Canadian Public Schools: Excellence & Opportunity in Education

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About CAPS-I

• national non-profit association of 130 public school districts*

• members enrolled 32,000 students in 1 semester or full academic year programs and 8,000 in shorter term programs in 2016-2017

• formally incorporated in 2008 to establish standards for the K-12 public school sector of the industry

• members offer English or French educational programs with bilingual experiences available in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick

* may also be referred to as boards or divisions
Distribution of Membership 2017-2018
- representing 130 districts

* provincially organized
CAPS-I Quality Assurance

All members must comply with CAPS-I’s Standards of Practice in 5 areas:

1) Care & Support of Students
2) Homestay Screening & Selection
3) Homestay Monitoring & Support
4) Working with Agents/Partners
5) Program Management

Associate members are given 2 years to develop their programs to comply with CAPS-I’s Standards of Practice.

CAPS-I: Your Assurance of Quality and Integrity!
Why do 40,000 international high school students choose to study in Canada each year?
Experience
Quality
Choice
Value
Support
Decades of EXPERIENCE

• International students have been studying in Canadian public schools for more than 30 years

• Canadian host families will often host international students year after year

• Canada is a very multicultural country and our schools are very experienced in providing English and French language instruction to non-native speakers
QUALITY Education

- More than 95% of Canadian parents enroll their children in public schools
- Teaching is a highly regarded profession in Canada and Canadian teachers are among the highest paid in the world
- Class sizes vary according to between ranging from 20 – 35 students
- Engaging, interactive, learner centered approach to instruction
- Canadian standardized qualifications are recognized by colleges and universities worldwide
Comparing Canada Academically…

In 2015, the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) tested 540,000 Grade 10 (15 year old) students from 72 countries around the globe in Reading, Math & Science.

- Canada ranked 2\textsuperscript{nd} on the Reading Scale with Ireland in 4\textsuperscript{th}, New Zealand 9\textsuperscript{th}, Australia 13\textsuperscript{th}, UK ranked 18\textsuperscript{th} and US ranked 19\textsuperscript{th}

- Canada ranked 7\textsuperscript{th} on the Science Scale with New Zealand in 12\textsuperscript{th}, Australia 13\textsuperscript{th}, UK 14\textsuperscript{th}, Ireland 16\textsuperscript{th} and the US 20\textsuperscript{th}.

- Canada ranked 10\textsuperscript{th} on the Math Scale with Ireland 16\textsuperscript{th}, New Zealand 20\textsuperscript{th}, Australia 21\textsuperscript{st}, UK 24\textsuperscript{th} and the US 34\textsuperscript{th}.

QUALITY Homestay Programs

• The majority* of international students live with Canadian host families

• Host families are well-compensated each month to offset hosting expenses

• Host families are carefully screened prior to selection & placement

• Comprehensive application process enables positive, healthy student/family matches

• Families care for, support and nurture students as if they were their own

• Homestay Coordinators are available 24/7 to provide assistance as necessary

* Some international students may live in a dormitory offered by 1 school district or chose to/are required to live with family or friends
QUALITY of Life

• Canada placed 6th according to the 2016 World Happiness Report

• Economist Intelligence Unit’s 2016 Livability Report ranks 3 Canadian cities in their Top 5 Ideal Destinations in the World to Live

• Canada is the best place to visit in 2017 – Lonely Planet

• Canada reports the 3rd highest rate of volunteering involving almost 40% of youth and older adults – almost twice as much as the OECD average

• Canada is #1 Best Country according to millennials http://www.usnews.com/news/best-countries/best-millennials-overall
CHOICE of Destination & Program

• Learn and live in an English, French or bilingual environment

• Choose from an urban, suburban or more rural community

• Apply directly to the school district or province and identify Top 3 choices of schools

• Long or short term, academic or language/culture program from Kindergarten - Grade12 (Grade 11 in Quebec)

• Great variety of specialized programs and optional courses offered
Specialized Programs

- Faith-based educational programs (19 Catholic)
- Fine arts programs (dance, drama, visual arts, music)
- Sports academies (hockey, soccer, golf, volleyball, baseball)
- International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP)
- One-to-one technology programs (students may be required to have laptops)
- International Certificate Programs
Optional Courses

- 2nd Languages (French, Spanish, German, Chinese, Japanese, Mandarin)
- Computer Animation / Digital Media & Web Design
- Cosmetology (Hair Design/Make-Up) / Fashion Design
- Entrepreneurship / Law / Marketing / Accounting / Tourism / Financial Mgmt
- Robotics / Aviation
- Culinary (chef training)
- Art / Drama / Band / Film studies / Photography
- Eco-Adventure / Outdoor Exploration / Sports Performance
- Automotive / Metalwork / Woodwork / Construction Technology
Exceptional VALUE

- Tuition fees range from $9,500 – 15,000 CAD for a full academic year
- 1 semester or shorter term integration program costs pro-rated
- Total full year fees (excluding airfare/spending $) range from $18,500 – 26,000 CAD
SUPPORT for Students

• Comprehensive ‘circle’ of care and support from pre-arrival to departure/transition to post-secondary

• Limited # of international students in each school

• School-based guidance counsellors, multicultural workers

• Custodian appointed

• Homestay Coordinators available 24/7
IMPORTANT Role of Agencies

- All CAPS-I member school districts work with agencies
- Minor students require more support
- Coordinate itinerary and facilitate travel logistics
- Pre-departure orientation for students (and parents)
- Helpful conduit of information while the student is studying in Canada
- Support re-registration and/or co/re-validation process
Canada Course for Education Agents

• The Canada Course for Education Agents is offered by CAPS-I and Languages Canada in partnership with ICEF and the Canadian Consortium for International Education.

• No cost to take the course – only a fee of $325 CAD if want to take the exam and receive certification

www.Canada-course.ca
Resources

Guidebook (7th edition) & Map Poster
130 pages with 1 page profiles of all Full Members
http://www.caps-i.ca/about-caps-i/promotional-materials/

CAPS-I Website (14 languages)
www.caps-i.ca

CAPS-I YouTube Channel (32 student testimonial videos)
www.youtube.com/capsiacepi

CAPS-I on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/CanadianAssociationofPublicSchoolsInternational

CAPS-I on Twitter @capsiacepi
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