



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2024

### Invest in Women, Accelerate Progress

International Women's Day is more than a date on the calendar; it's a celebration, a reflection, and a call to action. As we step into the year 2024, International Women's Day takes on a renewed and critical importance. Far more than a token acknowledgement, this day serves as a powerful reminder of the ongoing struggle for gender equality and the need for collective action to dismantle barriers that still persist.

In a world that is facing a multitude of crises, achieving gender equality is vital. Ensuring women's and girls rights in all aspects of life is important to create prosperous and just economies. A key issue to reaching this goal is lack of investment in gender-equality programs and policies by governments and countries around the world. As we struggle with a rapidly changing world, it is important to consider that promoting gender equality benefits everyone. From economic growth to social stability, investing in gender equality can be a powerful catalyst for positive change.

Women make up a significant portion of the global population. Empowering them economically can lead to a substantial increase in economic growth. Closing the gender gap in the labor market, entrepreneurship, and access to resources can result in a more diverse and innovative workforce. Furthermore, investing in women's education and skills development empowers women, giving them more options in their work and personal lives.

Gender equality promotes social stability. Societies where women have equal opportunities, tend to experience decreased inequality and violence. Access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities can break the cycle of poverty and contribute to building more inclusive and diverse communities.

Investing in gender equality helps to challenge and transform harmful gender norms and stereotypes, thus fostering a culture of respect. By dismantling barriers that limit opportunities based on gender, communities can work towards creating a more just and equitable future.

Governments, labour movements and individuals all play a role in advancing gender equality. Societies that invest in gender equality can harness the full potential of their citizens, creating a more prosperous and sustainable future. In this era marked by a rising cost of living and government austerity, it is crucial that we challenge our politicians and corporations to recognize and prioritize the investment in programs and policies that promote gender equality.

["International Women's Day 2024: 'Invest in women: Accelerate progress'"—UN Women](#)

# Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build



## Reading, Viewing, Unlearning:

Black History month suggestions from Provincial Status of Women Committee Members



### “Creating transformative moments”: How Black women helped shape education in Ontario

TVO.org speaks with U of T prof Funké Aladejebi about mid-20th-century Black women teachers—“the early architects of anti-racist education in Canada.”

[Learn more](#)

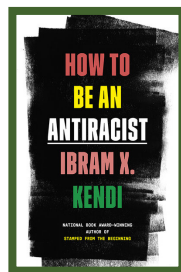


### Why the way we’re taught about how Black people came to Canada is completely wrong

In this article, history professor Christopher Stuart Taylor, who is featured in the episode *Migrations*, tells us why we need to broaden the story of Black migration to Canada.

[Learn more](#)

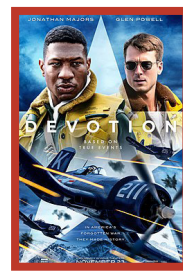
## Provincial Status of Women Member recommended



**How to Be  
an Antiracist**  
Ibram X. Kendi



**Becoming**  
Michelle Obama



**Devotion**  
Film, 2022



**Rustin**  
Film, 2023

## ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- Black Women in Canada—A CCPA resource
- Mary-Ann Shadd, Black Activist and Journalist will be featured on stamp
- Strength isn't what you carry—Black women open up about mental health
- I learned what it means to be Black after moving to Canada
- Black women lead the way

# The legacy and impact of organizations led by Black women in Canada

Black women, throughout history, have shaped and created solid foundations of community in what is now known as Canada. They're activists, organizers and advocates who have advanced human rights and consistently created change through their actions and activism.

Some of the organizations that Black women have led and created change by advocacy are:

- Midwives in African Nova Scotian Communities
- Ladies Auxiliary of the African United Baptist Association of Nova Scotia
- The Provincial Freeman, Ontario
- Coloured Woman's Club in Montreal
- The Hour-a-Day Study Club in Windsor Ontario
- Canadian Negro Women's Association
- Congress of Black Women of Canada

All of these organizations, founded, led and grown by Canadian Black women have been fundamental in steering the growth, culture, education, socioeconomics, politics, family life and legacy of Black women and families in Canada for over 400 years.



**For more information and digital toolkit on Black History Month**

[Click Here](#)

**Canadian Black Lives (CBL) is an Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF/FEESO) Member created curriculum resource**

that was developed in an effort to provide members with guidance and information to support the ongoing work of learning about the heritages, histories, cultures, and contributions of the African Diaspora in Canada. The intent is for this resource to illustrate how this knowledge can be highlighted in various subject areas.

**For the OSSTF/FEESO Canadian Black Lives Resource**

[Click Here](#)