

EVALUATION ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL FORUMS		TOTAL	Ottawa Forum	Québec Forum	Halifax Forum	Edmonton Forum
<i>number of evaluation forms submitted</i>		65	11	13	17	24
The Forum provided a safe space for speaking out about racism [Q: Do you feel that this Forum provided a space for speaking out about racism? Did you feel comfortable expressing your point of view during this Forum?]		54 (83%)	10 (91%)	11 (85%)	15 (88%)	18 (75%)
The Forum contributed to my knowledge of racism issues in Canada [Q: Did this Forum contribute to your knowledge of racism issues in Canada?]		50 (77%)	8 (73%)	7 (54%)	14 (82%)	21 (88%)
The participant group came up with timely, appropriate, and effective strategies/tools for anti-racism education [Q: Do you feel that the group came up with timely, appropriate, and effective strategies/tools for anti-racism education?]		56 (86%)	9 (82%)	12 (92%)	15 (88%)	20 (83%)
Participation in the Forum motivated and better prepared me to engage in anti-racism education [Q: Did participation in the Forum motivate and better prepare you to engage in anti-racism education?]		55 (85%)	9 (82%)	11 (85%)	16 (94%)	19 (79%)
My favourite part of the Forum was: [Q: What your favourite part of the Forum?]	the talking circle		4	3	3	1
	meeting people and discussions throughout the weekend		2	3	6	14
	the interactive activities and anti-racism group work		5	4	3	6
	creating our own tools		2	3	3	2
	the guest speakers		2	1	-	-
If this Forum were to run again, I recommend the following changes: [Q: What would you change about this Forum if you could? What was your least favourite part of the Forum?]	broader promotion and recruitment		1	-	-	-
	make the Forum longer, and shorten the daily schedule		5	5	6	9
	stronger intervention by facilitators in moderating discussion		2	1	2	1
	more interactive activities and games		2	1	-	2
	different guest speakers		2	-	-	6
	less participants so as to have a smaller group		-	-	-	3
	more casual conference setting		1	2	-	2

Qualitative statements and recommendations (regional forums)

Bracketed letters following each statement or recommendation indicate which regional forum the participant attended:

O = Ottawa
Q = Québec
H = Halifax
E = Edmonton

Nommez une chose importante que vous avez apprise pendant la fin de semaine. / What is one of the most important things you learned this weekend?

- 👉 “That people really have to ask themselves what they mean by racism. Sometimes, it seems that the issue can be confused.” (O)
- 👉 “I learned that there are a lot of people in Ontario that feel the same way I do, that racism exists and we have to beat it. I felt that I know the top layer of what racism was. This forum provided in-depth information about racism. I also learned valuable facts and research to take back to my city.” (O)
- 👉 “Perception – seeing things through other people’s eyes.” (O)
- 👉 “Everyone has a different personal history and is coming from a different place in life. It’s really important to respect our differences in order to begin understanding racism issues and to start devising solutions. I was also surprised to realize that youth can have much more of an impact on society than I had previously thought.” (O)
- 👉 “That experiences with racism differ according to who is speaking about them, but that no one’s experience is more valid than the other’s.” (O)
- 👉 “That I was way more ignorant than I thought, and more importantly I was reminded that everyone has a story or something to share that can teach you, regardless of age. That so many people care.” (O)
- 👉 “I learned that we as young Canadians have more in common with one another than we could ever imagine. This weekend brought that into perspective for me.” (O)
- 👉 “Que le racismisme est très présent au Canada. Le pays qui est reconnu comme le meilleur pays.” (Q)
- 👉 “J’ai réalisé que les ressources éducatives qui existent présentement ont plusieurs lacunes et qu’il est difficile de s’entendre sur certaines choses, mais je me suis aussi rendu compte qu’il y a beaucoup de travail qui est fait par des groupes comme le BCJ ou l’ACNU.” (Q)
- 👉 “Hypocrisy is very common (at times) in the justice field... I met people who were very uncomfortable with homosexuality but against racism. I see both sides and now refuse to do the same. I will be open.” (Q)
- 👉 “Que l’organisation entre les groupes de jeunes, à l’échelle Nationale, est possible.” (Q)
- 👉 “I learned that youth can accomplish a lot.” (H)
- 👉 “Youth have the power to change the world.” (H)
- 👉 “That so many people, who may not be of minority race, have such strong opinions and are so passionate about racism even though they may not be discriminated against.” (E)

Estimez-vous que le Forum a fourni une véritable tribune sur le racisme? Avez-vous été à l’aise d’exprimer votre point de vue? Sinon, pourquoi? / Do you feel that this Forum provided a space for speaking out about racism? Did you feel comfortable expressing your point of view during this Forum? If not, please outline the reasons why.

- 👉 “I think something that might have allowed the quieter people to have some say too might have been to have people write thoughts down that they wanted to bring up and then review them at some point, or maybe just one big one that people bring down to breakfast on the Sunday, and you guys (mediators) address to everyone as a way to get discussion going.” (O)
- 👉 “I don’t think that we all expressed our view of racism. We should have had the chance to tell others what (in-depth) we went through.” (O)
- 👉 “L’idée du baton était une excellente idée pour garder le silence.” (Q)
- 👉 “I felt very comfortable and thought I had lots of freedom of speech. This was a place for once I felt okay without the pressures of my colour.” (H)

Le Forum vous a-t-il permis de mieux comprendre le phénomène du racisme au Canada? Quels sont les autres aspects que vous auriez aimé voir traiter? / Did this Forum contribute to your knowledge of racism issues in Canada? What else would you have liked to see covered?

- 👏 “I think there should have been a workshop specifically focused on how racism plays out in high schools and universities. This would have helped us begin to focus our energies on confronting specifically the circumstances we are living in.” (O)
- 👏 “I felt that the speakers were only talking about racism in “black” people and I wanted a little more variety. I also would have liked to have heard other people’s stories in our group – for example, another talking circle.” (O)
- 👏 “I would like to see more practical solutions – activities we could bring back to our region.” (O)
- 👏 “I would have liked to see more aboriginal content and maybe another aboriginal person present so they could contribute to the discussions also.” (O)
- 👏 “Un aspect que j’aurais aimé traiter en fin de semaine est l’histoire du racisme au Canada passé jusqu’à présent.” (Q)
- 👏 “Plus de l’histoire du racisme en particulier.” (Q)
- 👏 “An overview of the history of racism in Canada, to help my memory.” (H)
- 👏 “It might have been helpful if we were given a few daily problems of racism to solve.” (E)
- 👏 “I learned that there are a lot of people (youth) who are working, as a job, in anti-racism. I thought that was really great.” (E)
- 👏 “Share personal accounts and maybe a handout of history of racism or background of participants, like where they work, what they do to fight racism.” (E)
- 👏 “I think there should have been just a bit more emphasis on religion, sexual orientation, and language.” (E)

Estimez-vous que le groupe a proposé des stratégies et des outils actuels, appropriés et efficaces de lutte contre le racisme? Expliquez. / Do you feel that the group came up with timely, appropriate, and effective strategies/tools for anti-racism education? Please elaborate.

- 👏 “I felt that we did come up with effective tools for anti-racism because we were all in the mind set of what racism is and how different people have experienced it. It was great to have the activity at the end of the camp because we had the knowledge, were comfortable with each other and ready. I don’t think any of the ideas were outrageous and impossible to use.” (O)
- 👏 “I think that it is attributed to the comprehensive introduction and information to this that we were provided with, as well as a well thought out program that actually allowed us to distil the knowledge we absorbed (and already had) and put it to use. I thought we wouldn’t have enough time, but it was just enough to formulate an idea and some quite excellent ones indeed!” (O)
- 👏 “Better than I thought or could have imagined.” (H)
- 👏 “I think the projects were really good ideas, but I have doubts about the achievability of them. They are very ambitious, and I’m worried that they will fizzle out because there isn’t someone with a lot of time to focus on them.” (E)
- 👏 “The best part was that they were pro-active and unafraid to take leadership roles in the community. They had a real grassroots feel.” (E)

Votre participation au Forum vous a-t-elle motivé(e) et mieux préparé(e) à vous engager dans la sensibilisation au racisme? Comment? / Did participation in the Forum motivate and better prepare you to engage in anti-racism education? How?

- 👏 “Yes, it made me realize there is so much more I can do and become a part of.” (H)

Que changeriez-vous dans ce Forum? / What would you change about this Forum if you could?

- 👏 “More personal.” (E)
- 👏 “Personal action plans – so it’s not just discussions.” (E)

Autres commentaries? / Other comments?

- 👏 “Merci pour votre dévouement, votre gentillesse et pour votre disponibilité! Vous faites du super bon travail! C’est avec du monde comme vous qu’on va changer le monde!” (Q)
- 👏 “Vous devriez faire plus d’activité sur les façons d’agir et les techniques d’animation.” (Q)
- 👏 “I have never been asked so much in a forum about decisions. It was interesting!” (E)

EVALUATION SYNTHESIS OF THE NATIONAL FORUM

Eight participants took part in the National Forum. We have therefore synthesized, rather than quantitatively analysed, their feedback. Participants reported the following:

- The National Forum was very focused and results-oriented.
- A high level of comfort and trust was achieved.
- A cohesive team and strong friendships were formed.
- The decision-making process was inclusive and respectful, though time consuming.
- The National Forum’s proceedings would have benefited from more time.

Qualitative statements

What was your favourite part of the National Forum?

- 👏 “Having a focus for the weekend and meeting that goal.”
- 👏 “Just being a part of the whole thing.”

What was your least favourite part of the National Forum?

- 👏 “There was not enough time.”

What did you think about the decision-making process?

- 👏 “It was very lengthy and detailed. It was inclusive, most of the time respectful, but not altogether efficient.”

What is the most important thing you will take away from this weekend?

- 👏 “The objective to complete a task (the Kit).”
- 👏 “Friendships made.”