



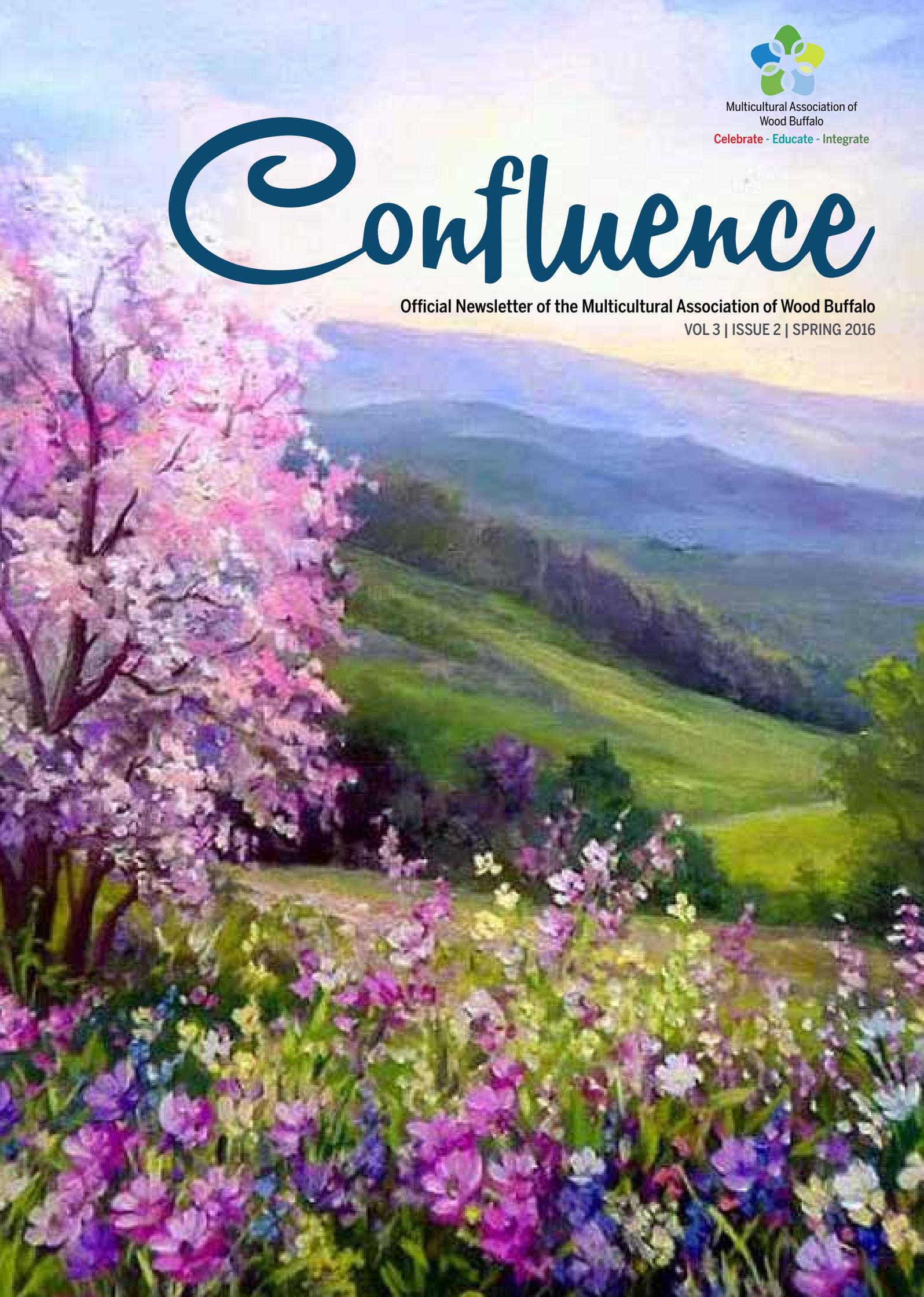
Multicultural Association of
Wood Buffalo

Celebrate - Educate - Integrate

Confluence

Official Newsletter of the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo

VOL 3 | ISSUE 2 | SPRING 2016



Wood Buffalo is the epitome of multiculturalism. Our cultural intersections shape shift and enrich us every day, whether recently arrived or have roots that go back several years, many generations. Though we may travel our own cultural corridors, there are an incredible number of points of intersection everyday in our city between people of entirely different cultural backgrounds.

How do these intersections influence us? What kind of patterns of behavior and lifestyle evolve as a result? How do we relate to one another and build our sustainable community enriched by each interaction?

You are invited to be part of Confluence by contributing a story, picture or poem about your everyday experience of multiculturalism on the streets, in workplaces or social events etc. in Wood Buffalo.



Email your contribution to Mary Thomas at executivedirector@multiculturefm.org or call us at 780 791 5186



Letter from the Chair FMCSB
Tracy McKinnon

Fort McMurray Catholic Schools has a long-standing tradition of working with our students, parents and the community to serve their needs and will continue to promote educational success, environmental stewardship, social justice, and economic sustainability, for the District itself while making a significant contribution to the well-being of our local community for future generations.

We are a very diverse community due to migration patterns of individuals moving to Fort McMurray blending ethnicities and cultural groups from all over the world. The multicultural nature of our community is one of this region's greatest treasures. Fort McMurray Catholic Schools provides a variety of educational programming, resources and community partnerships to meet the needs of our ever-increasing population of diverse learners. This is achieved by encompassing culturally responsive teaching that celebrates diversity and raises awareness based upon respect within our school communities. Fort McMurray Catholic Board of Education fosters positive self-regard of one's own cultural heritage and positive attitudes toward the cultures of others to develop a harmonious understanding and productive appreciation of our region's multicultural society. The learning experiences provided by our District prepare our children and youth for the demands of an increasingly connected global society.

We are proud to have partnered with the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo in many of their initiatives to promote cultural awareness and reduce racism in our region. Fort McMurray Catholic Board of Education believes that a healthy lifestyle is crucial to student growth, development and learning. The Multicultural Association Religious Diet Resource was developed in conjunction with our District, APPLE Schools and Alberta Health to deliver a practical tool in creating school environments/programs in accordance with the three pillars of a healthy lifestyle while promoting acceptance and awareness of our region's multicultural diversity. Within our schools the students participate annually in the Multicultural Association's Tackle Racism Competition and Award Ceremony which is aimed at empowering our young people take personal responsibility to challenge racism when they see it occurring around them.

On behalf of our Catholic Board of Education and the staff of all of our schools, we are honoured to be a part of your children's lives. Thank you for allowing us to do so.

Sincerely;
Tracy McKinnon
Fort McMurray Catholic School Board Chair

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Multicultural Association of
Wood Buffalo
Celebrate - Educate - Integrate

Executive Director: Mary Thomas
Program Manager: Jamie Desautels
Interpretation Unit Manager: Krystell O'Hara
Event and Volunteer Coordinator: Rodas Asres
Administrative Assistant: Eileen McSorley
Board of Directors: Sana Elache, Vikram Patani, Doug Nicholls, Joy Flett, Sara Florez, Kouame Adie, Paul McWilliams, Anand Mangad and Alexandra Tarasenco



Algeria To Canada – My Journey Meriem Bekkouche

Meriem Bekkouche hails from Ghardaïa the capital of Ghardaïa Province, in northern-central Algeria in the Sahara Desert and lies along the left bank of the Wadi Mzab. The M'zab valley in the Ghardaïa Province (Wilaya) was inscribed under the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1982, as a cultural property evaluated under the criteria II (for its settlement having an impact on urban planning even to the present century), III (for its Ibadi cultural values), and V (a settlement culture which has prevailed to the present century).

Ghardaïa is part of a pentapolis, a hilltop city amongst four others, built almost a thousand years ago in the M'Zab valley founded by the Mozabites, a

Muslim Ibadi sect of non-Arabic Muslims, including the Berbers. It is a major centre of date production and the manufacture of rugs and cloths. Divided into three walled sectors, it is a fortified town. At the centre is the historical M'zabite area, with a pyramid-style mosque and an arcaded square. Distinctive white, pink, and red houses, made of sand, clay and gypsum, rise in terraces and arcades.

Being one of 6 siblings, she was educated in Arabic and French and moved to Canada 10 years ago following her husband. Meriem is a mom of 4 school going kids and an active community volunteer supporting new Arabic speaking immigrants in integrating into the community.



Multicultural Stories

My earliest memory

As children, we were never given money for treats. If we wanted to get treats, we would have to earn it. I would collect photos from anywhere I could find them to sell in exchange for date seeds. Sometimes I would cut pictures out of my school books. If you would find a big picture you would be rich. In the morning I would open my front door to visitor and set out all my pictures. Friends would stop by and I would give them a price for the photo they liked. 25 seeds for one picture was common, they would go all around town and collect seeds and at the end of the day they would bring me the seeds and I would drop them off at a special store that would grind up the seed and use them for animal feed in exchange the store owner would give me money to buy my treats. This experience was so great for me, it kept me active and healthy, it taught me how to count and negotiate, it promoted a clean environment by cleaning up the seeds on the streets and kept us busy.

My Family

I always think if my mom had finished her studies, she could have been president. She was so smart and hard working. My parents got married young and dad went to school for 5 years and then to the army for 2 years. My mom basically raised us on her

own. Should worked hard, she would knit and make clothes. She was very creative our clothes were better than the store with ribbons and flowers. She had to she wanted to make sure we didn't look poor even though we couldn't afford clothes. She also took care of our grandparents.

My dad was a hard worker too, he started from scratch. He was an orphan growing up. When he got a temporary job we had to move away from our home with all our family. We were sleeping on the floor on cardboard and sheets in the beginning now my dad has a big house with maids and security guards

My greatest influence

My mother and father. Sometimes when I experience tough times here in Canada, I remember my mom. She never gave up, she always tried. That has taught me to be creative and resourceful.

A typical day in my childhood

I used to play a lot all the time. We played outside all the time. We lived with our extended family. We would wake up early and play all morning until my mother and aunt prepared breakfast. Once we were finished we would go back outside and play until prayer. After prayer we would have lunch and take a nap and then have tea until it cooled down outside then we would





Multicultural Stories

go back outside and play until it got dark. When we came back inside we would form a line with all the kids in the house grab our towel and pjs and shower before going up to the terrace to go to bed

My best teacher

My grade 1 teacher. He was an old man he probably taught my dad. He was really nice. He would never scream or discourage you. He always treated the children fairly. He would never hurt you not even with words. He made me love school. I was always the top of the class because I love it so much. Sometimes they would put my picture up with my mark because I got the 1st place. I was always so happy to finish my homework.

My ambition

I always wanted to be a pilot. I told my mom if I was a pilot I would take her to Mecca and take her everywhere in the world.

My pride

I am proud of my parents and my husband. They all fought hard to change their lives from nothing to everything

I always want people to remember me as someone that has helped them and supported them through tough times. I never turn my back on anyone. If someone asks for help I will help them.

I love challenges

I am stubborn, if I want to try something, I have to try it. Even if someone says not to do it. I want to gain my experience so I can know why things are good or bad.

With my last child my pregnancy was normal. When I delivered I was so excited to hold my daughter but they told me they had to rush her to Edmonton for an emergency. It was the hardest time of my life. They didn't know what was wrong. After four weeks, a lot of prayer and medical exams. The doctor told me I could go home. That was the happiest day of my life. My husband dropped everything and drove to Edmonton to pick me and our baby up and take us home.

Fort McMurray has changed a lot over the years

When I moved to timberlea in 2005, it was all trees and animals. There was a fire department and nothing else. Now it has changed. Everytime I leave on holidays and come back, there are new buildings. The mosque is very full all the time now. Before it would be busy on special days, now it is full everyday. There weren't a lot of facilities but now we have mac island. Before we used to have to drive to Edmonton to find halal meat. I love the change, I love Fort McMurray 🌸



“ I always think if my mom had finished her studies, she could have been president. She was so smart and hard working ”



Speech Patterns

Basic cultural themes that affect the workplace

Marie Gervais, PhD., CEO, Shift Management Inc.

Critical to understanding the role of culture in workplace communications is the idea that between different cultures the message received and the message intended is more likely to be misinterpreted. Because people with different cultural norms and expectations miss each other's social clues, there is more room for gaps in understanding. To correct for this possibility we have to pay attention to cultural clues and find ways to check that messages delivered were understood the way we intended them to be.

For example, there are expected speech and silence patterns in all communication. Canadians and Americans are generally uncomfortable with more than a second of silence in conversations. Italians and Latin Americans often interrupt or talk over each other, and in most Asian and many Aboriginal cultures, people leave longer silences to show respect for the speaker by pondering what was said. So before we can even consider the meaning of the words, the way it is said and the amount of silence between people speaking together can already offend people from different cultural backgrounds.

One party will think the other is too cold or too aggressive and the other party will judge their conversation partner disrespectful or rude. Each side truly believes that their culture's way of speaking is the most respectful and the other party "obviously" hasn't learned to communicate the "right way".

In a meeting context, people's speech behaviour can significantly affect their team's perception of them. A culture

where everyone speaks over everyone else will see those who do not as having nothing to offer to the group. In a culture where silence between comments is the norm, the group will perceive those who do not respect the silence to be aggressive and disrespectful. And in a mixed cultural setting there will be many judgmental thoughts between the group members interfering with their capacity to address the issue at hand.

Ways to come to a solution

The solution lies in carefully watching the group interactions as well as paying attention to individual contributions and how they are made over time. Once you can see a pattern, you can begin to adapt your speech and silence pattern slightly to match the group more closely. When you make a mistake or if you can't see the pattern at all, it is perfectly acceptable to explain to the group that you are used to a context where... (explain your speech pattern here) and see how they respond. Even if the others say nothing in response, they will be thinking about what you said and will start adjusting their expectations and behaviour just as you are trying to do.

Often when people start to notice the cultural speech patterns and they attempt to copy them, they go too far. For example when Asians try to be more Canadian in their workplace presentations, their Canadian audience sees them as aggressive. A new speech pattern or style takes practice in a variety of situations before it feels authentic and natural. Although it will at first feel like you are betraying your own cultural values, that you are being "fake"

“In a culture where silence between comments is the norm, the group will perceive those who do not respect the silence to be aggressive and disrespectful”



or that you are an imposter by practicing the local “jive”, it is a necessary part of reducing discomfort between cultures and increasing cultural “fit”. It helps to admit to your self that you feel uncomfortable. Keep practicing anyway, and ask others you trust from the host culture if they have any tips for you.

Finally you don’t want to become entirely like the host culture in your speech or any other fundamental style change, and nobody expects you to. Not only is it impossible and would likely be traumatic if you did, there is always a certain boundary between people who aren’t “from here” and those who are that it makes sense to respect. We aren’t trying to become clones of each other. Dominant culture also learns from and may imitate minority culture behaviours over time, sometimes in surprising ways. One example is that East Indian cuisine has become so popular in England that in the last international East Indian chef cook-offs, all the winners were from England! Cultural imitation can also go terribly wrong however. An example would be taking the religious symbol or national symbol from a religion or country you know nothing about and making it into a t-shirt, or wearing First Nations headdresses to a rock concert. The problem with these cultural appropriations is that they show no understanding or respect for the culture from which the idea came. Cultural knowledge, symbols and patterns have to be learned carefully and treated with respect.

One cultural attitude I have adopted



from my 30+ years of exposure to Iranian culture is an appreciation for formality, elegance and decorum. I have learned greetings, salutations, and careful use of titles that I did not grow up with in Canada. I now prefer a more formalized way of greetings, protocols, and find most of the courtesy behaviours of Iranians both lovely and generally natural for me to do and say. What I still have trouble with is remembering to greet everyone in a room when I come in to an existing group, mainly because I’m not sure if this is expected of me as an “outsider”. Individuals vary in their capacity to learn and correctly apply new cultural behaviours, and being capable of cultural competency in one situation does not guarantee competency in another. But no matter what your capacity to adapt, you can always improve communication by watching and listening to the speech patterns of whatever group you find yourself working with. 🌱

About the author:

Marie Gervais, PhD, CEO, Shift Management has a background in integration of internationally trained individuals to the workplace and has supported many businesses in their efforts to hire, retain, support and promote immigrant and diverse employees.

Marie Gervais, PhD, CEO, Shift Management

<http://shiftworkplace.com>

Contact Marie at

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“ The problem with these cultural appropriations is that they show no understanding or respect for the culture from which the idea can”



Chinese New Year Sharon (Xiaoqing) Wang

Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, is a time for family reunion. It is the most important holiday of the year. Having stayed in Canada for more than 6 years, for studying and other reasons, I have never had the chance for a reunion with my family in China during Chinese New Year since 2009. This is the second year after I graduated and the first year after my husband and I got married. Luckily, this year, both of us had the time to go back to China for the Chinese New Year. We cherish this opportunity so much.

Most of my friends asked me how the Chinese New Year is different from the January 1st New Year. Well, the Chinese New Year is celebrated according to the lunar calendar as opposed to the solar calendar. The Chinese New Year traditionally begins on the first day of the first month of the lunar calendar and ends on the 15th. This day is called the

Lantern Festival. Well, different regions have different culture. In my husband's hometown, Hubei province, the festival is celebrated for a whole month.

This was the first time for me and my husband to stay with family for the Chinese New Year. According to the culture in my hometown in Hebei province, north of China, that married girls should not stay at their own parents' home on New Year's Eve. So we stayed at my husband's place to celebrate

New Year. My husband's hometown is in Hubei province, south of China. The culture in South China seems more flexible than in the North, where I hail from.

There was only four days left before Chinese New Year when we arrived home. The house has been cleaned by our parents.

Cleaning houses is the first thing to prepare for the New Year. During the four days, we bought some goods for the New Year visited some of our friends and relatives. This is a common tradition



Figure 1 "Fu" Character

“During the four days, we bought some goods for the new year and visited some of our friends and relatives.”



Figure 2 New Year Couplets



Figure 3 Lighting firecrackers



Travel to My Country

across China.

In Hubei province, the Chinese New Year is celebrated from New Year's Eve while in my province, Hebei, New Year is celebrated from midnight setting off the New Year with a grand array of firecrackers in the sky and the loud noise. In the south, most of the firecrackers are lighted the entire day of New Year's Eve while in north most of the firecrackers are lighted at or after midnight.

"Fu" Character

There are common traditions in north and south of China to celebrate New Year. We paste a large red Chinese character "Fu" (Figure 1) on the door. The red "Fu" means good luck and fortune. It is a tradition to post "Fu" on doors or walls on auspicious occasions such as wedding and festivals. Figure 1 shows a paper-cut "Fu" character.

Couplets

On New Year's Eve, another house decoration is to post couplets on doors (Figure 2). On the New Year Couplets, good wishes are expressed. New Year Couplets are usually posted in pairs as even numbers are associated with good luck and auspiciousness in Chinese culture. It is believed that the couplets scare away evil things.

Lighting firecrackers

Lighting firecrackers (Figure 3) is one of the most important customs of the Spring Festival celebration. When I was young, I used to stand beside the window of my house to watch the firecrackers. It could not be a New Year without the big sound. However, nowadays, concerning the danger and the negative noises that lighting firecrackers may bring, the government has banned this practice in many major cities. Luckily, my hometown and my husband's hometown are both in the rural area so we still hold onto this traditional celebration. Right as the clock strikes 12 midnight of New Year's Eve, the sky lights up with the glitter from fireworks, and the sound can be deafening. Families stay up for this joyful moment and kids with firecrackers in one hand and a lighter in another cheerfully light up their happiness on this special occasion, even as they plug their ears.

Reunion dinner

Spring Festival is a time for family reunion. Family members stay together for a reunion dinner (Figure 4). During dinner, people eat many different traditional dishes that have special meanings. For example, fish is a traditional dish at reunion dinner. As the Chinese phrase goes, "May there be surplus every year" sounds the same as "May there be lots of fish every year." In my hometown, it is customary



Figure 4 Reunion dinner



Figure 5 Birthday celebration



Figure 6 Big Uncle's family picture
10 years ago

to eat “niangao” (New Year cake made of glutinous rice flour) because as a homophone, niangao means “higher and higher every year”. The difference between north and south is stark. In the north, a traditional New Year dish is “jiaozi” or dumplings shaped like a crescent moon while in the south, people eat different dishes with rice and it’s optional to eat “jiaozi”.

Our big uncle’s birthday is on the New Year’s Eve. After the reunion dinner, we gave him a big surprise. He didn’t expect the huge birthday cake we got him (Figure 5). We wished our family members long life and happiness.

More responsibilities come to us as we grow up and our parents grow older. All we can do is cherish the current life and work hard to benefit our family and our society. Below is a picture of our big uncle’s family 10 years ago (Figure 6) and the family’s picture during 2016 Chinese New Year (Figure 7). The oldest daughter got married and had a baby and the small family has become a large family. How time flies! But one thing remains the same: We still love each other and our family keeps growing bigger and more prosperous with time.

Shousui (Stay up all night)

Shousui means to stay up late or all night on New Year’s Eve. After the great dinner, families sit together, play Majiang and Huapai and chat loudly in anticipation for the New Year’s arrival. At the same time, it is a tradition to watch

the live the Chinese New Year Gala show on national TV.

New Year greetings (Bai nian)

On the first day of the New Year, everybody wears new clothes and greets families, relatives and friends, wishing each other good luck, happiness during the New Year. Some relatives live far away and it is impossible to visit everyone during the first day, so we visit them within the first month of the New Year. People often say: “Wishing you prosperity and wealth”, which means good luck and financial fortune.

Red envelope

Another tradition is to give some money to the next generation in the family in red envelopes. This is done to reflect good luck and hope. Being our first New Year after marriage, we gave red envelopes to our nephews and nieces.

There are some other customs I have seen in my husband’s hometown that I have never seen in my own, for example, Huapai (similar to paper majiang), lion jumping, visiting our deceased family member’s graves.

The weather is great during New Years’ and farm work is not done at this time. Adults sit together to play Majiang or Huapai or chat with each other while the kids are playing in the farmlands in front of houses (Figure 8 and Figure 9). I like the temperature in Hubei as it really feels like spring already. 🌸

“2016 is the year of Monkey. May you all welcome happiness with the spring and wish you prosperity and wealth!”



Figure 7 Big Uncle’s family picture during 2016 Chinese New Year



Figure 8 Playing majiang and chatting



Figure 9 Kids playing in front of the house



A message of Health



There's No Time Like the Present

Tammy O'Quinn Reid, Mental Health Promotion

When exactly is the right time to ask a person if they are having thoughts about suicide? Is it when you feel comfortable? Is it after you have been talking for a few hours? Or after you speak to the parents of a youth first? Or do you just outright and ask? Well, there's no time like the present. If your intuition or your gut feeling is telling you something is not right and you feel suicide might be of concern for a person in your presence, then just ask. Asking may never feel comfortable for you; however it may bring tremendous comfort to a person struggling with thoughts of death and despair.

Often times, people who are having thoughts of suicide are having those thoughts in silence and are feeling too ashamed to tell anyone. If you feel suicide may be an option in a person's thoughts, then the most appropriate thing to do is to just ask, and ask now. It may feel dreadfully uncomfortable for you but by putting yourself in brief discomfort, you may save a person's life.

So how do you ask the question? How do you potentially save a life from a very preventable death? How do you know what to say and do? These can be some questions you are thinking and they are very understandable. We are talking about death and dying. For most people, this is not an easy topic to bring up in

any case. But because we know suicide is preventable, then we should ask: "Are you having thoughts of suicide? Are you thinking about killing yourself? Can we talk about suicide?"

The importance in asking these difficult questions can be lifesaving. It tells a person you care. You are there to help. You value their life. They are not alone. If a person is not having thoughts of suicide and you ask the question, then it also tells them the



exact same. You care! Once you've asked the question, you can work together to continue the conversation about how to seek help.

Here are training opportunities available to learn how to provide first aid to someone who is at risk of suicide. Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) are courses that will provide you with additional skills to assist someone with mental health problems such as depression, bipolar, substance use/abuse, anxiety and psychosis. 

“Often times, people who are having thoughts of suicide are having those thoughts in silence and are feeling too ashamed to tell anyone.”

For more information about this and other health related topics, visit ahs.ca or suicideinfo.ca. Further assistance is available, 24/7 by calling Health Link at 811

My favourite Cultural Dish



Eileen McSorley loves
Oven Fried Pork Carnitas with
Mexican Guacamole and Orange Salsa

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup tamarind concentrate
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
- 2 1/2 cups vegetable oil, plus more for brushing
- 2 1/2 pounds boneless pork shoulder, cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 medium white onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 1 Hass avocado, pitted and peeled
- 3 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 2 navel oranges
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup coarsely chopped cilantro
- 1/2 habanero chili, seeded and finely chopped
- 1 cup fresh ricotta cheese
- 1 small plum tomato, chopped
- 1 jalapeño or serrano chili, seeded and finely chopped
- 12 flour tortillas or corn tortillas





Oven Fried Pork Carnitas with Guacamole and Orange Salsa

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, mix the tamarind concentrate with the honey, sherry vinegar and 1/4 cup of the oil. Add the pork, season with salt and pepper and stir to coat. Let marinate at room temperature for 1 hour. Drain the pork and pat dry.
2. Preheat the oven to 375°. In a large enameled cast-iron casserole, heat 2 tablespoons of the oil. Add half of the pork and cook over moderately high heat, turning occasionally, until browned all over, about 6 minutes. Transfer the pork to an 8-by-11-inch baking dish. Repeat with 2 more tablespoons of oil and the remaining meat. Add two-thirds of the chopped white onion and 2 cups of oil to the baking dish. Cover with foil and bake for about 2 hours, or until the meat is very tender.
3. Meanwhile, wrap the garlic cloves in foil and bake for 1 hour, or until softened. Let cool slightly, then peel the cloves. In a small bowl, mash the avocado with the garlic. Stir in 1 tablespoon of the lime juice and season with salt and pepper.
4. Using a sharp knife, peel the oranges, removing all the bitter white pith. Working over a bowl, cut in between the membranes to release the segments. Squeeze the orange membranes to extract the juice. Stir in the red onion, cilantro and habanero and the 2 remaining tablespoons of fresh lime juice.
5. In a medium bowl, combine the cheese with the tomato, jalapeño and the remaining one-third of the chopped white onion. Season with salt and pepper.
6. Brush the tortillas lightly with oil, then stack and wrap them in foil. Heat the tortillas in the oven until warm. Drain the pork on paper towels. Serve the carnitas, encouraging guests to fill the tortillas with the ricotta, meat and guacamole. Serve the orange salsa on the side. 

Literally Speaking

The Struggle



To tackle hate

An endless debate



What is to be done

The preachers talk of peace



Yet did not brother Malcolm say it best

By any means necessary



To walk the path of peace

One must carry a sword in one hand



And a pen in the other



One must leave the heart open to love



But one's hands must be ready to fight

When racism rears its head

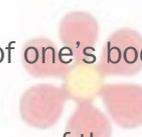
How quickly do instrument of play



Become tools of defence

However in the struggle of resistance

The protection of one's body



Is not worth the loss of the soul.



Mustafa Ashar
Grade 11
Westwood High School



Friends across borders

Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo has a staff team who is always ready to help; not only in English but in a variety of languages to which we are adding every day!

Jamie Desautels from Medicine Hat Alberta has a French Canadian background and has worked on social welfare projects in Tanzania.

Eileen McSorley from Vancouver BC has made Alberta her home and is learning a lot about culture from her multicultural colleagues.

Mary Thomas from Mumbai India relocated to Fort McMurray 7 years ago and loves her team and the aha moments she derives at work every day!

Krystell O' Hara from Bogota Columbia brings interesting perspectives of her background and dance to the group.

Rodas Asres moved from Addis Ababa in Ethiopia to Ontario to complete her Engineering degree at McMaster University and then joined the eclectic team at the Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo!



MCA staff teambuilding: Jamie, Eileen, Mary, Krystell and Rodas get-together for lunch and a saree day at home



Activities

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



1. Tackle Racism Competition Awards Ceremony and Art Exhibition
2. Acting Principal, Shabana Rahman and Acting Vice Principal, Uzma Jeelani
3. Mayor Melissa Black at the Awards Ceremony
4. Official cake for the winners at the Tackle Racism Competition Awards Ceremony and Art Exhibition
5. Performers from Brady Dance Academy
6. Winners for the Tackle Racism Competition

Multicultural EXPO



1. Divine Group of India
2. Lebanese Booth
3. Balloon Moose Studio with Balloon Sculptures
4. Colombia Booth
5. The Canadian True Power / Syrian Booth
6. Philippines Booth
7. Thailand Booth with Consul-General of Thailand to Vancouver, Ms. Sutthiluck Sa-ngarmangkang

UPCOMING EVENTS

Art Beyond Belief
May 6, 4.00pm Deadline for Submissions

NIN Welcome Centre Launch
May 12 Wood Buffalo Regional Library

Peruvian Cookery
May 28, 10.00 – 1.00 Ecole McTavish
School Food Lab

Canada Day Pancake Breakfast
July 1, 8.30 -11.00 Curling Rink
MacDonald Island Park



Please register on
www.multiculturefm.org/programs



www.facebook.com/MulticulturalAssociationOfWoodBuffalo



www.twitter.com/MCA4WB

Creative Design by:
Amar Deshmukh

