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Your Morning Laugh

"According to **Citizenship and Immigration Canada**, 'any permanent resident who is convicted of an offence under an **Act of Parliament**, such as the **Canadian Criminal Code** or the **Controlled Drug and Substances Act** for which a term of imprisonment of over six months has been imposed can be deported.'" (**Asian Pacific Post**, December 21, 2005) So, why aren't they?

Fraud For Futures

Unable to conjure a palatable explanation for the dismal performance of late model immigrants (never mind that near half cannot speak anything like any official language), Ottawa has lately diverted hundreds of millions toward career specific **ESL**, mentoring, introductory cultural courses and whatever else the industry can dream up. Good luck; even the immi-philic **Toronto Star** (Nov 22, 2005) concedes, "immigrant illiteracy rates don't budge over five years." But, because it is a such touchy subject, Canadians tend to take immigrants at their word (and after all, it's not as if people lie to get into the country or further a refugee claim) and with critical faculties effectively atrophied, no one even asks what kind of "professional" -- earning top dollar in Pakistan or China -- packs up the family and moves 3/4 of the way around the globe *without* troubling to investigate job prospects? Maybe we should! "Several organizations dismantled by authorities in China during anti-fraud campaigns were found to have been manufacturing a wide range of documents. Documents seized often included, in the words of a police officer in Beijing, 'all the documents a person needs from birth to death' ... birth certificates, resident identity cards, passports, university diplomas, student identity cards, marriage and divorce certificates, business licenses, membership papers for the **People's Liberation Army**, property certificates, and driver's licenses. For instance, material uncovered by authorities at a printing shop in Shanghai included fake seals for a variety of government departments and universities, that allowed the organization to produce nearly 100 different types of documents. In one of the largest cases of document fraud in Hubei Province, police seized from one organization more than 550,000 fraudulent documents covering 117 different types of documentation. ... In Shenzhen, an organization was found to be selling university diplomas from top Chinese universities for 250 yuan [\$35 Cdn] apiece. ... During a 2004 campaign, police in China closed down more than 500 organizations involved in producing fraudulent documents for the purpose of travel abroad. ... According to immigration authorities, some mainlanders are known to first travel to Hong Kong with genuine documents, then to obtain fraudulent passports and other documents during the stopover, before heading off to destinations in North America and Europe. A document obtained by the **Research Directorate from the Immigration Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)** revealed that in 2004 and 2005 to date, the United States (US) and Canada were the top two destination countries of Chinese nationals with fraudulent documents intercepted at the Hong Kong airport. ... Between 1995 and 2000, **Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)** uncovered fraudulent identity documents and related material being sent by mail to people in Canada; [moreover,] reports on mail seizures by **CIC** have concluded that these documents are the types used to support refugee claims in Canada, and that more than 50 per cent of all seized fraudulent documents originated from China." (**IRB, Country of Origin Research - China**, September 8, 2005) Just before the election, \$700-million was earmarked for speeding the immigrant backlog -- not closer scrutiny, just faster.

What Cost? "Hey, Whatever!"

Ten years ago, the **Toronto Sun** (April 22, 1996) reported that, "according to an **RCMP** source, 90% of the 320,000 refugees accepted by Canada from 1983 'til 1995 had their arrangements made by people smugglers." That is, 90 per cent of refugees admitted ten to 20 years ago scammed their way in. At the same time, the **Sunday Times** (April 28, 1996) noted that despite Tamil refugee approval rates here of near 90% (15% in the US at the time), few of Canada's Tamil refugees were legitimate: "In 1983, according to government and community sources, the Toronto area had fewer than 5,000 Tamils. Today [1996], more than 110,000 live there. What is controversial is this: within the Sri Lankan community and immigration circles, it is common knowledge that most Tamil refugees paid alien smugglers fees of up to \$20,000 in order to get to Canada to make their refugee applications. [supposedly] desperate people who are fleeing a repressive regime and a horrific civil war who only contract alien smugglers as a last resort. Indeed, that is the story put forward by the vast majority of refugee applicants from Sri Lanka. But critics say that, by and large, it is not the real refugees who are coming to Canada. A senior official at Sri Lanka's high commission to Canada insists that only 10 per cent of the claimants are genuine refugees; that is, individuals with a well-founded fear of persecution (at the hands of the main Tamil guerrilla group, the **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam**, he adds, and not government security forces!) 'It is the richest people in the north (of Sri Lanka) who have made these bogus refugee claims,' says the official. 'They're seeking a better economic life, greener pastures. I'm astounded as to how these people are getting through on refugee claims with these fictions.' **Tiger** supporters in the Tamil community dismiss those comments as an attempt by the Sri Lankan government to deny what they call widespread human-rights abuses. *But there are indications that many Tamil refugees in Canada may not, in fact, have a fear of persecution.* According to records from the consular section of the **Sri Lankan High Commission**, more than 8,600 Sri Lankans with refugee claims pending in Canada applied for travel documents to visit Sri Lanka in 1992. The following year, the figure was 5,865. If those refugee claimants feared persecution in their homeland, why were they so eager to return? The answer, says **Linga Tharmalingam**, a Tamil who came to Canada in 1984 as an independent-class immigrant and is now a citizen, is to take vacations and visit family. 'The real refugees are still there in Sri Lanka -- and they have no money, not a penny,' he says. 'The refugees who are coming here are economic migrants.' [Or worse!] The Tamil underworld is carved up among three rival factions, all of which engage in extortion, heroin trafficking and arms dealing. A visit on almost any weekday to the provincial courthouse in the Toronto suburb of Scarborough, where most Tamils live, reveals a parade of young Tamil gang members up on charges related to those rackets, not to mention assault and obstruction of justice. According to detectives **Paul Clark** and **Tony Malcolm**, the **Metropolitan Toronto Police Service's** experts on organized crime in the Tamil community, almost all of the gang members entered Canada as refugee claimants." A decade on, it is obvious that an approval rate verging on 90 per cent was not in Canada's best interests. But where fraudulent refugee claims may fail, an equally fraudulent fear of torture can work wonders: A 2004 removal order was stayed when **Jeyaseelam Thuraisingam's** refugee lawyers convinced a **Federal Court** judge that the public linking of their client with Toronto's violent **VVT gang** and **Tamil Tigers** spelled torture if he was returned to Sri Lanka. Thuraisingam carried on as leader of the **Seelapu gang** (Scarborough

arm of the VVT) until Jan. 23 of this year, when he was returned from whence he came. "The **Immigration and Refugee Board** [also] upheld the removal of **Kaileshan Thanabalasingham**, 36, [first scheduled for deportation 11 years ago] ruling he was one of the leaders of a gang that shot and killed an innocent bystander in 1997. While Thanabalasingham had argued he should not be deported because he feared torture, the panel said that more than 100 other Sri Lankans had already been sent back to their homeland and *none* had been mistreated. ... The **Canadian High Commission** in the Sri Lankan capital, Colombo, followed up on the deportees last year and discovered that *not one of them* had suffered any ill-treatment. ... In interviews done in early 2005, *none* of the returnees interviewed reported being mistreated. ... The panel said had they been tortured or otherwise mistreated, they would have told either the Canadian high commission or one of the many human rights groups in Sri Lanka. The finding is significant because foreign nationals facing deportation from Canada often claim they cannot be sent back to their countries of origin because they will be tortured." (**National Post**, January 20, 2006)

Tigers Toothless At Last?

Peter MacKay pledged that the new **Conservative** government would ban the **Tamil Tigers** -- and so he must: The **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE or Tamil Tigers)** are "the most active terrorist organization in Canada. Every month, the Sri Lankan separatist group raises hundreds of thousands of dollars from Canada's 300,000 Tamil-born immigrants. Yet, the [former **Liberal** government categorically refused] to add the Tigers to its list of outlawed terror groups, despite having been asked to by **CSIS** and the **RCMP**. [As so often with immigration matters, the official version does not stand up to close scrutiny. We're assured that donations are extorted with brutal menaces but the Liberals were confident that banning the outfit would lose ethnic support. There were] simply too many Tamil voters who might be offended by such a move. ... Before a 2002 ceasefire ended most of the fighting between the Tigers and Sri Lankan troops, an estimated 60,000 victims had died in the conflict. Having perpetrated nearly 200 suicide bombings [including Indian prime minister **Rajiv Gandhi**], the Tigers represent 'unequivocally the most effective and brutal terrorist organization ever to utilize suicide terrorism' -- more so even than **Hamas**, **Hezbollah** and **Islamic Jihad** -- according to Israel's **Institute for Counter-Terrorism**. While the Tigers' money-gathering operation in Canada geared down after the ceasefire, there were reports in November that the Tiger bagmen had resumed their door-to-door operations in Toronto, home to more than half of Canada's Tamils [and Canada boasts the world's largest population of Tamils outside Sri Lanka. Despite our record breaking numbers, the **US**, **UK**, **Australia** and even the useless **UN** have outlawed the Tigers as a terror organization. But it's starting all over again.] In recent months, there have been a number of clashes between the Tigers and government troops. ... Community members claimed they were forced to give immediate cash contributions of \$2,500, and told to expect to make regular monthly donations after that, or family members who remain in Sri Lanka would be in danger from Tiger hit squads. Some Tamil-Canadians also insist the Tigers were issuing each Tamil family in Canada a **PIN** number that would be matched with donations records, and any family not keeping its payments to the Tigers current would be denied entry to Tamil territories when they visited their homeland. [Yet, another contradiction: an abnormally high number of Tamils have landed in Canada as so-called refugees -- real refugees do not 'holiday' back home. In fact,] the **LTTE** is one of the biggest abusers of Canada's refugee system, routinely trying to [insinuate] its operatives into Canada under assumed names and filing bogus claims of abuse." (**National Post**, January 20, 2006)

You'll Be Sorry When I'm Dead

There's no dignified exit for the high profile deportee, is there? It's all piano player melodrama with villainous Canada twirling its moustaches as it ties **Little Nell** to the tracks. The wailing family warns that it will never see **Little Nell** alive again. To shut down what meagre legal remedies we have, a noisy sub-group of lobbyists declares "no one is illegal," and joins the baying chorus, prophesying torture and death without fail. One of the noisiest cases was that of **Harjit Singh**, the pizza delivery man who hammered the final nail in **Judy Sgro's** portfolio. But every so often, **Little Nell** is cuffed and led to the plane: "**Harjit Singh** ... wept at **Pearson International Airport** the day he was deported to New Delhi. 'I'm scared,' he told reporters. 'I'm afraid to go back. I don't know what will happen to me.' ... As he boarded the plane on Feb. 2, 2005, his family again portrayed him as the victim of a cruel system. ... Contrary to his protestations, Mr. Singh has not been tortured or imprisoned since arriving in India -- save for an overnight stint in immigration holdings at the Delhi airport. Nor has he been forced into hiding. Instead, the 49-year-old businessman is busy building a gracious two-storey mansion in Jalandhar, a city of two million in the Punjab. ... The home, one of two he owns in an upscale area of the city, is palatial by Indian standards. [This will make a pleasant diversion after 16 years of scamming the Canadian refugee system: While Singh's first deportation order was issued in 1992, over the next 13 years he would polish his routine with no less than six humanitarian appeals and numerous **Federal Court** challenges, claiming he would be a target of Indian police. He had been convicted of migrant smuggling in India and, while he faced people smuggling charges in Canada, these were dropped when he allegedly threatened witnesses. He was found civilly liable in a \$1-million credit-card fraud. His final ploy to duck deportation was in claiming that his wife's thrice-weekly dialysis treatment would constitute a hardship if he, and not the Canadian taxpayer, had to pony up. It worked, but then his wife up and died. Singh would undoubtedly still be playing the system had he not squared off against a serving immigration minister. Question is, how many Harjit Singhs are out there?] In the past decade, there has been a 300-per-cent increase in the number of immigration and refugee cases before the **Federal Court**; they now account for 84 per cent of cases the court hears. [Standard stall tactics consist of the following:] Seek judicial review in the **Federal Court**, which only considers mistakes in law (success rate: less than **10** per cent); Request a pre-removal risk assessment that examines whether rejected refugees would face torture or danger if deported (success rate: **4** per cent); File a humanitarian and compassionate review, arguing they would suffer unusual hardship if removed (success rate: **60** per cent); Ask the **Federal Court** to review negative decisions in the above three appeals. The cost of all this is considerable, including social assistance for claimants, legal-aid funding and the cost of removals. The **IRB's** annual budget is about \$100-million, while about 12 per cent of **Ontario Legal Aid's** \$157-million budget last year was spent on immigration and refugee cases. In Ontario, 14,000 refugee claimants collected \$115-million in social assistance in 2004. " (**Globe and Mail**, April 16, 2005) Is it any wonder that Sgro's staff remarked on the hordes of hem-kissing supplicants that constantly swarmed around her? At a 60 per cent success rate, the special ministerial dispensation is easily the immigrant's best bet -- and it should be done away with as an unworthy throwback to feudalism. Simply put, it sends all the wrong signals to people presumably escaping societies blighted by the corrosive authority of warlords.

Never The Twain

"An Ottawa police detective who gives sexual harassment sensitivity training to taxi drivers could use some lessons herself, according to a chorus of voices yesterday who say the officer made remarks that

were culturally insensitive. In an interview published yesterday in The Citizen, **Det. Theresa Kelm** said part of the function of the training course was to explain to drivers what constituted acceptable behaviour toward women in Canada and what types of actions or remarks crossed the line into harassment or assault. 'Some of this behaviour may be acceptable in the countries they are from,' Det. Kelm said. 'Our message to them is that it's not acceptable here, and it won't be tolerated.' The comment was made in a story about a cab driver who was convicted of sexually assaulting a female passenger, the third [incident] of its kind in the Ottawa area in the past year. **Yousef Al Mezel** [from Kuwait], president of the union that represents Ottawa taxi drivers, said the detective's remark was unfair to drivers. 'It's a racist comment from the detective,' he said. The comment implied Canadian culture was superior to that of other countries in terms of attitude toward women, said **Mr. Al Mezel**. ... **Ottawa Councillor Eli El-Chantiri** [from Lebanon], who sits on the city's taxi advisory committee, agreed with the union leader. ... Meanwhile, when Canada's **Foreign Affairs** website offers advice to female travellers, it warns Middle Eastern countries can be a particular hazard. ... 'Physical and verbal harassment of women is a problem,' the report adds about Kuwait [about Lebanon, it advises, 'Physical contact between men and women should also be avoided in public places.']. ... It says that in some countries — although it does not spell out which — a differentiation is made by men between women who dress or behave conservatively and those who don't. 'Understand that, in some parts of the world, *respectable* women don't go out alone in the evening. In these places, a flagrant rejection of this custom could very well put you in jeopardy.'" (Ottawa Citizen, July 14, 2005) Remember when cabs were the safest option for women travelling at night? In Toronto, "a man contracted out by the **T.T.C. [Toronto Transit Commission]** to provide **Wheel-Trans** service to the elderly and disabled is facing serious charges after a 27-year-old mentally and physically disabled woman claims he sexually assaulted her. **Farook Khan**, 57, a self-employed cab driver, is accused of pulling over his vehicle and assaulting the vulnerable woman. ... Police aren't releasing a lot of details about what's alleged to have happened onboard the vehicle, but they do add an ominous footnote: they believe there may be other victims out there." (Pulse24 News, January 18, 2006) Other victims or not, Mr. Khan was released on \$10,000 bail. Lucky for him he was not writing letters to public officials critical of immigration. Khan is a self-employed cabbie with **Royal Taxi**, one of six companies contracted to supplement **Wheel-Trans** handicapped shuttles. This escalation in hostility will come as no great surprise to women who have suffered glowering disapproval, insult, verbal abuse, threats, and politically, socially and morally improving lectures, outbursts of temper and incomplete trips in which the mystified passenger is told to "just get out." But, speaking of the handicapped, in New Orleans, "at 5:25 PM on Saturday, July 5 [1997, a blind Canadian woman named] **Sandi Dewdney** was leaving the **Hyatt Regency Hotel**, where the annual convention of the **National Federation of the Blind (NFB)** had just concluded. A taxi was hailed, and she and her guide dog entered the back seat. The driver reportedly became so enraged he leaped out of his seat and began dragging Dr. Dewdney out of the cab while screaming, 'No dog, no dog!' Two bellhops from the Hyatt had to pull him off to rescue her. Dewdney said that during the fracas she pleaded with the driver to let her go. Earlier that week, she had broken her wrist in a swimming accident and was still in considerable pain. ... In the July 7, Times-Picayune article describing the physical abuse suffered by **Sandi Dewdney**, the driver, a Muslim, claimed Dr. Dewdney's guide dog was a ritually unclean animal and *being in the dog's presence* would be a violation of his religious beliefs." (Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians, 2006) Complaints that the saliva of sniffer dogs was *haram* (forbidden) were relatively

commonplace prior to September 11. The cultural frictions rub along elsewhere: Moslem cab drivers at Washington and Cleveland airports complain that police are ticketing them for leaving their cabs unattended outside the terminal while they first perform pre-prayer ritual ablutions in the public washrooms (washing of hands, face and feet is prescribed), then pray five times a day in the breezeway. The cab drivers want airport authorities to provide cleaner, more congenial prayer facilities. The ticketing issue has the **Council on American-Islamic Relations** "very concerned about any possible profiling." Post-9/11 the police are very concerned about any possible car bombs.

UK Bribes Would-Be Refugees To Go

"A **Home Office** pilot scheme is offering would-be refugees £2,000 each if they agree to leave Britain in the next six months. They can also claim a further £1,000 of 'in kind' benefits under an earlier scheme, to pay for education, training or help setting up a business, making a total of £3,000 each. It is the first time asylum-seekers have been offered cash incentives. The **Home Office** is advertising the new scheme with mailshots to all 54,000 people receiving [welfare] benefits and accommodation from the **National Asylum Support Service**. It will also be publicised in detention centres. Immigration minister **Tony McNulty** told MPs the offer could increase the number of predicted returns from about 1,950 to over 3,000 for the six months. That was 'good value for money' compared with the £11,000 average cost of forced deportation, he said. If the predicted 3,000 people take up the offer, it will cost taxpayers £6.2million over the six months, Mr McNulty admitted. A **Home Office** spokesman denied the scheme could attract additional asylum-seekers if they thought the scheme would be repeated at a later date. The **Refugee Council** said the payments were better than deportations but warned: 'It is important that voluntary returns are just that -- voluntary.' Sir **Andrew Green**, chairman of **Migration Watch**, added: 'It's risky. If people in the developing world see others coming back with substantial sums, they will want to try their luck, even if they are wrong to believe they can.'" (UK Metro, January 13, 2006)

Wake Up Canada

William Bratton, "chief of police in New York City from 1994 to 1996 ... is credited with the miraculous turnaround of that city's crime spiral. Currently chief of the **LAPD** -- the only individual to be chief of both major cities -- Bratton is achieving similar miracles. ... By the time Bratton left the **NYPD**, murders in New York had fallen to 984 a year, from a high of 2,262 in 1990. During his first two years in Los Angeles, overall crime has dropped 13 per cent, homicides 20 per cent. In Canada, the number of homicides committed in 2004 increased in six of our nine largest cities. ... A pioneer of the '*Broken Windows*' theory of law enforcement [a broken window 'advertises' that no one cares -- the area is ripe for crime], Bratton works on the principle that by cracking down on petty 'lifestyle' crimes -- prostitution, drug use, aggressive begging -- a city makes itself less susceptible to more serious crime. Crime is viewed as an 'epidemic': tolerate small offences and criminals will become emboldened to commit ever greater crimes. [The Maclean's magazine interview found an unusually forthright man.] "*You know about [Toronto's] problems? A 27-per-cent increase in the number of homicides from 1995 to today. A Boxing Day slaying where a 15-year-old innocent bystander was gunned down during a gang shootout on a major shopping street. Can I tell you -- it would be nice if you were our police chief.*" Well, thank you. Tell me, the gang violence that you are experiencing, what is the racial or ethnic background of the gangs?" *That's a refreshingly blunt question. Some say it may be as high as 80 per cent Jamaican. But no one knows for sure, because people here don't like to talk about that.* 'You need to talk about it. It's all part of the issue. If it's Jamaican gangs that are committing the

crimes, well then, go after the Jamaican gangs . And don't be afraid to go after them because they're black. That's the last thing you need to be concerned with.' *Oh boy, I can see the complaints coming in already. You have to understand the climate here.* ... 'If your government, your society, is saying, 'We don't want you focusing on the little things because we're concerned it might be seen as racially incorrect,' or, 'We're concerned that it's not appreciative of the ethnic backgrounds of people' -- well, that's the lame excuse that got American policing into so much trouble in the '60s, '70s and '80s. ... 'But there are a number of things that have worked generically in the United States, and, indeed, around the world. One is the idea that police can prevent crime. And the focus has to be on the prevention, as much as the response to it. And that's a very critical distinction. In my country in the '70s, '80s and '90s -- as a result of the societal changes in our country in the '60s -- the focus of policing went from the prevention of crime to the response to crime. And that's because we erroneously believed that crime was caused by racism, poverty, the economy, demographics. None of those things cause crime. ... *NDP Leader Jack Layton has pointed to 'despair' and 'poverty' as the root causes of crime.* 'When you put too much emphasis on the idea of poverty being the cause of crime, you're as much as saying that just because you are poor or disadvantaged, you are going to resort to crime to get by. And that's a phenomenally racist and insensitive attitude. The vast majority of people who are poor do not resort to crime. A small percentage do.' (*Maclean's*, January 14, 2006)

CRIME WATCH

Come Back, Come Back To Jamaica

"In 2000 Jamaica had the third highest murder rate in the world. The figure was based on 887 murders in that year. In 2004 a record breaking 1445 murders were reported and thus far in 2005 we are progressing at a rate of approximately five murders each day. ... We like to blame our deportees for our high murder rate, but based on our dubious role in the top three [murder zones], perhaps the countries deporting Jamaicans are in a better position to apportion blame to us." (*The Jamaica Observer*, January 20, 2005) "Forty deportees from the United States of America arrived at Kingston's **Norman Manley International Airport** on [May 26], bringing to 1,165 the number of Jamaicans kicked out of the **USA**, Britain and Canada since the beginning of the year. ... Last year 4,229 Jamaicans were deported from the **USA**, Canada and Britain, with majority [sic] deported from the **US**." (*The Jamaica Observer*, May 28, 2005) In Canada discussions of *the violent society* begin and end with the **US**, while any discussion of Jamaican violence is promptly squelched with accusations of racism and/or the uplifting spectacle of a sobbing police chief.

Why Should We Tell You?

"It is not known, *at least by the public*, exactly when Somalia native **Mohamed Hagi Mohamud** entered Canada. But we do know when he began his long, sorry history of criminality in the country that took him in ... twelve years ago ... It started with a simple narcotics charge. After that, he got violent. [Despite a string of charges and convictions for assault, assault with a weapon, aggravated sexual assault and assault causing bodily harm, immigration authorities never quite got around to chivvying Mr. Mohamud into a deportation hearing. They would eventually get around to scheduling two, but various pressing demands on his time prevented Mr. Mohamud from attending. By last spring, Mr. Wonderful had made his way to Surrey BC, where he abducted **Erika Martyn**, forced her at knifepoint to accompany him home, and beat and raped her over four frenzied hours . [See Dec. 2005 **Hotline #180**] In November, Mr. Mohamud pleaded guilty to unlawful confinement and sexual assault, receiving a sentence of 4½ years. ... With Mr. Mohamud safely behind bars and public outrage growing over the case, the **Canada Border Services Agency**

scheduled a third deportation hearing for the 33-year-old Somali [on Feb 2. **Leeann King**, a member of the **Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada**, held a private hearing that prevented journalists from hearing the legal arguments offered by Mohamud's lawyer.] After two hours of closed-door deliberations, while a large crowd of reporters waited outside, the hearing was adjourned, without explanation." (*Globe and Mail*, February 3, 2006)

Just Another Victim Bewildered By Our System

"On February 2, 2006, [Montreal resident] **Odon Mulumba Tchiteya** entered a guilty plea to a number of counts of indictment for postal money order fraud exceeding \$5,000, personation with intent, possession of a forged passport, and possession and use of a forged drivers licence, health insurance card and other counterfeit documents. ... A refugee from West Africa, **Odon Mulumba Tchiteya** purchased series of postal money orders of low dollar value. He then altered the printed amounts and cashed the money orders showing increased values by using several counterfeit identification papers. Acting on his own, **Odon Mulumba Tchiteya** altered and cashed 838 fraudulent postal money orders totalling \$236,370 and used approximately twenty counterfeit identification documents in the process. The investigation, conducted by the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police Commercial Crime Section** in partnership with **Canada Post** inspectors, was launched in late 2003. Between June 6, 2003, and July 16, 2004, the **RCMP** seized 1,660 altered postal money orders accounting for losses of nearly \$500,000 for **Canada Post**. **Odon Mulumba Tchiteya** is known to the police. He was also under investigation by the **RCMP** in the early 2000's. On July 13, 2005, he had pleaded guilty to offences committed under sections 123 [Section 123 deals with fake documents] and 128 [Section 128 deals with misrepresentation] of the **Immigration and Refugee Protection Act**. Back in 2000, he had pleaded guilty to using forged documents, including postal money orders. On January 30, 2001, he was sentenced to 8 months in jail on each count of indictment with two years' probation, was fined \$10,660 and prohibited from having postal money orders in his possession." (*RCMP news release*, February 10, 2006) Tchiteya, who arrived in Canada ten years ago, was on probation at the time he committed these latest offences. Apart from the 30-month sentence, Canada has been very, very good to Mr. Tchiteya -- in 1999 he and his wife made a \$105,000 downpayment on a \$347,000 Montreal house. The couple own a **Cadillac** and a 2002 **Jaguar XKR** convertible. It is believed Tchiteya also holds goods and property in Congo. Deportation might be in order?

Growing While Vietnamese

On June 11, 2002, an **Ontario Provincial Police** officer researching Orangeville land registry records in connection with old grow-op cases played a hunch and pulled the records of 17 other Vietnamese who'd recently bought homes in the area. **Van Trong Nguyen**'s home and 596 marijuana plants were surveilled for 8 months and raided Feb. 26, 2003: He was charged with three counts of drug possession, theft of hydro and mischief to hydro wires. Superior Court judge **Emile Kruzick** threw the case out of court Jan 16, stating that the officer had violated Nguyen's Charter rights in assuming (rightly, as it happened) that he might be running a grow-op, based on his ethnicity. "**Kim Trinh**, programme co-ordinator with the **Vietnamese Association of Toronto** ... said this decision should be a wake-up call for police who may target one particular ethnic community for particular types of criminal activity. [Nevertheless, her organization] has applied for a provincial grant to mount an extensive public and community education program on the dangers of marijuana grow operations. ... **OPP Supt. Bill Craig** said ... the **OPP** takes a 'zero tolerance' approach to racism and racial profiling during investigations." (*Toronto Star*, February 9, 2006)