OBI

By Stanley Ugagbe
 The Presidential Candidate of the Labour Party in the 2023 election, Peter Obi, has averred that it is time for Nigerians to rescue the country and put an end to bad governance, stressing that bad leadership has seriously damaged Nigeria.

■ Peter Obi, see page 25

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CANADIAN BILLIONAIRE SENTENCED TO 13-YEAR JAIL TERM IN CHINA
 See Page 6

FG MOVES TO BORROW N11.03 TRILLION
 See Page 25

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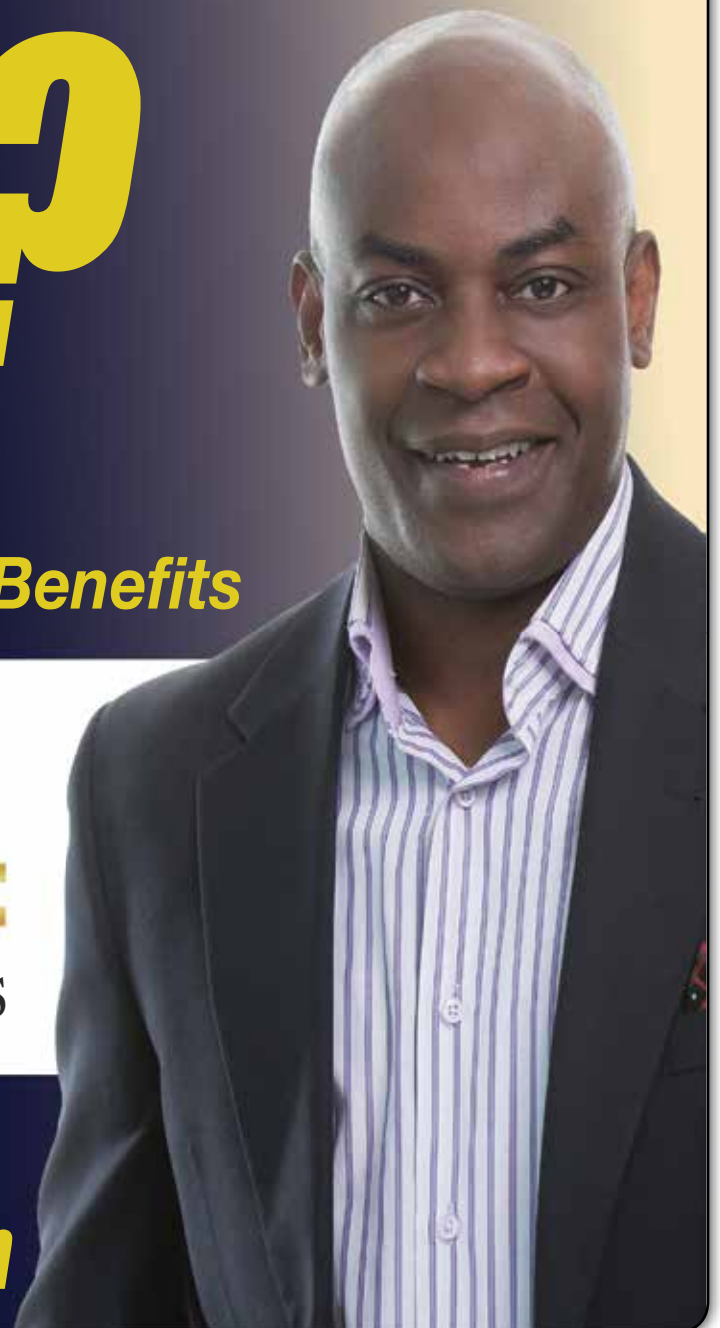


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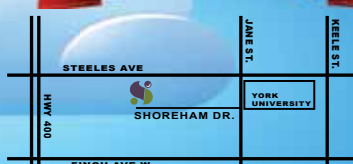
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**Publisher:
Ngozi Ugoh**

admin@nigeriancanadiannews.ca
publisher@nigeriancanadiannews.ca
ncnewsoffice@gmail.com
www.nigeriancanadiannews.ca

Tel: 416-318-3506

**Youth:
Dima Ugoh**

admin@nigeriancanadiannews.ca

**Advertising Executive:
Ogo Anozie**

admin@nigeriancanadiannews.ca

Contributors

Pastor Taiwo Odubiyi
Oluchi Ugoh
Pastor Amos Dada
Tunde Ajibode
Marcel Chukwuka
Dele Akintilo
Stanley Ugagbe
Kolapo (Kola) Abdul
Chief Tola Adeniyi
(Guest Writer)
MBA, FRM, CRISC
Agatha Edo
FR. Stan Ilo
Faridat Audu - French

Graphics & Layout

Mevlana Media Solutions Inc.
Tel: 416-789-9933
computertrusting@gmail.com

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Tel: 416-318-3506

E-mails:

publisher@nigeriancanadiannews.ca
admin@nigeriancanadiannews.ca
ncnewsoffice@gmail.com

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Addressing the rising costs of living

The recent findings by the Pollara Strategic Insights on topical issues including inflation, government policy decisions, and economic outlooks are disturbing and sue for urgent government's intervention.

In a bid to track and quantify the rage of Canadians in comprehensive ways over burning issues, the above research consulting firm launched a "Rage Index," hoping to measure the mood of Canadians every month and gain insights on perspectives about key issues bordering on inflation, government policy decisions, and economic outlooks.

Its recent findings show that Canadians, in their closets are finding the times excruciatingly hard and are angered with frustrations. Of the 2,013 respondents surveyed between Jul. 25 and Aug. 2, 48 per cent reported that they are upset with the Ottawa's

policy decisions, and 83 per cent were angry with inflation rates. In addition, 79 per cent of the participants reported being angry at rising gas prices, and 55 per cent were angered by the current state of the housing market.

Harping on the development, Dan Arnold, the chief strategy officer with Pollara Strategic Insights, summarized the findings thus: "A lot of people just seem grumpy right now.

"I think coming out of this pandemic, we kind of hoped this would be like a 'D-Day' moment, where there would be this euphoria, but instead it seems like there's a lot of frustration that's kind of built up the past couple of years [which] is now bubbling to the surface in many different ways."

The CSO averred that economic pressure is at the "forefront" of



Canadian frustration. "You've got eight in 10 people who are angry about inflation and gas prices. I think this is something that touches everybody. Not everybody needs a passport or flies on an airplane, but everyone buys [food] at the grocery store. And when you see prices going up, and you see that every week when you go to fill up your shopping cart, it really just gets to people."

While noting that "I think it's something we want to track going forward to see how this changes over time," he added that, "We want to see if this frustration becomes intense rage over time. And we obviously hope that it doesn't."

In a similar development, a new survey has found that many Canadians are now turning to debt to keep up with their expenses. This development was contained in a survey published on Aug. 16 by Finder.com, a personal finance comparison site. According to the survey, which interviewed more than 1,000 Canadians about how they're coping with inflation, one in four admitted to doing so to cover their expenses.

In the landmark survey, it also found that roughly 7.3 million Canadians over the age of 18 used loans or

other forms of debt to keep up with inflation. The survey's respondents listed paying bills, consolidating debt, and covering living expenses after losing a job as the most common reasons for taking on debt. Nearly 60 per cent reported spending less on luxuries like clothing or entertainment, while 43 per cent said they've reduced the amount they spend on major purchases like renovations or trips.

In a release, Romana King, senior finance editor at Finder said "Middle-income earners are really struggling".

"Data shows that wages are not keeping pace with higher living costs and this puts middle-income earners – the bulk of Canadians – in a tough position. It forces many to start prioritizing their expenses and finding ways to make ends meet."

The survey also found that while rising costs of living are impacting all age groups, the youngest adults in Canada have been hit the hardest. Of the respondents, 27 per cent of millennials aged 27 to 41 reported taking on debt to pay off their expenses, followed closely by 26 per cent of Gen Z respondents aged between 18 to 26.

According to the eye-opening survey, 27 per cent of Gen X respondents, aged 42 to

56, also took on debt to combat inflation. "It's easy to feel overwhelmed when inflation increases the cost of living," King said.

Deloitte Canada has also revealed that inflations are making back-to-school shopping more expensive for Canadian parents.

We find these revelations frightening and call for the urgent intervention of the governments at both the Federal and Province levels as well as the intervention of relevant stakeholders. The key to a stable society and viable economy is in government's hands and deliberate efforts must be made urgently to address the skyrocketing inflations.

More so, policies that are not people friendly, and do not impact positively on the society must be, as a matter of urgency, dropped. Making the society habitable should be a focal point of the government and since the people, through public opinion have expressly noted their worries, and how the current inflations are taking a toll on them, the government must act immediately to restore sanity to the economy. We strongly believe that if this is done, it will help to restore the confidence of people on the capacity of the government to deliver.

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Little life annoyances and how to stamp them out



(NC) Many people are feeling tired and burnt out after seeing the global catastrophes over the last few years, and what might otherwise seem like a small inconvenience can be extremely frustrating. So, in the spirit of eliminating small stressors from your life, here are a few petty annoyances and what you can do to fix them.

CONSTANT CLEANING

Cleaning isn't going anywhere, but to help keep things manageable it is wise to ensure ev-

erything has a home. For instance, try setting up a charging station where you can reboot your devices and stow away cords when they're not in use. Don't be ashamed of labeling locations. Labels provide a clear destination for items and eliminate the excuses that family members don't remember where everything belongs.

KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR BILLS ONLINE

If you grew up getting bills in the mail, it might feel easy to forget what you owe when

you have to remember to check online. For people who can't afford or access the Internet regularly or at all, getting bills online can lead to financial disaster. Just remember, when it comes to your phone and cable bills, you are entitled to paper bills from your service provider free of charge. If you live with a disability, do not have home Internet access or mobile data, or are over age 65, you can request to receive your bills by mail.

STORAGE CONTAINER MESS

The containers you use for leftovers, make-ahead meals and portable lunches tend to be tricky to store. Awkward sizes and shapes that take up lots of room and get messy or go missing easily. Tricks to try include paring down your collection and stacking the containers with their lids on, or using mini baskets or magazine racks to keep the lids from spill-

ing everywhere. Keep playing to find the right solution.

BAD CLOSED CAPTIONING

If you're hard of hearing or deaf, or you tend to watch TV in loud places like a sports bar or at the gym, you know how frustrating it can be when closed captions don't do their job properly. They are supposed to translate audio into text displayed on the screen and identify who is speaking, emotions displayed, and icons for music and more. Captions that are inaccurate, lag behind audio, block important images or have terrible spelling get in the way of understanding and enjoying the program. If you notice these problems frequently, you can file a complaint with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

Find out how at crtc.gc.ca/eng/contact

Nigerian Government Receives 2.6m Doses Of J&J Vaccines Donation From Canada

By Dele Akintilo

The Federal Government of Nigeria has received no fewer than 2.6 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine donation from the government of Canada to support Nigeria's COVID-19 vaccination exercise.

The Nigerian Government recently launched an optimized SCALES 3.0 strategy to boost the vaccination rollout process and combine childhood routine immunization against diseases like polio, yellow fever, measles and other childhood diseases that can be prevented by vaccine in the same locations where the adults get COVID-19 vaccines.

In his speech during the event, the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Dr Faisal Shuaib, said Nigeria is in a total campaign mode in which COVID-19 vaccines are ready-made available in the health facilities as well as other designated places and also brought to people doorsteps by the vaccination teams.

He said, "We are leveraging on our polio eradication experience to fight COVID-19, and we are pretty sure that with the kind of support we have received from the Canadian government today, and the continued cooperation of our partners and stakeholders, we will, sooner than expected, be able to put COVID-19 behind us in Nigeria."

"I am pleased to inform you that the Canadian government has donated 2,649,600 doses of Johnson &

Johnson COVID-19 vaccines to Nigeria. On behalf of the Government and people of Nigeria, I want to sincerely thank the Government of Canada for providing this much-needed support. This donation is critical to helping Nigeria ramp up her vaccination rollout process.

"Johnson & Johnson offers a single-dose opportunity for full vaccination, which means if you take one dose of the vaccine, you are regarded as a fully vaccinated person. However, we strongly recommend a booster dose after 2 months of taking the initial dose to strengthen your level of immunity against COVID-19. A second dose of the J&J vaccine serves as the booster dose.

"The recent MIC/NIC survey results show that despite the pandemic, Nigeria is only one of the few countries globally that recorded improved immunization coverage. I would like to thank parents and guidance who continued to take their children for vaccination even with the difficulties and challenges faced during the lockdown and limited access to health facilities."

While donating the vaccine doses, the Canadian Ambassador to Nigeria, James Christoff, said that this was his first work as an Ambassador to Nigeria.

The Ambassador recalled that the Canadian government had once donated over 800 thousand doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Nigeria and said that the donation is in fulfillment of Canada's commitment to backing developing countries in boosting vaccination against the COVID-19 pandemic.

5 simple tips to live a more sustainable lifestyle



(NC) LOWER YOUR ENERGY USAGE

By using less energy, you can help to reduce carbon emissions. There are a number of ways you can save energy at home, including switching off standby appliances, moderating your use of your AC and hanging clothes to dry instead of using a dryer.

REDUCE, REUSE AND COMPOST

Be conscious of the products you are shopping for and look for eco-friendly options such as reusable containers and jars or gifting preloved clothes to friends and local charities. Composting food versus throwing food in the garbage when

possible is also a great plan.

GROW YOUR OWN PRODUCE

Building a small box garden or herb garden can be simple, easy and great for the environment. Even if you don't have space or time to care for something extensive, you might be surprised what you can grow in containers on your balcony or porch, from tomatoes to hot peppers.

SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES

With a little research, you can easily find businesses that are making sustainable choices, such as Henry of Pelham Winery, which models sus-

tainability from soil to shelf. In fact, they are launching a new sustainability tour June 2022 where you can learn more about sustainability in wine.

SAVE WATER IN YOUR HOME

Be conscious of using excessive water when brushing your teeth or showering. Catch rain water in your backyard to repurpose for your garden, and try installing a water butt to make use of grey water to avoid wasting drinking water.

These simple, but effective tips can easily be incorporated into your everyday life and will leave you feeling good about your choices.

Patrick Brown cleared by Brampton's integrity commissioner



Patrick Brown

By N.Ugoh

The integrity commissioner of Brampton, Ontario, has vindicated Mayor Patrick Brown of the allegation that he was using the staff of the city to work on his Conservative Party leadership race while the staff were being paid by the city.

The office started investigating the issue after a report from Rebel Media in June.

In a recent statement, Brown called the entire investigation a "waste of taxpayer money."

He said: "I am vindicated now that the Integrity Commissioner has ruled I did nothing wrong."

In July, Brown was disqualified from the Conservative leadership bid over allegations relating to an apparent contravening of the financing rules in the Canada Elections Act.

After he was disqualified, it was reported

that five Brampton city councillors issued a statement about Brown's "clear and alarming pattern of behaviour." Reference was made by the councillors to Rebel Media's allegation in the statement.

The integrity commissioner's investigation was formally prompted by a complaint that was submitted by former Brampton city councillor Elaine Moore.

In a copy of the disposition letter that was addressed to Moore, the integrity commissioner stated, "we are unable to find that the mayor breached the Code of Conduct as alleged."

About the mayor's statement, the integrity commissioner made it known that they did not "obtain evidence to substantiate the allegation that the Mayor contravened the Brampton Code of Conduct by having his staff work on his CP Leadership campaign on City-paid time."

It was further clarified that according to records, staff time used for working on the campaign was entered as vacation or lieu time, and in a case, a leave of absence.

Brown demanded an apology from the media organization that came up with the allegation.

Ontario invests of \$5 million in training people to work in auto industry

By Dele Akintilo

In a bid to offset a critical shortage of workers in Ontario's automotive sector, the government has announced that it would be investing \$5 million toward training people for high-paying manufacturing jobs.

Under this plan, participants will get free education, developing skills for profitable future career paths in quality control, machine operation, logistics and more. They will also be paid up to \$4,600 in three months for their hands-on training hours.

When the participants complete the program, they will get employment offers.

The program will run till March 2023, but applicants must be between 15 and 29, a racialized/non-caucasian person, an Indigenous person, or a woman.

500 people out of the applicants will be enrolled on the program, which combines online and on-the-job training for participants to acquire critical skills like manufacturing essentials, project management, and troubleshooting.

The aim is to prepare students that might not have otherwise considered working with automobiles for rewarding careers in the auto manufacturing sector, while at the same time solving the problem of a persistent shortage of workers within this (and other) Ontario trades.

While announcing the

"Umunne Cultural Association strives to accomplish its mission through organized cultural events, including IgboFest; community-based educational programs; member volunteer activities; and by establishing relationships with other Minnesota-based organiza-

development, the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford said: "Our government is securing game-changing investments in the province's auto sector that will ensure the electric vehicles and batteries of the future are made here in Ontario by Ontario workers."

"As we do, we're investing in training the next generation of Ontario's automotive workers and connecting hundreds of them with good-paying jobs at local businesses in immediate need of their world class talent and expertise."

"We're #investing in training the next generation of Ontario's #automotive workers."

"By connecting hundreds of skilled workers with good-paying #jobs at local businesses, our government is building an #economy that works for everyone. #WorkingForWorkers #ONpoli pic.twitter.com/OyjkgSfrXl

The program is funded as part of Ontario's bigger \$200 million Skills Development Fund (the initiative that facilitated similar paid training opportunities for thousands to become roofers, electricians, personal support workers and so on.

Government's announcement read "Training is tailored to the needs of each participant and employers can receive up to \$4,600 in wage subsidies for each trainee."

"After completing the program, each participant will receive a job offer from a local employer."

tions that share in the cultural diversity mission of the state of Minnesota. They also work to educate Igbo students to build successful careers and professions so that they may become substantial members and positively contribute to the communities in which they live."

August 13 Declared As Igbo Day In The US

By Stanley Ugagbe

In a landmark move that is currently reverberating positively among Nigerians across the globe, Governor Tim Walz of Minnesota, United States of America has proclaimed August 13 of every year as a day to mark Igbo day.

This development was contained in the document with the State seal signed by the Governor and the Secretary of State of Minnesota.

The proclamation document, which was obtained by NCNC, reads:

"Whereas The Igbos are one of the major ethnic groups in Nigeria; and

"Whereas there are thousands of Igbo residents in Minnesota, some of whom have lived in the State for more than forty-five

years; and

"Whereas in 1985, Igbo Minnesotans formed the nonprofit organisation Umunne Cultural Association to unite and educate Igbo families and Minnesotans about Igbo culture, art, music and values; and

"Whereas first IgboFest was held in 1994 to celebrate the rich heritage of the Igbos and to educate Minnesotans about Igbo culture, and whereas Igbos in Minnesota have been involved in causes such as education, the arts, volunteering in local schools and organisations, book drives, COVID-19 vaccination, and cultural performances at local and international festivals, and

"Whereas Igbos in Minnesota are working to ensure the sustainability of Igbo culture by creating cultural aware-

ness for the next generation.

"Now therefore, I Tim Walz, governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim August 13, 2022, Igbo Day."

Minnesota is a mid-western U.S. state bordering Canada and Lake Superior, the largest of the Great Lakes. According to reports, there are various Igbo groups in the State including the Igbo Women League of Minnesota which is committed to unifying, identifying, educating, and promoting the socio-cultural and economic development of Igbo Women and their families residing in Minnesota, while improving women and children's lives in Nigeria.

It is imperative to note that even before the proclamation, August 13 of every year is celebrated as IgboFest, a Nigerian cultural cel-

ebration that brings together thousands across the country in which guests are required to dress in Igbo attires.

Harping on the event and what the association is about, the organisers said, "IgboFest is presented by the Umunne Cultural Association of Minnesota and held annually in August at North Hennepin Community College in Brooklyn Park. Umunne Cultural Association in Minnesota is a nonprofit organization focused on bringing Nigeria's deep-rooted cultural heritage to the Minnesota community. The association is an organization of Igbo-speaking people of Nigeria living in Minnesota, reflecting their affinity with one another, and with the shared goal of promoting and preserving the rich Igbo culture".

Governor Ortom Launches Security Outfit In Benue



Samuel Ortom

By N.Ugoh

The Executive Governor of Benue State, Samuel Ortom has launched a state security outfit codenamed Community Volunteer Guards to tackle terrorists and criminals causing havoc in the state.

During the launch of the security outfit in Makurdi, Ortom promised to legally acquire

and fortify the guards with AK-47, AK-49 rifles and other weapons to be able to challenge and overpower terrorists.

Ortom said the current dispensation led by President Muhammadu Buhari has failed to secure Nigerians, hence the need for the state to find a means of protecting its people.

He said during the first batch of recruitment, personnel were recruited

from the 23 local government areas of the state.

Ortom said since the Buhari administration has "failed to disarm the Fulani terrorists who have continued to maim and kill our people at will, the state government is going to apply for a license to legally procure AK47, AK49 and other sophisticated weapons for the Benue State Volunteers Guards to enable them to tackle

these murderous terrorists effectively".

He said there would be two weeks of training

for 500 security personnel engaged to do the job to have some paramilitary knowledge.

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Rogers to compensate customers with equivalent of five days of service for outage

By N.Ugoh

Rogers Communications Inc. has announced that it would compensate its customers for the massive outage that affected its network recently by crediting them with the equivalent of five days of service as the first step.

In a statement, the spokesperson of Rogers, Chloe Luciani-Girouard, says the company has been empathizing with its

customers from across the country who revealed how the impacts of the outage have been significant to them.

The customers of Rogers wireless and internet were left without service in the outage that began last week and triggered widespread disruptions.

911 services, financial networks and other critical services were affected by the outage.

According to the

company, the disruption that shut down its mobile and internet services across a large area of the country came after a maintenance update was carried out on its core network, which made some of its routers malfunction.

The CRTC has requested a detailed explanation from Rogers, including why and how the outage happened and what measures it is putting in place to forestall further happenings.

Canada to temporarily ban handgun importation

By N.Ugoh

The Canadian government has said it would temporarily ban the importation of restricted handguns with effect from August 19 in a move aimed at indirectly achieving gun control legislation that was proposed in May.

In a statement, the government said the import ban would be in place until a national ban on handguns becomes effective.

In May, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government introduced bill C- to tackle gun violence.

The gun control package includes a nationwide ban on the sale

and purchase of handguns and is yet to be implemented. The parliament of Canada is currently on summer break till September.

While talking to reporters at a recent briefing, Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said Canadians' demand for guns increased after the announcement of the freeze and the government now wants to prohibit gun sellers from restocking their inventory with the importation ban.

She said: "The import ban announced today will help to keep guns stay off our streets as we work towards implementing Bill C-21, reducing gun violence in the immediate term."

While speaking alongside Joly, Canadian Public Safety Minister, Marco Mendicino, said: "Given that nearly all our handguns are imported, this means that we're bringing our national handgun freeze into effect even sooner."

According to Statistics Canada data, Canada's gun homicide rate was lower than that of the United States in 2020 but it is still higher than the rates of many countries and has been on the rise.

Official data revealed that handguns were the weapon used in the majority of firearm-related violent crimes from 2009 to 2020.

FINANCE

Credit ratings and why they matter

(NC) In the Canadian financial system, credit history is king. Without, it's hard to secure most cell phone plans or rental agreements, which is why learning about credit and how to build a credit history is essential for all Canadians - especially newcomers.

Like many seeking their first credit card in Canada, newcomers might expect to receive a lower credit limit. This can be frustrating when it's clear that access to a higher limit can help improve your credit score and is more efficient for larger purchases.

"Newcomers receive less support and education around credit than they would for other facets like finding a job or housing," says Amit Brahme, senior director of the Newcomer

and Cultural Client Segment at RBC. "Something many of us who are used to the system overlook is just how critical credit education is to settling down in Canada."

Since regularly using a credit card helps to build credit history - and credit history paves the way for future purchases, such as rent, purchasing a car and eventually owning a home - it's worthwhile to seek a banking partner that provides access to higher credit limits with no credit history required.

Here are the top three important things for anyone to learn about credit in Canada:

What it is: A credit score is similar to a report card for your finances that represents your credit risk - the likelihood that you will pay your bills on time, pay

back loans, etc. The higher the score, the more likely a bank or other lender is to approve a loan request. Loans can go towards things such as opening a business, continuing your education or securing a mortgage.

How it's calculated: Multiple factors are taken into consideration, such as your payment history, the length of your credit history and your used credit vs. your available credit.

How to use it: Ensure all bills are paid on time and in full and, if possible, try not to max out your credit limit each month. To improve your credit score, it's best to use up to 30 per cent of your overall available credit.

For more information, visit rbc.com/newcomers.

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WhatsApp extends message deletion time limit to 60 hours

By N.Ugoh

WhatsApp has extended its message deletion time limit to two days and 12 hours (60 hours in total). By implication, users can remove an accidentally sent chat even after hours. Prior to the extension, the limit was 1 hour, 8 minutes and 16 seconds.

While announcing the development, WhatsApp tweeted: "Rethink-

ing your message? Now you'll have a little over 2 days to delete your messages from your chats after you hit send."

However, the tweet by WhatsApp about this feature just mentioned "little over two days" but didn't mention the 12-hour part.

The unsend feature was first introduced by WhatsApp in 2017 with a time limit of just seven minutes. Later, it was in-

creased to one hour and eight minutes.

In 2021, WABeta-Info noted that WhatsApp might consider introducing a seven-day limit, but with this new development, it has selected a rather odd time frame of two and a half days.

Also, WhatsApp is introducing new privacy features like blocking screenshots for "view-once messages" and the ability to leave a group quietly.

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Manitoba will not appeal court ruling on child benefit payments



Families Minister Rochelle Squires

By Dele Akintilo

The government of Manitoba has said it would not appeal a court judgement which ruled that the province was wrong to recover hundreds of millions of dollars in federal benefit payments to children in child welfare.

Also, the government seem open to requests for it to return the money, which according to Indigenous leaders totals over \$300 million.

Families Minister Rochelle Squires said: "That is certainly on the table for discussion. We certainly respect the ruling and we also respect and acknowledge that amends need to be made."

The former NDP government began clawing back the federal benefit called the Children's Special Allowance in 2006. The fund normally goes to agencies that take care of children and mirrors the Canada Child Benefit available to parents who are raising their kids.

The province earlier argued it was okay to keep the federal money since it was paying for children in care. The Progressive Conservative government cancelled the practice in 2019 and also passed a law to retroactively

make it official and try to prevent any legal action.

In May, Court of Queen's Bench Justice James Edmond disclosed that the clawback was not right and struck down the law that prevented legal action.

He said the clawback undermined federal law that governs the child benefit and violated the rights of Indigenous children under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Around 90 per cent of children in care in Manitoba are Indigenous.

The decision of the government was welcomed by Manitoba Métis Federation.

In a news release, Mona Buors, the federation's minister for Métis child and family services, said: "While there are still outstanding decisions to be made about how the money will be returned to (children in care), we are seeing that the provincial government is acting in good faith, which gives us hope that the matter will be resolved soon."

Squires also announced that the government would create a working group with representatives from Indigenous organizations that will review all future policies and legislation concerning Indigenous children in care.

He said: "That is what this (group) will be dedicated to — not only addressing past wrongs but moving forward with Indigenous-led solutions in the child welfare system."

Canadian billionaire sentenced to 13-year jail term in China



Xiao Jianhua

By Stanley Ugagbe

A Chinese-born Canadian billionaire, Xiao Jianhua has been sentenced to 13 years in prison and fined his Tomorrow Holdings Co conglomerate a record \$8.1 billion (55.03 billion yuan).

The Shanghai court said Xiao was personally

fined almost \$1 Billion (6.5 million yuan) for the crimes.

According to the court, from 2001 to 2021, Xiao and Tomorrow Holdings gave shares, real estate, cash and other assets to government officials totalling more than 680 million yuan, to evade financial supervision and seek illegitimate interests.

Delineating on the development, the court said from 2004, Xiao and Tomorrow controlled multiple financial institutions and internet financial platforms, including the failed Baoshang Bank, via multiple layers

of indirect shareholders and anonymous ownership.

Also, it said Xiao used the illegal gains for the acquisition of financial institutions, securities trading and overseas investment. However, the court acknowledged his attempts to make amends.

The court said "Xiao Jianhua has taken commendable actions, so he was given a mitigated punishment in accordance with the law".

It could be recalled that in July 2020, nine of the group's related institutions were seized by Chinese regulators as

part of a crackdown on risks posed by financial conglomerates.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson, Wang Wenbin, when asked about Xiao's right to consular access as a Canadian citizen during a regular briefing, said because Chinese law does not recognise dual nationality, Xiao was not entitled to such rights.

Reports have it that Xiao, known to have links to China's Communist Party elite, has not been seen in public since 2017 after he was investigated amid a state-led conglomerate crackdown.

United States Court confirms Hushpuppi's sentencing date

By Dele Akintilo

The United States Attorney's Office for Central District of California, Los Angeles, has revealed that the September 21, 2022 sentence date for alleged international internet fraudster, Ramon Abbas, aka, Hushpuppi, would not change.

Director of Media Relations of the court, Thom Mrozek, said this recently while responding to an email sent by Chan-

nels Television.

Initially, the sentencing was scheduled for February 14 but it was deferred to July 11 before it was shifted to September 21 this year.

When asked the exact date when Hushpuppi would be sentenced by the court, Mrozek said Hushpuppi had long pleaded guilty and would be sentenced later this year.

He said: "Mr Abbas is currently scheduled to be sentenced by a federal judge in Los Angeles on

September 21."

Hushpuppi was nabbed in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in June 2020 with 12 others over allegations that border on hacking, impersonation, scamming, banking fraud and identity theft. He was extradited to the US for prosecution.

His extradition to the United States took place after the UAE police detailed his apprehension in a special operation dubbed 'Fox Hunt 2', where he

was accused of swindling 1.9 million victims to the tune of N168billion.

In July 2021, he pleaded guilty to the charge and was ordered to remain in custody pending sentencing.

According to court documents, Hushpuppi risks 20 years' imprisonment, a 3-year period of supervised release, \$500,000 fine or twice the gross gain or gross loss emanating from the offence"

Alberta doctor suspended after using inappropriate sexual language with colleagues

A doctor has been suspended by the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) for six months for unprofessional conduct.

Aasim Malik was accused of inappropriate sexual language in conversations with four female health-care professionals he worked with and disclosing personal, sexual details about himself.

He was also accused of hugging two colleagues without their consent and providing an antibiotic prescription for one colleague's child without assessing the patient or creating a med-

ical record for the care provided.

Malik admitted to the allegations and the hearing tribunal accepted a joint submission on sanctions, which includes:

- A six-month suspension of his practice permit
- Submitting a letter to the hearing tribunal outlining his understanding of his conduct and how it affected the complainants (who will also receive a copy of the letter)
- Paying two-thirds of the cost of the hearing and investigation (amount to be determined later).

"Everyone has a right to feel safe in the workplace and should never have to worry about sexual harassment or inappropriate behaviour, especially from someone in a leadership position," the tribunal said in the ruling. "Maintaining appropriate boundaries

in all aspects of medical practice is a vital part of upholding the integrity of the medical profession."

For more information see Malik (Re), 2022 CanLII 72069 (AB CPSDC).

-<https://hrlawcanada.com/>



REFLECTIONS ON RELATIONSHIPS

Can I still trust her

Dear Agatha,

I need your help. I am a born again Christian. I got married recently

after eight solid years of courtship. I had an agreement with my wife, then my fiancée that we would not engage in sex till we were lawfully wedded; I met her a virgin. During the eight years of courtship we had reasons to sleep all alone in the same room severally, yet we kept our vow to God and ourselves that we would not go beyond a particular point. I was so serious about it that I told her that if I ever went beyond the limits, she should slap me back to my senses. I told her if she allowed me, I would not marry her.

However, we engaged in kissing and other deep romances around the boobs. I don't want to go into specifics for the sake of decency.

After our wedding, one night after being intimate, I just had this feeling, she wasn't telling me something about her past.

So I asked if any other man had seen any part of her body; I begged her to be truthful. I was shocked when she

told me, the president of their school fellowship had.

According to her, the guy came to visit her and stayed, until he claimed it was too late for him to get a vehicle home. She agreed to house him for the night, gave him another room. After a while, he came to say he wanted to sleep in the same room and on the same bed with her, and promised nothing would happen. She was gullible enough to trust him as they both ended up in each other's arms so much so, she offered the man access to romance her body.

Agatha, the only thing they did not do, is to have sex. I felt betrayed, I felt let down. I didn't and still don't understand why she did it. We were both virgins before we married and I had more reasons to stumble as a man because a man is attracted by what he sees. I had instances of ladies throwing themselves at me; some even came directly and asked in plain language but I resisted, not because I didn't feel like it but, just for two reasons: God and my fiancée. I trusted her completely. When I put it to her, if we had been engaged in sexual

intercourse, would she have gone all the way

with the guy, she didn't deny it. The only reason she didn't go the distance was because we had not been there together.

I tried to forgive her after some days because she did not waste time before confessing when I asked her.

If she had denied, there was nothing I would have done since all I had was this strong guts feelings of what happened. I had no physical evidence. Still I cannot stop asking why? I can't forget. Please help.

Why do you think it happened? What does this say of her person and self discipline? What should I do?

Confused Husband.

Dear Confused Husband,

That she didn't go the whole way underscores her level of discipline to an extent. The mistake was allowing the man close to her in the first place. The chemistry between a man and woman can go haywire if given the chance to.

All the conditions for that chemistry to go wild were available: they both were in a room together, on the bed and in the dead of the night.

The man came prepared from the beginning of his visit to seduce her;

she may not know it at the time, but given the pent up emotions and longing inside her, something in her wanted it that night. Her body was curious to be taken to the next level; it had nothing to do with you or her love for you.

It was a pure animalistic urge, she lacked the experience and strength to stop be-

cause you imposed the rules, not her. Her body was ripe for the plucking; you had her all hot by the extent you went; got her curious to know what the final and ultimate thing would be like.

Not many women can resist the situation you created for her. Women are very romantic creatures; at that time of the night, her senses of right were dulled by the proximity of his body, his smell and touch.

Perhaps she would have gone all the way, but she didn't. At least both

of them had the decency to end whatever they felt that night.

Dating a woman for eight years without making actual love to her while

you mindlessly romanced her was too much of a temptation to her. She must have been properly brought up to have survived the ordeal of being taking that far and left to cool off again. That training must have influenced her to agree with you to abstain from sex until the wedding night.

Over the years, you held and developed the will to fulfill this dream.

She on the other hand, had to bend to your rules.

I am not saying she is right, but you have to understand the premise in which this incident happened.

We are all not equipped equally to handle emotional feelings the same way. It takes the special grace of God for people like you not to fall. If prominent men of God capitulate to the lure of the flesh, how much more those not so gifted?

Besides, like you rightly observed, she could have easily lied about it but she, despite

being aware of the huge implication of telling the truth, took the risk to. It can only mean one thing; she also regrets that incident and would never do it again.

Marriage is peppered with so many challenges. Nobody including you is perfect. To stand on a pedestal of purity and righteousness won't do your marriage any good because one day, you too will be needing the understanding and forgiveness of your wife to scale a particular hurdle in your marriage.

If you don't learn to forgive and understand that in imperfection we were born and that our best efforts are pure filth before God, you will never be able to live in peace with your wife.

The important thing here is, you still met her, a virgin.

At that time the incident happened, she had the choice to go the whole way and damn what will happen thereafter. Just like you, the other man too found something precious and unique about her; he too would have loved the chance to marry her hence his decision not to further compromise her.

This is just the beginning of many instances when situation will put your trust for each other on trial; as the head of the home, you must develop the strength to resist.

Forgiveness is divine. If you don't learn to forgive and forget, you will be putting a very huge wedge between your marriage and happiness because marital pendulum is always shifting to and fro, bringing blames from one end to the other.

Being born again is not



Agatha Edo

gataedo@yahoo.com
agatha.edo@gmail.com

guarantee against human errors. Besides, your life started on the day you both signed the dotted lines before God and man. This is what counts, the beginning of new dreams.

If you don't forgive, you also won't enjoy the healing balm of forgiveness. As a born again you must know how important this is to our salvation.

Accept the apologies of your wife so that your mind can be free to settle down to the business of building your home, life and dreams.

Marriage is a journey of tremendous sacrifices, selflessness, forgiveness, wisdom and tolerance. It takes more than love, to absolute faith in each other and prayers to make the difference. She is part of you, one you have elected to spend your life with. If you cannot forgive her of this one slip, she made in the eight years you

dated her before you married her, then something is wrong somewhere.

This is the kind of thing that gives character, definition and colour

to a marriage; it the story of hope for a better tomorrow.

Pray and be the friend your wife needs now to be a good woman.

Good luck.

James Christoff: Nigerian community contributing immensely to the development of Canada



James Christoff

By N.Ugoh

The Canadian High Commissioner to Nigeria, James Christoff, has said that the Nigerian community in Canada is a great community that is really contributing economically, culturally, politically and socially to Canada.

Christoff made this known when he paid a visit to the Chairman of Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM), Hon (Dr) Abike Dabiri-Erewa, in Abuja.

During the visit, the High Commissioner said the visit was necessary owing to the increasing and impressive Nigerian diaspora population in Canada and the need to harness and channel the good energy to the benefit of both countries collectively.

He said: "I look for-

ward to working with the NiDCOM Boss over the coming months to really bring a light to a very important part of Canada's overall culture bearing in mind that Canada is an immigrants country."

Also, he commended Nigeria's entertainment and creative industry

In her response, the NiDCOM Boss said there is a big diaspora population in Canada making Nigeria proud in all endeavours, and they are also actively involved in investments and projects back in Nigeria.

She said the commission has put some programmes in place such as the Nigerian Diaspora Investment Summit, the National Diaspora Day, Diaspora Investment Trust fund, Diaspora Housing program, Diaspora Data Mapping, among others to see how they can engage with Diaporans especially the younger generation to contribute and give back to the country.

They talked about the recent killings of two Nigerians who were security guards at a nightclub in Canada and the envoy said the matter is being thoroughly investigated.

Court asks woman to return lover's gift of US\$560,000 to his wife

By NCNC Staff

In a landmark ruling that has gotten tongues wagging across the nation and on social media, a Chinese court has ordered the girlfriend of a married man to return 3.79 million yuan (US\$560,000) he gave her over 14 years to his legal wife, because the affair is "against public customs".

Records have it that in China, it is rare for a woman to reclaim assets given to other partners due to a lack of evidence or knowledge of their legal rights.

People's Court of Zhuanghe in Liaoning, northeastern China, in a document, stated that a

woman, surnamed Li, sued another woman identified by the pseudonym Xiaoxia, seeking the return of 3.79 million yuan Li's husband had given to the woman since 2008.

It was stated that Li and her husband, surnamed Wang, have been married since 1991. Local reports have it that Wang's extramarital affair came to Li's attention two years ago when she discovered he had been sending money to Xiaoxia.

The frolicking Wang, while admitting his relationship with the woman, revealed that they have a 10-year-old son. It was stated that in addition to cash payments, he bought properties and a car for her.

In her statement, Xiaoxia told the court she is also a victim and that Wang had lied to her that he was divorced. The embattled woman also said she urged him to marry her and have the union registered officially, but said he kept delaying by using various excuses.

Heroically, the court found that Wang had transferred 1.47 million yuan (US\$218,000) to Xiaoxia between 2013 and 2020. Also, he bought her two flats in 2012 and 2014 worth a total of 1.45 million yuan. In 2013, Wang bought her a car for 870,000 yuan.

The court, in its ruling said neither party of a marriage can spend the couple's common property

without the other's consent. It means assets acquired during a marriage belong to both partners. The court also found that Wang had infringed Li's rights and that his relationship with Xiaoxia goes "against public customs" and is not protected by law.

However, Xiaoxia argued that the money given to her by Wang was used to raise their son, but the court said the case was about ownership of assets and not about child support.

Afterwards, the court ordered Xiaoxia to return the money to Li immediately. However, Xiaoxia has the option to file a separate case and sue Wang for child support to raise their son.

Kenyan lady drowns in Toronto while live-streaming herself



By N.Ugoh

Hellen Wendy, a Kenyan, has drowned in a swimming pool in Canada while live-streaming herself on Facebook.

Wendy, whose profile on Facebook reveals that she was a nurse residing in Toronto, Ontario was in a mood of happiness moments before the fatal incident which happened recently.

Before she went live, she said: "Nimetoka job, I'm feeling good."

While responding to viewers' comments, she wrote: "It's 2 o'clock here."

Wendy dived into

the waters several meters away from her recording gadget at 5:45 minutes of the live stream.

She kept diving while holding her face under the water for several seconds before swimming back to check comments.

This continued for many minutes till the tenth minute when she took the last leap into what looked like the deep end of the pool.

Wendy started gasping for air at 10:33 minutes as she made gurgle sounds while kicking and screaming in an unyielding effort to swim away from the danger zone.

She made the last sound at 11:54 minutes before it all went quiet.

From that point, the camera rolled for 3 hours before a man came around at the 3:09:00 hour mark.

Some minutes later, another man came around and asked the person in the pool what was in the water.

The man responded by saying: "I thought it's a poodle or something."

The other man asked: "What if it's actually someone dead?"

He checked the pool and confirmed that someone had drowned and he went to call the caretaker of the facility.

Ika Community Mourns



Mr Fidelis Unnah



Favour Odigie

By N.Ugoh

It is often said that death is inevitable but nobody knows when, where and how it will happen. While it is the desire of most people to die at a good old age, the ferocious powers of death can actually hit anyone at any time.

For Nigerians in Canada, the past few weeks have been traumatizing as series of deaths have been recorded in Nigerian communities. While Nigerians in the nation are yet to recover from the recent multiple losses of lives, death has come knocking again.

The Ika Community has been thrown into mourning as two Nigerians (male and female) have returned to their maker.

Mr Fidelis Unnah is dead. He was born in 1958.

The family confirmed the de-

velopment in a short statement. "With heavy hearts, we are saddened to announce the sudden passing of our beloved husband, father, uncle and friend. We remember him to be a kind, brilliant man who has touched and impacted the lives of many. He will be greatly missed. May his soul rest in peace forever and always. Amen."

He was buried on Saturday, August 20, 2022.

In the same vein, Favour Odigie, who was born on January 17, 1984 in Lagos, died a few minutes after child birth at Humber Memorial Hospital on July 28, 2022.

She is survived by her husband, children, mother, and siblings. Funeral service was held for her on Saturday August 27, 2022 at St. Roch's Parish, 2889 Islington Ave., North York ON M9L

Trudeau Condemns Verbal Attack On Freeland

By Stanley Ugagbe

The Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau has in strong terms, condemned an abusive verbal attack on his deputy prime minister and finance minister, Chrystia Freeland, describing it as an "extremely disturbing harassment" that was not an isolated incident.

In his public statement, Trudeau said "We are seeing increasingly people in public life and people in positions of responsibility, particularly women, racialized Canadians, people of minority or different community groups, being targeted almost

because of the increasing strength of your voices.

"We are seeing a backlash.... We have to ask ourselves what kind of country we are, what kind of country we want to be."

In the video of the incident shared on Twitter late, Freeland was seen approaching the elevator of a city hall building in Grande Prairie, Alberta, when one man shouted at her.

As Freeland walked toward and into the elevator, the man said "What the fuck are you doing in Alberta?". He also called her a "traitor" and a "fucking bitch."

It is germane to

note that Freeland was born in Alberta and was on a tour of the province to meet with officials, businesses and workers.

Acknowledging the incident, Freeland in a tweet post, wrote "What happened yesterday was wrong. Nobody, anywhere, should have to put up with threats and intimidation".

Several Canadian politicians across the political spectrum also condemned the verbal attack.

Sadly, the incident was the latest among a series of verbal attacks against women in public life in Canada, including activists and journalists.

Amazing Benefits Of English Ivy

By N.Ugoh

English Ivy

Also known as Hedera helix, English ivy is an evergreen perennial. It is also classified as a woody vine. English ivy can act as a ground cover, spreading horizontally and reaching 8 inches in height. It has the following benefits among others.

a) Great medicinal plant: A study by the Department of Zoology, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, India, said hedera helix extract is potent against inflammation and arthritis. It also contains antioxidants and has anti-allergic and antispasmodic properties. It can also reduce cough and found useful in asthma, allergies, and bronchitis. It is applied to the skin to treat burns, infection, joint pain, swelling, and nerve pain.



b) It has been found that it improves air-quality. It is said to be one of the best air-purifying plants. Research has shown that it can remove VOCs like benzene, toluene, octane, and trichloroethylene. It is a great plant to improve respiratory health, especially for people who are suffering from allergies and asthma.

c) English Ivy humidifies indoor air. According to research, it has one of the highest transpiration rates, which immensely boosts the humidity levels of a small room. It also reduces car-

bon monoxide from the indoor air.

d) It has also been said that it is a late season source of nectars for the bees. During Autumn, the outdoor ivy plant will produce yellow flowers, rich in nectar which becomes a source of food for bees and other beneficial insects.

e) Remarkably, It keeps your home cool in summers & warm in winters. A test carried out by the Oxford University found that ivy kept the homes 36% cooler in summers and 15% warmer in winters!

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5 healthy facts about strawberries

(NC) Did you know strawberries are one of the healthiest fresh fruits? Here are some healthy facts about everyone's favourite berry.



1. They support the immune system. Just one cup of strawberries has 95 per cent of the recommended daily value of vitamin C.

2. Strawberries are full of beneficial nutrients including potassium, folate, fibre and antioxidants known as polyphenols.

3. The high levels of vitamin C and B combined with the folate, fibre and antioxidants make an ideal combination for heart

health. Strawberries may strengthen cardiac muscles and reduce cholesterol in the blood vessels and arteries.

4. Strawberries have zero sodium, fat or cholesterol.

5. A naturally sweet and low calorie snack, one serving of strawberries has less sugar than an apple

and only half the calories of a banana. In fact, a serving of eight strawberries is only 50 calories.

Strawberry farmers along the California coast grow nearly 90 per cent of U.S. strawberries, which can be found in Canada year-round. Find more nutritional information at californiastrawberries.com/enjoy-8-a-day.

KEEP YOUR MOOD SUNNY

Experiencing more irritability, anxiety, even sadness as you transition through menopause? Eat yogurt with live, active cultures (aka probiotics) In a four-week UCLA study, middle-aged women who did that daily felt far less anxious, probably because probiotics improve the function of brain areas that regulate stress. - WW

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Canada-Nigeria Business Investment Summit.

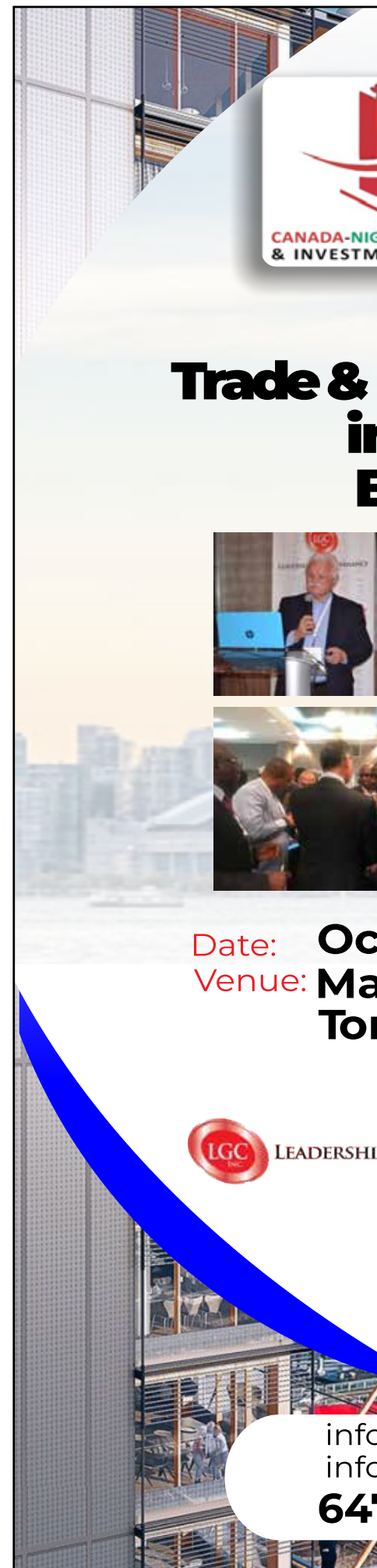
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Photos by Ika Association

Ika Association First Annual



The Ika Association, Toronto GTA held its maiden family picnic on Saturday, August 13th, 2022 at the Centennial Park, Etobicoke. It was fun packed with food, drinks, traditional dance and activities for both children and adults. Membership of the association is open to all indigenes of ika land, comprising Agbor, Owa, Abavo, Ute, Umunede, Akumazi, Igbodo, Otolokpo, Mbori, Idumuesah, and parts of Igbanke.

The focus of the association is to promote its language, culture and build a rallying point for the support of its members economically, socially and otherwise. The Association holds its monthly meetings on second Sunday. For membership and more information about the association, you can reach the Chairman of The caretaker committee, on 416 560 6306





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Charles Ozzoude, City Council Candidate for Etobicoke North (Ward 1)

My name is Charles Ozzoude and I am running for the Councillor in Etobicoke North (Ward 1) for municipal election on October 24.

I am firmly rooted in Etobicoke. I am a Healthcare Equity Researcher, an immigrant, a member of the Black community, and former public servant. I am a long-time resident. I represent everyday renters and homeowners, TTC riders, people of all ages, and families. I also represent hardworking visible minorities and first-generation immigrants who makeup the majority of Etobicoke North residents.

I have led local efforts for housing and health responses for HIV/AIDS prevention. This month was exactly 12 years since my family came to Canada. Since then, I've helped other immigrants find their footing, led local efforts for health promotion, and founded a community group for youth to discuss local issues.

I have heard the concerns of Etobicoke North residents, and as a fellow resident I get them. If elected, I want to hit the ground running to champion these issues:

- Reliable and more consistent TTC service to cut down commute times.

- Affordable housing for everyone and repairs to TCHC buildings.

- Being the voice of new immigrants so they can practice their professions in Canada.

- Improving city programs for families, seniors, and people of all ages.

- Helping police build better relationships with local residents and to work with mental health professionals during crisis situations.

- Tackle COVID-19 by working with local leaders, community groups, and health centres.

My Proven Leadership and Community Impact

I am informing public health policy for the city's most vulnerable as a Healthcare Equity Researcher at St. Michael's Hospital. I am shedding light on how the pandemic worsened the health of people re-entering community from prisons. It hard for them to get help because many health and community services went virtual or shut down completely.

I care about good public policy. At Wellesley Institute—a research and policy think-tank—I led grassroots efforts to improve education and health for youth in suburban areas.

I also care about youth.

Etobicoke North is one large neighbourhood. Connecting with local folks can be hard you don't have a car. To change this, I co-founded a group for young people to meet up, discuss, and find solutions to local issues.

At Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson), I worked with barbershops, small businesses, and churches in Etobicoke—and around the city—to raise awareness about HIV in Black communities. I took

the message to where people are on the streets and realized that this is something that politicians as public servants need to do more. I will be out in the community to interact one-on-one with constituents if elected as Councillor.

lutely matters at City Council. If elected, I will bring my voice as a first-generation immigrant and Black person to City Council. Right now, that representation is sorely lacking.

For equity-driven projects, I will pull from stories Black fathers told me at Ujima House at Weston and Lawrence about the joys of fatherhood, but also their fears about how racism would affect their children. Our community also needs better health services. I will bring my experience as a former Policy Analyst with Health Canada to work with Toronto Public Health in improving health services.

Etobicoke North has given me so much and I want to give back through public service. So, on October 24, I am counting on your support to vote me in as City Councillor.

Email: charles4etobicokenorth@gmail.com
 Twitter: @Charles4NewDawn

Facebook: Charles Ozzoude Etobicoke North

Instagram: [charles4etobicokenorth](https://www.instagram.com/charles4etobicokenorth)
 website: charlesozzoude.ca

A NEW DAWN IN ETOBICOKE

Vote **Charles Ozzoude**
 City Councillor, Etobicoke North (Ward 1)
 Election Day: OCTOBER 24

Etobicoke North is rapidly growing and needs more affordable housing, enhanced public transit, and greater economic development.

Let's bring **A NEW DAWN** in Etobicoke on October 24.

A BOLD NEW VISION:

- CHAMPION AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Advocate for all levels of government to reallocate more budget to housing.
- MORE RELIABLE AND CONSISTENT TTC SERVICE:** Introduce more Express Buses and increase transit investment in Etobicoke North.
- BE THE VOICE OF NEW IMMIGRANTS:** Improve settlement programs so that new immigrants can practice their profession in Canada.
- FIGHT POVERTY:** Provide more city-funded programs to help families, seniors, and people of all ages with the rising cost of living.
- BETTER PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY:** Act on improving police relationship with the community. Have mental health professionals work with police in crisis situations.

PHONE: 647-495-5893
 EMAIL: charles4etobicokenorth@gmail.com
 WEBSITE: charlesozzoude.ca



First-generation immigrant & community advocate. I am the REAL FACE of the community.

FACEBOOK: [Charles Ozzoude \(Etobicoke North\)](#)
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ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

John Boyega reveal he is done with 'Star Wars'
**NOT RETURNING TO THE FRANCHISE
AFTER RACIST BACKLASH**

By Dele Akintilo

Famous Hollywood actor John Boyega, who played the role of 'Finn' in Disney's 'Star Wars' sequel trilogy, has said he's moving on from the franchise.



ACCORDING to Fox News, the actor will appear in the upcoming movies 'The Woman King' and 'Breaking.'

While talking on the SiriusXM show "Tell Me Everything With John Fugelsang", Boyega said: "At this point, I'm cool off it. I'm good off it. I think Finn is at a good confirmation point where you can just enjoy him in other things, the games, the animation. But I feel like '[Episode] VII' to '[Episode] IX' was good for me.

"To be fair, [with] the allies that I've found within Joel Taylor and Jamie Foxx, Teyonah Parris, Viola Davis, all these people I've been working with... versatility is my path.

"Moses Ingram being protected makes me feel protected. Do you understand what I'm saying? It makes

me feel like, 'Okay, cool. I am not the elephant in the room.' Because when I started, it wasn't really a conversation you could bring up.

"You know how they went through it. It was kind of like, let's just be silent. It wasn't a conversation you could bring up. But now to see how blatant it is, to see Ewan McGregor come and support... for me, [it] fulfils my time where I didn't get the support.

"It doesn't make me feel bitter at all. It makes me feel like sometimes you are that guy. And my dad taught me that. Sometimes you're not the guy to get the blessing and sometimes you are

Moses, you know, you lead the people to the mountain, but you see the destination. You don't get to go in, you get others to go in. And that's where you get your happiness from. And for me to see other people accepted, and then at the same time to see that the studios now are like, 'Okay, cool. This is not an elephant-in-the-room conversation. We need to support our Black client.' It's fantastic."

Also, Boyega addressed the issue of racism in the galactic fanbase and cited the recent experience of Moses Ingram in the Disney Plus series "Obi-Wan Kenobi."



Joke Silva quashes reports of Olu Jacobs' death, threatens lawsuit

By N.Ugoh

Famous Nigerian actress, Joke Silva, has dismissed reports that her husband, Olu Jacobs, has died. Reports circulated on social media recently that Olu Jacobs, who has been battling Dementia, had passed away.

However, in a statement posted on her Instagram page, Joke Silva dismissed the reports and threatened legal actions against the people spreading the false information.

The statement read: "The Jacob clan would love to inform you that Pa J (Olu Jacobs MFR) is alive and enjoying himself as always in the comfort of his home and loved ones. To all those that have decided to ignore our last warnings regarding fake news, kindly prepare for legal action."

Kizz Daniel's gold chain, promoter's 5-hour plea: More info on ill-fated Tanzanian concert

By N.Ugoh

The event's concert promoter in Tanzania, where Nigerian musician Kizz Daniel was scheduled to play, has provided his version of events.

After being paid to appear at a gig recently, the "Bugu" singer was later detained by Tanzanian authorities.

The musician declined to perform since the airline forgot to bring his bag containing his gold chains, and he said he will not play unless he is wearing all of his gold chains, according to the show promoter, who provided his name as Stephen Uwa in an interview with Daddy Freeze.

"He said the airline didn't bring his bag that is why he cannot perform because his gold chain is not there and he had a gold chain on his neck. He wanted everything."

Uwa disclosed that he spent a minimum of \$300,000 on the production, including \$60,000 in performance fees paid to Kizz Daniel. The singer's failure to appear, however, caused everything to fail. He disclosed that while pleading with Kizz Daniel to perform, he declined while he was on his knees sobbing.

"My company is new here. PaulO is the one I booked Kizz from. PaulO cried all night trying to beg this guy 'Please go to this show', he called in from America!"

"I paid this guy \$60,000 to perform on this show. I went down on my knees. I was like 'Bro, you are damaging me. I am trying to build my company here. You are going to damage me'. I begged this guy 'Save my career, save me'. I was on the table with Kizz Daniel for like five hours begging him, kneeling for him."



Lupita Nyong'o amazes 40 students with \$10,000 scholarships

By N.Ugoh

Lupita Nyong'o has amazed 40 students with \$10,000 scholarships. The famous actress appeared at NAACP's ACT-SO Awards recently and presented the scholarships to students who participated in the year-long programme aimed at high school students across the United States, which promotes advancement in subjects like business, visual arts, performing arts and culinary arts.

According to ABC's report, she said on stage: "Since I was a child, I have always had big dreams, and my education has played a huge part in helping me realise them.

"I've always loved learning and I believe that learners change the world."

The scholarships were funded via a partnership with cosmetic brand Lancome, which endorses Lupita among its brand ambassadors.

She added: "I am so thrilled to join Lancome, on behalf of their Write Her Future Scholarship Fund, to award this incredible group of women with these game-changing scholarships."

Lupita, who was born to Kenyan parents, previously hailed her mother and aunts as her "idols" while growing up. She said: "I grew up with a very strong and close family, so my idols were a lot of my relatives, especially my aunties and my mother."

She went to cite classic films like 'The Sound of Music' and 'The Color Purple' as memorable movies from her

youth and noted that watching "dark-skinned" women like herself act had a "big impact" on her childhood.

She added: "When it comes to film and TV, I was madly in love with 'The Sound of Music'. Fraulein Maria [played by Julie Andrews] was my idea of the perfect governess I wish I had.

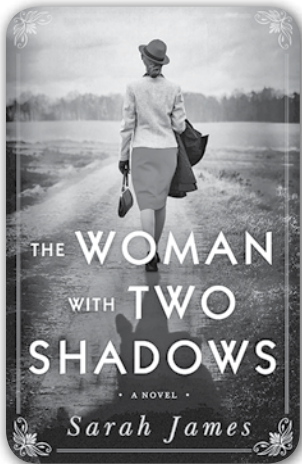
"And then, of course, 'The Color Purple'. I've talked about this a lot but [that movie] had a really big effect on me.

"Seeing Oprah Winfrey and Whoopi Goldberg and Akosua Busia, all these actors who look like me and doing this thing called acting, had a big impact on me and what was possible for me in the world of entertainment for someone like me."

BOOKS

"Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary" – Jim Rohn

The Woman with Two Shadows: A Novel of WWII

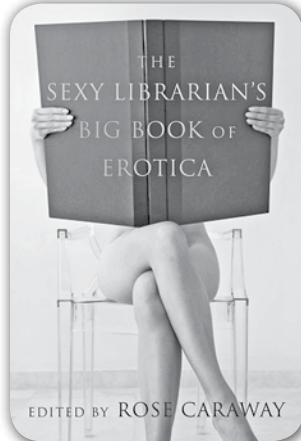


Drama started when Lillian Kaufman didn't hear from her twin sister since Eleanor left for a mysterious job at an Army base somewhere in Tennessee. Upon learning that Eleanor is missing, Lillian takes a train from New York down to Oak Ridge to clear up the matter.

Event took a twist turn when she realized that the only way into Oak Ridge is to assume Eleanor's identity, which Lillian plans to do swiftly and perfectly. Meanwhile, Eleanor has vanished without a trace—and she's not the only one. And how do you find someone in a town so dangerous it doesn't officially exist, when technically you don't exist either?

The determined Lillian finds herself the epicenter of the gravest scientific undertaking of all time, with no idea who she can trust. And the more she pretends to be Eleanor, the more she loses her grip on herself. This is a book that will give you value for every minute.

The Sexy Librarian's Big Book of Erotica

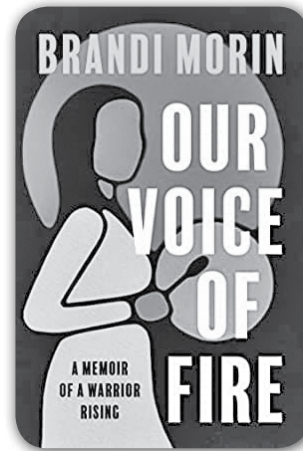


By Rose Caraway

It's often said that lust sells and this librarian's only concern is pleasing her patrons. As a matter of fact, this librarian will stop at nothing to service her readers. In view of this,

she has carefully collected a fantastic and fantasy-filled set of stories guaranteed to satisfy literary lusts in *The Sexy Librarian's Big Book of Erotica*. Remarkably, this volume is simply bursting at the binding with amorous archives and bibliophilic bliss; it is a veritable dictionary of desires, with stories by top eroticists Rachel Kramer Bussel, Tamsin Flowers, and Salome Wilde, as well as Rose Caraway, the sexy librarian herself. It's highly recommended.

Our Voice of Fire: A Memoir of a Warrior Rising



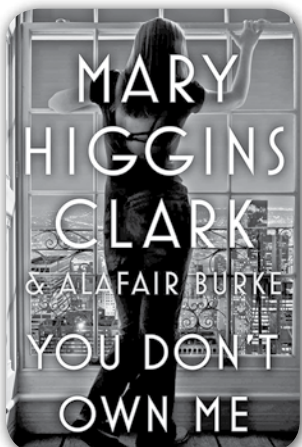
Brandi Morin (Author, Narrator), Anansi Audio (Publisher)

The memoir is intentionally aimed at transforming the narrative around Indigenous Peoples.

The author is known for her clear-eyed and empathetic

reporting on Indigenous oppression in North America. Remarkably, she is also a survivor of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls crisis and uses her experience to tell the stories of those who did not survive the rampant violence. The memoir chronicles from her time as a foster kid and runaway who fell victim to predatory men and an oppressive system to her career as an internationally acclaimed journalist, how she overcame enormous adversity and found her purpose, and her power, through journalism. It's a purifying fire of a pursuit for justice. You need to have a copy.

You Don't Own Me



By Mary Higgins Clark

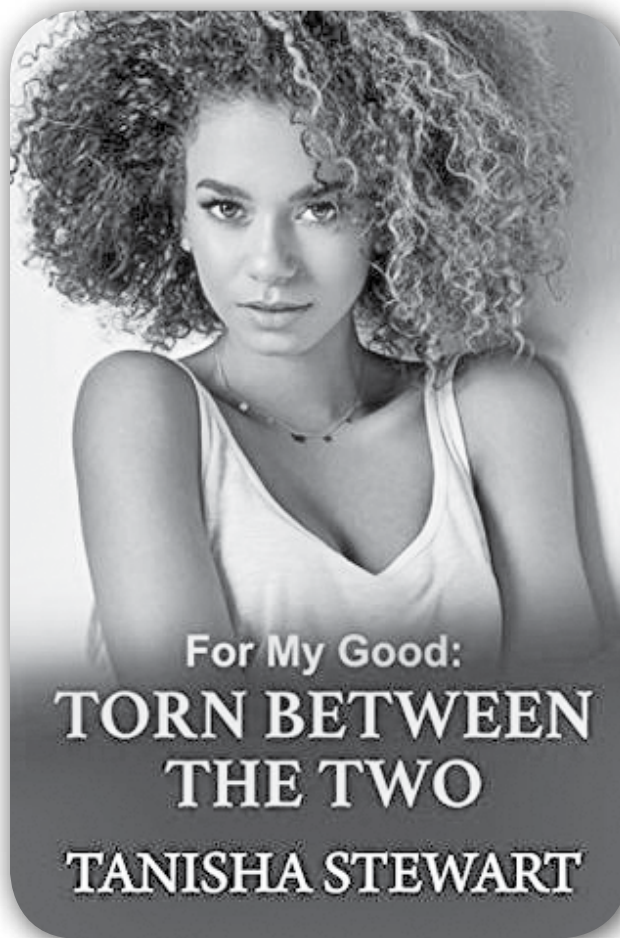
It's a suspense filled book that will have you glued to it for 24 hours without feeling hungry and wanting to stretch your legs. Drama started when Television producer Laurie Moran became engaged to her investigative television show's former host, Alex Buckley, and the two have been happily planning a summer wedding, preparing for Alex's confirmation to a federal judicial appointment, and searching for the perfect New York City home for their new life together.

Things took a twist when Laurie is approached by Robert

and Cynthia Bell, parents of Dr. Martin Bell, a physician who was shot dead as he pulled into the driveway of his Greenwich Village carriage house five years ago. The Bells are sure that Martin's disgraced and erratic wife, Kendra, carried out the murder. Determined to prove Kendra's guilt and win custody over their grandchildren, they plead with Laurie to feature their son's case on *Under Suspicion*, ensuring her that Kendra is willing to cooperate. However, as Laurie zooms into the case, she discovers that Martin wasn't the picture-perfect husband, father, and doctor he appeared to be and was carrying secrets of his own. And what does the web of lies ensnaring the Bell family have to do with a dangerous stranger, who gazes at Laurie from afar and thinks? Except you peruse it, you will not know how this played out. Get a copy.

For My Good

For My Good



By Tanisha Stewart

Contrary to the popular believe that a woman will forgive a man who cheats, but a man will never forgive a woman, Melanie begged and pleaded for Kylon to come home for months and he did. However, that was because his

ex-kicked him out.

Now she is stuck in a cycle of drama and tension.

While Melanie scrambles to pick up the pieces in her life and marriage, her girls Gina and Keisha have troubles of their own.

As is it the case with many new couples, in the

Be Kind



By Pat Zietlow Miller

It's often said that kindness makes the world go round. This moving story explores what kindness is, and how any act, big or small, can make a difference at least help a friend.

When Tanisha spills grape juice all over her new dress, her class mate wants to make her feel better. From asking the new

beginning, Melanie and Kylon were like a match made in heaven... now, not so much. Will they stay together because of

girl to play to standing up for someone being bullied, the book demonstrates the importance of kindness to people around you. With a gentle text from the award-winning author of *Sophie's Squash*, Pat Zietlow Miller, and irresistible art from Jen Hill, *Be Kind* is an unforgettable story about how two simple words can change the world. Get a copy of this inspirational book.

the better, or decide on divorce because of the worse? You need to uncover how things played out by getting a copy.

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YOUTH CORNER

..... Oluchi Ugoh

“YOUR CHILDREN NEED YOUR PRESENCE MORE THAN YOUR PRESENTS”. – JESSE JACKSON

The summer is coming to an end. School resumes for some early September. I hope you have enjoyed every bit of the summer? It has been a very unpredictable and traumatic for the community as a whole.

Enjoy the interesting exercise we have for you this month. We try to bring information that would keep you engaged and stretch your mind.

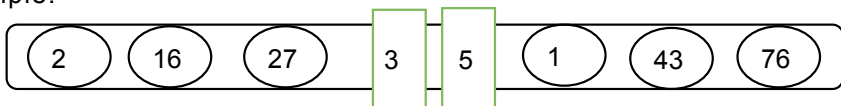
Thank you for the time you spend on this page, your feedbacks and your support in various ways; please, keep it coming.

Whatever you're doing may your road be paved with opportunities and may Canada be good to you in all season.

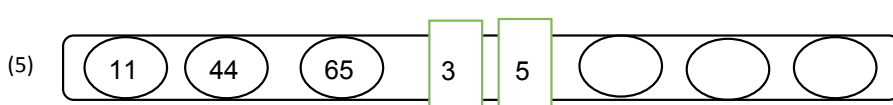
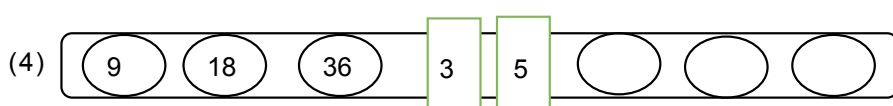
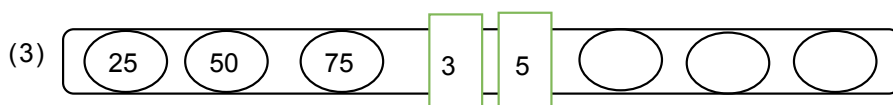
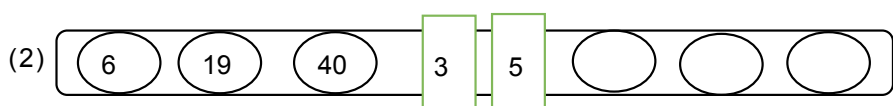
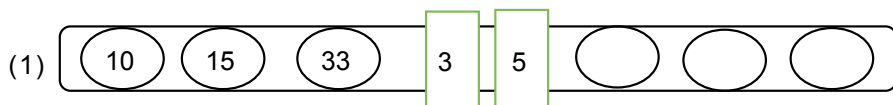
Until next month, stay safe and be a good ambassador.

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Example:



Now do these



The technique used in the above example follow this pattern;

$(2 \times 3) - 5 = 1$
 $(16 \times 3) - 5 = 43$
 $(27 \times 3) - 5 = 76$

answers on page 25

LEARN FROM THIS

An astronomer was in the habit of going out every night to observe the stars.

But no sooner he was outdoors, he was totally absorbed in the sights above him, that he did not look where he was putting his feet, so once he fell into a hole in the ground.

A passer-by heard his shouts and ran to help him. How do you hope to discover what's up in the sky,' he said to the astronomer, 'when you're not even capable of seeing what's under your nose?'

“Many men, while following their dreams, show themselves incapable of facing up to reality.”

JUST FOR LAUGHS

Doctor and a bus driver are both in love with the same woman, an attractive girl named Sarah. The bus driver had to go on a long bus trip that would last a week. Before he left, he gave Sarah seven apples. Why?

MENTAL APTITUDE

1. I left my campsite and hiked south for 3 miles. Then I turned east and hiked for 3 miles. I then turned north and hiked for 3 miles, at which time I came upon a bear inside my tent eating my food! What color was the bear?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

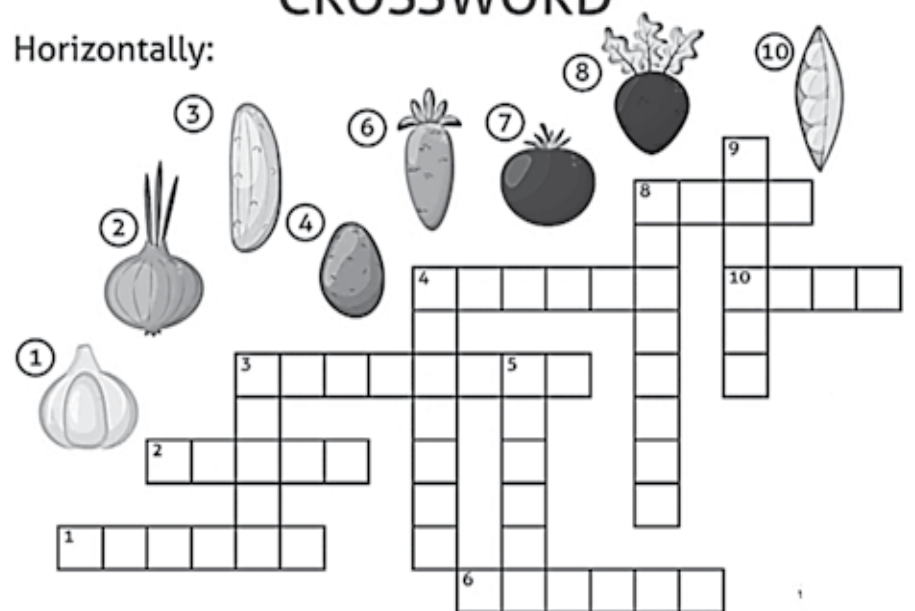
3. I am taken from a mine, and shut up in a wooden case, from which I am never released, and yet I am used by almost everybody. What am I?

4. What is harder to catch the faster you run?

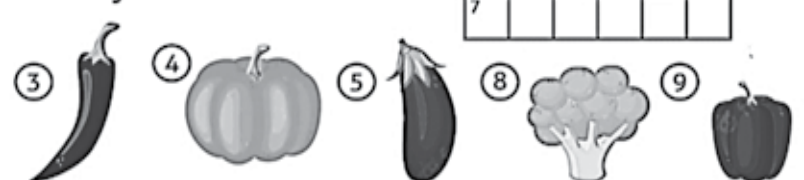
answers on page 25

CROSSWORD

Horizontally:



Vertically:



answers on page 25

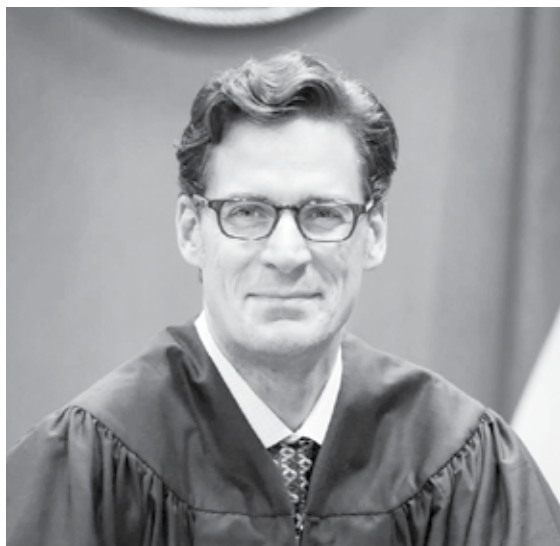
**THE YOUTH CAN WALK FASTER BUT
THE ELDER KNOWS THE ROAD.**

- African Proverb

WORD OF THE MONTH

Glaciologist – The study of the internal dynamics and effects of glaciers

INTERNATIO



Georgia ban on giving out food, water in election lines to stand

By Stanley Ugagbe

In what will come as a rude shock to many, a United States Federal judge has rejected to block a portion of Georgia's controversial election law that bars handing out snacks and drinks to voters waiting in line within a certain distance of a polling place.

The US District Judge J.P. Boulee outrightly declined a bid for a preliminary injunction by liberal advocacy groups, who argued the ban infringed on their right to free speech.

In view of the development, activists will be prohibited from distributing food and drinks within 150 feet of a polling place or within 25 feet of any person in line during this year's general election.

According to the ruling, the 25-foot buffer around individuals in line was likely unconstitutional because it was not tied to a fixed location, unlike the 150-foot zone around a polling place. The judge, however, agreed with state officials who argued that it was too close to Election Day to change the law, as well as that implementing different rules for the Nov. 8 vote would only cause confusion among poll workers and voters.

Reports have it that supporters of the restriction argue that it prevents voters from being influenced by operatives offering free food or water at polling places.

It's imperative to note that Georgia's Election Integrity Act was decried by Democrats after its passage last year, with prominent Democrats pressing corporations to boycott the Peach State in response.

Recall that in protest of the law, Major League Baseball pulled its 2021 All-Star Game out of Atlanta, moving the game to Denver.

In another setback, Hollywood star Will Smith announced that because of the law, his production company would no longer film the antebellum drama "Emancipation" in the state.

Also, Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, Merck, UPS, JP Morgan Chase, Microsoft, and Facebook were among the myriad companies that expressed concerns over voter suppression in the wake of the law's passage.

More so, the law was also distorted by none other than President Joe Biden, who claimed in March 2021 that it "ends voting hours early" and described it in May last year as "Jim Crow in the 21st century."



12-YEAR-OLD BOY KILLS NIGERIAN MOM IN UNITED STATES

By N.Ugoh

A 12-year-old boy has killed his Nigerian mom in their home in Alabama, United States of America.

THE boy has confessed that he accidentally shot his mother, a Nigerian woman, after he initially claimed she was killed by an intruder their US home.

29-year-old Ayobiyi Cook, a

registered nurse also known as 'Yo-Yo', was found dead in her house in Forestdale, Alabama, on the 2400 block of Freemont Avenue recently.

Her son initially informed the police that an intruder entered their house, shot his mother and ran away.

Deputy Chief David Agee said: "The child originally fabricated a story that detectives determined was not possible.

"After investigation, Sheriff's Detectives were able to determine

that the victim's 12-year-old son unintentionally discharged a firearm striking his mother causing her death.

"After more probing, the boy finally changed his story.

"The child eventually gave a true account of what happened.

"Evidence on the scene supports that the shooting was unintentional and the offense will be addressed through the Family Court system. The family has been cooperative throughout the process and the child will remain with them."

Trans Woman Loses Bid To Be Considered Parent Of Her Own Child

By Stanley Ugagbe

In a landmark development that has gotten tongues wagging, a Japanese court has strongly ruled that a transgender woman cannot legally be regarded as a parent of one of her own children.

According to reports, the woman, assigned male at birth, used sperm obtained before her transition to have two daughters with her female partner.

In the judgment, the court said one daughter — born before the woman underwent her legal and surgical transition — is legally hers, while the daughter born after her transition is not.

Recall that a family court ruled earlier this year that the woman's partner was the legal mother of the two girls because she gave birth to them, but it did not recognize the trans woman as a parent of the two.



The lower court had ruled that "There is currently nothing in Japanese law to recognize her parental rights".

In a swift move, the trans woman had appealed that decision, leading to this recent ruling by the Tokyo High Court.

It's imperative to note that Japan is the only member of the Group of Seven — a coalition of leading industrial nations that also includes Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Britain and the U.S. — not to recognize same-sex marriage.

INTERNATIONAL

Palestine President Under Fire Over “50 Holocausts” Remark

By Stanley Ugagbe

Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas has come under preliminary investigation over his comments that Israel had committed “50 Holocausts” against Palestinians.

IT was reported that the remarks, during a news conference in Berlin alongside German chancellor Olaf Scholz, sparked outrage in Germany, Israel and beyond.

During the recent press conference, Abbas reportedly refused to condemn a deadly attack by Palestinian militants on Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics. Rather, he countered by saying he could point to “50 Holocausts” by Israel.

In a swift reaction, Berlin Police has averred that Abbas is being investigated for possible incitement to hatred after the force received a formal criminal complaint.

It was clarified that



downplaying the Holocaust is a criminal offence in Germany, but the opening of a preliminary inquiry does not automatically entail a full investigation.

In a statement, Germany’s

foreign ministry said Abbas – as a representative of the Palestinian Authority – would enjoy immunity from prosecution because he was visiting the country in an official

capacity.

Reports have it that Germany does not recognise the Palestinian Territories as a sovereign state.

Scholz said he was “disgusted

by the outrageous remarks” at the press conference.

In a statement on Twitter, he added that: “For us Germans in particular, any relativization of the singularity of the Holocaust is intolerable and unacceptable. I condemn any attempt to deny the crimes of the Holocaust.”

Meanwhile, Scholz was criticized both in Germany and Israel for not rejecting the comments immediately at the press conference at the Chancellery.

It’s imperative to note that Germany has long argued the term “Holocaust” should only be used to describe the Nazis’ singular crime of killing six million Jews before and during World War II.

In a more recent statement, Abbas office said “president Mahmoud Abbas reaffirms that the Holocaust is the most heinous crime in modern human history.”

It added that “his answer was not intended to deny the singularity of the Holocaust that occurred in the last century, and condemning it in the strongest terms.”



Economic Woes: Egypt’s Central Bank Governor Resigns

By Stanley Ugagbe

The governor of Egypt’s central bank has resigned as the nation struggles to curb inflation triggered by Russia’s war in Ukraine, high oil prices and a drop in tourism.

Reacting to the development in a statement, President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi accepted the resignation of Tarek Amer and named him a presidential adviser.

However, the statement did not give explanation for Amer’s resignation.

Also, no replacement was immediately named for Amer, who had been appointed governor of the central bank in

November 2015.

Amer has been under fire for his handling of Egypt’s financial challenges.

Local reports have it that the currency is under pressure, sliding in value to more than 19 Egyptian pounds to the dollar. That followed a central bank decision allowing the currency to depreciate by around 16% in March to try to stem a growing trade deficit.

Harping on the development, Jason Tuvey, a senior emerging markets economist at Capital Economics said “It seems there’s a lot of tensions within policymaking circles, and I think that’s ultimately what led

to Mr. Amer’s resignation”.

The expert said there are officials that oppose devaluing the pound and instead support measures like rationing gas consumption by curbing electricity usage, which could in turn harm business activity.

Reports said Amer is believed to be seen as in the camp that supported the pound’s depreciation as a way to secure a loan from the International Monetary Fund.

Remarkably, the London-based Capital Economics research firm predicts that Egypt’s currency will continue to slide, reaching 25 pounds to the dollar by the end of 2024

amid sustained pressure.

Meanwhile, Amer’s resignation came after key ministries were recently reshuffled as the government faces mounting pressure from economic challenges. The Cabinet shake-up, which was approved by parliament in an emergency session, affected 13 ministries, including health, education, culture, local development and irrigation.

Reports have it that Russia’s war has been deeply felt in other ways in Egypt, the world’s largest wheat importer that sources around 80% of it from the Black Sea region.

Records have it that in the

first weeks after the invasion of Ukraine in late February, the price of wheat and other grains skyrocketed, as did the price of fuel. Although prices have come down somewhat, the cost of grains remains at least 50% higher than before the pandemic in early 2020. Also, the cost of shipping to export those grains through the Black Sea is high.

The nation’s inflation reached 14.6% in July, increasing pressure on lower-income households and everyday necessities.

According to government figures, a third of Egyptians live in poverty.

SPORTS



Nigerians react as Falcons sleep on chairs, floor at Turkish airport

By N.Ugoh

Pictures of Nigeria's Super Falcons sleeping on chairs and floor at an airport in Istanbul, Turkey, have emerged online.

According to information gathered, the team was travelling from Costa Rica and on a 24-hour stopover in Istanbul.

While posting the photos on his Instagram page, Super Eagles' ex-media officer, Colin Udoh, wrote: "Nigeria's #Falcons have been travelling from Costa Rica since 6:30am on Monday.

"They're now in Istanbul on a 24-hour layover and sleeping on the airport chairs and floor, or wherever they can find."



Sepp Blatter, Platini Exonerated Of Corruption Charges

By Stanley Ugagbe

FIFA's former President Sepp Blatter and Vice President, Michel Platini, have been acquitted of fraud in a Swiss court.

According to local reports, the two powerful football figures were both found not guilty of corruption at Switzerland's federal criminal court following a two-week trial that ended on June 22.

It's imperative to note that the case is centred on a £1.6 million payment made by Blatter to Platini in 2011.

Recall that the Swiss office of the attorney general (OAG) had accused Blatter and Platini of "fraud, in the alternative of misappropriation, in the further alternative of criminal mismanagement as well as of forgery of a document".

In their case, Swiss prosecutors had stated that the payment was made "without a legal basis" and "unlawfully" enriched Platini.

But in his defence, FIFA's former boss, Blatter said the money paid to Platini was a "gentleman's agreement" for the job done as an advisor to the FIFA president between 1998 and 2002.

Recall that Blatter was in charge of FIFA for 17 years while Platini hoped to be his successor.

Nevertheless, despite being cleared, the 86-year-old ex-FIFA president remains banned from football until 2028 for a different punishment in 2021.

On the other hand, 67-year-old Platini has served his ban.

Hockey Canada board pledges support for President Scott Smith amid calls for shake-up

By Stanley Ugagbe

The board of directors of Hockey Canada has pledged its unalloyed support for president and chief executive officer Scott Smith and his executive team amid calls for leadership change at the organization.

THE Interim board chair Andrea Skinner disclosed the decision of the directors backing the organization's executive in a statement.

Though the statement did not detail a reason for the show of support, but said the board is undertaking "ongoing efforts to restore the trust of Canadians in hockey and Hockey Canada," which include a governance review.

It is imperative to note that Canada's governing body of hockey is under intense scrutiny for its handling of sexual assault allegations against members of previous men's junior teams.

In a very recent remark, advocate for sexual abuse survivors and retired NHL player Sheldon Kennedy repeated his calls for Hockey Canada's leadership to resign.

Speaking with newsmen, he said "For the betterment of the game and kids, the leadership group at Hockey Canada must resign as they have lost the trust of Canadians in their ability to lead. That is crystal clear".



It could be recalled that the federal government froze Hockey Canada's funding after it was revealed the organization had quietly settled a lawsuit with a woman who alleged she was sexually assaulted by members of the 2018 men's junior team at Hockey Canada gala in London, Ont., that year.

In view of the development, several of Hockey Canada's corporate partners reportedly suspended their support of Hockey Canada after executives were grilled by MPs during a Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage meeting about the organization's response to the alleged assault.

The embattled organization later said members of the 2003 junior team are under investigation for alleged sexual assault in Nova Scotia.

Reports have it that Sheldon Kennedy, an advocate for sexual abuse survivors and one of the victims

of serial abuser Graham James, has called on Hockey Canada's leadership to resign.

As of the time of filing this report, the only change at the top has been the resignation of previous board chair Michael Brind'Amour, who stepped down Aug. 6 before his term was set to end in November.

When contacted, Rob Koehler, the director general of Global Athlete, an international athlete-led movement founded to address the balance of power between athletes and administrators, said he wasn't surprised the board is publicly supporting Smith.

He stated that "Anyone in Canadian sport knows that the well-paid national sport organization CEOs wield the majority of the power over volunteer boards. Ms. Skinner's statement is akin to the fox guarding the henhouse".

Serena Williams Quits Tennis

By Stanley Ugagbe

World tennis icon, Serena Williams, has announced that 'the countdown has begun' to her retirement from the sport. In the landmark announcement, the 23-time Grand Slam winner, added that a time has come in her life for her to move in a different direction.

The American professional tennis player said in a post on Instagram that she has to focus on being a mum and achieve her spiritual growth.

The 40-year-old wrote, "There comes a time in life when we have to decide to move in a different direction. That time is always hard when you love something so much. My goodness do I enjoy tennis. But now, the countdown has begun.

"I have to focus on being a mom, my spiritual goals, and finally discovering a different, but just exciting Serena. I'm gonna relish these next few weeks."

Meanwhile, in an exclusive piece in Vogue magazine, the star noted



that she had never liked the word 'retirement' but would rather go with the word 'evolution'.

She said, "I have never liked the word retirement. It doesn't feel like a modern word to me. I've been thinking of this as a transition, but I want to be sensitive about how I use that word, which means something very specific and important to a community of people.

"Maybe the best word to describe

what I'm up to is evolution. I'm here to tell you that I'm evolving away from tennis toward other things that are important to me.

"A few years ago I quietly started Serena Ventures, a venture capital firm. Soon after that, I started a family. I want to grow that family."

It's imperative to note that Williams, who turned a professional in 1995, won her first major singles title at the 1999 US Open.

SPORTS



Ghanaian delegate goes 'missing' after Commonwealth Games

By Stanley Ugagbe

In what has formed a major debacle in the public domain, a Ghanaian delegate is said to be among the reported missing athletes and delegates after the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

IN a shocking disclosure, the UK police said the number of missing persons has risen to 17, which includes 13 athletes and four others who were with individual teams.

It was gathered that out of the 17 persons who went missing, eight have been found with the remaining

ones still unaccounted for.

Reports have it that the others who are yet to be seen include a Ghanaian, with five others from the Sri Lankan squad.

It was reported that both a competitor from Botswana and a competitor from Cameroon vanished, but both have since been located.

Police and immigration officials are collaborating to assure the wellbeing and safety of everyone who has been found.

Speaking with newsmen, a force spokesperson, said: "We've received a total of 17 missing people reports from visiting Commonwealth Games delegations - 13 competitors and

four other delegation members. Of those, nine have since been found and eight remain outstanding.

"We're making enquiries alongside immigration officials to ensure they are safe and well."

Records have it this is not the first time a Ghanaian athlete or delegate has gone missing after the Commonwealth Games.

It could be recalled that during the 2018 games in Australia, two athletes were confirmed by the Badminton Association of Ghana to have ran away from camp as they did not return with the contingent.

Historically, Gifty Mensah and Stella Amasah were the athletes who went missing after the Australia Games.

Canada reels out \$2.5M for Indigenous sports funding

By Stanley Ugagbe

The Justin Trudeau-led federal government has announced \$2.5 million in funding to give Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people more opportunities to participate in sports and physical activities.

According to reports, ten provincial and territorial Indigenous sports bodies will carry out projects that respond to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG).

Meanwhile, the MMIWG has sued for more support into the health and wellness of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people, among other recommendations.

Authorities have clarified that funded projects will focus on Indigenous-led prevention initiatives in the areas of health and community awareness, using sports as a tool for social development.

The announcement was recently made by Adam van Koeverden, parliamentary secretary to the ministers of health and sport, at the Songhees Wellness Centre in Esquimalt, B.C.

In the announcement, Van Koeverden also noted the renewed funding for Indigenous youth in sports with a \$20-million federal investment over five years, starting in 2022-23.

Reacting to the development, Corinne McKay, president of the Indigenous Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation Council, said "This is an important day for all of our Indigenous peoples"

"The reconciliation and strength for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ peoples through sport funding is a strong indication of Sport Canada's commitment to support provincial-territorial Aboriginal sport bodies across the country".

In her words, the funding will benefit her team's efforts to make sports more accessible and welcoming to Indigenous women, girls, and those who identify as queer.

She said "There is so much critical work to be done to address the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

"This new funding stream of the (Sport for Social Development in Indigenous Communities) program will help us to take an important step towards helping our people reclaim their sense of health, wellness, safety and wholeness."

Edouard Mendy ranks Vincent Enyeama among the greatest African goalkeepers



By Dele Akintilo

Chelsea goalkeeper, Edouard Mendy has ranked former Super Eagles captain and goalkeeper, Vincent Enyeama, among the four greatest African goalkeepers of all time.

Mendy, the winner of the 2021 AFCON with Senegal in February 2022, said Africa has produced many great goalkeepers but none compares to Enyeama, Ex-Senegal goalkeeper Tony Sylva, Cameroon duo of Thomas N'kono and Carlos Kameni.

In an interview with

Carré, Mendy said: "The greatest African goalkeeper of all time? I think that in Africa, we are lucky to have had a lot of goalkeepers marking their period.

"Goalkeepers love Thomas N'Kono, of course. But recently, we had Tony Sylva who is a true legend of Senegalese football.

"We had Carlos Kameni. We also had Vincent Enyeama.

"In several countries, we were lucky to have a lot of good goalkeepers. It is, therefore, very difficult to name just one."

RELIGION

Signs you are a man after God's heart

By Pastor Amos Dada PhD; P. Eng

After removing Saul he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.' Acts 13:22

Paul the man that had heavenly revelations and encounters gave us an insight as to who is a man after God's heart when he described David as such a person.

So what are the characteristics or signs that David exhibited that qualified him, that if we also practice God can give us such a status.

Looking at the above scripture it started with "after removing Saul" so we can imply that God removed Saul because even though he gave him the exalted position of the first king of Israel he was not after God's heart. Saul refused to exalt God in his own heart and in the presence of God's people by disobeying God. He was not willing to change he feared the people and justified what was not justifiable. A classical case was when he was told to go and eliminate the Amalekites and he obeyed partially which amounted from God's perspective to total disobedience. (1 Sam 15:22-25) Saul gave himself a pass mark but God saw a failure. Paul compared him with David when he said "he will do everything I want him to do"

These are the signs of people after God's heart from the life of David.

1. Total Obedience: They will obey God in totally. No matter the consequences.

Whether it makes sense or not, whether it will cost them a fortune or not, they don't make excuses they simply obey. David made a practice of obeying God. He will ask God whether to do a thing or not. You can imagine armed robbers or bandits taking away your wife and you are asking God if you should go and rescue them? 1 Sam 30:1-8.

Refusing to kill your enemy because he is anointed of God! 1 Sam 24:8-22

2. Faith in God: We can always claim we are people of faith or we have faith in God. Most of us practice faith when it is convenient. When it is not risky to our life. When there is no challenge. David showed that he has faith in God when for 40 days and nights the entire army of Israel could not confront Goliath and he did it with childlike faith. "The



Pastor Amos Dele Dada

LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. "And Saul said to David, 'Go, and the LORD be with you!'" 1 Sam 17:37. You are a man after God's heart when you dare where others fear!

3. Loves God Word: (The law of God) David is credited for writing many of the 150 psalms in the Bible. Writing at various and often troubling times in his life, David repeatedly mentioned how much he loved God's perfect Word. We find a beautiful example of this when he said "For I delight in your commands because I love them. I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love, and I meditate on your decrees." Psalm 119:47-48.

It is not hard to see his complete adoration for God's Word. Also notice how David "meditates" on God's statutes. God granted David understanding and wisdom through daily meditation. Do you really read, study, meditate and apply God's word to your life, love attending Bible Study, love fellowship with the brethren and prayer with a genuine heart and motive it is a sign you are a man/woman after God's heart.

4. Repentance: David was not a perfect man just as you and I are not perfect as the scripture shows. Like a normal man he had physical attraction to the opposite sex, which led him to commit adultery, with Bathsheba, also married Abigail the widow of Nabal and plotted and murdered Uriah. But notice that when confronted by Nathan he repented as shown in Psalm 51. He never committed such sin again. Even when they gave him Abishag he ran away: "Then they searched throughout Israel for a beautiful young woman and found Abishag, (a Shunammite, and brought her to the king. 4 The woman was very beautiful; she took care of the king and waited on him, but the king had no sexual relations with her." 1 King 1:5.

After giving your life to Christ you will be tempted daily in many ways, when

you do your best to avoid those temptations and when you fall into any of those temptations and you commit sin and you repent and don't make a practice of sin in your heart, actions, conversations, businesses and all dealings you are a man/woman after God's heart.

5. Thanksgiving: A man after God's heart appreciates God in all things. Job lost all, children, all wealth and had physical sickness to top it. But he never sinned. "Job stood up and tore his robe in grief. Then he shaved his head and fell to the ground to worship. 21 He said, "I came naked from my mother's womb, and I will be naked when I leave. The Lord gave me what I had, and the Lord has taken it away. Praise the name of the Lord!" 22 In all of this, Job did not sin by blaming God" Job 1:20-22.

When you are not always "issuing query" to God for every discomfort- God why me? Why my spouse? Why my ministry? Why my business? Why my health? When you can at any point see the big picture and conclude that, "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose." Rom 8:28 You are a man after God's heart. When you wake up and sing to God in the shower, when you are driving your car to work, you are making melody in your heart like David sang all those Psalms imagine the words he uses to praise God in Psalms 100, 103 etc you are a man after God's heart.

Conclusion: David was a man after God's own heart because he demonstrated his faith and was committed to following the Lord. Yes, his faith was tested on a grand scale, and he failed at times. But after his sin he sought and received the Lord's forgiveness. In the final analysis, David loved God's Law and sought to follow it.

David appreciated God in all situations! As a man after God's own heart, David is a role model for all of us. It is not as difficult as you think to be a genuine Christian a man after God's heart. God is willing to qualify you and I as such, if we are willing. The choice is always yours!

Shalom

--

O taste and see that the Lord is good. (Psalm 34:8). I have tasted and found that the Lord is good. I do testify that the Lord is good. Join me to taste him.

www.cacbethel.com
www.igoeministry.com

Bishop rejects Ben Ayade's N25 million donation, says 'use it to pay salaries'



By Dele Akintilo

The Catholic Bishop of Uyo Diocese, Rt Rev Dr. John Ebebe Ayah has rejected the donation made by the Cross River State Governor, Ben Ayade, in the sum of N25 million.

Ayade, a Catholic and a knight in the Church, made the donation during a recent Holy Mass.

Civil servants in the state have not been paid salaries and arrears for over four years.

Civil servants stormed the office of the Head of Service (HoS) at the state Secretariat in Calabar in May, singing solidarity songs and

displaying placards with inscriptions like "Over four years without salaries, who did we offend? Yet we go to work everyday," "The injustice too much," "labourer deserves his wages," "Governor Ayade please pay us our salary."

While speaking on behalf of the protesters, the coordinator, David Iyaya, said they were aggrieved civil servants from different ministries, departments and agencies employed by the state government in 2018 but had received no salary since their employment.

He said the aim of the protest was to draw the attention of the world to their plight.

He said: "We are peaceful citizens and that is why we are demonstrating peacefully. We want the world to know our suffering. Four years is not four days. Even the HoS is somewhere here, he cannot even come out to address us and I know he has nothing to tell us."

The Bishop who rejected the donation asked the governor to use it to offset the outstanding salaries of the state government workers instead.

Ayade donated the money to the bishop as his transportation fare back to Uyo, Akwa Ibom State capital

While making the donation, Governor Ayade said: "Before you depart for your station from Calabar, I will whisper to you.

"On behalf of my family and the Cross River State government, I'm presenting this N25 million to you"

In his response, the Bishop said he and the governor were from the same area of the state. He thanked him for the donation and requested that he uses the money donated and add to whatever he had to pay the salaries of the civil servants.

He said: "Kindly add the whisper to the salary of your workers. Pay outstanding pensions/gratuities. Improve the economy of the state to be more stable."

Pope Decides Against Investigating Canadian Cardinal Over Sex Assault Claim



By Dele Akintilo

The Vatican has said that Pope Francis has made it known through his decision that there is not sufficient evidence to commence a Church investigation into Canadian Cardinal, Marc Ouellet, over sexual assault allegations.

Ouellet, a top Vatican official, was named recently in a class action lawsuit

against the Quebec Catholic diocese which alleged cases of sexual assault by 88 priests and staff working in the diocese beginning in 1940.

In the recent filing in Quebec Superior Court, a complainant alleged that she was inappropriately touched by Ouellet and that he made comments that made her feel uncomfortable between 2008 and 2010 when he was arch-

bishop of Quebec and she was a 23-year-old intern.

In 2022, the Vatican was informed about the allegations against Ouellet and Francis asked a priestly investigator, Jacques Servais, to look into the case. Subsequently, Servais advised against commencing a full church investigation.

A Vatican statement said: "Following further relevant consultations, Pope Francis declared that there were not sufficient elements to open a canonical investigation for sexual assault by Cardinal Ouellet."

Ouellet is the Head of the Vatican's powerful Congregation for Bishops which advises the pope on priests that should be made bishops. He is one of the candidates shortlisted to succeed Pope Francis after the pontiff dies or resigns.

COVER STORY

Prof. Chidi

continued from p(1)
interrelated sites of sustainability, agriculture, food security, environment, biodiversity conservation, climate change, health, medicines, arts, and other epistemic traditions in which the diverse forms of informal knowledge production practices of the world's IPLCs intersect with formal science and technology-driven innovation.

Experts have it that while transformations in science and technology can create new challenges surrounding the appropriation of the knowledge of IPLCs, they also have the capacity to empower Indigenous knowledge custodians to equitably participate and benefit in the emergent global knowledge economy. Oguamanam's URC research will make an original contribution to repositioning Indigenous knowledge custodians from old forms of knowledge governance to new models that are more well suited to the technological advancements of the 21st Century.

It is imperative to note that Oguamanam is a leading scholar in the area of intellectual propriety and Indigenous knowledge. The exceptional interdisciplinarity of his research has allowed him to pursue complex issues that cut across environmental law, biotechnology, IP rights, food security, health law, and ethics. His work has also been widely recognized for its strong theory-to-practice dimensions.

With inspirations from his Indigenous African heritage, Oguamanam is able to link the experiences of African cultural communities with their Indigenous counterparts in Canada and globally and bring a deep understanding of the intricacies embedded in questions that examine local, traditional and Indigenous knowledges in the context of intellectual property, innovation and knowledge governance.

Professor Oguamanam belongs to diverse international research and professional

networks committed to building bridges and influencing policies across the south-south and north-south geopolitical spheres. He has diverse interdisciplinary research interests in the areas of global knowledge governance in general, especially as manifested in the dynamics of intellectual property and technology law, with emphasis on biodiversity and biotechnology (including agricultural biotechnology).

He identifies the policy and practical contexts for the exploration of the intersections of knowledge systems, particularly Western science and the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, within the broader development discourse and paradigm. He is interested in the global institutional and regime dynamics for negotiating access and distributional challenges in regard to the optimization of benefits of innovation by stakeholders and the role of intellectual property in development.

FG moves to borrow N11.03 trillion

By Stanley Ugagbe

Nigeria's Minister of Finance and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed, has warned Nigerians against comparing Nigeria with South Africa.

The Minister averred that there is no basis for the comparison, noting that South Africa is a tax-based economy, while Nigeria on the other hand is competing with Sudan in the area of taxation.

Zainab made the remark while defending the government's Medium Term Expenditure Framework and Fiscal Strategy Paper.

In her words, most high earners in Nigeria are not paying taxes, particularly at the state level.

She "The compari-

son between Nigeria and South Africa cannot be done. The federal government national budget and South African national budget are not proportionate. It is important to state that the South African budget is largely funded by taxes, unlike Nigeria's economy. The tax base in Nigeria is still narrow. The tax rate is still quite low, VAT is still 7.5%, the average VAT rate in West Africa region is 15%.

"We have the lowest tax rate in the world, second only to Sudan. Even Sudan is increasing its VAT rate. We need to all efficiently improve tax collection. In Nigeria, PIT is very low. Individuals of high networth—only a few of them are paying taxes".

It's germane to state that Zainab's com-

ment is coming amid plans by the federal government to borrow over N11 trillion to finance the deficit in the proposed expenditure of the federal government.

In the document submitted to the lawmakers, the federal government plans to borrow N9.32 trillion comprising N7.4 trillion from the domestic market and N1.8 trillion from foreign sources. The government is expected to generate N206.1 billion from privatization proceeds and N1.7 trillion multilateral project-tied loans.

The Minister also stated that the government cannot afford to keep subsidy beyond June 2023 as the government is not planning for subsidy beyond mid-2023.

COVER STORY

Peter Obi

continued from p(1)

The meeting was held on August 28, 2022 at Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel & Suites, Mississauga, Ontario, and had its theme as: "Positive Impact of the Diaspora to the Growth and Development of Nigeria." It was hosted by Peter Obi Nigerian Canadian Interests Groups.

Harping on his political drive for 2023 and what he and his team will do to transform the nation, Obi said the vision and mission is to give full expression to "our democracy by moving our country from consumption to production".

Below are some of the key takeaways from his speech:

- Africa will remain the centerpiece of our foreign policy. We will improve Nigeria's diplomatic sphere of influence via peacekeeping, trade, and investment initiatives.
- We will aggressively pursue increased contribution of ICT to overall economic growth & national development.
- We intend to lay special emphasis on critical infrastructures, especially Power, to ensure a clear measurable increase of today's generation, transmission & distribution by 200%

within the shortest possible time, through public private partnership.

- We will emphasize patriotism, national interest and national morale, quality of governance, political will and character as complementary to others. We will ensure that we have these assets in place and stress asset optimization.

- We will pursue intangible assets of good governance, rule of law, security of lives and properties, through an aggressive increase in personnel and equipment, and inclusive training of operatives in our security agencies.

- We will have zero tolerance for corruption, and will cut the cost of governance. Total commitment to transparency and accountability in government business is the only credible way to achieve limited to zero corruption.

- We will aggressively pursue human capital development in the education and health sectors with available resources, while striving to adopt best global practices.

- In transforming the economy, we intend to make it more productive, thus creating employment and prosperity for millions of youths, reducing poverty in the

land, addressing issues of criminality and insecurity.

- Our vision and mission is to give full expression to our democracy by moving our country from consumption to production.

- The Nigeria Diaspora has the capacity, and therefore must have a commensurate voice. By the 2027 elections, Nigeria Diaspora must have a voice via absentee ballots.

- Bad leadership has seriously damaged Nigeria; we must rescue our country and end bad governance.

Peter Obi thanked the organizers of the event. "It feels good to be in Toronto, Canada. I am very grateful to the Peter Obi Nigerian Canadian Interest Groups, and the local organizing committee that put this event together".

For over four hours, the Presidential hopeful fielded questions from participants bordering on issues that affect Nigeria. After the event, the former Anambra State Governor took pictures with some of the attendees for over one hour. Also, he had a breakfast meeting with some Nigerians the next day before jetting out to the United States to continue his political tour.

ANSWERS OF YOUTH CORNER – PAGE 19

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

(1) 25, 40, 94 (2) 13, 52, 115 (3) 70, 145, 220 (4) 22, 49, 103 (5) 28, 127, 250

JUST FOR LAUGHS

An apple a day keeps the doctor away!

MENTAL APTITUDE

1. Answer: White, since the only place you can do that is the North Pole and polar bears are the only kind of bears that live there.

2. Answer: The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry.

3. Answer: Pencil lead

4. Answer: Your breath

CROSSWORD

Horizontally:

1. Garlic, 2. Onion, 3. Cucumber, 4. Potato, 6. Carrot, 7. Tomato, 8. Beet, 10, Peas

Vertically:

3. Chili, 4. Pumpkin, 5. Eggplant, 8. Broccoli, 9. Pepper

FAMILY ACTIVITIES THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK



(NC) The everyday cost of taking care of a family can bring sticker shock to even the savviest parent. So, how do you give your kiddos a fun time without spending an arm and a leg? Here's some inspiration to help:

GO TO CHEAP MOVIE NIGHT

Many movie theatres have cheaper showings on Tuesdays, so make sure to take advantage if you love the silver screen. To host a movie night

in your own home you can bust out some special snacks, turn the lights down low and snuggle up to make the evening special.

CREATE A HOME SPA DAY

Break out the bubble bath and nail polish, to enjoy a DIY spa day. It's a fun way for kids to play and be imaginative. You can find products on sale or at the dollar store to enjoy a foot soak, manicure or experiment with colourful make up.

LEARN TO DIY TOGETHER

There is lots of deep do-it-yourself knowledge available on sites like YouTube or Instructables.com. Take your pick of projects, get creative and learn a new skill while spending time together. Whether you make your own chess set, learn to sew a Halloween costume, or build your own tree fort, you can choose your own adventure, end goal (and budget) for yourself.

HOST A LEMONADE STAND

A rite of passage for many kids, running a lemonade stand is a great way to keep your kids occupied and teach them a little something about money. It's a joy to see their faces light up when they make a sale. All you need is some lemonade, a homemade sign, a tin for coins, and some kind of small table.

EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

Get outside on a family-friendly hike, a bike ride through the neighbourhood or a simple backyard camping adventure for easy, low-cost ways to get active together.

Redeeming rewards points can also make expensive activities more affordable. Just be sure to choose a program that lets you earn significant points on everyday purchases like gas, transit, dining and groceries, such as the BMO eclipse Visa Infinite card. That way you can redeem points sooner and get special access to some big-ticket dining, entertainment and vacation destinations.

Find more information at bmo.com/eclipsevisa

MONEY TALKS: TEACH YOUR KIDS GOOD MONEY HABITS

(NC) Talking to kids about money management and financial literacy can be intimidating, especially if you feel like you're not a financial whiz yourself. Perhaps you never got much financial education from your parents, or you grew up with financial insecurity. Did you know that one third of Canadians according to Statistics Canada indicate they struggle to manage their day-to-day finances, and many avoid talking to their kids because they feel they're too young?

Here are some helpful reminders for talking

like Mydoh to empower kids for their future.

KEEP THE CONVERSATIONS HONEST

Despite some fears adults have, open discussions about money among the family will help kids have the knowledge and confidence they need to make money-smart decisions. Honesty is truly the best policy, but if it feels daunting, take a family-first approach. This could mean setting a savings goal for a vacation together, having in-the-moment conversations about money



about money with kids.

TALKING ABOUT MONEY ISN'T TABOO

In some households, money is attached to self-worth, in others to poor choices, and for some, they just aren't comfortable discussing it. However, learning about money at home can help teach kids that money is not something to avoid talking about – and that's a valuable lesson to carry into adulthood where financial confidence leads to more success. It doesn't always have to be a structured conversation. You can use everyday activities as teachable moments or try digital learning tools

at the grocery store, or simply being honest about your money mistakes so that your kids can learn from them.

START THE DISCUSSIONS EARLY

The earlier you start talking to your kids and teens about financial literacy, the more confidence they'll have in managing their own money down the line. Given responsibility, experience and a little guidance, kids can get a head start in shaping strong financial futures for themselves.

Find a starting point to help your kids understand money at mydoh.ca or download the app.



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