

Call for Papers

Mennonites, Land and the Environment: A Global History

An academic and community education conference

**Hosted by the Chair in Mennonite Studies at
The University of Winnipeg**

October 21-22, 2016

This academic conference focuses on the environmental history of Mennonite farm communities around the world. It explores the historic relationship between Mennonites and the land and is concerned with changing ideas on food production, sustainability and natural beauty. This conference interprets the interaction of Mennonites with 20th century agricultural changes in comparative perspective, including the Global South and Global North. The conference features papers from Canada, Bolivia, the Netherlands, Indonesia, Russia, the United States and Zimbabwe, and invites presentations from across the globe.

GENERAL THEMES:

- Environmental History, Soil Stewardship and Farm Land
- Climate Change, Global Warming and Mennonite Responses
- Gender: Women and Men in Garden and Farmyard
- Generations, Folklore and Old Wisdoms in Farm Culture
- Anabaptist Non-Violence, Simplicity and Environmental Sustainability
- Transnationalism: Mission Farm, Migrant Settlements
- Ideas: Nature, Beauty and the Divine over Time
- A Globalizing Economy and Mennonite Agriculture
- Dictates of Technology and Economies of Scale
- Intrusive States, Farm Policy and Mennonite Farms
- The Colonialized South versus a Commercialized North
- Land for the Poor, the Young and the Displaced
- Comparative: Climate, Geography, Politics, Denomination
- Artifacts and Architecture of Agraria: Material Culture and the Farm

Please submit a 100 word proposal and short CV to Royden Loewen, Chair in Mennonite Studies at r.loewen@uwinnipeg.ca by December 1, 2015.

Conference Advisory Committee: John Eicher, University of Iowa; Hans Peter Fast, Amsterdam; Susie Fisher, University of Manitoba; Aileen Friesen, University of Winnipeg; Danang Kristiawan, GITJ Japara, Indonesia; Belinda Ncube, Matopo Mission, Zimbabwe; Benjamin Nobbs-Thiessen, Emery University.