



*Uniformity is neither desirable nor possible in a country the size of Canada. We should not even be able to agree upon the kind of Canadian to choose as a model, let alone persuade most people to emulate it. There are few policies potentially more disastrous for Canada than to tell all Canadians that they must be alike. There is no such thing as a model or ideal Canadian.*

*What could be more absurd than the concept of an "all-Canadian" boy or girl? A society which emphasizes uniformity is one which creates intolerance and hate. A society which eulogizes the average citizen is one which breeds mediocrity. What the world should be seeking, and what in Canada we must continue to cherish, are not concepts of uniformity but human values: compassion, love, and understanding.*

- Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Remarks at the Ukrainian-Canadian Congress, October 9, 1971, as cited in *The Essential Trudeau*, ed. Ron Graham.

Photograph: <<http://www.primeministers.ca/trudeau/quickfacts.php>>

