

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2013

African-American Carter G. Woodson envisioned the idea of having a time set aside dedicated to African, and African-American history that Blacks were learning on their own. He chose the week in February that contained the birthdates of two people he credited with bringing about the end of American slavery, *President Abraham Lincoln* and Black abolitionist, *Frederick Douglass*. In Canada, railway porters from the black community in Toronto celebrated this idea in 1950.

In December 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month, following a motion introduced by the first black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, the Honourable *Jean Augustine*. The motion was carried unanimously by the House of Commons. Every year, Canadians are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of black Canadians, past and present (<http://blackhistorycanada.ca>).

This year, ETFO acknowledges the importance of Black History Month by celebrating the life of the Honorable *Lincoln Alexander* – the first black person to hold the position of Lieutenant Governor in Canada, who recently passed away in October 2012.

We hope that this poster will be displayed in public elementary schools and encourage discussions around the contributions of all Black Canadians to Canada.

For further information, resources and links:

Ontario Black History Society

http://www.blackhistorysociety.ca/black_history_month_en_209cms.htm

Canadian Government – Citizenship and Immigration Canada

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/multiculturalism/black/index.asp>

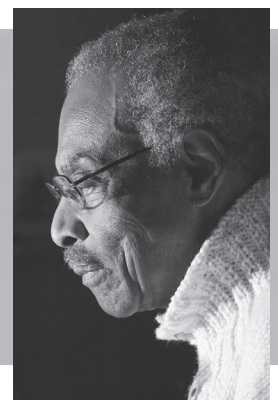
Black History Society of Canada

<http://blackhistorycanada.ca>

Canadian Hero's

http://www.canada-heros.com/alexander_lincoln.html

A life of service, a beacon of hope, courage, and determination.



Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario