



## MANITOBA HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS ANNOUNCES 2017 RECIPIENTS

December 6, 2017

For the last several years, the Manitoba Human Rights Commission, the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties have partnered to hold the Manitoba Human Rights Awards in honour of International Human Rights Day on December 10.

The Manitoba Human Rights Awards 2017 Selection Committee will honour the 2017 recipients on Thursday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m at the RBC Convention Centre, Third Floor Concourse. Media is invited to attend. See: <http://www.manitobahumanrights.ca/v1/news-events/human-rights-awards.html>.

### **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENT AWARD OF MANITOBA ALAYA MCIVOR**

The Human Rights Commitment Award recognizes a person or group who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the rights of Manitobans. Alaya works at Oshki-Giizhig, Inc and is currently on the Winnipeg Police Board. Alaya has worked with the sexually exploited youth community coalition, the 24/7 Safe Space subcommittee, and the Experiential Advisory Council. This year, Marcela Salazar was selected to design the Human Rights Commitment Award. The award will be revealed at the awards reception on December 7.

### **RECONCILIATION AWARD OF MANITOBA RED RISING**

The Reconciliation Award is given to a person or group who is deserving of being honoured for their efforts to achieve reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Manitoba. Red Rising is a growing collective of people who produce a magazine, telling stories of Indigenous people, created by Indigenous people through a multitude of mediums. The magazine's focus is to inspire and create a platform for Indigenous people to have their own voices heard in an Indigenous-led publication for all.



THE MANITOBA  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSION



LA COMMISSION DES  
DROITS DE LA PERSONNE  
DU MANITOBA



Canadian  
human rights  
commission

Commission  
canadienne des  
droits de la personne

**SYBIL SHACK YOUTH AWARD  
AMINA AND NUSAYBAH MOHAMED  
ALEXA POTASHNIK**

The Sybil Shack Human Rights Youth Award recognizes the commitment of a person or group aged 25 years or younger whose work has impacted the advancement of rights and freedoms locally or internationally.

Dakota Collegiate's Co-President, Amina Mohamed began the search for a sports hijab to wear while playing for the varsity girls' basketball team. Together with her sister, Nusaybah, they were able to create a sport appropriate hijab. The story made national headlines as the first school in Canada to provide sport hijabs to athletes as part of their school uniform which allows girls to comfortably participate in sports while upholding their religious and cultural beliefs.

Alexa is the founder of Black Space Winnipeg, host of Raw Colours on CKUW 95.9fm, local vocal percussionist, and the former Racialized Student Commissioner with the Canadian Federation of Students. Alexa advocates for the empowerment of all voices through social justice initiatives and grassroots activism.

**AARON BERG AWARD  
DR. DONN SHORT**

The Aaron Berg Award recognizes a person involved in the legal profession who has contributed significantly to the advancement of human rights in Manitoba by way of their legal work. The award was announced in 2016 to recognize the contributions of Aaron Berg, former counsel to the Manitoba Human Rights Commission and General Counsel with Manitoba Justice. Aaron passed away in June 2017. He was an expert in human rights and administrative law, and assisted in drafting Manitoba's current Human Rights Code.

Dr. Short is an Associate Professor of law at the University of Manitoba.. Dr. Short is the author of Don't Be So Gay: Queers, Bullying and Making Schools Safe and Am I Safe Here? which both focus on LGBTQ rights. Dr. Short is the founding and current Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Human Rights.

Grade 5 student, **PHOENIX VAN NIEW AMERONGEN** from Whitemouth School was chosen for her poem on human rights to light the candle at the awards reception.

For interviews, please contact [hrc@gov.mb.ca](mailto:hrc@gov.mb.ca) or (204) 945-5815



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