The Hope Network - Choosing brave conversations for complicated times

The Hope Network is an intergenerational network and pan-Canadian community moderated by CCRL's award-winning educators and researchers. We will host the 4th cohort in 2027 with a focus on addressing misinformation and disinformation through religious literacy. (Religious literacy is an academic framework that includes knowledge, skills, and lenses to engage with religious, spiritual, and secular worldviews. More information here.)

Each session includes:
-Discussions and activities that are grounded in religious literacy
-Conversations hosted by CCRL's award-winning educators and researchers
Canadian guest speakers who share local insights related to each topic
-Intergenerational co-learning opportunities

Session topics:
-Nationalism: Why are convictions so polarizing today? Discussing separatism, religious/secular nationalism, and White Supremacy in Canada.
-Religious discrimination: Where does fear, contempt, and discrimination start and end? Reviewing how this affects all of us.
-Anti-Indigenous racism: Do we share a history? Looking into Residential Schools Denialism.
-Identity & belonging: How is our self-understanding influencing our relations (or not)? The manosphere, TradWives, identity, and belonging.
Eligibility: For anyone 18+ years old in Sackville and area
Location: In-person at the Mount Allison University and online
Time: January – April 2027
Early-bird fee: Young Adults (18-24 y.o.): $25; Adults (25-64): $50; Older Adults (65+): $30

Early bird registration deadline: Dec 1, 2026

Co-hosted by Mount Allison Spiritual Care and the Centre for Religious Literacy (CCRL), a national secular non-profit that promotes understanding about religious, spiritual, and secular perspectives, identities, groups, and matters in an intersectional way.

Info: Rev. Ellie Hummel, Multi-faith Chaplain and Spiritual Care Coordinator (ehummel@mta.ca or 506-364-9239) or Sasha LaFlamme, Junior Program Manager and MtA student, (sasha@ccrl-clrc.ca)