

<u>African Descent Advisory Committee – ANSAIO March Update</u>

Anti-Black Racism Grants

On February 28th, Halifax Regional Municipality held its inaugural Anti-Black Racism Awards, recognizing and celebrating the outstanding work being done to address anti-Black racism in our community. A total of 13 Grant Awards were presented to individuals and organizations whose dedication and leadership are making a meaningful difference.

It was a beautiful and inspiring event that brought together community members, leaders, and advocates, highlighting the collective strength and impact of working together toward a more equitable and inclusive future. The event was a powerful reminder of the impact that dedicated individuals and organizations can have when working together towards a common goal.

ANSAIO SENIOR ADVISOR Update

We're pleased to announce that Jasalynn Skeete the acting Senior Advisor for the African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office (ANSAIO) during Tamar Pryor Brown's secondment. Jasalynn was recently the Outreach & Research Coordinator and brings a wealth of experience and dedication to this role, and we look forward to her leadership in advancing our initiatives.

ANSAIO Business Unit Outreach:

February Speaker Series

- ANSAIO hosted a screening of There's Something in the Water for municipal staff, followed by a discussion and Q&A with Dr. Ingrid Waldron on environmental racism. This event highlighted the ongoing environmental injustices impacting Indigenous and African Nova Scotian communities. Snacks were provided for attendees.
- 2. Andrea Davis from the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre delivered an insightful presentation on the history of Black Loyalists, exploring their contributions and legacy in Nova Scotia.

Pop-Up Events & Business Unit Offerings

ANSAIO continues to engage various HRM business units through pop-up events, ensuring that the celebration of African Heritage Month extends beyond February. These sessions highlight key speakers and discussions that amplify African Nova Scotian history and culture. This year's speaker is Lindsay Ruck.



Author of Winds of Change: The Life and Legacy of Calvin W. Ruck, Lindsay Ruck shares the story of her grandfather, Senator Calvin Ruck. Through her research and storytelling, she sheds light on his legacy, the power of community activism, and the ongoing fight against anti-Black racism in Nova Scotia.