

# THE INSIDE STORY

Friends of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights envision a journey like no other. Take a short tour of this life-changing experience.\*

## 1. Aboriginal Rights (Exterior)

On the exterior of the theatre are Aboriginal sayings that express concepts of community, co-existence, respect and modes of governance. The other side of the structure displays the titles of treaties between Aboriginal peoples and the British Crown and Canadian government. Historical exhibits around the perimeter of the structure let visitors explore Aboriginal history and the struggle to regain rights that were lost.

## 2. Garden of Contemplation

Accessible along any point in the experience, the Garden of Contemplation is accessible central organizing experience the visitor's journey and hovers above the Great Hall. Water and plants suggest a place of healing and solace amidst reflections of earth and sky. These elements not only honour the First Nations' relationship to the land but also reinforce the fundamental environmental ethic that grounds the building.

## 3. Canada's Human Rights Journey

An open two-story gallery offers a multi-layered and dynamic look at the history of human rights struggles and advocacy in Canada, and the nation's development of human rights laws and institutions.

## 4. Eye on the World

The fourth level of the Museum looks at global human rights today with a real-time map of human rights issues, such as poverty or discrimination against women; a news wall of broadcast feeds from around the world; and temporary exhibits focusing on select issues of concern, for example, water as a human right.

## 5. Intro to Human Rights

An introductory gallery explores the essential principles of human rights, the contributions of different cultures over time and how our understanding of rights has evolved. In the centre of the gallery, visitors may deepen their exploration by using their Human Rights Key to access interactive stations and probe specific issues.

## 6. Modern Human Rights Movement

Exhibits in this gallery explain and celebrate the universal vision of human rights agreed upon by the community of nations after the events of the Holocaust and World War II. A multimedia chronology will depict the Modern Human Rights Movement – the struggle over time against oppression, injustice and discrimination, which includes hundreds of inspiring stories of people who had the courage to act, speak out and make change.

## 7. Holocaust Examining Genocide

When the extent of the Holocaust was revealed in 1945, it gave Canada and the world a shocking realization of what happens when rights are denied and unlimited power is imposed. In this gallery, exhibits begin with the rise of the Nazis and show how the vitality of Jewish life was stripped away – how the Nazis systematized a process that denied civil and political rights, destroyed cultural and community life, and left victims defenseless against their tormentors.

## 8. Hall of Commitment

In the museum's uppermost gallery, visitors can reflect on the meaning of their journey. If they wish, they can signal their personal commitment to human rights by leaving their image and name in the museum's digital guestbook. A constantly changing video-mosaic of portraits, uploaded from the guestbook, will represent the growing human rights community.

For a tour of these and other galleries visit: [www.humanrightsmuseum.ca](http://www.humanrightsmuseum.ca)

\*As envisioned by Ralph Appelbaum Associates

