



Black History Month, 52 Weeks of Learning

City of Markham Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

February 2024

Expand your interest in Black history beyond 28 days and take your learning all year long. With our 52 week learning plan, you can explore Black history each week of the year.

As you're going through your learning journey, share your ideas, thoughts and opinions with us! Use the hashtag #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham across Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn so we can find you! Social media not your thing? No problem! You may also use the [Your Voice Markham](#) webpage to provide feedback.

Week 1 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Take the free e-learning course on anti-Black racism offered by the City of Markham.

<https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home/about/accessibility-diversity/Lets-Talk-About-Racism/>

Week 2 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Take the free e-learning course on unconscious bias offered by the City of Markham.

Week 3 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Read Markham resident and community leader, Mary Ann Chambers newly released book "From the Heart: Family. Community. Service."

Week 4 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the series of 28 moments on Black Canadian history. Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT9MbfNkf-UjoR-4wYeVWxiyolxQPIXF>

Week 5 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Listen to a TedTalk on how the experiences of anti-Black racism are negatively impacting Black communities. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=in1DFYB8bHA>

Week 6 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film "Invisible City" by Hubert Davis and learn about the experiences of two boys from Regent Park. Watch: https://www.nfb.ca/film/invisible_city/ <https://vimeo.com/157753809>

Week 7 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the CBC video on being Black in Canada; today. You'll hear from a wide range of voices and experiences. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ele1WQe2Cx0>

Week 8 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Read a Canadian classic! The Skin We're In by Desmond Cole. This book explores racial profiling and policing in Toronto.

Week 9 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

An adventurous, insightful, and personal documentary series where Amanda goes on a revelatory journey into some of the most important stories impacting Black people around the world.

Watch: [For the Culture with Amanda Parris | Shows | CBC Gem](#)

Week 10 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Black pioneers in Canada left a legacy that continues to live on. Discover that legacy. Read:

https://www.communitystories.ca/v2/bc-black-pioneers_les-pionniers-noirs-de-la-cb/

Week 11 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film Green Book

Week 12 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film When They See Us

Week 13 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film The Hate You Give

Week 14 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film the Kalief Browder Story

Week 15 of #FebruaryAndForeverMarkham

Watch the film the 13th

Week 16 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Watch this short video, featuring Robyn Maynard speaking to her book – Policing Black Lives. Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-JpQjhVvIM>

Week 17 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Slavery existed in Canada too. Read part one of a series of articles and listen to the stories of Black

Slavery in Canada. Read here/listen: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/ideas/canada-s-slavery-secret-the-whitewashing-of-200-years-of-enslavement-1.4726313>

Week 18 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Slavery existed in Canada too. Read part two of a series of articles on the impacts of enslavement 200

years later. Read here: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/ideas/slavery-s-long-shadow-the-impact-of-200-years-of-enslavement-in-canada-1.4733595>

Week 19 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Ever heard of the story of Africville? It was a community composed of Black Canadians who were uprooted from their homes in the name of profit. Watch the documentary “Remember Africville” by

Shelagh Mackenzie Watch: https://www.nfb.ca/playlists/nfb_celebrates_black_history_month/playback/#4

Week 20 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Expand your learning on the history of Africville. Read the Canadian Museum for Human Rights article detailing the history of Black settlement and experience in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Read: <https://humanrights.ca/story/story-africville>

Week 21 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read "The Book of Negroes" written by Lawrence Hill documenting the experiences of a young child who was abducted from Africa and brought to the Americas.

Week 22 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Explore this list of 23 Black Canadians you should know. Visit the interactive page: <https://www.cbc.ca/news2/interactives/black-history-month/>

Week 23 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Explore the present history of Anti-Black Racism. Civic Action and the Boston Consulting Group report revealed the hard truth about our history; today. Read Civic Action's Report: <https://civicaction.ca/app/uploads/2021/03/realities-of-anti-black-racism-in-canada-2020-12-12-updated.pdf>

Week 24 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the award winning book - Magnetic Equator a special collection of poetry on belonging in North and South America by Kaie Kellough.

Week 25 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Listen to a podcast episode exploring the dismantling of anti-Black racism in the education system by two experts, Phiona Lloyd-Henry and Natasha Henry. Listen to the episode: <https://www.spreaker.com/user/voicedradio/rsek-anti-black-racism-i>

Week 26 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read Antonio Michael Downing's memoir "Saga Boy, My Life of Blackness and Becoming" on the Black experience from a Northern perspective.

Week 27 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Listen or read to @CelinaCaesarChavannes book "Can you Hear Me Now?" on her childhood and being a Black woman entrepreneur and politician.

Week 28 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Listen to three Toronto-based podcasters unpack systemic barriers of Black Canadians. Find the podcast "Code Black, Communicator Network".

Week 29 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the biographies of some notable Black people in Canada who have helped shape Canadian heritage and identity, and who have made and continue to make enormous contributions to the wellbeing, and prosperity of our country. Explore: [Noteworthy figures - Canada.ca](https://www.noteworthyfigures.ca)

Week 30 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Share or watch this video with a young person you know. Learn about what racism is. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uz5BcMzqZs>

Week 31 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

When you get older, what do you want to do? Explore this question through the “When I Get Older” book written by K’naan exploring immigration and refugee experience.

Week 32 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

What happens when Blackness meets hockey? Follow the story of Josh Crooks to find out. Watch: https://www.nfb.ca/playlists/nfb_celebrates_black_history_month/playback/#1

Week 33 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read “My Name’s Not George, the story of the brotherhood of sleeping car porters in Canada”.

Week 34 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Watch a short video on the history of anti-Black racism. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoJPO1PsRnw>

Week 35 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Listen to the podcast The Drip with Patience Adamu and Kurtis Vermont discussing the experiences of millennials in Canada and racism.

Week 36 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the book “They Said This Would Be Fun” by Eternity Martis. Martis discusses the pervasive nature of racism on Canadian university campuses, amongst other topics.

Week 37 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read “So You Want to Talk About Race” by Ijeoma Oluo. This book guides readers through honest conversations about race, and about how racism infects every aspect of American life.

Week 38 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Kay Livingstone was fundamental in exploring the experiences of Black women in Canada. Explore the history and legacy of the organization. Explore: <https://cbwc-ontario.org/history/>

Week 39 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Indigenous and Black history collide at many points. Watch the stories of Afro-indigenous here: <https://www.proclaimingourroots.com/partners>

Week 40 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Black Life: Untold Stories is an eight-part documentary series that reframes the rich and complex histories of Black experiences in Canada.

Watch: [Black Life: Untold Stories | Shows | CBC Gem](#)

Week 41 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

View some key points of slavery from the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Visit the webpage: <https://humanrights.ca/story/story-slavery-canadian-history>

Week 42 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Learn about the last stop on the underground railroad in Oxford County, Ontario. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-mbqXbL3Coo>

Week 43 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the experiences of fugitive slaves in Canada. Read:

<https://archive.org/details/northsideviewofs00drew>

Week 44 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Watch the documentary "Ninth Floor" by Mina Shum. This film delves into the riots at a university campus in Quebec, after Caribbean students proclaimed their professor to be racist. Watch:

https://www.nfb.ca/playlists/nfb_celebrates_black_history_month/playback/#7

Week 45 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Watch this video on 28 moments of Black Canadian history. Watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5n-4XSpI60>

Week 46 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the book "The Freedom Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada" by Daniel Hill. Documenting the experiences of the first settlers of Black people in Canada.

Week 47 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read *Black Matters* by Afua Cooper which explores the everyday experience of what it's like to be Black in Canada. Each of Raussert's photographs has a companion poem written by Cooper.

Read: [Black Matters by Afua Cooper \(CA\), Fernwood Publishing - Atlantic Books](#)

Week 48 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Explore the City of Toronto's resources on Black History. Explore: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/accountability-operations-customer-service/access-city-information-or-records/city-of-toronto-archives/using-the-archives/research-by-topic/black-history-in-toronto/>

Week 49 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

The Black Loyalists were a major component of Halifax Black history. Watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7yNN_g0Blo

Week 50 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Explore the Ontario Black History society webpage and learn more about Black Canadians. Explore:

<https://blackhistorysociety.ca/history/>

Week 51 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

Read the Government of Canada's webpage on Black Canadian history. Read:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/historic-black-communities.html>

Week 52 of #FebruaryandForeverMarkham

An article showcasing an initiative across Canada that make Black excellence a core part of learning Black history during and beyond Black History Month.

Read: [Black leadership classes, trivia competitions and celebrations take students beyond Black History Month | CBC News](#)