

News & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inclusion Day

EVERY_BODY: Rethinking the Bodies that Belong

January 23, 2014

York University, Keele Campus

York University's Centre for Human Rights is hosting its 5th annual Inclusion Day Conference. This one-day conference will include sessions where participants will have the opportunity to explore the concepts of inclusion and belonging through a human rights lens. The program is intended to engage attendees in critically analyzing notions of space and the bodies that are/are not included. We hope that you'll be able to join us for some or all of the day! Up to date details will be posted here: <http://www.yorku.ca/respect/>

Did You Know...The Centre for Human Rights (CHR) has a Community Engagement Program?

The CHR plays a significant role in human rights education by promoting a culture of equity and mutual respect. As part of its educational role, the CHR liaises with groups, committees, associations, and organizations interested in human rights both within the University and in the external community with the goal of sharing information about emerging issues as well as best practices.

In keeping with York University's commitment to increasing community engagement and promoting York University as one of the top employers for diversity, the CHR has collaborated with York's Employment Equity Officer - Learning & Organization Development and Recruitment team, to co-facilitate a series of information sessions to neighboring employment centres in the Jane & Finch and Rexdale areas.

The purpose of the information sessions is to share the following information with community members:

- Services available to all community members, such as, the medical centre, dental office, fitness centre etc.
- Benefits of working at York University
- Non-academic employment possibilities
- Non-academic recruitment process that is open to all
- Recruitment best practice tips
- York's commitment to increasing diversity
- Basic Human rights information - including accommodation requests, and prohibited and permissible questions that can be asked during an interview

Community Engagement

- Collaborate with different offices at York to promote York's commitment to diversity to the surrounding community members
- Provide external community members with basic human rights information workshops

Want to engage with the Community?

Please contact the Centre for Human Rights if your team/unit would like to explore possible collaborative community engagement initiatives with our office. Email jglean@yorku.ca or jtcheng@yorku.ca for more information.

Upcoming International and Canadian Human Rights Related Observances

December 1 **World AIDS Day**

World AIDS Day is held on December 1st, each year and is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day and the first one was held in 1988.

December 2 **International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**

The United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is annually observed on December 2nd, to remind people that modern slavery works against human rights. This holiday is not to be confused with the UN's International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition.

December 3 **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

United Nations' (UN) International Day of Persons with Disabilities is annually held on December 3rd, to focus on issues that affect Persons with disabilities worldwide.

December 6 **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**

December 6th, is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada. Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day marks the anniversary of the murders in 1989 of 14 young women at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. They died because they were women.

December 10 **Human Rights Day**

The United Nations' (UN) Human Rights Day is annually observed December 10th, to mark the anniversary of the presentation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

December 20 **International Human Solidarity Day**

The United Nations' (UN) International Human Solidarity Day is annually held on December 20 to celebrate unity in diversity. It also aims to remind people on the importance of solidarity in working towards eradicating poverty.

January 20 **Martin Luther King's Birthday**

The third Monday of January is celebrated widely in Canada and the US as acknowledgement the global significance and impact of Dr. King's work as a civil rights leader.

January 27 **International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust**

The United Nations designated January 27th in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and calling for a "remembrance of past crimes with an eye towards preventing them in the future."

Gender Identity and Gender Expression at York

Gender Identity and Gender Expression were included in the Ontario Human Rights Code in June 2012 and this has resulted with an increase in numbers of York University community members who contact the CHR to consult about concerns and questions that they have in relation to what these protections mean and how these will be advanced. As it does for all other protected grounds, the CHR staff work with campus partners to assist individuals and York community groups to address questions and concerns about these new grounds in a manner that values the dignity of these community members.

A recent collaboration resulted in a new protocol developed by the Registrar's Office for York University students who identify as Trans and want to change their official name in York University's Student Information System. For more information about the protocol, please contact the Office of the Registrar, the Centre for Human Rights (CHR), or view the protocol at <http://rights.info.yorku.ca/files/2013/03/Gender-and-name-change-procedure-FINAL-June-9-2013.pdf>.

Another collaboration was the CHR's sponsorship and support of SexGen York's symposium on Space, Safety and Gender. The CHR would like to congratulate SexGen Committee on a successful event that highlighted both the historical challenges for the Trans community and ideas for going forward.

If you would like more information on Gender Identify and Gender Expression, please contact us.

WORKSHOPS / EVENTS

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

December 5, 2013
11:30AM - 12:30PM
Vari Hall

International Human Rights Day Celebrations at York University's McLaughlin College

December 10, 2013
1:00PM - 3:00PM
Junior Common Room

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January 23, 2014
ALL DAY
280N York Lanes

We welcome all York students, staff and faculty to attend our workshops.

For more information and to register, please go to:
www.rights.info.yorku.ca/education-training-presentations/

Connect with the CHR!

Visit our Website to get more information about our services, events, workshops, and human rights resources
yorku.ca/rights



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