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APRIL 2021 | VOL. 35

SEMAJI

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF BCRC

BCRC is a growing, resource-based organization that strengthens community capacity by providing professional support to organizations and individuals in need.



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A Message From The Team

Like most newsletters, the SEMAJI' Newsletter should be accessible, informative, and engaging. It is the voice of BCRC, albeit a whisper in the midst of many voices in our community. It introduces you to the incredibly diverse thought, philosophy and action that impact our community every day. Through this newsletter, we offer a glimpse into our organization, while we use this monthly to stimulate our outreach. It is the update of the community's activities, but it can also be created by you.

Enjoy this edition, and look out for our Community News Updates that will present information on the status, needs and priorities of the English Speaking Black Communities of Montreal.



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The 2021 Community Vitality Survey

L'enquête 2021 sur la vitalité des communautés

Visit our website to take the survey (ages 18+):

Veuillez consulter notre site web pour
répondre à l'enquête (18 ans +):

www.bcrcmontreal.com

Education

Economic

Health

Psycho-social

Socio-cultural



The Black in Quebec team has launched their 2021 community Vitality survey.

The purpose of this study is to collect up-to-date information about the state of objective and subjective well-being in Quebec's English-speaking Black communities in relation to other racialized and linguistic communities.

Click the link below to complete the survey and feel free to share the survey with your community.

For the English Survey Click [here](#).

Pour l'enquête française, cliquez [ici](#)

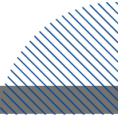


BLACK IN QUÉBEC PROJECT UPDATE 2021

It has been just over a year since the launch of the Black in Quebec project and we have come a long way since its commencement. From the outset, **the goal of this project was to research the state of relative well-being of Quebec's English-speaking Black community by consulting the existing information and by collecting new data on the community.** While there is still many things to be done, both branches of this project have grown as the project has collected a growing number of data sets, tables, reports, articles, academic journals and other primary and secondary sources of information, closely examining them. Following that step, several gaps in information pertaining to the community were identified, allowing the project team to have a more precise idea about which kinds of data should be sought and for what purpose. The second branch, data collection, also progressed as the project team interviewed nearly 40 members of Quebec's English-speaking Black community and collaborated with university in the creation of a survey regarding the psycho-social well-being of English-speaking Black youth in Quebec, a one of a kind study.

New initiatives (Survey, Data center: website, data content)

As of today, the project team is attempting to access more microdata that pertains to the community directly from institutions such as Statistics Canada. While Statistics Canada collects data on race and language across several of its surveys, the data collected is not always analyzed in a particular way that focuses on specific communities or geographies. This is a key reason the BCRC would like to be able to access the data, to conduct an analysis of outcomes between racialized and linguistic communities in Quebec and to create a profile for Quebec's English-speaking Black community. Thus far, while the team has collected important data tables such as a Custom Table for Quebec's Black community from 2016 Census data, there is still much information that the project seeks to access and discover. In addition to our efforts to access more microdata, the project team has also just launched its 2021 Community Vitality survey which asks respondents questions across the 5 thematic areas adopted by the project. Both of these efforts will go a long way in adding to the value of the information collected and stored at the BCRC as the project team prepares to launch its online data centre.





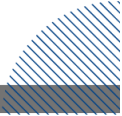
What is upcoming

Over the coming weeks and months, the project will be continuing these actions while it also further disseminates information which it has been collecting. There are a number of reports, infographics, and articles which will be released and the project team will host a community forum (date to be announced) where the project as a whole will be presented and the results can be discussed.

Furthermore, the project website will be revamped and more content will be added to it such as the BCRC data center from which individuals can view and request data pertaining to the community. In addition to these actions, the BIQ team will also be looking at ways to enhance its current partnership and collaboration model to maximize the quality of the work produced and the audiences it can reach.

Discussion themes

Throughout the course of our research, we have had to consider many questions as to how best to carry out our work in order to maximize its utility. We ultimately want to create and distribute resources that are helpful to community members and encourage them to participate. Thus, we have always invited community feedback on how we can make our work more accessible and relevant, with the aim of strengthening and continuing this discourse. Furthermore, we take great interest in how the state of the community and challenges facing it are being discussed in public life (ex. politics, media, academia) and potentially acted upon. We hope to contribute to this discourse by disseminating our findings to the community, by conducting evidence-based advocacy, and by creating and encouraging forums for these discussions to respectfully take place and for planning to happen.



Upcoming Events

COLLECTE
DE SANG

BLOOD DRIVE



HÉMA-QUÉBEC

DR. CHARLES DREW

Organisée par
Organized by




Vendredi 21 mai

Friday, May 21 — By appointment only

SUR RENDEZ-VOUS SEULEMENT

BLACK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

6767, chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges, Montréal



Prenez rendez-vous dès aujourd'hui.

→ 1 800 343-7264

→ jedonne@hema-quebec.qc.ca

Call 1-800-343-7264 or email us at igive@hema-quebec.qc.ca to book an appointment.

BCRC is Co-organizing a **blood drive** with Héma-Québec for the Dr. Charles Drew blood drive. The blood drive will be held on **Friday, May 21th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, in the large room (Ground Floor) of the BCRC located at 6767 chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges in Montréal.

It is necessary to make an appointment before coming to the blood drive. You can contact: **T-800-343-7264 or email: igive@hema-quebec.qc.ca to make an appointment.**

Héma-Québec has everything in place to ensure that donating continues to be a safe experience. Many measures at all collection sites, including access control at the sites by taking the temperature of donors and volunteers, additional sanitizing measures, and revised logistical organization of the drives in order to respect the distancing measures.

Who can donate blood?

Anyone who is healthy and 18 years of age or older can usually donate blood. Before going to a blood drive, you can check your eligibility by visiting <https://www.hema-quebec.qc.ca/sang/donneur-sang/puis-je-donner/index.en.html>

Give blood. Give life.

Upcoming Events



Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) series Heritage Talks On-line, QAHN will be presenting a talk by Dr. Dorothy Williams.

The presentation is as follows:

They call me Mr. Gibbs: A Portrait of a Father of Confederation

By Dr. Dorothy Williams

Tuesday, May 11th 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

You can see the presentation by Dorothy Williams on Heritage Talks Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/qahnheritagetalks> or by joining us on Zoom by pre-registering on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vfuGurz8tHtR2MiyhVqxJkGkaYWxzDhPS>

Mifflin Wistar Gibbs was a pioneer in British Columbia; some would say he was “A Father of Confederation.” This African-American played a pivotal role in making sure that the American flag never flew over British Columbia. By all accounts, Gibbs was wealthy and his means allowed him to wield power and influence in early Victoria. Unlike many of British Columbia’s colonists who favoured annexation to the United States to the south, Gibbs advocated that the colony join the new Canadian Dominion to the east. In 1868, when the time came to vote at the Yale Convention, it was Mifflin Wistar Gibbs that turned the tide of the convention and BC joined Confederation.

Dr. Dorothy W. Williams is an award-winning author who specializes in Canadian Black history. Dorothy’s company blacbiblio.com Inc promotes African-Canadian history and heritage using The ABC’s of Canadian Black History Kit.

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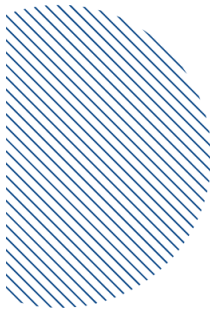
How do I submit articles to the Semaji newsletter?

How do I submit articles to the Semaji newsletter?
 Articles for submission are accepted 7 days prior to publication. Issues are published every first of the month.
 Send articles to communications@bcrcmontreal.com.
 If you are submitting photos please send a jpeg with credit.

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