

FLY BY NIGHT

Canada geese make a familiar pattern in the sky south of Stouffville this month.

STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

WORLD

Expat Koreans feel for folks at home

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

For the Love of Jo Coffee House co-owner Mike Han hopes a new North Korean leader will mean jobs for the country's citizens.

Mr. Han, who moved to Canada in 2005 from Seoul, South Korea because he did not like the education system his young son was experiencing and so he could be with his brother and father, said quality and skilled South Korean labour is getting expensive, so those jobs are going to China and India.

But under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, one of Kim Jung Il's sons, who is reportedly in his 20s, perhaps that can change and North Koreans will be given the opportunity to work and get out of the impoverished state they are currently in, he said.

"Everybody scared because of the unstable of North Korea," Mr. Han said.

Just down Main Street at Basically Bagels, co-owner Esther Kim said: "for people, so sad. ... I'm not sad Kim Jung Il died."

Kim Jung Il, 69, died Dec. 17 of a heart attack.

During his 17-year reign, Kim Jung II has been accused of starving, torturing and imprisoning people without mercy.

There have also been food shortages, famine and the development of nuclear weapons.

Kim Jung II came to power in 1997, following a three-year mourning period for his father, national founder and eternal North Korean president Kim II Sung.

with files from Torstar News Service



STAFF PHOTO/JIM MASON

For the Love of Jo Coffee House co-owner Mike Han moved to Canada in 2005 from Seoul, South Korea.

