



GETTING TO KNOW
Mark Winston

Mark Winston has been a professor at Simon Fraser University for 40 years, first teaching and doing research involving bees, then as the founding director and now senior fellow in SFU's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. Brought up in South Euclid, Ohio (suburb of Cleveland), he saw himself as a Canadian imprisoned in an American body, immigrating to Canada in 1980. He and wife Lori have three children and three grandchildren between them, live in a super friendly co-op in the West End, and share a love of reading, writing, walking, and talking to each other.

Some random achievements:

- Has been on three synagogue boards, including a short stint as Or Shalom Treasurer
- Received the 2015 Governor Generals Literary Award for *Bee Time: Lessons From the Hive*
- Took second place in a Western Swing dance contest in Pocatello, Idaho (shoulda won... everyone agreed the fix was in)
- Got terrible grades in university (which he views as an achievement, as he really had to work hard at getting grades that bad)
- Has a room named after him at SFU (The Mark Winston Collaboration Room. Really.)
- Has been a consistent winner in online Pictionary games during the pandemic when partnered with his four-year-old grandson. He has not done so well on his own.
- Recently took up colouring to rave reviews from his Facebook friends.

What is the trait that best describes you? Perhaps: fierce loyalty to my friends and family. You might ask them; I've never been particularly good at describing myself.

What is your idea of happiness? A walk through Stanley Park with Lori, a nap with one of the grandkids, a good old fashioned heart-to-heart over a cortado at one of my favorite coffee shops, what could be better?

From where do you seek inspiration? Lori, the kindest person I know, whose kindness inspires me to be a kinder person.

What is something most people don't know about you? I used to drive around on Saturday nights in the USA listening to the Grand Ole Opry from Nashville, Tennessee, followed by the Ernest Tubbs Record Hour.

What's your favourite Jewish food? Matzo. Really. I love matzo.

If you could invite anyone to your home for Shabbat, who would you invite? I'd like to spend an evening with my grandparents and parents, all passed on now. I have so many questions.

Of what accomplishment are you most proud? Our kids, and now our grandkids.

Complete this sentence: God put me on this earth to.... Assist others in becoming the fullest versions of themselves they can be

If you had a wish, prayer or favour granted by God, what would it be? Short-term: please get rid of this corona virus. Long-term: how about reducing inequality by...well, quite a lot.

Ask him about: The time he saw Bonnie Raitt in her bathrobe, the Killer Bee Team, how mob money from the New York Five Families put him through university.