



Dear SODS Partner,

Today we are writing from the **Saskatoon Open Door Society** (SODS) to announce our upcoming two-day online conference titled **Threads: Cultural Conversations**, to be held on January 20-21 2021.

For 40 years now, SODS has been helping newcomers with settlement and integration into Canadian Society. An important part of what we do is to increase cultural awareness by promoting new, positive encounters among and between various individuals and groups in the wider community.

Threads grew out of this mission to increase awareness. It is intended as a series of stories and presentations by individuals who know or have lived through life-changing incidents related to belonging, overcoming social and cultural barriers, inter-cultural exchange, and more. Over 30 speakers and performers from all walks of life and backgrounds, local and national, will share their stories in online talks and solo and group presentations accompanied by performances, readings and displays of music, art, philosophy, needlework and more.

Our objective is to generate knowledge and discussion that can lead to development on both personal and professional levels, not only for our clients and us but also for all our online participants, as these shared experiences help us rethink community and race relations and eliminate stereotypes.

The conference features more than 30 speakers and performers from all walks of life and diverse cultural backgrounds, both local and national including:

- **Andrea Menard** - Metis singer, songwriter and actor
- Former Governor General, broadcaster, journalist the **Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson** in conversation with CBC journalist **Omayra Issa**
- **Kamal Al-Solaylee** - author of *Intolerable: A Memoir of Extremes*, winner of the 2013 Toronto Book Award, and *Brown: What Being Brown in the World Today Means (to Everyone)*

Please join us in this unique two-day virtual exploration. We would be grateful for your help in spreading the word.

How much does it cost to register?

Threads is FREE to all, but if you donate \$50+, you will have ongoing access to a plethora of learning materials for a full calendar year starting in February 2021.

To see the entire program and to register, please visit www.threads2021.ca.

If you have any questions, Please do not hesitate to contact us at threads_registrations@sods.sk.ca.

With warm regards,

The Threads Team

