

Activity - Three Roles of Social Change Learner Handout

Scenario: It has been 35 years since WWII, life is proving to be difficult, various traumas from the prewar years, war years, and post-war years are still very prevalent and persistent in the lives of the people affected by WWII in Canada. The government of Canada hasn't had a response for the Japanese internees and their families, The HK Veterans and their families, and the Chinese Canadian community.

Each community is becoming agitated and frustrated with lack of support and recognition and begin to rally and think of ways to combat their issues.

Three possible roles:

1. We need to contact local MP's and the Canadian government, we know they have the resources and ability to help but they aren't doing anything. There are systems and assistance that can be given out, we need to make sure the government is doing its job!
2. We need to rally the entire group together, family members, friends, supporters etc. We need to rally groups like War Amps of Canada, the HK Veterans Association of Canada, The United Nations, the NAJC, the CCNC etc. We need to bring together the suffering and the allies and pressure the government this way
3. We must immediately march to parliament hill and have a sit-in and protest; we know the government is wrong and we will not take no for an answer. We will sit there until the government talks to us. The government and press will hear about this and be forced to hear us!

Instruction: Choose one of the three roles, once you have chosen your role move to the area of the room that is assigned to that role. For E.g. if you have chosen role 1 move to the area of the room with the 1.

Group Discussion:

Instruction: Once you are in your group, think about these questions and have a discussion

Q1: Why are you in that role?

Q2: What do you think about the other role?

Q3: How is your role/other roles critical in creating change?

Discuss these questions with one another, have someone take some notes throughout the discussion. The facilitator will then ask each group to share some of their thoughts with the entire group.

Mingle:

Instruction: Once the groups have each shared, walk around the room and talk to different people in different groups and ask them the same questions, write down some notes and thoughts on what they say or what you discuss.

Group discussion:

Instruction: Return to original seats, facilitator/teacher to lead a group discussion.