1. Record Nr. UNINA9910783758903321 Autore Blattberg Charles Titolo Shall we dance?: a patriotic politics for Canada / / Charles Blattberg Pubbl/distr/stampa Montreal, : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2003 **ISBN** 1-282-86119-0 9786612861192 0-7735-7109-4 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (208 pages) Disciplina 320.971 Soggetti Political participation - Canada Patriotism - Canada National characteristics, Canadian Civil society - Canada Communication politique - Canada Canada Politics and government Canada Politique et gouvernement Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [171]-187) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front Matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction: A Canadian Home? -- Responding to Conflict: Three Ways, Three Canadas -- Who We Were -- Who We Are -- Who We Could Be -- Conclusion: Divide and Listen -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto Charles Blattberg shows that while a just politics based on dialogue is at the core of Canadians' sense of ourselves as citizens, our current forms of dialogue are inadequate. To some, we should be pleading

before authorities responsible for upholding a unified foundation for our politics. Pierre Trudeau and his followers, for example, advocate a Charter of Rights and Freedoms that trumps any values not contained within it. To others, we ought to be true to the longstanding Canadian political tradition of compromise and so negotiate our conflicts, a form of dialogue that strives for accommodation rather than trumping.

Blattberg argues, however, that both of these approaches have largely failed us. To him, the preferred form of dialogue in Canadian politics

today should be that of conversation. As he shows, only conversation aims for the genuine reconciliation of conflict; only it will help us realize the common good that is at the heart of a truly patriotic Canadian politics.