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## **Canadian Diversity: Session 1**

### **The Nature and Implications of Our Diversity**

### **Demographics Do Not Equal Destiny**

**Date:** Tuesday, Oct/ 6, 2015  
**Place:** OISE (252 Bloor West) room to be confirmed  
(St. George Subway Station)  
**Time:** 7:00 - 9:15 p.m

Population growth in Canada and Ontario will be fuelled by immigration. Canada has one of the highest rates of immigration in the world. The pattern of immigration has shifted over time. Immigration introduces 40,000 to 50,000 new comers to Canadian public schools each year. The majority are non-English speaking and 90% will go to schools in Montreal, Toronto, or Vancouver. We have become one of the most diverse regions of the world.

These trends require us to:

- (1) see their students within the context of their community
- (2) identify the neighbourhood and community factors that impact well-being and educational outcomes
- (3) develop culturally responsive approaches to curriculum, teaching and assessment, and
- (4) develop policy on several levels – individually in schools and collectively in the community

After a brief history of Canadian demographic diversity by John, Paul will outline socio-demographic trends within the Canadian and Ontario context. With specific reference to the Region of Peel and the GTA. The educational and data collection implications of our growing diversity will also be discussed.

#### **Presenters**

Dr. Paul Favaro is the Chief of Research, Evaluation, and Accountability for the Peel District School Board. He is an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Education and Department of Administrative Studies at York University. He was a founding member of the Province of Ontario's Education Research Panel which promotes collaborative research relationships between school districts, universities, and practitioners.

Additionally, he has authored or co-authored articles, chapters, and technical reports, and has conducted professional training workshops in the areas of assessment, evaluation, performance measurement, organizational development, and research methodology. He is on the editorial board of *The Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*. Throughout his career, he has worked as a research consultant to a wide variety of government ministries, educational

organizations, charitable foundations, and community-based programs. In 2010, he was awarded a fellowship in the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES). He is a Credentialed Evaluator.



John Myers (OISE) has specialized in curriculum development in the areas of multiculturalism, immigration history and anti-racist education for many decades. In the past 5 years he has worked on three national projects related to these issues.

He began life as a high school social studies teacher in a Toronto inner-city school. Initially seconded to OISE for a six month period, he has stayed for an additional 20 years.



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