

CIDA will allocate \$200,000 for an automatic blanket extension for three months to pay tuition fees and living expenses of CIDA-sponsored Chinese students in Canada whose training was to end during the summer months.

"The Federal Government has acted with leadership and generosity in response to the urgent needs of the Chinese students in Canada," Mr. Clark said.

The Canadian Bureau of International Education is a national organization, whose objectives are to assist foreign students in Canada, provide them with information and give them emergency financial support. It draws on a network of 150 centres in universities and colleges across Canada.

The Chinese Canadian National Council is an association with a network of 27 chapters across Canada. It promotes understanding and cooperation between Chinese Canadians and all other ethnic, cultural and racial groups in Canada.

A toll-free line (1-800-267-1299) has been installed to allow students to get more information, 24 hours a day, as of now.

The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Minister of Employment and Immigration, has already announced a number of immigration measures in response to the precarious situation that has developed for Chinese nationals, especially students, currently in Canada. All removals to China have been indefinitely suspended. Chinese citizens have several options to choose from and the time to consider the option which best meets their circumstances. They can request a one year extension of their visas or they can apply to stay permanently as immigrants or as refugees.

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