

BCRC Newsletter



Black Community Resource Centre

Volume 5, Issue 2

April 2006

Special points of interest:



To order your
Oscar Peterson Stamps
1.800.565.4362

We hope our readers
enjoyed a safe and happy
Easter holiday -
And we continue to wish
readers well over
Passover

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Executive Director's Message

Spring has arrived! Usually it signals the end of Black History Month, however in this issue we continue to take a look at the richness of Black history and culture.

This issue launches a three-part series looking into the lives of Black women, and how their profound leadership has left their names preeminently engraved in the history pages. We felt that it would be appropriate to start the series in celebration of the memory and life's work of Dr. Rosemary Brown, "the first woman to run for the leadership of a federal political party in Canada." Further, we have compiled a short brief on the 'Task Force Report on Black Communities in Québec' on pg.3.

We hope that you enjoy this issue of the Newsletter and remind our readers and partners to submit event information to us via email, fax, or a phone call so that we can publicize the good work that you are doing within the community. We will gladly place your event information on our website or e-bulletin, as well.

In addition, please take note that our 2006 'Summer Activity Guide' will be released shortly. We invite organizations and community centres to submit any Summer activity they would like published in our guide, which is distributed throughout Montreal.

In closing, on behalf of the Centre I would like to wish our readers and their families a safe and well holiday season in April and urge you to enjoy the long-awaited spring weather!

Sharon Springer (Executive Director)

Rwanda Genocide - 12 Years Later



It was 12 years ago on April 6th that "the worst planned ethnic killing since the Holocaust" started.

1,000,000 people were killed in 100 days of the genocide. Social economic infrastructures were destroyed, forcing close to 3 million people into exile. An estimated 25, 000 women were raped by HIV positive men.

Today, the country is trying to rebuild itself after "the world failed Rwanda in 1994." War criminals are being brought to justice; even though the process has been costly and slow. Funds are desperately needed for antiretroviral drugs to stop the second genocide of people infected HIV/AIDS from taking place. (cont. pg 3).

'BROWN IS BEAUTIFUL'



1930-2003

"If I am elected leader of the [NDP]..."

"...I am dedicated not to patching up or reforming this system but to changing it." Those words echoed through a crowded room of party supporters back in 1975, as the NDP leadership campaign was coming to a close, and the history books recorded the name of the first woman to run for the leadership of a federal political party in Canada - Rosemary Brown.

Brown's contribution to "women and politics" will forever shape our political landscape. As a 'role-model' her "grace and elegance" and aspirations have inspired many. Perhaps, Canada will soon have another woman on the final ballot running for the leadership of a federal political party.

In the end, Brown was feared by critics for her strong leadership style and political ambitions. Those who loved her remember the warm smiles, good sense of humor, dedication and loyalty to her family, friends and work.

In her own words Brown sums up her experience of her leadership race: "The one aspect of the experience that gives me my greatest joy, however, is knowing that on July 7, 1975, all over this country, Black people, children as well as adults, eyes and ears fixed on TV and radio, waited for the results of that final ballot, and for that short while, dared to dream the impossible."

Remembering Marie-Josèphe Angélique



Photo: Sharone Callender

It has been over 272 years since the death of Canada's well documented slave, Marie-Josèphe Angélique, and on April 7th, our Governor-General Michaëlle Jean, Mayor Tremblay, Quebec Immigration Minister Lise Thériault and many supporters walked through the streets of Old Montreal to commemorate the life and legacy of Angélique and the history of the 1734 Montreal fire.

After the G-G's speech about a courageous woman and the crime of injustice that took place, flowers were laid under a commemorative plaque on the outside wall of Maison Parent-Roback on Ste Therese Street.

A symbolic walk ended by a detailed overview of the Angélique story - available to the public on "Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History" (<http://www.canadianmysteries.ca>), entitled 'Torture and the Truth: Angélique and the Burning of Montreal.'

Canadian Mysteries is supported by Canadian Heritage, University of Victoria, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, and the Université de Sherbrooke.

The Angélique site also displays Maps of Montreal in the mid 18th century, the overview of Montreal society and the criminal justice system at that time, all trial documents against Angélique from April 11, 1734 - June 21, 1734, and other archival documents; letters, court documents, and Colonial Correspondence.

A special exhibition on Marie-Josèphe Angélique will be on display +at Chateau Ramezay in Old Montreal from Oct. 12, 2006 - March 25, 2007.

Genocide continues

After the Holocaust the international community declared 'never again'; tragically, other genocides have been placed in the history books since then; and genocides after 1991 include; Bosnia (1992-1995), Rwanda (1994), and Darfur (2003-).

With regards to the situation in Darfur, dialogue between the country and the United Nations is ongoing. The African Union's peace mission in the region is coming under financial strain and they (AU) will be asking Arab leaders for financial support in the coming days. Further, the International Criminal Court has begun its investigation into war crimes in Sudan.

To enquire more about Rwanda and Sudan, our readers can visit the websites of Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and International Crisis Group. Also, for current information on humanitarian alerts please visit Reuters AlertNet (www.alertnet.org).

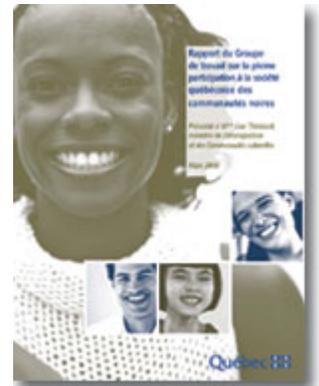
"Thou shalt not be a victim. Thou shalt not be a perpetrator. Above all, thou shalt not be a bystander."
- Holocaust museum, Washington, DC

TASK FORCE REPORT

The Task Force Report contains 8 sections with over 30 recommendations addressing racism and racial discrimination, employment, and entrepreneurship, just to name a few of the issues discussed within the report.

There is concern within the Black communities that the report is absent of strong accountability measures and a well-defined action plan to ensure Deputy Ministers and senior bureaucrats follow through to implement all recommendations. Further, with the Quebec elections less than 14 months away, it will be vital for the community to lobby the Quebec government to ensure that it follows through on its recommendations and brings about needed change. This report on the full participation of Quebecers from the Black communities constitutes a fundamental challenge for the Quebec government and the society as a whole.

Members of the Black communities have organized a rally to bring light to the continuing situation of inequity in QC society and push for change. The **'Rally For Black Youth' will take place on Friday, April 28th at 12 noon, in front of the Ministry of Immigration and Cultural Communities, 360 McGill Ave.**



THE COUNCIL FOR BLACK AGING COMMUNITY OF MONTREAL INC.

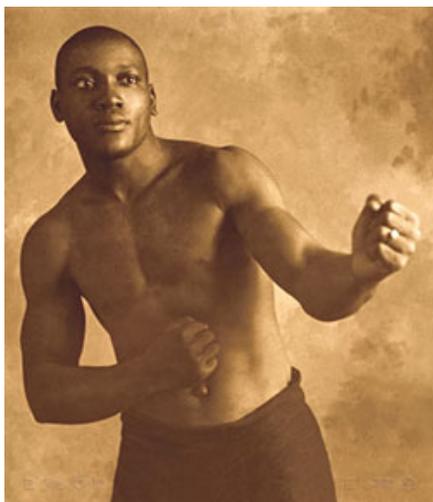
THE COUNCIL FOR BLACK AGING COMMUNITY MONTREAL IS LAUNCHING ITS ANNUAL FUNDRAISING FOR THE 2006/2007 YEAR

IN THIS FRAMEWORK THE COUNCIL WILL BE RAFFLING A HANDMADE QUEEN SIZE QUILT A VALUE OF \$1000.00

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT THE COUNCIL'S OFFICE @\$2.00 / TICKET
3021, rue Delisle (metro Lionel-Groulx)
514.935.4951

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO REACH OUR GOALS AND YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

UNFORGIVABLE BLACKNESS...



...THE RISE AND FALL OF JACK JOHNSON...

...tells the story of the first African-American boxer to win the most coveted title in all of sports and his struggle, in and out of the ring, to live his life as a free man.

Directed by award winning filmmaker Ken Burns
Voice of Jack Johnson by Samuel L. Jackson

<http://www.florentinefilms.com>

'REVOLUTION UNDERGROUND'

A bold film by eleven youth from The Black Community Resource Centre, BCRC. These filmmakers ask the question "What is revolution?".

"The answers are bold and nuanced and come from a variety of young social activists, artists and organizers. Revolution Underground is a portrayal of resistance, a challenge to apathy and a testament to the power of solidarity. Discover how the making of this film destroys any notion that Black youth are powerless to effect change in their lives" - <http://citizen.nfb.ca>

Photos: Jack Sanford



BCRC RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Rosemary Brown (1989). [Being Brown: A Very Public Life](#) (Random House; ISBN:0394220501).

Afua Cooper (2006). [The Hanging of Angélique: The Untold Story of Canadian Slavery and the Burning of Old Montreal](#) (Harpercollins Canada; ISBN:00020005530).

Gil Courtemanche (2003). [A Sunday at the Pool in Kigali](#) (Knopf, 1st United edition; ISBN:1400041074).

Kalpana Das & Iomomba Emongo (2003). [Caring for the Elderly in Ethnocultural Communities: A Reference Guide](#) (Intercultural Institute of Montreal; ISBN:0920719287).

Myrna Lashley, et al (2005). [Student Success: The Identification of Strategies Used By Black Caribbean Youth To Achieve Academic Success](#) (FQRSC; No. ref: 2003-PRS-88151).

David M. Tanovich (2006). [The Colour Of Justice: Policing Race in Canada](#). (Irwin Law; ISBN:1552211150).

SUMMER CAMP / SCHOOL - EARLY REGISTRATION

Get that needed help for your child this Summer!

Quebec Board of Black Educators

Bana Summer School (July 4—Aug.3)

To be held at three locations: Hampstead School, LaSalle Community Comprehensive High School, & Parkdale School

Courses: English, French, Mathematics, Music, Arts & Crafts, Sports, Cultural Activities

For information & pre-registration: 514.481.9400

Dacosta Hall Summer School (July 4—Aug.4)

For high school students to be held at Dawson College

Courses: Mathematics, French, English, Canadian History, Physical Science, Black History

Registration: June 30, 2006 (9am to 2pm), Dawson College, Atwater Campus (2nd Floor Atrium) 4001 De Maisonneuve Blvd. West

For information & pre-registration: 514.481.9400

NDG Black Community Association

Patrice Lumumba Cultural Day Camp (ages 4-12) / Teen Leadership Program (ages 13-17)

Contact: Nancy Mackenzie **514.481.3598**

CDN Black Community Association

Marcus Garvey Cultural Day Camp / Teen Summer Program

Contact: Linette Edwards **514.737.8321**

Walkley Community Summer Day Camp

Summer program starting June 26 (ages 4-13)

Contact: June McGibbins **514.369.9449**

The Garvey Institute

A constructive and fun way to spend five weeks in the Summer

Our Summer program (July 4 - Aug. 4) combines Academics in the morning and camp activities in the afternoon.

ENGLISH - FRENCH - MATH - COMPUTER - INTERNET - GAMES - FIELD TRIPS

Contact: **514.855.1425**

PLEASE NOTE

If you wish to have information about your Summer Camp / Summer School entered in our official 'Summer Guide 2006' please

email or fax the information to us

Deadline for submission: April 21 - 2 PM



Community Calendar

'RALLY FOR BLACK YOUTH' IN QUEBEC

A RESPONSE TO THE 'TASK FORCE ON THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF BLACK COMMUNITIES IN QUÉBEC SOCIETY'

Friday, April 28 - 12NOON - The office of the Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities, Lise Thériault (360 McGill Ave.)

AFRICAN AND CREOLE FILM FESTIVAL

April 20-30, 2006

22nd Edition of the African and Creole Film Festival. Over 100 films from forty countries will be presented along a special tribute to Moroccan cinema. For more info: www.vuesdafrique.org / 514.990.3201

BOROUGH MEETINGS: Côte-des-Neiges / Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

A healthy community promotes healthy living. Be informed on what is going on in your community.

For information on date, time and location contact:

Bureau Accès Montréal NDG: 514.872.6731

Bureau Accès Montréal Côte-des-Neiges: 514.872.6403

CARING & HELPING HANDS - LES MAINS QUI AIDENT

6TH ANNUAL BANQUET - BUFFET DINNER

September 2006 - For more info: Rev. Bagot 514.274.2542

COCO CAFÉ - SPOKEN WORD

With host **Jason 'Steel' Joseph & Dj Franky Selector**

Sunday April 30, 2006 - Pub Quartier Latin

318 Ontario St. East (St. Denis) - doors open at 8PM

For more info: www.inobeproductions.com

COUNCIL OF BLACK AGING COMMUNITY OF MONTREAL, INC.

May 9th - Discover Montreal By Bus • **May 11th** - Information Session on Foot Care

May 18th - Tulip Festival (Ottawa) • **June 8th** - AGM

June 22nd - Variety Show • **June 27th** South Shore Picnic

All dates are subject to change

For more information on times & locations 514.935.4951

NDG 2020 PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES

"Bringing the active forces of the community together to organize for change"

For more info: 514.484.1471 /email:ndg2020@ndg.ca

UNION UNITED CHURCH

Gospel Concert

Saturday May 6 @ 7PM (St. Irénée Church)

560 Atwater (Metro Lionel-Groulx)

Tickets available at Union United Church 514.932.8731

VUES D'AFRIQUE - RALLYE EXPOS 2006

Discover ludic art from African and Creole artistes. This new edition will present **16 expositions until**

June 30th. For more info: info@vuesdafrique.org or www.vuesdafrique.org

514.284.3322

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*Supporting Youth, Building Communities
A "Holistic Approach"*

WWW.BLACKYOUTHPROJECT.ORG

The Centre takes a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of Black youth aged 0-30 and their families; this approach is called the "Holistic Project." Through a multi-intervention (holistic) approach, the Black Community Resource Centre helps young Black, English-speaking individuals fully participate in mainstream society.

The adoption of this approach recognizes that youth can have many needs (e.g., social cultural, health, education, economic, ect.) and that all these needs must be addressed in order for the youth to reach their maximum potential.

The Centre provides information and resources to both organizations and individuals within Montreal. In addition, we provide programming to Black youth in a manner which takes into account their many and complex needs.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **We encourage our readers to visit BCRC's website for upcoming events in Montreal, BCRC publications, and much more.**
- **Please do not hesitate in letting the BCRC team know what events are taking place within your organization. You can email or fax us.**

OUR FUNDERS:

- Human Resource and Skills Development Canada; Multiculturalism; Official Languages Branch



- Emploi Québec; Fonds Jeunesse du Québec; Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'immigration; Ministère de l'Emploi de la Solidarité Sociale et de la Famille; Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse

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