



2012 Survey of Canadian
Buddhist Organizations
The Sumeru Press
in association with the University of Toronto



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Dear Canadian Sangha leader,

The Sumeru Press is currently updating our directory of Canadian Buddhist organizations for www.canadianbuddhism.info and we are asking for your participation. More than 15,000 people a year turn to this website and its sister news site, www.sumeru-books.com, for information about where to practice and learn about Buddhism in Canada. We want to make sure that the information they find is as accurate and current as possible.

To this end, we have embarked on a new project in association with the Department for the Study of Religion, at the University of Toronto – to create Canada's first printed guide to Canadian Buddhist organizations, including not just their contact information such as address, phone number and website, but also information about teachers, programs and related activities. Our goal is to publish in the summer of 2012.

Accompanying this letter, you will find a survey form to complete and return if you would like expanded information about your organization to be included in the directory. It is entirely voluntary.

You will notice that the survey has two parts. The first part contains questions about your organization that are important for potential members of, and visitors to, your group.

In the second part, we are gathering sociological information about the state of Buddhist organizational development in Canada. No study like this has ever been done before. The data we hope to collect will be extremely valuable to benchmark your activities and place them within the larger context of Sangha in Canada.

The second part of the survey is also entirely voluntary, and all of the data we collect will be presented in a way that does not identify any individual organization specifically. In other words, your responses to part two of the survey will remain entirely anonymous.

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The survey is presented in an interactive digital document – you can type your answers right into the form and save it as a new file. If you would prefer a printed version of the survey, let us know and we would be happy to send you one.

There are more than 500 Canadian Buddhist organizations to be included in this project. In order to keep our project on track for publication in 2012, your prompt response would be greatly appreciated. We realize this is not a simple five-minute activity, and will require a bit more commitment on your part, but we hope you will share our vision of the importance of this work and will give it the attention it needs. However, keep in mind that whatever you do complete and send to us, even if you don't answer every question, is in itself a valuable contribution to building strong Buddhist communities across the country.

This research has been formally approved by the Department for the Study of Religion and the Office of Research Ethics at the University of Toronto. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me, or Dr. Frances Garrett, Associate Chair, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto (frances.garrett@utoronto.ca or 416-978-1020).

Thank you for your participation, and for all you do each day to make Canada a better place. Please send us back your completed survey via e-mail to buddhismsurvey@sumeru-books.com. If you prefer, you can print it out, fill it out and mail it to us via regular post.

Best wishes,

John Negru
(Karma Yönten Gyatso)
Publisher, The Sumeru Press Inc.

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This survey is part of an effort by Sumeru Press to update its directory of Canadian Buddhist organizations for www.canadianbuddhism.info with accurate and current information about where to practice and learn about Buddhism in Canada. The updated basic directory information about your organization will be available online and an analysis of survey data will be published as a printed book. This project is being conducted together with the Department for the Study of Religion, at the University of Toronto. Completion of the survey, in whole or in part, is entirely voluntary. The data we hope to collect will be extremely valuable to benchmark your activities and place them within the larger context of Sangha in Canada.

In the second part of the survey, all of the data we collect will be presented in a way that does NOT identify any individual organization specifically. In other words, your responses to part two of the survey will remain entirely anonymous.

If you have any questions about this survey, you may contact Dr. Frances Garrett, Associate Chair, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto (frances.garrett@utoronto.ca or 416-978-1020).

I understand the purpose and organizational structure of the survey, and I agree to participate as outlined above and in the attached invitation letter.

Click here to agree. Type your name and organization here.



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Part I Directory Information

1. Your organization name

2. Alternate organization name *(perhaps in another language)*

3. Mailing address and telephone number

4. Meeting address Same as mailing address, or *(if different from mailing address)*

5. Online presence

Website

E-mail address

Facebook page

Blog

Twitter

6. Leadership

Resident teacher(s)

Non-resident teacher(s)

Retired teacher(s)

Alternate contacts

(name, title, phone/e-mail)

7. Yana

8. Tradition *(Select all that apply)*

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Abhidamma | Indian | Social Action |
| Bon | Indonesian | Soka Gakkai |
| Burmese | Japanese | Son |
| Burmese Mahasi | Jodo Shinshu | Soto |
| Chan | Kagyū | Sri Lankan |
| Chinese | Khmer | Tendai |
| Chöd | Korean | Thai |
| Chogye | Lao | Thai Forest |
| Chontae | Non-Denominational | Tibetan |
| Dhammadakya | Nyingma | Triratna |
| Drikung | Order of Interbeing | True Buddha |
| Forshang | Pure Land | Vietnamese |
| Fulong | Rimay | Vipassana |
| Gelug | Rinzai | Vô-Vi |
| Hanmi | Shambhala | Zen |
| Hua Yen | Sakya | Other |
| Humanistic | Shingon | |

9. Lineage (who were your teacher's teachers?)

10. Practices (Select all that apply)

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Chanting sutras | Flower arranging | Retreats |
| Chanting prayers | Freeing animals | Short-term precepts |
| Chanting mantras | Meditation | Singing hymns |
| Circumambulation | Music | Sutra study |
| Commentary study | Painting | Vegetarian |
| Dana to sangha | Physical labour | Other |
| Dance | Precepts / Ordination | |
| Discussion groups | Prostrations | |

11. Meditation (Select all that apply.)

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Altruism (tonglen, etc.) | Insight (vipassana) | Yoga postures |
| Breaths (counting) | Just sitting (shikantaza) | Walking |
| Breaths (noticing) | Koan | Zazen |
| Calming (shamatha) | Loving kindness (metta) | Other |
| Chi Kung | Mudra | |
| Deity sadhana | Tai Chi | |
| Dzogchen | Visualization | |

12. Scheduled public activities

Daily

Weekly

Other

13. Other activities and initiatives

14. Affiliations

Other Canadian Buddhist organizations under the same management as your organization:

Associations of Canadian Buddhist organizations to which you belong:

International Buddhist associations to which you belong:

Non-Buddhist associations to which you belong:

15. Languages used by congregation *(Select all that apply.)*

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| English | Indonesian | Nepali |
| French | Japanese | Sinhalese |
| Bhutanese | Khmer | Thai |
| Burmese | Korean | Tibetan |
| Chinese (Mandarin) | Lao | Vietnamese |
| Chinese (Cantonese) | Malay | Other |
| Hindi | Mongolian | |

Part 2 Sociological profile

DATA IN THIS SECTION WILL BE REPORTED **ANONYMOUSLY**
AND **NOT** ASSOCIATED SPECIFICALLY WITH YOUR ORGANIZATION

16. Ethnicity of congregation (approximate guess)

| | | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|---|------------|---|
| Bhutanese | % | Khmer | % | Thai | % |
| Burmese | % | Korean | % | Tibetan | % |
| Caucasian | % | Lao | % | Vietnamese | % |
| Chinese | % | Malay | % | Other | % |
| Indian | % | Mongolian | % | | |
| Indonesian | % | Nepali | % | | |
| Japanese | % | Sinhalese | % | | |

17. Citizenship of congregation (approximate guess)

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 rd + generation Canadian | 2 nd generation Canadian | 1 st generation Canadian |
| . % | . % | . % |

18. Citizenship of resident teacher or main representative

19. Family make-up of congregation (approximate guess)

| | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---------|---|----------|---|
| Individuals | % | Couples | % | Families | % |
|-------------|---|---------|---|----------|---|

How has this changed over time?

20. Ages of congregation

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|---------|---|----------|---|
| Over 65 | % | 35 - 50 | % | 10 - 20 | % |
| 50 - 65 | % | 20 - 35 | % | Under 10 | % |

21. Gender of congregation

| | | | |
|------|---|--------|---|
| Male | % | Female | % |
|------|---|--------|---|

22. Governance

Incorporation:

Board of directors:

Highest authority for decisions:

23. Premises

Type

Ownership

Number of years at this address

Number of years at previous address

Programs

Setting

If rural, number of acres

Was your building specifically built as a Buddhist place?

Renovated for this purpose

Other

24. Secular uses of your premises

Usage:

Please describe:

Who runs these programs?

25. Engaged Buddhism

Do you offer programs specifically focused in these areas? *(Select all that apply.)*

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Human rights | Financial planning | Environmental protection |
| War and conflict | Housing & employment | Animal rights |
| Prisons | Homelessness | Seniors |
| Race relations | Health care clinic | Youth |
| Gender relations | Family counseling | Young adult |
| Sexual orientation | Mental health + addiction | Women |
| Schools | Consumerism | Food bank |
| Workplace | HIV/AIDS awareness | Other |
| Skills training | First Nations dialogue | |

What form(s) does your activity take?

Is it central to your organization's definition of itself?

Who in the congregation is involved?

How many years has social activism been a part of your activities?

How has your engagement changed over time?

26. Campaigns

Please describe some of the campaigns you have run to inform your congregation and the public about the doctrinal, political and/or social positions of the organization, and/or ongoing news events.

27. Financial Support

Does your organization use trusts and/or investment income?

Does your organization rely on a few key donors?

Does your organization sustain itself through many small donations?

Does your organization receive funds from outside Canada?

Are donations tied to any particular ritual act? *(If yes, please explain)*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Please return your completed survey to us as soon as possible.

E-mail

john@sumeru-books.com

Post

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