

able to help secure landing rights for Air India in Montreal, with the possibility of similar rights for Air Canada in India. These are matters of great importance to Indian people, and they have resulted from Canadian people becoming more knowledgeable about the customs and needs of East Indians.

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The Canadians, the majority white Canadians, should keep in mind that no matter how good life is for the Indians who move here, it is nevertheless a wrenching experience. Life is incomparably better here from a material standpoint, but not so from the standpoint of human empathy and spiritual aliveness. I am a split person living here. Not a split personality, but a split body. One part of me needing and enjoying the material comforts that I have found in Canada, but the other part craving the closeness and warmth of family and friendship which I find in India.

The present time is crucial for education because I fear that discrimination is on the rise in Canada. During the past five years, many incidents indicate to me that the level of fear and mistrust is rising. The poor economy has had much to do with this. White people, who themselves may be unemployed and without the material things that they want and need, see more and more coloured people. And there is a natural tendency to see these new people as competitors for jobs and for housing. The joblessness and the overcrowding in the cities create the conditions in which racism grows. We in the Indian community, especially those of us who are active in NACOI, are educating ourselves to understand what Canada needs at this time, and to contribute for everyone's benefit and not just to East Indians.

