



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

RESOURCES FOR CATHOLIC TEACHERS

The following is a non-exhaustive list of materials from various sources that may provide a starting point for you to explore, learn, and build understanding about the history and contributions of Black Canadians to our society, as well as continued struggles against racism and oppression.

>> Exploring Black history

Educational Resources

- **Black Communities in Canada Channel – National Film Board of Canada**
Explore the National Film Board's free collection of films by award-winning Black filmmakers, creators, and allies of the Black community, detailing a rich history to better understand the present.
- **Canadian Encyclopedia: Black History in Canada**
A collection of articles by topic curated by the Canadian Encyclopedia on Black history in Canada.
- **Digital Museums Canada – BC's Black Pioneers: Their Industry and Character Influenced the Vision of Canada**
This exhibit reveals how a group of about 800 Black immigrants, invited to settle in British Columbia, helped to stabilize the fledgling western communities with their determination, ingenuity, and endurance.
- **Remember Africville – National Film Board of Canada**
This short film provides a history of Africville, a small Black settlement that lay within the city limits of Halifax, Nova Scotia, which was demolished in the 1960s. Former residents, their descendants, and some of the decision makers speak out and, with the help of archival photographs and films, tell the story of that painful relocation.
- **Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities in Nova Scotia**
This virtual exhibit, which chronicles Black communities in Nova Scotia, is based on a physical exhibit produced by the Nova Scotia Museum.
- **Underground Railroad – Historica Foundation**
A one-minute video on the Underground Railroad from the acclaimed Heritage Minutes, produced by Historica Canada.
- **Why Do We Celebrate Black History Month? – David Suzuki Foundation**
This resource from the David Suzuki Foundation provides information and highlights issues Black communities experience daily throughout the year — including environmental racism and injustice.

Environmental racism occurs today in Canada when Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities are unjustly exposed to pollution and climate change.



Ontario-based Organizations

- **Amherstburg Freedom Museum**

Previously known as “the Black Museum,” the Amherstburg Freedom Museum is a community-based, non-profit museum that tells the story of African-Canadians’ journey and contributions, by preserving and presenting artifacts that educate and inspire.

- **Black History Ottawa**

Black History Ottawa is a registered Canadian charity with a mandate to advance education by increasing the public’s knowledge and appreciation of, and by carrying out research in, the history, culture, traditions, and achievements of Canadians of African descent.

- **Buxton National Historic Site & Museum**

Founded on the original site of the Elgin Settlement, which served as a terminus on the Underground Railroad for Black people fleeing oppression, Buxton National Historic Site & Museum’s main purpose is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret historical artifacts related to the settlement.

- **Confronting Anti-Black Racism (CABR)**

CABR is responsible for rolling out the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism, which responds to the priorities identified by Toronto’s diverse Black communities. This page provides information about, and links to, events and resources focused on confronting anti-Black racism.

- **Josiah Henson Museum of African-Canadian History**

The Josiah Henson Museum of African-Canadian History sits on part of the original property purchased in 1841 by abolitionist Josiah Henson and his supporters to establish a refuge for the many US fugitives from slavery. It consists of an interpretive centre, three historic buildings, two cemeteries, and numerous artifacts that were preserved as a legacy to these early pioneers.

- **Ontario Black History Society**

The Ontario Black History Society is a non-profit registered Canadian charity dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of Black history and heritage.

- **Slavery to Freedom**

Explore an important chapter of Ontario’s history by learning more about the Black heritage sites and museums across the province.



>> Exploring racism

Educational Resources

- ***Annotated Bibliography: A Resource for Ontario Educators Learning about Racism***
Co-authored by six Ontario educators, this document provides entry-points for teachers navigating the complex field of anti-racism education.
- ***Anti-Racism Education in Canada: Best Practices – Centre for Race and Culture (CFRAC)***
The CFRAC has created this document to provide a summary of best practices, as well as examples of initiatives in anti-racism education in select Canadian cities.
- ***Black History Month Resource Guide for Educators and Families – Centre for Racial Justice in Education***
This resource provides curriculum ideas, stories, histories, and think pieces to support teachers in ensuring that Black history is taught throughout the year, and to continue the important work to uplift every student and reinforce that Black Lives Matter – every day.
- ***Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust (CCLET)***
The CCLET is a non-profit research and public educational organization created in 1967 by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA). Access a number of elementary and secondary teaching and learning resources on its website, along with free workshops in English and French.
- ***Canadian Museum for Human Rights***
The Canadian Museum for Human Rights offers a number of education resources, lessons, and virtual lessons that explore various aspects of human rights. The resource “Be An Upstander,” offers teachers a series of lessons that guide student learning around human rights and introduces students to the impact that individual change can have on society.
- ***Elementary Bullying Prevention Resources for Teacher-Librarians and Classroom Teachers***
This is a compilation of bullying prevention professional resources, websites, and recommended literature with accompanying activities produced by the Association.
- ***Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)***
The OHRC’s policy and guidelines on racism and racial discrimination.
- ***Prayer to End Racism***
Suggested Bible readings and prayers to end the sin of racism and discrimination.
- ***SafeAtSchool.ca***
This website offers lesson plans and toolkits to elementary and secondary educators, as well as resources for youth.
- ***Towards Race and Equality in Education: The Schooling of Black Students in the Greater Toronto Area***
A collaborative project that uses data from the Toronto District School Board to generate a conversation about the experiences of Black students and make a case for school boards to acknowledge and address systemic anti-Black racism in schools.



Advocacy Organizations

- **Black Boys Code**
Black Boys Code is a non-profit organization with 11 chapters across Canada, and one in the United States. Their mission is to improve the future of Black youth through education in computer science and technology.
- **Back to Our Roots - The Enchanté Network (enchantenetwork.ca)**
Is committed to anti-racism and intersectionality in its work to amplify community-based leadership and support Black 2SLGBTQI+ movement building on a national stage.
- **Black Business and Professional Association**
The BBPA is a non-profit, charitable organization that addresses equity and opportunity for the Black community in business, employment, education, and economic development.
- **Black Health Alliance**
The Black Health Alliance is a community-led registered charity working to improve the healthy and well-being of Black communities in Canada.
- **Black Legal Action Centre (BLAC)**
BLAC is an independent not-for-profit community legal clinic that combats individual and systemic anti-Black racism by conducting research, engaging in structural transformation, and providing legal services to members of Ontario's Black communities.
- **Black Lives Matter**
The Canadian chapter of Black Lives Matter, an international organization and movement fighting police and state violence, and anti-Black racism.
- **Black Women in Motion**
Black Women in Motion is a Toronto-based, survivor-led, grassroots organization that empowers and supports the advancement of Black Women, Girls, Nonbinary, and Gender-non-conforming survivors of gender-based violence.
- **Black Youth Helpline**
The Black Youth Helpline serves all youth, specifically responding to the need for a Black youth-specific service, with resources to promote access to professional, culturally appropriate support for youth, families, and schools.
- **CEE Centre for Young Black Professionals**
The CEE Centre for Young Black Professionals is a Toronto-based charity that is dedicated to addressing the economic and social barriers that affect Black youth ages 14 and over who are not in employment, education, or training
- **Canadian Civil Liberties Association**
The CCLA is a human rights organization committed to defending the rights, dignity, safety, and freedoms of all people in Canada.



- **Federation of Black Canadians**

The Federation of Black Canadians is a national, non-profit organization, driven by local organizations across the country to advance the social, economic, political, and cultural interests of Black people.

- **Nia Centre For the Arts**

The Nia Centre for the Arts is a Toronto-based charitable organization that supports, showcases, and promotes an appreciation of arts from across the Afro-Diaspora.

- **Parents of Black Children**

Parents of Black Children is an advocacy group working to support families and facilitate equitable outcomes for Black children, through accountability and transformational change.

- **Toronto Black Film Festival**

The Toronto Black Film Festival is dedicated to giving unique voices in cinema the opportunity to present audiences with new ways of looking at the world. A dynamic, refreshing, and audacious festival whose ambition is to encourage the development of the independent film industry and to promote more films on the reality of Black people from around the Globe.

- **Women's Health in Women's Hands (WHIWH)**

The WHIWH Community Health Centre provides primary health care to racialized women from the African, Black, Caribbean, Latin American, and South Asian communities in Toronto and surrounding municipalities.