

work, charitable giving and participation in community organizations. Available online, along with fact sheets, a Powerpoint presentation, a series of illustrative Canadian stories, Info: <http://www.ccsd.ca/pubs/2006/makingconnections/>

THE CANADIAN COUNCIL ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT announces a data-rich new section of the CCSD website, “Stats and Facts” contains a series of practical, easy-to-use fact sheets profiling demographics, education, and families in Canada. More fact sheets will be released later this year on the subjects of economic security, health and the labour market. Info: <http://www.ccsd.ca/factsheets/index.htm>

UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRANTS’ RELUCTANCE TO USE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. The authors of a study published recently in the Canadian Journal of Psychiatry explored immigrants’ reasons for not using mental health services when they were experiencing mental health problems. The participants were members of the West Indian community in Montreal, comprised of people who have emigrated from the Commonwealth Caribbean, including Guyana. In the analysis of themes from participant responses, the authors found that participants showed negative attitudes towards medication and described doctors as being over willing to prescribe medication. The participants also felt that previous visits with general practitioners were rushed and did not allow time for questions. The authors say this shows that participants’ attitudes toward the mental health system were shaped by their negative experiences with other health services. A third theme to emerge was belief in the curative power of God and traditional folk medicine and healers. See “Understanding Immigrants’ Reluctance to Use Mental Health Services: A Qualitative Study From Montreal,” Canadian Journal of Psychiatry (March 2006; 51 [4]: 205-209) available at <http://www.cpa-apc.org>

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CURRENT INITIATIVES

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CALL FOR PAPERS: EDUCATING FOR MIGRANT INTEGRATION. The Conference will be held September, 2006 at the University of Toronto and is co-sponsored by the Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, University of Toronto, Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, and Network Migration in Europe. Papers are being considered that will address the interrelated questions of immigrant incorporation and education in a comparative framework, drawing on European and North American experiences. The focus may be contemporary or historical (1945 to the present). The main areas of interest for the conference will include:

- The analysis of educational systems, policies and practices in immigration societies
- The attention educational systems give to immigration and diversity
- Ways in which education enhances or limits the integration of migrants
- The adaptation of curricula and textbooks to the needs of immigrant integration
- The analysis of the successes/failures of immigrants in educational systems.

