



The 5th Metropolis Identities Summit

**Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion:
Practices, Policies
and Programs**

Canadian Policies: Citizenship

Forward Looking Inclusion Policies Can Strengthen
The Merit Of Responsible Citizenship



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Agenda

- Canada as a role model
- Learning from our history
- Journey to reconciliation
- Embracing inclusive policies
- Our identity and values as Canadians
- DEI with the lens of justice



Canada as a role model

- Known for its tolerance – where people of different races, religions and creeds live together (of course there is always work to do to live in harmony and peace).
- First country in the world to adopt a multiculturalism policy in 1988.
- Known to be open and welcoming society – 405,000 immigrants chose Canada as their home in 2021.
- Known to be a champion of democratic rights and freedom at home and abroad.
- Known for its free education and health care systems.



Learning from our history

- Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- Unmarked graves of children at former residential school sites
- Canadians are ready to embrace reconciliation
- Equal access to all aspects of society and life in Canada (education, decent work, health care, affordable housing, clean water, etc.)
- All citizens including indigenous and non-indigenous; new citizens and established ones;
- All residents including foreign workers & international students



Journey To Reconciliation

- First Indigenous Person currently serving as the Governor General of Canada.
- Last month we marked the second National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- Citizenship Oath now recognizes First Nations, Inuit and Métis rights.
- At CFC, Dr. Marie Delorme, indigenous philanthropist, recipient of the Order of Canada and CFC advisory board member led the first citizenship reaffirmation oath (when it was revised in 2021).



Embracing inclusive policies

- Bilingualism & Multiculturalism
- Developing inclusive policies and legislation means involving those that are directly affected by them
- Indigenous voices need to be included in decisions that impact Indigenous peoples (acknowledge Indigenous knowledge systems)
- Immigrant voices need to be invited and understood
- Experiences from new and established citizens need to be included
- Be more inclusive with recruitment, education, and language



Our identity and values as Canadians

- We have a shared desire as Canadians to build a more inclusive country
- We want to all prosper as a society
- It starts with decent and respectful open dialogue
- We must create safe spaces to identify better ways of doing things
- Each of us have a part to play, to contribute, to participate and to shape our country and influence its policies.



Thank You!

