

THE MANITOBA
HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION



LA COMMISSION DES
DROITS DE LA PERSONNE
DU MANITOBA

News Release: The Manitoba Human Rights Commission
For Immediate Release
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**MANITOBA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
HOSTS YOUTH CONFERENCE**

Workshop will be made available to young people on the web

On Thursday, November 29, 2001 students from across Manitoba will be in Winnipeg attending the first ever Manitoba Human Rights Commission Youth Awareness Conference.

This one-day conference is in celebration of International Human Rights Day and will consist of workshops, panels and presenters dealing with human rights topics. Discussions will centre on discrimination and harassment on the grounds of ancestry, age, sexual orientation, disability, and other topics covered in the Human Rights Code. Workshop topics include "Working Blues", "Bully Alert", "Backlash" and "Nothing to Cheer About".

The goal of the conference is to increase young people's awareness of human rights issues and to give them the tools they need to become future leaders. The participants will be students in senior 2, 3 and 4 years.

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 make it even more imperative that we educate our youth on human rights and further their understanding of discrimination and the possibility of a backlash against people in our community.

The commission is anticipating the involvement of youth from diverse backgrounds. This year's conference will have an Aboriginal focus with a number of Aboriginal speakers taking part. We have extended an invitation to selected Manitoba high schools to choose up to six students to attend the conference, accompanied by a teacher or other adult.

In addition, for the first time ever, the Manitoba Human Rights Commission will make this session available in a dynamic and interactive way for young people everywhere: the Web. The workshop "Bully Alert" will be video taped and produced into a 20 minute streaming video available on the Manitoba Human Rights Commission's website. Young people will be able to watch the session and take part in interactive chat by clicking one button. Allmedia Inc. of Winnipeg will produce this feature.

The agenda of the Youth Conference is included.

The media is welcome. Please contact us prior to attending the conference.

For more information, contact
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