

THE UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD AMPLIFYING INDIGENOUS VOICES AFFINITY NETWORK IN COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE AND BELONGING PROUDLY PRESENT A FILM SCREENING



REGISTER:



IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

In 2021, evidence of unmarked graves was discovered on the grounds of an Indian Residential School run by the Catholic Church in Canada. After years of silence, the forced separation, assimilation, and abuse many children experienced at these segregated boarding schools across Canada and the United States were brought to light, sparking an outcry against a system designed to destroy Indigenous communities.

A stunning tribute to the resilience of Native People and their way of life.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025 | 2 - 5 PM

AUERBACH AUDITORIUM, HILLYER HALL, UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD | OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PANEL DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW WITH:

CASSANDRA TOSCANO & STEPHEN PEVAR, ESQ.

Cassandra Toscano is a West Hartford healthcare executive focusing on vulnerable populations. She is a descendant of the Kootenay tribe. Her grandmother is a survivor of the Indian Boarding School trauma and her family faces intergenerational trauma from this. “The Canadian government discovered 182 unmarked human remains in the backyard of the Indian Residential School. My grandma was abducted at the age of 5 and is a survivor of this school. She says they always knew the graves were there, even as children.”

<https://nctr.ca/residential-schools/british-columbia/cranbrook-st-eugenes/>

Stephen Pevar began his legal career in 1971 as a Legal Aid attorney on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota, where he lived and worked until 1974. He then worked for 45 years on the National Staff of the American Civil Liberties Union, retiring in 2022. During that time, Mr. Pevar litigated more than 175 civil rights cases, focusing on Indigenous rights, freedom of speech, and the rights of prisoners. In addition, Mr. Pevar taught Federal Indian Law for 16 years at the University of Denver School of Law, for 5 years at NYU Law School, and currently teaches Advanced Federal Indian Law at Yale Law School.