


BLACK HISTORY MONTH



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Black History Month is a time to celebrate and educate all Canadians about the many achievements and contributions made by Black Canadians and their communities.



Black Canadians and their communities have been a part of shaping Canada's heritage and identity since the early 1600s

But their role has largely been ignored as a key part of Canada's history



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 MISSISSAUGA

Remembering our Roots

African people were once enslaved in the territory that is now known as Canada

Those that fought enslavement helped lay the foundation of Canada's diverse and inclusive culture

Some of the Loyalists who came here after the American Revolution and settled in the Maritimes were people of African descent

Many Canadian soldiers were of African descent and making sacrifices in wartime as far back as the War of 1812



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Remembering our Roots

1979 first-ever Black History Month Canadian proclamation issued by City of Toronto

1988 first Black History Month was observed in Nova Scotia renamed to African Heritage Month in 1996

1995 the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month

2008 Senate unanimously approved and adopted Motion to *Recognize Contributions of Black Canadians and February as Black History Month*



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Telling Our Stories

Black History Month is a time to share and learn the stories about the important contributions Black Canadians and their communities have made:

Dr. Daniel G. Hill and **Wilson O. Brooks**, founders of the Ontario Black History Society (OBHS)

The Honourable Jean Augustine, first Black Canadian woman elected to parliament

Senator Donald Oliver, first Black man appointed to the Senate

Victor Vignale, first Black Councillor for the Toronto Township from 1958-1965.

Celebrating Excellence

Black Excellence Awards Evening

Date: Friday, February 24

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: Great Hall, City Centre

Honouring achievements of our Black community and celebrating Black history.

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Events

Africville Stories

Friday, February 3, from 8 to 10 p.m.

[Living Arts Centre](#)

Raptors 905 vs. Cleveland Charge

Thursday, February 2, from 7:30 p.m.

[Paramount Fine Foods Centre](#)

Cirque Kalabante - Afrique en Cirque

Thursday, February 23, from 7:30 p.m.

[Living Arts Centre](#)

Prices vary based on seating

Author Talk – Zalika Reid-Benta

Wednesday, February 22, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Virtual Event

Black History Month Market

Friday, February 24, from 4 to 9 p.m.

[Small Arms Inspection Building](#)

Celebrating the Love of Literarcy

Held at the [Malton Library](#) and
Community Centre in partnership Malton
Neighbourhood Services

Thursday, February 2, from 6:30 p.m.

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Black History Month

Tours and Exhibits

**TOUR: Black History in Ontario
Museum**

Throughout February

[Bradley Museum](#)

EXHIBIT: Unearth Uncover

*Tuesday, February 7 to Saturday
February 25, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.*

[Small Arms Inspection Building and
Community Centres](#)

**TOUR: Cedar Park & Cherry Hill
House– Mississauga’s Forgotten
Black History**

Throughout February

[Benares Historic House](#)

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Activities

Malton Library Storytime

Throughout February

[Malton Library](#)

Play List

Recognize and honour local Black musicians and artists – Black Excellence in Sauga play list on [Spotify](#).

School Programming

The Black Settlers in Peel school program is available to book until June 2023

[Bradley Museum](#)

Reading Lists

Mississauga Library's fiction and non fiction eBook reading lists – picks of best Black Canadian authors

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