



"Never doubt for a moment that a small group of dedicated citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has"

Margaret Mead

Diversity in Action

Co-operative Housing
Federation of Canada

MAY 2001

Newcomers to Canada

Who are we?

We are people who are new to Canada and new to Canadian housing co-ops, bringing new ideas.

Have you ever dreamed of visiting a far off, or exotic place? Do you wish to hear tales from different countries? Look no further. We are here!

- ◆ our food will make your mouth water
- ◆ our music will please your ears
- ◆ our dances will fill your heart with joy
- ◆ our books and stories will change the way you see the world

You could travel just by getting to know us!

We love our cultures and sharing with you is an exciting thing for us. We are also eager to learn about Canada and its many different cultures. We may not know all your words and customs, but we are trying to learn. We need you to be patient.

We want to get to know you. We may be shy to start speaking to you – it's not always easy to say what we want in English or French. But if you talk to us, we'll talk to you.

You'll find that what we have to say is worth listening to.

What can you do?

Don't think that we are stupid because we don't say very much. Try to put yourself in our place. Think about how you would like others to treat you if you moved to a different country.

We want you to...

- ◆ remember that to Aboriginal peoples, most people in this country are newcomers
- ◆ appreciate the great contributions newcomers have made to Canada
- ◆ value the skills and knowledge we bring to Canada
- ◆ join your voices with ours – in unity lies strength
- ◆ respect our cultures, foods and customs and share them with us with an open mind
- ◆ add our customs and experiences to the ever changing Canadian identity.

We are interested in you as people, as friends, as neighbours, and as fellow members of co-ops.

We want to get to know you, and communicate with you. We are more alike than we are different.

Let's talk!

PLEASE POST

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights
Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)