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Asper foundation honoured

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The New Brunswick Human Rights commission will honour the Asper Foundation for its promotion of tolerance Saturday by presenting it with its rare Pioneer of Human Rights Award.

The foundation, which is being honoured for its Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program, will be in prestigious company since the award has only be given three times in the past.

"The foundation is making a difference in allowing students to participate in a program that creates sensitization in tomorrow's leaders. The human rights commission is proud to support this kind of awareness," said Gordon Porter, chair of the commission.

Started in Winnipeg in 1997 by the late Israel Asper, founder of Canwest Global Communications Corp., the program aims to promote tolerance and sensitize Grade 9 students of different background to the consequences of racism and allow them to become more aware of human rights.

"We were deeply honoured to be receiving this wonderful and prestigious award and very grateful that the province is recognizing our commitment to education on human rights and our commitment to providing that education nationally — because this is one of the only national privately-driven education programs in Canada," said foundation president Gail Asper.
