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NATIONAL

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MAY 2022



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NATIONAL

Immigration Hits All-time High

Statistics Canada (StatsCan) recently released population estimates for 2022. The estimates show that Canada set a record for the highest level of **immigration** since they started keeping records in 1946.

According to StatsCan, 405,750 people immigrated to Canada in 2021. The highest level of immigration occurred during the last three months of the year, when 138,182 immigrants arrived. This is also a record.

Part of the reason for the high levels of immigration is the COVID-19 pandemic. Immigration in 2020 was the lowest in decades. Immigration had slowed because of health restrictions and border closures. This created a huge **backlog** of immigration applications. With restrictions relaxing, Canada was able to receive

more immigrants during the last three months of 2021.

Nearly half of the immigrants (198,530) headed to the province of Ontario. Next came British Columbia, which received 69,326 immigrants, then Quebec (50,301) and Alberta (40,053).

Canada can expect to see similar rates of immigration over the next few years. The federal government plans to allow 1.2 million immigrants into the country from 2021 to 2023. It is targeting about 432,000 immigrants for 2022.

Canada also has approved up to 450,000 permits to allow students from other countries to come here and study.

Many immigrants are selected because they have work skills needed in Canada. Without the immigrants, employers would have trouble finding enough qualified



workers to fill available jobs. Canada currently has a labour shortage in the retail, restaurant, and tourism industries.

Immigrants also help the economy by paying taxes and spending money on goods, homes, and transportation. At the same time, Canada is able to help families fleeing war and oppression in places like Syria and Ukraine. ★

**DID YOU KNOW**

Since 1867, Canada has welcomed over 19.5 million immigrants.

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Video**WORD POWER**

STATISTICS CANADA: A government agency that produces statistics to help better understand Canada, its population, resources, economy, and culture.

IMMIGRATION: The act or process of coming to a country to live there.

BACKLOG: A large number of jobs that are waiting to be finished.

INTERNATIONAL

Sri Lankans Protest Economic Crisis



Sri Lanka has declared a **state of emergency** after several days of protests in late March. People flooded the streets to protest a nation-wide economic crisis.

Sri Lanka is an island nation in the Indian Ocean. It is located just off the southeastern tip of India. It has a population of approximately 22 million people.

The protests were triggered by economic problems Sri Lanka is facing. The government doesn't have enough **foreign currency**. As a result, it hasn't been able to import many goods that the country needs. This includes fuels like gasoline and diesel.

The lack of fuel means the country can't run its power stations at full capacity. The problem has been worsened by a dry winter that has resulted in low water levels in reservoirs. As a result, the

country's hydro-electricity plants are producing less power.

The result has been rolling blackouts. Power can only be provided to part of the country at a time. Residents must endure blackouts for up to 13 hours a day.

Sri Lankans have also been facing skyrocketing **inflation** of everyday items. For example, food prices increased 30 percent in March. There have also been shortages of essential products, including medicines. The country's economy has suffered due to COVID-19, as one of Sri Lanka's most important industries is tourism.

Unhappiness over the economic troubles led hundreds of protestors to gather near the home of Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Sri Lankan officials are

starting discussions with the **International Monetary Fund** (IMF). The IMF may be able to help Sri Lanka with loans to get through the crisis. India has also helped with a shipment of diesel. ★



DID YOU KNOW

Sri Lanka was once called Ceylon. The name was given to the nation when Portuguese explorers arrived in 1505 and attempted to colonize the island.

To view videos, go to:
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Video



WORD POWER

STATE OF EMERGENCY: A declaration a government makes in response to an emergency or crisis that gives the government access to special powers.

FOREIGN CURRENCY: Currency from other countries that is needed for international trade.

INFLATION: A continual increase in the price of goods and services.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND: An international organization that helps maintain financial security around the world.

ENVIRONMENT

Canada's Climate Plan



In late March, the Canadian government revealed its new emissions reduction plan. The plan sets targets for reducing Canada's greenhouse gas (GHG) **emissions**. Reductions are needed for Canada to do its part in the fight against climate change.

The most recent emissions data shows we produced 730 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2019. To achieve its goals, Canada will need to reduce emissions to just over 400 million tonnes a year.

Much of the plan is focused on achieving reductions by the year 2030. The plan looks at each of the country's industries and sets a target for emissions reduction.

One of the key targets focuses on the oil and natural gas industry. The industry will need to cut its emissions by 42 percent by 2030. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

suggested the oil and gas industry reinvest its profits to reduce emissions from oil and gas.

The plan calls for other industries to also reduce emissions, including the transportation industry, waste management, and electricity generation.

The government's plan also includes \$9 billion in new spending to help with emissions reductions. Some of this money will be spent to expand the climate action grants program. This is money the government gives to Canadians who invest in projects that can help reduce GHG emissions. For example, Canadians can get up to \$5000 to **retrofit** their homes to become more energy efficient.

About \$1.7 billion of the money will go to electric vehicle **rebates**. The rebates are designed to encourage more

people to buy electric vehicles. The government wants to see 20 percent of all vehicles sold in Canada be electric by 2025. That number rises to 100 percent by 2035. ★



DID YOU KNOW

The oil and gas sector produces about 26 percent of Canada's total GHG emissions.

To view videos, go to:
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Video



WORD POWER

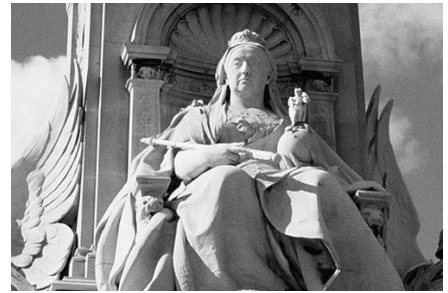
EMISSIONS: Something sent out or given off.

RETROFIT: Adding or changing something in an existing building or product to make it better, such as adding energy-efficient windows to a home.

REBATE: A partial refund to someone who has paid for something in full.

FEATURE

Who Was Queen Victoria?



Victoria Day is a holiday celebrated in Canada. It occurs on the last Monday before May 25.

The holiday celebrates the birthday of Queen Victoria, which is May 24.

Victoria was born in London, England, in 1819. She inherited the throne of the United Kingdom in 1837 at the age of 18, when her uncle, King William IV, died.

As queen of the United Kingdom, Victoria was also queen of Canada. Like Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria's role was mostly **ceremonial**. The real power to govern was held by Parliament.

When Victoria was queen, the British Empire was going through a big expansion. The United Kingdom had the world's strongest navy and established **colonies** around the world. Victoria was also queen during a time of great progress in science and

industry. During her time, Darwin created the theory of evolution, the telegraph was invented, and the London Underground was constructed. Queen Victoria also influenced fashion and culture. She was known for her strict **morality**. The time when she was queen became known as the Victorian Era.

In 1840, Queen Victoria married Prince Albert. They had nine children. Victoria and Albert had a strong, happy marriage, and the queen involved Albert in her role as head of state.

In 1876, Victoria was recognized as the Empress of India. There were grand celebrations across the British Empire for her golden jubilee (50th anniversary on the throne) in 1887 and her diamond jubilee (60th anniversary) in 1897. She was popular and respected, and she helped strengthen

the monarchy in the United Kingdom.

She remained queen until her death in 1901, at the age of 81. She had the longest reign (63 years) in British history until Queen Elizabeth II, who will celebrate her 70th anniversary on the throne this year. ★



DID YOU KNOW

Canada is the only country in the world that continues to celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday as an official holiday.

To view videos, go to:
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Video



WORD POWER

CEREMONIAL: Without real power or influence.

COLONY: A country or area under the political control of another country, often one that is far away.

MORALITY: Being concerned with right and wrong, and behaving strictly according to what one thinks is good behaviour.

NATIONAL**Immigration Hits All-time High**

1. How many people immigrated to Canada in 2021?

2. How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect immigration?

3. Most of the immigrants headed to which provinces?

4. What will immigration rates be like in the next couple of years?

5. Why are many immigrants selected to come to Canada?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Why do you think so many immigrants choose Canada as their new home?

INTERNATIONAL**Sri Lankans Protest Economic Crisis**

1. What triggered the protests in Sri Lanka?

2. What problems is the country having with its power supply?

3. What has been the result of the problems with the power supply?

4. What else have Sri Lankans been facing?

5. What has the Sri Lankan government been doing as a result of the crisis?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. What are your thoughts on the situation in Sri Lanka? What do you think the government could do to help the people?

ENVIRONMENT**Canada's Climate Plan**

1. How much carbon dioxide does Canada produce? What reduction needs to be made?

2. One of the key targets focuses on what?

3. What other industries need to reduce emissions?

4. How will the \$9 billion be spent to help with emissions reductions?

5. Why is \$1.7 billion going to electric vehicle rebates?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Do you think we will be able to achieve these reductions? Explain your answer.

FEATURE**Who Was Queen Victoria?**

1. What is Victoria Day?

2. When was Victoria born? When did she become queen?

3. What was Queen Victoria's role as queen of Canada?

4. What progress happened during Queen Victoria's reign?

5. How long did Queen Victoria reign?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. What did you know about Queen Victoria before reading this article?

INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS

Pope Francis Apologizes

The Roman Catholic Church took a historic step to recognize the harms it helped cause to Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Pope Francis met with **delegates** from First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities. He apologized to them for the conduct of some members of the Catholic Church in the residential school system.

The residential school system was a system of boarding schools created in Canada for Indigenous children. The system started in the 1890s, and the last residential school closed in 1997.

The aim of the residential schools was to **assimilate** Indigenous children into European-Canadian and Christian ways of living. The system was set up by the Canadian government and many schools were run by the

Catholic Church.

The residential school system caused harm to many Indigenous children and families. The children were separated from their parents and were forbidden from learning or expressing their Indigenous language and culture. Many children lived in crowded and unclean conditions.

Until recently, the Catholic Church hadn't acknowledged its part in the harm caused by residential schools. The recent discoveries of the unmarked graves of Indigenous children near former residential schools has forced people to face what happened.

In November, the Catholic Bishops of Canada invited 20 to 30 First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors, and youth to meet with Pope Francis at the **Vatican**. The delegates arrived



in Rome in late March and held several meetings with the pope. They shared their experiences, concerns, and hopes for the future with the pope.

At a public gathering of Indigenous delegates with an audience of 200 bishops, the pope issued a formal apology. ★



DID YOU KNOW

More than 60 percent of residential schools were run by the Roman Catholic Church.

To view videos, go to:
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Video



WORD POWER

DELEGATE: A person sent to represent others at an event or meeting.

ASSIMILATE: The process by which a group takes on the culture, language, behaviours, and values of the dominant or majority group in a society.

VATICAN: A city-state located in Rome, Italy, that is the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and home of the pope.

INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS**Pope Francis Apologizes**

1. How did the Roman Catholic Church recognize the harm it helped cause to Indigenous People in Canada?

2. What was the aim of residential schools?

3. What harm did the residential schools cause to Indigenous children and families?

4. What has forced people to face what happened at residential schools?

5. What did the delegates do?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

1. Do you think it was important for the pope to issue an apology? How does this apology help?

Mother Victoria

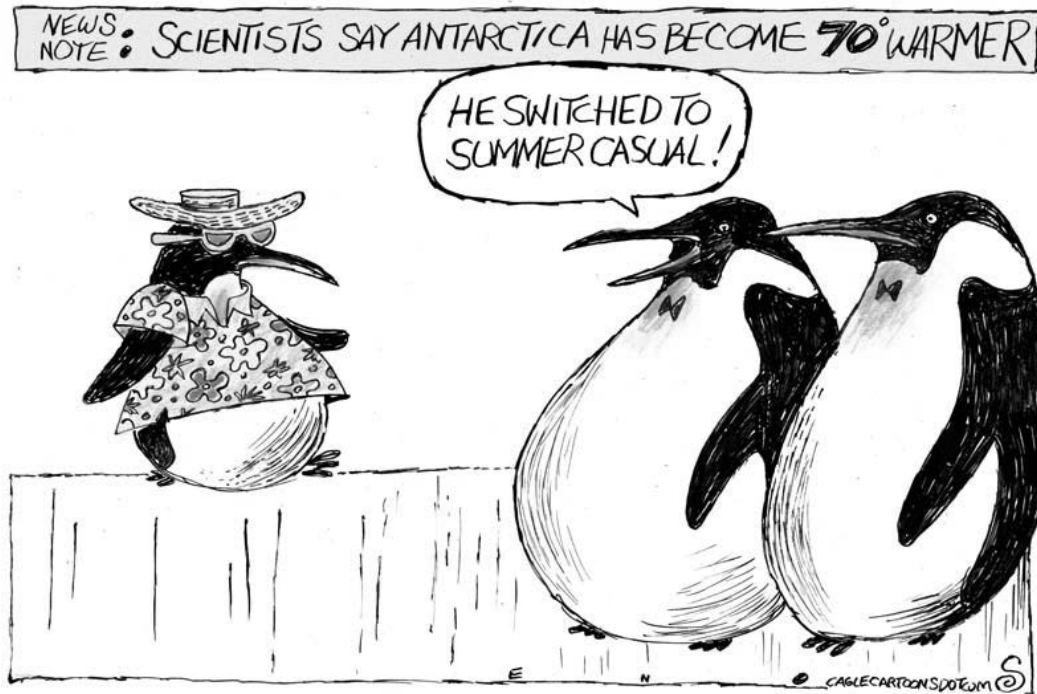
Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had nine children. Below is a list of their names, when they were born and died, and who they married. Use this information to answer the questions that follow.

	Name	Born	Died	Married
1.	Victoria Adelaide Mary, Princess Royal	November 21, 1840	August 5, 1901	Frederick III of Germany
2.	Albert Edward, King of England as Edward VII	November 9, 1841	May 6, 1910	Princess Alexandra of Denmark
3.	Alice Maud Mary	April 25, 1843	December 14, 1878	Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse
4.	Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh and of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha	August 6, 1844	July 30, 1900	Marie Alexandrovna, Grand Duchess, Russia
5.	Helena Augusta Victoria	May 25, 1846	June 9, 1923	Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein
6.	Louise Caroline Alberta	March 18, 1848	December 3, 1939	John Campbell, Duke of Argyll, Marquis of Lorne
7.	Arthur William Patrick, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn	May 1, 1850	January 16, 1942	Duchess Louise Margaret of Prussia
8.	Leopold George Duncan, Duke of Albany	April 7, 1853	March 28, 1884	Princess Helena Frederica of Waldeck and Pyrmont
9.	Beatrice Mary Victoria	April 14, 1857	October 26, 1944	Prince Henry of Battenberg

1. What was the name of Victoria and Albert's oldest child? _____
2. What was the name of Victoria and Albert's youngest child? _____
3. When was King Edward VII born? _____
4. Who married Marie Alexandrovna of Russia? _____
5. Who was born in 1850? _____
6. Who did Louise Caroline Alberta marry? _____

Political Cartoon

A political cartoon uses images to exaggerate an opinion, often in a humorous way. The main purpose of the cartoon is to show you the artist's point of view on a situation.



For each element in the image above, write a point or two about the element or how it relates to the rest of the image.

1. The caption

2. The penguin on the left

3. Put all of the elements together and explain in your own words what the cartoon is saying.

Map Activity: Italy

1. Locate and label the following countries in capital letters:

ITALY

ALBANIA

AUSTRIA

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

CROATIA

HUNGARY

KOSOVO

MONTENEGRO

SLOVENIA

SWITZERLAND

TUNISIA

2. Locate and label the following city:

Rome

3. Locate and label the following islands:

Corsica

Sardinia

Sicily

4. Locate and label the following bodies of salt water:

Adriatic Sea

Ionian Sea

Mediterranean Sea

5. Create a colour legend for your map with the following:

Italy

Other Countries

Salt Water

6. Draw and label the compass bearing.

7. Label your map:

Italy and Neighbouring Countries

Map Activity: Italy



Looking at Italy

Italy is part of the continent of Europe. It is a peninsula that extends in the Mediterranean Sea, northeast of Tunisia. It is located 42 degrees north of the equator, giving it a climate that is Mediterranean, with warm, wet winters and hot, dry summers. Italy is less than half the size of Manitoba at 301,340 square kilometres. Italy has a population of 61,095,551 (2022 estimate) and a currency called the euro (EUR). It takes about 1.4 Canadian dollars to equal one euro.

Use the map and the information on this page to answer the following questions.

1. What is the area of Italy?

2. What is the population of Italy?

3. What is the capital city of Italy?

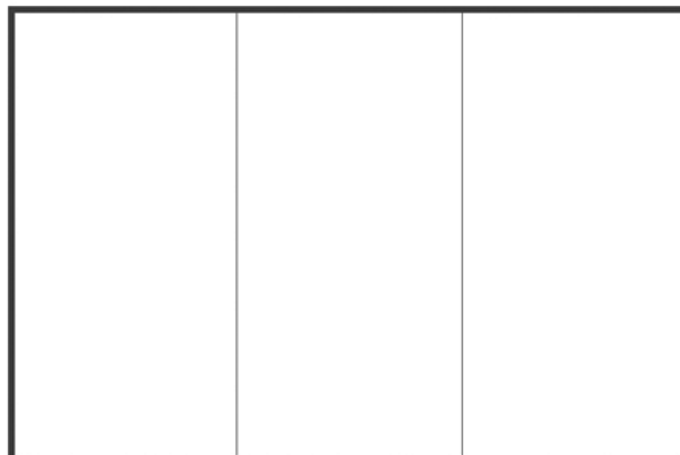
4. What is the currency used in Italy?

5. What colours are on the flag of Italy?

6. Which countries border Italy?

7. Colour the flag as follows:

Three equal vertical bands of green (hoist/left side), white, and red.



Monthly News Quiz

IMMIGRATION HITS ALL-TIME HIGH

1. In what months did the highest level of immigration occur?
A. During the first three months of 2022 B. During the last three months of 2021 C. During the summer of 2021
2. With COVID-19 restrictions relaxing, Canada was able to receive more _____ during the last three months of 2021.
3. Many immigrants are selected because they have work skills needed in Canada.
True False

SRI LANKANS PROTEST ECONOMIC CRISIS

1. People flooded the streets to protest a nation-wide _____ crisis.
2. The government has been able to import many goods that the country needs.
True False
3. The lack of what means the country can't run its power stations at full capacity?
A. Fuel B. Money C. Workers

CANADA'S CLIMATE PLAN

1. Emission reductions are needed for Canada to do its part in the fight against climate change.
True False
2. Much of the plan is focused on achieving reductions by what year?
A. 2050 B. 2035 C. 2030
3. The rebates are designed to encourage more people to buy _____ vehicles.

Monthly News Answer Key

Immigration Hits All-time High

1. **How many people immigrated to Canada in 2021?**

According to StatsCan, 405,750 people immigrated to Canada in 2021.

2. **How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect immigration?**

Immigration in 2020 was the lowest in decades. Immigration had slowed because of health restrictions and border closures. This created a huge backlog of immigration applications.

3. **Most of the immigrants headed to which provinces?**

Nearly half of the immigrants (198,530) headed to the province of Ontario. Next came British Columbia, which received 69,326 immigrants, then Quebec (50,301) and Alberta (40,053).

4. **What will immigration rates be like in the next couple of years?**

Canada can expect to see similar rates of immigration over the next few years. The federal government plans to allow 1.2 million immigrants into the country from 2021 to 2023. It is targeting about 432,000 immigrants for 2022.

5. **Why are many immigrants selected to come to Canada?**

Many immigrants are selected because they have work skills needed in Canada. Without the immigrants, employers would have trouble finding enough qualified workers to fill available jobs. Canada currently has a labour shortage in the retail, restaurant, and tourism industries.

Sri Lankans Protest Economic Crisis

1. **What triggered the protests in Sri Lanka?**

The protests were triggered by economic problems Sri Lanka is facing. The government doesn't have enough foreign currency. As a result, it hasn't been able to import many goods that the country needs. This includes fuels like gasoline and diesel.

2. **What problems is the country having with its power supply?**

The lack of fuel means the country can't run its power stations at full capacity. The problem has been worsened by a dry winter that has resulted in low water levels in reservoirs. As a result, the country's hydro-electricity plants are producing less power.

3. **What has been the result of the problems with the power supply?**

The result has been rolling blackouts. Power can only be provided to part of the country at a time. Residents must endure blackouts for up to 13 hours a day.

4. **What else have Sri Lankans been facing?**

Sri Lankans have also been facing skyrocketing inflation of everyday items. For example, food prices increased 30 percent in March. There have also been shortages of essential products, including medicines.

5. **What has the Sri Lankan government been doing as a result of the crisis?**

Sri Lankan officials are starting discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF may be able to help Sri Lanka with loans to get through the crisis. India has also helped with a shipment of diesel.

Canada's Climate Plan

1. **How much carbon dioxide does Canada produce? What reduction needs to be made?**

The most recent emissions data shows we produced 730 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2019. To achieve its goals, Canada will need to reduce emissions to just over 400 million tonnes a year.

2. **One of the key targets focuses on what?**

One of the key targets focuses on the oil and natural gas industry. The industry will need to cut its emissions by 42 percent by 2030.

3. **What other industries need to reduce emissions?**

The plan calls for other industries to also reduce emissions, including the transportation industry, waste management, and electricity generation.

4. **How will the \$9 billion be spent to help with emissions reductions?**

Some of this money will be spent to expand the climate action grants program. This is money the government gives to Canadians who invest in projects that can help reduce GHG emissions. For example, Canadians can get up to \$5000 to retrofit their homes to become more energy efficient.

5. **Why is \$1.7 billion going to electric vehicle rebates?**

The rebates are designed to encourage more people to buy electric vehicles. The government wants to see 20 percent of all vehicles sold in Canada be electric by 2025. That number rises to 100 percent by 2035.

Who Was Queen Victoria?

1. **What is Victoria Day?**

Victoria Day is a holiday celebrated in Canada. It occurs on the last Monday before May 25. The holiday celebrates the birthday of Queen Victoria, which is May 24.

2. **When was Victoria born? When did she become queen?**

Victoria was born in London, England, in 1819. She inherited the throne of the United Kingdom in 1837 at the age of 18, when her uncle, King William IV, died.

3. **What was Queen Victoria's role as queen of Canada?**

Like Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria's role was mostly ceremonial. The real power to govern was held by Parliament.

4. **What progress happened during Queen Victoria's reign?**

Victoria was queen during a time of great progress in science and industry. During her time, Darwin created the theory of evolution, the telegraph was invented, and the London Underground was constructed.

5. **How long did Queen Victoria reign?**

She remained queen until her death in 1901, at the age of 81. She had the longest reign (63 years) in British history until Queen Elizabeth II, who will celebrate her 70th anniversary on the throne this year.

Pope Francis Apologizes

1. **How did the Roman Catholic Church recognize the harm it helped cause to Indigenous People in Canada?**

Pope Francis met with delegates from First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities. He apologized to them for the conduct of some

Monthly News Answer Key

members of the Catholic Church in the residential school system.

2. What was the aim of residential schools?

The aim of the residential schools was to assimilate Indigenous children into European-Canadian and Christian ways of living.

3. What harm did the residential schools cause to Indigenous children and families?

The children were separated from their parents and were forbidden from learning or expressing their Indigenous language and culture. Many children lived in crowded and unclean conditions.

4. What has forced people to face what happened at residential schools?

The recent discoveries of the unmarked graves of Indigenous children near former residential schools has forced people to face what happened.

5. What did the delegates do?

The delegates arrived in Rome in late March and held several meetings with the pope. They shared their experiences, concerns, and hopes for the future with the pope.

Mother Victoria

1. What was the name of Victoria and Albert's oldest child?

Victoria Adelaide Mary

2. What was the name of Victoria and Albert's youngest child?

Beatrice Mary Victoria

3. When was King Edward VII born?

November 9, 1841

4. Who married Marie Alexandrovna of Russia?

Alfred Ernest Albert

5. Who was born in 1850?

Arthur William Patrick

6. Who did Louise Caroline Alberta marry?

John Campbell

Political Cartoon

1. The caption

The caption says that Antarctica has become 70° warmer.

2. The penguin on the left

The penguin is dressed in clothes that are worn in places that are sunny and warm.

3. Put all of the elements together and explain in your own words what the cartoon is saying.

Temperatures around the world are getting warmer. Even in places like Antarctica, the effects of climate change can be seen and felt.

Monthly News Quiz

IMMIGRATION HITS ALL-TIME HIGH

1. In what months did the highest level of immigration occur?

B. During the last three months of 2021

2. With COVID-19 restrictions relaxing, Canada was able to receive more IMMIGRANTS during the last three months of 2021.

3. Many immigrants are selected because they have work skills needed in Canada.

True

SRI LANKANS PROTEST ECONOMIC CRISIS

1. People flooded the streets to protest a nation-wide ECONOMIC crisis.

2. The government has been able to import many goods that the country needs.

Monthly News Answer Key

False – Hasn't been able to

3. **The lack of what means the country can't run its power stations at full capacity?**

A. Fuel

CANADA'S CLIMATE PLAN

1. **Emission reductions are needed for Canada to do its part in the fight against climate change.**

True

2. **Much of the plan is focused on achieving reductions by what year?**

C. 2030

3. The rebates are designed to encourage more people to buy **ELECTRIC** vehicles.

Monthly News Answer Key



ITALY AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES