

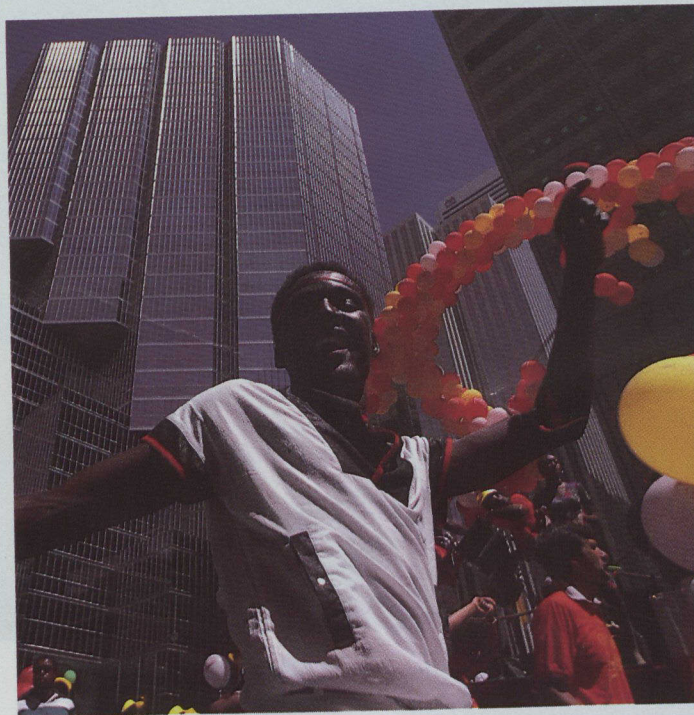
Canada's Global Village

To walk from neighbourhood to neighbourhood in Toronto is to wander through a global village. The city may well be the most multicultural in the world. In fact, nearly half its 3.5 million people were born outside Canada. People by the thousands have made their way to Toronto from all over the world. And they continue to arrive — from Asia, from Europe, from Africa, from the Americas and the Antipodes — from every corner of the globe.

Toronto's largest population group still traces its origins to the British Isles, but it no longer forms the majority. Today, the city is home to more than 100 identifiable cultural and ethnic groups, and more than one-third of its citizens have a mother tongue other than Canada's two official languages, English and French. The city's predominant communities include Italians, Chinese, South Asians, Portuguese, Greeks and West Indians. The largest Italian community living outside Italy is in Toronto — some 300 000 strong. And the Chinese community is long established and is now the city's second-largest ethnic group.

Multilingual Media

Visitors from less culturally diverse nations are always astonished at the number of multilingual or foreign language newspapers and journals published in Toronto, and at the extent of the city's foreign language broadcasting.



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Since its humble beginnings in 1967, Caribana has evolved into a great annual celebration of Toronto's Island and Latin American communities.

Active for more than 80 years, ethnic newspapers flourish in Toronto. Today, there are 112 daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly ethnic-language publications produced in more than 35 languages. And many of these are large-scale national publications such as the Ukrainian publication, *Homin Ukrainy*, with a circulation of almost 13 000, or the Italian newspaper, *Corriere Illustrato*, which goes to more than 26 000 Canadians nationwide. *Zwiazkowiec*, published by the Polish Alliance, provides information to more

than 6 000 Polish Canadians twice-weekly, whereas *The Chinese Canadian Magazine* goes to more than 20 000 readers, 10 times yearly.

Toronto's ethnic broadcasting is also thriving. Any time of the day or night, Torontonians tune in to programs in Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Hindi, as well as many other languages transmitted by local radio and

Toronto's rich multicultural composition is reflected in the performing arts as well as in ethnic newspapers and magazines.

television stations. Two radio stations and three television channels in the city offer full-time multicultural programming. These broadcasts cover more than 30 languages on radio and 26 on television.

Multicultural Success Stories

In all facets of Toronto business life, whether it be high fashion (Alfred Sung, renowned designer), high finance (the Reichmann brothers, real estate and financial moguls), or high heels (Thomas Bata, world's largest shoe manufacturer), Torontonians who came to Canada as immigrants have gained international acclaim in the world of business.

The same is true in the arts. Artists with ethnic origins in all parts of the world now enrich the Canadian cultural scene. Czech-Canadian novelist Josef Skvorecky, Tarragon Theatre artistic director Urjo Kareda of Estonia, and British-born Andrew Davis, former conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, are but three fine examples of Toronto immigrants who are world-renowned for their contribution to the arts.

Education's Response to Cultural Diversity

Canada's education system has had to respond creatively to the cultural diversity of its peoples. Toronto, as well as many other Canadian cities, actively encourages this diversity with multicultural education programs and heritage language instruction. (Heritage languages are those other than English or French.)

Multicultural education programs are part of many Toronto schools' standard curriculum. Their main thrust is cultural awareness, with