

## ABOUT THE ALLIANCE OF GUYANESE CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS

The Alliance of Guyanese Canadian Organizations (AGCO) is a non-profit umbrella organization consisting of Guyanese Canadian organizations and businesses that serve the Guyanese community and the community-at-large.

### OBJECTIVES

- o promote fellowship and unity among the Guyanese Canadian social, cultural and business organizations in Ontario.
- To be a central body representing Guyanese Canadians and to liaise with the Guyana Consulate and other agencies on issues that adversely affect the Guyanese community in Ontario.
- To serve as a united body for interacting and networking with non-Guyanese organizations and services in Ontario whose goals and objectives are similar to those of the Alliance
- To assist the peoples of Guyana in the event of a natural/national disaster.
- To take a leadership role in working with other groups, if requested by any Guyanese Canadian organization.

### BENEFITS

- Access to the Alliance database.
- Assistance in finding facilities for member organization events.
- Quarterly Newsletter; • Point of contact for the Guyanese community.
- Unified approach to deal with issues; • Listing on the Website.
- List of upcoming events of member organizations for planning purposes.

### CURRENT PLANS

- To take an active role in planning/executing Guyanese social and national events in conjunction with member organizations.
- To act as a liaison and contact for Non-Guyanese organizations and Government agencies and as a contact for Guyanese Canadians requiring information about educational matters and available Government services.
- To sponsor seminars and conferences dealing with issues affecting Guyanese Canadians.
- To promote the development of community leaders and leadership skills by encouraging community participation of our youth in the planning and execution of programs.
- To encourage the participation of community members in volunteer work within their community.

### FUTURE PLANS

- To acquire a building whereby we can develop and promote the advancement of youth, families and individuals in the community to aid in their personal, professional and cultural development.

1 Bigwood Court, Scarborough, ON M1H 1Z7 - Email: [info@allianceofguyanese.ca](mailto:info@allianceofguyanese.ca)  
Website: [www.allianceofguyanese.ca](http://www.allianceofguyanese.ca), TEL: (416) 431-0273



### KADISHA GIBSON SAMUELS

Kadaisha Gibson Samuels is a 19 year old second year Social Work student at York University whose ultimate goal is to obtain a Doctorate in her field. She is the eldest of five children and a second generation Canadian whose grandparents are Guyanese.

A community volunteer since 2007 she continues to do so through her involvement with SASSL, a Sexual Assault Support Line at York University. The group counsels victims both on campus and in the community. Kadaisha has a leadership role training volunteers and organizing presentations from Human Rights groups and other activists. In elementary school she excelled at sports as a high jumper and is an accomplished pianist who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Kiwanis Music Festival by scoring 97 out of 100 points.

Kadaisha is a Province of Ontario Scholar and was awarded the District School Board of Niagara Silver Medallion for academic performance. Her interests include art, writing short stories, travel and sword fencing.



### IMANI SOUTH

Imani South is currently a first year student at the University of Toronto. She is an Ontario Honors student who graduated from Pope John Paul II high school. She was awarded the Core French Certificate, Leadership Award, Stop the Stigma Leadership Award and Youth in Control Leadership Award. Her ultimate goal is to become a French teacher. Recently, she was honoured as a First Year

Representative of the IMANI (The Black Students' Alliance), students supporting the personal and academic goals of Scarborough high school and middle school students, with a focus on youth within the Black community.

Imani was born to a Canadian father and Guyanese mother. Her community involvement includes volunteering at a local Seniors' home and tutoring kids.

Imani is determined to achieve her goals and is always looking for challenges. She will continue to strive for the betterment of herself and her community.



## ABOUT CCAC

The Council of Caribbean Associations - Canada (CCAC) is a registered non-profit umbrella organization comprising of registered national Associations Caribbean countries, operating in the GTA.

The registered member associations include Alliance of Guyanese Canadian Organizations, Antigua & Barbuda Association of Toronto, Association of Bahamians in Canada, Barbados Overseas Community-Canada Inc., Commonwealth of Dominica, Ontario Association, Grenada Association (Toronto), La Maison d'Haiti du Grand Toronto, Jamaica Diaspora Canada Foundation, Montserrat Association (Toronto), NevCan Cultural Association, St. Kitts-Canadian Association (Toronto), St. Lucia Toronto Association, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto and Trinidad & Tobago Association of Ontario.

Launched in 2009, the organization aims at among other things, to work with other organizations in our community that represent and cater primarily to people of Caribbean descent who have made Canada their home. CCAC focuses on three major areas (1) to assist young persons in their pursuit of higher learning and sustainable employment; (2) to undertake a disaster preparedness program that provides outreach and guidance when disasters strike the Caribbean; and (3) to work with our seniors to better provide them vital information to enhance their productivity in the golden years.

### Council of Caribbean Associations - Canada

P.O. Box 62518, 85 Ellesmere Road, Toronto, Ontario, M1R 5G8

Email: [ccac@sympatico.ca](mailto:ccac@sympatico.ca)

Website: [www.caribbeancouncilcanada.org](http://www.caribbeancouncilcanada.org)

### CCAC'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

#### Purpose:

To encourage and assist youth from Caribbean countries who are currently resident in Ontario to pursue their educational goals at the university or college level.

To recognize academic efforts, community involvement and contribution in the Caribbean community in Ontario.

#### Number and Value of Awards:

CCAC will annually determine the number of bursaries it will make available for open competition. The value of each bursary to be awarded annually is CDN \$1,000.00, to one recipient. The bursary is non-renewable and non-transferable. The bursary is to be used towards full course of study, leading to a first diploma or first degree.



**BURSARY  
RECIPIENTS**



#### **FAUSTINE GRANT**

At age 10, Faustine underwent open heart surgery to repair a malfunctioning mitral valve. At such a tender age, it was quite a traumatic experience for her. Despite her impediment, she was able to return to school and focus on her education. It was at that time she received the Judy Poutanen Award for her dedication to learning. Now that she is well, her past health complications play a role in shaping her character.

Throughout her high school career, she received numerous awards and upon graduation, she was acknowledged as an Ontario Scholar. Currently, she is a first-year undergraduate student in the Life Sciences program at the University of Toronto with majors in Neuroscience and Mental Health Studies.

After graduation, her long-term goal is to attend medical school, where she hopes to become a physician and eventually a surgeon.

Faustine enjoys sharing memories and laughs with her family and friends. She is grateful to those close to her for their support and the impact they have made in her life.



#### **KENYA PINNOCK**

Kenya is a graduate of Bill Crothers Secondary school where she was actively involved in sports such as soccer, basketball, track and flag football. Outside of school she also played basketball at the rep level for the Markham Unionville Minor Basketball Association and was part of its gold medal team in the 2012 provincial championships.

She was a member of a school community club "Beyond the Hurt" where the focus was social equality and anti-discrimination. At the age of 14 Kenya started volunteering with the Markham African Caribbean Association by helping children at a summer reading camp for two years and is now a current member of "Born Leaders Empowering Youth Positively (BLEYP)" which is a youth group affiliated with MACA.

Kenya is currently enrolled at York University in the fine Arts program majoring in visual arts with the intention to transfer into criminology for her second year.

SPONSORS:

