

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Sources

Three Bruneian on-line sources were examined: *BruDirect* (an independent web-site designed to collate all news and business information on Brunei), *Radio Television Brunei* (RTB), and the *Borneo Bulletin* (English/Malay).¹⁸

References to Canada

Having examined the above mentioned Brunei Darussalam on-line news sources over a 3-month period, we found that Canada was mentioned in 25 news articles and editorials, including 8 references in the headlines.

Findings in the Bruneian online press

News of the Canadian women's soccer team during the recent World Cup in the United States was well covered in local papers, especially when the Canadian team defeated the Chinese team in the semi-final stage of the competition. Canada made headlines in the Bruneian press when it was announced that a team of Canadian researchers was a step closer to discovering a SARS vaccine, and when the Vice President of the University of Alberta, Dr. Brian Stephenson, visited Brunei in October 2003.

Canada also made the headlines in an article describing how 50.9% of voters in Steinbach, Manitoba, decided they wanted the right to order drinks in restaurants despite the decision taken by city's mayor, Les Magnusson, to keep the town's no drinking policy, believed responsible for the city's low crime rate. In the headlines as well were Canada's advisory regarding the Landed Immigrant Card and world-class Canadian pianist, Stephan Ham's performance at two separate concerts in Brunei.

Canada was also mentioned in articles related to mad cow disease and Zimbabwe's withdrawal from the Commonwealth. Canada was cited by the Bruneian Minister of Education, Pehin Dato Haji, when he returned home after attending the 15th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in Edinburgh, as he declared that "Brunei could be described as one of the best countries in providing school educational facilities at par with [countries] such as Canada, the United Kingdom and other nations."¹⁹

¹⁸ No Arabic online Bruneian sources were identified for this study.

¹⁹ Source: *Radio Television Brunei*