

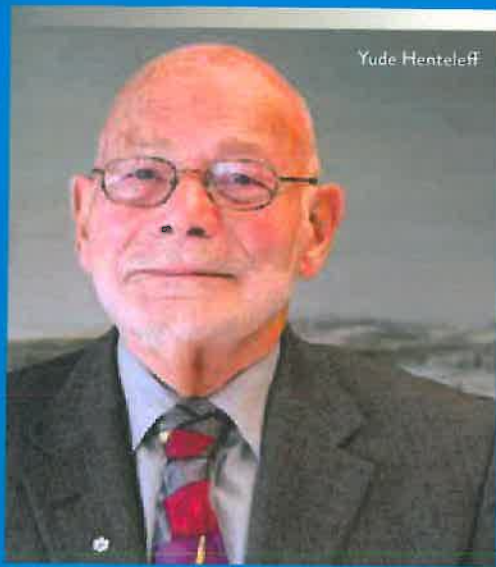


“It’s a continuous celebration of partnership with the land—of nurturing, preserving, and being responsible for the land, in all its beauty. There’s a richness that must be expanded upon and preserved for forthcoming generations. The fact that people come together as volunteers to plant trees, whether five or 80-years-old, working together for this common good is the most wonderful thing in the world. That’s the essence of what Henteleff Park is all about.”

Cultivating Our Heritage



Photo: Yude Henteleff (left) with his uncle, father, youngest sister and cousin, at the family vegetable stand on St. Mary's Road. (Photo provided by the Henteleff Park Foundation)



In 1924, just three years after The Winnipeg Foundation was established, Nathan and Rose Henteleff purchased 40 acres of land on the banks of the Red River in South St. Vital. They joined Métis, Ukrainian, Polish, Irish, Scottish, Dutch, and Belgian farming families and established a market garden that would help to feed the community for decades. Ninety years later, their son, Winnipeg lawyer Yude Henteleff, is working to ensure the park that bears his family name will be preserved for his children and grandchildren, and enjoyed by the people of Manitoba for many centuries to come.

"We were the only Jewish family in the area," says Henteleff, "By and large, it was just a wonderful community for a young person to be brought up—barn dances, ice skating parties on the river. On the other hand, it was very hard work."

In 1967, the City of Winnipeg expropriated the land from the Henteleff Family, promising it would become part of a greenbelt. When that plan fell through, it became a municipal tree nursery. In 1996, volunteers worked to establish a City park on the site. Their work paid-off and today the area is a serene and remarkable riverside greenspace.

The Henteleff Park Foundation cooperates with the City in maintaining the area, and works to restore its natural splendour. Volunteers have planted more than 5,000 trees and shrubs, installed 3.5 km of trails and added signage about the park's diverse history and varied ecology, which includes deer, fox, beavers, and turtles, along with dozens of bird species.

This year, through our **Community Building Funds**, the Foundation provided a grant to the **Henteleff Park Foundation**. The grant will help establish an interpretive centre providing educational context for the natural and human heritage of the park, its flora and fauna, the history of market gardening, and the history of the local Métis and Jewish farm families who called the area home.

