

Overview of Canadian Regional Meetings on the Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness

To update Canadian civil society on the Open Forum's [Istanbul Principles](#) and get feedback on the draft [International Framework on Civil Society Organization \(CSO\) Development Effectiveness](#), the Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC) is organizing a series of meetings hosted by the Provincial and Regional Councils. The meetings are open to Council members, CCIC members and groups who attended the original [March 2010 Canadian consultation](#) on civil society development effectiveness.

The meetings will be an opportunity to update Canadian groups about progress since the March 2010 consultation and plans by the Open Forum for the *Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness* in Busan in November 2011. CCIC will use the meetings to gauge organizational interest to work with the *Istanbul Principles*, with strong participant focus anticipated on specific thematic areas, including funding modalities, partnership, rights-based approaches, transparency and accountability, and building a learning organization. More specifically, how can we begin to situate the *Istanbul Principles* and the draft *Framework* within the Canadian context – for example, in relation to CCIC's existing [Code of Ethics](#) and within the current political environment that frames Canadian CSO work on development effectiveness?

The outcomes from these provincial meetings will inform a one-day national Forum on May 26th to be held with CCIC members and staff from the Canadian International Development Agency in association with the CCIC AGM. Launched by a key note speech from the co-chair of the global Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness, the Forum will consider how to strengthen Canadian CSO development effectiveness in relation to the *Istanbul Principles*.

Timeline for meetings and key contacts

There will be four city consultations on the CSO Development Effectiveness agenda open to the respective Provincial Council members, CCIC members and other interested participants from the March 2010 Canadian Open Forum Consultation. The meeting in Ottawa will be available for call-in to other Provincial and Regional Councils not involved in the city meetings.

For further information, please correspond with the respective individuals identified below.

Ottawa, Thursday, April 28 – Fraser Reilly-King, CCIC, fraser@ccic.ca

Montreal, Tuesday, May 3 – Gervais L'Heureux, AQOCI, glheureux@aqoci.qc.ca

Winnipeg, Wednesday, May 4 – Janice Hamilton, MCIC, janice@mcic.ca

Toronto, Thursday, May 5 – Kimberly Gibbons, OCIC, kimberly@ocic.on.ca

Provisional Agenda for Consultations

[NB The Ottawa consultation will begin with Lunch at 12:00 to accommodate people calling in from BC]

10:00 -10:10 Introduction by Provincial or Regional Council Director or Chair

10:10 – 11:30 Overview of Open Forum on Development Effectiveness (Brian Tomlinson)

What's happened since March? Where are we at? Where are we going?

Questions and answers

11:30 – 12:30 Taking CSO Development Effectiveness forward in Canada (Smaller working groups)

On which thematic areas of the Istanbul Principles should CCIC focus?

How does this relate to what's happening in Canada and what CCIC is doing?

What tools do we as a community need internally to address this thematic area?

12:30 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 Report back from small groups

Implications for the AGM Forum

Possible local initiatives on implementing the Istanbul principles