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SEMAJI

May 2022

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF BCRC

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

**MESSAGE FROM
DR. CLARENCE S. BAYNE,
CHAIR OF THE SECRETARIAT OF
THE BCF**

A statement from
the Chair of the
Secretariat of the
Black Community
Forum entitled "A
Safe Space for
Blacks and Minorities
in Quebec and
Canada"

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- A statement from the Chair of the Black Community
- The poem "The Myth of the North Star"
- What's Up at the BCRC
- Events
- Jobs

STATEMENT FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARIAL OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

"A Safe Space for Blacks and Minorities in Quebec and Canada"

The Black Community Forum supports all efforts for building a Canada that is a safe space for Blacks, no matter what language they speak. But we also make it clear in our published mission and purposes that in doing so we work with others and respect the rights of all human specie. We are totally against any system that promotes the existence of one human sub-group at the expense of and or the extinction of another, based on concepts of racial superiority of one group over the other.

We believe that constitutional arrangements and laws that support these inequalities and denial of others' human rights must be urgently revisited and corrected. As a people of African descent that have struggled for freedom under painful memories of a history of slavery, colonialism, and its colour lines and ceilings, we reject any system that is structured and governed on the principles of a social and economic lifestyle that appears to promote elements of fascism. We must raise our voices against laws and extremists that wish to maintain and sustain social and political structures and practices that promote or facilitate systemic discrimination.

In Quebec and Canada, Constitutional arrangements that govern the state, support the distribution of powers that discriminate in favour of the "Historical Whites". The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom allows the use of the "notwithstanding clause" to give the mainstream Whites the ability to create laws that make French the only official language of business, and the only official language of communication. This is the law of Quebec notwithstanding the fact that the Canadian Constitution states that Canada is bilingual and that all cultures are equal in status.



OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

CONTINUED...

Quebec supports this by the enactment of Bill 101. This bill is currently being strengthened by the proposed Bill 96. For many Blacks that came here from former British and French colonies this bill has considerable frightening powers that remind them of the powers assumed by the Nazi fascism movement as promoted in the "Third Reich". It is all the more terrifying because persons fearing the reduction of benefits as a result of the Bill and who dare to express their fears and or desire to test the acts in the courts of the Country are forbidden by the Constitution and the "notwithstanding" clause. Moreover, they are frequently subjected to severe criticism by extreme nationalist leaders using the socio-political propaganda and claims, that expressions of such fears are attacks on Quebec and the Quebecois peoples. This is a standard part of Premier Legault's denial of systemic racism in Quebec.

As Blacks we must not be fooled by the claim that these laws are for the protection of the French language and culture. This struggle is not about language, nor in the interest of "non-historical French or English citizens". It is about power and the retention of land and wealth between the historical White classes. We Blacks need to stand against Bill 96 in its present form. We must reject the fascist elements of the Bill. But be it clear that in doing so, we promote the democratic rights of all peoples, no matter what language they speak, the colour of their skin and ethnicity, to the benefits of their initiatives, and an equitable share of the benefits of the collective exploration of all its Chadian eco-systems.

Dr. Clarence S. Bayne
Chair of BCF

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POEM

THE MYTH OF THE NORTH STAR
By Clarence Bayne

Twinkle, Twinkle
Crystal Northern Star, sparkle
Like the diamond once you
were
Up above the Quebec sky
Some where

Where the hell are you?

Travelling
Beyond the darkness
And cloud beds
Looking down on sites,
so sad
secured in Fascist dreams

I am off to Universes
In light years far removed
From your freedom myths
Beyond your dark despair.

Safe from the angry seas
Vomiting bodies from the
Crossings.
And the burning landscapes
Of exploding rock beds
Swallowed by conciliation's
floods.

From distant universes, safe
I search these ruins
Reconstructing broken
dreams
With those that have eyes
that see
And avoid the dusty ways
That suck us into Black
holes
As matter to be crushed.

Twinkle, twinkle North Star
I often Wonder where the
hell you are.

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WHAT'S UP at the BCRC

IN THE KNOW PROJECT SPVM Workshop

In May, the In The Know Project hosted a workshop with the SPVM. Officer Ashley provided Beurling Academy High school students with more serviceable knowledge of a "hate crime" and a "hate incident." The presentation highlighted the importance of reporting a "hate incident" to strengthen a "hate crime" case.

WHERE THEY STOOD: THE ANIMATED SERIES

Final INFO SESSION June 15TH

The book Where They Stood is now preparing to welcome new interns for a 20- month animated series project funded by Secrétariat aux relations avec les québécois d'expression anglaise. With the help of CineCite and ToonBoom, the interns will animate and bring to life the Where They Stood Book to be published in 2023.

RALLY AGAINST BILL 96

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
AT 3:30 PM UTC-06

The National Assembly has adopted Bill 96, Montreal's diverse communities come out and stand against the Bill 96 to send a strong message to the government that this Bill is unacceptable.



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EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENT

[Register on Eventbrite](#)

EXISTING, THRIVING, STRIVING:

Lawyers and Academics at the intersections of 2SLGBTQIA+ and Black communities

Tuesday, June 14th | 6:30 pm – 8:00pm EST

Come join BFLN and BLSA Canada for an interactive discussion about being a lawyer and academic at the intersections of 2SLGBTQIA+ and Black communities. Hear from Black panelists with diverse professional and cultural backgrounds.

SPEAKERS



Beverly Bain
(she/her)
Assistant Professor,
University of Toronto
Mississauga



Johann Annisette
(he/him)
Associate,
Alexander Holburn



Elizabeth Taylor
(she/her)
Articled Clerk,
Cox and Palmer



Omo Akintan
(she/her)
Chief People Officer,
University Pension Plan

MODERATED BY

Aina Nia Ayodele
(she/her)



POETIC INTERLUDE BY

Kaushalya Bannerji
(she/her)



WHERE THEY STOOD:
THE ANIMATED SERIES

BEGIN YOUR CAREER IN ANIMATION

MORE INFORMATION IN QR CODE

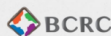
SIGN UP NOW & SEE YOU THERE!

**June 15th,
2022 | 6:00 pm**
VIRTUAL EVENT

REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE

BCRC IN COLLABORATION WITH

Secrétariat aux relations
avec les Québécois
d'expression anglaise



Québec



SCAN ME

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/where-they-stood-the-animated-series-tickets-333728760707>

WHERE THEY STOOD:

The animated series
Each intern will have access
to Toon Boom software
licenses, followed by
workshops designed and
led by animation specialists
from Cinesite.

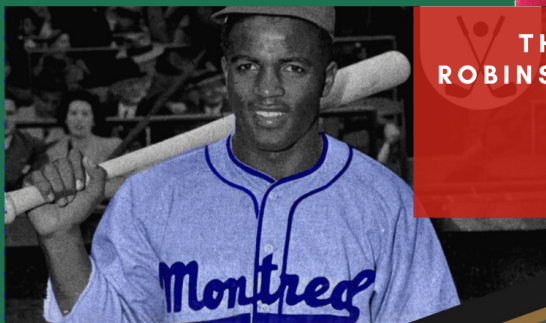
**FINAL INFO
SESSION VIA
EVENTBRITE**

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EVENTS



THE 2022 ANNUAL JACKIE ROBINSON GOLF TOURNAMENT

In support of BASF

THURSDAY JULY 7TH,
2022

2022 JACKIE ROBINSON ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



THURSDAY JULY 7TH, 2022

SCHEDULE

10 AM: Registration
 10 AM - 12 PM: Putting Contest
 10 AM - 11:30 AM: Brunch
 12 PM: Shotgun Start
 6PM - 7PM: Cocktails
 7PM: Dinner

CONTACT US NOW

golf@basfund.ca
 Golf Saint Raphael
 1111 Mnt de L'Eglise
 Ile-Bizard, QC H9C 1H2

REGISTER TODAY

<https://forms.gle/n7zbPsAcR5jnbVYA>
BASF

 BLACK ACADEMIC
 SCHOLARSHIP
 FUND

ACTIONS POUR COMBATTRE LE RACISME ET LA DISCRIMINATION

Register via Eventbrite

 Tue, 14 June 2022
 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM EDT

Webinaire: Actions pour combattre

 le 14 juin 2022
 17h00 - 18h30

Le Racisme La Discriminations


 Immigration,
 Francisation
 et Intégration
Québec

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EVENTS

BLACK AGING COMMUNITY OF MONTREAL INC. (CBAC)

Annual General Assembly will be held at City Hall (55 Av. Dupras, LaSalle, QC H8R 4A8) on June 23rd 2022 from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Food and beverages will be provided.



*The Council for Black
Aging Community
(CBAC)*

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Place: City Hall Lasalle (55 Av.
Dupras, LaSalle, QC H8R 4A8)

Date: June 23rd 2022

For transportation from CBAC to City
Hall, contact us at (514) 935-4951



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RESOURCES

NONPROFIT READY

Free online training
for the nonprofit
professional with
over 500 learning
resources

www.nonprofitready.org

BLACK ENTREPRENEUR MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Sun Life and Black Health Alliance are partnering to offer **access to culturally appropriate mental health experts** through the Black Entrepreneur Mental Health Initiative. For more information and how to sign up, please visit

www.bemhi.ca

Valerie Gordon-Williams Project Management Services *"Results Oriented-Asset Based"*



PROJECT
PLANNING



PROJECT
MANAGEMENT



GRANT
WRITING



TRAINING



COMMUNITY
ORGANIZATION
CAPACITY BUILDING



514 718 6471



adsolutions@bell.net

The Black Healing Centre (BHC) provides free and subsidized therapy sessions for the Black community of Montreal. You can find out more at

www.blackhealingcentre.com

FREE AND SUBSIDIZED THERAPY

**BLACK HEALING
CENTRE**

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RESOURCES



www.blackhealthmatterscovid19.ca

African/Black People Living With Chronic Health Conditions Across Canada Needed!

We are seeking **African/Black People Living with Chronic Health Conditions** across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec (Anglophone) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick).

Participants will be asked questions such as:

- Has COVID-19 impacted you emotionally and physically?
- What ways have you coped and resisted COVID-19?
- What changes have you experienced as result of COVID-19?

Share your experiences in a confidential online focus group!

ABOUT THE FOCUS GROUP

120-minute online focus group via Zoom
\$80 compensation for participation
Please note that your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw from the study

If interested, please email:
blackhealthmatterscovid19.dlsp@utoronto.ca

Purpose of this study:

1. To investigate the impact of COVID-19 on African/Black individuals and communities, front line health care workers and essential service workers and how systemic/structural violence are barriers to effective prevention, treatment and management of COVID-19 in the African/Black population.
2. To identify strategies to respond effectively to the impact of COVID-19 on African/Black individuals, communities, front line health service workers and essential service workers in Canada and transnationally.
3. To create knowledge exchange opportunities to enhance government, institutional, community and individual responses to the impact of COVID-19 on African/Black individuals, communities, front line health care workers and essential service workers in Canada and transnationally.

Confidentiality: Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential and it will not be disclosed in any way that could identify you. Audio/video recordings will be stored securely and erased after being transcribed. Written versions of audio recordings will not include as information that you might mention, for example, a name, an employer, etc. Audio recordings and transcripts will be kept with an ID number which cannot be traced back to participants name or any other identifying information.

Dr. Roberta K. Timothy, the Principal Investigator, is assistant professor at Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.



www.blackhealthmatterscovid19.ca

African/Black Personal Support Workers Across Canada Needed!

We are seeking **African/Black Personal Support Workers (PSWs)** working across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec (Anglophone) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick).

Participants will be asked questions such as:

- Has COVID-19 impacted you emotionally and physically?
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Black Health Matters
Research and Transnational COVID-19 Impact, Resistance and Intervention Strategies Project
www.blackhealthmatterscovid19.ca



African/Black Nurses Across Canada Needed!

We are seeking **African/Black Nurses** working across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec (Anglophone) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick).

Participants will be asked questions such as:

- Has COVID-19 impacted you emotionally and physically?
- What ways have you coped and resisted COVID-19?
- What changes have you experienced as result of COVID-19?

Share your experiences in a confidential online focus group!

ABOUT THE FOCUS GROUP
120-minute online focus group via Zoom
\$80 compensation for participation
Please note that your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw from the study

ELIGIBILITY

- Identify as African/Black
- English speaking
- Over the age of 18
- Currently working as a practical nurse, registered nurse, or nurse practitioner

DATE:
JUNE 18TH, 2022

TIME:

- 11:00AM - 1:00PM (PDT/PST)
- 12:00PM - 2:00PM (MDT/MST)
- 1:00PM - 3:00PM (CST)
- 2:00PM - 4:00PM (EST)
- 3:00 PM-5:00PM (AST)
- 3:30 PM -5:30 PM (NST)

If interested, please email:
blackhealthmatterscovid19.dlsph@utoronto.ca

Purpose of this study:

1. To investigate the impact of COVID-19 on African/Black individuals and communities, front line health care workers and essential service workers and how systemic/structural violence are barriers to effective prevention, treatment and management of COVID-19 in the African/Black population.
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Black Health Matters
Research and Transnational COVID-19 Impact, Resistance and Intervention Strategies Project
www.blackhealthmatterscovid19.ca

African/Black People Living With Long-Term COVID-19 Across Canada Needed!

We are seeking **African/Black People Living With Long Term Covid-19** across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec (Anglophone) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick).

Participants will be asked questions such as:

- Has COVID-19 impacted you emotionally and physically?
- What ways have you coped and resisted COVID-19?
- What changes have you experienced as result of COVID-19?

Share your experiences in a confidential online focus group!

ABOUT THE FOCUS GROUP
120-minute online focus group via Zoom
\$80 compensation for participation
Please note that your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw from the study

ELIGIBILITY

- Identify as African/Black
- English speaking
- Over the age of 18
- Living with long-term COVID-19

DATE:
JUNE 27TH, 2022

TIME:

- 12:00PM - 2:00PM (PDT/PST)
- 1:00PM- 3:00PM (MDT/MST)
- 2:00PM- 4:00PM (CST)
- 3:00PM - 5:00PM (EST)
- 4:00 PM-6:00PM (AST)
- 4:30 PM -6:30 PM (NST)

If interested, please email:
blackhealthmatterscovid19.dlsph@utoronto.ca

Purpose of this study:

1. To investigate the impact of COVID-19 on African/Black individuals and communities, front line health care workers and essential service workers and how systemic/structural violence are barriers to effective prevention, treatment and management of COVID-19 in the African/Black population.
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African/Black Seniors (Elders) Across Canada Needed!

We are seeking **African/Black Seniors (Elders)** across Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec (Anglophone) Nova Scotia, New Brunswick).

Participants will be asked questions such as:

- Has COVID-19 impacted you emotionally and physically?
- What ways have you coped and resisted COVID-19?
- What changes have you experienced as result of COVID-19?

Share your experiences in a confidential online focus group!

ABOUT THE FOCUS GROUP

120-minute online focus group via Zoom
\$80 compensation for participation
Please note that your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw from the study

ELIGIBILITY

- Identify as African/Black
- English speaking
- Seniors (Elders) over the age of 65

DATE:

JUNE 18TH, 2022

TIME:

- 8:00AM - 10:00AM (PDT /PST)
- 9:00AM - 11:00AM (MDT)
- 10:00AM - 12:00PM (CST)
- 11:00AM - 1:00PM (EST)
- 12:00PM - 2:00PM (AST)
- 12:30PM - 2:30 PM (NST)

If interested, please email:
blackhealthmatterscovid19.dlsph@utoronto.ca

Purpose of this study:

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JOBS

Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission

<https://pcogic.njoyn.com/cl3/xweb/XWeb.asp?NTKN=c&page=JobDetails&clid=52106&JobId=J0422-1033&BRID=150504&BPAC=&lang=1>

Communications Coordinator

<https://www.ckx.org/ckx-communications-coordinator>

Program Operations Coordinator

<https://www.ckx.org/ckx-operations-coordinator>



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