

WHAT DOES BEING A CANADIAN CITIZEN MEAN TO YOU?

Canada, being a nation so diverse and rich in culture is unique because it preserves the traditions and values of its own people as well as those of others. To me, being a Canadian citizen is about responsibility. Canadians take pride in this. We are not deterred by the challenges of maintaining a multi cultural society; rather, we embrace them.

As a student living on the west coast, I had few opportunities to experience francophone culture, which plays an immense role in our country. Then, in grade six I was introduced to the late French immersion program. It allowed me not only to learn the language, but also to understand how valuable French culture is, even for those of us in British Columbia, half a continent away from Quebec. I know of no other country where I could gain such an appreciation for the diversity of the world.

Being Canadians, we have a responsibility to ourselves and to the international community. We are a wonderful example of how distinct, individual cultures can co-exist harmoniously. I love being Canadian. It gives me hope to change the world.

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