

Barriers: A national organization, the World Conference on Religion for Peace, works in several centres in Canada to promote education on human rights, environmental issues, peace and disarmament. It works actively to break down barriers of prejudice. They bring Canadians of all faiths together to discuss issues of concern to all. Participants include Sikhs, Hindus, Christians, Zoroastrians, Muslims, Jains, Buddhists, Native Spiritual Voices, etc.

Enjoyment: The Committee is well aware and has had brought to its attention many other facets of involvement by typical Canadians. Ideas and examples of sharing participation in community life include:

- Families meeting Families, sponsored by the United Church of Canada and Islam West Toronto, which brings Muslim and Christian families together to discuss common problems;
- International Dialogue, Vancouver, which helps professionals to understand Canadian ways better;
- Sharing Through Poetry, Sharing Through Music, University of Toronto, which explores the commonalities in the poetry and music of people who share the experience of immigration to Canada. One program included at least 14 areas of the World.

Dreams: Sharing events and endeavours should ideally be a true reflection of a community's interests, hopes, values and dreams, and as with other programs, the policies and programs of government and other institutions will achieve success only if they reflect and continue to adapt to that reality.

"Our goal, which we hope you share, is to be accepted as typical Canadians, not as exotic hybrids with a sense of rhythm or a flair for mathematics. In effect, we are asking for an activist commitment to the idea of multiculturalism." (Chinese Canadian National Council)

RECOMMENDATION:

All governments should continue their support of multicultural, multiracial sharing events and publicize the process by which voluntary organizations have increased participation of visible minorities.