



Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre

Dedicated to the Legacy of all
Black Nova Scotian Settlers
- Their Dreams Live On -

“If we stand tall
it is because we
stand on the backs
of those who came
before us.”

- Yoruba Proverb



Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre



Chedabucto Education Centre/
Guysborough Academy

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A Quick Reference Guide



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BACKGROUND

The Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre officially opened in November of 2001. It operates under the direction of the Strait Regional Centre for Education and is located in Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy. Presently, it is the only Afrocentric enhanced learning space located in an educational institution in Nova Scotia.



Pictured above are Chedabucto Education Centre/ Guysborough Academy Grade 1/2 students displaying their artwork after taking part in "The Crayon Box that Talked" activity where they learned important lessons regarding diversity, respect, acceptance and friendship.

GOAL

The goal of the Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre is to promote and enhance the cultural values and traditions of the African Canadian community.

The Centre plays a key role in preserving and protecting the community's heritage as well as fostering cultural awareness and cross-cultural understanding.



COMMITMENT

The Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre is committed to increasing the public's awareness of the importance of African Heritage. As a result, the Centre:

- is open to the public;
- serves as a resource to other schools in the region;
- acknowledges the contributions of individuals through its community recognition program;
- offers a range of diverse programs and educational activities;
- hosts special events;
- celebrates African Heritage throughout the year;
- enhances programming and enriches curricular resources.

The Centre is a valuable resource for students, staff and the school community. In particular, it is a resource centre for all schools in the Strait Regional Centre for Education and partners with the local and provincial African Nova Scotian community to achieve its mandate.



Thank you to the African Nova Scotian community for sharing many artifacts, photos and resources for display at the Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre.



TESTIMONIALS

The Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre is a true centerpiece for our school, Chedabucto Education Centre/Guysborough Academy and the Strait Regional Centre for Education. The Centre's focus on local African Nova Scotian history is an invaluable resource for our students not only as a reminder of our history, but also as a springboard for their futures.

School Administrator

As a partner of the Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre and the Kujichagulia Youth Group on many successful initiatives, I have seen first-hand how the Centre has become a focal point in the school and community fostering pride in our African Nova Scotian students and community.

*Public Health Nurse/Coordinator
Guysborough Youth Health & Services Centre*

As the Program Leader of the Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre, I have been able to present, preserve and protect the importance of our rich African culture and heritage on a daily basis and see the valuable impact the Centre has had on students.

Program Leader

It is extremely rewarding to share our incredible story, our rich history and our remarkable journey with students. Engaging them at a young age does not only make them knowledgeable, but also culturally sensitive.

African Nova Scotian Teacher

In essence, the Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre symbolizes not only a union and equality between different cultures, but also the incredible things that humanity as a whole has done to achieve this freedom. We learn to appreciate and respect one another at such a young age, that there is no room for negative influence. It is a place of learning and history, and the unity those two factors present us.

Student

The Afrikan Canadian Heritage and Friendship Centre symbolizes creativity. It is a place where self-expression is encouraged and it is a space to share knowledge and to receive it. As a student, I am grateful for the Centre and just as others who have visited the Centre, I have benefitted from it greatly.

Student

