

Foundation of Administrative Justice  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Workshops and Descriptors  
April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Concurrent session: Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 9:30 am**

**2. Cultural Diversity: How Do Tribunals Respond?**

Speakers: TBA

Canada is a multicultural society whose racial and ethnic diversity is expressed in different ways. Multiculturalism in Canada respects the presence of diverse racial and ethnic groups who define themselves as unique and who wish to remain so.

To create or ensure access to fair processes, tribunals need to be culturally competent. Cultural competency includes reflecting cultural diversity in the board composition and in the processes used by the tribunal. Culturally competent processes reflect behaviours, attitudes, and policies that work effectively in cross-cultural situations. Tribunals can open their doors to justice by attending to social, cultural, religious and linguistic differences and by creating diversity-friendly environments. This session will provide tribunals with an understanding of cultural diversity and tips to incorporate it into administrative justice environments.