



Restigouche Multicultural Association (RMA)

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THE BULLETIN BOARD – NUMBER 11 – JUNE 11, 2021 Reference: File 530 - News Articles



INTERVIEW



Judi Jenin Santos, BScN

Professional designation:

Registered Nurse (RN) – Philippines
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN)
Medical Colleges of Northern Philippines (2011)
Tuguegarao, Cagayan, Philippines

WES Canadian Equivalency:

On-going

Previous Employment:

Technical Staff 2016 – 2018
Council for the Welfare of Children Dept. of Social
Welfare and Development Field Office
Tuguegarao City, Philippines

Current immigration status:

Open Work Permit

Current Canadian Employer:

Campbellton Nursing Home Inc.
Campbellton, NB

Current Employment position:

Resident Attendant

Philippine National Anthem: “Lupang Hinirang”



The Philippine national anthem is entitled “**Lupang Hinirang**” and composed by Julian Felipe. “Lupang Hinirang” was first played publicly on June 12, 1898 during the proclamation of Philippine Independence. Its lyrics were adopted from the Spanish poem, Filipinas, which was written by José Palma.



What Philippines' Independence Day mean to me?

“*Araw ng Kasarinlan*” (Day of Freedom) is one of the treasured milestone that we Filipinos achieved in our rich history. It is an opportunity to appreciate the sacrifices and courage of our heroes who fought for our freedom. It is because of their sacrifice that we enjoy the freedoms that we do today.

It is also a time to reflect on what one may contribute or give back to the country as a benefactor of this freedom.

There are many ways to show our love for the Philippines. I do so by supporting our families back home so that they will not be dependent on the assistance of the government. Also by being a law abiding newcomer here in Canada, we do not wish to be an embarrassment or a problem to our own country.

Others can show it by serving our country, be law abiding citizens and offer to help our country in this time of Covid pandemic.

What do you miss from your country?

Top of the list would be family, relatives and friends.

I miss our traditional foods. Though we can prepare them here, unlike in the Philippines, all the necessary ingredients for a particular dish are not always available everywhere.

Next are the street foods that are very affordable and often quoted as our starvation relief for the day:

Taho, kwekkwek, isaw, Halohalo, fish ball, siopao, siomai, lugaw, goto, etc.

And, of course, I miss occasions like Christmas, New Year, and Fiesta.

Why choose New Brunswick and the Restigouche Region?

In Campbellton, NB I have employment and the opportunity to practice some of my nursing skills I have acquired in the Philippines.

Though I do not speak French, I am treated with respect and not made to feel unwelcome.

I appreciate the friendly and welcoming people of the tight-knit community that is Campbellton.

