
Black History 2023 Celebrating Excellence, Leadership and Service

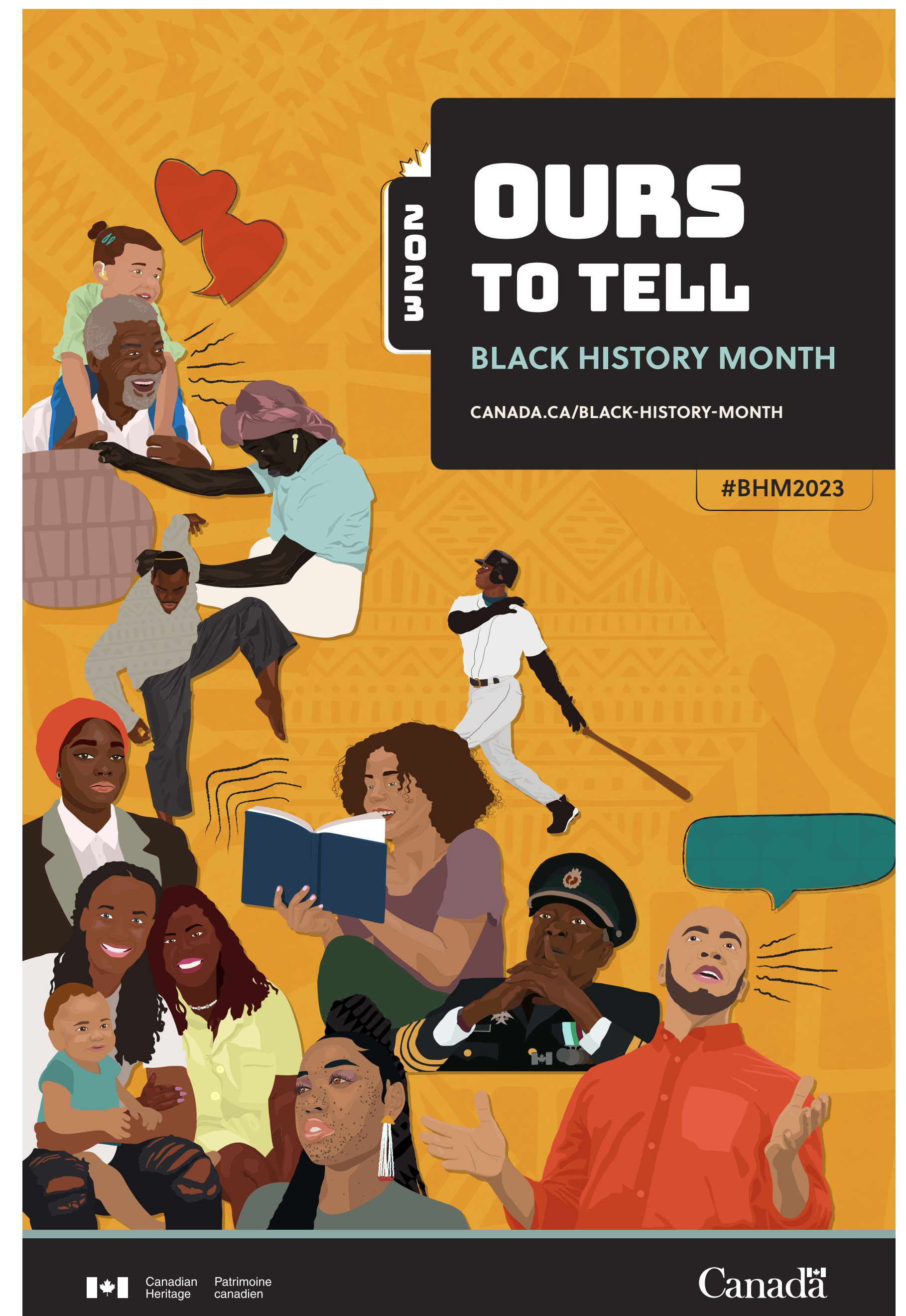
The Church of St. Peter and
St. Simon-the-Apostle

Government of Canada 2023 Black History Poster

Black History
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The theme “**Ours to Tell**” is an opportunity to engage and learn about Black communities in Canada.

CREDIT: Government of Canada



Demography

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The Black population continues to grow with the largest increase (+349,000) from 2016 to 2021. The population now accounts for 4.3% of Canada's total population and 16.1% of the racialized population.

CREDIT: Statistics Canada



Ontario Black History Society

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Founded in 1978, the Ontario Black History Society (OBHS), is the organization in Canada that is at the forefront in the celebration of Black history and heritage with a demonstrated record in the study, preservation and promotion of Black history in Ontario.

CREDIT: Courtesy of Ontario Black History Society



February as Black History Month in Canada officially recognized

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In 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month in Canada following a motion introduced by Dr. Jean Augustine, the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament. In February 2008, Senator Donald Oliver, the first Black man appointed to the Senate, introduced the Motion to recognize contributions of Black Canadians and February as Black History Month.

CREDIT: Wikipedia



Solome Bey

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Born American but lived in Canada, Salome Bey performed songs from blues to jazz to pop. She released several solo albums and appeared on recordings with the likes of jazz pianist Horace Silver.

Salome participated in many charitable initiatives and received several awards including a Toronto Arts Award (1992), the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012). In 2005, Honorary Member of the Order of Canada, and inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame in 2021.

CREDIT: Canada Post/Wikipedia



Eleanor Collins

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Canadian jazz legend Eleanor Collins made history in Canadian music and television and has earned the informal title of “Canada’s first Lady of Jazz”. Over the years, Eleanor has performed with Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson and other jazz artists. She was awarded the Order of Canada in 2014 and Canada Post honoured her with a commemorative stamp on January 21, 2023. At age 102, Eleanor lives in Surrey B.C.

CREDIT: Canada Post Corporation / Wikipedia Creative Commons



Cameron Bailey - Chief Executive Officer, TIFF

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Cameron Bailey is the new Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). His work in various roles at TIFF has been instrumental in growing and cultivating TIFF's loyal audience ensuring that the festival continues to be an essential stop for the film industry and film artists across the globe.

CREDIT: Courtesy of TIFF



Senator Wanda Elaine Thomas Bernard

Black History
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Dr. Wanda Bernard is a highly regarded Canadian Senator, former social worker, professor, researcher, community activist and advocate of social change. She has worked in mental health at various levels of government.

CREDIT: Courtesy of Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard



Viola Desmond (1914–1965)

Black History
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Viola Desmond challenged racial segregation at a film theatre in Nova Scotia in 1946. In 2010 Nova Scotia's Lieutenant Governor pardoned her posthumously. Government of Canada named her National Historic person and in 2018 she became the first Black person to be featured on a Canadian banknote - the ten dollar bill.

CREDIT: Canada Post Corporation

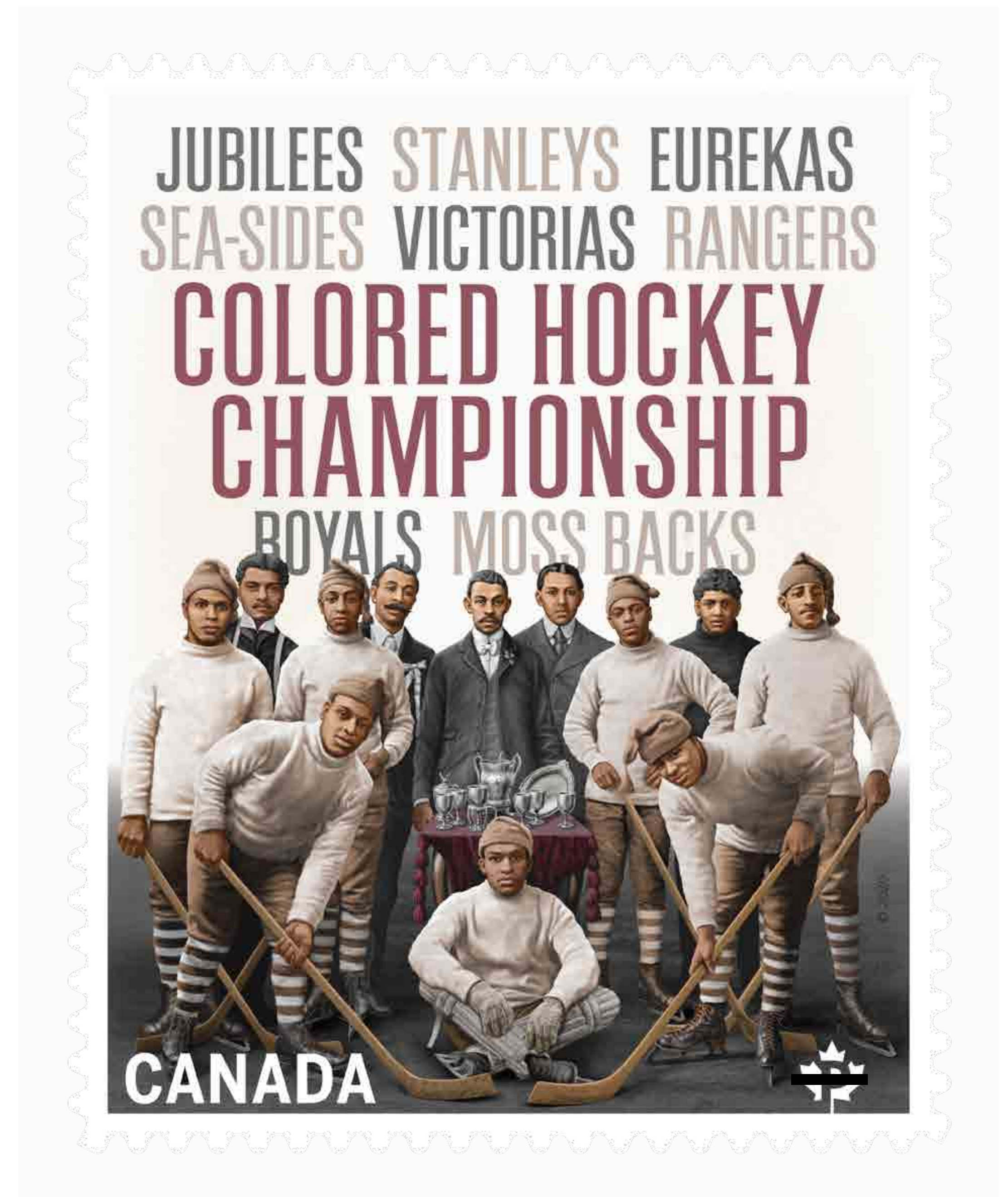


Coloured Hockey Championship

Black History
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The Coloured Hockey League of all Black hockey teams, was founded in 1895 across the Maritimes. It is said that this league can be credited for allowing goal tenders to use their feet to cover a puck. In January 2020, Canada Post issued a stamp featuring the 1906 champion, the Halifax Eureka's. The stamp is based on an actual photo.

CREDIT: Canada Post Corporation / Wikipedia Creative Commons

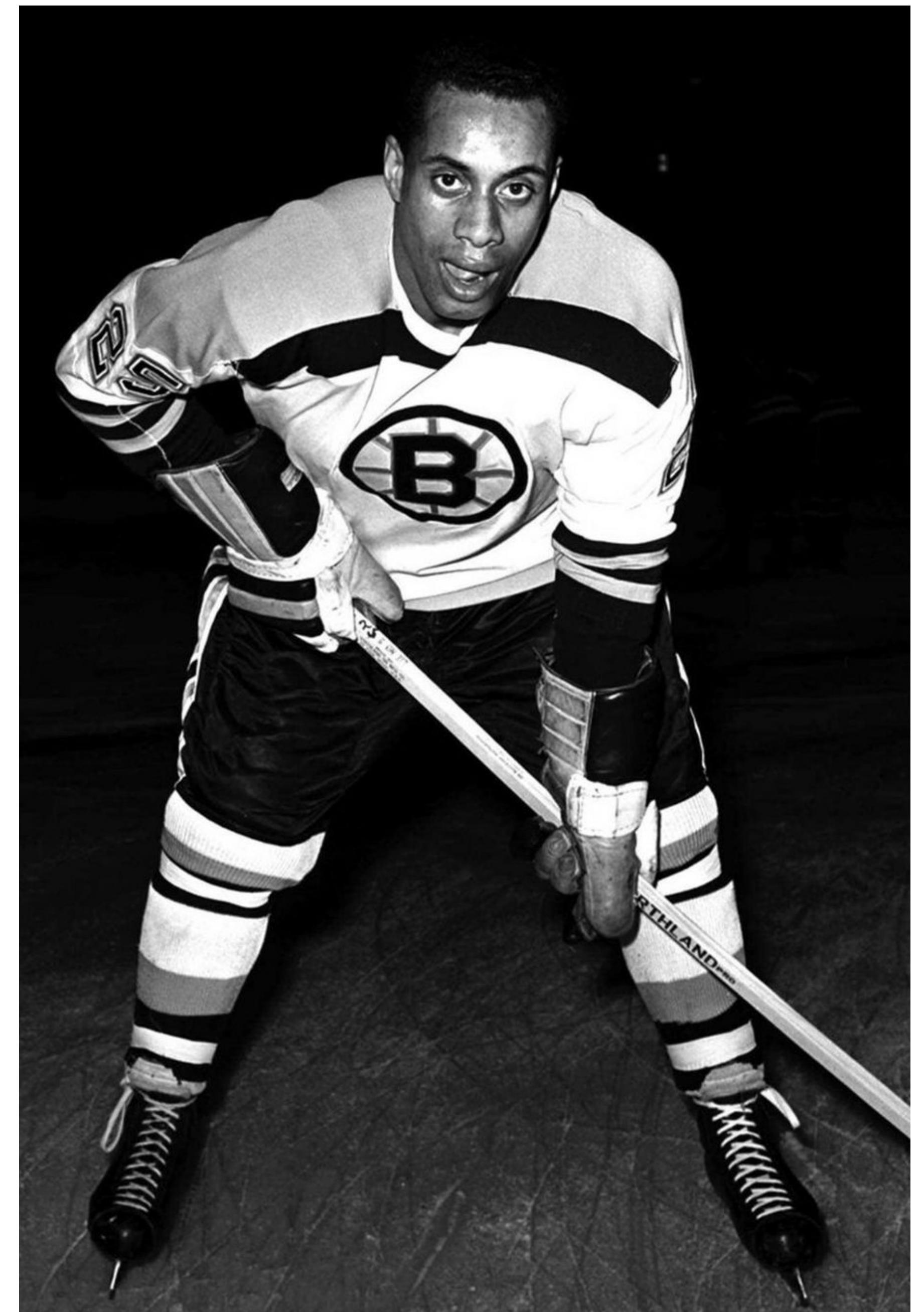


Willie O'Ree

Black History
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Willie O'Ree is the first Black man to play hockey in the NHL in 1958. In 2018 he was inducted in the Hockey Hall of Fame. In 2020 his name was added to Canada's Sport Hall of Fame and in 2022 his Number 22 jersey was retired. US President Joe Biden signed the Willie O'Ree Congressional Gold Medal act, in 2022 (U.S.Congress' highest honour, for Willie's contributions to hockey). O'Ree is the first player in NHL history to receive this honour.

CREDIT: Wikipedia



P. K. Subban

Black History
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Pernell-Karl Sylvester Subban

is a Canadian former professional ice hockey player. Between 2009 and 2022, he played 13 seasons in the National Hockey League (NHL) with the Montreal Canadiens, Nashville Predators and New Jersey Devils. In the summer of 2014, he signed an eight-year, \$72 million contract with the Canadiens. After the 2015–16 season, Subban was traded to the Nashville Predators where he spent three seasons before being traded to New Jersey in 2019. He is also an analyst for the NHL on ESPN.

CREDIT: Wikipedia



Kay Livingstone (1919–1975)

Black History
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Kathleen “Kay” Livingstone was a social activist, actor and broadcaster. In 1973 her efforts led to the first National Congress of Black Women in Canada.

CREDIT: Canada Post Corporation

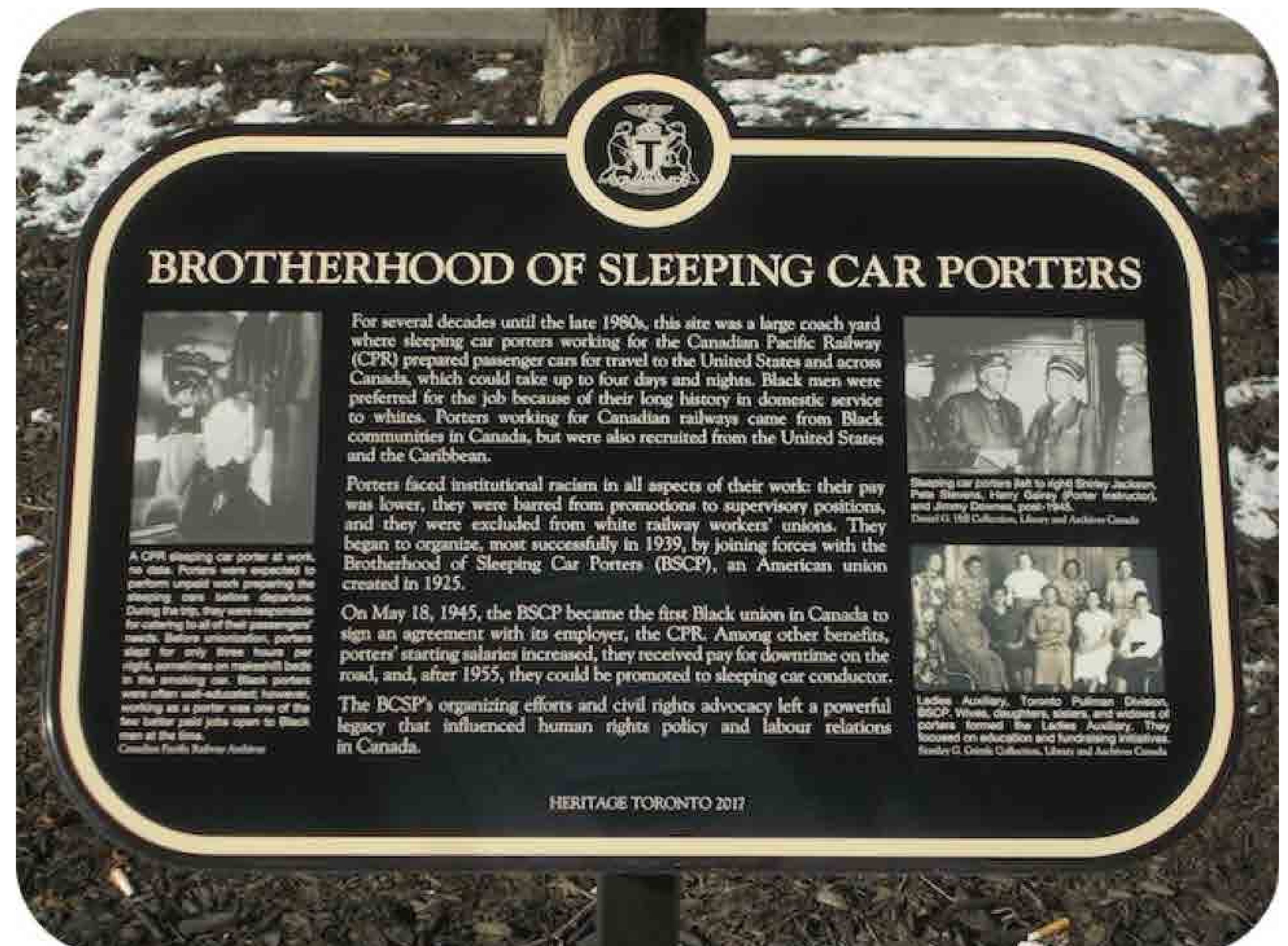


Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Black History
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This Heritage Toronto plaque celebrates the work that Black Porters (men) working for the Canadian Pacific Railway did in preparing passenger cars for travel to the United States and across Canada. Porters working for Canadian railways came from Black communities in Canada, but were also recruited from the United States and the Caribbean.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto / Wikipedia Creative Commons



Beverly Mascoll (1941–2001)

Black History
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Beverley Mascoll founded one of Canada's largest distributors of haircare and beauty products for Black women. She started her own business with \$700 of her own investment as a travelling saleswoman. In 1973, with courage and confidence, Beverley Mascoll established her own hair and beauty store at 870 Bathurst Street.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto



Thornton and Lucie Blackburn

Black History
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From 1834 to 1890 Thornton and Lucie Blackburn's resided on the site of 19 Sackville Street in Toronto. They were refugee slaves from Kentucky who started Toronto's first taxicab company. The Blackburns became well-known members of Toronto's African Canadian community and were part of the Underground Railroad. In 1999, the Department of Canadian Heritage designated Thornton and Lucie Blackburn "Persons of National Historic Significance".



CREDIT: Canadian Heritage

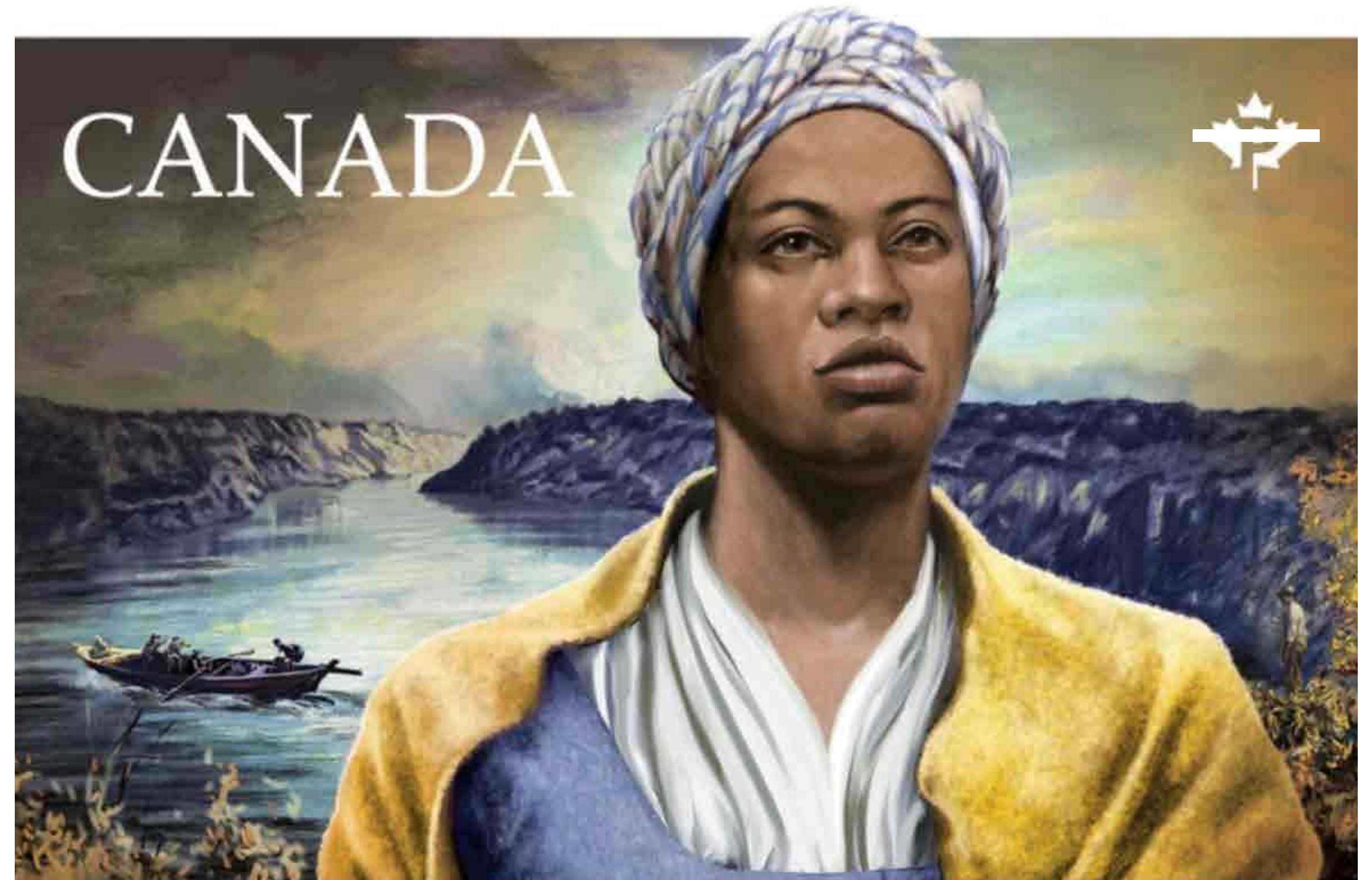
Chloe Cooley

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Chloe Cooley was a young Black woman living in Niagara Falls. She bravely protested against her enslavement but was sold and forcibly transported across the Niagara River by boat to New York State. She was never heard from again.

Cooley's brave protests did not go unnoticed. Months later, an act was made that helped to abolish slavery in the British Empire.

CREDIT: Canada Post

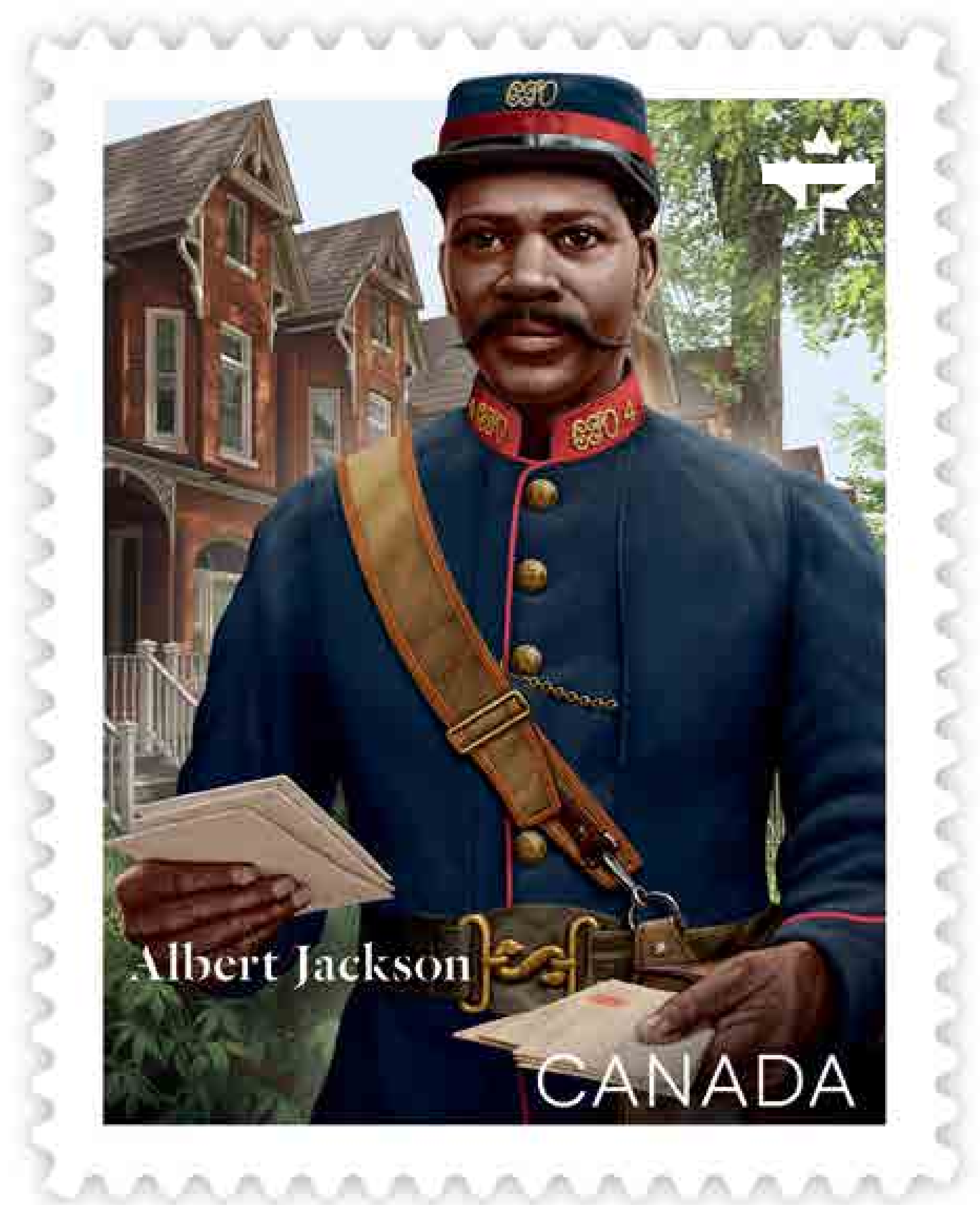


Albert Jackson (1857 – 1918)

Black History
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In 1882, Albert Jackson became the first Black letter carrier in Toronto, and likely in Canada. While he got the job, his co-workers refused to train him. Members of the Black community protested. They wrote numerous letters to the editor and approached Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald. Jackson held the job as letter carrier for 36 years until his death in 1918.

CREDIT: Canada Post



Joshua Glover

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Joshua Glover, a black man who lived in the community of Etobicoke from the mid-19th Century escaped slavery in 1852, and made his way from St. Louis, Missouri into Canada assisted by the Underground Railroad. Glover's story has historical importance, as it's said to have influenced the abolitionist movement in the United States.

Joshua Glover settled into a small house in Lambton Mills, owned by Thomas Montgomery the proprietor of Montgomery's Inn where Glover also found long time employment. He is buried in Toronto's St. James Cemetery.



CREDIT: Heritage Toronto

Rubin Carter (1937-2014)

Black History
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The American boxer Rubin Carter (1937-2014), “Hurricane Carter”, was jailed 18 years for a triple murder he didn’t commit. His battle for justice and eventual exoneration inspired Bob Dylan’s popular protest ballad and a Hollywood movie starring Denzel Washington.

Following his release, Carter moved to Toronto where he became an advocate for the wrongly convicted and criminal justice reform. Carter helped free many wrongly convicted Canadians, and worked with the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted and the Innocence Project.



CREDIT: Heritage Toronto

Dr. Alexander Thomas Augusta

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Dr. Alexander Thomas Augusta studied at the University of Toronto to become the first Black man to receive his medical license in Canada. An activist and philanthropist, Augusta supported anti-slavery, anti-segregation and literacy causes. He was the first Black officer to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto



Dr. Anderson Ruffin Abbott

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Born in Toronto, Dr. Anderson Ruffin Abbott was the first Black Canadian to become a licensed medical doctor. Like Augusta, his friend and mentor, Abbott served in the American Civil War. He later became the acting resident surgeon at Toronto General Hospital and the Kent County Coroner. He died in Toronto in 1913, having advocated for racial equality in education and broken barriers in the medical field.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto



Steelpan Music Timbre from Trinidad

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This Black History Month revisit the importance of steelpan music and the Trinbagonian community.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto



Caribbean Caribana Carnival

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This Black History Month explore the history of the Caribbean Carnival. In 1967 the Caribbean Cultural Committee in Toronto organized the carnival under the name **Caribana 67**. Caribana had different routes over the years but eventually it was shifted 1993 to the Lakeshore. The music included Calypso, soca, reggae, tassa, cadence and zuk.

CREDIT: Heritage Toronto



Toronto Caribbean Festival

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During 2006 - 2007, Caribana festival had financial issues. The City of Toronto created a festival management committee. The parade has continued under a new name: **Toronto Caribbean Festival.** The name Caribana still exists. The original Caribbean Cultural Committee still has the rights for the original name. The festival takes place at the beginning of August.



CREDIT: Heritage Toronto

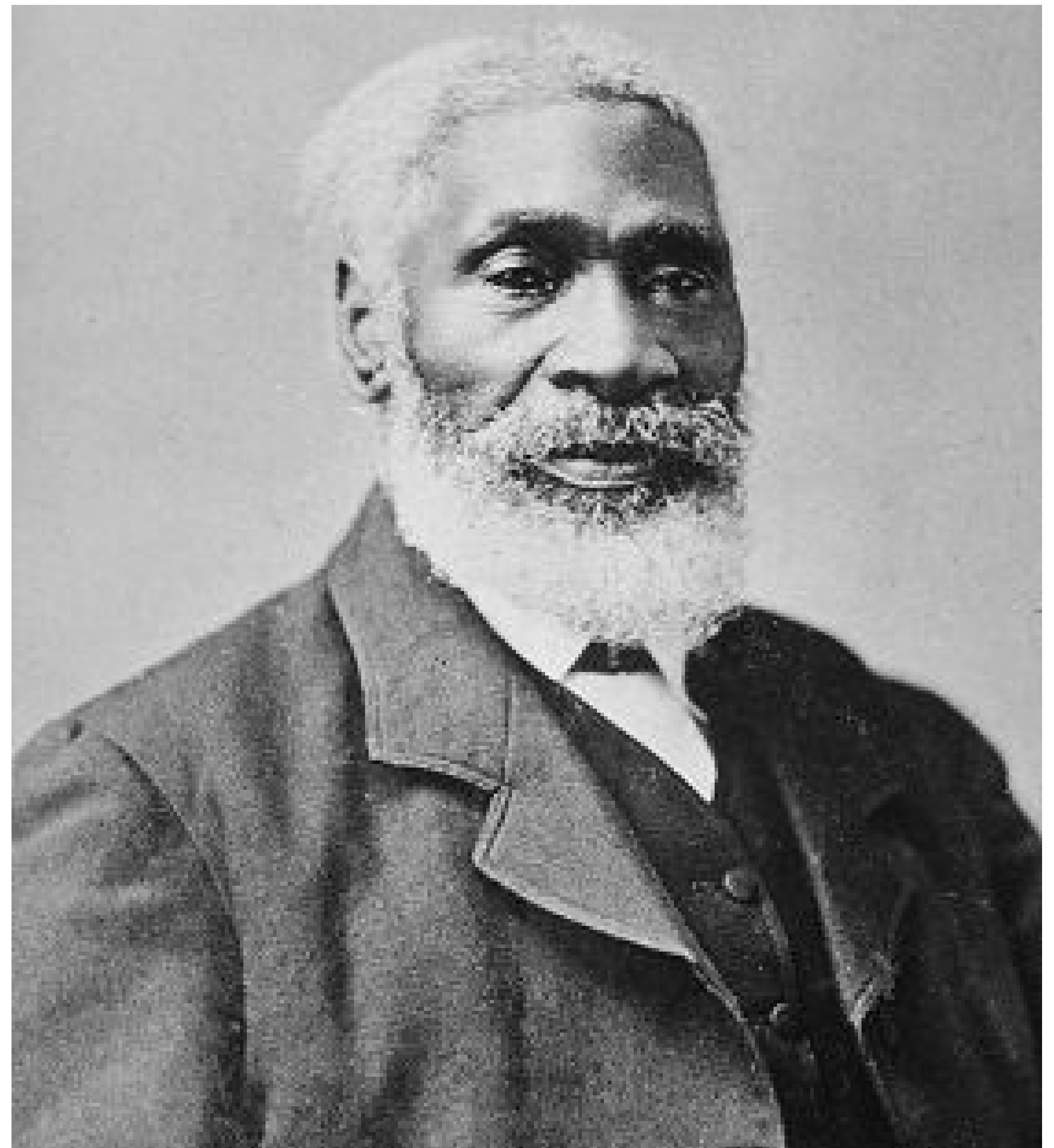
Josiah Henson (1789-1883)

Black History
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The Dawn Settlement

Born enslaved in Maryland, Josiah Henson escaped to Upper Canada at the age of 41. In 1841, with a group of abolitionists, he established the Dawn Settlement for fugitive slaves. Even after abolition of slavery, Henson remained in Canada.

CREDIT: Ontario Heritage Trust/Wikipedia



William and Susannah Steward House

Black History
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William, an African American teamster, and Susannah Steward (also spelled Stewart) lived in Niagara from 1834 to 1847. The Steward home was part of Niagara's "coloured village", a vibrant community of former Canadian slaves, Black Loyalists and African American refugees. Later, the Stewards divided their lot for sale to Robert Baxter, a local black resident. In 1837, William Steward was one of 17 local Blacks who signed a petition asking Lieutenant Governor Sir Francis Bond Head to refuse to extradite Kentucky fugitive Solomon Moseby.

CREDIT: Ontario Heritage Trust



Oro Township (1819)

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The only government-sponsored Black settlement in Upper Canada, the Oro community was established in 1819 to help secure the defence of the province's northern frontier. Black veterans of the War of 1812 who could be enlisted to meet hostile forces advancing from Georgian Bay were offered land grants here. Today only the African Episcopal church erected near Edgar in 1849 remains as a testament to this early Black community.

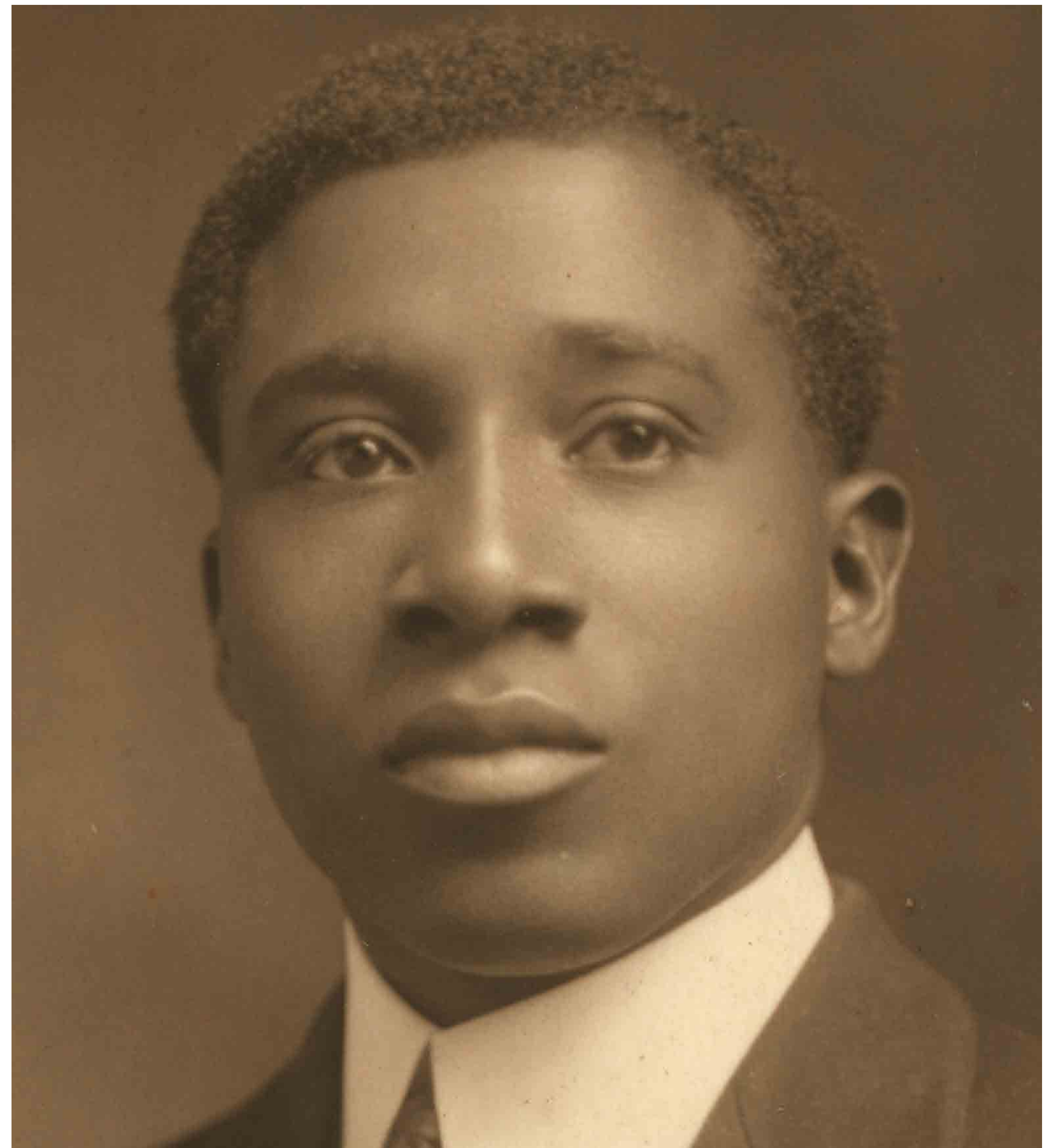


CREDIT: Ontario Heritage Trust

Robert Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)

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Robert Nathaniel Dett often known as **R. Nathaniel Dett** and **Nathaniel Dett**, was a Black Canadian-American composer, organist, pianist, choral director, and music professor. Born and raised in Canada (Drummondville now Niagara Falls) until the age of 11. He moved to the United States with his family and had most of his professional education and career there. During his lifetime he was a leading Black composer, known for his use of African American folk songs and spirituals. He was among the first Black composers. Dett performed at Carnegie Hall and at the Boston Symphony Hall as a pianist and choir director.



Mary Ann Shadd (1823-1893)

Black History
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An American black, Mary Ann Shadd Cary established the “Provincial Freeman” in Windsor in 1853 to encourage Blacks to seek equality through education and self-reliance. She moved this influential newspaper to Chatham two years later. After the American Civil War, Shadd Cary returned to the United States in 1863 to work for racial equality. She was the first Black woman known to have edited a North American newspaper.

CREDIT: Ontario Heritage Trust



Michaael Tulloch

Black History
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Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario

Jamaican born Justice Michael Tulloch made history as the first Black **Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario.** It is said that he will make the court and the laws of Ontario more understandable and accessible and therefore more acceptable. He has served on all sides of the criminal justice system and has great familiarity with all aspects of the civil law.

CREDIT: Share Newspaper



No, 2 Construction Battalion - 1916

Black History
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They served alongside the Canadian Forestry Corps in the forests of France helping with lumber and milling operations like loading and transporting finished timber by rail.

CREDIT: Ontario Heritage Trust



Canadian \$20.00 Coin Honours No. 2 Construction Battalion

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APOLOGY:

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Minister of National Defence Anita Anand delivered an apology for racism and discrimination experienced by battalion members in Truro, Nova Scotia July 9, 2022.

CREDIT: Share Newspaper

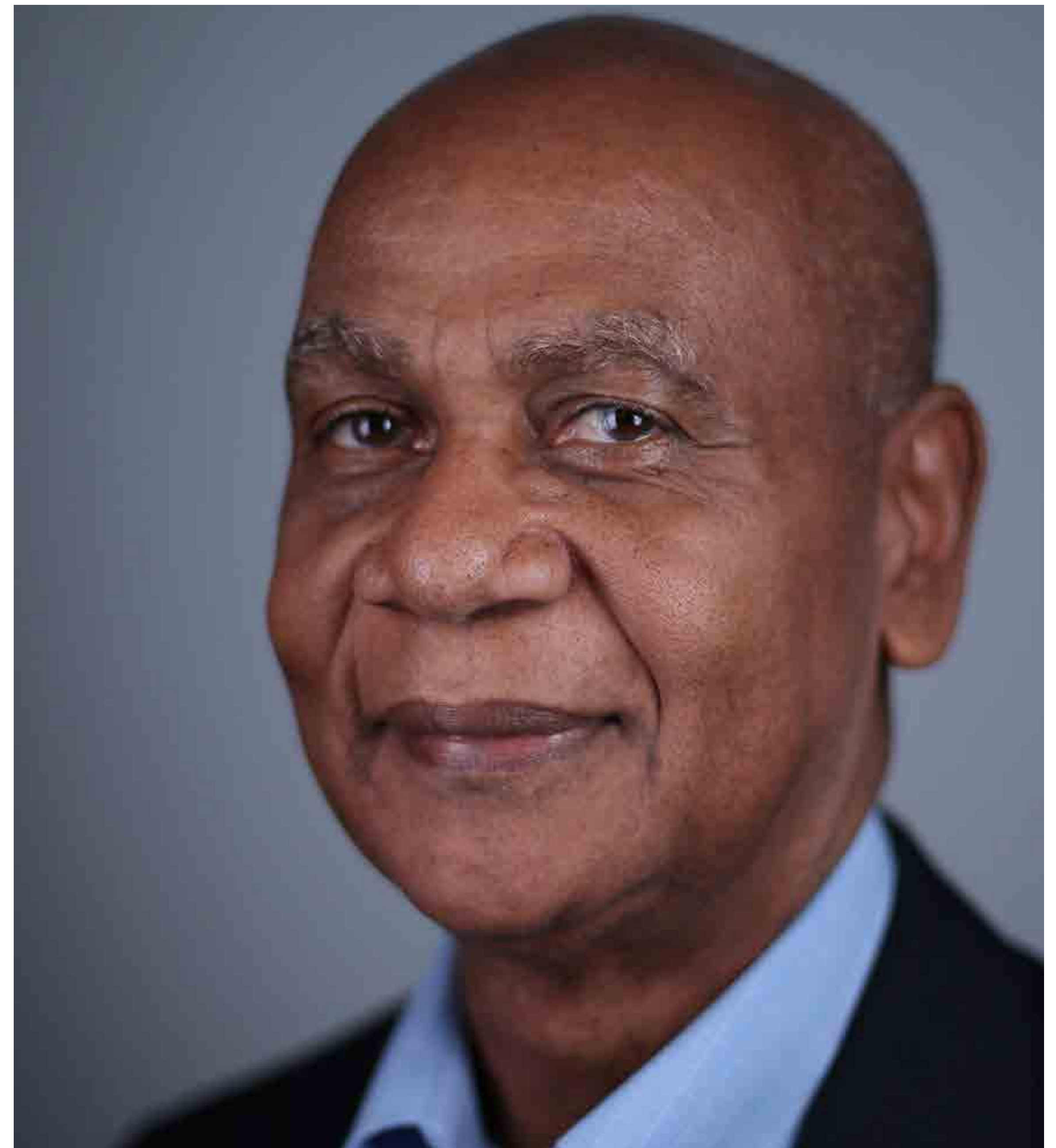


Dr. Winston Isaac (1941-2019)

Black History
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Dr. Winston Isaac, co-founder of The Walnut Foundation, posthumously honoured with a Bench Award from the City of Brampton.

CREDIT: The Walnut Foundation



CREDIT: The Walnut Foundation