



Origins: The Center was created in 2005 to promote the Dalai Lama's secular vision. It was co-founded by His Holiness and Victor Chan, who has known the Dalai Lama for over 30 years and co-authored with him the book *"Wisdom of Forgiveness: Intimate Conversations and Journeys."* A diverse network of talented friends of the DLC from near and far gathered to help realize the Dalai Lama's life-long commitment to compassion and inner well-being.

Who We Are: As a registered Canadian charity and a secular organization, the DLC serves as a catalyst for people of all ages, faiths, cultural and economic backgrounds, who want to come together in the pursuit of peace and understanding.

Our Mission: Since its inception, the DLC has been working to educate the heart and foster compassion through creative learning, facilitating and applying research, and connecting people and ideas.

What We Do: More than ever, people the world over are in need of a voice that speaks to the idea of peace, beginning with peace within oneself. The DLC offers an unparalleled opportunity to transform the Dalai Lama's universal message into a resource for the whole world. We work to translate His Holiness' vision into initiatives and programs that can make a difference in people's lives, their neighbourhoods, and help them engender positive change in our world.

What Makes Us Different: The Center is one of the few institutions, to which the Dalai Lama has lent his name. It is a hub for all those who are committed to educating their hearts, not just their minds.

Who Supports Us: A remarkable group of nationally and internationally recognized leaders now serve as the DLC Trustees and International Advisors. Support has been received from various levels of government, along with foundations, corporations and visionary individuals. Both the federal and provincial governments have supported the Center's signature events. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Monte Solberg met the Dalai Lama at the 2006 Vancouver Peace Summit to recognize a decision by Canada's parliament to award His Holiness Honorary Canadian Citizenship. More recently, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, former Governor General of Canada, provided a video address to open the 2009 Vancouver Peace Summit.

Signature Events: In the past five years, the Center has organized a number of highly successful events. The most recent was the **2009 Vancouver Peace Summit**, when the DLC hosted the Dalai Lama and four other Nobel Laureates, along with a number of world-renowned thinkers and leaders in social change, for a series of events aimed at creating a more compassionate, peaceful world. In excess of 20,000 people participated in the Summit directly, and many more took part in this remarkable endeavour through online media.

Current Programs: Building on these experiences, the DLC continues to develop several core programs, which pursue educating the heart and fostering compassion on a local and international level.

- **Center for the Advancement of Heart-Mind Education (CAHME)**, which brings together educators, scientists, parents, policy makers and community agencies to support the development of a compassionate society in BC through the education of its children.
- **Speakers Series** - public events held throughout the year, which focus on key areas of interest to the Center and to the Dalai Lama, i.e. science and its relationship to spirituality, education of the heart and related research, as well as the development of compassion and its contribution to the public good.
- **Community Engagement**, which provides shared leadership within broader community networks and coalitions comprised of groups with a common vision of building a compassionate community, and engages volunteers in the work of the Center.

Our Social-Media Community: At the heart of the DLC mission is connecting people and ideas. Using the DLC website, as well as a host of social networking tools, the Center connects people across the world, facilitating meaningful conversations and shared learning. We share non-prescriptive life lessons by His Holiness and other luminaries, and make sure people's individual stories of inspiration and compassion are heard.

The Path Ahead: The Center has an ambitious multi-year roadmap, including five and ten-year visions and critical development paths for its programs. This vision also includes plans for a physical home for the DLC, a venue that will be recognized as both a community and a global engagement center, with programming for children, youth and parents; community and business leaders; educators, scholars and philanthropists. It will be a venue for contemplation and reflection, *and* it will be a venue for active, experiential participation, inspiring meaningful interaction among people from all walks of life. Through the use of cutting-edge technology, the Center will connect people around the world, facilitate shared learning and catalyze personal and social change.

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