



# *Representation, Heritage and Diversity*

## From Biculturalism to Multiculturalism in Canada

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## Diversity in Early Canada

- Between 200,000 and 500,000 Indigenous People in Canada at the time of European Settlement
- 1608: Foundation of Quebec
- 1867: Confederation (The Dominion of Canada)
- 1876: Indian Act

Samuel de Champlain Statue, Québec City. Source: [https://fr.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fichier:Monument\\_de\\_Samuel\\_de\\_Champlain\\_-\\_08.jpg](https://fr.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fichier:Monument_de_Samuel_de_Champlain_-_08.jpg), Creative Commons.

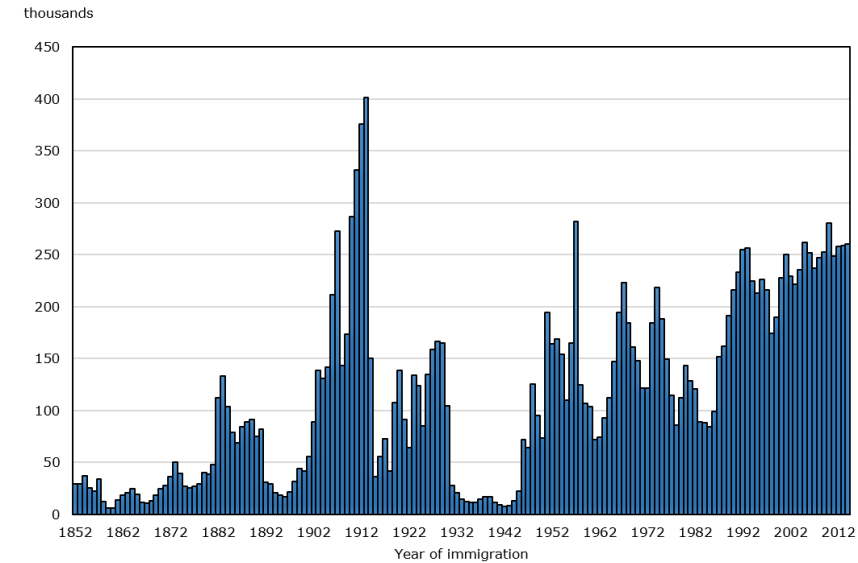
Political map of Canada, showing its 10 provinces and 3 territories. Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Map\\_Canada\\_political-geo.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Map_Canada_political-geo.png) Public Domain.

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- The Surge of Postwar Immigration
- The 1960s and the Quiet Revolution in Quebec
- Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism (1963-69)
- 1969: Official Languages Act

Chart1. “150 years of immigration in Canada”, Statistics Canada Website. Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-630-x/11-630-x2016006-eng.htm>  
“Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom”, Justice Law Website. Source: <https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/const/page-12.html>

**Chart 1**  
Number of immigrants who landed annually in Canada, 1852 to 2014



**Sources:** From 1852 to 1979—Employment and Immigration Canada, 1982. For 1980—Immigration Statistics, Immigration and Demographic Policy Group, Catalogue no. MP22-1/1980. From 1980 to 2014—Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

## Official Languages of Canada

### Official languages of Canada

**16 (1)** English and French are the official languages of Canada and have equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all institutions of the Parliament and government of Canada.

### Official languages of New Brunswick

**(2)** English and French are the official languages of New Brunswick and have equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all institutions of the legislature and government of New Brunswick.

### Advancement of status and use

**(3)** Nothing in this Charter limits the authority of Parliament or a legislature to advance the equality of status or use of English and French.

### English and French linguistic communities in New Brunswick

**16.1 (1)** The English linguistic community and the French linguistic community in New Brunswick have equality of status and equal rights and privileges, including the right to distinct educational institutions and such distinct cultural institutions as are necessary for the preservation and promotion of those communities.

### Role of the legislature and government of New Brunswick

**(2)** The role of the legislature and government of New Brunswick to preserve and promote the status, rights and privileges referred to in subsection (1) is affirmed.<sup>(b6)</sup>

### Proceedings of Parliament

**17 (1)** Everyone has the right to use English or French in any debates and other proceedings of Parliament.<sup>(b7)</sup>

### Proceedings of New Brunswick legislature

**(2)** Everyone has the right to use English or French in any debates and other proceedings of the legislature of New Brunswick.<sup>(b8)</sup>

### Parliamentary statutes and records

**18 (1)** The statutes, records and journals of Parliament shall be printed and published in English and French and both language versions are equally authoritative.<sup>(b9)</sup>

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➤ 1971: Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau gives a speech on Multiculturalism within a bilingual and bicultural framework

➤ 1988: Multiculturalism Act

“Canadian Multiculturalism Act”, Justice Law Website. Source: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-18.7/page-1.html>

“Loi sur le multiculturalisme canadien”, Site Web de la législation (Justice). Source: <https://lois-laws.justice.gc.ca/fra/lois/c-18.7/page-1.html>

## Multiculturalism Policy of Canada

### Multiculturalism policy

**3 (1)** It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Government of Canada to

- (a)** recognize and promote the understanding that multiculturalism reflects the cultural and racial diversity of Canadian society and acknowledges the freedom of all members of Canadian society to preserve, enhance and share their cultural heritage;
- (b)** recognize and promote the understanding that multiculturalism is a fundamental characteristic of the Canadian heritage and identity and that it provides an invaluable resource in the shaping of Canada’s future;
- (c)** promote the full and equitable participation of individuals and communities of all origins in the continuing evolution and shaping of all aspects of Canadian society and assist them in the elimination of any barrier to that participation;
- (d)** recognize the existence of communities whose members share a common origin and their historic contribution to Canadian society, and enhance their development;

## Politique canadienne du multiculturalisme

### Déclaration

**3 (1)** La politique du gouvernement fédéral en matière de multiculturalisme consiste :

- a)** à reconnaître le fait que le multiculturalisme reflète la diversité culturelle et raciale de la société canadienne et se traduit par la liberté, pour tous ses membres, de maintenir, de valoriser et de partager leur patrimoine culturel, ainsi qu’à sensibiliser la population à ce fait;
- b)** à reconnaître le fait que le multiculturalisme est une caractéristique fondamentale de l’identité et du patrimoine canadiens et constitue une ressource inestimable pour l’avenir du pays, ainsi qu’à sensibiliser la population à ce fait;
- c)** à promouvoir la participation entière et équitable des individus et des collectivités de toutes origines à l’évolution de la nation et au façonnement de tous les secteurs de la société, et à les aider à éliminer tout obstacle à une telle participation;
- d)** à reconnaître l’existence de collectivités dont les membres partagent la même origine et leur contribution à l’histoire du pays, et à favoriser leur développement;



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**The Limits of  
Multiculturalism?**

- Indigenous Peoples of  
Canada
- Quebec: Interculturalism  
and Reasonable  
Accommodation
- Celebrating and  
Criticizing  
Multiculturalism

NEEL  
BISSOONDATH

SELLING  
ILLUSIONS

The Cult of  
Multiculturalism  
in Canada

FTLV 15 mai 2024

WHAT

WE

DIONNE BRAND

ALL

a novel

LONG

FOR



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Photo of Justin Trudeau (Prime Minister) and his Cabinet.

Ottawa, Ontario – July 26, 2023

Source: <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/photos/2023/07/26/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-participates-swearing-ceremony-members-Canadian>. Photo by Adam Scotti (PMO)

