

CONFERENCE

9:00–17:30, Monday 2 November 2015

Canada House

Trafalgar Square

London SW1Y 5BJ

DIVERSE OR DIVIDED?

SOCIAL RELATIONS IN 21ST CENTURY
BRITAIN AND CANADA

PROGRAMME

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Over the past few decades, Britain and Canada have experienced unprecedented demographic change. Canada is one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the developed world, while the UK is on course to reach similar levels of diversity in the coming decades. The aim of this conference is to further our understanding of how these shifts are shaping our societies – from their impact on lived experiences to their shaping of the political landscape. We will also explore the role that policy should play in adapting to growing diversity. Does celebrating difference risk fostering segregation? Has society become too tolerant of intolerance? And should the state play a greater role in promoting more interaction between communities?

ABOUT OUR RESEARCH

Our newly published report, *Trajectory and transience: Understanding and addressing the pressures of migration on communities*, presents original research conducted in areas of the UK that have high rates of migration, examining how diversity and migration are ‘normalised’ over time, and how recent trends are driving greater transience in migration and thereby placing new strains on communities. It proposes a series of measures aimed at central government, local authorities and other important non-state bodies (particularly universities) to alleviate local pressures caused by migration and ethnic diversity and to reduce transience.

A second accompanying report, *Trajectory and transience: The role of cities and universities in managing diversity*, revisits these findings by exploring two areas of interest and experience. Firstly, it takes a cities perspective on migration and inclusion, building on work developed under the European Open Cities programme. Secondly, it looks at the potential for higher education institutions to strengthen cohesion and integration locally, citing the example of Coventry University’s ‘City Initiative’. Given the challenges that all levels of government face in terms of resources, credibility and scope, importance is placed on the value of drawing in stakeholders, including higher education and business, which have often been peripheral to these critical debates.

Read more at www.ippr.org/publications/trajectory-and-transience-understanding-and-addressing-the-pressures-of-migration-on-communities



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

William Frey

William Frey is Research Professor at the Population Studies Center, University of Michigan and Senior Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Program, at the Brookings Institution. He is an internationally regarded demographer, known for his research on urban populations, migration, immigration, race, aging, political demographics and his expertise on the US census. He has authored over 200 publications and several books, most recently *Diversity Explosion: How New Racial Demographics are Remaking America* (Brookings 2014).

Monte Solberg

Monte Solberg PC is a former Canadian member of parliament, representing the riding of Medicine Hat in the Canadian house of commons as a member of the Conservative Party of Canada from 1993 to 2008. He was the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (2006–2007) and later served as the Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. Solberg is now a principal at New West Public Affairs, a Canadian national public affairs firm.

Richard Sennett

Richard Sennett is the Centennial Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics, and University Professor of the Humanities at New York University. His research explores how individuals and groups make social and cultural sense of material facts – about the cities in which they live and about the labour they do. He focusses on how people can become competent interpreters of their own experiences, despite the obstacles society may put in their way. His major publications include *The Culture of the New Capitalism* (2006), *The Craftsman* (2008) and *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures and Politics of Cooperation* (2012).



About IPPR

IPPR, the Institute for Public Policy Research, is the UK's leading progressive thinktank. It is an independent charitable organisation with more than 40 staff members, paid interns and visiting fellows. Its main office is in London, with IPPR North, IPPR's dedicated thinktank for the north of England, operating out of offices in Manchester and Newcastle.

The purpose of IPPR's work is to conduct and publish the results of research into, and promote public education in, the economic, social and political sciences, and in science and technology, including the effect of moral, social, political and scientific factors on public policy and on the living standards of all sections of the community.

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About the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations

The Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR) at Coventry University undertakes innovative, impactful, world-class research that enables dialogue and builds trust in order to foster peaceful relations and strengthen human security. It is committed to valuing diversity, collaboration, constructive dialogue and support between its members and partners, and strives to respond to the complex challenges facing contemporary societies, with research underpinned by integrity, courage and excellence. Its expert team of ambitious researchers creates partnerships and opportunities for research that have positive impacts on the groups and institutions they engage with. CTPSR's research crosses disciplinary boundaries, drawing on a range of knowledge, skills, interconnections and methods in order to better understand issues and contexts.

**info.ctpsr@coventry.ac.uk \ +44 (0)24 7765 1182 **
[@CTPSR_Coventry](https://www.facebook.com/CTPSR)

About Canada House

The revitalised Canada House on Trafalgar Square, home to the Canadian High Commission, has drawn upon the diverse talents of Canadian artisans and craftspeople from coast to coast to coast in order to deliver a building that celebrates the very best of Canada in the 21st century. Throughout the newly renovated building – which links the Grade II listed heritage side of the original Canada House on Trafalgar Square with an adjacent building on Cockspur Street – Canadian materials, art and design are celebrated. The building re-opened for business in January 2015.

\ UnitedKingdom.gc.ca

About the Canada-UK Foundation

The Canada-UK Foundation was established in 1975 to encourage and promote education concerning Canada in the UK. That means supporting the study of Canada, in all its forms, and showcasing Canadian talent and uniqueness on the world stage. These goals are achieved through the provision of grants, travel awards and scholarships throughout the UK. \ **www.canadaukfoundation.org**



PROGRAMME

Location: Sir William Lyon
Mackenzie King Room
(unless stated otherwise)

9:00–9:15 Registration

9:15–9:45 \ Introductions

Professor Mike Hardy,
Coventry University

Nick Pearce, IPPR

Scott Proudfoot, Minister-
Counsellor at the Canadian
High Commission

9:45–10:15 \ Keynote speech

Setting the scene: the inevitability of diversity

Professor William Frey, Brookings

10:15–11:30 \ Opening panel

Reaping the benefits of diversity

Professor Heaven Crawley,
Coventry University (chair)

Phoebe Griffith, IPPR

Ratna Omidvar, Global
Diversity Exchange

11:30–12:45 \ Second panel

Can social cohesion be imposed?

Professor Harris Beider,
Coventry University (chair)

Dr Julian Baggini, philosopher

Kenan Malik, writer

Marina Jimenez, Toronto Star

Dr Catherine Fieschi, Counterpoint

12:45–13:45 \ Lunch (main lobby)

13:45–14:45 \ Keynote speech

Can Britain learn from Canada?

Monte Solberg, former Minister
of Immigration and Citizenship
Canada

With respondents:

Fiona Colegrave, Canada-UK
Foundation (Chair)

Stella Creasy MP

Nihal Arthanayake, BBC



14:45–15:30 \

Breakout policy sessions

Managing diversity and supporting social cohesion – the role of...

...cities?

Facilitator: Dr Julia Halej

Location: Sir John A. Macdonald Room

...universities?

Facilitator: Aurelie Broeckerhoff

Location: Sir Robert Borden Room

...central government?

Facilitator: Marley Morris

Location: William Lyon Mackenzie King Room

15:30–16:00 \ **Coffee break**
(main lobby)

16:00–17:00 \ **Third panel**

What is the role of conservatives in championing diversity?

Mary Riddell, *Telegraph* (chair)

Suella Fernandes MP

Stephen Bush, *New Statesman*

Tim Stanley, *Telegraph*

Ryan Shorthouse, Bright Blue

17:00–17:30 \ **Closing speech**

Professor Richard Sennett, Centennial Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics

CONFERENCE PRODUCED BY



Canada House
La Maison du Canada

