

**100ABCWomen spotlights and recognizes Accomplished Black Canadian Women. Please check our website for more information. [www.100ABCWomen.ca](http://www.100ABCWomen.ca)**

**Founders and co-authors - Hon. Dr. Jean Augustine, Dauna Jones-Simmonds  
& Dr. Denise O'Neil Green**





# 100ABC Women Newsletter

June 2025

LIVE

## BREAKING NEWS

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD



### 115TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION HONOURING DAUNA JONES-SIMMONDS

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Venue: The National Club  
303 Bay Street (Adelaide & Bay), Toronto

Join us for a momentous occasion as we inaugurate Dauna Jones-Simmonds as the 115th President in a celebration of leadership, community, and service. ✨

Dinner will be served

This event will be livestreamed

Attendance Options: In-Person at The National Club  
Virtual via Zoom – Registration is required:

<https://shorturl.at/guUaL>

The  
**Rotary**  
Club of Toronto



Check out the latest updates

GIRL power



Exciting News  
Dr. Onye Nnorom  
Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Province of Ontario

**Dr. Onyenyechukwu Nnorom, Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Province of Ontario**

Dr. Nnorom has taken on a new role as Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Province, becoming the first Black person to hold this prestigious role. In this position, her main portfolio will focus on Black health. To our knowledge, this marks the first time this portfolio has been represented at a provincial level in public health anywhere in Canada. Dr. Nnorom is also the Black health faculty lead with the DFCM and the creator and host of Healthcaring Differently, a digital mentorship initiative encouraging diverse youth to explore careers in medicine, research and health care.

"I am very pleased to welcome Onye to my team in Ontario's Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health," says Dr. Kieran Moore. "Her dedication and public health expertise in the areas of health equity and Black health position her very well to contribute to advancing public health at the provincial level."

<https://dfcm.utoronto.ca/news/celebrating-recent-honours-dfcm-2025>



**Shine a Light on an Accomplished Black Woman**

Do you know a Black woman who has changed lives, broken barriers, or set new standards?

Whether she leads in government, health, education, business, the arts, or makes a quiet but powerful impact, we want to celebrate her. This is more than a nomination—it's a chance to honour the women shaping our communities and inspiring future generations.

Submit a nomination today and help ensure their accomplishments are seen, celebrated, and remembered.

[www.100abcwomen.com](http://www.100abcwomen.com)

DEADLINE: July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025





Check out the latest updates



## Raising the Bar — Again!

A heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Bukola Salami, RN, PhD, FCAN, FAAN — a proud 2018 100ABC Women honouree — on her recent appointment as Co-Chair of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Your leadership continues to move the needle in public health, and we couldn't be prouder. What an inspiring reminder of the impact Black women make across Canada — and beyond. Well done, Dr. Salami!

!

## *In Loving Memory*

100ABCWomen family extends our deepest condolences to our Co-Founder and Co-Author, Dr. Denise O'Neil Green, on the passing of her husband, Matthew Green.

We hold Dr. O'Neil Green, her daughter Lydia, and son Matthew Jr. in our thoughts as they mourn this profound loss.

Matthew Green passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 11, 2025. During this time of sorrow, we offer our love, strength, and support to the family, and stand beside them in solidarity and care.

With heartfelt sympathy,  
*Your 100ABCWomen Family*



Check out the latest updates



## A Spotlight Well Earned

We are so proud to share that Norma Nicholson, a 2018 100ABCWomen honouree, has been nominated for the 2025 V-Oscar Award for Volunteer Recognition by MBC.

Norma's unwavering commitment to uplifting others continues to shine — this recognition is a beautiful reflection of her years of heartfelt service and community leadership.

Congratulations, Norma. You remind us what purpose in action truly looks like.

## Pride Month: A Celebration and a Call

Every June, we honour the legacy and ongoing contributions of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

Pride traces back to the 1969 Stonewall Uprising, a turning point in LGBTQ+ rights. This year marks 55 years since the first Pride march.

The rainbow flag, created by Gilbert Baker in 1978, remains a powerful symbol of pride and visibility.

In Canada, **the Enchanté Network** is helping expand support for 2SLGBTQ+ communities. Their new project, Back to Our Roots, is working toward a national organization focused on improving services for Black 2SLGBTQ+ Canadians.

Pride is both celebration and movement — a reminder of how far we've come, and how far we still must go.



**PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS AS IT WILL  
ADD MORE VALUE TO YOUR LIFE  
THAN ANY PENNY CAN**



## Check out the latest updates

### Fired While Racialized: The Alarming Legal Trend

Lately, I've noticed a disturbing trend: racialized employees are losing their jobs in ways that blatantly violate employment law standards. At Alphonse Latham LLP, we've seen a surge of cases walking through our doors, ranging from constructive dismissal, wrongful dismissal, and reprisal to outright racism in the workplace. Yes, it's illegal, but what does that really mean for employers? It means employers are exposing organizations to significant risk every time they terminate an employee, especially when race, power, and discrimination are part of the equation.

The good news? You have options. Employers can mitigate that risk by ensuring that complaints involving racism and discrimination are investigated independently, impartially, and with a trauma-informed, anti-racist lens. Throughout my professional journey, I've committed to doing my part to eradicate anti-Black racism—whether that was through the criminal justice system, civil system, test-case litigation, education, healthcare law, human rights, employment law, or now through workplace investigations. Today, my practice has evolved into something much broader: I lead investigations where racism is alleged, bringing not only my legal training but also my lived experience as a Black woman and over a decade of expertise as an Ontario-licensed barrister and solicitor into every investigation. And let's be clear: Investigating racism is not the same as investigating other workplace conflicts. Investigations into allegations of racism require a special set of skills that include but are not limited to the following:

A trauma-informed, anti-racist lens

An understanding of systemic and interpersonal racism (both legally and politically)

Awareness of power imbalances and intersectionalities

Comfort with discomfort

Ability to recognize and understand subtle nuances

Far too often, I see investigative reports that fall flat—lacking impartiality, fairness, justice, or a critical anti-racism lens—because the investigator (or internal team) was simply not equipped to handle the layers of complexity that cases involving racism demand.

If your organization is currently navigating a racism complaint—or wants to be better prepared when that time comes— then contact me directly at [lavinia.latham@alphonselaw.com](mailto:lavinia.latham@alphonselaw.com)

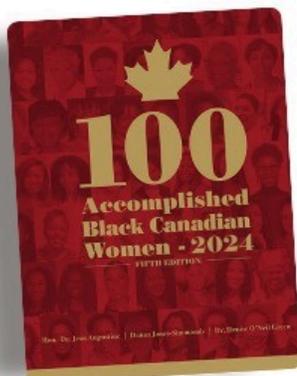
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- Lavinia Latham B.A. (Hons), J.D.



### **Honouring Excellence. Inspiring Generations.**

Some stories deserve to be told—again and again. Honour the accomplishments of Black Canadian women with these timeless keepsakes:

**100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women**

2016, 2018, 2020, 2022 Editions – Just \$25 each

**Limited 2024 Edition – Only \$50**

**500 Exceptional Black Canadian Women Poster**

Available now on Amazon. Because recognition and inspiration never go out of season.

– Just \$20



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## It's a Privilege to Care: Preventing Elder Abuse in Our Communities

June is recognized as Elder Abuse Prevention Month, highlighting an important issue in Canada, where one in ten individuals aged 65 and older may experience some form of elder abuse. The World Health Organization defines elder abuse as "a single or repeated act, or a lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person." This form of violence is a violation of human rights and encompasses various types of abuse, including physical, sexual, psychological, and emotional abuse; financial and material exploitation; as well as neglect, abandonment, and a loss of dignity and respect.

A key factor contributing to elder abuse is ageism, which the Ontario Human Rights Code defines as a mindset influenced by stereotypes about aging that often overlooks the real needs of older individuals. To effectively address and prevent elder abuse, our community can take proactive steps. By raising awareness and fostering understanding regarding the issue, we can create an environment that prioritizes the well-being and dignity of our elders. This involves not only recognizing the various forms of abuse but also advocating for the rights of older adults. Let us come together to build a supportive community that ensures our elders are treated with the respect they deserve while actively working to prevent elder abuse in all its forms. Through education, advocacy, and compassion, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of older Black individuals.

Reid's (2022) article titled "When You Are Black, Elderly, and a Woman, Health Care Discrimination Is a Triple Whammy" highlights the impact of systemic racism, sexism, ageism, and classism in health care on all of us. I personally recall an incident several years ago involving my mother, an Indigenous Guatemalan Mayan and Black woman who passes entirely as Indigenous. She was advised by her nurse not to mention her Black identity to receive better treatment. Unfortunately, Indigenous peoples in Canada often do not fare any better within the health care system. Many of us are now entering the phase of our lives where we care for elderly individuals or ourselves as we reach elderly status. I encourage everyone to monitor the care we receive from our healthcare systems. Ask questions, demand answers, and engage directly with those receiving care to better understand their experiences.

I must emphasize that many older adults experience mistreatment from their own families and community members. This is where we have the most power to make a difference. We should remember that it is a privilege to care for our elders. Given the heightened stress levels in our community due to the economy and other factors, we need to be particularly mindful. It's important to seek and accept support when we feel overwhelmed and take time to recharge.

This way, we can return to caregiving with greater gentleness and compassion. As George Washington Carver said, "Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and the wrong. You will have been all of these at some point in life."

- Nancy Simms Ed.D



Check out the latest news.



*Congrats*

SHEILA BARKER

On Being Awarded The King  
Charles III Coronation Medal

*Congrats*

IRISH MASENDA-

MANDEWO, UBCM PRESIDENT

On Being Awarded BCBusiness  
Magazine Women of  
the Year Award





Check out the latest updates



## PHOTOFUSION SUMMER CAMP

**FUELING YOUNG MINDS  
THROUGH THE LENS OF STEAM**

*for*  
**Grade 5 – 8**

**July 14 – 31, 2025**

**ResQ Youth Main Office**  
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
18 – 289 Rutherford Road S, Brampton, ON L6W 3R9

**August 5 – 15, 2025**

**Malton Youth Hub: Jonathan Davis Centre**  
Monday to Thursday, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM  
3545 Morning Star Dr, Mississauga, ON L4T 2V3

esQ Ready to Capture Your STEAM Adventure? Register Now!  
905.451.0953 www.resqyouth.com

## Resilient Hoops

# 3 ON 3

### Basketball Tournament & Community Wellness Fair

**AGES 6-24**  
Friday, August 15, 2025

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**Malton Youth Hub:**  
Jonathan Davis Centre  
3545 Morning Star Dr,  
Mississauga, ON L4T 2V3

**CATEGORIES**

- Junior Division: Ages 6-12
- Teen Division: Ages 13-17
- Young Adult Division: Ages 18-24

**PRIZES AWARDED FOR:**

- Winners in Each Division
- MVPs
- Sportsmanship Awards

TICKETS

Come out to play, compete and  
celebrate community wellness!

Visit [www.resqyouth.com](http://www.resqyouth.com) or scan the QR code for more information

Scan to register











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COMMITMENT**



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