

Visas are not needed

MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR LOSS IN TOURISM FORECAST
"Canada will lose hundreds of millions of dollars a year in tourism revenue if all foreign visitors are forced to obtain visas," warns Paul Tuz, President of the Better Business Bureau, in response to Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy's proposal to increase the use of visitors' visas within Canada's immigration system.

The requirement that all foreign tourists secure visas will make travelling to Canada unnecessarily complicated, and the inevitable decrease in foreign visitors will hurt businesses which cater to tourists," Tuz explains. The Better Business Bureau President supports the Immigration department's general intention to increase the use of tourist visas. "This measure is necessary in order to monitor visits by citizens of countries from which a high percentage of illegal immigrants stem."

However, Tuz notes, "the requirement should be applied only to citizens of such countries. A general world-wide application would seriously curtail our tourism industry, an industry that the federal and provincial governments have spent a considerable amount of money promoting abroad."

In 1982 Canada received over 32 million visits from foreign tourists, who left \$23.7 billion dollars. "If visas are made mandatory, the number of foreign visitors will decline drastically, and tourist related services and industries will be affected right across the country," Tuz warns.

"Moreover, the idea of extending the requirement to citizens of the United States is absurd and could cause irreparable damage to Canadian businesses, particularly the smaller ones."

Metropolitan Toronto, for example, welcomes over 16 million tourists from outside the country every year, and approximately 50 per cent originate from the U.S.

Attracted by a depressed Canadian dollar, visitors pump over \$2 billion into the Toronto economic community annually, with Americans bringing in 43 per cent of it.

"Canada is seen by our neighbors to the south as a bargain shopping mall, and Canadian businesses have been reaping the benefits," states Tuz. "Even if only 20 per cent of American spending was discouraged by this visa requirement, the economic impact would be considerable."

The repercussions would be felt in the pockets of the transportation worker, the restaurateur, the cab driver, the corner store owner, the chambermaid," Tuz predicts.

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CARDS OF THANKS

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to our friends and relatives for floral tributes, sympathy cards and support received during the recent loss of our Mother Winnifred. A special thanks to those who helped out after the service and to Anne McMenemy for opening her home to us. Also special thanks to J.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home, Rev. John Sullivan of St. Paul's Church, Brampton, and to Drs. Macintosh, Furness and Panabaker and the nurses in Intensive Care at Georgetown Memorial Hospital, their kindness and assistance were very much appreciated.

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