



**December 4, 2006  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Recipients of the Manitoba Human Rights Awards are announced**

WINNIPEG – On December 8, the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties, and the Manitoba Human Rights Commission will jointly present the Manitoba Human Rights Commitment Award and the Sybil Shack Memorial Manitoba Human Rights Youth Award at a luncheon celebrating International Human Rights Day. The awards recognize a group or person in Manitoba who has significantly promoted respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. This year's Commitment Award focuses on activities that have encouraged youth awareness and involvement in human rights. The Youth Award acknowledges work that has an impact on the advancement of human rights as guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom and human rights legislation.

The 2006 recipient of Annual Manitoba Human Rights Commitment Award is Chuck Duboff, an English teacher and the founder of the Maples Collegiate Unity Group, which for twelve years has been devoted to the elimination of racism in their school and community. He is the driving force behind the group that won the Sybil Shack Memorial Manitoba Human Rights Commitment Award in 2005. As one student put it, "students change over the years, but the one constant is Chuck Duboff."

The 2006 recipient of the Sybil Shack Memorial Manitoba Human Rights Youth Award is seventeen year old Tasha Spillett, who has an outstanding record of involvement with human rights activities. Tasha is a founding member of the United Against Racism Aboriginal Youth Circle. She is honoured for her continuing efforts to equality and equity for all peoples.

Keynote speaker at the luncheon is Kevin Chief, the Executive Director of the Winnipeg Aboriginal Sport Achievement Centre (WASAC). Mr. Chief will address the importance of developing human rights awareness in young people at an early age.

...more

The luncheon and award ceremony will take place on Friday, December 8, 2006 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, at York The Hotel, (formerly the Sheraton Hotel) 161 Donald in Winnipeg.

Tickets are available at a cost of \$25.00 per person and \$200.00 for a table of 8.

December 10th is International Human Rights Day, which marks the anniversary of the United Nations' *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in 1948. The Universal Declaration is the basis of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

For tickets to join us on December 8<sup>h</sup>, contact:

Manitoba Human Rights Commission  
945-3007 and ask for Beatrice Watson

For more information about the Manitoba Human Rights Commitment Award and Sybil Shack Memorial Manitoba Human Rights Youth Award, contact:

Patricia Knipe  
Communications Director  
945-5112