



Black History Month marks a time to share, learn and honour the contributions, achievements and experiences of Black Canadians and all peoples of African ancestry. All Canadians should strive to celebrate the contributions and achievements of Black people throughout the year, as these contributions have helped to shape Canadian heritage and identity.

Black History Month was first observed in Ontario in 1993, initiated by the Ontario Black History Society (OBHS). The president of the OBHS, Rosemary Sadlier, approached the Honourable Jean Augustine, Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary, to support Black History Month as being recognized across Canada. On December 14, 1995, the motion was unanimously passed in the House of Commons. February 1996 marked the first national declaration of Black History Month in Canada. Senator Donald Oliver, the first Black man appointed to the Senate, introduced the Motion to Recognize Contributions of Black Canadians and February as Black History month, in February of 2008. The motion was approved and adopted on March 4, 2008. This completed Canada's parliamentary position on Black History Month. <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/black-history-month-in-canada#>

Mind Forward's EDI Committee is excited to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Black people during the month of February. Throughout this month, we will be providing educational resources, and spotlighting outstanding Black Canadians. We invite you to celebrate with us.

To Donate:

To stand in solidarity with the Black community please review the sources listed on this website: <https://supportblackcharities.org/>

The searchable museum at the National Museum of African American History of Culture:

<https://www.searchablemuseum.com/>

What are you reading? Check out these Black Canadian Authors

1. BlackLife by Rinaldo Walcott & Idil Abdillahi
2. How She Read by Chantal Gibson
3. Black Writers Matter, edited by Whitney French

What are you listening to? Check out these informative podcasts

1. A Radio Canada International production - Portraits of Black Canadians
2. CBC - The Secret Life of Canada
3. The Current: Hugh Burnett: Shaping Civil Rights in Canada

