

Lesson 3.6 Cross-cultural communication: Multiculturalism in Canada

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Learning Activities

- 1) Group presentation
- 2) Review of Lesson 3.5: Family
- 3) Cross-cultural communication:
Multiculturalism in Canada
- 4) Information for review
- 5) Homework



Group presentation

Review of Lesson 3.5

Family

What are the common family types?

Do you agree with opinions in “Differences between Chinese and Western Family Values”?





Cross-cultural communication: Multiculturalism in Canada

Discuss:

- ▶ Do you know anything about multiculturalism in Canada?
- ▶ Have you heard of “*Canadian Mosaic*”? How about “*Melting pot*”?
- ▶ What day is Canadian Multiculturalism Day?



Multiculturalism policy

- ▶ Canada's federal multiculturalism policy was adopted in 1971 by Pierre Trudeau's Liberal government. An unexpected by-product of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism (1963–69), multiculturalism was intended as a policy solution to manage both rising francophone nationalism, particularly in Quebec, and increasing cultural diversity across the country.
- ▶ Canada was the first country in the world to adopt a multiculturalism policy. The federal multiculturalism policy marked its 50th anniversary in 2021.



Multiculturalism policy

- In 1971, Canada's multiculturalism policy was adopted. The policy acknowledged that Canadians come from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds, and that all cultures have intrinsic value.
- In a speech in the House of Commons in April of 1971, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau introduced it as “a policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework... Although there are two official languages, there is no official culture.”



Evolution of Multicultural Policy in Canada

- ▶ **Ethnicity Multiculturalism (1970s)**
- ▶ The initial approach taken by the government might be described as “ethnicity multiculturalism.” During the early 1970s, financial assistance was extended to certain ethno-cultural organizations for the promotion of cultural heritage.
- ▶ Modest support was provided for folkloric and artistic ethno-cultural expression.



Evolution of Multicultural Policy in Canada

- ▶ **Equity or Rights-Based Multiculturalism (1980s)**
- ▶ Prior to 1970, much of Canada's immigration was from European countries. However, the *Immigration Act* of 1976 lifted some restrictions on immigration from non-European countries.
- ▶ The ensuing shift in demographics prompted calls to rethink multicultural policies with a focus on the need to combat discrimination. As a result, equity or rights-based multiculturalism increasingly defined the policies and programs of the 1980s.



Evolution of Multicultural Policy in Canada

- ▶ **Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Multiculturalism (1990s)**
- ▶ During the 1990s, federal multiculturalism policies and programs placed greater emphasis on eliminating barriers to economic and social participation of immigrants and designated minority groups.
- ▶ In 1995, the federal government passed employment equity legislation that, among other things, required that information be gathered in order to determine the degree of the underrepresentation of persons in designated groups, notably the country's visible minorities.
- ▶ Since 1996, the census has collected information about visible minorities in Canada and multiculturalism aimed at assisting institutions to become more responsive to Canada's diversity.

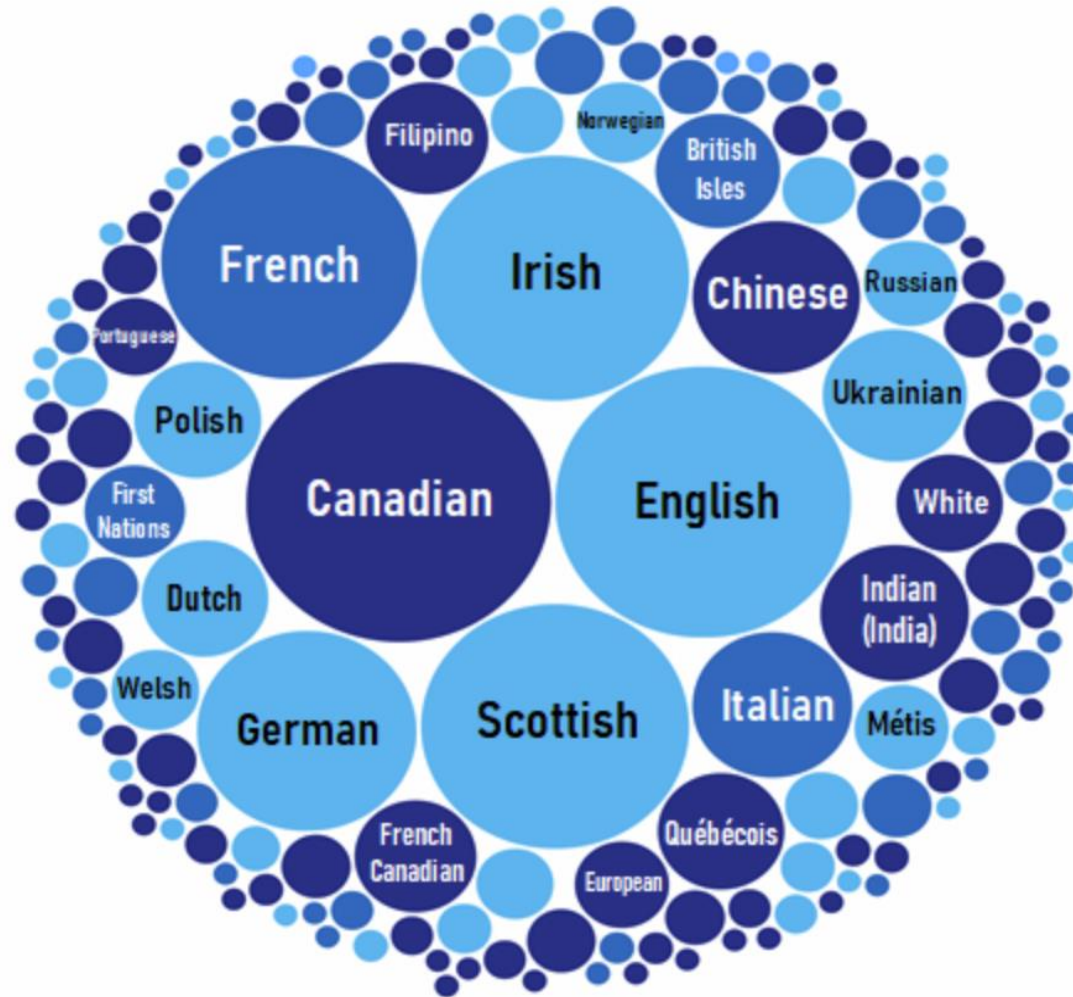


Evolution of Multicultural Policy in Canada

- ▶ **Multiculturalism in the Early 21st Century**
- ▶ Most Canadians think of multiculturalism as a demographic reality that acknowledges the diverse ethnic makeup of the Canadian population.
- ▶ However, there is ongoing debate over the message that multicultural policy conveys to Canadians, particularly to immigrants.



Most common ethnic or cultural origins reported by the population, Canada, 2021



Proportion of single responses:

Less than 32.5%

Between 32.5% and 51.7%

More than 51.7%

Evolution of Multicultural Policy in Canada

- ▶ In recent years, there has been a greater acknowledgement and acceptance of mixed and multiple identities in Canada. While most Canadians appear favourable to the ideal of multiculturalism, research suggests that support for the accommodation of religious diversity is more divided.
- ▶ Others see the multicultural message as discouraging newcomers from adopting Canadian values. This, in turn, makes them less likely to participate in the mainstream culture and society and encourages the creation of ethnic ghettos.



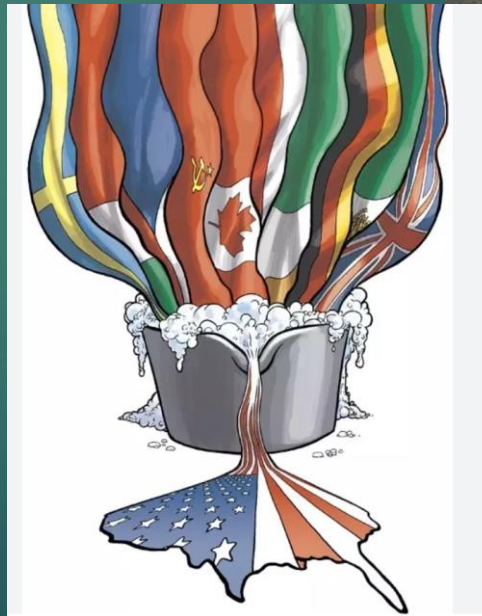
“Canadian Mosaic” vs “Melting pot” of the US

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQO_5lyFcqQ

Canada’s cultural pluralism recognizes and values the diversity of cultures within a society, while the melting pot theory suggests assimilation into a dominant culture.








“Canada has learned how to be strong not in spite of our differences, but because of them.” - **Justin Trudeau**

In theory, everyone comes and becomes American. One big happy family! (Your mileage may vary).



Canadian Multiculturalism Day

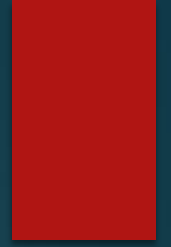
- ▶ On **June 27**, Canadian Multiculturalism Day honours the many cultural communities that help build a strong and vibrant Canadian society. Take this opportunity to celebrate the cultural diversity that enriches us collectively and reaffirm your commitment to equity, inclusion, and mutual respect.
- ▶ *Multicultural councils (e.g HMC Connections)*
- ▶ *International language programs*
- ▶ *Multicultural festivals/events*

27 JUN	Canada's Multicultural Heritage Mosaic Festival Thu, 12:00–10:00 p.m. Woodbine Park, 1695 Queen St E Toronto, ON	
27 JUN	Oakville Multicultural Night Thu, 7:00–9:00 p.m. Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre, 2302 Bridge Rd Oakville, ON	
29 JUN	Vaughan Multicultural Festival Sat, 12:00–5:00 p.m. Chatfield District Park, 100 Lawford Rd Woodbridge, ON	
12 JUL	Carabram Brampton's Multicultural Event Fri, Jul 12–Sat, Jul 13 AF Cold Storage, 131 East Dr Brampton, ON	
20 JUL	Cambridge Multicultural Festival Sat, Jul 20–Sun, Jul 21 Forbes Park Cambridge, ON	
23 AUG	Multicultural Festival Fri, Aug 23–Sun, Aug 25 Toronto Zoo, 2000 Meadowvale Rd Toronto, ON	
10	Milton African And Multicultural Festival	

Discussion

- ▶ 1. Do you think Multicultural Policy is positive or negative to Canada?
- ▶ 2. Which one do you prefer, “*Canadian Mosaic*” or “*Melting pot*” of the US?

Read & answer questions:



Mosaic, Melting Pot and AI (Excerpt)

▶ Questions:

- ▶ 1. What are the benefits to the Canadian mosaic according to the author?
- ▶ 2. According to our cybersecurity trainer, what makes our IT system harder to hack?
- ▶ 3. What is one solution to making AI more equitable?
- ▶ 4. How to avoid an AI melting pot?

Homework

1. Review for the final exam (Mid-term test & more)
2. Review today's contents - Multiculturalism