



PASSAGES & PROSPERITY

Spring 2013

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Message from the Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs



Our newsletters are an opportunity to inform you of upcoming programs, projects or events, showcase partnerships and share our achievements with you.

Greetings and welcome to the Winter 2013 edition of Passages and Prosperity. We have been extremely busy here at ANSA preparing for African Heritage Month events and continuing to work with our government colleagues and community partners.

This year's theme, "Then and Now: Our Journey Continues", celebrates and highlights historic African Nova Scotian communities. It is a chance to look back on our rich history and look to the future of our communities. We should all take this opportunity to examine critically what we need to do to continue down a path to prosperity.

Each year more provincial and community events are being held across the province and I am pleased to see that African Heritage Month continues to grow. I hope to see many of you at events this year.

But as always, I believe African Heritage and our communities should be celebrated all year. In this issue you will read about some exciting events that have occurred, including a piece of Lake Loon-Cherry Brook history which was showcased at the Atlantic Film Festival, Jamaica celebrating 50 years of independence, African Nova Scotians and the War of 1812 workshops, and Christmas returning to Africville.

The 8th Annual International African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference was held in Barbados, and African Nova Scotian Affairs partnered with community groups to put on a presentation that was well received by participants. I am always excited to share Nova Scotia's stories with others from the diaspora and promote cultural tourism as a growing industry in the province. I thank all the Nova Scotia participants for making Nova Scotia's role in this conference such a success.

This issue also highlights the work of ANSA and the public service, including the first Annual General Meeting of African Canadian Women in the Public Service and a new arts program with a focus on diversity.

I hope you enjoy this issue and keep in touch with us through our website at ansa.novascotia.ca, Facebook (@AfricanNSAffairs), Twitter (@OfficeofANSA) and e-mail (ansa_newsletter@gov.ns.ca).

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Percy Paris".

Percy Paris, Minister
Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2013

African Heritage Month is a celebration of the progress, longevity and perseverance of African Nova Scotians.

This year's theme "Then & Now: Our Journey Continues" will focus on Nova Scotia's communities and the changes that have occurred over time. It is a chance to acknowledge the gains we have made and examine what needs to be done to ensure a bright future.

The Provincial Launch will take place on Friday, Jan. 25 at Province House, beginning at 11 a.m., where this year's poster will be unveiled and proclamation read. A reception will follow.

Regional Launches will also take place throughout the province, along with many community events that showcase the best of African Nova Scotian creativity. Events include dynamic plays, spoken word performances, museum exhibits, public library events and workshops.

A special thanks goes out to the African Heritage Month Information Network, who have done a terrific job coordinating African Heritage Month materials and activities and ensuring that events are held across the province. The network is a partnership between African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA), African Nova Scotian Music Association (ANSMA), African Nova Scotian North-Central Network, African Heritage Month Southwest Network, Black History Month Association (BHMA), Cumberland African Nova Scotian Association (CANSAs), Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association (VANSDA), RCMP, and Africville Heritage Trust.

Be sure to keep up to date about all the activities for African Heritage Month on Facebook (African Nova Scotian Affairs), Twitter (@OfficeofANSA) or by calling the African Heritage Month events line during the month of February (902-424-1186).

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN CAPE BRETON

African Heritage Month in Cape Breton will feature several annual events. On Friday, February 1st at noon, African Nova Scotian Affairs will host a proclamation reading at the Cape Breton Regional Municipality council chambers to officially open African Heritage Month 2013. Everyone is welcomed to attend this great opening celebration.

On February 2nd, 2013 the Glace Bay U.N.I.A. Cultural Museum in partnership with African Nova Scotian Affairs will host the 6th Celebration Gala at Membertou Trade and Convention Centre. The African Heritage Month Gala was created in 2008 and has been a thriving community initiative ever since. It sells out every year with 500 people attending. The annual event is always done in partnership with a community group. "Community is such a big part of this event, the Celebration Gala is an event everyone can be proud of," said UNIA chairperson Theresa Brewster.

The event will also feature the presentation of the Tom Miller Human Rights Award.

The African Heritage Month Celebration Gala is an inclusive event, each year the event is growing and it is bigger and better than ever. The event could not be possible if it was not for dedicated and committed sponsors. The committee looks forward to working together with African Nova Scotian community groups to raise the bar on this annual event.



War of 1812 Workshops



As Canada commemorates the Bicentenary of the War of 1812, Dr. Afua Cooper, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Studies, Dalhousie University, in partnership with African Nova Scotian Affairs and Pier 21, presented a weekend long workshop to honor the achievements of the Black Refugees of the War of 1812.

The Opening Ceremony hosted by Pier 21 on Thursday, November 22, saw Percy A. Paris, Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs and Economic and Rural Development and Tourism bring greetings on behalf of the province of Nova Scotia. Over the next two days (November 23-24, 2012) a series of workshops were held at the Black Cultural Centre.

"This workshop takes the opportunity to explore, examine, and highlight the subject of African Canadian involvement in the War of 1812," said Dr. Cooper.

The keynote speaker, noted author, historian Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander from Norfolk State University Norfolk, Virginia was brilliant in her lectures on the genealogy ties between the people in the Norfolk area and the descendants of the refugees who left the Chesapeake area in Virginia to settle in Nova Scotia after the War of 1812. She said "there is a need to rehumanize the story of the Black Refugees and give names of the people who came to this province."

The audience heard from a stalwart group of experts in their field including Allister Johnson, North Preston, Carolann

A SUCCESS



Workshop photos courtesy of Dr. Afua Cooper, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Studies, Dalhousie University.

Wright Parks, Beechville and Denise Allen, Africville, who all gave historical commentaries on the establishment of Black communities by the Refugees and their persistent efforts to build and maintain their own institutions down through the years.

Local historian, researcher/writer, David States presented on the heroism of William Hall, the son of Black Refugees who came to Nova Scotia after War of 1812 and the first Black person to be awarded the Victoria Cross. Historian Gareth Newfield focused on Richard Pierpoint and the Coloured Corps in the War of 1812, recounting their hard fought efforts to help win the war. A professor in geography and urban studies, Ted Rutland explored the role regional development has had on the Black Communities over the years. Lindsay Van Dyke, a researcher with Pier 21 presented a thought provoking lecture on the development of Black identity by the Refugees in Nova Scotia.

Dr. Cooper inspired the audience with her poetry and her passionate efforts to portray the Black Refugees as industrious, hardworking and brave, fighting in Wars on both sides, as a free people and as enslaved people, in search for freedom. She introduced the audience to written testimony from one Black Refugee, Gabriel Hall from the Preston area who in 1824 petitioned the government of the day for the land promised to the refugees.

The event closed with a moving rendition of spirituals by ladies from the largest Black Community in Canada, North Preston. They performed a number of spirituals said to have originated from the Black Refugees experience as they sought freedom in Canada before and after the War of 1812. The choir featured Rev. Alfreda Smith, Myra Cain-Provoe, Novalee Buchan, Vivian Cain, Delma Cain, Cindy Cain and Vernelda Cain Downey.

8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN DIASPORA HERITAGE TRAIL CONFERENCE



Nova Scotian presenters at the 8th Annual African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference in Barbados. Left to Right: Tracey Thomas, African Nova Scotian Affairs; Lou Gannon, African Nova Scotia Music Association; Carolyn Fowler, Black Loyalist Heritage Society; Robert French, Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association (VANSDA); The Honourable Percy A. Paris, Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs and Economic and Rural Development and Tourism; Bernadette Hamilton-Reid, Black Cultural Centre; Michael Wyse, Black Business Initiative; Sunday Miller, Africville Genealogy Society. Photo Courtesy of the African Nova Scotia Music Association.

The 8th Annual International African Diaspora Heritage Trail Conference (ADHT) was held in Barbados Sept. 17 -19, with the theme Our Heritage, Our Identity: Uncover, Recover, Discover.

As an exciting follow up to last year's conference in Nova Scotia, it focused on the rich histories of the diaspora, expanding the cultural heritage tourism market, and providing developmental and networking opportunities for participants.

Nova Scotia was once again featured in the presentation African Nova Scotia Heritage: Lost, Stolen or Strayed. African Nova Scotian Affairs Minister Percy Paris, along with ANSA staff members and several Nova Scotian cultural tourism organizations, delivered the presentation, which focused on reclaiming our stories and using our heritage as a means of drawing tourism to the region.

"We are determined that African Nova Scotian heritage will no longer be lost, stolen or strayed," said Minister Paris. "One of the

ways we are looking to do this is to share our stories with the world. Through avenues, such as this conference, we are telling people our stories and of Nova Scotia's place in the diaspora. But we are also drawing people to our province to personally experience our rich history."

Organizations that participated were the Africville Museum, African Nova Scotia Music Association, Black Cultural Society for Nova Scotia, Black Loyalist Heritage Society, Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association, and Black Business Initiative.

Other programs and workshops at the conference included topics such as Recovering Ancestral links, African Retentions in the Caribbean, Cultural Resistance to Slavery, and Linking Museums to the Places of History and Culture.

The 9th Annual International African Diaspora Heritage Trail conference will be held Oct. 9-12, in Lafayette, Louisiana.

AN UPDATE FROM THE AFRICAN DISAPORA ASSOCIATION OF THE MARITIMES

2012 saw the African Disapora Association of the Maritimes (ADAM) achieve a number of firsts. Early in the year, a first ever partnership event with Pier 21 brought an up and coming Nigerian Film maker Obi Emelonye of England to Nova Scotia. The "Mirror Boy" is the story a young boy's journey from England to Gambia to rediscover his African roots. The gathered crowd enjoyed the movie as well as the question and answer session with director.

On December 8, 2012, ADAM celebrated a successful year with another first. The end of year cultural sensitization event was a fabulous gala in partnership with the United African Canadian Women's Association with Wayn Hamilton as master of ceremonies. A capacity crowd of over two hundred enjoyed an evening of food, fun and friendship while learning a lot about Africa. The evening exemplified the growing reach of ADAM, as a family of three attended the event all the way from Cape Breton with support from ADAM.

Speaking on the past year, Rev. Elias Mutale, chairperson,

summed up the year with one word - progress. The elements of progress included phase two of the popular mentoring program and consolidation of the women's health conversation projects. Staff capacity grew and popular soccer teams enjoyed another year of activity.

But perhaps the best indicators of progress were the strengthening of the Board of Directors with the addition of younger board members signalling a new level of progress and assurance of a successful future in the transition to younger leadership. Last but not least and very fitting, ADAM concluded the year with a move to a new location on 3200 Kemp Rd after six years at the Dutch Village location. The contact number remains the same at 404-3670.

Special thanks goes to the African Nova Scotian Affairs for strong support throughout the year. The Board of Directors wishes to thank the numerous volunteers who assisted to make the year 2012 a success. Mark the date for the March 30 annual general meeting and bring your ideas to the table to enable ADAM make a quantum leap in 2013.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Sir Grantley Adams (1898-1971), the first Premier of Barbados and the namesake for the Grantley Adams International Airport, had direct family ties to our province.

Sir Adams is often referred to as the father of democracy for Barbados and had a strong passion for advancing the cause of workers and the poor exploited masses. Elected in 1951, Sir Adams served as Premier until 1958, when he left to become Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation.

His brother Augustus "Gus" Adams settled in Halifax and was a member of the Colored Hockey League of the Maritimes

and a respected member of the Masons. His sons and daughter went on to become accomplished musicians and dancers, including Charles Richmond "Bucky" Adams, who became a Jazz Icon throughout Canada.

The history of Sir Grantley and Gus Adams is shared by both Barbados and Nova Scotia. It demonstrates how far-reaching our collective heritage has become.

Know of other interesting Diaspora connections? Send them to ANSA_newsletter@gov.ns.ca.

Community Spotlight

THE PANTHER NEXT DOOR

Deanna Sparks didn't set out to find herself on the big screen at Atlantic Canada's largest film festival. Nor did she anticipate how well received her first documentary would be received by the community and the province.

What she wanted was to share an important story – and message – from her childhood.

But in September 2012, *The Panther Next Door* premiered at the Atlantic Film Festival in Halifax. The film is based on the true story of one of Sparks' neighbours growing up, Francis Hill, who she found out years later was a member of The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense. The Black Panthers were an American civil rights group founded in California in the 1960s that caught the attention of the police and the FBI.

Hill fled the United States to Lake Loon – Cherry Brook with his family in the early 70s under the name Beaufile. Their house was next to Sparks' grandmother's house, where she spent most of her time.

"They were a very afrocentric type of family, which was a little different in our community. The people that lived in the community were the people that were born and raised in Lake Loon – Cherry Brook, unless they married somebody from outside and moved in," says Sparks. "To have someone, a stranger move in, that was a very unheard of kind of a thing."

But it didn't take long for Sparks to get to know the family. She befriended his children and spent a lot of time over at their place. He became a mentor in the community, teaching the local children about the importance of education, finding their identity and being proud.

"He taught me a lot, like education is number one. If you have a good point, don't be afraid to say it. Don't put poison in your hair," says Sparks. "It was all just positive teaching from him...even though I strayed from not putting perms in my hair."

Hill's influence on her life was unmistakable. She became very involved in student affairs at school and became outspoken about keeping Black History in the school curriculum. She was also on the front lines when they were going to amalgamate the schools in the Prestons. She wore an afro to school for years.

His teachings spread across the community and left a mark on several people that achieved very high goals, including lawyers, doctors, judges and filmmakers.

"Looking back at it now I understand why he was the way that he was. It's because he was a panther, and that's part of being a panther – to educate," say Sparks. "He was an extremely articulate, well read, very smart man."

But Even though Hill would tell them about the civil rights movement, no one suspected that he was a Black Panther, and they didn't find until he was arrested and extradited to the United States.

Long after the Hills left the community, Deanna did an internship with CBC. One of her mentors there was really encouraging about the stories she would pitch across the table. They stayed in contact after the internship was completed, and at a subsequent meeting Sparks shared her story about Hill. Her mentor encouraged her to pitch it. The idea was a hit, and together with director Bill MacGillivray and producer Terry Greenlaw, Sparks was able to see her vision realized.

In the film, Sparks tracks down Hill, who was not at all surprised to see her working in film.



Left: Deanna and Mister Hill

Below: The full cast from 'The Panther Next Door', movie

Photos courtesy of Picture Plant Productions



"He was like 'I can't believe it's you! God Deanna, I knew you would end up doing something when it came to talking!'" Sparks laughs. "But he didn't realize the impact he left, because to him it was just every day. He brought up his kids like that."

Sparks hopes that by making this film Hill's teachings will also have an impact on young African Nova Scotians today. She says that Nova Scotia's black activists, such as Rocky Jones and Walter Borden fought hard to pave the way for this generation, but issues such as violence in the community and lack of work ethic indicate that this generation has dropped the mantel.

"When I was brought up, I was brought up by a community and a culture where it takes a village to raise a child. Those

types of teachings. We're missing that now," Sparks says. "The parents are a lot younger with no guidance. They need to let their children know that nothing in life comes easy or for free. If it does, then there is something wrong with it."

And the message was well received at the Atlantic Film Festival was well received by youth and others.

"It was a great time," says Sparks. "They did a question and answer period after the film and I found that a lot of people participated in that."

In the future she'd like to create full-length film that focuses on one topic. And with hours of tape left unused, a continuation of this important piece of African Nova Scotian history is a very real possibility.

CHRISTMAS RETURNS TO AFRICVILLE

Christmas came back to Africville on December 15th, with a tree and church lighting event at the Africville Museum. It was the first time Christmas was celebrated in Africville in almost 50 years.

African Nova Scotian Affairs Minister Percy Paris attended, along with the Halifax Regional Municipality Mayor Mike Savage and North End Municipal City Councillor Jennifer Watts. About 80 more Nova Scotians gathered inside the church to sing Christmas Carols and to hear a Christmas Story of Love from Rev. Rhonda Britton, Pastor of the Cornwallis Street Baptist Church. Murletta Williams played the piano for a caroling.

“Tonight we shine Africville’s light for everyone to see,” said Minister Paris speaking at the event. “Tonight we reaffirm that Africville is not gone. It is not forgotten. It is not invisible.”

The church was decorated on the inside with a beautiful Christmas tree and a glorious bow hung over the church altar, which was salvaged from the wreckage of the Seaview African United Baptist church.

It was a magical atmosphere and everyone present felt the excitement. The event was closed out with a prayer and a blessing and everyone went outside into the cold and wind for the lighting of the Church and tree.

The crowd cheered as the church and tree were lit. Guests took pictures and then went downstairs to the basement to continue the celebration with hot mulled cider, hot chocolate, tea and coffee, candy canes for the children and mandarin oranges – simple, but much in keeping with the Spirit of Africville.

The lights, hung by HRM firefighters at no cost, will stay up through African Heritage Month until March.

Photos courtesy of Africville Heritage Trust.



AFRICAN CANADIAN WOMEN IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE CELEBRATE 1ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Members of African Canadian Women in the Public Service gather at the organization's first Annual General Meeting. Communications Nova Scotia Photograph.

African Canadian women in the provincial government gathered Oct. 18 to celebrate a milestone that is a sure sign of good things to come.

The African Canadian Women in the Public Service Network (ACWPS) held its first Annual General Meeting at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax. The day featured presentations and remarks by members and supporters including The Honourable Mayann E. Francis, former Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; African Nova Scotian Affairs Minister Percy Paris; Labour and Advanced Education Minister Marilyn More; and Deputy Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage Laura Lee Langley, the network's champion.

The event also marked the launch of new network committees, including research and policy, mentorship and peer support, professional/career development and training, and communications/marketing.

"Nova Scotians know that our diverse culture and heritage builds stronger communities and the African Nova Scotian community has had and will have an important role to play in achieving that," said Angela Johnson, ACWPS communications lead. "The network is excited that the first AGM was such a success and we look forward to the upcoming year and continuing with our goals."

ACWPS's vision is to, through a supportive, united, collective and future-oriented approach, act and advocate to achieve advancement and empowerment for African Canadian Women in the Public Service.

While the AGM was full of energy and enthusiasm, one year ago it was still just a vision.

On Oct. 18, 2011, during the International Year for People of African Descent and Women's History Month, a session called Ascending the Ladder: Tapping Into the Potential of Women of African Descent in the Public Service of Nova Scotia was held. More than 90 African Nova Scotian women came together for the event to share stories about their experiences working in Nova Scotia's public service.

One of the objectives that came out of the day was to establish a network to address challenges and to capitalize on opportunities. The session's organizers established the ACWPS Network, and soon after began recruiting members and gathering support.

Since then, the network has provided professional development opportunities for its membership and co-hosted a reception for Judge J. Michelle Childs, an African-American speaker on women and minority empowerment. The Honourable Mayann E. Francis also hosted a New Year's reception for the group in January during her term as Lieutenant Governor.

And the network hasn't slowed down since the AGM. Upcoming plans include developing a website, creating a newsletter, and developing a mentorship program for members.

"Members of the African Nova Scotian Community working for the public service contribute to the success of the public service every day," said Ms. Johnson. "The network will continue to increase understanding of the challenges that face women of African descent and the value of their full participation in the workplace."



Photo provided by D&L photographer Nick Pedree

CONGRATULATIONS TO QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL RECIPIENTS

2012 marked Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 60th anniversary as Queen. This is only the second Diamond Jubilee to ever be celebrated, with the first during the reign of Queen Victoria in 1897.

To commemorate the occasion, Diamond Jubilee Medals were presented to 60,000 Canadians, including several African Nova Scotians that have made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community. Medals were presented at ceremonies across the province throughout the 2012 year.

Congratulations to all Diamond Jubilee Medal Recipients!



Above: His Honour Brigadier-General The Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and Her Honour Mrs. Joan Grant with recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal at a ceremony at Government House in Halifax. The recipients were nominated by Senator, The Honourable Donald Oliver, QC.

Below: Premier Darrell Dexter talks to Olympian Custio Clayton at a Diamond Jubilee Medal Ceremony for Nova Scotia's Olympic athletes.

Photos courtesy of Communications Nova Scotia

Our Government, Your Government



A NEW PARTNERSHIP WILL HELP
DIVERSE NOVA SCOTIAN ARTISTS
ACCESS FUNDING AND GAIN PROFILE.



The Province of Nova Scotia, Arts Nova Scotia and the Canadian Council for the Arts signed a partnership agreement to help increase representation and provide support for minority artists in the province.

Each organization will contribute \$75,000 each year for three years. That means a \$450,000 pool will be available to African Nova Scotian artists, as well as Mi'kmaq and artists with disabilities over the next three years.

The partnership was formed to boost the province's creative economy and promote Nova Scotia's cultural heritage.

"The arts play a crucial role in Nova Scotia's cultural vibrancy and economic sustainability," said Leonard Preyra, Minister of Communities,

Culture and Heritage. "This new partnership will help artists and arts communities that typically face barriers to accessing funding support and artistic growth."

Arts Nova Scotia will design and administer the program and it will be managed by a provincial staff member with specialized knowledge on equity and diversity.

Applications for funding will be reviewed by a peer committee.

"This is a significant moment for the artists and arts communities of Nova Scotia," said Candace Stevenson, Arts Nova Scotia Chair. "Arts Nova Scotia is pleased to develop this program that will provide support to artists and organizations."





Left to Right: Sydnie Paris, Paris Dixon, African Nova Scotia Affairs Minister Percy A. Paris, Amariah Bernard and Zamani Millar at a Jamaica50 celebration in Halifax. Contributed photograph.

Jamaica50!

2012 marked the 50th anniversary of the independence of Jamaica from British rule. Jamaicans in many cities around the world, including Halifax Regional Municipality, held events throughout the year to celebrate this historic occasion.

Commemorations to honour this milestone began in July at the Black Cultural Centre, located in the Preston area where the Jamaican Maroons settled in 1797. A distinguished guest list included well known lawyer, community activist Rocky Jones; James R. Johnston Chair in Black Studies, Dalhousie University, the esteemed author, historian Dr. Afua Cooper ; and the popular children's author, journalist, Halifax Poet Laureate (2009-11), Shauntay Grant. A well-attended audience were treated to an evening with a Jamaican theme featuring cultural performances, an art exhibit and exquisite Jamaican cuisine.

In August, a celebration featured the hoisting of the Jamaican flag in a ceremony held in Halifax at Parade Square. The Hon. Percy A. Paris, Minister of African Nova Scotia Affairs and Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, brought greetings on behalf of the province.

"We here in Halifax, Nova Scotia, particularly the descendants of the original Jamaican Maroons, join with others in cities across Canada and indeed throughout the world to rejoice and celebrate Jamaica's 50 years of independence," said Minister Paris.

All involved with the Jamaica50 Halifax Committee are to be commended for organizing the events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of independence for the Island of Jamaica.

NEW STAFF PROFILE: Michelle Lucas, Communications Advisor



Michelle grew up in Cole Harbour, and while she has lived in Dartmouth and Clayton Park, she recently moved back to the place she grew up. She graduated from Mount Saint Vincent University with an honours degree in public relations and certificate in marketing. She also completed the co-operative education program, in which she earned co-op student of the year in 2001.

Michelle held past communications positions at the Nova Scotia Trails Federation, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission before landing a position at Communications Nova Scotia in 2006. She spent six years in the head office Communications Support and Media Services team, where she worked closely with the House of Assembly.

Michelle enjoys reading, movies, travelling and spending time with her family and friends. She also enjoys acting when she is able to, and was featured in a "My Nova Scotia" tourism commercial and played Viola Desmond in 2011's Long Road to Justice: The Viola Desmond Story.

Michelle lives with her boyfriend, daughter and a Nova Scotia duck-tolling retriever. She is excited to be part of the ANSA team, and looks forward to forming new relationships and serving the African Nova Scotian Community.

UNITED WAY SUCCESS!

The provincial government holds an annual fundraising campaign for the United Way. In 2012, the departments of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Communications Nova Scotia and Energy spearheaded the campaign.

A special shout out goes to the ANSA team in Cape Breton, who have raised more than \$1,000 between the three people.

Congratulations to Chantel Reid-Demeter, Lillian Marsman and Mona Yakimchuck, the Cape Breton ANSA team!



United Way

About ANSA

The Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs assists, supports, and enhances the provincial government's delivery of services to African Nova Scotians and is a partner in developing innovative solutions that lead to self reliance and sustainable development for African Nova Scotians and their communities.



The ANSA logo incorporates several concepts that relate to the mission of the Office of African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA), including:

Flower – The Mayflower is the official flower of Nova Scotia.

Star – This stylized star is symbolic in several different ways. A few include:

- The Black Star of Africa has come to symbolize hope and honour.
- A Black star to represent the people.
- Points of the star resemble spokes moving forward as are our people.

Birds – Represent freedom and fertility. Birds are said to carry the souls of our ancestors.

For inquiries, comments, submissions, or to be included on our mailing list, please contact:

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This issue of the ANSA newsletter contains contributions by African Diaspora Association of the Maritimes and the following staff members: Michelle Lucas and Regina James. The newsletter is co-ordinated and edited by ANSA Communications.