

Conference gives Educators an In-Depth Look at Ukrainian Genocide

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada – May 1st, 2017

The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC), will be hosting their second Holodomor Education Conference: “Education–Awareness–Action.” HREC is affiliated with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta. The conference features top name speakers from across the Holodomor, human rights, genocide and educational academia spectrum and creates exceptional opportunities for hands-on teaching guidance and interaction with fellow Holodomor educators and advocacy groups. It will be held from May 5–7 at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) and at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Not a moment is wasted in this jam-packed weekend of learning.

The Holodomor was a famine inflicted by Joseph Stalin and the Soviet government through a series of immensely restrictive policies. This led to the death of millions of Ukrainians between 1932-1933.



(photo by Zach Samborski)

Food was used as a political weapon in the Ukrainian genocide famine.

Opening Remarks (CMHR) May 6th:

Valentina Kuryliw
Director of Education
Holodomor Research and
Education Consortium
(HREC);
Chair of the National
Holodomor Education
Committee, Ukrainian
Canadian Congress
9:00 AM

Dr John F Young
President and CEO
Canadian Museum for
Human Rights
9:00 AM

Mr. James Bezan ,
MP, Selkirk-Interlake-
Eastman
9:00 AM

Dr. David Mandzuk, Dean,
Faculty of Education,
University of Manitoba
9:00 AM

Mr. Blair Yakimoski
MLA, Transcona (Rep.
Hon. Ian Wishart, Minister
of Education and Training)
9:00 AM

Internationally recognized academics – Dr. Joyce Apssel and Dr. Norman Naimark will be the highlighted speakers of the program, they represent New York and Stanford Universities, respectively. Dr. Apssel will speak Saturday morning at the CMHR as the keynote speaker, and Dr. Naimark during the commemorative dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel.

Notable support from the faculties of Education at both the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg, as well as representatives of government and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights will round out speakers with opening remarks.

Conference sessions will have a diverse and inclusive focus from expanding knowledge bases, to providing some of the latest methodologies in exploring human rights and genocide in the classroom.

For example, “Voices into Action” is an online resource for teaching human rights at the secondary level that will be discussed in the Senior Level Methodology session on Saturday at 1:00pm. Additional technology-related sessions include one on Sunday, May 7th which focuses on the role of the Internet and the power of disinformation in

What: Holodomor Education Conference Begins

When: 9:00 AM, Saturday, May 6th

Where: Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Manitoba Teachers Society Classroom
85 Israel Asper Way, Winnipeg

Please access Museum through the Group Entrance, contact Evan Samborski to arrange interviews.

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204-823-0227

studying and teaching about genocide and specifically, the Holodomor genocide.

A panel discussion, “Human Rights and the Holodomor,” will be moderated by Dr. Richard Hechter of the University of Manitoba. Panelists in this session include Dr. John Wiens, Dean Emeritus, Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba. Lise Pinkos will be speaking on behalf of education programs at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Also included will be a specialist on the teaching of genocide and human rights to refugee children and students from war-affected backgrounds, Antonio José Tavares from Manitoba Education and Training.

Since the 1930's, little was known about the Holodomor as it was denied, covered up and ignored in both the former Soviet Union and in the West.

Increasing public perception of the Holodomor and its inclusion in the school curricula across Canada represents a milestone in thinking about this tragedy, particularly for the survivors and their offspring who fled Soviet repression during the pre and post-war period. This event is co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and its many affiliates across Canada in the various provinces.

The commemorative dinner at the Fort Garry Hotel on Saturday evening will recognize the importance of memory. Holodomor survivors will be honored and in attendance. Mrs. Sonia Kushliak, a fellow Holodomor survivor, will speak on their behalf. Guest Speaker American historian Dr. Norman Naimark will engage the audience in a comparative history of genocide to better understand the Holodomor, whose study can in turn help us understand the phenomenon of genocide itself.

The Holodomor serves as an excellent case study within the teaching of genocide, human rights and Canadian values against continued human rights abuses around the globe. For more information, interested educators can visit:

www.holodomor.ca/education.

What: Holodomor Education Conference Dinner

When: Saturday, May 6th 6:30 PM

Where: Fort Garry Hotel, Dining Room
222 Broadway, Winnipeg, Winnipeg

evan.samborski@gmail.com
204-823-0227

Speaker Bulletin:

Keynote Speaker,

Dr. Joyce Apsel, professor; New York University

9:30 AM – Mantioba Teachers Society Classroom, CMHR

Dr. Apsel is a clinical professor of Liberal Studies at New York University. Her work on genocide is cross cultural and comparative including topics such as the crises in Darfur. Her publications on teaching about Genocide include her position as co-editor of *Genocide Matters* (2014); she is also the former president of the International Association of Genocide Scholars.

Mr. James Bezan (Dinner Introductions)

6:30-7:30 PM – Dining Room, Fort Garry Hotel

James Bezan is well-known for his efforts to establish a Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day that recognizes the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33 as an act of genocide.

Mrs. Sonia Kushliak

Holodomor Survivor

6:30-7:30 PM – Dining Room, Fort Garry Hotel

Mrs. Kushliak was born in the Ukraine and is a Holodomor survivor.

Guest Speaker,

Dr. Norman Naimark; Stanford University

6:30 – 7:30 PM – Dining Room, Fort Garry Hotel

Dr. Naimark is a professor at Stanford University and author of *Stalin's Genocides* (2010), and *The Russians in Germany* (1995), amongst others. He is also the Robert and Florence McDonnell Professor of East European Studies. His latest book *Genocide: A World History* (2016) is a cross-cultural, in-depth look at genocide across societies and epochs.