

# Annual Report 2023

## Victoria Multifaith Society



## AGM 2023

The Victoria Multifaith Society board has met monthly over the past year, overseeing events and ongoing projects. We continue to be inspired to serve the community by the unity in our rich diversity.





## VMS Mission

To learn from one another

To celebrate our unity in diversity

To work together for the well-being of  
the community & the world

# World Interfaith Harmony Week

5 February, 2023



Joan Morris of the  
Songhees Nation



Nine panelists



## World Religions Conference

Held in collaboration with the Ahmadiyya Muslim community

345 attending

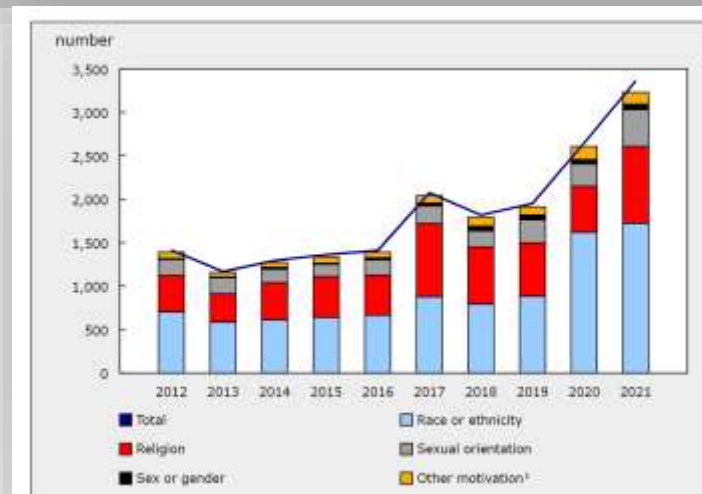




# Anti-Racism Workshops



Grant received from BC Multiculturalism for the rollout of the ***Learning Anti-Racism Toolkit***.



Free on VMS website under “Resources”.



# **The Interfaith Liaisons Network – ILN**

Monthly meetings at the Quaker Meeting House, Fern St.

Topics for sharing ❤️  
**Racism**

**Suffering**

**FOOD & FAITH**

**Social Action**

**Prayer**

*Purpose of Life*





# “Spiritually Speaking” Column

- Faith-based perspectives
- Weekly column
- Print & online
- Times-Colonist newspaper





# Hiroshima-Nagasaki Day honoured

August 6, 2023, Gorge Park Pavilion

A collaborative project with 4 local organizations

**Honouring Peace**  
78th anniversary of Hiroshima & Nagasaki

7:00 pm,  
Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>  
At the Gorge Park Pavilion  
♥ Free family-friendly event! ♥



**Taiko drummers, Furusato dancers, Gettin' Higher Choir  
Lantern floating at Sunset**  
Make a Peace Lantern at 7 pm; Program starts at 7:30 pm  
Program on Eventbrite









# **Our Shared Future**

September 17, 2023, Uvic Multifaith Centre

An ILN-sponsored project with  
Conversations for a One Planet Region





# One Spirit: Celebrating our Faiths Together

October 1, 2023, Victoria Hindu Parishad and Cultural Centre  
Multifaith Arts-based Devotional



The Victoria Multifaith Society  
and the Victoria Hindu Parishad And Cultural Center  
are honoured to present



## One Spirit

4:00 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 1  
Program @ QR Code

Sharing our faiths in prayer, songs, chants,  
hymns, stories and dance

Join us for this joyous event!  
Followed by a shared  
vegetarian meal

Victoria Hindu Parishad  
and Cultural Center  
[1934 Cultra Ave., Saanichton](#)  
[Registration here](#)







# VMS Board of Directors

## **Thank you**

to outgoing board members:

**Janine Theobald**, Buddhist seat

**Jagir Singh Virk**, Sikh seat

**Ora Stefanic**, Jewish seat

**David Batterham**, Bahá'í seat



# Welcome

**Fletcher Bennett (Bahá'í seat)**

**Rabbi Harry Brechner (Jewish seat)**

**Bhavin-Singh Nihang (Sikh seat)**





# VMS Board 2023-2024

- **John Borrows** – Chair, Indigenous Spirituality
- **Henri Lock** – Secretary, Christian seat
- **Fletcher Bennett** – Treasurer, Bahá'í seat
- **Rabbi Harry Brechner** – Jewish seat
- **Rev. Lesia Kohut** – New Thought seat
- **May Shihadeh** – Muslim seat
- **Bhavin Singh Nihang** – Sikh seat
- **Shrikant Shenwai** – Hindu seat
- **Vacant** – Buddhist seat

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**Sheila Flood** – Executive Director



**VICTORIA  
MULTIFAITH  
SOCIETY**

# Financial Report

1 July 2022 –  
30 June 2023

Victoria Multifaith Society		
Financial Statement July 1, 2022 - June 30,2023		
OPENING BALANCE July 1, 2022		\$ 7,380.46
INCOME		
Donations - Canada Helps		\$ 4,733.35
Other Deposits		\$ 60.00
BC Multiculturalism Grant: Promoting Cultural Awareness -the Anti-Racism Toolkit		\$ 5,000.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 9,793.35
DISBURSEMENTS		
Account service charge		\$ 9.00
Directors' Insurance		\$ 795.00
Syrian Earthquake Relief		\$ 3,121.10
World Religions Conference		\$ 50.00
AGM 2022		\$ 167.96
One Spirit Celebration		\$ 482.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 4,625.06
EXPENSES OVER OVER INCOME		\$ 5,168.29
BALANCE as of June 30, 2023		\$ 12,548.75
The Victoria Multifaith Society is a project of the World Inter-Faith Education Association BC		





# Membership & Donations

At AGM

Or go to VMS website “Donate or Join”

E-transfers go through Canada Helps

Tax receipts for donations \$20+

**Membership is free with any donation.**



**[www.victoriamultifaith.com](http://www.victoriamultifaith.com)**