

## EURO-CANADIAN CULTURAL TIPS

### VALUES

- Euro-Canadians value freedom and independent thought.
- Many do not appreciate being told what they can or cannot do.
- They value personal space. i.e., homes, queues, and public settings.
- They don't respond well to direct correction.
- They value generosity and will give both their time and money for causes they value.
- They will respond negatively to those who threaten (or even inconvenience) their person, security, or property.
- They appreciate efforts made to learn about their geography and unique culture as a country.
- Many are over-apologetic; i.e., saying "sorry" as a normative practice.
- Family is very important to Euro-Canadians; however, this may not be expressed via intergenerational households as with some other cultures.

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### NATIONAL PRIDE

- Many think Canada is the greatest country in the world, and are convinced that their province/region is the greatest in Canada.
- A common hobby of Canadians is to point out how they are not American.

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### SPORTS/ RECREATION/ FOOD

- They have a passion for their hockey teams.
- They enjoy outdoor sports, camping, hiking, and boating or swimming at the lake or the beach.
- They value vacations, and many aspire to spend at least part of each winter in a warm climate.
- They value exercise and nutrition but enjoy fast food.

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### CONNECTING WITH NEWCOMERS

- They will treat with kindness and generosity those who need help.
- They accept new Canadians who at least try to learn English (or, in Quebec, French), but will look with suspicion on those who avoid contact with the dominant culture.
- They enjoy many kinds of food, but many will be slow to try something they've not eaten before.
- Smiles and politeness may or may not be a sign that they agree with you or even respect you.
- If they say something to you, they really mean it.
- Trust comes through friendship. Friendships grow by spending time together in enjoyable activities.
- Hospitality from Euro-Canadians might first be experienced by being welcomed into their backyard or at a coffee shop or a restaurant before being invited into their homes.