

UPF Canada Hosts World Interfaith Harmony Week Celebrations across Canada

Song Yong cheon
January 26, 2025



The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) of Canada held a commemorative luncheon meeting on January 26 in Montreal to mark UN World Interfaith Harmony Week. About 40 people, including religious and civil society leaders and UPF members, attended the event under the theme "The Role of Religious Leaders in Building World Peace."

The event, hosted by Chantale Viau, President of UPF Montreal, featured Dr. Franco Famularo, President of UPF Canada, who gave an overview of UPF's philosophy, which has worked to promote religious harmony for decades since its founding.



Montreal, Canada

Eric Le Rest, a renowned former Canadian radio host who has conducted social commentary programs, emphasized that "spirituality is not simply about belief, but about showing that belief through one's actions," adding that wisdom in life can be gained through this.

Two panelists then provided commentary. Dr. Denitsa Tsvetkova of the Canadian Center for Ecumenism mentioned "inner peace as a

prerequisite for outer peace," "courage for interfaith dialogue," and "issues of religious expression due to secularization of religion," before emphasizing the social role of religious leaders. Boufeldja Benabdallah, co-founder of the Quebec City Mosque, said, "The universal values and principles advocated by UPF should be supported by leaders of faith communities."

André Morin, a member of the Quebec National Assembly, delivered an encouraging message in the plenary session, saying, "I support the values of interfaith harmony and peace."



Vancouver, Canada

Meanwhile, on the same day in Vancouver, a monthly meeting of Ambassadors for Peace was held, introducing environmental protection and UPF-related activities. At this event, Ambassador for Peace Chijioke Ifiankama of UPF Nigeria shared a report on the peace movement, receiving a standing ovation.