



# The Preserver

BLACK CULTURAL CENTRE FOR NOVA SCOTIA NEWSLETTER

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## Olympic Torch Visits BCC



Pictured above (l-r) Olympic Torch, Anne Simmons, HRM Councillor Lorelei Nicoll Hon. Keith Colwell, MLA

On Wednesday, November 18th, the Black Cultural Centre in partnership with the Royal Bank of Canada hosted the Olympic Flame on it's road to Vancouver for the 2010 Olympic Games.

On the bright and sunny day a crowd of over 1,000 witnessed possibly a once in a lifetime event. Students from local elementary and junior high schools were in attendance.

The torch traveled along Main Street towards the Centre as the crowd cheered and students chanted "Go Canada Go, Go Canada Go and then broke out in to the singing of O' Canada. It was truly a touching event.

The Olympic torch bears the inscription "With Glowing Hearts" placed near the top of the torch. This is a true sediment of what the mood was like that day.

The Torch started its route in Vancouver BC on October 30 and will travel over 45,000 km and will cover over 90% of Canada's population. The flame will be carried by over 12,000 people and will end its cross Canada trip in Vancouver on February 12 the start of the games.

The Royal Bank Olympic Committee also presented the Society with a commemorative Olympic Painting.



## President's Corner

Dr. Leslie H. Oliver



It is refreshing to take a few minutes out from the hectic Christmas and Kwanza preparation to reflect on the many blessings of the past year and to consider ways to help those who continue to struggle with many challenges of life. It's certain that not everyone is experiencing Joy and Peace. War, disease, homelessness, starvation and injustice still affect much of humanity so we should all take time to thank those on the front lines who are trying so hard to relieve the suffering of others in the true spirit of Christmas and Kwanza. Humanitarian agencies, health organizations, food banks, the Canadian forces, and other service groups are among the many people who are dedicated to making the World a more livable place.

Close to home, the Black Cultural Society is truly thankful for all those who, over the years have supported our work and who continue to bring ideas and inspiration to the Society and the Centre. The need to preserve, protect and promote the history and culture of African Nova Scotians is as important

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**President's Corner continued**

today as it ever was so we are preparing another year of exciting events. In February, 2010 the Centre will be the site for Canada Post to launch its William Hall commemorative stamp in conjunction with Black History Month and the Centennial celebrations of the Canadian Navy. We hope that all of our members will be using the William Hall, V.C. stamp for mailings around the world, spreading the story of one of our African Nova Scotian heroes.

Saturday, April 17 will be the night of our Anniversary dinner. The evening will likely be sold-out so I remind our friends to avoid disappointment by getting your tickets as soon as they become available. The evening of socializing, celebration and inspiration is one of the highlights of our calendar and is an important part of our fundraising effort. In the past I have been surprised to see very few young people at the dinners so I want to remind parents and grandparents who want to introduce young Black people to the many successful role models in our community that bringing a young person to the dinner this year could be just the inspiration they need. Today's youth will become adults who need to see models of productive adult behavior in an enjoyable social setting. Our children are our future, let's teach them how to succeed.

The RBC Olympic Torch Relay event at the Centre was an inspiring day for the hundreds of young and not-so-young community members who participated in the excitement of celebrating athletic excellence. The Centre is proud to be able to bring an African Nova Scotian contribution to international events such as the Olympics. We will continue to look for ways to keep participating with excellence at the local, national and global levels. We are delighted that our web site is growing to permit increased participation by friends around the world. Our new on-line donations feature will soon be joined by on-line membership and on-line gift shop options. We are proudly reaching out to play our role in the world.

**In Memory of****Mr. Kendrick James, 1942 - 2009**

The society is saddened at the passing of Mr. Ken James October 22, 2009, in Dartmouth General Hospital. We will miss Ken, one of our Board members since 2004 where he drew on his experience as a Registered Industrial Accountant and risk analysis manager with Bell Aliant. As an active community volunteer, Ken had been President of the Risk Insurance Management Society of Nova Scotia, Manager of MT&T Credit Union, Treasurer of the Chebucto life Members Pioneers Association, faithful participant in his church and regular contributor to the betterment of society. Ken lived in faith, committed to his church, his family and community. His presence will be greatly missed.

**In memory of****Edith Cromwell, DCL, ONS, 2009**

One of the Centre's founders, Dr. Edith Cromwell of Inglewood, Annapolis County, passed away November 12, 2009. The Black Cultural Society is proud to have had Dr. Cromwell as part of our organization for such a long time. Her advice and analysis was valuable throughout the years. Edith was a devoted member of Inglewood United Baptist Church and the African United Baptist Association. As an active person in the African Nova Scotia community she was a member of the Black Learners Association, Provincial Chair of the Black United Front and founding member of the Black Cultural Society of Nova Scotia. In 2002, she was named to the Order of Nova Scotia; in 2008 she was inducted into the Rev. Dr. W.P. Oliver Wall of Honour and in 2009 she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Civil Laws by Acadia University. Her legacy of excellence in education lives on in the many people she inspired.

**Recent Donors  
& New Members****New Member**

Ms. Carlotta Weymouth

*Thank You For  
Your Support !*

**Join Us !**

Become A Member of the  
Black Cultural Society / Centre

**Now Accepting  
Donations OnLine**

[www.bccns.com](http://www.bccns.com)

**Upcoming Events****William Hall Stamp Unveiling**

Tuesday February 2, 2010  
2pm Black Cultural Centre

**Rev. Dr. William P. Oliver  
Night of Honour**

Saturday February 13, 2010  
7pm Black Cultural Centre

**27th Anniversary Dinner  
Night of Heroes**

Saturday April 17, 2010  
6pm Ramada Hotel, Dartmouth  
Tickets On Sale Now !