



Multicultural
Council of
Saskatchewan

From Many Peoples Strength

Saskatchewan Multicultural Week

November 19-27, 2016

Building Welcoming Communities

Why Celebrate Saskatchewan Multicultural Week?

In 1974, Saskatchewan was the first province to enact multiculturalism legislation, recognizing the right of every community to retain its identity, language and traditional arts and sciences for the mutual benefit of citizens. In 1997, the Act was revised and a section of the Act states the policy should preserve, strengthen and promote Aboriginal cultures and acknowledge their historic and current contribution to development of Saskatchewan. More information is available on [The Saskatchewan Multiculturalism Act](#). Responsibility for the Act resides with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport.

The Act states broadly the provincial multiculturalism policy and provides the Minister power to carry out the purposes of the Act. The Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) was founded on November 22, 1975 and has been instrumental in the development and promotion of these multicultural values, including the Saskatchewan motto *From Many Peoples Strength*. Saskatchewan Multicultural Week is celebrated each November during the week that includes November 22nd.

MCoS has outlined four [multicultural values](#). They are rooted in the provincial motto and the treaty relationships that define our province. They are supported by the Saskatchewan Multiculturalism Act (1997) and the Canadian Multiculturalism Act (1985). They inform our five streams of multicultural work.

Saskatchewan Multicultural Week Campaign



Who is your #MulticulturalSuperhero and why? Tell us on Twitter and Instagram! View what everyone else is saying on our social feed. Get creative; the sky is the limit!

<http://mcos.ca/multiculturalsuperhero> | http://mcos.ca/multiculturalsuperhero_feed

Multicultural Superheroes Promote Multicultural Values

Multicultural Superheroes can include any person or group of people, real or fictitious, who inspires you with their super powers for respect and inclusion. A **#MulticulturalSuperhero** is someone who:

- Protects and celebrates all cultures
- Proudly embraces and shares traditions
- Battles “Villains” such as racism, discrimination, disrespectful ideologies, oppressive social systems and institutions, etc.
- Leaps tall barriers to build bridges for intercultural connections
- Activates a power magnet to draw diverse people together for creative innovation
- Demonstrates super vision and strength to achieve equality and equity for all

Examples of Multicultural Superheroes could be leaders of all types: Organizations, Movements, Individuals (Family Members; Friends; Politicians; Activists; Famous People; Comic book, TV, Movie and Book Characters; Authors; Artists; Athletes; etc.): Amnesty International, Idle No More, Your Mom, Your boss, a Teacher, Louis Riel, Nelson Mandela, Rosemary Brown, Maria Linklater, Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., Peggy McIntosh, Harriet Tubman, Elijah Harper, Rosalie Abella, Kamala Khan, Black Panther, Maya Angelou, Jackie Robinson, Zarqa Nawaz, Arundhati Roy, David Suzuki, etc.

Truth and Reconciliation

Each of us has an important role in implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action. Of the 94 Calls to Action, the two below relate to building welcoming communities. Contact MCoS for ideas and support.

TRC call to Action: Education # 10

We call on the federal government to draft new Aboriginal education legislation with the full participation and informed consent of Aboriginal peoples. The new legislation would include a commitment to sufficient funding and would incorporate the following principles:

- i. Providing sufficient funding to close identified educational achievement gaps within one generation.
- ii. Improving education attainment levels and success rates.
- iii. Developing culturally appropriate curricula.
- iv. Protecting the right to Aboriginal languages, including the teaching of Aboriginal languages as credit courses.
- v. Enabling parental and community responsibility, control, and accountability, similar to what parents enjoy in public school systems.
- vi. Enabling parents to fully participate in the education of their children.
- vii. Respecting and honouring Treaty relationships

TRC Call to Action: Newcomers to Canada # 93

We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the national Aboriginal organizations, to revise the information kit for newcomers to Canada and its citizenship test to reflect a more inclusive history of the diverse Aboriginal peoples of Canada, including information about the Treaties and the history of residential schools.

Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan

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Supported by:

