

by Yan Yan Li

# IMPRESSIONS



**F**rom the Pacific Coast to the Atlantic Coast, Canada is a nation with so much to offer its visitors. Often described as a mosaic nation Canada has many cultures pieced harmoniously together to form one grand picture. People around the globe have imported their own cultures and traits to dwell in one nation. Not only does Canada have an interesting mix of people, the country has a varied terrain, from the Rocky Mountains to the Prairie flats, to the great lakes and the shorebeds of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. The changing seasons also gives Canada its snow-capped mountains, the brilliant autumn leaves, fresh spring flowers and the summer warmth. A visit to a few cities in Canada will surely illustrate the diversity of the nation and provide a most exciting and interesting holiday.

Johnny Yip and Greenstreet Kan, two well known Hong Kong travel writers, spent ten days in Eastern Canada last September and were full of positive remarks on their visit. A trip to Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and Toronto gave the two writers a sense of the beauty of the nation, not just the natural physical beauty, but also the beauty of the people of Canada.

Johnny and Greenstreet were impressed with how friendly and hospitable the people were. Every place they visited, they were met with smiles and people eager to make their stay a most pleasant one.

Johnny had his eye out for the picturesque scenery that Canada is famous for. His photographs display a fine example of the beauty of Canada. Canada is blessed with forests, mountains, miles of coastline, lakes and rivers.

Greenstreet was overwhelmingly intrigued with the people of Canada, and in particular, the Quebecois. Quebec is a unique province in that it is dominated by French speaking Canadians. A stroll through the streets of Montreal or Quebec City may give one a sense that they are walking through a city in Europe. The language, dress, food and mannerisms of the Quebecois bear similarities to the people of France. Montreal and Quebec City are abundant with street cafes sending off the aroma of coffee and freshly baked croissants, and alleys lined with specialty boutiques and fine restaurants. The French cuisine sampled by Greenstreet and Johnny proved to be superb – a testament that the chefs in Quebec have mastered, to perfection, the

