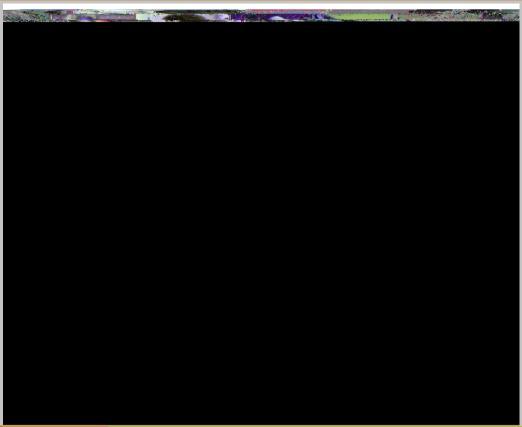


# BLACK HI O MON H: POMINEN BLACK CANADIAN



## **INOUIRF!**

What have prominent Black Canadians contributed to the nation of Canada?

"William Hall, the Midwives of the African Nova Scotian Communities, Black Strathcona, the Coloured Corps, Lincoln Alexander Day, the Coloured Hockey League, Nova Scotia Home for Coloured Children. Many of us have never heard or read about these events, people and places. However, these stories are deeply embedded in Canadian history and identity. Black History Month is an opportunity for all of us to learn about, honour, and celebrate the contributions people of African, Black and Caribbean descent have made. Their contributions have enriched Canadian history and the global community.

We often learn about Black history through an American perspective. Many believe that slavery was an American experience; however, slavery existed in Canada. When we think of the Civil Rights movement, we envision Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and Ella Baker. However, in 1946, Viola Desmond refused to give up her segregated Whites-only section at the movie theatre in New Glasgow, N.S. She was arrested and fined for her actions. Nine years later, Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a White passenger. Canada also had civil rights activists who fought against segregation and other forms of racism. Black History Month is an opportunity for us to learn about and share our Canadian heritage. It is also an opportunity for us to reflect on what it means to live in a world with diverse identities, voices and stories."— February 2020, article from OCSB.



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#### FEBRUARY 2021



Harry Jerome was born in September, 1940 and moved to the Vancouver area in 1951. At the age of 19, he became the first native Canadian to hold, officially, a world track record. He won the bronze medal in 1964 at the Tokyo Games when he finished the 100m dash in 10.25 seconds. At the time of this accomplishment, he was employed as a teacher at Richmond High. In his track and field career, he was in eight international competitions, representing Canada in three Olympics. He set seven world records, and was named British Columbia's Athlete of the

### LOCAL EVENTS



#### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Acting on the Vancouver Art Gallery's statement in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement in the summer of 2020, the VAG's exhibit, *Where do we go from here?*, was developed as an opportunity to consider the Gallery's collecting and exhibition history. This exhibition both acknowledges the under representation of African diasporic artists in the collection and exhibitions, which have historically privileged European art traditions, and reimagines how the next 90 years of programming can better represent Canada's art landscape.

DESMOND COLE IN CONVERSATION PODCAST

