

Transracial Parenting Initiative

Support for Foster & Adoptive Parents

The Transracial Parenting Initiative was a 3-year project funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario. The first of its kind in Ontario, this initiative is a Canadian based pre-assessment education and training tool for applicants interested in adopting and fostering children from a race or culture different from their own. This program, with a strong focus on Canadian content, is a tool that will introduce some of the key issues in parenting a child transracially and provide practical tools and resources to support prospective parents on this unique journey.

10-hour training Curriculum * Training DVD * Parent Take Away Resource

Curriculum Objectives

1. Allow participants to engage in critical self reflection on issues of race, culture and privilege.
2. Provide a space for prospective applicants to identify their strengths and areas for growth before making the decision to parent transracially.
3. Address the need for a pre-assessment tool that is focussed specifically on transracial issues in foster care and adoption.

Course Delivery

This training consists of three units designed to introduce participants to issues in transracial parenting. The training material can be delivered as:

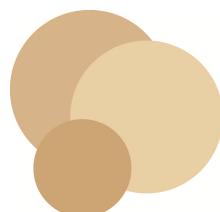
- A) Two consecutive days—one evening and one full day
- B) Three consecutive days or evenings
- C) Three days or evenings per month

Group size should range from 8-12 participants in order for the discussion and experiential activities to be manageable and inclusive.

Participant Learning Goals

Participants will:

- Identify your **strengths and limitations** parenting transracially.
- Think critically about **race, culture and privilege** for both yourself and your child.
- Reflect on your **motivation/commitment** to raising a multiracial/cultural family.
- Offer concrete **tools, strategies and recommendations** to explore the unique journey of parenting transracially.
- Feel **empowered to advocate** for self, child and family and identify areas where they feel support is needed.



Our training may be eligible for a tax deductible. Consult your insurance provider!

Course Content

This pre-assessment training tool will introduce prospective foster and adoptive applicants to some of the key issues in parenting transracially. It consists of a 10 hour curriculum outlining:

Unit 1: Challenges and issues in transracial foster care, adoption and family development

Unit 2: Race, Culture, Privilege—for you, your child and other members of the family

Unit 3: Tools, strategies and recommendations to help you navigate the unique journey of parenting transracially

The curriculum is highlighted by the training **DVD – “Ready. Willing. Able? Perspectives on Transracial Parenting in Canada”** which shares first hand experiences from families and a round table discussion with parents, adoptees and professionals to further delve into prevalent issues of parenting transracially. Participants will receive a copy of the **Parent Take Away Resource**, a guided learning tool which challenges them to engage in critical self-reflection at various stages throughout their transracial parenting journey.

Interested?

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Transracial Parenting Initiative, registration or pricing contact:

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Participant Testimonials

“The course truly took the blinders off in terms of thinking ‘all you need is love’.”

“The course has altered perspectives of us all for the better.”

“The course took this typically silent topic and put a huge spotlight on it, I was continually enlightened”

“All activities were relevant and although they didn't make sense at first...they always had a surprise ending that left you speechless.”

“Enlightening. Encouraging. Challenging. Essential.”

“I feel it is our responsibility to take this course if we are considering transracial foster care or adoption”

About Susan:

Susan Crawford has been providing training, lectures and consultation in the areas of anti-discrimination, mixed race identity development and transracial adoption for over 7 years. Working with various School Boards, Children's Aid Societies, International Adoption Agencies, parent and youth groups, she brings together her personal, academic and professional expertise offering experiential learning opportunities to participants. As the creator and developer of the Transracial Parenting Initiative, Susan worked closely with a collaborative committee of service providers, adoptive parents and adoptees expertly weaving together this innovative, timely and comprehensive training tool.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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