

# Truth Commissions: Issues of Access and Ownership Conference

A 2-day conference that aims to bring together expert scholars, policymakers, and civil society stakeholders to examine access to and ownership of Truth Commissions' documentation.

**McMaster University Hamilton, ON, Canada**  
**October 24 - 25, 2022**

Verne Harris heads the Nelson Mandela Foundation's leadership and knowledge development processes. He was Mandela's archivist from 2004 to 2013, directed the Foundation's archives programme for 15 years and the dialogue and advocacy programme for 5 years. He is an adjunct professor at the Nelson Mandela University, participated in a range of structures which transformed South Africa's apartheid archival landscape, including the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and is a former Deputy Director of the National Archives. He has authored or co-authored six books, the most recent one being *Ghosts of Archive* (2021). He is the recipient of an honorary doctorate from the University of Cordoba in Argentina (2014), held the Follet Chair at Dominican University (Chicago) in 2018-9, received archival publication awards from Australia, Canada and South Africa, and both his novels were short-listed for South Africa's M-Net Book Prize. He has served on the Boards of Archival Science, the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation, the Freedom of Expression Institute, and the South African History Archive.

Keynote Address

**Verne  
Harris**

**"Violation of a Truth Commission"**

**October 24, 2022 at 10:00 -11:00 am EST**  
**Keynote talks are open to the public.**  
**Register at [bit.ly/truthcommissions](https://bit.ly/truthcommissions)**

**For more information:**

<https://truthcommissions.humanities.mcmaster.ca/>

<https://chrrj.humanities.mcmaster.ca/conferences/truthcommissions>

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