

Session 7: Anti-Black Racism

Rediscovering Black History in Canada



Pre-Workshop:

✚ Read & watch [“The History of Canadian Slavery” Global News](#) article & videos.

✚ Read or watch **2 items** from the “Reading & Viewing Material” below. Your thoughts on these will be welcome during the debriefing discussion.

Intro:

The goal of this session is to explore Black history in BC and Canada.

Videos:

Watch the following videos as a group:


- [Canada’s often forgotten history of slavery](#), 2020, (2:06 minutes)
- [Living in Colour: The History of Black Racism in Canada](#) Global News (3:08 min)
- [Black Settlers in Victoria BC](#), 2020, (1:15 min.)

Small Group Discussion:

Step 1: Review [The History of Canadian Slavery](#) Global News article (see Pre-Workshop)

Step 2: In groups of 4 to 6 people, discuss the information and its implications for individuals and society. Discussion questions:

- Were you aware of Canada’s history of slavery and Black history in BC? Were there things that surprised or disturbed you?
- What are your feelings and thoughts now about Black history in Canada?
- How can you help to create greater appreciation of the Black community and Black history in Canada and BC?



*It makes no difference as to the name of God, since
love is the real God of all the world.*
– [Geronimo](#), Chiricahua Apache

*But whoever has worldly goods and sees his
brother or sister in need, and closes his heart
against him, how does the love of God remain in
him? Little children, let's not love with word or with
tongue, but in deed and truth.*
– Christian, [1 John 3:17-18](#)

*Love is the cause of the civilization
of nations in this mortal world!*
– Bahá'í Faith,

[Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l-Bahá](#)

Debriefing: Quotes and
discussion questions to promote
reflection and action

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- How can this country become truly inclusive and appreciative of its Black community? What needs to change?
 - What recommendations would you have for addressing Anti-Black racism in your neighbourhood or community?
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Suggested Reading & Viewing Material:

- [Living in Colour: Being Black in Canada](#) Video (22:17 min.) Creating a more equitable society in Canada
- [BC Black History Awareness Society \(website\)](#) Resources, stories, articles
 - [Sir James Douglas \(article\)](#) Vancouver Island's Scotch West Indian Governor
 - [Black Settlers in BC \(article\)](#) In 1858 nearly 800 free Blacks left the oppressive racial conditions of San Francisco for a new life on Vancouver Island
- [BC Entrepreneurs, Businesses, Shops & Services](#) Digital Museums Canada
- [Viola Desmond's story, Canadian Museum of Human Rights \(article\)](#) In November 1946, hair salon owner Viola Desmond went to a film at the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. But what began as a night at the movies became a night in prison.