



Cross-Canada Workshops

Our Canada: Exploring Canadian Values
through Culture, Faith and Identity



**Canadian
Race Relations
Foundation**

**Fondation
canadienne des
relations raciales**

The Our Canada Project

This short presentation provides an overview of the Our Canada Project and Cross-Canada Workshops initiative. We hope that it will spark your interest. Contact information is included at the end of the presentation.

CANADA





About the Project

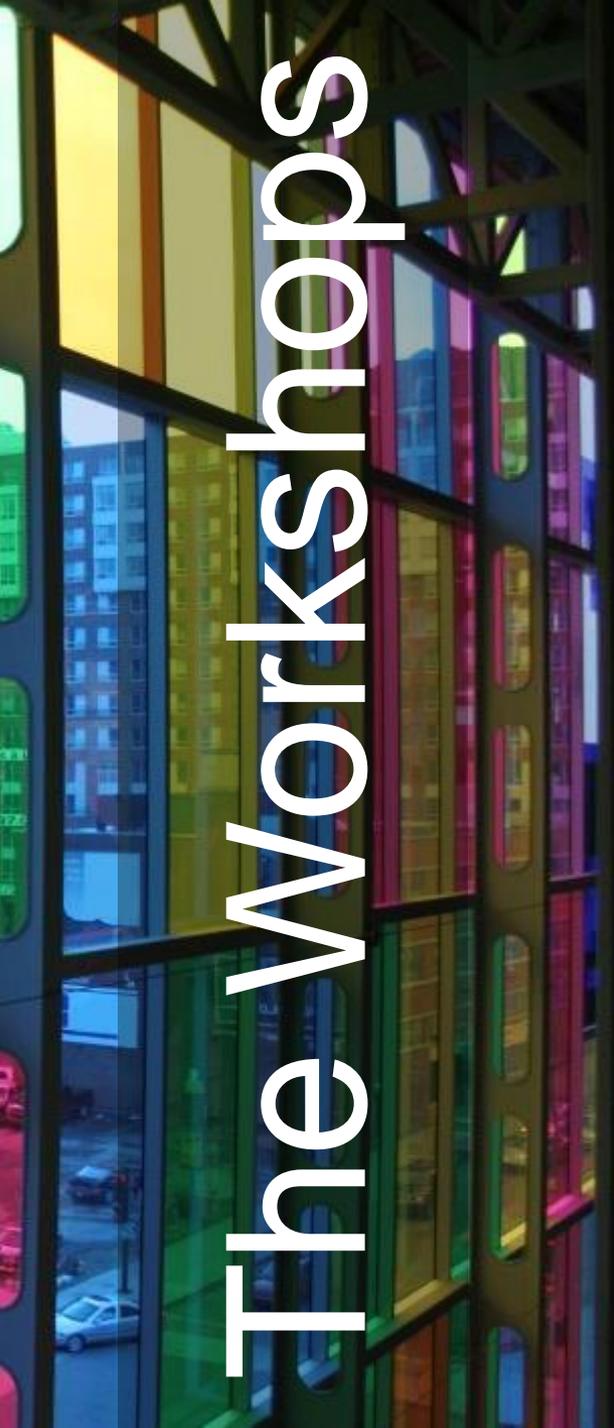
The Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) has developed *Our Canada: Exploring Canadian Values through Culture, Faith and Identity* to engage people throughout Canada in discussions and activities that recognize diversity as a national asset and promote Canadian values and civic engagement as everyone's contribution to building a stronger country.

"Most Canadians agree that multiculturalism contributes to social cohesion, has a positive impact on ethnic and religious minorities, and makes it easier for newcomers to adapt to, and adopt shared Canadian values. Yet, when it comes to religious expression in the public sphere, there is still a question of how far Canadians are willing to accede to meet multiculturalism's promise of integration and inclusion."

– Anita Bromberg, Executive Director, CRRF

Cross-Canada Workshops January 2015 to March 2016





The Workshops

The CRRF is rolling out 24 full-day Cross-Canada Workshops for senior executives, human resources professionals, and trainers and facilitators who work primarily within multicultural settings. Ten workshops have already been held and the remaining workshops will be completed prior to April 2016.

Regional Workshops are an opportunity to have an open and productive conversation about faith and faith-based issues and to discuss new situations that have emerged with the growth of Canadian multiculturalism.

The Workshops introduce a professional development module and toolkit that can be added to existing diversity training initiatives.

2015-2016 Cross-Canada Workshop Schedule

September to March 31, 2016

Edmonton

Moncton

Charlottetown

Saskatoon/Regina

St. John

Richmond

Victoria

Hamilton/London

Halifax

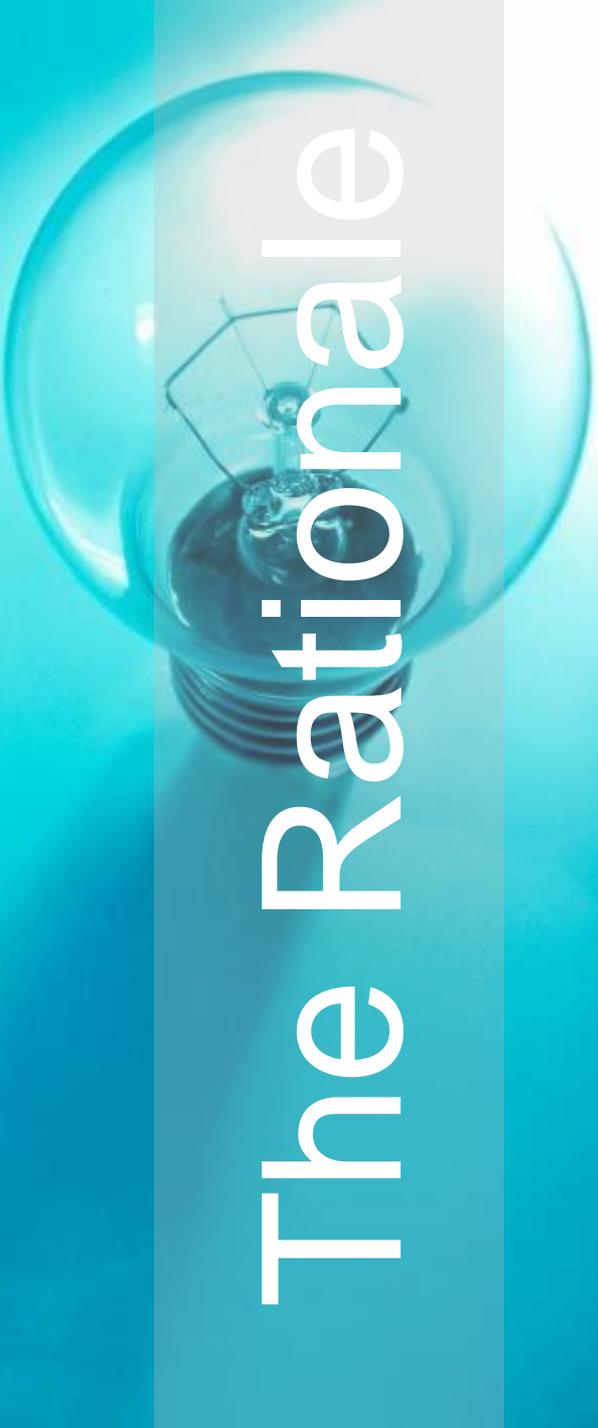
Ottawa

Montréal

Calgary

Workshop Features

- Small group format (12 to 20 people per session).
- Delivered Regionally.
- Facilitated by Professionals.
- Discussion with regional faith leaders.
- Orientation to a professional development module that can be added to existing diversity and inclusion programs.
- Toolkit and resources to share.
- Convenient access to networks and resources as well as the CRRF's Cross-Canada LinkedIn group.
- Fee: Complimentary.



The Rationale

The CRRF recently released our *Report on Canadian Values* based on a national survey of 2,005 Canadians, interviews with experts, and an extensive review of related research and reports.

While Canadian workplaces and communities are rich in diversity, and Canada is viewed as an international model for multiculturalism, there are significant challenges ahead as we navigate new aspects of diversity and inclusion.

"There is still work to be done in fostering a better understanding and respect for the full expression of multiculturalism in Canada. The *Report on Canadian Values* helps us to further understand issues that threaten to divide us, while providing essential keys to strengthening our shared core values."

– Albert Lo, Chairperson, CRRF

Examples of “Incompatible Practices”

- 28% identified the wearing of religious garb in public or security settings, as well as the wearing of turbans and hijabs by members of the police and RCMP.
- 10% listed religious practices in general.
- 8% cited observance of religious holidays as incompatible.*

* CRRF, Our Canada Report on Canadian Values, 2014

What We Learned

9% of Canadians, i.e.: over 3 million people belong to a faith other than Christianity.*

The CRRF Survey found that:

- Respect for human rights and freedoms is at the top of the list of “Canadian values.”
- 64 percent of respondents feel that Canada’s multicultural ideals “allow for the pursuit of cultural practices that are incompatible with Canadian laws and norms.”

* Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011



Why This Matters

Canadian demographics have changed and multiculturalism in Canada today centres on questions of religious accommodation.

Business and community leaders need to be ready, and they need the tools to address related issues. That's why the CRRF is going Cross-Country with a professional development initiative that is directed toward senior management level professionals who are leading diversity and inclusion initiatives.

“Because many Canadians have ceased to think about religion at all, they do not recognize the persistence of religious intolerance.... However, religious intolerance and discrimination continue to present significant barriers.”

– David Seljak,
“Protecting Religious Freedom in a Multicultural Canada.”
Canadian Diversity: Volume 9.3 (Summer 2012)

Is this for You?

You are:

- in a leadership role in an organization/community
- a human resources professional
- a teacher, facilitator or professional trainer
- involved in law enforcement
- a representative of a community of interest

Cross-Canada Goals

1. Support diversity and inclusion leadership.
2. Build knowledge about faith in Canada.
3. Increase the ability of facilitators to manage situations arising out of conflicting religious practices and cultural values in Canadian workplaces and communities.
4. Introduce a professional development module that can be added to existing diversity training initiatives.



Get Involved

This one-day workshop can help you change the future of diversity and inclusion in Canada.

Our Canada will provide the forum and resources to accelerate your work.

The CRRF is looking for 250 diversity and inclusion leaders who will spark the discussion about faith in Canadian workplaces and communities.

Please connect with the CRRF and/or our Regional Facilitators to register for the one-day Cross-Canada Workshop.

Contact Us

We want to hear from you!

For more information contact:

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Project Director
Our Canada

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(416) 441-2774

Timelines

Workshop Registration

1. Confirm your interest in this initiative by emailing Judy Csillag jcsillag@crrf-fcrr.ca.
 - ✓ Online registration
 - ✓ Resources and Toolkit
 - ✓ Private LinkedIn group