

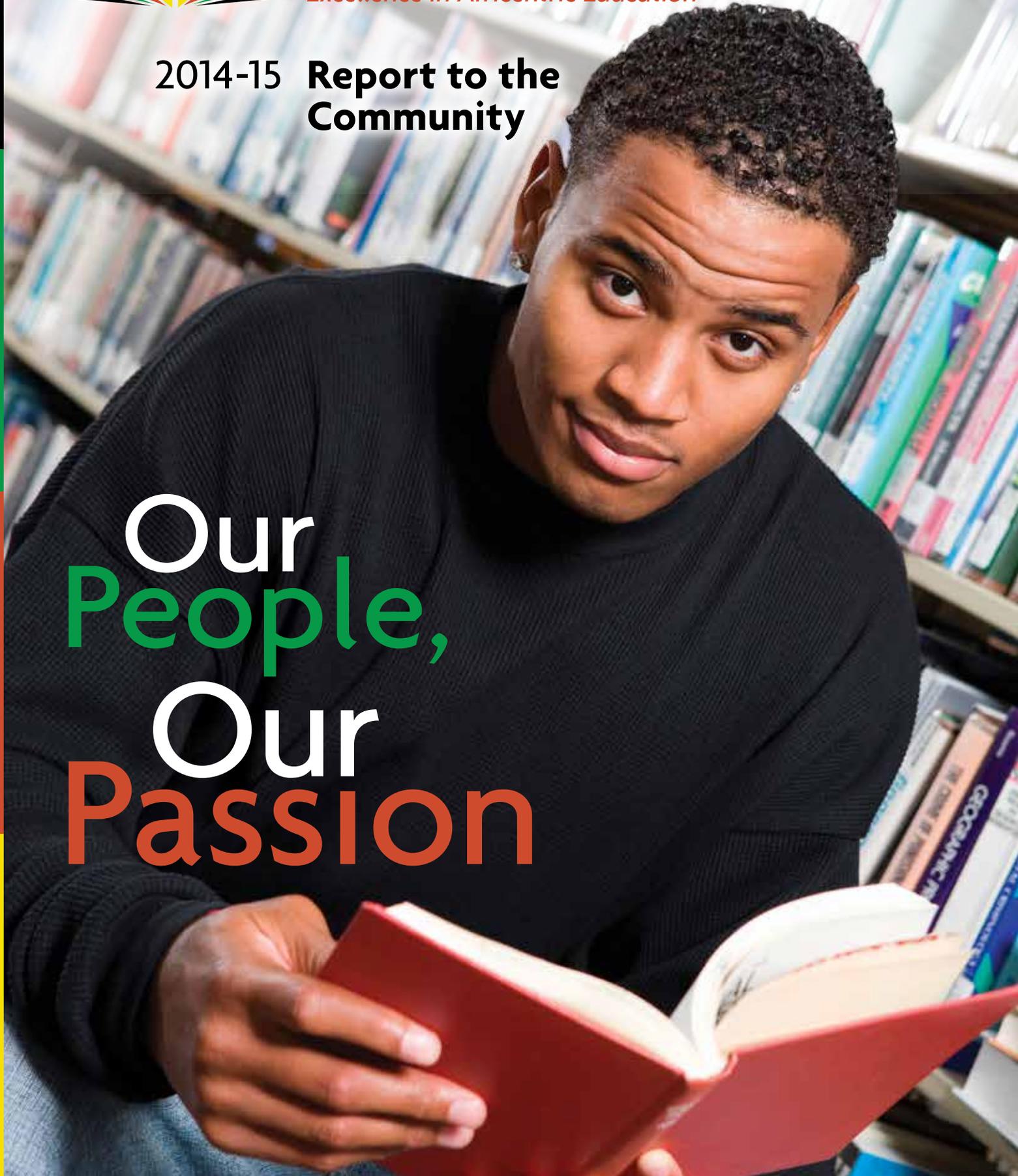


Delmore “Buddy” Daye  
Learning Institute

*Excellence in Africentric Education*

2014-15 **Report to the  
Community**

Our  
People,  
Our  
Passion





## Lift Every Voice and Sing (The Black National Anthem)

*poem by: James Weldon Johnson  
music by: John Rosamond Johnson*



Lift every voice and sing  
till earth and heaven ring  
ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise,  
high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun of a  
new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.



Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the day that hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat,  
have not our weary feet,  
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our star is cast.



God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who has by thy might,  
led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee,  
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,  
shadowed beneath the hand,  
may we forever stand,  
true to our God,  
True to our native land.





DBDLI Office  
5539 Cornwallis Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

# Contents

- 2 Message from the Chair
- 3 Meet the New CEO
- 4 Financial Statements of the DBDLI
- 8 2014-2015 Financial Report
- 12 DBDLI "Habari Gani"
- 16 DBDLI Partnerships & Initiatives
- 18 DBDLI "Tyeen"
- 20 DBDLI Sponsorships

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Design Support: **Glitterati Communications**

# Message from the Chair

Jocelyn Dorrington



Paul Adams  
Since our first annual Report to the Community last summer, we have realized many important milestones and affirmed our resolve and passionate commitment to improving the educational opportunities and outcomes for African Nova Scotian learners.

In collaboration with our community, educational and government partners, we have continued to build on our goal of

establishing “Excellence in Africentric Education” with direct and positive impacts on our educators and learners.

As some of you may recall in September, a judicial decision was rendered that required the organization make a change to our name. In accordance with this decision, we modified our name to the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute. We are pleased to have this matter resolved so that we may continue the important work of helping African Nova Scotian learners and educators realize their full potential.

One of the challenges we faced this past year was to establish momentum around the development of initiatives and their delivery to the community while identifying opportunities to increase the profile of the organization and clarify our role in serving our community. To guide us in reaching these objectives, we held a series of strategic planning sessions to help prioritize our activities.

As the direct link to the learners we serve, our connection with educators needs to be relevant and consistent. To that end, the initiatives we have undertaken have been selected to provide educators with meaningful and relevant tools to better engage with learners, regardless of their background.

In August, Dr. Noma LeMoine, the widely recognized expert on language, literacy acquisition and learning in North American populations of African descent, delivered an impactful three-day seminar to teachers, professors, regional educators and government

employees. Participants benefitted from her extensive views on the positive impact a respectful knowledge of home language has on learning for students of African descent.

Resource materials that capture the African Nova Scotian experience can have a huge impact not just on our learners but on all Nova Scotians. Through our partnership with Effective Publishing, we produced a series of Africentric works that have been tailored to Grade 4 learners and up. These works have been distributed and are currently being utilized in the classroom environment.

In November, the DBDLI proudly co-sponsored the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BLAC Report on Education Conference in Dartmouth with the African Canadian Services Division. Educators, learners and parents came together to discuss recommendations from the BLAC Report that pertain specifically to the education system.

Increasing the number of researchers has been a primary goal of the Institute. After lengthy planning and preparation early last fall, we successfully launched the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, designed to provide an opportunity for the DBDLI to strengthen our relationship with “up and coming” researchers in the African Nova Scotia community.

Our work with *Teens Now Talk Magazine* to reach more youth continues to evolve. Three different sessions of the Youth In Production (YIP) program were conducted in the Municipality of Halifax. I am also happy to report that we began the expansion of this program to other regions of the province starting in Sydney, Cape Breton. More will take place in the coming year.

Our most recent accomplishment is underscored by the successful search for a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). After a long and detailed process, we have found the ideally-suited candidate for the position. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to welcome Ms. Sylvia Parris to the role of CEO of the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute.

Sylvia brings over 25 years of experience in education at both the academic and practical levels, as well as extensive public sector experience.

We look forward to Sylvia’s leadership in further advancing the organization’s mandate of helping African Nova Scotian learners achieve academic excellence and ensuring our education system meets the needs of our communities.

We hope you find this recap of our past year’s activities and achievements informative and encouraging.

As we enter this next phase of our journey, we will continue to strengthen our role by implementing relevant and meaningful services that define our organization. We will continue to demonstrate how truly invested we are in helping African Nova Scotian learners and educators achieve academic excellence.

# Meet the new CEO

Sylvia Parris



Paul Adams

The DBDLI Board of Directors warmly welcomes Ms. Sylvia Parris as the organization's new CEO.

Ms. Parris's work in education and the community is rooted in core Africentric Principles. She has a successful history of collaboration with the communities and stakeholders with whom she has worked making her an ideal fit with the DBDLI.

Through her extensive public sector involvement, Ms. Parris has gained a deep understanding and appreciation for what it takes to conduct policy analysis, oversee publishing projects, and develop and implement education, multicultural and diversity programs.

Known for getting things done in a thoughtful, respectful and engaging way, Ms. Parris has been actively involved across a

broad range of community initiatives and organizations including the Akoma Family Centre, the Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia, and the Black Business Initiative Community Investment Fund. She has worked with the Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia Department of Education, Nova Scotia Department of Justice, the Nova Scotia Community College and the Guysborough District School Board.

Ms. Parris holds a Masters of Arts in Life Long Learning - Africentricity, a Masters of Education - Curriculum, and a Bachelor of Science, Home Economics / Education. When asked about her past experience, Ms. Parris's passion for the African Nova Scotian community and her involvement shines through:

"Through my work, I have come to appreciate the positive impact collaboration has on society. Over the years, I have worked with some incredible community groups, agencies and organizations vested in inclusiveness, diversity and equity. Without them, it would have been next to impossible to heighten awareness, build capacity and help strengthen our communities."

Board Chair, Jocelyn Dorrington, says the organization is looking forward to Ms. Parris's leadership as the DBDLI continues to identify opportunities and implement initiatives designed to improve the education system for African Nova Scotian learners, educators and communities.

"We look forward to working closely with Ms. Parris as we continue to collaborate with our communities, education focused organizations, academic institutions, and the provincial government, as well as our colleagues in the public and private sector," says Ms. Dorrington.

The Board is confident that Ms. Parris's expertise and experience will support the organization to provide leadership in strengthening citizen engagement and to serve as a catalyst for improving the education environment for African Nova Scotian learners and educators.

*"Through my work, I have come to appreciate the positive impact collaboration has on society..."*

# Financial Statements of the DBDLI



June 16, 2015

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Directors of Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes, which comprise a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute as at March 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

(signed) "PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP"

### Chartered Accountants

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Summit Place, 1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 400, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 3P6  
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"PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.

## Statement of Operations for the year ended March 31, 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Revenues</b>		
Provincial government grant (note 8)	648,333	441,110
Investment income	11,878	10,288
Miscellaneous	6,536	–
	<b>666,747</b>	<b>451,398</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Amortization of capital assets	20,720	19,568
Audit and accounting	19,113	15,605
Bank charges	2,358	551
Board members expenses	75,037	100,422
Conferences and rentals	62,706	–
Cost of goods sold	1,295	–
Equipment and art purchases	3,254	2,776
Equipment leases	1,171	958
Executive stipend	–	12,000
General office and admin expenses	22,267	25,171
Legal services	12,657	28,595
Marketing and communications	62,750	48,696
Payroll processing services	1,360	1,382
Professional and consultants services	68,862	5,554
Publishing	101,990	5,000
Rent, building occupancy expenses (note 11)	40,701	43,386
Research	26,711	–
Salaries, wages and fringe benefits	46,248	41,491
Special events – community consultations	2,394	–
Special events – community interactions	–	13,402
Sponsorships, scholarships and grant expenses	80,688	57,170
Staff travel expenses	1,982	2,089
Telecommunications	5,086	4,637
	<b>659,350</b>	<b>428,453</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>7,397</b>	<b>22,945</b>



## Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the year ended March 31, 2015

<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>Invested in Capital Assets</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>2015 Total</b>	<b>2014 Total</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance - Beginning of year	51,102	11,538	62,640	39,695
Excess of revenue over expenses	–	7,397	7,397	22,945
Purchase of capital assets	9,656	(9,656)	–	–
Amortization of capital assets	(20,720)	20,720	–	–
<b>Balance - End of year</b>	<b>40,038</b>	<b>29,999</b>	<b>70,037</b>	<b>62,640</b>

## Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2015

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 10)	1,038,250	1,146,716
Accounts receivables (note 4)	1,147,195	570,019
Accrued interest receivable	8,195	7,870
Inventory	5,595	–
Prepaid expenses	4,143	8,061
	<b>2,203,378</b>	<b>1,732,666</b>
Capital assets (note 5)	40,038	51,102
	<b>2,243,416</b>	<b>1,783,768</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 7)	28,674	28,090
Deferred contribution (note 8)	2,144,705	1,693,038
	<b>2,173,379</b>	<b>1,721,128</b>

<b>Net Assets</b>		
Net assets invested in capital assets	40,038	51,102
Unrestricted net assets	29,999	11,538
	<b>70,037</b>	<b>62,640</b>
	<b>2,243,416</b>	<b>1,783,768</b>
Commitments (note 6)		

Approved by the Board of Directors

 Director  
 Director

## Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended March 31, 2015

<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Excess of revenues over expenses	7,397	22,945
Loss on items not involving cash:		
Amortization	20,720	19,568
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Decrease (increase) in amounts receivable	(577,501)	(23,071)
Decrease (increase) in inventories	(5,595)	–
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	3,918	(4,818)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	584	(20,182)
Increase in deferred contributions	451,667	658,890
	(98,810)	653,332
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Acquisition of capital assets	(9,656)	(32,225)
Increase (decrease) in cash	(108,466)	621,107
Cash and cash equivalents – Beginning of year	1,146,716	525,609
Cash and cash equivalents – End of year	1,038,250	1,146,716

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.*

## Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015

### 1. Purpose of the institute

The Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute ("DBDLI"), formerly known as Delmore Buddy Daye Africentric Learning Institute ("DBDALI") (note 12), is a not-for-profit organization which, in partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Education, works collaboratively with other government departments and community organizations to effect educational change for learners of African Ancestry through programs, collaborative research, rooted in Africentric principles to better meet their demands to enable them to reach their full potential.

DBDLI was incorporated as a corporation under the Canada Corporations Act on October 1, 2012. DBDLI is a not-for-profit organization and, as such, is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act.

### 2. Economic dependence

DBDLI's operational funding is derived from the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (the "Department"). There is currently no signed funding agreement between DBDLI and the Department. The Department has concluded its review and has determined the roles of DBDLI as they relate to the African Canadian Services Division of the Department and other related organizations. The Department plans to work with DBDLI to develop an agreement with DBDLI that will best serve the needs of the Department and the African Nova Scotian community. The character of the agreement, including funding arrangements, terms and conditions and reporting requirements have yet to be determined. Any funding will be contingent on the successful completion of an agreement between the Department and DBDLI.

Although the funds have been received for fiscal 2013, 2014 and 2015, without a signed agreement in place, the impact on future funding and restrictions that could be imposed when the final agreement is signed is not known at this time. Should the Department substantially change its funding or the related terms and conditions with DBDLI upon completion of the review by the Department, there could be a significant impact to the continued viable operations of DBDLI.

### 3. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-forprofit organizations ("ASNPO") and include the following significant accounting policies:

#### Fund accounting

The accounts are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. This method ensures observance of restrictions, if any, on the use of the resources by maintaining separate accounts for each fund. Funds that have limitations placed on their use by internal or external parties are classified as restricted.

The following provides a brief description of each fund group:

- The Unrestricted Fund is for the general operating funds.
- The Internally Restricted Fund holds those funds that have been internally restricted by DBDLI for future program delivery.
- The Investment in Capital Assets is the balance in the capital assets less the associated amortization.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes petty cash and amounts on deposit with financial institutions. Cash equivalents include highly liquid term-deposits in the form of redeemable Guaranteed Investment Certificates ("GIC"). All are measured at fair market value.

**Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015 (continued)**

**Revenue recognition**

DBDLI follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.

**Capital assets**

Capital assets are capitalized in the year acquired and are amortized from the month of acquisition on a straight line basis over the years as indicated below. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the length of the lease.

- Computer hardware 3 years
- Computer software 3 years
- Website development 3 years
- Leasehold improvements 3 years
- Furniture, equipment and technology 5 years

Assets not-in-use or under-construction are not amortized. Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at fair market value at the date of receipt and also recorded as revenue.

**Contributed services**

DBDLI does not record the value of volunteers and contributed material in the statement of operations.

**Financial instruments**

The fair value of cash, short-term investments, receivables, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are approximately equal to their carrying value due to the relevant terms to maturity. Unless otherwise noted, it is management’s opinion that DBDLI is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from the financial instruments.

**Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial position and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from the estimates.

**4. Accounts receivable**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Grant	1,100,000	550,000
HST rebate	43,599	19,985
Other	3,596	34
	1,147,195	570,019

## Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015 (continued)

### 5. Capital assets

			2015	2014
	Cost \$	Accumulated depreciation \$	Net \$	Net \$
Computer hardware	3,593	2,079	1,514	2,712
Computer software	1,006	447	559	894
Website development	9,406	1,331	8,075	1,556
Leasehold improvements	41,104	27,278	13,826	27,527
Furniture, equipment and technology	25,218	9,154	16,064	18,413
	<b>80,327</b>	<b>40,289</b>	<b>40,038</b>	<b>51,102</b>

### 6. Commitments

DBDLI is entering into its final year of a signed 3-year term lease agreement with an option to renew; the remaining commitment of annual lease payments is as follows:

	\$
Year ending March 31, 2016	37,715

### 7. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are accrued accounting and auditing services fees of \$10,810 (2014 - \$16,310) and other professional fees of \$9,000 (2014 - \$nil).

### 8. Government grant and deferred revenue

Programs/Projects	2014	2015	2015	2015
	Deferred \$	Funding \$	Revenue \$	Deferred \$
General	1,500,000	827,042	454,608	1,872,471
Youth Programming	193,000	100,000	20,767	272,234
Research	–	63,711	20,767	–
Publishing & Knowledge Management	–	109,247	109,247	–
	<b>1,693,038</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>	<b>648,333</b>	<b>2,144,705</b>

### 9. Credit facility

DBDLI has a credit agreement with its bank for a \$10,000 limit on credit card purchases.

## Notes to Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015 (continued)

### 10. Supplementary cash information

Cash and cash equivalents consist of:

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Cash</b>	32,250	43,116
Redeemable GIC maturing April 30, 2014 with an annual interest rate of 1.2%	–	500,000
Redeemable GIC maturing October 22, 2014 with an annual interest rate of 1.2%	–	300,000
Redeemable GIC maturing January 11, 2015 with an annual interest rate of 1.125%	–	303,600
Redeemable GIC maturing April 30, 2015 with an annual interest rate of 1.2%	506,000	–
Redeemable GIC maturing October 24, 2015 with an annual interest rate of 1.2%	500,000	–
	<b>1,038,250</b>	<b>1,146,716</b>

### 11. Rent, building occupancy expenses

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Rent	34,977	35,951
Utilities	1,422	1,280
Security monitoring	515	2,870
Repairs and maintenance	2,400	1,900
Insurance	1,387	1,385
	<b>40,701</b>	<b>43,386</b>

### 12. Name change

In June 2014, the Africentric Learning Institute of Nova Scotia Inc. (“ALI”) launched an application for judicial review related to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies refusing to direct a change of name for DBDALI, despite the similarity in names of ALI and DBDALI. Following a court ruling during the year, DBDLI changed its name from Delmore Buddy Daye Africentric Learning Institute to Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute. The ruling only related to the name change and had no impact on the ongoing operations of DBDLI.



**DBDLI**  
**Habari Gani\***

## Financial

**Sheila Lucas-Cole, Treasurer**

The financial management of the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute (DBDLI) for the fiscal year 2014-15 was handled by the Executive team.

One of the main challenges faced by the DBDLI during this fiscal year was the absence of a signed funding agreement. However, the financial operations of the organization survived on the deferred revenue earned in the previous year.

During this period, the Executive met on two occasions with the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development (DE&ECD) to discuss the formal process by which the request for financial installments were to be made, and a plan on how to move forward.

The outcome was positive and resulted in an understanding that a defined business plan would be submitted by the DBDLI to the Department of E&ECD for approval and release of funding for fiscal year 2015-2016.

In the meantime, the DBDLI continues to work with the Department to develop a long-term, multi-year funding agreement that will cover 2016-2019, supported by a yearly business plan.

In the coming year, the DBDLI will be moving to online banking, which will enable us to process payroll, access benefit packages, and review our investments.

Ferdinand Makani continues to serve as our Bookkeeper and once again has provided support to the 2014-2015 financial audit conducted by PriceWaterhouseCooper (PWC). He presents to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis, and ensures that our financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for not-for-profit organizations.

It should be noted that the DBDLI Board of Directors continues to maintain financial and management control systems and practices to ensure our financial operations are carried out effectively and efficiently and to the highest standard. Through Mr. Makani’s work with our Executive, we have reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized and recorded, financial information is reliable, assets are safeguarded, and liabilities are recognized and mitigated.

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\* Swahili for "What's New"

The Executive team would like to express thanks and appreciation to Mr. Makani and Executive Assistant, Ramona Hill for their fine work in handling the day-to-day financial operations of the DBDLI.

We would also like to acknowledge, with thanks, the work of PriceWaterhouseCooper in the preparation of our 2014-2015 financial audit.

## Human Resources

**Sheila Lucas-Cole, Treasurer**

For the fiscal year 2014-15, the responsibilities of the Human Resource Committee were handled collectively by the Executive of the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute.

Our priority for the year was to finalize negotiations for the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Having successfully worked through these details, we were able to negotiate directly with the candidate. We are proud to announce that the contract was signed and our CEO, Ms. Sylvia Parris, commenced work on June 8, 2015.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Sylvia aboard and look forward to her vision for the Institute. She brings a deep knowledge and understanding of our African Nova Scotian communities, learners and educators making her an ideal fit for this role and our mandate.

We are also proud to confirm that our Administrative Assistant was promoted to the position of Executive Assistant on September 1, 2014. Ms. Hill is taking on a higher level of responsibility within the Institute.

The next priority item for the Human Resource Committee will be to work with the CEO on staffing key positions within the Institute, the priority being a Director of Research.

Thanks and appreciation are extended to the working team at DBDLI: Ms. Ramona Hill, Executive Assistant, our Consultants, Mr. John Wedderburn, Communications, Mr. Tony Colaiacovo, Publishing, Ferdinand Makani, Bookkeeper and our Chairperson, Ms. Jocelyn Dorrington for her commitment and vision. These individuals have enabled us to continue to move forward in meeting our obligations in a positive and productive manner, keeping the needs of our African Nova Scotian learners at the heart of everything we do.

And many thanks to my fellow committee members Ms. Yvonne Atwell and Mr. Dean Smith for their continued support over this past year; it has meant everything.

## Research and Initiatives

Martin Morrison, Paul Ash and Susan Brigham

Reflecting the DBDLI's mandate to help African Nova Scotian learners reach their full potential, the Research and Programs committee has been working on developing exciting, relevant and meaningful activities this past year as summarized below:

- **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Acadia University** to establish, with the faculty and administration at Acadia, an Africentric Cohort for 2015 – 2018 in the Master of Education in School Counselling Program at Acadia University. Committee members met with Acadia faculty and administration and the DBDLI offered three information sessions for interested students in Digby, New Glasgow and Halifax.

Acadia University confirmed the names of students who met the University's admission criteria, who were then interviewed by the DBDLI's interview committee (consisting of Jocelyn Dorrington, Susan Brigham and Dean Smith). In all, 20 students (the maximum number of scholarships available) were selected to receive DBDLI tuition scholarships. The DBDLI hosted a celebratory meet and greet for the students, DBDLI Board Members and Acadia instructors on June 12, 2015. The students begin this 3-year program in July 2015.

- **DBDLI Graduate Research Fellowship Grant** for students of African ancestry enrolled in a Canadian university at the graduate level, who are conducting original research (for a thesis or dissertation) on a topic that fits the research needs identified by the DBDLI. An application process was developed last summer (July 2014), which is available on the DBDLI website. The maximum grant is valued at \$5000 per student. Last year, we awarded 7 grants. Summaries of the "Research Fellows" are available at: [www.dbdli.ca](http://www.dbdli.ca).

We are pleased to offer the grant again this year; the deadline for application is July 24, 2015. Additional information including the application form is available on the DBDLI website. The committee plans to organize meetings for the Research Fellows so they may share and discuss their research and help mentor other 'up and coming' scholars while building and supporting a community of scholars.

- Discussion and communication with researcher Dr. Clem Marshall, who has been engaged to write a research report on the academic achievements of students of African ancestry, which will include baseline data on African Nova Scotian learners. Some of this data is available on our website: [www.dbdli.ca](http://www.dbdli.ca).

A research assistant will be required to assist in this report. Once the MOU has been finalized, access to the data will be granted and the research will continue.

- **EduFest Workshop** featuring speaker Noma LeMoine. This successful and well-received workshop was held in August, 2014 with a focus on language, literacy, and learning. The general feeling among attendees was that Dr. LeMoine introduced critical points to improve the academic achievement of African Canadian learners and that discussion of these ideas must continue.
- **Presenting partnership in the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary BLAC conference.** Committee members Jocelyn Dorrington, Susan Brigham, & Paul Ash, in partnership with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Council on African Canadian Education and the Black Educators Association co-organized this important and successful event.

## Communications

John Wedderburn,  
CM Communications

The DBDLI's first Report to the Community last July demonstrated an unprecedented level of transparency and accountability, of which the DBDLI is particularly proud and to which we continue to be committed. As Communications support to the organization, CM Communications was pleased to assist in the planning, production and delivery of the Report to the Community.

The Fall presented a wonderful opportunity for the DBDLI to take a leadership role in the 20th Anniversary of the BLAC Report on Education Conference. In collaboration with our government and educational partners, we planned and delivered this education event-of-the-year for our community providing support at the strategic planning, project/event management, and communications services levels. The conference was an overwhelming success serving as an important platform for the future.

The DBDLI was deeply involved in the development of "Black Halifax.com," an interactive and multidisciplinary website that showcases Halifax's rich and vibrant Black community. In addition to providing web design, project management, communications and event management services, we co-hosted a launch event at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic with live performances by Dr. Afua Cooper and Dr. Valerie Mason-John. More than 120 people attended the official unveiling of the website, which was live streamed via haligoniac.ca.

*continued >*



The DBDLI Newsletter continues to be a core communication platform. Reflecting the need to develop a strong brand as a centre for excellence in African Nova Scotian research and education, the DBDLI Newsletter has helped increase awareness of people, places, peer organizations, programs, and events of African Nova Scotian relevance. The Newsletter is produced several times per year and is distributed both in hard copy and online via the DBDLI website.

Additional communications activities included the development of an online order platform for educational materials, the development of advertising for Education Week, leveraging key sponsorship and speaking opportunities such as the Black Canadian Studies Association and the Southwest African Heritage Gala.

Communications will support upcoming Community Presentations and Dialogue as we work to identify and incorporate ideas and needs for enhancing the opportunities and experiences for African Nova Scotian learners and educators.

## Resource Materials

**Tony Colaiacovo,**  
Effective Publishing

We are dedicated to helping African Nova Scotian learners and educators achieve academic excellence. Part of our mandate is to develop culture-specific Africentric teaching materials and classroom resources. This past year, we initiated several projects to deliver on that commitment with input and collaboration from students, teachers and various experts in education. Our goal is to build capacity and expertise to produce meaningful, relevant and cost-effective Africentric-teaching materials and classroom resources here in Nova Scotia.

As part of this year's series of resource materials, the DBDLI created:

- **The Order of Canada/The Order of Nova Scotia bookmark series:** This set of 23 beautifully illustrated bookmarks was developed in response to the need for more African Nova Scotian content in the classroom. Our focus for new, similar resources will be on grades three to five, where the need is particularly acute.

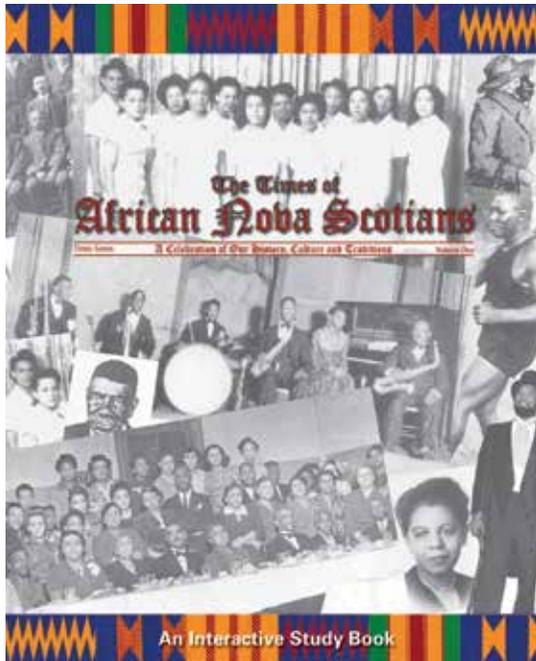


Notable Nova Scotians poster



The Order of Canada/  
The Order of Nova Scotia bookmark series

- **Updated and reprinted the Notable Nova Scotians poster.** This poster continues to be a popular classroom resource. The poster highlights the important contributions that African Nova Scotians have made to the political, social and cultural life of our province and our country.
- **Updated and reprinted Volume One of The Times of African Nova Scotians.** “The Times” has been embraced as a valuable teaching aid by educators at all grade levels. A copy of the Free Pardon granted to Viola Desmond is included in this reprint.



The Times of African Nova Scotians,  
Volume One

- **Volume Two of The Times of African Nova Scotians (available July 2015).** Volume Two explores the history of Black communities in Nova Scotia. Where were they located? Who were the founding families? What happened to these communities?

It features contributions from some pre-eminent African Nova Scotians including Dr. George Elliott Clarke, Dr. Sylvia Hamilton, Dr. Walter Borden and Dr. Geraldine Browning, all of whom are descendants of founding families.

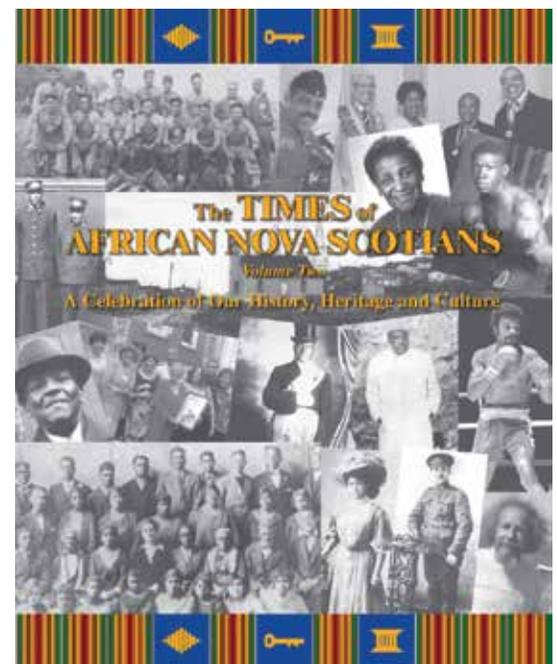
This edition has been extensively peer reviewed for content and we have worked in concert with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to assess it for bias-evaluation.

We continue to collaborate with our educational partners, community groups, educators and students on how we can best provide publishing opportunities, skills development and curriculum materials for African Nova Scotian learners.

To that end, and as an extension of our resource materials development activities, the DBDLI is evaluating the development of the following programs:

**Initiatives being considered:**

- Junior research internship program for senior high school students. This program would help candidates gain both practical work experience and proficiency in research techniques.
- Black History contest and bursaries - province-wide competition that challenges all students and teachers to discuss and write about Black History in Nova Scotia.
- Publishing of work by new and emerging African Nova Scotian writers and researchers.



The Times of African Nova Scotians,  
Volume Two



## DBDLI Partnerships & Initiatives

### Teens Now Talk



In support of youth skills development, the DBDLI's partnership with Teens Now Talk Magazine continues to produce excellent results. Over the past year, the Youth In Production program (YIP) conducted 3 sessions with more than 30 participating youth. The result: published works in 3 issues of Teens Now Talk magazine.

Particularly exciting was the successful expansion of the YIP program to Sydney, Cape Breton. The result was overwhelmingly positive and provided important learnings in terms of how to take the program to other regions of the province.

### Black Halifax

## BLACK HALIFAX

### STORIES FROM HERE

In partnership with the Canadian Maritime Heritage Foundation, Dr. Afua Cooper, Dalhousie's James R. Johnston Chair, and Valerie Mason-John, Co-Chair of Black Halifax Collective, the DBDLI developed the website [www.blackhalifax.com](http://www.blackhalifax.com), which showcases personalities, sites and events of historic significance to the African Nova Scotian community. Captured as a collection of stories, in the form of short videos, Black Halifax illustrates the rich cultural history that shapes our African Nova Scotian community. The website also includes historical information relating to the African Nova Scotian community including timelines, learning tools and web resources that support the videos.

### Master of Education in Counselling Program Cohort



As part of our mandate to develop educators who meet the needs of our African Nova Scotian communities, the DBDLI has partnered with Acadia University to offer a Master of Education in Counselling Program with a focus on Africentricity.

The 2015 Cohort is a 3-year, part-time, nationally accredited program that is designed for teachers pursuing a career in school counselling and for individuals pursuing counselling careers in the agency environment.

Scheduled to begin this July, the following students of African descent have been offered scholarships by the DBDLI for admission into the program. Congratulations to: Mr. Trevor Boyd, Ms. Kimberley Cain, Ms. Faith Eweka, Mr. Shawn Grouse, Ms. Tracy Grouse, Ms. Natalie Hodgson, Mr. Jay Jarvis, Mr. Shawn Mantley, Mr. John Moshett, Mr. Delroy Mullings, Ms. Amy Parsons, Mr. David Phillips, Ms. Robin Reid, Ms. Kelli Ross, Mr. DeRico Symonds, Ms. Gillian Thorpe, Ms. Raytia Turney, Ms. Sarah-Ann Upshaw and Ms. Danita Williams.

### Graduate Research Fellowship Grant

The DBDLI Graduate Research Fellowship Grant assists graduate students of African ancestry to complete post-secondary education at the graduate level while providing an opportunity for the DBDLI to strengthen its relationship with 'up and coming' researchers from the African Nova Scotian community. We are pleased to announce the successful Graduate Research Fellows:

**Ayodeji Aladejebi**

Mount St. Vincent University

**Title of Study:**

*Journey To Fostering And Preserving Cultural Identity:  
Are There Any Roads Leading To The "Black Church"?  
A Case Study of Three Churches in Nova Scotia.*

Rajeau Boudreau  
Dalhousie University

**Title of Study:**

*Exploring the Impacts of Culturally Specific Community-Driven Programs on the Life Journey of African Nova Scotians.*

Kwesi Firemping  
York University

**Title of Study:**

*The “Dream Keeper Project”: Afrocentric Education for Improving Math and Science Achievement for African Canadians and cultivating Positive Teacher Attitudes.*

Eluned Jones  
Dalhousie University

**Title of Study:**

*Lawful Violence: How Rudyard Kipling Uses Violence against Animals, Children and Women to Create Narratives of White Masculinity in his Novels and Short Stories.*

Késa Munro-Anderson  
Mount St. Vincent University

**Title of Study:**

*Set our spirits free: Exploring the role of spirituality as an anti-oppressive agent in the formal education of African Nova Scotian learners.*

Joseph Nyemah  
Mount St. Vincent University

**Title of Study:**

*Education and Gender Relations:  
The Case of Liberian Refugee Couples in Atlantic Canada.*

Cinera States  
Dalhousie University

**Title of Study:**

*Examining the schooling experiences of African Nova Scotian youth: implications for mental health and emotional well-being.*

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BLAC Report on Education: Reflecting on the Past, Charting the Future



In recognition of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the BLAC Report, the DBDLI was proud to be a major sponsor of the Provincial Education Conference themed Reflecting on the Past, Charting the Future. Organized in collaboration with the African Canadian Services Division and in partnership with the Black Educators Association (BEA) and the Council on African Canadian Education (CACE); the conference provided an opportunity for participants and organizers to:

- Reflect on and celebrate educational progress since the publication of the BLAC Report on Education, and chart a new future for African Canadian Education.
- Re-engage all the stakeholders and partners in education, to improve educational opportunities and achievement of African Nova Scotian learners.
- Review the status of African Canadian Education, with renewed focus on strategies that work to close the gaps in student achievement.

Over the two days, close to 200 participants engaged with presenters and experienced practitioners in their fields, who delivered compelling workshops and constructive dialogue to help chart the path for the future.

# DBDLI Tye<sup>\*</sup>



**Jocelyn Dorrington**  
**Chairperson**

Jocelyn is currently the Coordinator of African Nova Scotian Cultural Services for the Chignecto Central Regional School Board. She has over 30 years of experience working in education in Nova Scotia, in both the classroom and administrative positions. Jocelyn spent several years as Executive Director of the Black Educators Association and almost seven years as Assistant Director of the African Canadian Services Division of the Department of Nova Scotia.



**Yvonne Atwell**  
**Vice Chair**

Yvonne is presently the Executive Director of the Community Justice Society. She is the owner of Atwell & Atwell Human Resource Consultants and has worked as a Policy Officer and Diversity Programs Officer at the Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's Health. Yvonne won a Provincial seat in the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly in 1997 representing the riding of Preston, making her the first Black woman in Atlantic Canada to sit as an MLA.



**Sheila Lucas-Cole**  
**Treasurer**

Sheila has extensive involvement with the three major African Nova Scotian educational organizations. She is a long-time member of the Black Educators Association (BEA) having provided 35 years of service to the Association, serving in various executive positions including several terms as President. Sheila is still active in the BEA and currently sits on the Executive as the chairperson of the Operations Committee. Ms. Lucas-Cole was a founding member of the Black Learners Advisory Committee (BLAC) and was a Board member for the entirety of its mandate.



Paul Adams

**Dean Smith**  
**Secretary**

Dean is currently employed as legal counsel with the Federal Department of Justice. Prior to joining Federal Public Service, Dean was employed as legal counsel to the Provincial Department of Justice. He has litigated civil matters on behalf of the Attorneys General at all levels of court including the Supreme Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, and the Courts of Appeal for Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. He is co-chair of the Dr. P. Anthony Johnstone Scholarship Committee for human rights sponsored by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education.



**Ramona Hill**  
**Executive Assistant**

*A special thank you from the DBDLI Board of Directors to Staff Member Ramona Hill for her integrity, hard work and professionalism.*



*\* Swahili for "the Chieftain - council of chiefs, leadership"*



**Paul Ash**

**Director**

Paul is currently Assistant Director with African Canadian Services Division at the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DoEECD). Prior to joining DoEECD, Paul worked for the Strait Regional School Board, the Halifax Regional School Board and the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board both in the classroom and as an administrator. Paul has extensive experience working in the African Nova Scotian community but is most proud of his time with the Black Learners Advisory Committee (BLAC) working as a Regional Educator during the development of the BLAC Report.



**Susan Brigham**

**Director**

Susan is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education, Mount Saint Vincent University. She teaches the Graduate Studies in Lifelong Learning program. Susan is currently the cohort advisor of the Africentricity Policy and Research cohort in the Graduate Studies of Lifelong Learning program, and the Chair of the Alexa McDonough Institute for Women, Gender and Social Justice.



**Ed Matwawana**

**Director**

Ed is the past Chief Operations Officer for the Black Business Initiative (BBI). Ed moved to the Halifax Regional Municipality in 1988 where he began working in the field of people development and training through the Regional Residential Services Society, Black United Front of Nova Scotia, and the African Nova Scotian Training Centre. He worked with youth in transition through the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education & Development (CEED) and helped develop and deliver personal development and entrepreneurship programs in Canada, Portugal, Bahamas, South Africa, Ghana and Angola.



**Martin Morrison**

**Director**

Martin is currently the Race Relations, Cross Cultural Understanding and Human Rights (RCH) Coordinator for the Tri-County Regional School Board (TCRSB). Prior to being the RCH Coordinator, he taught for the Halifax Regional School Board at Graham Creighton Jr. High School and, more recently, at the Digby Regional High School for (TCRSB). Martin has extensive experience working for the interests of the African Nova Scotian Community on community projects and as a member of the Black Educators Association.

Paul Adams



# Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute

*Excellence in Africentric Education*





# DBDLI Sponsorships for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

The DBDLI is proud to have supported the following groups, organizations and individuals that have contributed to improving the experiences, opportunities and outcomes for African Nova Scotian learners and educators.

## African Nova Scotian Music Association (ANSMA)

- Awards Ceremonies AHM Event

## African Diaspora Association of the Maritimes (ADAM)

- Youth Exchange Program

## AKOMA Family Centre

- Anniversary Celebration

## Black Business Initiative (BBI)

- BIJ 6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

## Black Educators Association (BEA)

- Provincial Spelling Bee
- Bursary Fund
- 45th Anniversary Celebrations

## Canadian Maritime Heritage Foundation

- Black Halifax Video Project

## Cumberland African Nova Scotia Association (CANSA)

- African Heritage Month Event, Amherst

## Dalhousie University

- Black Canadian Studies Assoc. 2015 National Conference

## Digby Education Committee

- African Heritage Month Event Digby

## Glance Bay UNIA

- Glance Bay UNIA Summer Camp
- African Heritage Month Event Glance Bay

## Inglewood Community Hall

- Inglewood Comm. Homecoming & Cultural Event

## Nova Scotia Association of Black Social Workers (ABSW)

- Conference Support

## Nova Scotia Mass Choir Society

- The Dream Continues - Tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.

## Preston Area Board of Trade

- 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## Provincial Black Basketball Association (PBBA)

- 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## SOS Basketball Academy - New Beginnings Ministries

- Basketball Academy

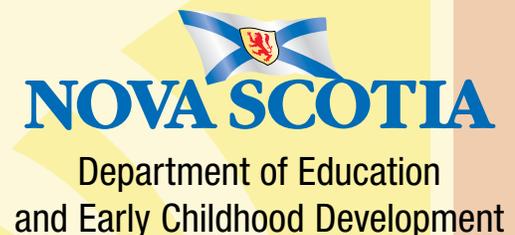
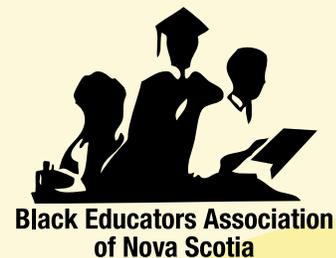
## Trurobotics - Colchester East Hants Public Library

- Sponsorship to attend the International Lego League Competition-Toronto



# Thank You to our Community...

*as we work towards our goal of  
supporting African Nova Scotian learners  
to achieve academic excellence.*



Special Acknowledgement to the Regional School Board Race Relations,  
Cross Cultural Understanding and Human Rights Coordinators

Dedicated to improving the educational experiences, opportunities and outcomes for African Nova Scotian learners and educators.



Delmore “Buddy” Daye  
Learning Institute

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