

Multiculturalism Day

Monday June 27, 2016

[AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY]

Good afternoon everyone. I'm very glad to be here as we celebrate Canadian Multiculturalism Day in Sault Ste. Marie.

Multiculturalism Day honors the many different racial, religious and cultural backgrounds of Canada. It's an appropriate occasion to commemorate in our City. Sault Ste. Marie has been known as a traditional gathering place for centuries. Now, in the present day, our diversity continues to grow. Our community is now a welcoming home for people who can trace their roots to all corners of the world.

Diversity and multiculturalism are among the greatest strengths of Canadian society. I encourage everyone here today to continue sharing your cultural traditions and your heritage. Because in doing so, you will help enrich and strengthen our community here in Sault Ste. Marie, and also in Canada as a whole.

On the behalf of the City of Sault Ste. Marie and our City Council, I'd like to thank the organizations that came together to organize our local celebration. These include our joint hosts, the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library and the Art Gallery of Algoma, as well as the Local Immigration Partnership of Sault Ste. Marie and area, the Sault Community Career Centre, and the New Beginnings Refugee Sponsorship Group.

I'd also like to thank all of our vendors, volunteers and performers for lending their time and talents today.

What a great way to kick-off summer by celebrating diversity and multiculturalism. Thank you again for inviting me to open the event and let me say that I hope everyone enjoys the festivities today.

Thank you.