



Black Business & Professional Association

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ANDRE DE GRASSE - ATHLETICS AWARD



Competing in his first Olympics at just 21 years of age, Andre De Grasse captured three Olympic medals in Rio. He ran a new personal best in the 100m final to earn a bronze medal. In the semi-finals of the 200m, Andre lowered his own Canadian record before racing to a silver medal in the final behind Usain Bolt. He won his third medal of the Games, anchoring the men's 4x100m relay team to a bronze medal in a new national record time.

Wining double bronze at the 2015 World Championships in the 100m and 4x100m relay capped off a remarkable year for Andre, in which he swept the 100m and 200m events at both the NCAA Championships and Pan Am Games.

Andre was born in Scarborough, Ontario and raised by his mother Beverley De Grasse in Markham. Beverley was a high school sprinter growing up in Trinidad & Tobago before moving to Canada in her twenties. Once one of Ontario's most promising basketball players, Andre's life changed in the space of 10.9 seconds, the time it took him to run his first 100m at the York Region High School Championships without the use of starting blocks or any former training. Tony Sharpe, himself an Olympic medalist for Canada at the 1984 Olympics, was in the stands that day and immediately took Andre under his wing. Andre joined Sharpe's Speed Academy track club and by the following summer had set a new Canadian junior record of 10.25.

In efforts to improve his grades and earn a college scholarship, Andre enrolled at Coffeyville Community College in Kansas, spending two years there before heading to USC in the fall of 2014. He took off one semester to prepare for Rio but kept the promise he made to himself and his family by going back USC to complete his degree immediately following the Olympics.

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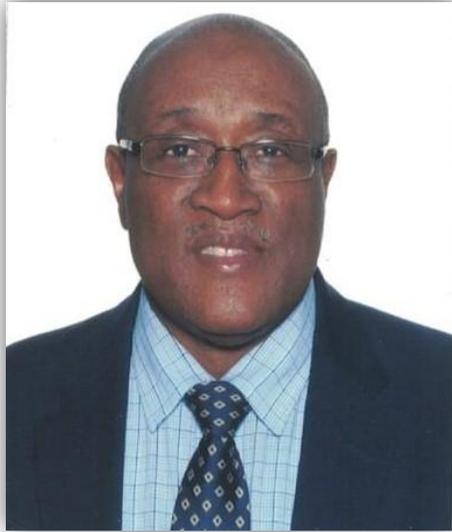
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RONALD CUNNINGHAM - COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



Ron Cunningham is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Citizens for the Advancement of Community Development (CACD), a registered Charitable Organization that operates in the GTA to transform the lives of “at risk” youth through programming that serves their unique needs, develops leadership capabilities and fosters civic participation.

Ron, a competent accountant, has worked in the financial sector for over 20 years. He worked in the Chief Accountant and Corporate Finance Divisions of the Bank of Montreal (BMO), Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), Bank of Nova Scotia (BNS), Banca Commerciale Italiana of Canada (BCI) and Royal Trust, a subsidiary of Royal Bank (RBC).

As a social change-maker, Ron has impacted the lives of 100s of participants, on a yearly basis, in his after school, leadership and mentoring, youth justice, and health promotion programs, where they have experienced improved academic achievements, self-confidence, social networking, volunteering opportunities and community participation.

Ron’s strong passion for social action and community building has won him numerous awards and recognitions. He was recognized by Mayor Hazel McCallion for his exemplary work in community development. In 2005, he was awarded a Peace Medallion by the YMCA of the GTA. Ron wrote a research paper, “Impacting Peace-building and Development in Jamaica: Addressing Challenges and Opportunities Encountered by the Jamaican diaspora”, through the University of Peace, mandated by the United Nations. In 2010, Ron received the Ron Lenyk Crime Prevention Volunteer of the Year Award, 2011 Ontario Volunteer Services Award, 2012 Queen Diamond Jubilee Award for Community Service, 2014 Ontario Volunteer 10 years Services Award, and 2015 City of Mississauga Civic Award of Recognition – 10 years of Community involvement.

Ron holds degrees in Economics (BA) and in Accounting/Finance (BAS) from York University and Professional Designations in Banking/Finance (AICB) and in Management (CIM).

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DR. JULIET DANIEL - TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION AWARD



Dr. Juliet Daniel is a Professor and Cancer Biologist in the Department of Biology at McMaster University. Dr. Daniel received her B.Sc. from Queen's University and her Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Daniel spent six years as a Postdoctoral Fellow in Tennessee (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital & Vanderbilt University) before joining McMaster in 1999 to establish her own research laboratory.

Dr. Daniel's research expertise is cell-cell adhesion and signaling through transcription factors, and how their malfunction contributes to cancer. Dr. Daniel's research led to her discovery and naming of a new gene "Kaiso", coined from the popular Caribbean music "calypso". Kaiso regulates the expression of genes that control cell proliferation and adhesion; consequently Kaiso's malfunction in various human tumors (e.g. breast, colon, prostate) contributes to tumor progression and spread.

Dr. Daniel's team is currently focused on aggressive and difficult to treat triple negative breast cancers (TNBC) that are most prevalent in young women of African ancestry and Hispanic women – groups that paradoxically have a lower incidence and lifetime risk of breast cancer. Her research team seeks to identify unique DNA mutations or markers in cells that may explain this racial disparity and which can then be developed for diagnostic tests or therapeutics for women diagnosed with TNBC worldwide regardless of ethnicity. Dr. Daniel partners with The Olive Branch of Hope cancer support service in Toronto to organize "Think Beyond 'Love Pink' Breast Cancer Awareness" workshops for women of African Ancestry in the GTA.

In recognition of her research, Dr. Daniel has received several awards including the Ontario Premier's Research Excellence Award, the John C. Holland Professional Achievement Award, the African Canadian Achievement Award of Excellence in Science, the Barbados National Honor Gold Crown of Merit and a Hamilton YWCA Women of Distinction Award. She has also been featured in "Millennium Minds: 100 Black Canadians".

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DR. BOLUWAJI OGUNYEMI - HEALTH SCIENCE AWARD



Dr. Boluwaji Ogunyemi is Chief Dermatology resident physician at the University of British Columbia and Director of Communications of Resident Doctors of British Columbia. He has backgrounds in epidemiology, sociology, medical education, communications, and leadership. Dr Ogunyemi is an award-winning writer in the areas of diversity and inclusion, medical humanities, and medical education.

In addition to the Huffington Post, Dr Ogunyemi has been published in The New York Times, The Globe and Mail, The Vancouver Sun and several other print and electronic media outlets. His original articles about diversity and inclusion and medical humanities have been used in anti-racism workshops and his writing has been translated into French and Portuguese.

Dr Ogunyemi has received multiple awards in the areas of leadership, academic achievement, clinical research, writing, and advocacy. His clinical experience has spanned from Lagos, Nigeria and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to Inuit communities in rural Labrador and Refugee Medicine in British Columbia.

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CHERYL NEMBHARD – SOCIAL ADVOCACY AWARD



Cheryl Nembhard is a formidable force in the Arts & Media community and for many years now has been a long standing Advocate against Social Injustice in Toronto. Through her work, Cheryl continues to define the title 'Arts Advocate' as she has dedicated her life to using her incredible talents in Theatre & Film to tackle some of the toughest topics we as a society are facing today.

Her impact is felt far beyond the stage as she has dedicated most of her life to community service and helping those in need. For over a decade, Cheryl has been involved in the rehabilitation of troubled youth, former gang members, ex- drug addicts, rape victims and teenage mothers. Cheryl has focused her life to working and establishing creative spaces for them to discover themselves and find healing.

Cheryl's ability to gage the pulse of the City and respond artistically has always been something that has set her apart. In 2016, her artistic work and social engagement was unparalleled with her two latest films '*Rock, Paper, Scissors*' & '*Truth*'; short films on Depression & Cutting and Sex Trafficking in Toronto.

She recently won the **Award of Excellence Humanitarian** award in Toronto as well as the **Pioneer for 2016** award recognizing her work with Youth & the Arts. Cheryl was recently featured by CBC Toronto as **one of 150 Black Women who have made a place in Canadian History**.

In 2010 Cheryl and her husband founded Exousia Media Group (EMG), an international award winning multimedia company utilizing theatre, film & television to address hard hitting social issues. In 2011, she launched EMG Education, a Not for Profit company whose mandate of 'empowering & motivating generations' has allowed them to perform to over 70,000 students across Ontario in the past 6 years. Cheryl has also developed & hosted her own low income Summer Arts Camps to children in the North York community for the past 4 years.

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FABIENNE COLAS – ARTS AWARD



Fabienne Colas is the artist, the philanthropist, the entrepreneur and also the activist. She is the ‘Queen of Festivals’ who created and manages 7 successful festivals between Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, New York City and Port-au-Prince – including Montreal International Black Film Festival which has not only Canada’s largest black film festival, but also a key player in cultural diversity in Quebec and Canada.

CEO/founder of Zaza Production and chairman of the Fabienne Colas Foundation, she supports award grants to independent film producers and other artist. She currently sits as a board member on the Society for the Celebrations of Montreal’s 375th Anniversary.

In 2015, Fabienne was awarded a Medal from Quebec’s National Assembly. She also won a Black History Month Award in 2010.

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KEITH SPENCE – PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD



Keith Spence is President and CEO of Global Mining Capital, which is engaged in Private Equity investments and M&A in the mining sector. The company arranges M&A transactions and co-invests with Chinese, Asian and other partners in mining projects globally. A corporate and investment banker, he held positions in capital markets, corporate finance and mining finance and at Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and Bank of Montreal (BMO). He has been involved in numerous international financings.

He was CEO of a pioneer foreign-joint venture mining company in western China; one of the first mining joint ventures signed with the Chinese Government. He has also been involved in numerous high-level negotiations and transactions, in China's outbound investments in mining resources. He is a frequently invited speaker in China and internationally; and has often been quoted in the media on Chinese international mining investments, in leading press such as Bloomberg, Financial Times of London, South China Morning Post, China Daily, CCTV, Chinese media, Reuters and The Globe & Mail. A world recognized thought leader on valuation of mining projects (from exploration to production); Mr Spence is co-founder and co-chairman of the Canadian Mining Valuation Standards, which is required by the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX-V) and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

As a field geologist, Mr. Spence has experience in gold and base metals exploration in the Canadian north, China, Africa and internationally. He is a member of the Board of Directors of PDAC, which holds the world's largest mining event annually, in Toronto. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of The Royal Ontario Museum and has served on the Boards of Ontario Place, the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) and the International Board of China Mining. Mr. Spence received the CIM Distinguished Lecturer Award, the CIM Fellowship Award and the Robert Elver Mineral Economics Award for outstanding contributions to Canadian mining and mineral economics. He also received the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Award, for contributions to Canada. Keith is a graduate of the Global Management program at Harvard University, has an Honors B.Sc. in Geology from the University of Western Ontario, and an MBA from the Ivey School of Business.

Keith was Chairman of the Toronto Gardiner Awards and was named a Trailblazer in the Toronto Trailblazer Leadership Series. He has been a mentor to many young and diverse professionals who are interested in pursuing a career on "Bay Street"; and is an advocate for young black students considering a career in the natural resources sector.

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GEORGE FREMPONG – BUSINESS AWARD



George Frempong is Senior Vice President of Sales and Co-Founder of Herjavec Group, the world's largest privately held information security firm. He has brought high-level security solutions to many notable corporations across a variety of industries, building relationships between North America's largest businesses and information technology providers.

Herjavec Group has received notable awards such as number 2 on the Cybersecurity 500, CRM's Hot Managed Services Provider 2016, number 1 MSSP on Cybersecurity 500, and The Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2012 (Technology Category). These achievements speak directly to George's drive and dedication to Herjavec Group and its growth as a global company. George started his IT career with BRAK Systems in 1997 as a Security Solutions Sales Representative. When BRAK was sold to AT&T Canada in 2000, George worked with AT&T's Internet and eBusiness division and later

moved to Deloitte & Touche before co-founding Herjavec Group in 2003.

Born in Ghana, West Africa, George immigrated to Canada with his parents in 1978 when he was just six years old. The family lived in compromised, low income neighborhoods, Willowridge and Jamestown. While growing up in those neighborhoods, his parents reinforced the importance of hard work, and urged him and his siblings to aim high. For the Frempong kids, failure was not an option.

A natural athlete, George had a passion for basketball. Emulating his parents' work ethic, George started working at an early age to pay for his basketball camps, while attending school full time and competitively playing basketball through high school and college. As a young boy, George was determined, driven and always well dressed. When George wanted something he usually got it, by negotiating and using his charm, a skill that remains to this day. It is no surprise that he landed a career in business. Today, George remains a loyal, hardworking and dedicated individual, breaking personal and professional barriers on his path of success.

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LEANNE PRENDERGAST – LEADERSHIP AWARD



Leanne Prendergast is the President and Co-Founder of Love our Lives, a not for profit organization that is based in Ontario. She is also the co-author of a self-help book called, *Getting to Know Me*, which was written because of her personal experience of being bullied as a child. Her book provides support for girls, their families and other support workers in identifying the tell-tell signs of bullying and how to find help and support. She is a respected motivational speaker, activist and is a voice of change, both nationally and internationally. She also provides workshops, seminars and programs within schools and community events to address the effects of bullying on girls and young women in schools, in relationships and within organizations. She is a frequent speaker at many conferences and events, speaking at WE Day, has done a TED Talk and many more.

Leanne Prendergast is the recipient of the Commonwealth Youth Award, the Top 20 Under 20 National Award, the Attorney General's Victim Services Award of Distinction, the Louise Russo W.A.V.E. Award, the Leading Women Building Communities Provincial Award, the Future Aces and John Brooks Award and scholarship, the BBPA Scholarship, the EFCCC Scholarship, and the CYSA Scholarship for her work in leadership and community development. In 2016, Leanne graduated with an honorary bachelor's degree in Human Rights and Equity studies from York University. She is currently enrolled in the Queen's Young Leaders Program from the University of Cambridge, in England.

Today, Leanne continues to work on programs that help build self esteem and confidence in young girls, while providing the necessary tools to shape a future generation of resilient and self sufficient young women. As she works toward implementing these programs within the education system, her aim is that policies will be put in place to address the travesty of bullying within our society.

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SHARON RILEY – ENTERTAINMENT AWARD



Now in her 25th year, Sharon Riley has established itself as Canada's premier gospel group. Her name speaks volumes about a journey which has been characterized by struggle, longevity, and untold blessings-the stuff of unshakable faith. After a life changing incident in her life she has continued to stay strong. The milestone of being Canada's first gospel group to sign an international recording contract is amplified by the long list of awards and achievements the choir has amassed in over a decade of groundbreaking work. It has graced both the big screen and small screen, appearing in the blockbuster film *The Blues Brothers 2000* and HBO's *Light to the Power of Two*. Working alongside Paul Shaffer, Sharon co-arranged the soundtrack "John The Revelator" for *The Blues Brothers 2000*, and she along with the choir appeared on the Grammy Award-nominated soundtrack alongside the likes of Aretha Franklin, Erykah Badu, James Brown and Eric Clapton. Most recently the group was featured in the blockbuster film *xXx: The Return of Xander Cage* starring Vin Diesel. She has also performed in an episode of *Saving Hope*, Junos Awards in 2013, went on tour with Johnny Reid, performed backup for New Kids on the Block, opening of the ROM with Debra Cox, and David Foster, many shows at Fallsview in Niagara Falls, and at the Bad Boy concert in Toronto.

On September 30, 2006 Sharon received the "COURAGE" Award from the Canada's acclaimed MAJA Awards for her courage in continuing on even the face of a life changing accident. Sharon Riley is more than a gospel singer, she also gives back to her community and the community at large, she has been a part of "Blues In the Schools" for 15 years, which is a program that goes around to schools interacting with students about music.

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GABRIELLE FLETCHER – ACADEMICS AWARD



As a student, I have set my sights on having a career in Corporate Law, to represent Canadian corporations who are community conscious. Studying at Schulich School of Business is the first step towards achieving my goal as a corporate lawyer.

In high school, I was fully involved academically and socially. I was an Honor Roll ‘A’ student throughout my high school years and was named an Ontario Scholar. I was also given recognition by the National Society of High School Scholars, an international organization that distinguishes the achievements of high school students.

At the end of high school I was the recipient of several awards and scholarships: the Tiffany Harris Scholarship from the Jamaican Canadian Association (2014), the Royal Bank Scholarship through the BBPA National Scholarships (2014), the Chapel Ridge Scholarship from the Markham African Canadian Caribbean Association (2014), and the Alliance of Jamaica Alumni Associations scholarship (2014). In 2015, I was acknowledged at the Harry Jerome Awards Ceremony as a past BBPA scholarship recipient.

My high school academic achievements opened the door to Schulich School of Business, one of the most prestigious business schools in Canada. Schulich has exposed me to various aspects of business, both academically and practically. During my three years of study, I have gained in-depth knowledge from my courses that I know I can apply to my career in the future. The school has helped me to develop mental perspicacity, always pushing me out of my comfort zone. With knowledge gained from my courses and exposure to the corporate world combined with my own hard work, I continued to maintain a high academic standard, receiving multiple A’s.

While studying at the Schulich School of Business, I have been working part time at Cargill Kert LLP as a legal secretary and at the Town of Richmond Hill as a Program Instructor.

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DR. EVERTON GOODEN – TRAILBLAZERS AWARD



Dr. Everton Gooden received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Toronto in 1996. He went on to complete surgical training in Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Toronto and received his Surgical Fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2001.

He is currently on staff at North York General Hospital (NYGH) and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

Dr. Gooden is Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee and Chief of Staff at NYGH and also serves as the Division Head of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Gooden is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto.

He is a Director of the Board of Governors and Foundation Board of Governors and has served as President and Vice-President of the Medical Staff Association at North York General Hospital.

Dr. Gooden lives in Toronto with his wife, Dr. Nicole Isaac and their three children, Sebastian, Madeleine and Naomi.

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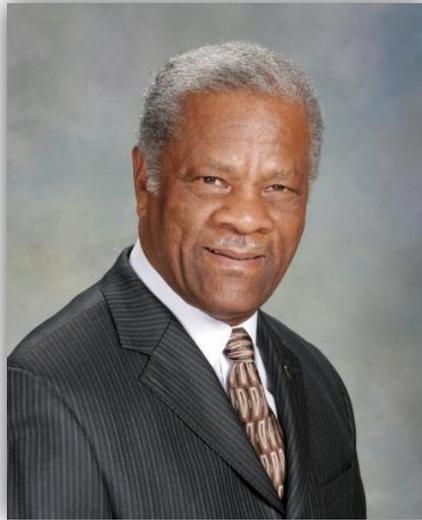
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REV. DR. AUDLEY N. JAMES – LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Bishop James was born in Trelawney, Jamaica, and graduated from the West Indies School of Public Health, and immigrated to Canada in 1969. James is married to Rev. Rosenda who co pastors with him and they have three children.

Dr. Audley N. James is the Founder and Senior Pastor of Revivaltime Tabernacle Worldwide Ministry (RTT). The majority of his churches budget goes towards youth initiatives and his church is the only one in the city that dedicates seven weeks of the summer to youth activities, “because I see them as the future for everything, if our community is going to survive in this country, or anywhere, it will have to do so, not on the backs of the seniors who are gone, but on the new generation going to come in. So all that I have learned and acquired in life I seek to pass it on to the young people,” said Reverend Dr. Audley James. Bishop James is a great Christian Minister and a well sought after speaker who has ministered in Canada, USA, the West Indies, Africa and Israel. He is admired in the Christian and international communities and in 2012 he was appointed International Advisor to the Pan African Parliament.

Canada Christian College honored him with Doctor of Divinity and later installed him as Bishop. He also holds an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Canon University. In addition to his pastoral duties at RTT, he served as Chaplain of the Jamaica National Building Society and the Jamaica Diaspora here in Canada. He is an excellent baritone and won a bronze medal for baritone in the 1965 National Festival of Music in Jamaica.

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HARRIET THORNHILL – YOUTH ADVANCEMENT AWARD



Harriet leads RBC's Contact Centers including Telephone Banking, Direct Investing, eMail, Chat, Online Banking, Social Media and Remote Office teams. Seven centers, 3,700 Advisors and Investment Specialists provide advice and support to business and personal clients across Canada and the US.

Prior to assuming the current role, Ms. Thornhill was the Head of Caribbean Markets, Personal Banking, RBC Caribbean Banking, and was based in Trinidad & Tobago for 2.5 years and 2 years in Barbados. . Her responsibility spanned across six strategic regional markets for 19 countries, where she led the development and implementation of key strategies aimed to create and sustain client value, employee engagement, and financial performance. She was one of the Caribbean Banking Operating Committee members responsible for setting the overall strategic direction of the RBC Financial (Caribbean) Limited Group. She also served as a director on several subsidiary boards across the Caribbean. Ms. Thornhill joined RBC in Montreal over 30 years ago, and has held progressively senior roles in Marketing, Recruitment, Client Experience Strategy, Leadership Development and Sales Leadership. She has roots in Barbados and a career built primarily in Montréal, and Toronto.

Before relocating to the Caribbean, Ms. Thornhill was the Regional Vice President for one of the high growth markets in the Greater Toronto Region. Harriet is known for her active mentoring, coaching and development of others. Throughout her career, Ms. Thornhill has built a robust history of community involvement and leadership activities, which includes her role in the Charity Trust Leadership Cabinet, and the RBC Greater Toronto Region Executive Champion for the Black Cultural Markets. She has also served as the Chair of the Black Business Professionals and Associations (BBPA) National Scholarship Fund. Ms. Thornhill was the 2014 Cabinet Chair for the Contact Centre, as part of RBC's national employee giving campaign. She is also an advisory member on the Greater Toronto Area Francophone Workforce Development Council, focused on bilingual youth talent development and she currently sits on the board of governors at Tyndale University.

In November 2010, she was a torchbearer for the 21st Winter Olympics in Vancouver. March 2011, Ms. Thornhill was a recipient of the BBPA Women of Honor award. Ms. Thornhill received the professional achievement award presented by Afroglobal Television's 2016 Excellence Awards Program. Ms. Thornhill has an executive MBA from the University of Athabasca. She and her husband Wayne live in Toronto and have 3 children.

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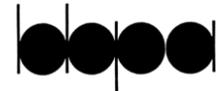
ISOBEL GRANGER – PUBLIC ADVOCACY AWARD



A thirty-year-plus law enforcement veteran, Isobel Granger is an Ottawa Police Service Platoon Staff Sergeant for West Division Patrol “F” Platoon.

From her role as the first black officer to join the ranks with the British South Africa Police in Zimbabwe (at the age of 19) and as the first black female officer with the Ottawa Police Service; as a leader of a platoon; her supervision in the Ottawa Police Youth Section, Diversity and Race Relations and OPS Partner Assault Unit (Domestic Violence), through to her work delivering gender-based sexual violence training to UN personnel in peace operations around the world, her lifelong commitment to empowering individuals towards better lives and social change is truly remarkable. Internationally, Isobel is on the Justice Rapid Response roster, a United Nation Women’s Initiative, as one of 42 people from around the world who are qualified to Investigate War Crimes related to Sexual Gender Based violence at the international level. Isobel has a B.A. in Policing Studies and M.A. in Leadership from Charles Sturt University, Australia.

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Mr. Wesley J. Hall – PRESIDENT AWARD



Expert. Innovator. Entrepreneur.

With over 20 years of experience in corporate governance and shareholder communications, Wes Hall has established himself as the preeminent leader in shareholder advisory services. Wes founded Kingsdale Advisors in 2003 to provide clients with best-in-class services for communicating with shareholders and managing any transaction or event that requires a shareholder vote. Under Wes' leadership Kingsdale has set itself apart by delivering an unparalleled track record of success for North America's biggest names including: Air Canada, Barrick, BHP Billiton, Citigroup, CN, CP, Encana, Goldcorp, Talisman, Suncor and Sprott.

He has been sought out to lead some of the highest profile deals and proxy contests in North America. He is currently a director of SickKids Foundation and former Chairman of the Board of Difference Capital Financial, former Director of Equity Financial Holdings Inc., Longford Energy, Wellgreen Platinum Ltd. and the Exempt Market Dealers Association of Canada. He has earned the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2009 award for Ontario. Wes has successfully completed the directors' education program offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) in partnership with the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto.

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CHRIS CAMPBELL – VOLUNTEER AWARD



Chris Campbell joined the Carpenters Union as a member in 1989. He attended George Brown College for his in class apprenticeship training. He completed his Carpentry apprenticeship in 1994 and obtained his Certificate of Qualification (C of Q). He has since worked on several major construction projects including condominiums, airports, hospitals, power plants, refineries, office towers, institutions, and bridges. He has been a construction site supervisor and a Carpentry apprenticeship instructor. Currently Chris is one of the Carpenters' District Council of Ontario (CDC) representatives in Toronto. The Carpenters' District Council of Ontario has over 22,000 members across Ontario, 8,000 of the membership in the GTA. Chris assignment involves: resolving labour related issues between management and workers on the job site or at the Ontario Labour Relations Board; organizing non-union companies; and negotiating collective agreements.

Volunteering in the community has been a long-standing tradition for Chris. At community event and institutions, Chris is always promoting the option of starting a career in the skills trade for young people. For several years he has been volunteering to build the Breakfast Club's Caribana Floats. He was one of 5 carpenters from the Union who volunteered to travel to Haiti after the devastating earthquake to lend his expertise in building Habitat for Humanity homes with the Jimmy Carter Foundation. In 2005, he was a part of the team of 19 carpenters who travelled to New Orleans to build homes for displaced hurricane Katrina victims. He was also an Auxiliary officer with the Toronto Police Services. Also, he is a strong community supporter of programs such as "CHOICE" and Youth at Risk programs, Political Action, job fairs, and plays a very active role in the Carpenters Union Local 27. Chris is a member of the Black Community Consultative Committee at the Toronto Police Services, and a member at the Jamaica Canadian Association Board of Directors.

The adage "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime" motivates Chris to assist young people in pursuing a career in the skills trade.

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DR. BARBARA TRIELOFF-DEANE – DIVERSITY AWARD

Dr. Barbara Trieloff-Deane is from Dover, Christ Church and a proud Barbadian. Her parents were hard-working immigrants to Barbados and from them learnt the importance of integrity, leadership and commitment to the community. She attended Codrington High School and Queen's College before immigrating to Canada, where she earned her BA (Double Honours English and French), MA and PhD at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario where she continued to build her professional knowledge. On entering financial services, she earned designations as Certified Financial Planner, Certified International Wealth Manager, Financial Management Advisor and Fellow of the Canadian Securities Institute. More recently, she achieved her certification in corporate training through Humber College. A published conference speaker during her academic years, she also made presentations for Women in Capital Markets (Canada) and the Canadian Association of Financial Planners (U.S.A.).

Dr. Trieloff-Deane's contribution to the Canadian community has evolved in three areas: Financial Services, the Third Sector and to a lesser degree, Sports. In Financial Services, she has advanced through wealth advisory, leadership and executive roles, her most recent role being that of Vice President with Qtrade Financial Group, a leading Canadian wealth management online brokerage firm. Balancing career and personal life, Barbara Trieloff-Deane has also made a lifelong commitment to her community through charitable work. She believes in giving back and has served as: President and Director of Barbados Ball Canada Aid; Vice President of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of York; youth mentor at Covenant House, Ticket to Life program; speaker for the United Way Speakers' Bureau presenting to TSX, American Express, Town of Markham and York Regional Government; captain of CIBC Sick Kids Fundraising Volleyball Team, achieving the Fundraising Gold Award and the Mark Heese and John Child Olympic Award; and church lector at St. Mary's, Collingwood and St. Ambrose and Our Lady of Sorrows, Etobicoke.

She is currently a member of the Caribbean Event family, parish representative for Development and Peace and a volunteer with the Substance Abuse Foundation in Barbados. In 2016 Barbara Trieloff-Deane made a professional commitment to work in the Third Sector, integrating her two worlds of Barbados and Canada into one passion, to make a difference in the lives of others, helping carry the light.

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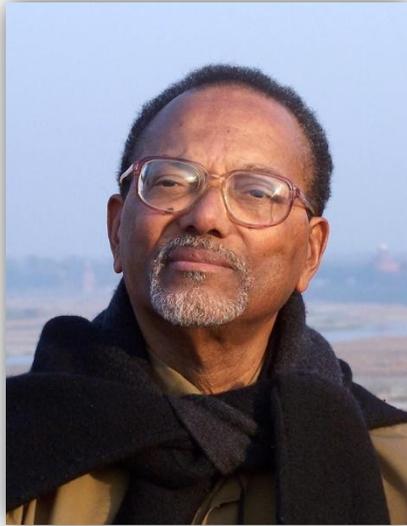


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DR. TREVOR IAN ROBINSON – HONORARY MENTION

Trevor was born in the small town of Kellits, Jamaica to Reginald and Louise Robinson. He earned a scholarship to the prestigious boarding school, Munro College, to which he was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2016 for his contribution to echocardiography.

While studying in Buffalo, New York, Trevor met the love of his life, Ranga, who had travelled halfway across the globe from Madras, India. In 1966, Trevor and Ranga were married and in 1973, Trevor joined the cardiology staff at St. Michael's Hospital.

In 2008, Dr. Robinson received the lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Society of Echocardiography. Dr. Robinson, known as 'TR', devoted countless hours to the treatment of his thousands of patients until his retirement in December 2015.

For over 50 years, Trevor and Ranga remained inseparable. Trevor was most proud of his two children, Lisa (John Aquino) and Rohan (Sylvie) and his three grandchildren, David, Laurel and Kate.

Dr. Trevor Ian Robinson passed away peacefully surrounded by family on December 1, 2016 in Toronto, Canada.



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RAPHAELITA WALKERS – HONORARY MENTION



Raphaelita Walker has for decades been a generous volunteer, for the benefit of communities in Canada and in her native Jamaica. She has been a member of the Jamaican Canadian Association for almost 50 years, serving in various capacities, including the social, fundraising, women's auxiliary and building fund committees. She helped raise funds to provide financial support for the youth program. And the seniors' dinners she initiated and organized have become a much-anticipated annual event. Ms. Walker's volunteer work with the Christian Children's Fund includes efforts to secure sponsorship of tickets for young people to attend the Harry Jerome Awards, where they would become exposed to positive role models.

Ms. Walker is a founding member of PACE Canada, a project for the advancement of childhood education. She has worked on various committees, including, Adopt-A-School, which provides educational material and toys for children in Jamaica. She has adopted two schools there (Charles Chin Loy and High Holborn), which she visits annually. Ms. Walker studied drafting and design at George Brown College and, after graduation, worked in the fashion industry in Toronto, also designing formal clothing for friends and family. Later, she switched careers and began working as

an aide at the Rockcliffe Nursing Home in Scarborough. She enrolled at Centennial College in the registered nurse's aide program. She continued working in this field while keeping up with her volunteer commitments. In 1998, Ms. Walker's family encouraged her to give up her job and become a full time volunteer.

Over the years, Ms. Walker's community service has earned her several awards and accolades. Passed away peacefully surrounded by family on February 14, 2017 at her home in Toronto, Canada, two months after celebrating her 90th birthday.



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DAVID BELL – HONORARY MENTION



Born April 14, 1944 and raised in Toronto, Professor Bell was an Ontario scholar who won the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship after attending Glendon College. He went on to receive his PhD in Political Science from Harvard University. Bell taught at Michigan State University and then returned to Canada in 1971 to teach at York University. There, he served as Dean of Graduate Studies and later as Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Studies.

An academic and author, he authored several books and countless articles. He has been a member of Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF) since 1995 and became Chair of the Board of Directors in 2006. He has been an integral part of York University and LSF for decades. His passion, commitment and dedication to sustainability and education have left a permanent imprint, on policy makers, educators and youth, provincially, nationally, and internationally.

David was an advocate for youth and a champion for sustainability education. He was a friend, mentor, and inspiration for all. In May 2016, in recognition of his life's work, Bell was awarded a prestigious Harry Jerome President's Award as part of this year's celebration of a "Generation of Greatness".

Bell was an ardently proud Canadian. He was also an accomplished musician who studied with Ray Brown at Oscar Peterson's Advanced School of Contemporary Music. He was an active bassist for both small jazz ensembles as well as big bands and continued to play even in his retirement.



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DR. INEZ NAOMI ELLISTON – HONORARY MENTION



Starting in her native Jamaica as a probationary teacher while completing teacher training part-time at Mico College, Dr. Inez Naomi Elliston made noteworthy contributions as a trainer, researcher, consultant, writer, community development educator and volunteer.

Over the past 40 years, Dr. Elliston has made significant contributions in the areas of multicultural education, anti-racism training, adult education and the delivery of equitable education policies through her work at the Ontario Ministry of Education. As the first Coordinator for Multiculturalism and Race Relations at the Scarborough Board of Education, Dr. Elliston was responsible for implementing equity-focused initiatives, including building the capacity of Ontario educators to work more effectively in diverse classroom settings. Dr. Elliston was highly respected among her colleagues and peers and was often sought after to serve on provincial and national committees addressing issues of citizenship and education. Some of her most noticeable contributions included playing key leadership roles in such organizations as the Canadian Council for Multicultural and Intercultural Education (CCMIE), The Canadian Council on Multicultural Health, the Ontario Multicultural Association multiculturelle de l'Ontario (OMAMO) and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF).

Dr. Elliston's generosity of spirit and tireless advocacy for immigrant children and children who are underserved, underrepresented and marginalized, are illustrative of the principles she held dear.

Inez's passing leaves a void that is immeasurable. Her memory and legacy will live on in the many lives of those whom she touched and impacted over the years.

Dr. Inez Naomi Elliston, educator, author and community leader passed away after a lengthy illness on February 7th surrounded by her family and friends.



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