



## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MR# 2020003

DATE: 31 January 2020

RE: African Heritage Month proclaimed in the Town of Amherst

**AMHERST, Nova Scotia** – The month of February has been proclaimed African Heritage Month in the Town of Amherst.

“It is important that we take the time each year to salute the many valuable contributions African-Nova Scotians have made to the Town of Amherst throughout our history and to acknowledge that they continue and will continue to play an integral role in making Amherst a great place to live, work and play,” Kogon said, on Jan. 31 as he signed the proclamation in the presence of Elizabeth Cooke Sumbu, executive director Nova Scotia Works CANSA .



Elizabeth Cooke Sumbu, executive director Nova Scotia Works CANSA, watches as Amherst Mayor David Kogon signs a proclamation declaring February as African Heritage Month in the town. (Tom McCoag / Town of Amherst)

“Learning about those contributions and the ties that bind us all together – faith, family and community – will help all of us unite as a community and help us celebrate the diversity that makes us a strong, vibrant town.

“I would encourage everyone to attend the events organized by CANSA during African Heritage Month and urge each resident to take the time to reflect on the story of Amherst and Nova Scotia’s dynamic African-Nova Scotia community.”

Cooke-Sumbu said this year’s theme – Ties that Bind: Faith, Family and Community – is important because it highlights “the importance of the contributions of African-Nova Scotians as



well as how we are all connected as a community.”

“As the town logo goes, we all live, work and play here, and we have to do that together,” she added. “I think it is important that we start looking beyond colour and start doing things together. We need to share and appreciate everything that everyone has to contribute.”

The official launch of African Heritage Month for the Cumberland region will take place in Springhill at the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre on Feb. 7, 2020, beginning at 11:45 a.m.

A concert celebrating this year’s theme will also be held at the centre in Springhill on Feb. 29, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Plans are also being developed to host a meet and greet at which time the Canada Post stamp that commemorates the Coloured Hockey League will be showcased. A special guest will also attend this event. The date, time and place will be announced in the near future.

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