



Racialized Members Action Committee

May 31-September 30, 2025

Submitted by: Sandra Griffith-Bonaparte & Edith Nganga, Co-chairs of RMAC

Overview

The RMAC was on recess for the months of June and July, and therefore, no monthly meetings were held during that time. Activities resumed on August 14 with a virtual Emancipation Day celebration, which offered a meaningful reflection on freedom, equality, and human rights through music, poetry, and film. Because the event was held virtually, no budget was used.

Participants were inspired by the soulful voice of Miriam Makeba Pata Pata and the performance of “Hymn to Freedom” by Oscar Peterson and Oliver Jones, a profound musical statement symbolizing unity, equality, and the universal struggle for human dignity.

The celebration also featured a poetic rendition by Andrew Clarke (Captain Sunshine) whose verses highlighted the realities of economic inequality—reminding us that although we may earn more, higher taxation continues to reduce our available resources, creating a persistent need for greater financial fairness and opportunity.

The event concluded with the screening of the documentary “Long Way to Freedom,” a powerful and moving account of resilience, courage, and determination in the fight for justice and equality.

Meetings

At our September meeting, members shifted focus toward upcoming initiatives.

Committees were formed to plan and organize our Human Rights Day celebration



(December 10) and our Black History Month event (February 2026). The enthusiasm and strong volunteer turnout demonstrated members' continued dedication to advocacy, education, and community involvement.

Previously, a motion was made to donate \$240 to Flo Senior's for their annual banquet held on August 24. The REVP's Office matched the amount, allowing RMAC to sponsor six individuals to attend the event.

Overall, the months of August and September reflected renewed engagement, thoughtful planning, and a shared commitment to advancing human rights and equality through meaningful programming and community partnerships. We look forward to the months ahead as we continue to collaborate, celebrate, and uphold the values of freedom, unity, and equality.

Events

Emancipation Day: August 14, 2025, this event was virtual therefore did not require a budget.

Islamic Heritage Month: October 16, 2025.

In recognition that October marks Islamic Heritage Month, a time to honour Muslim Canadians and their contributions across the country, members discussed celebrating this important occasion at our upcoming meeting. A motion was made and passed to invite a guest speaker to share insights on the history, culture, and achievements of



Muslim Canadians, and to provide an honorarium of \$250.21 in appreciation of their participation.

Budget Update

Starting:

\$7,103.11

End Balance:

\$6,852.90