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## Research Paper

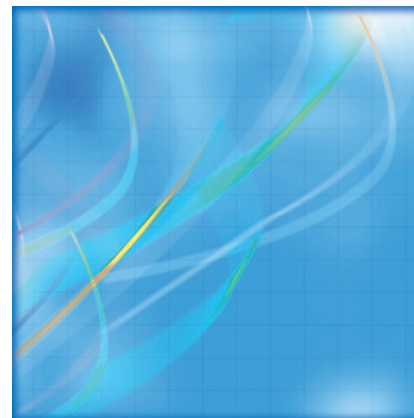
# Patterns of Citizen Participation and the Civic Core in Canada

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## Contents

1. Summary
2. Preamble
3. Data and Analysis Procedure
4. The Size and Composition of Canada's Civic Core:  
    The National Profile
5. Sub-national Variations
6. Characteristics of People in the Civic Core
7. Issues

Appendix: Variables Used in the Analysis

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## Abstract

Social capital and social cohesion are said to be the positive products of citizen participation in civic society (Putnam, 1995). Among the principal forms of participation are charitable giving, volunteering, and membership in community and charitable organizations. Research shows that these forms of participation in civic society are in many important respects unevenly distributed in the adult population (Shervish and Havens, 1995; Goss, 1999). In each area of civic engagement, the proportion of the population that actively participates varies greatly. Moreover, there is a close connection between charitable giving, volunteering, and involvement in civic organizations. Those who are civically active in one way tend to be active in the others. An important question, then, is how widespread is general citizen participation, i.e., when all three spheres of engagement are considered? How varied are the levels of activity and what are the distinguishing characteristics of those with significant levels of civic engagement?

This paper reports the results of an analysis of data from the 1997 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participation in Canada that addresses these questions. We examine the incidence and magnitude of participation in the three main areas of civic engagement, giving, volunteering, and membership in community and charitable organizations. We present evidence that while the levels of participation vary considerably between volunteering, organizational membership and giving, a more telling fact is that the distribution of effort (the magnitude of engagement) in civic participation is even more highly skewed. In all three sectors, a relatively small proportion of the participants provides the large majority of total effort. In addition, when we examine the overlap in participation in the three sectors conjointly, the results are even more pronounced. There is clearly a small proportion of Canadians, a civic core, who are very active in all three spheres of civil society and are responsible for the lion's share of effort all three areas. This core, which contains one-quarter of Canada's adult population, on average accounts for three-quarters of all giving, volunteering and civic participation. The paper examines the social and demographic characteristics of those in the civic core, and compares their socio-demographic profile with those who are less active in civic affairs.

## 1. Summary

- a) There is clear evidence of a civic core in Canada — a small proportion of Canadian adults who are responsible for more than two-thirds of all giving, volunteering, and civic participating. Overall, this civic core contains 28% of adult Canadians.
- b) In 1997, our civic core accounted for 83% of total volunteer hours, 77% of charitable dollars donated, and 69% of civic participation.
- c) Within the full core lies a smaller primary core of particularly strongly committed individuals comprising 8% of the adult population, who provided almost half of all volunteer time and charitable dollars, and one-quarter of all civic participating in 1977.
- d) Volunteering is the type of activity with the greatest quantity produced by the smallest portion of the population — i.e., has the greatest disproportionality. Civic participation consistently has the least.
- e) Quebec has the smallest core (24%) and the smallest primary core (5.2%); Saskatchewan's was the largest at 38.6% and 13.4% respectively.
- f) There are distinctive provincial patterns in the behaviour of subpopulations in their civic cores. Individuals in Quebec's civic core show a preference for charitable donating and a relative aversion to engaging in civic participation; Saskatchewanians are highest on civic participation and lowest on charitable giving.
- g) The concentration or density of contributing and participating (i.e., amount of activity per person) by people in the civic core is greatest in Quebec, lowest in Saskatchewan.
- h) People in the civic core show a consistent set of distinctive traits regardless of region. These include being older, religious, helpful and generous in other ways beyond volunteering and donating, well-educated, in higher-status and –income occupations, with children 6-17 in the home, and living in communities outside major metropolitan centres.

## **2. Preamble**

In a previous study that examined the distinctive characteristics of active volunteers (Reed and Selbee, 1999), our analysis identified a cluster of behaviours concerned with contributing, helping and participating that was more strongly and consistently associated with volunteering than any other trait or set of traits. Other exploratory analysis of the same data from the 1997 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating that we undertook in 1998 revealed that a small fraction of Canada's adult population was responsible for the lion's share of charitable giving, organized volunteering, and civic participation.\*

Together, these two findings prompted questions about the size and character of the small subpopulation that manifests these behaviours, about the composition of the correlated cluster of behaviours (which included formal charitable giving, both religious and secular, informal giving, informal helping, social participation, and civic participation), and about the extent of variation across Canadian society. This report describes the results of our search for answers to these questions. We believe that our findings shed light on the nature of contributory behaviour and the character of the civic domain in Canada.

## **3. Data and Analysis Procedure**

Our analysis uses data from the 1997 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP) that was conducted as a supplement to Statistics Canada's November 1997 Labour Force Survey. The NSGVP data file contained detailed information from 18,301 Canadians aged 15 years and older, of whom 31.4 percent reported that they had given time as an unpaid volunteer to a non-profit organization at least once during the preceding 12 months, 78.0 percent had made a charitable donation, and 50.1 percent were members of one or more civic organizations.

We identify three core groups of individuals who account for a disproportionately high share of each

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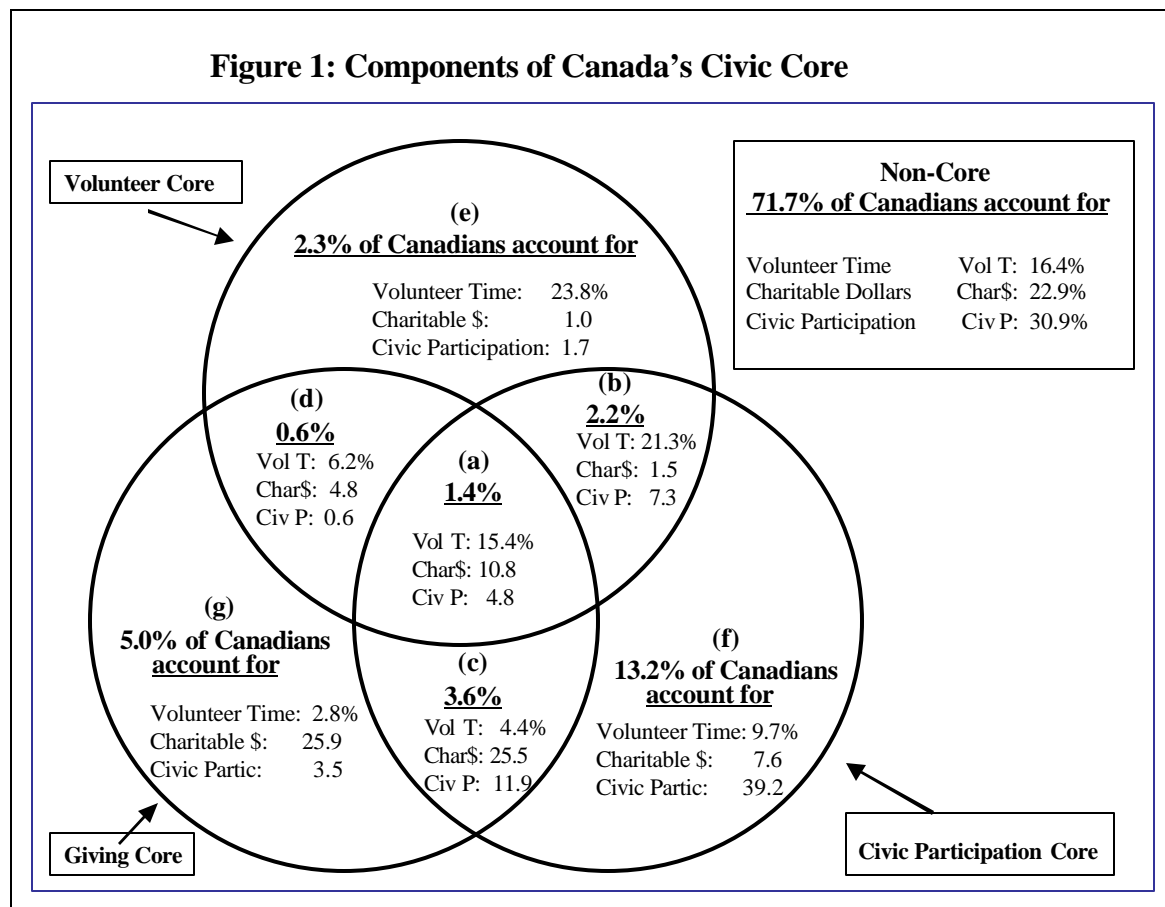
\*In the case of volunteering, 10% of Canadian adults 15 years and older were responsible for 81% of all volunteer hours in 1997; for charitable giving, 26% of the adult population provided 86% of total donations.

contributory behaviour -- hours volunteered, dollars contributed, and civic organization memberships. Each core group is defined as the proportion of Canadians who account for approximately two-thirds of the total contributory effort in Canada for each behaviour. Total effort is measured by (a) the total of all hours volunteered, (b) the total dollars donated to charity, and (c) the number of types of civic organization memberships held, all over the 12 months prior to November 1997. Thus each core group is the proportion of individuals in the sample whose level of contribution in a particular area put them in the top 67 percent of the cumulative distribution of that particular behaviour. For example, the 852,414 total hours were volunteered in Canada -- 67 percent of this is 568,276 hours. Cumulating hours volunteered for individuals in the sample, beginning with those who gave the most hours, until 568,276 is reached produces a cut-point of 211 hours volunteered annually. Individuals who volunteered this much and more constitute the volunteer core in Canada. As it turns out, 6.4 percent of all Canadians account for two-thirds of all hours volunteered -- these people constitute the volunteer core. The same procedure is followed to identify the giving core for dollars donated, and the civic core for civic organization memberships. When the core groups are broken down by province, the appropriate cut-points for each behaviour are calculated on the basis of provincial distributions so that each core group represents the top two-thirds of contributory effort in that province.

The choice of the top two-thirds of total effort as the cut-point in defining the cores is obviously arbitrary -- the core groups do not represent coherent or cohesive social groups in the usual sense. They are simply empirical categorizations. However, in preliminary analysis we examined other definitions of the cores, in particular, the top 50 percent and the top 80 percent of total effort. The choice of these other cut-points has very little effect on the size of the core groups given the very marked disproportionality of total effort in the population. For example, when the volunteer core is defined as those who account for the top 80 percent of hours volunteered, the core represents 9.4 percent of Canadians. Using the 67 percent cut-point the core represents 6.4 percent, and using the 50 percent cut-point, the core represents 3.6 percent of Canadians. In all three cases, the size of the core group is very small relative to the proportion of total effort they account for. We settled on the 67 percent cut-point as one that reflects a substantial but not overwhelming majority of the total contributory effort in each area.

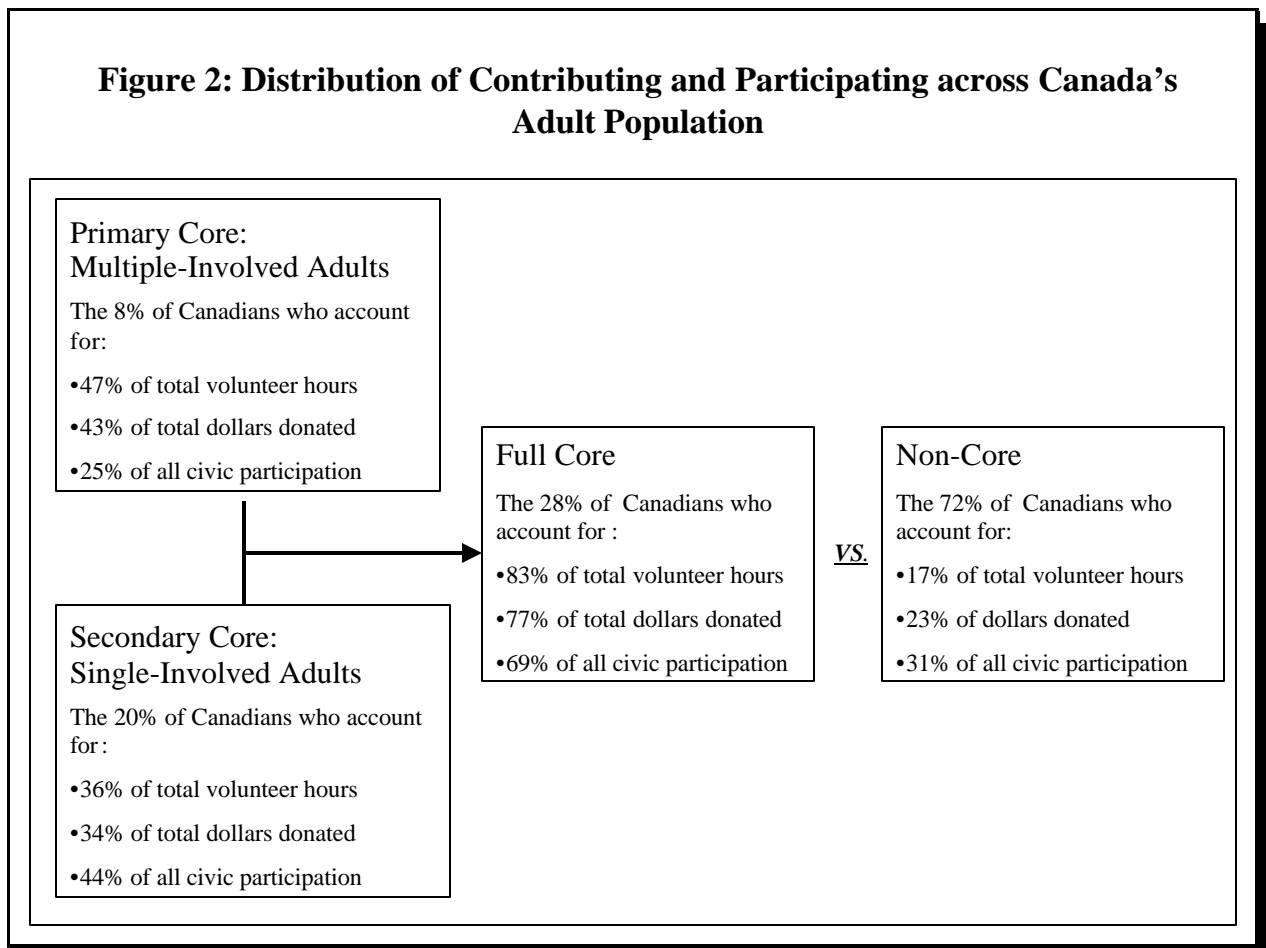
#### 4. The Size and Composition of Canada's Civic Core: The National Profile

Figure 1 displays the distribution of Canadian adults among the seven components or zones of the Venn diagram generated by the overlap of three circles, each one containing the core group for volunteering, charitable giving and civic participation. Also displayed for each zone is the proportion of total volunteering time, charitable dollars donated, and civic organizations participated in, that is accounted for by the set of individuals lying within that sector. As a whole, this core consists of 28% of Canadian adults aged 15 and older; they account for 83% of total volunteer hours, 77% of total charitable dollars donated, and 69% of civic participation, as shown in Figure 2.





If we introduce the distinction between a primary core consisting of individuals who are most highly involved, i.e., involved in 2 or 3 of the 3 forms of contributory and civic activity, and a secondary core consisting of individuals who are significantly involved (i.e., in the top 67 percentiles) in only one of the three forms of activity, we find that the primary core comprises



8% of the adult population and the secondary core 20% (Figure 2). The primary core provides 47% of all volunteer hours, 43% of all charitable dollars donated, and 25% of all civic participation. The secondary core, which contains 20% of the adult population, accounts for 36% of total volunteer hours, 34% of donated dollars, and 44% of all civic participation. In this approach, then, we have created three layers or components: primary core (8%), secondary core (20%), which together constitute the total civic core of 28%, and the non-core — the 72% of adult Canadians who provide 17% of total

volunteer hours, 23% of charitable dollars, and 31% of civic participation.

These three sets of numbers, and the extreme contrast between the core, whether primary or total, and the non-core, provide strong evidence of the wide gap between two collectivities: the one quarter of Canadians who provide an average of about three-quarters of all contributing and civic participation, and the three-quarters of the population that provides the remainder.

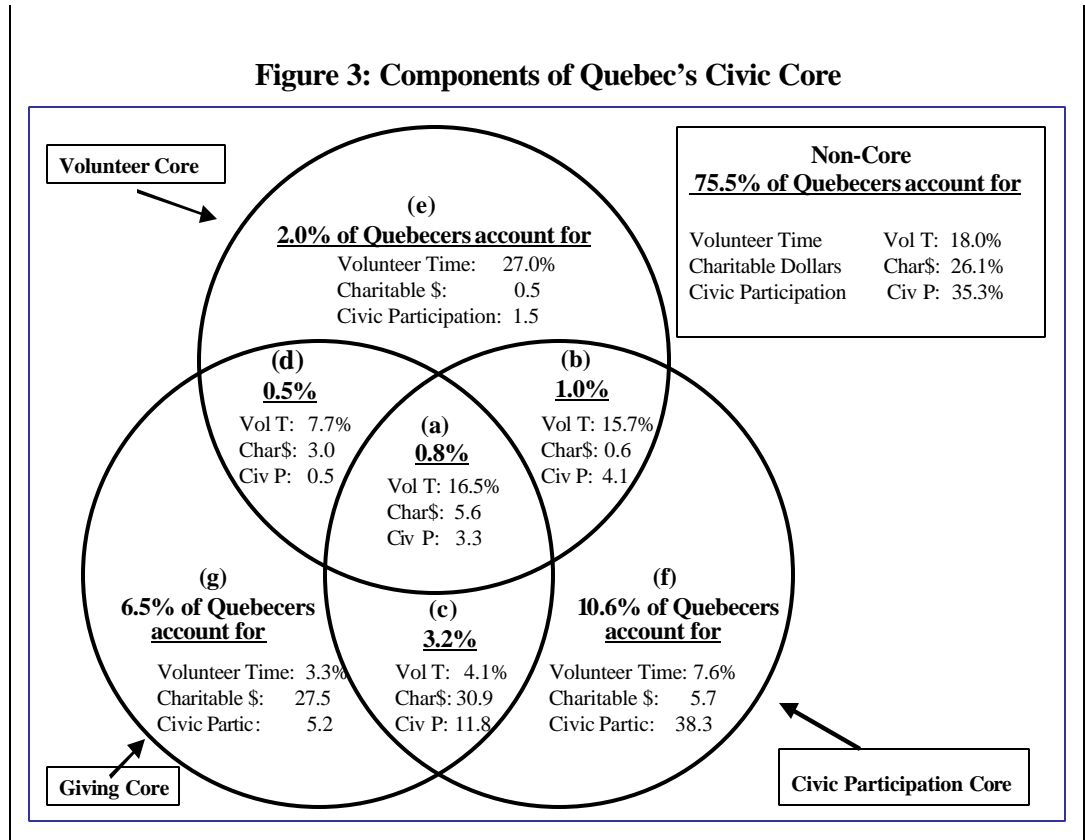
The idea of a civic core rests on the phenomenon of disproportionality: a small segment of the population being responsible for a disproportionately large portion of contributing and participating, and the remaining large segment of the population being responsible for a disproportionately small part. This disproportionality is easily expressed as a ratio, viz., the number of units of activity per percentile of

**Table 1: Disproportionality Ratios - Canada**

Zone		Volunteer Hours	Charitable Giving	Civic Participation	Average
Core:	(a)	11.1	7.8	3.5	7.5
	(b)	9.8	0.7	3.4	4.7
	(c)	1.2	7.1	3.3	3.9
	(d)	9.7	7.4	1.0	6.0
	(e)	10.2	0.4	0.7	3.8
	(f)	0.7	0.6	3.0	1.4
	(g)	0.6	5.2	0.7	2.1
Non-Core:		0.23	0.32	0.43	0.33
Average - Primary Core: 5.5 Average - Total Core: 2.7 Average - Non-Core: 0.33  Ratio of Primary Core Average to Non-Core Average: 16.7 Ratio of Total Core Average to Non-Core Average: 8.2					

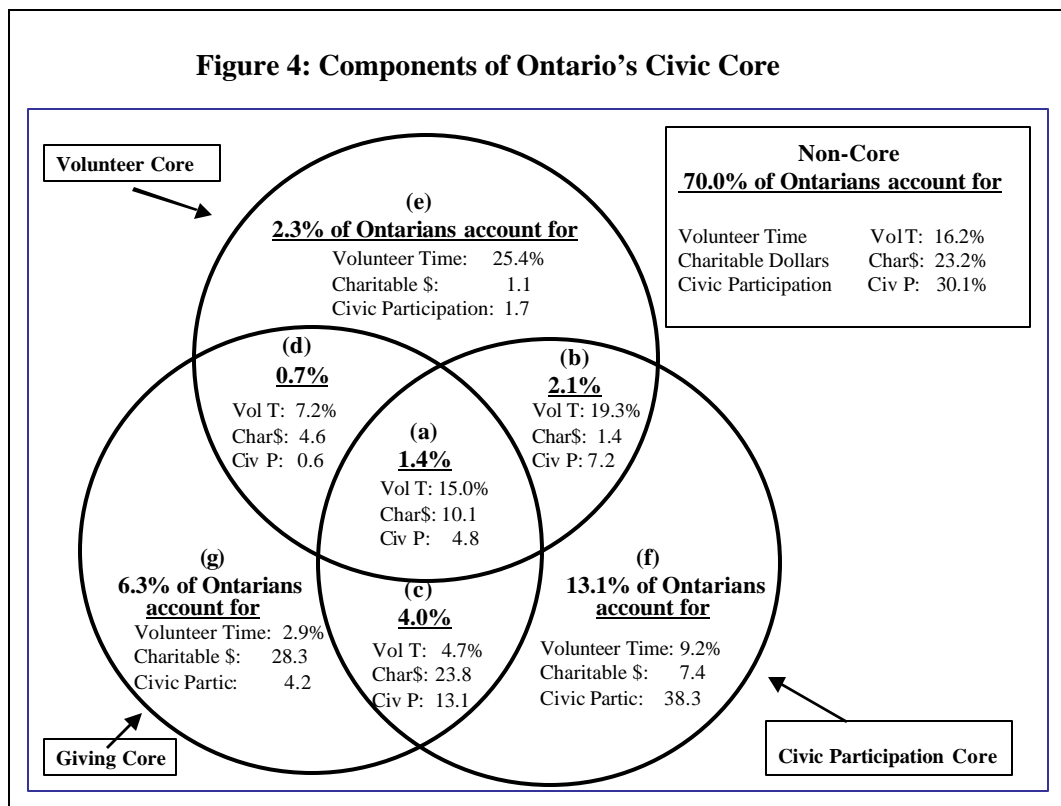
population. For example, in zone (e) of the volunteer core in Figure 1, 23.8% of volunteer hours are provided by 2.3% of the population, giving a ratio of 10.2 to 1.

Table 1 presents the disproportionality ratios for Canada. It reveals that the greatest disproportionality occurs in volunteering, followed by charitable giving and civic participation respectively. This table also shows an average disproportionality ratio of 5.5 for the primary core and 0.33 for the non-core, indicating that individuals in the primary core account for 16.7 times more than those in the non-core, and the total core accounts for 8.2 times as much as the non-core.

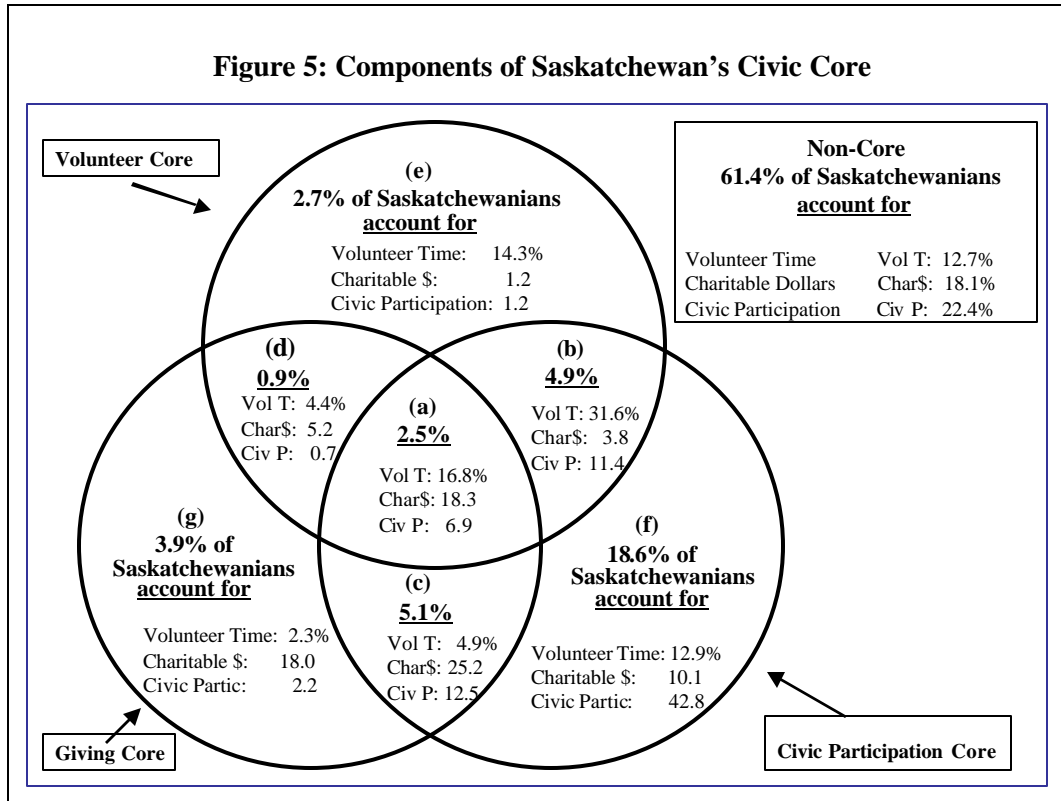


## 5. Sub-National Variations

From earlier analyses, we know there is marked regional variation in donating, volunteering and civic participation in Canada. This makes it desirable to examine geographic variations in the size and composition of the civic core. We elected to do so by province rather than by region because of the degree of variation even within regions. We have previously noted that Saskatchewan and Quebec represent the two polar cases insofar as provincial differences in contributing and participating are concerned, with Saskatchewan consistently having the highest levels and Quebec the lowest (Caldwell and Reed, 1999:5). Thus, to display the range of provincial differences we present the following information for these two contrasting provinces, along with Ontario which we include not only because it is an intermediate case statistically but also because it contains a mix of both comparable and different elements relative to the other two provinces.



Figures 3, 4, and 5 present Venn diagrams for each of the three provinces. Among the significant information they present are the following:



- Saskatchewan has the largest total core (38.6% of the population), the largest primary core (13.4%), and the smallest non-core (61.4%). This province's civic core is nearly double the national average.
- Quebec's primary core is smallest — at 5.2%; less than two-thirds the national average. Its non-core is larger than any other province at 76%.
- Ontario, with a primary core of 8.2% and a total core of 30% is marginally above the national average.
- There are province-specific differences in the composition of their aggregate contributory and participatory behaviours. People in Quebec show a relative preference for charitable donating and a relative aversion to engaging in civic participation, while Saskatchewanians are highest on civic participation and relatively lowest on charitable giving.

**Table 2: Disproportionality Ratios - Quebec**

Zone		Volunteer Hours	Charitable Giving	Civic Participation	Average
Core:	(a)	20.6	7.1	3.3	10.3
	(b)	15.7	0.6	4.1	6.8
	(c)	1.3	9.7	3.7	4.9
	(d)	15.4	6.1	1.0	7.5
	(e)	13.5	0.2	0.8	4.9
	(f)	0.7	0.5	3.6	1.6
	(g)	0.5	4.2	0.8	1.8
Non-Core:		0.24	0.35	0.47	0.35
Average - Primary Core: 7.4 Average - Total Core: 5.4 Average - Non-Core: 0.35  Ratio of Primary Core Average to Non-Core Average: 21.1 Ratio of Total Core Average to Non-Core Average: 15.4					

Tables 2, 3, and 4 provide more detailed information about provincial differences in the degree of disproportionality. Since Quebec has the smallest civic core, each person in that core contributes a larger proportion of giving, volunteering and civic participating than is the case in the other provinces and in the nation as a whole: each percentile of Quebec's civic core accounts for 5.4% of the total core's civic activity, compared with 4.0% in Ontario, 2.4% in Saskatchewan, and 2.7% for Canada as a whole. In other words, the concentration or density of contributing and participating by the civic core is greatest in Quebec, lowest in Saskatchewan.

**Table 3: Disproportionality Ratios - Ontario**

Zone		Volunteer Hours	Charitable Giving	Civic Participation	Average
Core:	(a)	10.7	7.2	3.4	7.1
	(b)	9.2	0.7	3.4	4.4
	(c)	1.2	6.0	3.3	3.5
	(d)	10.3	6.4	0.9	5.9
	(e)	11.1	0.5	0.7	4.1
	(f)	0.7	0.6	2.9	1.4
	(g)	0.5	4.5	0.7	1.9
Non-Core:		0.23	0.33	0.43	0.33
Average - Primary Core: 5.2 Average - Total Core: 4.0 Average - Non-Core: 0.33  Ratio of Primary Core Average to Non-Core Average: 15.8 Ratio of Total Core Average to Non-Core Average: 12.1					

**Table 4: Disproportionality Ratios - Saskatchewan**

Zone		Volunteer Hours	Charitable Giving	Civic Participation	Average
Core:	(a)	6.7	7.3	2.8	5.6
	(b)	6.4	0.8	2.3	3.2
	(c)	0.7	0.5	2.3	1.2
	(d)	0.6	4.6	0.6	1.9
	(e)	5.3	0.4	0.4	2.0
	(f)	0.7	0.5	2.3	1.2
	(g)	0.6	4.6	0.6	1.9
Non-Core:		0.20	0.29	0.36	0.28
Average - Primary Core: 3.0 Average - Total Core: 2.4 Average - Non-Core: 0.28  Ratio of Primary Core Average to Non-Core Average: 10.7 Ratio of Total Core Average to Non-Core Average: 8.6					

## 6. Characteristics of People in the Civic Core

Because the civic core contains a small minority of the population, and because active volunteers in Canada have a distinctive profile of traits (Reed and Selbee, 1999) we would expect

**Table 5: Distinctive Characteristics of Canadians in the Civic Core --- Results of Discriminant Analysis<sup>1</sup>**

Primary Core vs Non-Core			Full Core vs Non-Core		
Variables in the model	Rank	Beta <sup>2</sup>	Variables in the model	Rank	Beta <sup>2</sup>
AGE respondent age	1	0.286	AGE respondent age	1	0.321
PLANGV Planned giving	2	0.282	SOCIALP2 social participation scale	2	0.242
RELORG youth experience: religious orgs	3	0.257	PLANGV Planned giving	3	0.235
CATHOL catholic	4	-0.211	EDYRS Education in years of schooling	4	0.208
SOCIALP2 social participation scale	5	0.207	PROFESS professional	5	0.203
INFORNUM number of informal events	6	0.202	RELORG youth experience: religious orgs	6	0.198
RELIGIOS religiosity	7	0.202	RELIGIOS religiosity	7	0.184
STUDGOV youth experience: student govt	8	0.191	PUREGIV count of pure giving reports	8	0.176
FEMALE gender dummy	9	-0.168	INFORNUM number of informal events	9	0.173
EDYRS Education in years of schooling	10	0.165	STUDGOV youth experience: student govt	10	0.166
SELFEMP self-employed	11	0.164	GHHINC2 Grouped HHinc: medians	11	0.155
PROFESS professional	12	0.152	OWNK0612 number of children aged 6-12	12	0.147
PUREGIV count of pure giving reports	13	0.151	FEMALE gender dummy	13	-0.141
OWNK0612 number of children 6-12	14	0.146	CATHOL catholic	14	-0.139
OWNK1317 number of children 13-17	15	0.137	OWNK1317 number of children 13-17	15	0.125
SINGLE single	16	0.118	SELFEMP self-employed	16	0.100
GHHINC2 Grouped HHinc: medians	17	0.114	VOTED voted in elections	17	0.096
OWECOMM give because owe community	18	0.109	HHSIZE household size	18	-0.091
BLUE blue collar	19	-0.093	SATISF Satisfaction with life in general	19	0.086
VOTED voted in elections	20	0.091	OWECOMM give because owe community	20	0.084
TVHRS hours per week watching television	21	-0.088	SINGLE single	21	0.082
HRS hours/wk worked	22	-0.079	IMPURGV count of impure giving reports	22	0.068
RESYRS years in community	23	0.073	LANG language of interview	23	0.063
SATISF Satisfaction with life in general	24	0.073	YTHGRP youth experience: youth group	24	0.056
HEALTH self-evaluation	25	0.067	HEALTH self-evaluation	25	0.055
WHITE white collar	26	-0.066	RESYRS years in community	26	0.047
DIDVOL ever did volunteer work	27	-0.063	HRS hours/wk worked	27	-0.046
OWNK18PL number of own children 18+	28	0.057	TVHRS hours per week watching television	28	-0.041
METSIZE community size	29	-0.051	OWNK18PL number of own children 18+	29	0.039
LANG language of interview	30	0.047	FARMER farmer	30	0.039
GNEWS grouped news score	31	-0.047	METSIZE community size	31	-0.036
YTHGRP youth experience: youth group	32	0.045			
IMMIG Immigrant to Canada	33	-0.040			
BFMIX english-french ethnic	34	-0.040			

1. Betas are the standardized canonical discriminant function coefficients.

2. All coefficients are significant at the 0.05 level.

individuals in the civic core to have characteristics that distinguish them from the approximately 70% of the population that comprises the non-core. To ascertain whether there is such a differentiating set of characteristics, we used discriminant analysis to compare individuals in the primary core with those in



the non-core, and thereafter the total core with the non-core.

Discriminant analysis produces a linear model that maximizes the difference between two groups in terms of a set of individual traits. The standardized canonical discriminant function coefficients (Table 5) reflect the relative importance of the independent variables in differentiating between the two groups of interest. The larger the coefficient, positive or negative, the more the particular variable (traits) discriminates between the groups. The full list variables used in the analysis are to be found in the Appendix.

Table 5 presents the results of our analysis for Canada. We found that (i) there was a distinguishing set of characteristics, (ii) the traits of individuals in the primary core were essentially the same as those in the total core, and (iii) there were insignificant differences among the profiles for various regions. Thus the principal distinguishing traits of individuals in the core can be summarized in the following list.

#### Distinguishing Traits of Individuals in Canada's Civic Core

In descending order of prevalence:

1. Age
2. Religious factors: planned giving; religious group youth experience, religiosity
3. Catholic (negative)
4. Other forms of helping and contributing
5. Education
6. White collar occupations, especially professional
7. Children 6-17 at home; Household size
8. Household income
9. Expressed commitment to community
10. Positive Assessment of Health and Life satisfaction
11. Hours watching TV (negative)
12. Non-metropolitan community

Individuals who we will describe as significantly civically engaged lie toward the upper end of the age spectrum, typically 35 to 40 years old or more; have a strong religious component in their lives; are

markedly less likely to be Catholic; practice informal helping and giving as well as formal volunteering and donating; have a relatively high level of education; have higher-status occupations; have a number of children between ages 6 and 17 years at home; have relatively higher household incomes than average; are explicitly committed to supporting their community; hold relatively high ratings of their own health and life satisfaction; watch television less than most Canadians; and live in communities away from large urban centres.

## **7. Issues**

The presence of a civic core in Canada, documented for the first time in this study, likely does not come as a surprise, certainly not for people familiar with the voluntary sector. Yet it is not an explicit element in the average citizen's mental map of our society and it is not a recognized component in social science. What do the existence and properties of this civic core, especially the primary core, imply about the nature of Canadian society?

This core is evidently a principal source of initiative and action in civic life; we may surmise that it is in the civic core that one would find many of Canada's civic leaders. The profile of characteristics of people in the civic core includes those that are customarily found among elites: elevated levels of occupational status, education and income. Others of their characteristics are not associated with elites: a strong religious orientation, multiple forms of personal generosity and supporting a common good, and explicit commitment to the community. Is it appropriate to think of the civic core as a distinctive type of elite, perhaps a moral elite? — one that exercises a moral authority or authority in support of some public good? In what ways might the civic core differ fundamentally from other types of elite, in other contexts, such as an economic elite, a political elite, an intellectual elite? The conventional understanding of elites is that they are higher-status individuals of influence who act in concert to advance their own interests. The social science literature is almost entirely mute on the matter of civic elites (cf., Heying 1995, 1998; Lasch, 1995; Verba *et al.*, 1995) but the fact that some of the defining traits of the civic core's members are comparable and others non-comparable with those of conventional elites raises the question of what the essence of the civic core is and what its place and function in Canadian society are.

A second issue concerns the social dynamics which underlie the civic core. This core is evidently the product of forces and conditions which vary in different parts of the country and produce civic cores of significantly different size, orientation and density. To what extent is membership in the civic core the result of personality and socialization factors? A subculture of generosity? A distinctive worldview that couples concern for a common good of some kind with a sense of personal responsibility to support that common good, perhaps buttressed by a particular set of religious beliefs or values? The conjunction of a set of demographic conditions (above-average age, and the presence of dependent children) with certain social conditions such as living in non-metropolitan communities or embeddedness in social networks? Or might today's civic core be the product of what has been called the "long civic generation"? (Goss, 1999).

Last, the presence and character of the civic core bears directly on current public discussion about the nature of civil society and the challenge of citizen engagement. Contrary to an idealized image of giving, volunteering and civic participation being widely diffused in Canada, we have shown that the majority of Canadians practise them only incidentally or not at all. The civic core, although small, is clearly a pillar of enormous significance in maintaining a just and mutually caring society; we would speculate that it may also have a central role in supporting democratic governance as well. We believe the civic core, once understood, will turn out to be a fundamental and consequential component of Canada's social structure, a great social resource. While nothing is known of such things as the core's impact, whether it has an interior structure of its own such as the interlocking relationships one finds in other elites, or whether a distinctive ethos is found among people in the core, it is certain that if the civic core is made the focus of systematic social inquiry, the resulting understanding will tell us much about Canada's voluntary sector and about the larger Canadian society.

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### **Appendix: Variables Used in the Analysis**

(Upper case terms are descriptive labels assigned for simplified identification in the tables and text.)

1. HOURS: hours volunteered by respondent in preceding 12 months.
2. REGION: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies, British Columbia.
3. SIZE: size of respondent's community of residence. Large Urban=population over 100,000; Small Urban=15-100 thousand; Rural=under 15,000.
4. RELIGIOSITY: respondent's assessment of importance of own religious beliefs. 0=low, 1=high.
5. AGE: recorded in years.
6. CIVICP: Civic participation score. A scale constructed by counting the positive responses to seven questions about membership and participation in meeting of civic organizations. (This does not include volunteering in such organizations.) Score runs from 0=low to 7=high.
7. SOCIALP: social participation score. A scale constructed by counting the positive responses to 12 questions about participation in social activities. Score runs from 0=low to 12=high.
8. INCOME: grouped household income scale using group medians.
9. HH SIZE : Household size.
10. KIDS 0-5: Number of children ages 0 to 5 living in the home.
11. KIDS 6-12: Number of children ages 6 to 12 living in the home.
12. KIDS 13-17: Number of children ages 13 to 17 living in the home.
13. KIDS 18+: Number of children ages 18 and older living in the home.
14. EDUC: Education in years of schooling.
15. HRS/WK: Hours worked per week. 0=part-time or not working; 1=full-time.
16. FEMALE : Gender variable. 0=male; 1=female.
17. Class of Worker:
  - PAID (reference group): Paid employees.

SELF EMP: Self-employed workers

UNPAID : Workers in unpaid jobs.

NO CLASS : Not in the labour force.

18. Marital Status:

MARRIED (reference group): Married.

SINGLE : Single, never married.

OTHER MS : Other marital status, (widowed, separated and divorced).

19. Occupation:

MANAGER (reference group): Managers and administrators.

PROFESS: Professionals.

WHITE COLL: White collar clerical, sales and service.

FARMER : Farmers.

BLUE COLL: Blue collar skilled and unskilled .

NO OCC: Not in the labour force.

20. Religion:

NO RELIG (reference group): No religion.

CATHOLIC: Catholic.

PROTEST: Protestant.

OTHER REL: Other religion.

21. HEALTH : Self-evaluation of health. Scale runs from 1=poor to 5=excellent.

22. IMMIG: Immigrant status. 0=Canadian born; 1=foreign born.

23. RES YRS: Years resident in current community.

24. Ethnicity:

CDN (reference group): Canadian ancestry.

ENGLISH: English, or English and Other ancestry.

FRENCH: French, or French and Other ancestry.

ENG-FREN: English and French ancestry.

OTHER ETH: Other ancestry.

25. LANG : Language of interview, 0= English; 1=French.

26. SATISF: Satisfaction with life. Scale runs from 1=low to 4=high.

27 SECULAR\$: Total dollars donated to secular (non-religious) organizations.

28. RELIG\$: Total dollars donated to religious organizations.

29. PCTREL\$: Percent of total annual donation dollars given to religious organizations.
30. VOTED: Respondent voted in last federal, provincial or local elections. Scale runs from 0=did not vote, to 3=voted in elections at all three levels.
31. NEWS: Scale measuring how much the respondent follows the news. Scale runs from 1=not much, to 3=often.
32. TVHRS: Hours per week spent watching TV.
33. GIVER: Whether respondent donated money to non-profit organizations. 0=did not donate; 1=did donate.
34. GIVE DECILE: Decile score of respondents for amount donated to charities.
35. PLAN GIVER: Respondent decides in advance who they will donate to. 0=no; 1=yes.
36. PURE GIVING: Number of types of 'pure' Informal donations (i.e., not through an organization and where there was no potential benefit to the donor).
37. IMPURE GIVE: Number of types of 'impure' Informal donations where there was potential benefit to the donor, such as in a charitable lottery.
38. INFORNUM: Number of different types of informal volunteering respondent engaged in.
39. OWE COMM: Reason for donating to organizations is a belief that they owe something to their community. 0=no; 1=yes.
40. PERSONAL: Reason for donating to organizations is because someone they know has been affected.
41. DIDVOL: Respondent did volunteer work as a youth. 0=no; 1=yes.
42. ROLEMODEL: Respondent's parents or someone they admired was a volunteer during their youth. 0=no, did not have a role model; 1=yes, had a role model.
43. YTH TEAMS: Youth experience in organized team sports. 0=no; 1=yes.
44. YTH GROUP: Experience in youth groups. 0=no; 1=yes.
45. YTH ST GOVT: Youth experience in student government. 0=no; 1=yes.
46. YTH RELIG ORG: Youth experience in religious organizations. 0=no; 1=yes.
47. CONTROL: Control over everyday decisions. Scale runs from 2=some or none, to 4=all.