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Alibis From On High

"Adrienne Clarkson, very much an establishment figure as a Chinese immigrant who served as governor general, has taken the slightly edgy view that not absolutely everything is perfect in the greeting-card view of Canada. She has founded a group intent on mentoring new immigrants towards greater engagement in mainstream Canadian life. She even told me that Canada was no paradise, that she thought the word multiculturalism sounded too much like festivals with balloons and line dances, and that the arrest of the 17 Muslim terror suspects showed 'no successful multicultural society can get away without bumps.' Bumps, you said? So Canada will be demanding of immigrants commitment to a more explicitly defined Canadian mould? If steam could be ice-cold, Clarkson shot it back as if through a high-pressure nozzle. 'The Dutch are a tribe. The French are a tribe. *We're evolution personified.* All you can do in the US is to fit into the central myth of something that happened 200 years ago. In terms of Canada, you're looking at a problem that isn't there.'" (John Vinocur, **Khaleej Times**, June 14, 2006)

Commons Committee Wants Moratorium on Deporting Illegals

"Last week, Parliament's immigration and citizenship committee passed a motion by the **NDP** to impose a moratorium on deportations of undocumented workers and their families who pass security and criminality checks, until some kind of 'regularization' plan is put in place to help them achieve legal status. [Olivia] Chow is hopeful that a moratorium will be approved in the **House of Commons** this fall." (Toronto Star, June 30, 2006) It would be an amnesty is all but name for these illegals and that's what they are, not "undocumented workers." Once again, the **NDP** and their Liberal and Bloc allies have shown themselves to be no friend of the workingman.

Breakthrough For Le Pen

It took *hijab* protests, cartoon protests, month-long riots on the sink estates and the near demise of La France before voters would tune in to **Front National** leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen's cautions about immigration. "According to a survey in the news magazine **Le Point** last week, 22 per cent of the French population has a 'favourable opinion' of Mr Le Pen ... far higher than the 16 per cent popularity which Mr Le Pen scored in polls four years ago, just before the presidential elections in which he shocked France by beating the socialist prime minister, Lionel Jospin, in the first round. He lost to Jacques Chirac in the second round and political commentators insisted his success was a blip that would never happen again. ... Polls have shown the **FN** relentlessly on the rise since last November's violence in the immigrant ghettos on the outskirts of France's biggest cities. In October, eight per cent of French people said they would vote for Mr Le Pen's party. By December that had risen to 11 per cent, and by February [during the cartoon protests] it was 12 per cent. ... 'His ideas have never been so popular,' said his daughter and likely successor, Marine. She is 'very, very optimistic' about her father's chances in next year's presidential election. ... 'It's a case of people realising that reality is reflecting what we have been saying for the past 30 years.' ... Both [foreign minister Nicolas] Sarkozy and [president Jacques] Chirac have attempted to win over **FN** supporters, offering increasingly hard-line immigration policies. But Miss Le Pen dismissed Mr Sarkozy's tough new immigration bill, which was passed by the lower house of parliament last week, and his declaration that foreigners in France could either 'like it or leave.' She said: 'Either he has changed and is convinced by our ideas, in which

case why insult us, or he is obsessed with getting into power no matter what. Personally, I believe it is the latter.'" (London Telegraph, May 25, 2006)

Multiculturalists, Misfits, Misanthropes

"Dr. Mahfooz Kanwar recently attended Calgary's largest mosque for a funeral. At one point in the proceedings, a man Kanwar has known for more than three decades led the prayers. 'He was saying in Urdu (the official language of Pakistan): *Oh, God, protect us from the infidels, who pollute us with their vile ways.*' recalls Kanwar, a professor of sociology at **Mount Royal College** in Calgary. 'I stood up and grabbed him by the lapels, which was shocking even to me because I have never done anything like that in my life and I said: <How

dare you attack my country!> And then I addressed the crowd and said: <I have known this man for more than 30 years and he has been on welfare for almost all of those years> ... Then I said to this semi-literate man: <You should thank me and those you call infidels ... because the taxes I pay are putting food on your table as are the taxes of the so-called infidels>.' ... Guess which of the two men is no longer welcome at the [mosque]? Not the intolerant, hate-spewing semi-literate. No, it's Dr. Kanwar who's *persona non grata*. That, says Kanwar, is just one of numerous instances he has experienced as a result of the culture of ignorance and intolerance that permeates so many mosques in Canada and throughout the world. [Oh, surely not in self-consciously tolerant Canada?] 'The policy of official multiculturalism is a disaster,' says Kanwar. ... 'Multiculturalism creates nations within a nation and divides the loyalty of people,' says the 65-year-old Pakistani-born Kanwar, who immigrated to Canada in 1966. 'It allows people to marginalize themselves. It endangers us all as these recent arrests show.' Because of Kanwar's open and published opposition to Ontario's proposal last year to consider allowing *sharia* law for arbitration purposes in that province, Kanwar says he has been issued with *fatwahs* -- not the death-threat versions made famous by the one issued against Salman Rushdie for writing the novel **The Satanic Verses** -- but more like a shunning. ... He says the time has come for the Canadian government to tell new immigrants: 'Once you're in Canada we expect you to be totally devoted to Canada -- no divided loyalties. This country,' added Kanwar, 'is a democracy and democracy is founded on Christian principles. Canada is -- like it or not, take it or leave it -- a country founded on Christian principles where the vast majority of citizens are Christians,' said Kanwar. 'Yes, there's separation of church and state but even that was a principle founded by Christians and Christianity. If Muslims, or anyone else, doesn't like living in a land filled with Christians or in a democracy, they should get the hell out.'" (Calgary Sun, June 18, 2006) Oh dear, now the Canadian establishment will feel it must shun Dr. Kanwar in turn. "In Britain, the **National Statistics Office** in 2001 found that Hindus had higher incomes, rates of home ownership, and lower criminal conviction rates than the average. By contrast, Muslim Pakistanis and Bangladeshis had the lowest incomes, highest welfare dependency, and highest criminal conviction rates of any group. We ignore these numbers at our own peril. Canada, under the Liberals, has implemented a counter-intuitive and self-destructive immigration policy. During the 1990s, the Canadian Islamic population doubled and was heavily favoured over many other immigrant groups. For instance, statistics from 2001 indicate that the number of Pakistani immigrants (13,000) versus Indians (25,000) was five times higher per capita (considering that India's population is about ten times higher than Pakistan). Recently, a memo from David Mulroney, in **Bilateral Relations**,

revealed that under the Liberals, **Foreign Affairs** set up a **Muslim Communities Working Group**. No other ethnic group has such a lobby. This group provides affirmation of the obvious: Muslims have achieved the ability to receive disproportionately preferential treatment to the detriment of all other groups. This explains our irrational immigration policy, our soft and ineffectual security measures, and public policy initiatives." (Canada Free Press, June 13, 2006)

Alberta Union Workers Unemployed but Oil Giant Imports Chinese "Temps"

Greedy Canadian mega corporations keep complaining about a labour shortage to justify massive Third World immigration. The facts? Even in the booming Alberta economy – unemployment just over 3 per cent – thousands of skilled union workers remain out of work. "Up to 1,500 temporary Chinese workers may be coming to work in the oilsands to help construct **Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.'s Horizon** project, says a union executive in an open letter published in the Edmonton Sun on Wednesday. The letter addressed to the company and its shareholders states "Credible reports from various government and industry participants strongly indicate that your company is contemplating the usage of up to 1,500 Chinese foreign temporary workers at the Horizon project. ..." While he wouldn't go into details, letter-writer **Rob Kinsey**, business manager for the United Association Local 488, told Today in a telephone." (Fort McMurray Today, June 9, 2006) A Government dedicated to putting Canada and Canadians first, even if some businesses aren't, would refuse to admit such immigrants or temporary workers. Creative programmes to train more skilled workers, if needed, or to assist with transportation and other incentives from regions of high unemployment like the Maritimes should be put in place.

ESL, Or Else

"The percentage of schools in the **GTA** with **ESL** students but no **ESL** teacher has jumped from 16 per cent in 1999-2000 to 42 per cent this school year — including a 10 percentage point increase in the last year alone — according to findings from watchdog group **People for Education**. ... The non-profit parent group surveyed nearly 4,000 Ontario elementary schools and received a 22 per cent response rate. ... A lack of support for learning English is turning the land of opportunity into a land of broken dreams for new Canadians and their children, said the group's executive director **Annie Kidder**. ... 'This is a group of people who don't have a voice because of their own barriers with language. It's been horrifyingly easy to allow this situation to continue over the last five, six, seven years. There isn't a lobby of **ESL** parents. This is a group that's pretty easy to ignore,' she added. ... The Ontario government gives school boards about \$225 million a year in **ESL** grants. But they aren't required to spend the money providing **ESL** services. At the **Toronto District School Board** [where 71% of the province's **ESL** students live; where 40% of elementary school students speak something other than English; where 18% entered Canada within the last three years], for example, about half of the \$80 million it gets for **ESL** is spent on other priorities, including utilities, teacher salaries and outdoor education. 'That is unconscionable when you consider new kids trying to get a start,' said Etobicoke trustee **Bruce Davis**. ... 'The loss of potential here is not only un-Canadian, it's a powder keg of immoral proportions, said **Charles Pascal**, chair of **Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office** and executive director of the **Atkinson Charitable Foundation**. 'It's a recipe for hopelessness, and hopelessness breeds the probability of kids saying *school's not important*. It makes them more susceptible to a pathway of frustration and maybe something more dangerous than that.'" (Toronto Star,

March 8, 2006) Just think, all this sulking, bluster and threat by proxy extrapolated from just a 22% response rate! Isn't the real question how on earth such young kids manage to resist learning a language that's all around them all the time?

Sound Familiar?

The odds against two countries sharing dozens of points of immigration policy failure must be astronomical beyond reckoning. Still, change the names, adjust the numbers, and the two systems read as one: Britain's **Immigration and Nationality Directorate** "cannot say how many failed asylum applicants remain in the country. It has no clue where most of them are staying. It has even lost track of more than 400 foreign criminals who, on their release from prison, have given [the] polite request to turn up for deportation the respect it deserved. Meanwhile, it subjects the honest and the unlucky to nonsensical, interminable, Kafkaesque processes. [It's so bad] you couldn't make it up. Except that almost every figure about asylum and immigration is made up. ... No one knows who is coming in and out of Britain. [As for enforcing removals,] we might as well forget it. The longer people remain here, the harder they are to remove. ... Thousands of cases are also piling up at the **High Court**. One tribunal judge I have spoken to reckons that three quarters of **High Court** cases will soon come from **IND**. [Slackers. Immigrant and refugee matters already monopolize nearly 90% of Canada's **Federal Court** docket.] What is the point of all this activity, given that the decisions will never be enforced? It is a charade, the illusion of movement without progress, and it is costing us a fortune. The answer, surely, is to raze the whole miserable edifice to the ground, along with the bent lawyers, the expensive interpreters and the whole industry of refugee advisers and outfits specialising in fake papers and torture scars. ... The truth is that it has suited this Government to talk tough on immigration and asylum while doing little in practice to stem the flow, for what it sees as economic reasons. We have to accept that for ten years Britain has had completely open borders; that millions of people have come here in that time — some good, some bad, a few genuinely evil. There has been a deliberate policy of increasing numbers into this country: the trouble is that this has never been made explicit. An organisation that sends out letters saying 'you must leave as soon as possible,' but cannot say what timescale is meant by 'as soon as possible,' and admits that it does not monitor it, is not an organization that has come under real ministerial pressure." (London Times, March 16, 2006) Well, here's where the two systems finally diverge. Far from bringing pressure on a shambolic process, Canada's **MPs** openly serve as immigration facilitators (that's a step beyond the shady connivances of immigration consultants). Nor will Canadians see a newspaper of the stature of the venerable London Times inveighing against institutionalized abuses: Immigration and refugee policy in Canada is exempt from anything like oversight because criticism is reflexively denounced as "racism." Debate over, Britain however, has had a taste of the loathing generosity inspires in the beneficiary: The **Home Office** is in the process of sending out mailshots to 54,000 people receiving benefits and accommodation from the **National Asylum Support Service** and advertising in asylum detention and reporting centres as well: Claimants "are to be given a £3,000 cash bribe to persuade them to leave Britain. ... Failed refugees and would-be immigrants voluntarily departing the UK already get a £1,000 resettlement pay-off. Now a pilot scheme will offer another £2,000 if they agree to leave by the end of June. ... Taxpayers will also pick up the bill for the flights. Immigration minister **Tony McNulty** said the £3,000 was 'good value for money' compared with the £11,000 cost of a forced deportation. ... Those who go will get around £500 on departure and the rest once they have returned home. [To forestall an influx of opportunistic 'refugee

claimants'] no one who made an asylum application after December 31, 2005, will be eligible." (**UK Sun**, January 13, 2006)

CRIME WATCH

Another HIV Predator

"Clato Lual Mabior, a Sudanese refugee, is in custody at [Manitoba's] **Headingley Correctional Institute** charged with nine counts of aggravated sexual assault. He faces a maximum of life in prison if convicted. Mabior was first charged on March 19 with the alleged rape of a 17-year-old girl in Winnipeg. Then, on March 23, he was arrested in connection with two incidents [rape, assault, forcible confinement and uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm] in February, 2005, allegedly involving an 18-year-old woman. He was also charged with a third incident [more rape, assault, forcible confinement and uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm] that reportedly happened a year ago involving a 17-year-old. He's now been charged with aggravated sexual assault for having unprotected sex with five other women in Brandon and Winnipeg between the ages of 12 and 21. ... Police allege at least 45 women have had unprotected sex with the man in Winnipeg and Brandon, unaware he had HIV." (**Brandon Sun**, April 12, 2006) "Sitting in his room -- which is decorated with pornographic photos of naked women on the wall ... Mabior told the **Sun** he ... left Sudan in August 2000 and moved to Toronto. He said his only previous brush with the law occurred there, when he was charged with assault with a weapon, which he said resulted from a knife-fight with another man over a long-distance phone bill." (**Winnipeg Sun**, March 22, 2006) Not seriously inconvenienced by this assault with weapon charge, Mabior headed for Brooks Alberta, where, thanks to **Lakeside Packers**, Sudanese now account for more than 10 per cent of the population (Lakeside is a subsidiary of US-owned **Tyson Foods**. In 2003, the company cheerfully implicated plant managers to duck a corporate conviction for illegal alien smuggling under **RICO** statutes). Mabior's next move was to Friendly Manitoba. In addition to his extracurricular rape and assault activities, the HIV-positive Mabior worked as a hog carcass cleaner at **Maple Leaf Foods**: "It's extremely unlikely meat was infected when the man handled it on the kill floor, manager **Leo Collins** said. ... Collins acknowledged cuts happen despite precautions, but any meat touched by an employee's blood is thrown out. [Yes, and Mabior is the scrupulous sort isn't he?] It's illegal in Canada for the company to test employees for HIV." (**Brandon Sun**, March 23, 2006) Minority sensitivities trump public safety every time.

Not A Hate Crime

The moment you see the word "unprovoked," it's safe to assume the perpetrator is a visible minority: "A bizarre and unprovoked attack, possibly with a syringe, has left the victim facing a battery of tests and an uncertain future while police search for her assailant. The victim, 33, was walking south on Jones Ave. near Danforth Ave. [in Toronto] before 1 p.m. Wednesday when a passing man struck her shoulder with what she believed was a needle. 'Something broke her skin for sure,' **Det. Debra Houston** said. 'But no syringe is ever seen ... But at the time that's what she was saying, it was a needle.' The woman will undergo blood tests over several months. 'It's scary, with everything that's going around today,' Houston said. The attacker is black, in his mid-20s, about 5-foot-9. He wore a black hat and a light blue long-sleeved shirt with a hood over his head." (**Toronto Sun**, June 9, 2006)

Canadian Perceptions Of Ethnic Crime

An **Ipsos Reid** poll conducted in early March asked, "Which ethnic group do you think is most responsible for crimes being committed in your city?" While descriptive terms for ethnic groups were suggested

by the respondents themselves, multiple answers mean that the numbers do not necessarily add up to 100 per cent.

| TOTAL | Van. | Edm. | W'peg | Toronto | Montr'l | Halifax |
|---|------|------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| Afro American/Black | | | | | | |
| 25% | 1% | 7% | 6% | 47% | 47% | 66% |
| Asian/Oriental | | | | | | |
| 24% | 45% | 59% | 34% | 14% | 5% | 2% |
| First Nations/Native | | | | | | |
| 13% | 3% | 27% | 68% | 0% | 0% | 2% |
| Indian/East Indian | | | | | | |
| 12% | 56% | 14% | 5% | 7% | 1% | 0% |
| Jamaican | | | | | | |
| 7% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 18% | 6% | 2% |
| Vietnamese | | | | | | |
| 5% | 15% | 12% | 3% | 4% | 0% | 0% |
| Chinese | | | | | | |
| 5% | 11% | 7% | 1% | 5% | 1% | 0% |
| Any one/doesn't depend on the ethnic group | | | | | | |
| 4% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 11% |
| Middle Eastern/Arabs/Muslims | | | | | | |
| 4% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 11% | 4% |
| Caucasian/White | | | | | | |
| 4% | 5% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 16% |

Isn't this, in fact, a city by city snapshot of predominant minority groups? Halifax, with few immigrants, hosts a historical black presence, while Winnipeg, with few immigrants, hosts a historical aboriginal presence. Opinions on crime may vary, but multiculturalism has fostered an it's-all-about-me mindset where each ethnic group's focus grows increasingly narrow and obsessive: "'I think this poll is racially motivated,' said **Balwant Gill**, head of Surrey's **Guru Nanak Temple** [not previously identified as the fount of tolerance in the country] 'Why are they picking one community and comparing it with another community? We are all Canadians,' he said. 'Picking one community, that's not the right answer,' he added. 'They should find a solution, not just pick minorities in polls. I disagree with it.' In addition to disagreeing with the questions, Gill said he also took issue with the findings. 'There is also lots of crime in White communities,' he said, 'so I don't know why they are picking the minorities.' [But it is **Baldwin Wong**, a social planner for the **City of Vancouver**, who makes the telling observation] He said the media have been '*quite careful and sensitive*' in the past five to 10 years about not attributing cultural backgrounds to criminality." (**Vancouver Sun**, March 16, 2006) Which is presumably why we see so many unhelpful media accounts of crime suspects with no descriptions and unnamed persons under arrest.

Another Honour Student Murdered

"A 30-year-old Toronto man has been charged with second-degree murder after a young woman was found stabbed in the city's downtown early yesterday. **Arsei Hindessa** was arrested and charged shortly after police found **Natalie Novak**'s lifeless body when they responded to a call at 28 Grange Ave. just after 3:30 a.m. Mr. Hindessa was scheduled to appear in court yesterday afternoon. An autopsy on Ms. Novak has been scheduled for today." (**Globe and Mail**, May 16, 2006) Couldn't Canada's newspaper of record have made the story disappear altogether? In fact, Mr. Hindessa is an unemployed landed immigrant who arrived from Ethiopia six years ago. In contrast, Ms. Novak was an honour student who'd left her Muskoka home in 2003 to study hotel management in Toronto. She met Mr. Hindessa, ten years her senior, about a year into her studies. Improbably, the two merged into a couple, or did, until he was convicted last September of assaulting her and prohibited further contact by court order. Hers was actually his second assault conviction in this country, but happily for foreign-born loose cannons. landed immigrants aren't subject to review unless their crimes result in six months in prison or they are convicted of a crime that carries a

sentence of a minimum of 10 years in prison, according to **Anna Pape**, apologist for the **Canada Border Services Agency**. Unwisely, the girl persisted in her relationship with the thug, as on the afternoon, evening and night she died. Around 3:30 a.m., roommates in her Chinatown boarding house heard screams from her room and attempted to break down the door as Hindessa exited by the window, jumping 25 feet to the ground. He was picked up 45 minutes later on the Bloor Viaduct, threatening to jump. Ms. Novak was pronounced dead at the scene -- he'd cut her throat. According to Homicide Squad Detective Sergeant **Gary Giroux**, Novak's was "a very loving and caring family." Her parents had helped her move into her new home two weeks earlier. Giroux said Natalie's parents "were disappointed to find out he was still in contact with their daughter." They had met the accused, who made an asylum application after December 31, 2005, will be eligible." (**UK Sun**, January 13, 2006)

HEALTH WATCH

How Now, Mad Cow?

In the 20 years since Britain realized it had a disaster on its hands, the world has agreed that forcing cannibalism on ruminants is not really "cost effective" at all. Mad cow disease is one bullet Canada should have dodged but, thanks to Ottawa's usual quick thinking, didn't. While we cannot predict where it will end, one nagging question remains: How were **prions**, the causative agent of the **spongiform encephalopathies** like mad cow disease, introduced to British cattle in the first place? Some theorize that a single animal suffering from a spontaneous case of **BSE** (and it does happen) ground up into animal feed *could* have infected the entire British herd, but Professor **Alan Colchester** of the **University of Kent** doesn't think so: "The **UK** imported hundreds of thousands of tonnes of whole bones, crushed bones and carcass parts in the 1960s and 1970s to make fertiliser as well as meat and bone meal feed. Nearly 50% came from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, where gathering large bones and carcasses from the countryside and from rivers is an established local trade. Hindu funerary practices require that human remains are disposed of in a river, preferably the Ganges. Although the body should ideally be burned, many people cannot afford enough wood for a full cremation. ... Human remains have been described in material delivered to processing mills. And during the 1960s, human material was confirmed in consignments of bones shipped into French docks from Asia." (**BBC**, September 1, 2005) Some bone fragments survive even the most efficient crematoria; in bonfire cremations, large bones like the pelvis are not consumed. More to the point, as travel writer **Mark Moxon (Varanasi)** notes: "Not everyone is burned at the *ghats* [crematory sites on the steps along the Ganges], oh no. Holy cows, children less than twelve years old, and pregnant women are not burned because they are pure (in the latter case it's the baby who is pure) and the whole point of the fire is to cleanse the soul on its way to heaven; lepers and people suffering from other diseases ('People with poisons in their body' was how one chap referred to it) are also *not* burned, and along with the cows, children and pregnant women they're tied to a rock, rowed out into the middle of the river and dumped overboard. That sounds just fine, but Indian ropes being Indian ropes, these bodies soon find their way to the surface... Taking a boat on the river, a delightful experience especially at sunrise, is a wonderful and cheap way to enjoy the *ghat* area, but if you're squeamish, then the floating bodies with their gaping skulls picked almost clean by the birds, and the faintly familiar rib cages stacked on the east bank, may put you off your breakfast." However unsavoury, the relationship to prion infection is not immediately clear -- until you add the prion's helper, cannibalism, to the mix: The first transmissible prion disease to be identified was **kuru**, a **CJD** variant unique to New Guinean tribesmen practising cannibalistic funerary rites. The fatal

affliction was conclusively linked to anthropophagy. Now, consider that "a new Indian documentary seeks to shed light on a secretive sect of Hindu ascetics who allegedly eat human corpses, believing it will make them ageless and give them supernatural powers. The 10-minute movie **Feeding on the Dead** delves into the little-known world of the 1,000-year-old **Aghori** sect, whose *sadhus*, or holy men, purportedly pull bodies from Hinduism's holy river, the Ganges, in northern India. The sect has been written about, but rarely filmed performing its rituals. ... Their consumption of human flesh -- a practice whose origins remain a mystery ... has earned them the condemnation of other Hindus and relegated most of them to living around crematoriums in the hills around the northern holy city of Varanasi [or Benares, as we know it]." (**Associated Press**, October 27, 2005) Why cannibalism? Well, according to **Perna Salla (Buzzle.com)**, March 16, 2004), "Aghoris strongly believe that there are no opposites in this world and that the conventional Hindu distinctions between purity and impurity are actually an illusion ... The purpose of embracing pollution in these practices is realization of non-duality through transcending social taboos and seeing the illusory nature of all conventional categories. ... Moreover, they believe that this act [corpse eating] gives one an absolute feeling of catharsis, destroying every shred of hatred and bringing with it immense divine foresight." Sounds like diversity training. As for Professor Colchester's theory, **Sanjay Mistry**, spokesman for the **Hindu Forum of Britain** denounces the hypothesis in predictable terms: "Their implication that cremations in India are not done properly isn't correct. This may cause upset among the Hindu community. They could feel that they have become scapegoats for **BSE**." In an inadvertently humorous outburst, Mistry dismisses Professor Colchester's theory as "half-baked." Over the course of the **UK** epidemic, an estimated 2-million cattle were infected and more than 4-million destroyed. Worse would come ten years later when the first human cases of variant **Creutzfeldt-Jakob** disease (**CJD**) were detected, from which more than 150 have died. As infectious agents, prions are the stuff of nightmare, or science fiction: "Prions are proteins, rogue proteins, and nothing else. They contain no nucleic acid (**DNA** or **RNA**). They consist of a single molecule containing about 250 amino acids, termed the **PrP** protein. They are abnormal variants of proteins that occur normally in cells, such as human brain cells. Amazingly, abnormal **PrP** proteins, when they enter the body, are able to convert their normal counterparts into more of the abnormal forms. The difference between the normal and abnormal proteins does not lie in their primary structure (the sequence of their amino acids), but rather in their folding -- the abnormal **PrP** proteins are folded in a way that allows them to resist normal protease degradation so that over time this leads to the build up of aggregates of **PrP**, especially in neurons in the brain. ... Prions are the only 'life forms' that break the great 'central dogma' of biology. That is, we have come to expect that all life forms from viruses to bacteria to plants to humans to hand down the blueprints for all their progeny via their **DNA** (except for some viruses which carry their blueprints as an **RNA** genome), and we expect that the process for converting the blueprints into building blocks must involve replication of **DNA**, transcription of the message into **RNA**, and translation of the **RNA** s message to form proteins, the building blocks of cells, tissues, organs and whole organisms. Here we have life forms where abnormal proteins, the **PrP** proteins, direct the refolding of normal proteins *just by direct contact*." (**Dr. Frederick A. Murphy, Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California Davis**) Because prions are not alive in the conventional sense, they are resistant to most known forms of disease control, such as antibiotics, sterilization, chemicals and/or heat. As a result, the various types of **spongiform encephalopathy** cannot be cured, and animal victims cannot be safely used for food in any form.

Number 189

November, 2006

Canadian Attitudes Hardening

In recent years, nations of the West have been wondering if it was really a good idea to base immigration policies on a *Shut-Our-Eyes-And-Hope-For-The-Best* philosophy. Others may have stirred, but Canada snored along with the highest approval rate of the highest immigration rate in the world. Until now: In late September, the **Globe and Mail** ran an on-line poll asking: "Do you think Canada allows the right number of immigrants into the country each year?"

No, we need more (19%) 5,652 votes

Yes, the number is fine (20%) 6,032 votes

No, we let in too many (62%) 18,672 votes 30,356 votes in total

What're Ya, Too Lazy To Scam Us?

In 1999, an older couple (now 62 and 68) sold their trucking business in Switzerland and moved to what they believed to be their dream destination -- Senegal, East Africa: "They were wrong. With 85 per cent of the population Muslim, [they] just never found the paradise they were looking for. In fact, it was just the opposite. Cultural differences always kept them on the outside of society, [and, with no rights tribunals to force the locals to change] it was hard to make friends and hard to trust anyone. ... A six-week holiday to Canada in 2004 got the couple first considering a move to Canada. A second holiday in 2005, in which they toured the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys in a camper, only served to reinforce that desire. ... They had a chance to sell their house in Senegal [and] didn't hesitate. The next step in what turned into a nightmare for the couple was a phone call to the Canadian embassy in Berlin. [The wife is a German citizen.] They were told to come to Canada and fill out the legal paperwork once they were here ... Unfortunately, that information turned out to be wrong. ... The couple applied for an 'Application to Change Conditions, Extend My Stay or Remain in Canada,' [paid their fee, filed their receipt, purchased a home in the summer of 2005 and happily settled down to await their August 29, 2006 interview with immigration officials.] It was at that meeting that the couple learned that they simply didn't score high enough on the immigration points system to be allowed to stay in Canada. They were told that, if they didn't accept the voluntary deportation order [for September 27 -- then less than a month away], they would be forced to leave anyway. [Wiping away tears, the wife says:] 'We will follow the laws of Canada and leave.' ... The basic reasons the couple didn't measure up in terms of points is that their education wasn't to a high enough standard and they were too old [losing] a point for every year they were over 49. [Even so,] both speak French [and both] have their own private health insurance, their own pensions and don't want any help from the Canadian government. [A friend wryly notes:] 'This is a case of being honest not paying off.'" (**The Review**, September 14, 2006) What would happen to this country if immigrants ever got the idea that honesty was a winning strategy?

At The Going Down Of The Sun

If **WWI** was "the making of Canada," it came at incalculable cost -- nearly 70,000 dead and close to 200,000 wounded. (In present population terms, that's well over a quarter million dead, nearly a million wounded). Although disillusioned veterans came to be known as **The Lost Generation**, no term was ever coined for the might-have-been children of men who survived only as names on cenotaphs. (It has been estimated that, without the losses to wars of the 20th Century, Canada's population today would exceed 200 million.) Less than a hundred years on, it is galling to find this defining moment of national loss eclipsed from both sides by ethnic entitlement gambits: In his day, even the normally seditious **Pierre**

Trudeau dismissed ethno-extortion as a Pandora's box best left sealed, but perseverance brings paydirt. Since it's evidently been forgotten, the **Chinese Immigration Act** came into effect July 1, 1923, five years after cessation of hostilities. This was a time when Canada was struggling to re-integrate a half-million returning sons -- over 6 per cent of the country's total population -- against a backdrop of steep unemployment and post-war recession. Another 60,000 came home physically or mentally shattered. (Shell shock had only just been recognized as a legitimate trauma, but was by no means understood). At war's conclusion, in 1918, five years before the Chinese were excluded, all former *European* enemies -- Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Czechs, Romanians, Poles, and Ukrainians -- were barred from entering Canada, and, for good measure, the prohibition was extended to Mennonites, Hutterites, and Doukhobors as 'unassimilables.' Immigrants were required to possess \$250.00 in landing money, and, by 1921, everyone, regardless of national origin, needed a visa to enter Canada -- a visa that had to be obtained overseas. Still, as pay outs indicate, it was evidently unforgivably selfish for a traumatized nation to put the welfare of returning husbands and sons above the ambitions of overseas Chinese. The financial toll on Canada was calamitous: "By 1915, military spending alone equalled the entire government expenditure of 1913. In 1918, the federal government's war outlay was more than \$2.5 million a day. ... After the war, the government was paying \$164 million a year in interest on the *debt* created during the war, and \$76 million per annum in soldiers' pensions. This was more than the entire federal budget before the war. [Another consequence of the armistice was that] factories such as chemical and steel were shutting down, triggering unemployment. It took 10 years for manufacturing output to recover to wartime levels. Even those with jobs had difficulty in maintaining their standard of living as prices rose rapidly." (**1914-1918 -- Effects of World War I on the Canadian Economy**, Government of Canada, 2006) In other words, it took ten years for Canada to effect even partial recovery, and then the bottom fell out of the stock market, triggering the irreversible slide into the Great Depression. Under the circumstances, the last thing the Dominion needed was an infinite supply of incoming Chinese labour. But there is no "bigger picture" in decades-removed entitlement logic: The instant the Chinese won their long march to head tax compensation, Sikhs would demand an equally tangible expression of regret for the turning back of the **Komagata Maru**. What interests us is how these claims impinge on the horrors visited on Canadians within the framework of **WWI** timelines -- immediately before and five ruinous years later. On May 22, 1914, the Japanese ship **Komagata Maru** steamed into Vancouver harbour with a payload of 376 Sikh illegals on board. This maiden smuggling venture of one **Gurdit Singh Sarhali** was an audacious scheme predicated on several shaky assumptions: It was no secret that Canada enforced **Continuous Journey** legislation (the then-equivalent of **Safe Third Country** law), meaning immigrants had to make landfall in Canada directly from their country of origin -- no leisurely ports of call en route. In fact, the **Komagata Maru** did not even weigh anchor in India, but Hong Kong, with calls at Shanghai, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama before achieving Canada. Sarhali had extorted \$100 from each of his passengers, a sum nearly twice the cost of a **CPR** steamer ticket from Hong Kong and his passengers were presumably led to believe they were purchasing something more than mere passage. Thirdly, Sarhali assumed the \$200 in "savings" each immigrant must show to enter Canada could be extracted from Vancouver's existing East Indian community. Finally, he calculated that the embarrassment of nearly 400 illegals would induce the Dominion government to rubber stamp entry permits. In the event, Canada was less pliant than hoped, largely

because of the behaviour of the passengers themselves. When they wrested control of the ship from her Japanese captain, he called on Dominion authorities for help. On one occasion, officials on government cutters covered as a fusillade of coal, bricks and scrap iron rained down from the rails of the *Komagata Maru* 15 feet above. The passengers of the *Komagata Maru* had thoughtfully outfitted themselves with knives, swords, iron bats, bamboo staves and a handful of firearms, which were discharged. Incredibly, in the face of such provocation, none of the Canadians disobeyed orders to hold their fire. In an inspired move, a run-down naval training cruiser called the *Rainbow* was quietly refitted and, on the morning of July 21, she anchored near the *Komagata Maru* and showed her guns. The *Komagata Maru* turned for home on the 23rd -- just five days before Canada waded into that bloodbath in Europe. Admittedly, Ottawa had little conception of what it was getting into, but, in the weeks immediately preceding declaration of war, a shipload of fractious illegals was little more than a distraction and, under the circumstances, Canada showed exemplary restraint. The same cannot be said for Vancouver's East Indian community; in the wake of the *Komagata Maru* incident, four Sikhs were killed in the all-too-familiar internecine strife over the course of just three months. On October 21, 1914, **William Hopkinson**, Canadian customs agent and our most neglected hero, was murdered in the corridor of the Vancouver court house by one **Mewa Singh**, venerated today as a Sikh martyr. **Compensation for the Komagata Maru? Not one Canadian cent or Indian rupee!**

The Bourbonnais Punch Line

"The federal **Immigration and Refugee Board** has identified nearly two dozen suspect cases handled by a Quebec adjudicator who has admitted to being on the take, according to internal department documents. Overall, the board's legal team in Montreal reviewed 565 files handled by **Yves Bourbonnais** [and] the legal team identified 23 suspect files, but the board will not automatically review the cases, said a department official. Rather, it will be up to applicants or the minister to appeal the decisions in those cases. [It's hard to believe that people who bought their way into Canada will be clamouring for a review.] The board came under fire again last week when the **RCMP** launched an investigation into an adjudicator for the board's refugee protection division in Ontario accused of offering assistance on a refugee claim in return for sexual favours. A [South Korean] woman and her boyfriend handed over a video they say they taped secretly of a meeting between the woman and adjudicator **Steve Ellis** in early September. Mr. Ellis was suspended and barred from board premises pending further investigation after the couple sent the tape to board officials. ... Last week, board chairman **Jean-Guy Fleury** posted a statement on the board's website concerning the most recent allegation. 'Canadians have a right to demand that the **IRB's** processes are conducted in an ethical and fair manner,' Mr. Fleury wrote. 'There is no tolerance for abuse of any kind in this institution.' [Which doesn't actually explain why] the department refused to release, under access to information, any documents on measures that may have been taken to ensure it doesn't happen again.' (**Globe and Mail**, October 9, 2006)

Kalling All Koreans

Several years ago, a couple of American tourists courted scandal when they dared to complain that they could not only not get service in English in heavily Chinese Richmond, B.C., they could not even find a sign in what they had assumed was Canada's primary language. Much tentative consultation later, it was decided that it might not irreparably harm anyone's self-esteem if English was added as a kind of afterthought to Richmond's signage. For a taste of our multicultural future, one need look no further than the **Willow West Plaza** on the Surrey-Langley border. US-based **H-Mart** is an ethnic purveyor of

primarily Korean foods: "Having bought the **West Willow Mall** two months ago as the latest hub for an **H-Mart** store, it has refused to renew the leases of three non-Korean businesses -- an insurance company, a framing shop and a hair salon -- and has arranged to give the leases to Korean-Canadians specializing in those areas. It's not just a question of money; the new tenants may be paying higher rents, but the old ones say they weren't offered a chance to bid. And it's not a question of space; the mall, which had fallen on hard times, has several vacant buildings. No, the idea is to make the mall a shopping destination for ethnic Koreans, and tenants who don't share that ethnicity aren't wanted on board. Two displaced tenants say they will complain to the **B.C. Human Rights Commission**. If they do, and if the commission hears the complaint, the body will have to weigh the legality of denying a lease renewal on the basis of race." (**Globe and Mail**, October 16, 2006) It's hard to say what is more maddening -- waiting for the rest of the world to catch up with Western notions of equality and fair play, or waiting for mutton-headed rights commissions to recalibrate their own biases to accept that non-minorities can be "oppressed" too.

Air India - Part IV

When retired Supreme Court judge **John Major** was chosen to head up the latest, and, hopefully, last, of the **Air India** reviews, he was given "a broad mandate of investigation, including whether there was a systemwide government breakdown about potential Sikh extremist threats." (**Globe and Mail**, July 20, 2006) Would that be the sort of systemwide government breakdown that permits **Babbar Khalsa** to operate as a government-approved charity long after lucid countries outlawed the entity as a violent terror group? The sort that -- from turbans for Mounties to *kirpans* for kiddies -- reflexively caves to ethnic demands? (We would have *sharia* law today had not Moslems themselves protested.) Is it the sort of breakdown that hangs "kick me" signs on immigration and refugee policies? Or merely the sort that winks at constituency swamping and mass sign-ups? As it turns out, the craven toadying Ottawa likes to call multiculturalism is pretty unpopular with the bereaved **Air India** families: "That policy too often focuses on trivialities like celebrating ethnic dress, dance and cuisine, complained [niece to two of the victims, **Renee**] **Shaklikar**, while neglecting the need to educate newcomers in the duty to respect others. 'If we are serious about being a multicultural society, we might have to move beyond food and dance recognition and actually have a discussion about core values like the rule of law. . . . If you disagree with someone, you can't just blow them up. And if you do blow them up, you will be punished.' **Shipra Rana**, whose sister was an **Air India** flight attendant who died in the bombing, took up the same theme, arguing that federal multicultural policy accentuates ethnic and religious differences at the expense of unity." (**National Post**, October 5, 2006) As if to confirm that, **Deepak Khandelwal** would complain that "racism was a significant driver in how the families have been treated in the past 21 years. [What] if the victims would have had White-coloured skin -- how differently would they have been treated?" French-Canadian **Monique Castonguay** complained that "most of the victims were English-speaking, and it was difficult to get people -- even the bureaucrats of an officially bilingual government -- to speak or write to them in French. It was the same whenever memorial services were held over the ensuing years, or when the families of victims gathered to exchange views and voice their concerns to the government. Then, there was the news-media coverage. Ms. Castonguay noted that the television clips always seemed to edit her out of the story, perhaps on the assumption that she must be part of the official federal delegation, not the relative of someone who died. 'Every time this kind of exclusion occurred, it was as if they were taking away our right to include **Rachelle** among the **Air-India** victims, and to cry over her loss.'" (**Globe and Mail**, October 4, 2006)

Even less original are the ruminations of the enquiry head: Far from examining whether Canadian policies of multiculturalism and ethnic pandering might just have set the stage for the tragedy to play out, Major wonders "whether racism, conscious or unconscious, may have played a role in public and government *reaction* to the 1985 bombing that took 329 lives. [He said] it's 'hard not to share' an impression held by some of the families of the victims: 'That is the fact that, if it had been an **Air Canada** plane and Anglo-Saxons, things would have been different.' The comment came during a question-and-answer session with **Bob Rae**, the former premier of Ontario, whose preliminary investigation and meetings with the **Air India** families helped pave the way for the current inquiry. On what basis, Major wondered, did Rae conclude in his own report last year that there was no racial bias on the part of Canadian government officials, police or intelligence officers investigating the bombing? ... Rae replied that he simply saw no sign of racism in his review of the affair. He did, however, notice certain 'culturally driven' issues. For example, it often took weeks to translate wiretap surveillance tapes of the bombing suspects from Punjabi into English.'" (**Canadian Press**, October 4, 2006) Tapes that **CSIS** would destr. y well in advance of a trial that fell apart. The bereaved families have levelled serious charges against multiculturalism. Since we can't seem to secure a conviction after 21 years and more than \$140-million, shouldn't Ottawa at least take their charges seriously?

Who's Exploiting Whom?

In early September, Canada realized 160 (initially reported as 137) "refugees" by way of the Toronto **AIDS** Symposium. As usual, their health status is no business of the paying customer's, but it's safe to assume that most of these wards of the state are full blown. However, just being infected with **AIDS** is not, in itself, sufficient grounds for a successful refugee claim -- being a battered and/or exploited woman is. So, when you're planning the first **International Conference on Violence against Women**, (Montreal, October 22 to 24) a Canadian city meets obvious needs. The Toronto conference reportedly went to some trouble to short-circuit the anticipated surge of refugee claims, but, let's face it, it's bad optics to assign minders to battered wives and international "sex workers" as they recite emotional litanies of brutalization. "The conference will bring together numerous researchers, practitioners, policymakers and students, from different disciplines and more than 40 countries. ... The conference will also be an opportunity to hear presentations on the particular forms violence against women can take, including human trafficking, violence in the context of armed conflict and genocide, violence towards women who are sex workers, indigenous women, elderly women, immigrant women and women who are refugees, etc." (**Research Centre on Family Violence and Violence Against Women**, October 16, 2006) Cynics may wish to run an office pool.

ESL - SOL

UBC language and literacy professor **Lee Gunderson** proclaimed himself "absolutely flabbergasted" by the results of a study in which he "followed the progress of 5,000 immigrant students in Vancouver high schools between 1991 and 2001. [He] tracked the progress of the students, who came from a variety of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, by examining their marks in four subjects: English, math, science and social studies. It found that 60 per cent of all the students 'disappeared' before they finished Grade 12. By that, Gunderson means they no longer posted scores in any of the four subjects. [Subsequent make up courses may reduce the overall numbers] Last year, 57,991 B.C. students, or 10 per cent of the entire student population, were **ESL** students. ... School districts receive an extra \$1,100 from the **B.C. Ministry of Education** for each **ESL** student enrolled in their districts [which is presumably why every school is a diversity booster, Gunderson notes.] 'The disappearance

rate for the Vietnamese and Spanish-speaking students was ... about 80 per cent. Phenomenally high.' ... The disappearance rate among Mandarin-speaking students was only 30 per cent [about the same as for students born in Canada.] Gunderson attributes the difficulties faced by Spanish and Vietnamese-speaking students to their socio-economic backgrounds, ... poor refugee families for whom education was not a priority or a tradition. ... Indian-born students, whom Gunderson considered together regardless of their mother tongues, tended to come from families with agricultural backgrounds, for whom education wasn't valued as highly as it was by Mandarin and Cantonese-speaking families. 'They had different interests, and school wasn't necessarily one of them,' Gunderson said of the Indian-born students. ... Fellow education experts weren't nearly as surprised by Gunderson's results as he was. 'It doesn't surprise me in the least,' said **Kelleen Toohey**, a professor of education at **Simon Fraser University**. 'Initially this look at graduation rates was occasioned by some research in Calgary where they were showing a 70-per-cent dropout rate and a 30-per-cent graduation rate.' [Toohey says:] 'I think we're doing those kids, their parents and ourselves a real disservice because a high school education is kind of a basic minimum for getting jobs in an increasingly globalized market. These kids are going to be on the margins of that. And I think it's really dangerous for a society not to be providing better education for these children.' [Very commendable to blame the usual suspects, but, in reality, the problem appears to be very much of their own making:] according to most models, students are allowed five years in a programme where half their classes will be **ESL** and half will be the same as classes for Canadian-born students. But often, said [**ESL** consultant **Maureen**] **Seesahai**, the student and his or her parents don't want to take advantage of all five years because of a perceived stigma around being an **ESL** student. They wrongly believe, she said, that **ESL** students are somehow relegated to a kind of high-school ghetto. ... According to **Statistics Canada**, students who fail to complete high school earn an average of \$21,230 a year, compared to \$25,477 for those who graduate high school and \$48,648 for university graduates." (**Vancouver Sun**, August 25, 2006) Well, so much for the enduring conceit that 2nd generation immigrants will leave their parents in their over-achieving dust. Quite apart from the question of whether five years of targeted language instruction constitute a stigma or not, how does someone manage to avoid learning a language that is all around him all the time? Curiously, new research from the **University of Alberta** shows that "78% of visible-minority immigrant youths hope to complete at least one university degree compared to 59% of non-visible minority youth who were born in Canada. 'We were surprised just how big the difference is,' said [sociologist] **Harvey Krahn**. ... 'They are aiming incredibly high.'" (**Toronto Sun**, July 19, 2006) A little too high when the majority don't have what it takes to finish high school. The great thing is that visible minorities cannot fail in Canada. They can only be failed by Canada.

CRIME WATCH

Martyring Nana

It seemed like a lousy idea when a BC senior-care franchise finessed provincial nominee programmes to replace Canadian staff with \$2-an-hour cheaper immigrants (Oct **Hotline** #188). Now, "an agreed statement of facts shows **Cesar Guzman**, a caregiver at [**Calgary's**] **Wentworth Manor**, was found by a nurse at about 3:45 AM on July 24, 2005 ... leaning over his victim and holding her arms down while attempting to have sex with her while she yelled for him to stop. The admitted rapist immigrated from Peru in 1998. He was sentenced on June 2/06 for a maximum sentence of 18 months incarceration. [Guzman's victim, an 86-year-old] 83 lb. woman who was unable to care for herself ... had suffered severe, unexplained bruising, her

pelvis was broken twice about two months apart. On one occasion, she was found unclothed (naked) on the bathroom floor, and she suffered three broken ribs and a punctured lung while in care at the **Wentworth Manor**. [She] also suffered some vaginal bleeding described as 'similar to a menstrual period.' Other elderly females on this dementia ward also suffered vaginal bleeding. ... Her family, which was desperate to protect the mother, had for months requested a bed alarm. ... The first night that the alarm (bed sensor) was installed, Guzman was 'caught.'" (**Elder Advocates of Alberta**, June 2006)

Later the same month, a second predator was brought to book: "The nurse's aide who says she caught a fellow worker in a compromising position with an elderly client took the stand in his sex assault trial at **Court of Queen's Bench** [on June 26. A father of six.] **Rex Ongee Okumu**, 41, is charged with sex assault and sexually exploiting a mentally or physically disabled person over whom he had a position of trust for an incident at a Northwest nursing home. **Louise Cole** testified she walked into the 91-year-old woman's room to find Okumu, a fellow aide, standing at her bedside with his pants around his ankles on July 3, 2004. 'He had his underwear down.' ... When he saw his co-worker, he said '*Don't tell anybody, just keep it a secret*,' she said. ... Defence lawyer **Mitch Stephenson** said his client was responsible at times for bathing and changing the victim's diaper while pointing out Cole had not actually seen what she alleges happened. 'No,' Cole replied, explaining Okumu was wearing a long shirt. 'It was so close I couldn't tell ... but I (saw) what was going on.'" (**Calgary Sun**, June 26, 2006)

So, the granny rapist Okumu, reporting for work in some kind of *dashiki*, *jebba* or *burnoose*, is evidently another immigrant hire. He was convicted Aug. 25 and is scheduled for sentencing Nov. 2: His lawyer is recommending a conditional sentence (house arrest, perhaps community service with the elderly?) We know, we know, they're doing jobs Canadians just can't stomach. That's two cases in a single month in a single city: Would our do-gooder society tolerate this among any other "at-risk" group?

HEALTH WATCH

Septic Cosmetics: Beauty Treatment from Immigration

In the September 14 **Globe and Mail**, the usually sensible **Margaret Went** gushes: "In my trendy Toronto neighbourhood, the businesses selling goods have *largely been displaced* by businesses selling personal services. ... The advent of cheap nail bars (\$38 if you get the mani-pedi combo) has turned the beauty industry on its ear. It has vastly expanded the market for aesthetic services. It has created thousands of jobs for entrepreneurial new immigrants who are not highly educated professionals and whose English isn't very good. And it means the economy is probably even more buoyant than we think. ... Because these businesses are small, decentralized -- and, in the case of nail bars, highly cash-based -- they operate below the radar of economists and statisticians who measure these things. ... In the U.S., for example, the real number of people working as massage therapists and manicurists vastly exceeds the official count." Which is just another way of saying that the real number of people working "below the radar" as personal groomers and/or palpaters vastly exceeds the number paying taxes like the rest of us humps. As with so many of immigration's unintended consequences, it's not just about weaselling out of paying your share of the freight: Two days later, the newspaper ran a *memento mori* from Toronto doctor **Peter Mould**: "**Margaret Went** may want to reconsider her future with cheap nail bars run by immigrants who might have trouble reading government health regulations. As with any service, when the price falls, something has to give; it is apparent that, in the nail-bar business, hygienic practices have declined with the pressure to offset falling prices with client volume. In the last two years, we have seen an explosion of *onychogryphosis* (fungal nail infections) and *periungual warts* (warts in and around the nail) in

women who visit these nail bars. These infections, while not dangerous, are very unsightly and very difficult to get rid of, often requiring frequent [tax subsidized] visits to a doctor. There are government regulations regarding the proper disinfection of instruments between clients, but these are rarely followed. That results in the transmission of fungal and viral pathogens from one person to the next. [In her panegyric, Ms. Went rhapsodizes over possible chains of transmission, 'At one downtown place where I sometimes go, the customers include welfare mothers, Rosedale matrons, women in full Muslim dress, and the odd transvestite.'] Public health inspectors are few in number and just can't keep up with the number of facilities to inspect." Well, not when their remit is to keep our rumshops spankingly smoke-free. If anything, the good doctor has downplayed the risk: The **Peel Region Dept of Public Health** notes: "Equipment used for manicures and pedicures can become contaminated with blood or body fluids carrying blood-borne diseases such as **Hepatitis B**, **Hepatitis C** and **HIV** and other communicable infections and diseases." To be safe, the instruments used in "personal services" -- barbering, manicure, electrolysis, acupuncture, tattooing and piercing -- must be sterilized in a proper autoclave or dry heat sterilizer while the auxiliary tools, like emery boards, should be new for each new client and discarded after use. Where's the profit in that?

Must Be "Safe Sex Fatigue"

"A rare sexually transmitted disease some are calling the 'new AIDS' has made its way to Canada. There have been 22 cases of **lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)** reported in Canada in recent months, all in homosexual and bisexual men with high-risk sexual practices, according to a report published yesterday in the on-line edition of the **Canadian Medical Association Journal**. In fact, the way **LGV** is spreading -- among men who have anonymous sex in bath houses (and the latest variation, encounters arranged via **Internet** chat groups) -- is eerily similar to the beginnings of the **HIV-AIDS** epidemic. Unlike **HIV-AIDS**, however, **LGV**, a bacterial infection, is easily treatable with antibiotics. But the symptoms -- small painless lesions on the genitals and swollen glands -- are probably not familiar to most doctors. What's more, an infection with **LGV** increases the risk of contracting and spreading **HIV-AIDS** and hepatitis, partly because it creates sores, making it easier for viruses to enter the bloodstream. ... '**LGV** isn't the only sexually transmitted disease we're seeing. The number of cases of syphilis, gonorrhoea, and chlamydia are all increasing,' [according to Dr. **Thomas Wong**, director of the community-acquired-infections division of the **Public Health Agency of Canada**] **LGV** is a form of chlamydia, a common sexually transmitted disease that can cause infertility in women. But **LGV** is more invasive. Left untreated, it can cause destructive swelling of the genitals and rectum, and even lead to meningitis (swelling of the lining of the brain), encephalitis (swelling of the brain) and death. **LGV** is common in the tropics, including Africa, Asia, South America and the Caribbean. Until recently, it was virtually unknown in industrialized countries. ... What distinguishes those who have been infected with **LGV** is that few of them could identify their recent sexual partners, and their propensity for high-risk sexual activity. Virtually all the men engaged in '**Internet** partnering,' frequented bath houses, or had sex at rave parties, according to the study. Half of the infected practised 'barebacking' -- anal sex without a condom. They also engaged in 'booty bumping' -- ingesting the drug crystal meth anally -- and in fisting." (**Globe and Mail**, June 1, 2006) A month later, the numbers had more than tripled: "As of July 5, 2006 there have been 69 cases of **lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV)** reported to the **Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)**; 35 are confirmed cases and 34 are probable cases according to the national case definition." (**Public Health Agency of Canada**, July 5, 2006)