



THE YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIAN

A Newsletter for alumni and community members

November 2023

Welcome to this issue of the Youth Parliamentarian – your monthly newsletter for updates about the Youth Parliament of Manitoba. In this issue you will find **an alumni spotlight of Ariel Melamedoff**, and our **Session Schedule**.

Alumni Spotlight: Ariel Melamedoff



I am happy to share our next alumni spotlight, highlighting an alumnus I was fortunate to meet during my first two years of involvement with YPM. From the outset, Ariel exuded the presence of a natural leader, often being the one whom backbenchers would gravitate towards for advice and direction. This was most evident during his time as Speaker, where he easily commanded the chamber during debate.

Ariel Melamedoff's journey with YPM began as the member from Pangnirtung, and it took no time for him to join cabinet for the 92nd session. In that 92nd session he was the parliamentary secretary to Public Relations, going on to become the Minister of Revenue in the 93rd session. After being elected to the executive, Ariel served as the Deputy Speaker in the 94th session, followed by Deputy Premier, Premier, and finally, Speaker in his last year. That 97th session was also the year Ariel moved to New York, to embark on his PhD journey at NYU. With a lighter workload as Speaker during this final year, he found some respite while juggling his commitments with YPM and his academic pursuits.

Ariel now anticipates wrapping up his dissertation on Scottish philosopher Mary Shepherd within the year, all while teaching at NYU. Life in New York has exposed him to a rich culture of art and food, and the walkable city resonates with him. However, he misses the tranquillity of quieter, greener spaces, and despite its charm, Ariel doesn't envision a long-term future in the bustling city.

Reflecting on his YPM years, Ariel acknowledges the aspects he misses - the altruistic spirit, the mentoring opportunities, and the unstructured teaching environment that allowed him to connect with peers on a personal level. His year as Premier holds a special place in his heart, as he found it immensely fulfilling, especially given it was the inaugural year of the reconciliation fund. The leadership responsibility was the most formative aspect of Ariel's YPM experience. It was during these formative years that he discovered his passion for teaching, a revelation that influenced his decision to pursue graduate studies, despite initial uncertainty about his career path.

Despite no longer being actively involved with YPM, Ariel still incorporates elements of it into his life. He continues to organise events, engage in education, and maintain connections with the YPM community. Furthermore, he has kept up with his YPM

colleagues, maintaining a close-knit group of friends through a discord group. His relationship with Abigail Theano-Pudwill, a former executive member, has blossomed from a friendship in the high-pressure environment of YPM into a loving marriage. After a few years of little contact, they reconnected during the COVID-19 pandemic when Ariel returned to Winnipeg. The experiences, lessons, and relationships from his YPM years continue to shape Ariel's personal and professional life, underscoring the enduring impact of his time at the Youth Parliament of Manitoba.

Session Schedule - Join us!

Day One - Tuesday, December 26, 2023		
16:10	16:35	Opening Ceremonies
18:15	20:00	First Sitting
		<i>Second Reading - Religion Equalization Act</i>
Day Two - Wednesday, December 27, 2023		
10:25	12:15	Second Sitting
		<i>Second Reading - The Affordable Housing Supply Act</i>
14:05	15:45	Third Sitting
		<i>Second Reading - Child-Friendly Operating Systems Act</i>
Day Three - Thursday, December 28, 2023		
14:05	16:05	Fourth Sitting
16:35	18:20	Fifth Sitting
Day Four - Friday, December 29, 2023		
10:25	12:15	Sixth Sitting
		Concurrence and Third Reading - Religion Equalization Act
14:05	16:30	Seventh Sitting
		Concurrence and Third Reading - The Affordable Housing Supply Act
Day Five - Saturday, December 30, 2023		
14:20	16:05	Eighth Sitting
		Concurrence and Third Reading - Child-Friendly Operating Systems Act
16:35	17:15	Ninth Sitting
17:15	17:35	Closing Ceremonies

Between December 26 to 30, we invite all in Winnipeg to drop by and see this year's members debate three bills at YPM102:

- The Religion Equalization Act
- The Affordable Housing Supply Act

- The Child-Friendly Operating Systems Act

Get in touch

If you have any comments about this newsletter or simply want to connect, feel free to reply to this email and your message will come to me (Jacob). YPM is always happy to hear from our alumni, supporters, and friends in the community.

You can also stay connected by following us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#), and liking our page on [Facebook](#). If you are receiving this email, you are on the Youth Parliamentarian email list. However, if you know someone who is an alum of YPM but isn't receiving these emails, please encourage them to [join the mailing list](#)!

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