

Introduction to the Manitoba Multiculturalism Act, passed by the Manitoba Legislative Assembly on June 24, 1992:

*WHEREAS Manitoba has been a multicultural society from the time of its original population, the Aboriginal peoples;*

*AND WHEREAS the diversity of Manitobans as regards culture, religion and racial background is a fundamental characteristic of Manitoban society which benefits all Manitobans economically, socially and culturally;*

*AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba recognizes the importance of encouraging the use of languages that contribute to the multicultural heritage of Manitoba;*

*AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba is committed to the promotion of racial harmony;*

*AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba believes that Manitoba's multicultural society is not a collection of many separate societies, divided by language and culture, but is a single society united by shared laws, values, aspirations and responsibilities within which persons of various backgrounds have:*

- the freedom and opportunity to express and foster their cultural heritage;*
- the freedom and opportunity to participate in the broader life of society; and the responsibility to abide by and contribute to the laws and aspirations that unite society ...*