

Tayeb Meridji was born and raised in Algeria, in the city of Bougie a port on the Mediterranean Sea. At a young age he would often be found gazing out to sea, beyond the horizon of the North Africa.

He promised himself that at (about) the age of 18 he would travel to explore the European countries, where wealth and culture live together. After college, he saved all his income to start his journey, his dream.

He then traveled to France, and from there tried to immigrate to Canada, but it was impossible. He then decided to go to England, Holland, Germany, Denmark and Sweden. However, he did not find a place where he could settle.

Tayeb returned to Paris, where he studied film art to become a director of documentaries. Tayeb's father was not supportive of Tayeb's decision to live in Europe and came to France to convince Tayeb to return to Algeria. Tayeb returned and worked as the director of documentaries at the Institute of Technology for five years.

In 1978 he became disillusioned with the political situation in Algeria; a wise man once told him, "To stay in Algeria is to know uncertainty in life". Then he decided that he must restart his journey to Canada. Since his settlement in Canada, some members of the Meridji family settled not only in Manitoba, but also in Quebec, United-States, England, France, Italy and Denmark.

Upon his arrival in Canada, Tayeb became fascinated by the Canadian ethnic relations and decided to return to the University of Montreal, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Master's Degree in Political Science. The title of his thesis is The French-Manitoban Elites. He also directed several documentaries. Tayeb worked as a Teacher at Saint Boniface School Division and Instructor at Saint-Boniface College.

At this time in 1987, he started working as a cross cultural consultant traveling across Canada to give workshops (Academy in Regina, Transport Institution in Cornwall and several Departments with the federal Government).

From his experience, Tayeb feels there is much work to be done with the Government of Canada; his goal is to help educated new immigrants to find employment and to overcome the social barriers of the cultural changes.

Ten years ago, Tayeb joined Success Skills Centre, where he is on the front line of the integration process and since 2009, he teaches Immigration and the Inner City course at the University of Winnipeg.