

Spotlights for Asian Heritage month



The Honourable Bardish Chagger is a Member of Parliament for Waterloo. She was elected in 2015. Minister Chagger is also the first woman to serve as Government House Leader in Canada and is the first Minister of Diversity and Inclusion. Prior to becoming the MP for Waterloo, Minister Chagger was involved with the Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre. This organization assists with transitioning new Canadians into their communities. Minister Chagger planned and coordinated the Multicultural Festival in Kitchener-Waterloo's Victoria Park, placing importance on bringing together community, cultural and business groups.

Minister Chagger graduated from the University of Waterloo in 2004, with a Bachelors of Science degree. In 2012, Minister Chagger was recognized by the Waterloo Region Records as one of the "40 under 40" and has also been a recipient of the Pink Attitude Evolution's "Woman of the Year" award. Please join the EDI committee in celebrating the Honourable Bardish Chagger.



Larry “King” Kwong was the first Canadian of Asian descent to play in the NHL. Larry was born in Vernon, British Columbia in 1923, the second youngest of fifteen children. When Kwong was young, he loved to listen to hockey games on the radio and he played hockey on the frozen lakes of Vernon. Kwong joined his first organized hockey team when he was 16, the Vernon Hydrophones. Kwong quickly moved through the different leagues and in 1941, became a player for the Trail Smoke Eaters, a semi-professional team, at the age of 18. Kwong continued his career in hockey until he was scouted into the minor leagues to the New York Rovers in 1946. On March 13, 1948, Kwong became the first person of colour and Canadian of Asian descent to play in the NHL. Kwong hit the ice with the New York Rangers. He enjoyed a long and prestigious career in hockey, moving onto the Quebec Senior Hockey League, winning the Vimy Trophy as the Most Valuable Player in 1951. That same year, Kwong led the Valleyfield Braves to the league championship and then to the Alexander Cup, the Canadian major senior title. Kwong has won many awards over his career, most notably in 2013, he became an Honoured Member of the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame and in 2016, he became an Honoured Member of the Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame. Please join the EDI committee in celebrating the amazing life of Larry “King” Kwong.