

----- REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 20 -----

The New Brunswick Human Rights Commission and the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at St. Thomas University extend an invitation to grade 11 and 12 students to attend

Born Free

A Youth Forum in Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

St. Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick
October 25, 2008

*All human beings are **born free** and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.*

Article 1, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.

Sixty years ago these words were enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In recognition of the declaration's achievements and continued challenges, the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission and the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at St. Thomas University will be hosting *Born Free: A Youth Forum in Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.

This forum will provide participants with the opportunity to become familiar with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Additionally, students will participate in workshops facilitated by youth who are contributing to human rights education and advocacy through local, regional and global efforts.

The Youth Forum will take place Saturday, October 25, 2008, at St. Thomas University in Fredericton from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Registration is \$25.00 per student. The registration form is at the back of this document.

For more information, please contact:

Marc Gionet
Project Manager & Researcher
Atlantic Human Rights Centre (<http://w3.stu.ca/stu/sites/ahrc/index.aspx>)
margionet@stu.ca
506-453-7203.

Forum information is also available at the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission (www.gnb.ca/hrc-cdp).

* All participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and accommodations if needed. However, lunch and nutrition breaks will be provided on Saturday, October 25.

SCHEDULE FOR YOUTH FORUM

October 25, 2008

Saturday, October 25th:

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Registration
9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Welcoming: New Brunswick Human Rights Commission Chair <i>Dr. Gordon Porter</i> Opening Keynote: <i>Phillippe Ouellette</i>
10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	Human Rights Squares Activity Facilitated by: <i>Jessica Colpitts</i>
10:50 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Nutrition Break
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 p.m.	Introductory Lecture to Human Rights Rewrite the UDHR Facilitated by: <i>Dr. Michael McGowan</i>
12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.	Lunch: Pioneer of Human Rights Award
1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Group Presentations
3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Active Youth! Panel Discussion Represented by: <i>Students for West Africa, the March of Remembrance and Hope & Gulu Walk Fredericton</i>
3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks

POST FORUM ACTIVITY: Participants will have the opportunity to take action in *Gulu Walk Fredericton*'s annual event in solidarity with Uganda's night commuters at 4:15 p.m. following the closing remarks of the forum.

For more information see: <http://guluwalk.com/fredericton/>

PROGRAM DETAILS

Forum Activities:

Opening Keynote:

Phillippe Ouellette is a graduate of St. Thomas University who completed his Master's degree in political science at Queen's University and currently works for the Population Growth Secretariat. During his studies, he held the position of Executive Director of the Canadian Union of Student Associations.

Human Rights Squares:

Jessica Colpitts, a Human Rights Officer with New Brunswick Human Rights Commission will facilitate this introductory activity that will gauge students' level of understanding regarding human rights while challenging them to reflect on their own lives - recognizing that human rights are a local and global concern.

Introductory Lecture to Human Rights:

Delivered by St. Thomas University's Human Rights Programme Director Dr. McGowan, this brief lecture will introduce students to the historical developments leading to the modern era of human rights. Particular attention will be paid to the events of World War II that provided the impetus for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to be signed and ratified into law.

Rewrite the UDHR:

It has been sixty years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and much has changed in our world. This short activity will provide students with the opportunity to review and rewrite the UDHR – modifying the document to correspond with challenges students perceive today.

The Pioneer of Human Rights Award

This prestigious award recognizes human rights pioneers for their historic contributions to the protection and promotion of human rights in Canada. Previous recipients include the former Premier Louis J. Robichaud, Dr. Gordon Fairweather and the Speaker of the Senate, Senator Noël A. Kinsella. The award will be presented by the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission during lunch.

Interactive site on the UDHR

CASHRA's interactive website for youth on the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be demonstrated throughout the Youth Forum in a classroom to be announced.

<http://www.takingitglobal.org/themes/udhr60/>

Breakout Sessions:

[ATLIS:](#)

ATLIS is a student run organization based out of Mount Allison University. Beginning in 2002, it has successfully hosted numerous conferences focusing on human rights and published an annual peer reviewed undergraduate journal.

ATLIS President Chris Durrant will facilitate a session focused on strategies for organizing and hosting a successful human rights oriented event within your local community.

[Multicultural Association of Fredericton:](#)

The Multicultural Association of Fredericton Inc. (MCAF) is a not-for-profit community organization formed in 1974 to facilitate communication and understanding between persons of various cultural backgrounds in the Fredericton area. The MCAF has grown to be an important part of the community, delivering a range of services to newcomers such as; English and French second language classes, settlement services, employment services, computer access and training and volunteer programs as well as programming for children and youth. The MCAF works with community partners to facilitate awareness of diversity, cross-cultural understanding and a welcoming community.

MCAF will present a session on the integration of youth from diverse backgrounds and what youth can do in their communities to foster a respectful and inclusive environment.

[Make Poverty History:](#)

Make Poverty History is part of a global call to action against poverty. The campaign was launched in Canada in 2005 with the support of a wide cross-section of public interest and faith groups, trade unions, students, academics, literary, artistic and sports leaders. National campaigns are now active in over 100 countries.

Ron Jackson, local MPH coordinator, will inform his session on campaign objectives, organizational strategies and the importance of local grass roots involvement in international campaigns.

Group Presentations

Participants will report to the entire conference on the discussions they had in the breakout sessions.

Active Youth! Panel Discussion

The forum will conclude with a panel discussion involving three local youth initiated groups who will briefly share their organization's aims and objectives followed by questions and discussion with the audience.

Sponsor:

We would like to thank the Population Growth Secretariat for supporting this forum through a financial contribution towards the cost of the lunch.

Born Free

A Youth Forum in Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Hosted by the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission and the Atlantic Human
Rights Centre

St. Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick
October 25, 2008

Registration Form

Please Complete the Following

- 1) Full Name of Student: _____
- 2) Name of High School Student Attends: _____
- 3) Name of Teacher Accompanying Me: _____
- 4) Please indicate the breakout sessions you prefer to attend from the attached schedule:
First Choice: _____
Second Choice: _____
Third Choice: _____
- 5) Please attach a cheque to this form in the amount of \$25.00 made payable to the
Minister of Finance
- 6) Please return this form with registration fee care of:

Marc Gionet
The Atlantic Human Rights Centre
St. Thomas University
Fredericton, NB
E3B 5G3

- 7) Questions should be directed to Marc Gionet at 506-453-7203 or margionet@stu.ca

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED BY OCTOBER 20, 2008

Enjoy the Forum!