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100 ACCOMPLISHED BLACK CANADIAN (ABC) WOMEN

100ABCWomen "Emancipation Edition" August 2020

Educator and 2018 ABC HONOREE—Natasha Henry, Explains Emancipation Day—A History Lesson



The Slavery Abolition Act received Royal Assent August 28, 1833 and took effect August 1, 1834. The Act legally abolished enslavement in most British colonies, freeing over 800,000 Africans in the Caribbean and South Africa, as well as a small number in Canada. This legislation passed, due to growing anti-slavery that was influenced by enslaved Africans who fought and rose up for freedom, claiming their humanity. There

are a number of instances of slave rebellions leading up to 1834 that influenced the push for abolition. As well, many colonies, maroon communities were formed where enslaved Africans fled to live in freedom. Our ancestors knew then, like we know now, that African and Black lives matter. In some places, the legislation that abolished enslavement in most British colonies instituted an apprenticeship system that allowed enslavers to continue to exploit the labour of the Africans without pay. This lasted four years and freedom was not declared for them until August 1, 1838.

A Black cultural tradition was born. The previously enslaved, celebrated their marginal freedom with church services, parades, speakers, performances, dinners, dances and a range of other leisure activities. Commemorations were held across Canada and descendants have carried on this tradition in some way. While celebrants recognized the abolition of freedom, the realities of anti-Black racism made the constant agitation for freedom and racial justice a necessity. Black Canadians fought against racial segregation in education and the military, against racial exclusion in housing, employment, public services, and immigration. The changes in legislation and the protections under the human rights code are a result of their persistent efforts. Black Canadians forged communities that nurtured racial pride, fostered a sense of belonging, developed skills, provided opportunities and possibilities and created community infrastructure and institutions. Emancipation Day remains relevant today. It reminds us that we come from strong roots. Black people have asserted their humanity, their belonging, their demands and their rights throughout our history in Canada. We continue to see that this summer, as we rise up and speak out about the historical disparities born out of the history of enslavement that continue to affect Black life – in child welfare, education, the justice system, housing, and the impact of COVID-19. Together we can realize full, unfettered freedom.



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100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women — 2018



WAYS TO GET YOUR BOOK NOW:

- ⇒ A Different Booklist— 779 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ontario
- ⇒ www.Amazon.ca
- <https://www.100abcwomen.ca/how-to-get-your-book/>

Quote of the Month:

"Nothing worth having is easy. Work hard and smart and always fight against injustice".

Valarie H. A. Steele

Unveiling Emancipation Park A Message from Marjorie Taylor



Your worship, Mayor Brown, Councillors, elected officials and special guests. I am very honoured to participate in this significant unveiling ceremony. My name is Marjorie Taylor. I immigrated to Canada in 1969 and have been living in Brampton since 1981.

One dictionary describes Emancipation as “the act of freeing somebody, especially from legal, political or social controls that limit what they can do”. For me, Emancipation recalls that first stroke of the pen for the Slavery Abolition Act on August 28, 1833 [Royal Assent on August 1, 1834] officially abolishing slavery throughout the British Empire and North America** which meant – at least technically – that my ancestors were no longer to be legally viewed as property – to be bought and sold. I say technically because even after these many years, the vestiges and ramifications of slavery still exist today, although now predominantly mental and systemic. However, as I stand here today in what has been renamed Emancipation Park, it brings me hope of a brighter future. One which continues to evolve positively (albeit by baby steps) through the collaborative work and commitment of people of all ethnicities for the good of all – because, to quote from the Hymn to Freedom – it is only:

“When every heart joins every heart...

When every hand joins every hand...

When every man [i.e. human] joins in our song and together singing harmony
That's when we'll be free”

This park is symbolic of a step in the right direction for Brampton – representing its commitment to **diversity and inclusion** - so thanks to all who have contributed to bring this to fruition.

[Marjorie Taylor]

****NB: Kudos to Canada** which was even more forward thinking because on “July 9, 1793 an Act was passed that prevented the further introduction of **slaves** into **Upper Canada** and allowed for the gradual **abolition of slavery** although no **slaves** already residing in the province were freed outright.

Contact Us—Check our website for more information:
www.100ABCWomen.ca

P.O. Box 31305 Bayview 16th Ave PO, Richmond Hill,
Ont. L4C 0V7

“NEWS YOU SHOULD USE”



YVETTE ASHIRI IN CUMBERLAND - Candidate for City Council (Ottawa)

Wife, mother of two and 2018 ABC HONOREE Yvette Ashiri, has taken on a new venture. She shared some great and exciting news that she is an **official Candidate for City Councillor in ward 19 Cumberland** in Orleans (Ottawa) since July 16, 2020. Her campaign launch may be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWdMKeCJG14&t=2s>

Election Day is October 2, 2020. If successful, she could become the first Black woman as City Councillor in Ottawa. You can follow her campaign on her website at www.yvetteashiri.ca, also via her social media **@YvetteCumberland19** (Facebook, Twitter Instagram, LinkedIn). We wish Yvette ‘Right Good Will’.



Register today -
Black Youth Safety
Program
Stay safe & Know
your rights

**Black Youth Safety
Program - Sept.
3rd, 2020 12-6pm
REGISTRATION
FORM - DUE SEP-
TEMBER 1, 2020
12 NOON**

To get your tickets for the Book Launch & Gala, please click
on the url link below:

NEW DATE—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/product-category/2020-gala-tickets/>

thank
you!

Editors: Dauna Jones-Simmonds &

Norma Wilson



In the News!

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/in-the-news/>



**2020—3rd 100 ABCWomen Book Launch
& Gala on Saturday, September 18, 2021
at Woodbine Banquet Hall, Toronto**

100 ABC Women

2022 Nomination Process is Open!

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/nomination-form-2022/>

Career Opportunities

Opportunities at City of Toronto—Click on the link to learn more about positions.

<https://www.brainhunter.com/frontoffice/seekerViewJobDetailAction.do?sitecode=pl389&jobId=232367&page=search&external>

City of Toronto—Blacks on Board Project—Please apply—www.toronto.ca/ServeYourCity—Lots of Board Opportunities available

To apply to the Summer Leadership Program, please click on the following link: <https://slp2020ple.infolib.ca/>

<https://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/Preview.aspx?Language=English&JobID=145296>

Please send your career opportunities that you want posted on our website to:

100abcwomen@gmail.com.

Thanks to Our Sponsors
2020 Sponsorship of the Book Launch and Gala



**Upcoming Events
Calendar**

DATE CHANGE

2020 BOOK LAUNCH & GALA
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021
WOODBINE BANQUET HALL
30 VICE REGENT BLVD
TORONTO

95% Tickets are already sold!

**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO RE-
TAIN YOUR SEATS**

100 ABC Women has made the important decision of re-scheduling the 2020 Book Launch and Gala to Saturday, September 17, 2021—all details remain the same. The event will be preceded by a Symposium on Friday, September 17, 2021 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Woodbine Banquet Hall - 30 Vice Regent Blvd., Toronto

Learn More About 2020 Honourees

<https://www.100abcwomen.ca/2020-honourees/> We encourage our friends and supporters to follow/share/like/comment on our posts across our social media platforms.

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Twitter: @100abcwomen
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Advertise with Us!

Minding My Business Series

**Congratulations to Dr. Malinda Smith—
Inaugural Vice Provost (Equity, Diversity,
and Inclusion) and Professor of Political
Science at the University of Calgary in Cal-
gary.**

Salome Bey—A Canadian Icon and 100 ABC Honouree (2018) Has Transitioned



Singer, songwriter, composer, Grammy-nominated, actress and Order of Canada Honorary member, Salome Bey, died on August 8, 2020. To audiences she was affectionately billed as Canada's First Lady of the Blues. However, among the Canadian artists she helped nurture, she was better known as "Mother Earth", her demeanour as soulful and sincere, as the voice that won her success,

both in the studio and onstage. As one of Canada's musical ambassadors and foremost interpreters of the Blues, the tributes continue to pour in for this remarkable musician and performer.

Salome was also an inspiration to young people and the children's drama musical "*Rainbow World*" which she created and appeared in, encouraged and launched the career of many young Black Canadian artists, such as Deborah Cox and Divine Brown. In addition, Salome received the Martin Luther King Jr. Lifetime Achievement award from the Black Theatre Workshop in Montreal, Canada's longest-running Black Theatre Company.

Salome Bey is survived by her two daughters and son. May this true Canadian legend "Rest In Peace".

100ABCWomen is committed to recognizing and documenting the accomplishments of Black Canadian Women. All Honourees are encouraged to share their accomplishments so that our readers can appreciate the difference they are making in their respective communities.



WATERMELON, MANGO, CUCUMBER AND FETA CHEESE SALAD

INGREDIENTS

(For The Salad)

- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 small garlic glove minced
- 1/2 tsp minced ginger
- 2 tsp fresh lime juice
- 2 tsp rice vinegar
- 3 cups watermelon deseeded and cut into cubes or melon balls
- 1 English cucumber chopped into 1/4-inch pieces (about 2 cups)
- 1 ripe mango skin removed and chopped into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 1/4 cup sliced basil
- 1/3 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup walnuts crushed and toasted (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

In a large bowl, whisk together the soy sauce, garlic, ginger, lime juice and rice vinegar. Add the watermelon, cucumber, mango, cilantro and basil. Chill for 30 minutes. Drain the excess fluid before serving. Add feta cheese and toss. Serve with crushed walnuts on top of the salad

Norma's Cooking—Delicious!!

