

[Save the Date: 2022 Holocaust & Human Rights Symposium](#)

Thursday, March 24, 2022

9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Duckworth Centre, University of Winnipeg

Dear educators,

The last time we met was in March of 2020, just before the pandemic upended practically every aspect of education, as well as the rest of our daily lives. We know how tough it has been for you, your students, and your families. We also would like to note how much your work is appreciated, even more so in these difficult times.

With an optimistic look to the future, we have reserved March 24th for the Twentieth Annual Holocaust and Human Rights Symposium. We are thrilled to announce that this year's guest speakers will be **Holocaust survivor, Pinchas Gutter, and eminent Indigenous scholar, Niigaan Sinclair.**

Pinchas Gutter (born 1932 in Łódź, Poland) is a Holocaust educator and frequent guest lecturer for the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Centre in Toronto and the March of the Living and March of Remembrance and Hope programs. He is one of the pioneers of an innovative and award-winning augmented reality project called Dimensions in Testimony. Gutter has also been the subject of a number of films by directors such as Fern Levitt, Eli Rubenstein, Stephen D. Smith and Zvike Nevo. He is a survivor of several concentration camps, including Majdanek, Buchenwald, and Theresienstadt.

Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair is Anishinaabe (St. Peter's/Little Peguis) and an Associate Professor and graduate program director in the department of Native studies at the University of Manitoba. He is one of the editors of *The Winter We Danced: Voices from the Past, the Future, and the Idle No More Movement*. He is a regular commentator on CBC and international media outlets such as the Guardian.

A former high school teacher, Sinclair is now a regular columnist with the Winnipeg Free Press.

Since we have last met, we have witnessed an exponential rise in antisemitism, including hateful rhetoric reminiscent of 1930s Nazi Germany. As well, Canada is facing a reckoning with its own history as more and more graves of Indigenous children are discovered at the sites of former Indian Residential Schools.

This year, we are asking that all schools stay to hear both of our keynote speakers. There will be (as always) the opportunity for students to participate in a Q and A. We will break for lunch earlier than in past years, in order to end the day by 2 pm so as to facilitate your return home. Registration is on a first-come first served basis. The fee is \$7.00 per student, to cover the costs of the program. Please register early to ensure your students' participation. Registration has filled up in past years and we have had to turn people away.

We hope that the COVID situation will improve sufficiently by the date of our symposium. However, please be assured that in the event we are prevented of going ahead due to the imposition of government mandates, regulations or orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will refund any

registration fees that we have received. Your safety and that of our speakers remains paramount. Finally, if any of your students are unable to pay the \$7 admission fee, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

If you have any questions, please contact me at jewishheritage@jhcwc.org or call 204-295-3947.

Sincerely,

Belle Jarniewski
Executive Director

Holocaust Education Week

We would also like to bring to your attention a week of virtual Holocaust programs as Winnipeg takes part in Holocaust Education Week for the first time.

The programs are free of charge and are suitable for students, parents, and teachers alike. Registration can be found at jhcwc.org/programs/ or by responding to this email.

November 4th at 7 pm Launch of *A Struggle for Hope*, a novel for young people by Carol Matas about Auschwitz and Israel. Belle Jarniewski in conversation with Carol Matas.

November 8 at 7 pm: The Christie Pits Riot Retold with Jamie Michaels in conversation with local scholar, Dr. Karlee Sapoznik Evans.

November 9 at 7 pm Speaking to Adolescents about the Holocaust/Mina Rosner Prize with Westwood Collegiate educator Kelly Hiebert, Cecil Rosner, and Nathan Varghese.

November 10 at 7 pm Community-wide Kristallnacht event -Exploring the lost Holocaust history of Vilna with ground penetrating radar. Film followed by talk with Calgary-based geophysicist Paul Bauman. Bauman was part of a team that used ground penetrating radar to explore the underground remains of the Vilna Synagogue and the mass graves at Ponar. The team also made the extraordinary discovery of a hidden escape tunnel dug by Jewish prisoners.

Thanks,

Belle

Belle Jarniewski

Executive Director

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada