



Multicultural
Council of
Saskatchewan

From Many Peoples Strength

Saskatchewan Multicultural Week

November 18-26, 2023

Building Equitable and Inclusive Schools

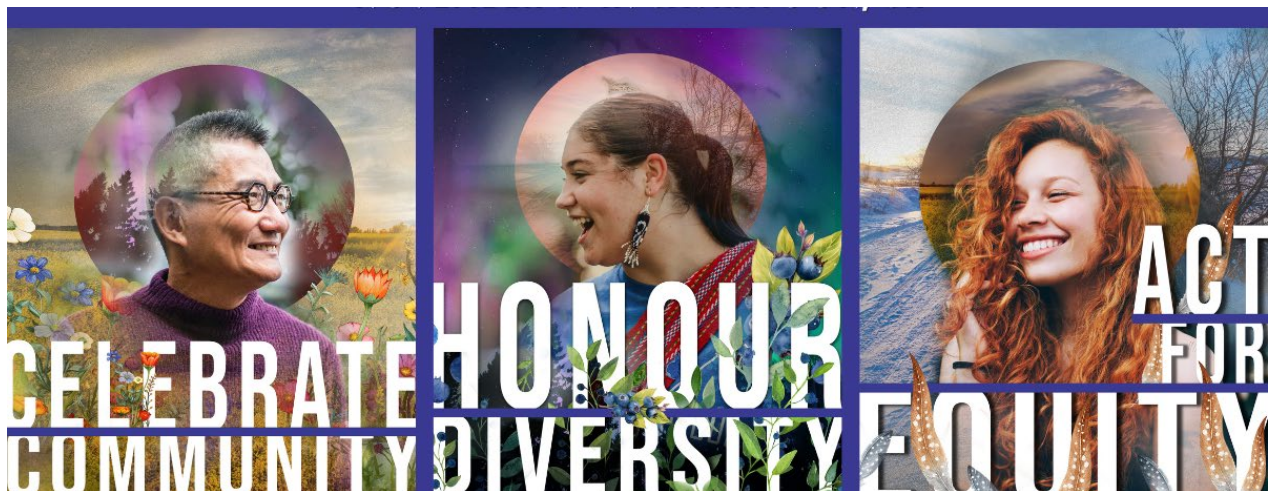
Why Celebrate Saskatchewan Multicultural Week?

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. The Act, revised in 1997, states the policy should preserve, strengthen and promote Indigenous cultures and acknowledge their historical and current contribution to the 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), founded on November 22, 1975, 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 22.

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

Saskatchewan Multicultural Week Campaign



Let's share how we #CelebrateCommunity, #HonourDiversity & #ActForEquity by using these hashtags on social media.

<https://mcos.ca/events/sask-multicultural-week/skstrong/>

Join the conversation and help us spread the word!

Throughout Saskatchewan Multicultural Week we hope to see the message of community, diversity, and equity spread far and wide, so we encourage you to join us in sharing on social media. Create your own message using **#CelebrateCommunity**, **#HonourDiversity** & **#ActforEquity** or share one of our posts from November 18th-26th, 2023, to be entered to win a beautiful 2024 multifaith calendar!

Be sure to tag us in your post or share, and also use the hashtags to have your entry counted! Please note that we can only see posts, hashtags and shares from public accounts but if you've created a post or shared one of ours throughout Saskatchewan Multicultural Week and wish to be entered, please just message us a screenshot of your post. A draw will take place on December 5th, and the winner will be contacted via social media.

Celebrate Community, Honour Diversity, Act for Equity

The explanations, questions and links below are intended to support your conversations and exploration of these concepts. Share your examples of integration in Saskatchewan schools. MCoS offers [education](#) to support your journey. MCoS also offers small grants to schools due October 30 annually [Multicultural Education Initiative Funding](#)

Celebrate Community So many of us have experienced isolation that we now have a deeper understanding of the value of our community connections. It's important to show that we value all members of our school communities. Inclusive spaces are welcoming; respectful relationships create a sense of belonging and value. Are individuals from all identities able to bring their authentic selves to your school and thrive there? Integrated communities examine and change power relationships so that the school reflects the community. Students, staff and families feel a sense of belonging in all their identities and are all able to contribute to decisions and shape the future of the school. This allows new or previously excluded or unconsidered ways of doing things to become part of the "new normal." How do you ensure leadership reflects community diversity so decisions serve all members equitably? How can you reflect the names and stories of people from many cultures (curriculum, resources, speakers, school name/team/mascot)? [Welcoming & Inclusive Communities Toolkit](#), [Inspiring Success](#), [Inclusion Saskatchewan](#), [OTC](#)

Honour Diversity Human diversity encompasses individual and community identities, including experiences, abilities, gender, age, perceived race, ethnicity, cultural background, sexual orientation, faith/spirituality, socio-economic status, etc. Each of us deserves to live in dignity and to be treated with respect. We are enriched by the diversity in our school communities through how we see the world, our stories, values, beliefs, traditions, and expressions of these cultural foundations. Research shows that diverse perspectives lead to greater creativity and solutions to problems that serve everyone. Does your school reflect community diversity? How do you honour diverse identities? [Mini-Language Lessons](#), [Creating deeper learning](#), [Module: Honoring Diversity: Resources for Early Learning](#)

Act for Equity Equity is about fairness. It requires recognizing historical legacies and current realities experienced by marginalized communities due to systems of supremacy, power, and privilege. Not everyone starts from the same place. Where **equality** offers the same opportunities or resources regardless of circumstances, **equity** intentionally addresses inequalities. MCoS and other organizations offer anti-racism and anti-oppression resources to identify and bring about change. Who are the champions for equity in your school or school division? How can you support them or support each other? How is your school examining policies and processes? What resources are you creating to remove barriers and foster equity? [Inclusion Diversity and Human Rights](#), [Sasksafe](#), [Equity Literacy for Educators](#), [Equity Literacy.org](#)

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