

The PSAC BC Racially Visible Caucus and the Union of National Employees BC and Yukon invite you to

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

with a series of posters, facts, and bookmarks that commemorate our heritage.

Historic Black Communities in Canada

Black people have lived in Canada since the beginnings of transatlantic settlement. Although historically very few have arrived directly from their ancestral homeland in the continent of Africa, the term "African Canadian" became increasingly popular in the 1990s to identify all descendants of Africa regardless of their place of birth.

The earliest arrivals were slaves brought from New England or the West Indies. Between 1763 and 1865 most blacks migrating to Canada were fleeing slavery in the US. The US remained the main source of new black immigrants until the 1960s, when large numbers of West Indians began arriving.

Today African Canadians constitute about 2% of the Canadian population.



Nova Scotia

As a British defeat became inevitable in the American Revolutionary War (1783) the British army evacuated more than 2000 Black Loyalists to Nova Scotia.

Many Black Loyalists landed at Shelburne, in southeastern Nova Scotia, and later created their own community nearby in Birchtown. With a population of more than 2500, Birchtown was the largest settlement of free Blacks outside Africa. Others settled around the colony and in New Brunswick.

Most of the Black Loyalists never received the land or provisions that they were promised and were forced to earn meagre wages as farm hands or domestics.

Find out more at <http://bit.ly/BHM-nova-scotia>



The Union of National Employees



✂ cut here for your black history bookmark!

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