Dear ICAC,

Greetings! Happy African Heritage Month! This update includes –

1. Activities and events for Black Heritage Month (in the TDSB and around the city)
3. The Little Education Report – Education and Politics in Canada
4. Toronto Community Housing Commission – update from the Wellesley Institute on TCHC
5. Release of Household Income Report by MASS LBP

Warm wishes,

Cassie
Cassie Bell
ICAC Co-ordinator
www.tdsb.on.ca/icac

The battles that count aren’t the ones for gold medals. The struggles within yourself—the invisible, inevitable battles inside all of us—that’s where it’s at.

Jesse Owens (1970)

1. African Heritage Month - a time for reflection and learning at the TDSB

http://tdsbweb/MediaRoom/tdsbwebRoom.asp?show=allNews&view=detailed&enableNav=true&self=32919

2. The Global City: Newcomer Health in Toronto 2011

This report describes the health advantage that most newcomers bring to Toronto, the decline in their health over time and the need to strengthen our efforts to support newcomers, especially those whose health risks are compounded by their income level, gender, immigration status, ethno-racial background, sexual orientation or other factors. This report results from a partnership between Toronto Public Health and Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services. It is the first comprehensive report on the health of newcomers in Toronto.

Report Link:
3. **The Little Education Report** – Education and Politics in Canada

http://www.thelittleeducationreport.com/index.html

Includes articles on Finnish Education, the upcoming Don Drummond Commission report, the state of standardized testing in Alberta and more!


4. **The TCHC affordable housing sell-off: The saga continues.** *(From The Wellesley Institute’s latest Newsletter)*

On January 24th the proposal to sell off 740 of Toronto Community Housing's affordable homes went before Executive Committee. At the meeting, amid much protest from housing advocates and TCHC tenants, the Executive Committee voted to defer the vote on the proposal to their February 13th meeting.

In *our deputation to the Executive Committee*, the Wellesley Institute recommends that instead of selling off the desperately-needed affordable homes, the Executive Committee should direct Toronto Community Housing Corporation to convene a multi-sectoral task force, including the TCHC board, staff and tenants, along with housing experts, community leaders and others, to develop a socially and fiscally responsible plan to address the capital repair shortfall in all TCHC housing, including the stand alone portfolio.


5. **MASS LBP Event on Release of Household Income Report**

News of the 99% and deepening income inequality continues to dominate headlines across North America. Though Occupy protestors have packed up their tents, the conversation about how to address the growing gap between the rich and the rest has only just begun.

**On Tuesday, February 7th, Diaspora Dialogues, the University of Toronto’s Cities Centre and MASS LBP will release a new report based on the deliberations of forty-four randomly selected Toronto residents who spent several Saturdays this winter learning and thinking about how to overcome the economic divides that separate our city.**

Their report will be of interest to anyone who cares about the future of Toronto and features more than 90 recommendations covering all facets of city-life, from housing to transportation, to improving Toronto’s competitiveness.
We hope you will join Helen Walsh, David Hulchanski, and Peter MacLeod, as well as members of the Toronto Residents' Reference Panel on Household Income on **February 7th at 6pm** to mark the report's publication and the opening of a new installation based on the Cities Centre's 'Three Cities' research at the **401 Richmond Building's UrbanSpace Gallery**.

Report Launch: Toronto Residents' Reference Panel  
UrbanSpace Gallery, 401 Richmond Street, Studio 111  
Tuesday, February 7th  
6:00 pm  
RSVP by Feb 3: jon@masslbp.com

Online versions of the report will be available February 8 at [masslbp.com/threecities](http://masslbp.com/threecities)

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**Upcoming ICAC Meeting –**  
**Wednesday February 15, 2012**  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
5050 Yonge Street, Boardroom (main floor)