

BCRC Newsletter



Black Community Resource Centre

Volume 4, Issue 2

May 2005

Special points of interest:

2005 marks the 10th anniversary of the Black Community Resource Centre

Come celebrate with us at our Gala / Fundraiser in November

Suzanne Babb of BCRC will climb Kilimanjaro this year

To find out how you can support her fundraising efforts dial 514.486.0924

For more info on Kilimanjaro, turn to page 2

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Executive Director's Message

June 2005 represents BCRC's 10th year anniversary. Needless to say, this is an important year for us; as it encourages us to reflect on our beginnings, our evolution and our future growth and development as a positive force in the community.

In recognition of our success over the past 10 years, BCRC will hold its first-ever fundraising gala, *Soul Reflections*, this coming November.

The event will present an opportunity for us to celebrate not only our success, but also the contributions of others who have worked determinedly to better the community.

Please stay tuned for further information on the gala in upcoming BCRC publications.

Until then, I am hopeful that we will have a chance to see our friends and partners during our **Annual General Meeting**, which will take place on Monday June 27 at 6:00 P.M. The meeting will take place at our office - 6767 Côte-des-Neiges. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sharon Springer
Executive Director
May 2005

Project R.E.E.L. by S. Carter



In February 2005, the youth of Project R.E.E.L. (Redefining Expression, Education, and Leadership) have completed the final editing of their documentary film 'Revolution Underground'. Having each contributed significantly to the creative process of this project, the film has been the result of an inspiring collective vision and effort.

The film itself is an incredible exploration of social change and youth activism in marginalized communities. As will be recalled from past newsletters, the group filmed over a two month period in Montreal, Kanawake, Harlem, Brooklyn, and the Bronx. In each location, the group interviewed a diverse variety of vibrant and motivated young people.

From student activists in Harlem to musicians and graffiti artists in Montreal, the film is a revelation of the many elements of social action and consciousness among youth.
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Project R.E.E.L. cont.



The goal of the project is to bring the film into community centers and high school classrooms across the country- particularly within marginalized communities- where it could be seen by the very youth for which it was created.

As the film was purposefully produced for this process (it is only 30 minutes in length for effective use in classrooms) the concise ideas and opinions expressed provide an ideal stimulus for group discussions. Ideally, the film will be used as an education tool to accompany workshops and class discussions.

As it touches on a wide variety of topics- from macro level issues like globalization and racism to individual questions of social responsibility and interpersonal relationships - it provides an excellent catalyst for critical reflection and discussion.

While the group would ideally like to begin conducting these workshops themselves, they are at the same time working to produce a manual that may be used as a reference to other youth wishing to utilize the film in a similar process.

Last but not least, the group is proud to report that their project has attracted the attention of the National Film Boards "Citizen Shift" website. An on-line journal devoted to exploring unique and progressive initiatives in independent film, its producers have offered a feature spot to 'Revolution Underground' for the month of May.

The site will provide a 15 minute online version of the film; pictures, journal entries and reflections of each of the participants; links to similar projects; and a general description of the project's process and objectives. The address is <http://citizen.nfb.ca/onf/info>. We invite you all to check it out!

Kilimanjaro 20/20 by S.Babb



Wilhemina Fredericks was born in Cape Town South Africa, the oldest of four children. Her background is European and Khoikhoi (a group of people found in Namibia and South Africa). Her father died when she was six, and once she turned fifteen, as the eldest sibling she had to leave school to go to work to help her mother support the family. On one of the few vacations she had Wilhemina decided to go on safari in Kenya. That is when her life would be changed forever.

On safari, the group picked up a Canadian sociologist who then became Wilhemina's partner on the safari, and quickly became friends. Five days into the trip, the Canadian became very ill and Wilhemina gave up the rest of her safari to take care of him.

During those 10 days with him, she learned all about Canada, particularly Saskatchewan where he was from. As a gesture of thanks, the Canadian told Wilhemina that if she could save enough money to come to Canada, he would sponsor her and pay for her education. Four years later, despite the objections from her family she made her way to Canada and has been here ever since.

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Kilimanjaro cont.

Wilhemina studied Fine Arts at Concordia University and then went onto work for Centaur Theatre. Through her experiences, Wilhemina thought it important to create opportunities for artists to perform and exhibit their art despite not having the financial resources to do so. And thus Zerf Productions was born. Created in 1988, Zerf, a non-profit organization allows artists to pool their resource to promote and produce their work.

Zerf also has a humanitarian mission of helping children and mothers living with HIV/AIDS in Africa. This branch of the organization came from Wilhemina wanting to give back to her people and from the Canadian sociologist who wanted her to use her education and experiences here in Canada, thanks to him, to help her people.

Zerf provides help for HIV/AIDS patients in six African countries: Chad, the Congo, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Wilhemina personally travels to Africa 3-6 times a year to deliver medication, clothing and other goods to hospitals and patients. The medication is purchased by Health Partners International and all other supplies and funds are obtained through donations. Zerf Productions is entirely a volunteer based organization.

In an effort to raise awareness around the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa, Wilhemina began a fundraising initiative last year called Kilimanjaro 20/20. Raising twenty million dollars for twenty million children in Africa infected and affected by AIDS. A team of climbers will climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in September. Each climber will fundraise for their trip and for medication for patients.

For more information on Zerf Productions and the Kilimanjaro climb call 514-486-0924 or www.kilimanjaro2020.com.



Youth Employment & Québec Pluriel

Quebec Pluriel is a pilot project coordinated by the Ministère de l'Emploi, de la Solidarité sociale et de la Famille (MESSF) aimed at helping visible minority youth enter to the labour market through employability training and a mentoring program.

Since May 2004, the Black Community Resource Centre (BCRC) has helped over 35 youth find employment and paired them with young Black professionals in our community. The staff of Québec Pluriel also visited Wagar High School to educate the students on the employment resources for youth in the community, government jobs and internships available for students.

Through this project, an employment guide has been created with information on employment, educational resources, workers rights information, along with government employment/internship opportunities.

COCO CAFÉ BIDS FAREWELL...



Hostess "Miss Thing"

...to Mahalia "Miss Thing" Verna, who has been the hostess of Coco Café for the last 6 years.

Her contribution and devotion to the Coco Café stage will not be forgotten - bid your farewells on...

Sunday, May 29th, 2005

Coco Café with Mahalia "Miss Thing" Verna

&

DJ Frankly Selector

**Jello Bar, 151 Ontario St. East (corner du Buillon)
Metro Saint Laurent or Berri-UQAM**

Doors open at 7 P.M.

Show starts at 8 P.M.

\$8 at the door

BCRC Recommended Reading List

Daniel Gay (2004) - [Les Noirs Du Québec: 1629-1900](#) (Édition Du Septentrion; ISBN:289448397X, pp.514).

Alan M. Dershowitz (2004) - [America on Trial: Inside The Legal Battles That Transformed Our Nation](#) (Warner Books; ISBN: 0446694738, pp.586).

Yvonne Vera (2004) - [The Stone Virgins](#) (Farrar Straus & Giroux; ISBN: 0374528942).

Grace-Edward Galabuzi (2001) - [Canada's Creeping Economic Apartheid: The economic segregation and social marginalization of racialised groups](#) (CSJ Foundation For Research and Education, www.socialjustice.org).

Cheryl Teelucksingh & Grace-Edward Galabuzi (2005) - [Working Precariously: The impact of race and immigration status on employment opportunities and outcomes in Canada](#) (The Canadian Race Relations Foundation; <http://www.crr.ca>).



Black Theatre Workshop Community Play - 'Shifting Ground'

The project 'Shifting Ground' encourages people to participate in performing stories from our communities, in collaboration with professional theatre artists. Do you want your voice to be heard? Have you always dreamed of being an actor? Or in working behind the scenes of a theatre show? If so, then 'Shifting Ground' is for you. Come out to free workshops, have fun, get creative.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED (WE KNOW YOU ARE) PLEASE CONTACT US AT 514.932.1104 ext 224 or visit us on the web: www.blacktheatreshowshop.ca.

GET INVOLVED

BUILDING A COMMUNITY WITH A NEW GENERATION

The N.D.G. Black Community Association is proud to offer their programs and services for the 2005/2006 session **GET INVOLVED** as a volunteer, or participate in one or as many programs for you, teens, young adults, and the elders. Help shape and build our community. The programs we are now offering:

- Piano (Private Instruction half or full hour)
- Cake Decorating (Beginners)
- Cake Decorating (Advanced)
- Basketball all ages (Instructional, Teams, open gym)
- Basketball (5 years to 10 years old instructional)
- French Courses (Beginners / Intermediate) 10 weeks/ 2 times per week/ 2 hours per session.
- Computer Courses (Beginners) 5 weeks/ 2 times per week/ 2 hours per day
- Karate (Group Instruction)
- After School Program (Mondays to Fridays 3pm to 5pm) includes Arts and Crafts
- Pan Program (learn how to play, Seniors invited)
- Aerobics (seniors VERY low impact)
- Computer Courses (SENIORS BASIC) how to be comfortable

Coming soon

**Our 25th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Invitational Basketball Tournament
July 7th to July 11th 2005**

Ask for Winston Murray Coordinator of Programs and Services @ 514.481.3598, **Monday to Friday 12PM to 5PM**, or email us at NDGBCA@qc.aibn.com.

PAID TRAINING

Tyndale Treasures Community Store

Tyndale_Treasures@yahoo.ca

514.935.2084 f/514.989.1662

731 Des Seigneurs, Mtl, QC H3J 1Y2 (Metro Georges Vanier)

**The Professional Retail Sales And Warehouse Training Project
That Will Get You The Job**

- Free English training in Retail Sales and Warehousing
- On the Job Experiential Practice and professional sales training
- French course (6 hours per week)
- Placement in the retail Job Market
- Child care, Transportation, and weekly allowance

Eligibility Requirements: Unemployed, English Speaking, Emploi-Quebec or Social Assistance recipients, Motivated, Looking for a Job in the Retail Industry.

Bathshaw seeking Human Resources Agent

Human Resources Agent
Permanent, full-time position
Reference number: 942 487

Montreal, Quebec

Position overview:

Working in the Department of Human Resources Planning, you will conceptualize, analyze and evaluate human resources programs to attain optimal efficiency.

You must hold an undergraduate degree in public administration, industrial relations, management or in a related discipline.

Responsibilities:

- To be responsible for the administrative management and follow-up of all medical files resulting from a work accident, disability, car accident, etc. and link with treating doctors.
- To review the diagnosis, the treatment and the recommended follow-up.
- To coordinate the assignment of employees with respect to programs related to rehabilitation, reassignment, progressive return and functional limitations
- To provide consultation to managers in the resolution of problems of absenteeism.
- To proceed with requesting cost sharing in collaboration with the consulting doctor.
- To prioritize employees that must be seen by the consulting doctor, to manage the agenda of the consulting doctor and to prioritize employees who must be sent for an expertise.
- To participate in the development and maintenance of a statistical database to allow for the appropriate management of the absenteeism programs.

Requirements:

- Must have a first level university degree in a relevant discipline with a specialization in health and safety.
- Must have a minimum of five years of pertinent experience in the administration and management of employee medical files within a complex environment.
- Must have knowledge of complex human resource information systems; knowledge of Logibec and Prasat would be considered an asset.
- Must have excellent knowledge of collective agreements specific to the management of absenteeism.
- Must have experience with and knowledge of the law policies and procedures of SAAQ, IVAC and CSST.

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Human Resources Agent cont.

- Must have excellent knowledge of collective agreements specific to the management of absenteeism.
- Must have experience with and knowledge of the law policies and procedures of SAAQ, IVAC and CSST.
- Must have demonstrated sensitivity working with a multi-cultural, multi-racial staff population.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
- Must be fluent in both English and French, oral and written.

Salary Scale:

Minimum: \$ 35,126 – Maximum: \$ 54,425 yearly

Please forward your application with your curriculum vitae no later than May 31, 2005 to:

Maureen Cohen
Manager, Human Resources Planning
Batshaw Youth and Family Centres
5 Weredale Park
Westmount, Quebec
H3Z 1Y5
lucia_capparelli@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

Union United Church Heritage Committee Banquet

Saturday, June 18th

Will take place at the **Polish Hall**, 2721 Jolicoeur, Ville Emard

Cocktails: 6 P.M., Dinner 7:30 P.M., followed by dancing

Semi-formal attire. Donation: \$40. All are invited

For more information: **514.932.8731 / 514.684.5338**

The Pastor's Aid Society

Sunday, June 19th

Will hold it's annual **Father's Day Luncheon** in the Church Hall following the Service

A deserving father will be honoured

Canadian/Caribbean cuisine will be served

Donation: Adults \$9.00, Children (12 yrs and under \$4.00)

All are invited

BLACK COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

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*Supporting Youth, Building Communities
A "Holistic Approach"*

WWW.BLACKYOUTHPROJECT.ORG

The Centre undertook a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of Black youth aged 0-30 and their families; this approach is called the "Holistic Project." Through a multi-intervention (holistic) approach, the Black Community Resource Centre helps young Black, English-speaking individuals fully participate in mainstream society.

The adoption of this approach recognizes that youth can have many needs (e.g., social cultural, health, education, economic, ect.) and that all these needs must be addressed in order for the youth to reach their maximum potential.

The Centre provides information and resources to both organizations and individuals within Montreal. In addition, we provide programming to Black youth in a manner which takes into account their many and complex needs.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **We encourage our readers to visit BCRC's website for upcoming events in Montreal, BCRC publications, and much more.**
- Please do not hesitate in letting the BCRC team know what events are taking place within your organization. You can email or fax us.
- **Also check out our Black History web links and see what history holds.**

OUR FUNDERS:

- Human Resource and Skills Development Canada; Multiculturalism; Official Languages Branch



- Emploi Québec; Fonds Jeunesse du Québec; Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'immigration; Ministère de l'Emploi de la Solidarité Sociale et de la Famille; Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse

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