



From Canada to Charente-Maritime

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Studying and working abroad... from Mr Clément Bourbon,
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Descriptif :

In 2006, Mr Bourbon had the opportunity to go to Canada to study. What was meant to be a three to four years parenthesis turned into much more one. He ended up staying 13 years in this magnificent country, of which he even acquired citizenship. It is a period during which he learnt a lot about himself and others and which definitely and deeply changed his life.

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From 2006 to 2010, I studied at a **business school** called **HEC Montreal**

. I got **a bachelor's and a master's degree in operations management**, a field that I was passionate about but in which I never worked in, my whole **career** having surprisingly been spent in **marketing**. I worked in **Montreal** for about ten years in different industries (**video games, entertainment...**) and it was not until my return to France that I completely changed tracks and **turned to teaching**.

Life in Canada appealed to me because everything seemed very simple there : **interpersonal relationships, daily life, work-life balance...** Everything was – and probably still is – much **lighter, smoother and more accessible** there than in France, where rigid hierarchy, social tension and daily stress sometimes seem to be the norm. Moreover, beyond these considerations, **Canada** offers an extremely **enriching geographical and cultural diversity**. The country has indeed a dual French-speaking (**Quebec and part of the Maritime Provinces**)





and **English-speaking culture**. It is full of **splendid landscapes** (Charlevoix, Niagara Falls...) and its proximity to the United States allows you to enjoy **the Adirondacks**



, **New York or New England** in just a few hours' drive.

Thanks to the arrangements set between France and **Canada**, this country is relatively easy to access in administrative and migratory terms. Encouraging our **students** to have **an experience there** by benefiting from **the "working holiday permit"** seems particularly interesting to me. While **expatriation** - even temporary - is not always an easy choice, the **benefits, in terms of personal maturity and enrichment, are huge** and deserve to be highlighted by teaching staff who, in increasing numbers, have been fortunate enough to have such an experience.