Item 7.3.1

The JOY of Resilience: an Unbeatable Force

- Rev. Dr. Lennett J. Anderson, CD

WELCOME TO UPPER HAMMONDS PLAINS

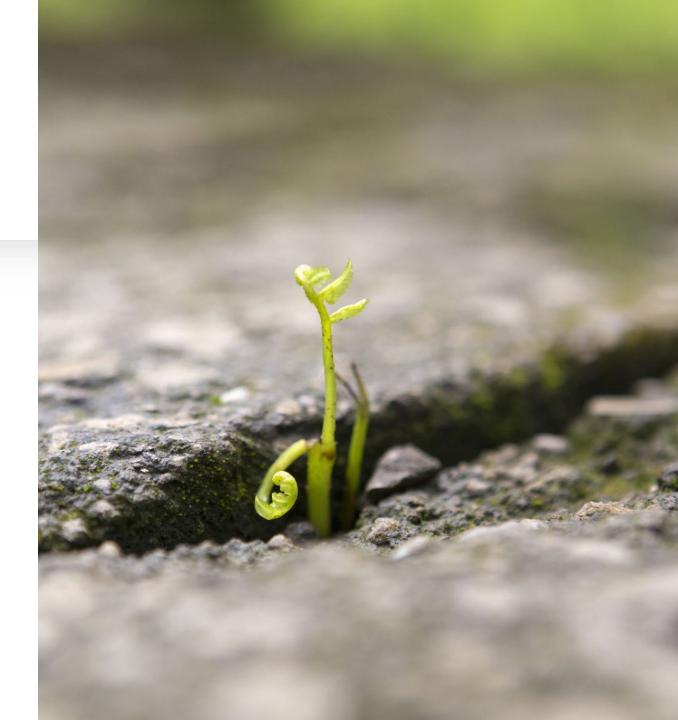
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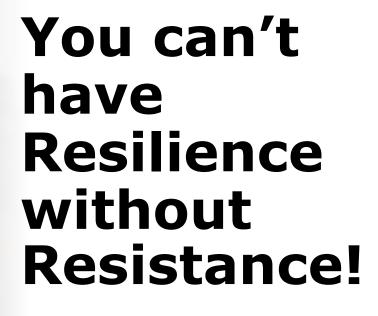
MARY ROLELEGY A

A Black Heritage Community Est. 1815



The spirit of resiliency embodies the ability to bounce back from adversity, setbacks, and challenges with strength, determination, and adaptability.





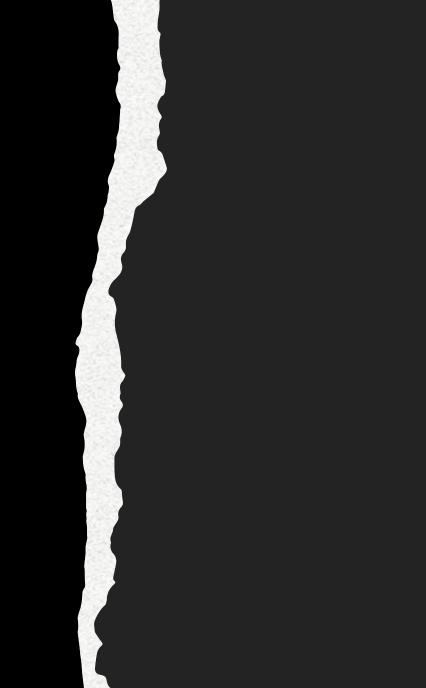


In the shadow of historic wildfires that raged through our region, the community of Upper Hammonds Plains still stands without fire hydrants living daily with the threat, but without the tools to fight it.



The 2023 wildfire raised awareness of the absence of fire hydrants on sections of the Pockwock Road, in Upper Hammonds Plains (African Nova Scotian community) due to the undersized water main!





This video footage captures Anderson Road in Upper Hammonds Plains – an area WITHOUT fire hydrants during the Historic wildfires. Let's be proactive and not reactive.



Upper Hammonds Plains water main undersized

Global NEWS



Lennett Anderson @therealLJA · 2m 'We were speechless': Halifax community learns fire hydrants non-functional



From atlantic.ctvnews.ca



These current hydrants are only **Cosmetic** because the pipes are not big enough.

There's a glaring disparity!!

Two different realities on the same street!!

The Black residents received inadequate water infrastructure, including fire hydrants not rated for fire suppression, while others received full protection.



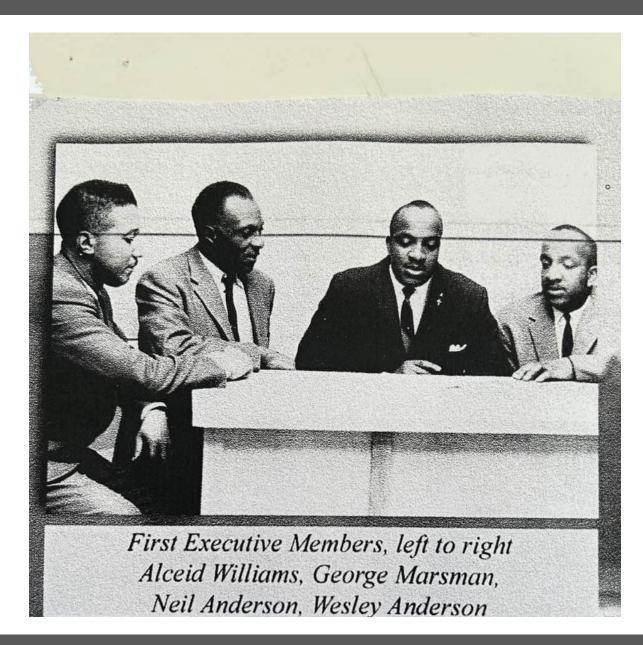
Huge DISPARITY ~ SAME STREET!!

Inadequate water infrastructure!!

Give Black Residents the fire hydrants NOT RATED FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION!!



The first-ever all-Black volunteer fire department in Canada was established in 1966 in Upper Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia.





Upper Hammonds Plains, N.S., residents push for faster action on fire hydrant issue

By Hafsa Arif

Published: January 24, 2025 at 9:35AM EST



Some residents of Upper Hammonds Plains, N.S., say they're feeling both hopeful and frustrated after a closed-door meeting with city officials.

We appreciate the strategy, but the timeline falls short. This remains a critical safety issue for the residents of Upper Hammonds Plains, who, 25 years later, are still fighting for fire protection. Every day, we live under the threat of having fire hydrants that cannot suppress fires!!

Recommending dry hydrants to a historic Black community that hosts the municipality's water supply reinforces systemic inequity, overlooks decades of neglect, and sends a clear message of exclusion: that they are not worth the same level of safety and service as others.



New residents are moving into a community named 'The Woods'—a place with a history of devastating wildfires, no fire hydrants, and minimal water pressure. The risk is real, and the infrastructure still isn't ready.



Hammonds Plains residents concerned about speed of development

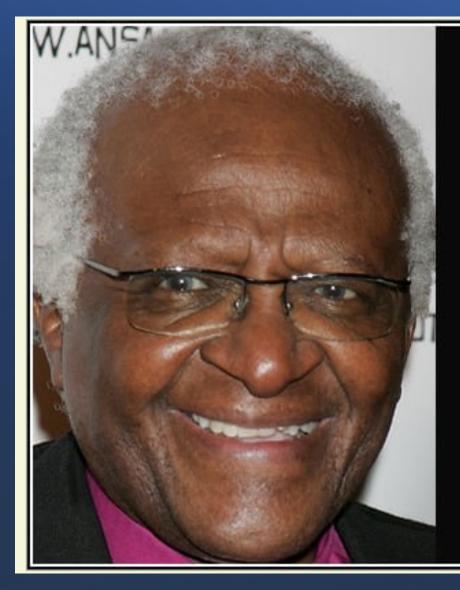
MARCH 21, 2025

For residents in Hammonds Plains, the speed of development happening in the community feels out of...

"JUSTICE DISCERNS WHAT IS WRONG AND CARES ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!" – DON POSTERSKI



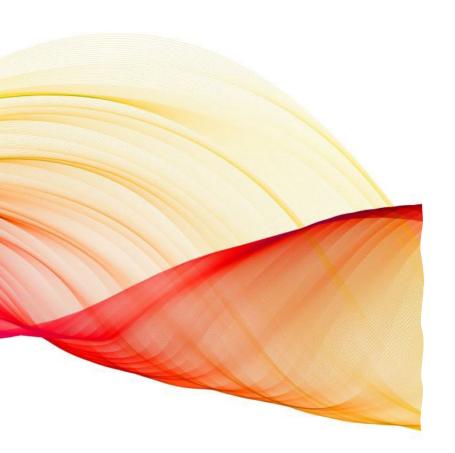
Justice is more than doing charitable acts, it is righting society's wrongs and removing human erected barriers and obstacles to equality and equity.



There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in.

— Desmond Tutu —

AZQUOTES



Thank You!