



CANADA-UGANDA ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

Calgary AB T2Y 3X7

Phone: 1(403) 764 9494; Cell: 1(403) 889 7949

Email: services@casaalberta.org

Website: www.casaalberta.org

February 05, 2020

Dear Gallant CASA Members,

Re: Happy Black History Month 2020

We're reminded by Lawrence Hill that the story of African-Canadians spans four hundred years, and includes slavery, abolition, pioneering, urban growth, segregation, the civil rights movement and a long engagement in civic life. It is because of the wins and gains from that long history of civil engagement dating from 1603 to February 1996 that Black History Month was officially observed and celebrated across Canada for the first time. It is not by mistake therefore that these celebrations are in February — a month popularly known for love, compassion, sympathy, gentleness and forgiveness.

As we celebrate Black History Month 2020 and recognize how African American culture has profoundly shaped North American culture — in music and art, literature and sports, business and politics, we honor, recognize and salute all those who sacrificed their all to free the souls of black folk. Whereas critiques of these celebrations may have their reasons because they see the black race still chained in modern slavery, we're reminded that every win and achievement in any movement or advocacy campaign is worth celebrating! The words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. reminds us that no matter your race and where you come from, we'll need each other and we're stronger when we march forward together. Dr. King's slogan the 'Fierce urgency of Now' speaks to me in a narrative that when a disaster strikes or when an economic recession hits, there is no black or white, there is no liberal or conservative, there is no Catholic or Anglican, we're all affected and we need to offer each other a hand and lift ourselves up.

As CASA family, we are constantly reminded that because of his fight against apartheid, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years in his homeland South Africa but surprisingly came out with stronger messages about love, forgiveness, reconciliation and hope for those who had imprisoned him and his fellow oppressed country men and women. We also know that during Mahatma K. Gandhi's opposition to the British rule in India between 1930 – 1947, he urged his country men and women to use the Non-Violence doctrine

Facebook: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)

Twitter: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)

YouTube: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)



against their oppressors and win over their mind and hearts peacefully. Just like his peer peace activists, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was until his murder in Memphis delivering his usual messages of equality, faith, nonviolence, love, selflessness and hope for all humanity. These three world civil rights leaders from three distinct continents, remind all humankind that regardless of where you live or the color of your skin, we all have the same needs and we're constantly looking for a permanent signature to the promissory note to which all human beings would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Allow me gallant CASA members to invite you to join the rest of the world in celebrating the 2020 Black History Month and send messages of love, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace to all humanity so we can co-exist and make the world a better place for us to live and for generations to come. CASA is planning an event in Calgary for February 2021 and we'll be honored and humbled by your presence to celebrate with us.

Proudly Canadian from the Peal of Africa — Uganda.

Yours faithfully,

Sam Madesi – President CASA.

Facebook: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)

Twitter: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)

YouTube: [Canada-Uganda Association of Southern Alberta CASA](#)