Caribbean Research Institute panel discussion:

The impact of Nicaragua Canal on Indigenous and Afrodescendant heritage

The construction of the Nicaragua Interoceanic Grand Canal has garnered only a very sporadic interest in the news media, one that does not match the immensity of the project and its potential to affect the natural environment and the lives of those who inhabit the region. The canal will remove five times more earth than the Panama Canal. It will connect two oceans with the largest body of fresh water between the lake Titiqaqa in South America and the Great Lakes in the North. The environmental impact will be immense, and – as far as history teaches us – not entirely predictable. The canal promises to unite the culturally and politically very different Pacific and Caribbean coasts of Nicaragua, provide a needed development boost to the whole country and create jobs, a portion of which will be reserved for local communities. How this project will affect Indigenous and other local communities depends on how they are involved in the process of planning and mitigation.

Wednesday, March 23rd 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Room 3D04 University of Winnipeg

Panelists:

Dr. Mirjana Roksandic, University of Winnipeg Dr. Gabriel Nemogá, University of Winnipeg Dr. Eric Thrift, University of Manitoba Dr. Miguel Gonzalez, York University

