

**NEWMARKET AFRICAN CARIBBEAN CANADIAN  
ASSOCIATION**



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING APRIL 20, 2023**



449 Eagle Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 1K7  
(905) 781-6222 | [chair@naccacommunity.ca](mailto:chair@naccacommunity.ca)  
[www.naccacommunity.ca](http://www.naccacommunity.ca)

March 23, 2023

### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Board of Directors of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association have called an Annual General Meeting of the membership to be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

As a member, you are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting. The current By-laws of the Corporation indicate only members will be eligible to cast a vote at the Annual General Meeting. All members in good standing are eligible to vote and stand for election on the Board.

Members who wish to contest a Board position are requested to submit their nominations on the Nomination Form to the Elections Committee for receipt no later than 5PM, Monday, April 07, 2023. All prospective candidates must be properly nominated and seconded in order to comply with the rules for election.

Completed Nomination Forms are to be emailed to the Elections Committee Attention: Ashley at [nacca.elections@gmail.com](mailto:nacca.elections@gmail.com) OR if you are experiencing difficulties accessing and submitting the Nomination Form, please send an email with your nomination to [nacca.elections@gmail.com](mailto:nacca.elections@gmail.com).

#### **Purpose of the Annual General Meeting**

- I. To receive the [financial statements](#) of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association for the year ending December 31, 2022, and to appoint the auditor for the year ending December 31, 2023.
- II. To elect directors to the [Board of Directors](#) of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association.
- III. To review the current [By-laws](#).

For your information, I have included a hyperlink to the financial statements and current by-laws above.

I hope you will be able to attend our Annual General Meeting. Please [register](#) to join the event.

Yours sincerely,

Jerisha Grant-Hall

Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association, Chairperson



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA  
APRIL 20, 2023**



## Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association

Meeting: virtual via zoom

Thursday, April 20, 2023, 7PM – 8:30PM

### Meeting Agenda

1. **Welcome**
2. **Land Acknowledgement**
3. **Apologies of Absence**
4. **Presentation**
5. **Approval of Minutes**

5.1. Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2022.

1. That the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association AGM Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2022 be received.

6. **Chairperson's Report**
7. **Treasurer's Report**

7.1. Financial Statement – Auditor's Report

1. That the financial statements of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association for the year ending December 31, 2022 be received.

8. **Election of Officers**

8.1. Appointment of election of officers to the board

- Director-at-Large

## **9. Review of By-laws**

## **10. General Business**

10.1. Appointment of an auditor for the fiscal years ending December 2023.

1. That Micheal Pinnock be appointed as auditor for the 2023 fiscal years.

## **11. Date of next meeting**

April 18, 2024

## **12. Close of Meeting**



**Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held  
on April 20, 2023**



African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA)  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 7:00-8:30 P.M.**  
**Via ZOOM**

**Present: Board Members and Participants**

Jerisha Grant-Hall - Chair	Kolin Alexander
Pauline Jones - Director at Large	Joel Chiutsi
Janis Lutrell- Vice-Chair	Ab Falconi
Matthew Palomino-Youth Director	Beric Farmer
Alicia Katsavos-Treasurer	Gavin Gunter
Keisha Davis-Interim Secretary	Camille Hannays
Suzette Benoit-Director at Large Candidate	George Harper
	Lee Miller
	Natassia Morris
	Michael Pinnock
	Shameela Shakeel
	Keisha Wright
	Kimberly Yhap

There are 21 participants in attendance.

**WELCOME**

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance
2. The Vice-Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.
3. There were no apologies of absence for the meeting.
4. There was a presentation by Natassia Morris from C.Q.B.C of NACCA's Strategic Plan.
5. The 2021 AGM minutes were approved by the Treasurer and seconded by the Youth Director in which the minutes were received with non-opposed.

The Chair asked the participants if anyone wanted to speak? No participant wanted to speak.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

6. The Chair gave an overview of NACCA's pillars, accomplishments, volunteer recognition, and moving forward. The Chair also thanked the past Director at Large for her years of service to NACCA.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT/THE AUDITOR'S REPORT**

7. The Treasurer gave NACCA's financial summary:

### **Revenue Summary**

Goods and Services \$3,340

Memberships \$574

Subsidiaries and Grants \$69,691

Donations \$40,111

Total=\$113,716

### **Expense Summary**

Scholarships Awards & Funding \$17,676

Black History Month \$4,534

Workshops & Therapy \$22,201

Food Security \$40,606

Employment & Social Development \$8,561

Other General Operating \$10,310

Total=\$103,889

Michael G.G. Pinnock gave the Auditor's Report financials for 2021 and reported that NACCA was in great financial standing with no conflicts, the Director at Large approved the financial



statement and the Youth Director seconded the motion. The auditor then left the meeting at 7:57 pm.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

8. The Chair announce that the following board of directors were up for nominations and only members can vote:

Keisha Davis-( Secretary)

Suzette Benoit (Director at Large)

The Chair asked 2 members to close, the Vice-Chair moved to close and the Director at Large seconded for the minutes.

The Chair then asked for 2 members to move the vote, the Vice-Chair moved to vote and the Youth Director seconded the motion to vote the members. Non-opposed.

The Director at Large first to move the motion to appoint and the Treasurer seconded the motion to appoint.

The newly appointed Secretary thanked everyone for appointing her to NACCA's board of directors and the newly appointed Director at Large also thanked everyone for the opportunity. The past Director at Large commented on her experience working with NACCA and her plan to continue working with NACCA until February 2023. She then proceeded to thank everyone for their support on stepping down as NACCA's Director at Large.

Lastly, the Chair thanked all the board members.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

9. The Chair moved to appoint Michael Pinnock as NACCA's Auditor for the 2022 fiscal years, the Youth Director moved the motion to appoint and the Vice-Chair seconded the motion. The motion was then carried with non-opposed.

Natassia Morris from C.Q.B.C presented NACCA's 5 year Strategic Plan Overview in which the Chair asked the board members to move to receive the 5 year Strategic Plan. The Youth Director moved to receive the 5 year Strategic Plan and the Treasurer seconded the motion. The motion was then carried with non-opposed.

The Youth Director commented on NACCA's achievements.

Ab Falconi also commented on NACCA's achievements and thanked everyone for their hard work.

The Chair then thanked everyone for supporting NACCA.

Lastly, the Vice-Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

10. The Chair announced that the next Annual General Meeting would be held on April 20, 2023.

#### **CLOSE OF MEETING**

11. The newly appointed Director at Large moved to close the meeting and the Vice-Chair seconded the motion at 8:36 pm with non-opposed.



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
APRIL 20, 2023  
RETURNING DIRECTORS**

# Returning Directors

## **Alicia Katsavos**

Alicia was born and raised in a small Ontario town where she learned the value of a close-knit community- that is why Newmarket became the chosen area to settle down and raise a family.

She began her career as a small business owner, supporting other York Region businesses and non-profit organizations with her bookkeeping services. Alicia is currently managing the finances for a Newmarket-based manufacturer.

During her free time, Alicia enjoys the many York-Region forest trails, reading, watching movies with her family, and creating art pieces. Personal development is also a passion of hers. Alicia is a student in McMaster University's Accounting program and practices mindfulness and meditation.

Alicia continues to contribute to the NACCA community by using her skills to support the organization.

## **Matthew Palomino**

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, and educated at Dr. G.W. Williams SS and subsequently the University of Guelph, Matthew Palomino is the Youth Director of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association. Immigrating to Canada at age 15 with his family in 2009 he is currently enrolled in Paralegal studies at Seneca College. After the unacceptable spate of Black deaths in Canada and the United States Matthew took it upon himself to become more active in his local Black community. He has a keen interest in racial and class disparities in the legal system particularly as it relates to access to justice issues.

## **Janis Luttrell**

Janis is a strategic thinker and equity professional with a strong commitment and dedication to building key partnerships that support the development of innovative Black centered programming.

She attended York University in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program and is currently the Arts and Culture Programmer for the Town of Newmarket where she acts as a Cultural Liaison bridging organizations, through collective collaboration and intersectional creativity. She has executed large scale events such as Splash of Culture and Culture Days bringing a fresh and ingenious approach to programming that are both inclusive and representative of various communities. Her tireless passion, dedication and advocacy has successfully transformed systems, and moved along major projects that are intricate to the Newmarket community.

A champion for diversity, she actively works to remove barriers within many art-based

organizations, for artists and key partners who may face systemic barriers and racism, cultivating a culture around awareness and the importance of educational programming. She is the Vice Chair of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) which is a registered not-for-profit that is focused on building and connecting communities and strengthening Black families and empowering Black youth.

Janis oversees the Food Security/ Sovereignty program, and actively conducts ongoing foundational research which supports numerous funding grant applications that fortify the sustainability of various programs within the organization.

She prides herself in her ongoing journey and learning commitment to understand and actively dismantle anti-Black Racism.

### **Suzette Benoît**

Suzette Benoît currently serves as NACCA's director-at-large. She formally decided to become involved with NACCA after volunteering at the organization's Open House on December 12, 2021. Her decision to join NACCA came from an interest in giving back to the community by working with and for people who looked like her. Channeling her expertise and love of design, esthetics, and working with people, she hopes to help build a network of community members that are interested in supporting NACCA.

Her passion for volunteering was ignited in the 1990s when she was invited to collaborate on the set design for a segment of a Women Speaking Series featuring Starr Jones at Roy Thompson hall. Her business, Design Nexus Interiors (DNI), has completed several pro bono type projects that have included upgrading spaces for elderly, disabled, and single parent clients who needed the service and could not afford to pay the associated cost. Additionally, she has participated in fundraising efforts at the schools of her three children for events such as carnivals, Jump Rope for Heart, Relay for Life, graduations and proms. Suzette is rooted in family and community, and has consistently contributed to planning family reunions

### **Keisha Davis**

Keisha Davis is a long time resident of Newmarket with a lot of knowledge surrounding the history of the town. She has also worked within the community for the past two decades in the healthcare field servicing a variety of diverse clients. Keisha holds a degree in nursing from Sheridan College, and another degree in Social Service Work and Mental Health and Addictions from Seneca College. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Social Work and was a key member of NACCA's Strategic Planning Committee before stepping into the role of interim Secretary on the Board of Directors. Keisha is extremely passionate about building strong communities and empowering Black youth to achieve their goals. She is strongly committed to dismantling anti-Black racism in her community so that Black youth are treated equally and are given the same opportunities to succeed.

## **Jerisha Grant-Hall**

Jerisha is an innovative and strategic thinker, equity professional and consultant who is committed to moving our communities forward through partnerships and cooperation. She holds a Masters degree from York University with a focus in postcolonial, anti-colonial, cultural and feminist theory, and has developed specialized knowledge in the principles of race relations, equity and inclusion. She is the founder and chair of the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA), which is a registered nonprofit organization that is focused on building and connecting communities, supporting and strengthening Black families and businesses, and empowering Black youth.

Jerisha is Chair of the Town of Newmarket Anti-Black Racism Task Force and was a member of the Steering Committee as well as the Working Group to work closely to develop the Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy for the York Region District School Board. In her role as NACCA' Chairperson, Jerisha created a strategy to build the capacity of institutions, businesses and municipal government to address and dismantle anti-Black racism through an annual training and workshop that she produces and delivers entitled, "Towards Racial Equity: Examining Anti-Black Racism in Canada". She also developed and supported the delivery of culturally-responsive programs and services to individuals and families that are adversely impacted by anti-Black racism; she continues to drive systemic change through advocacy across various institutions, including education and policing.

Jerisha is deeply committed to building community and building relationships. She is a dedicated leader who is driven by the desire to eradicate racial discrimination by cultivating and promoting an inclusive environment where social harmony, mutual respect & human dignity are realized for all. Jerisha is the recipient of the Canada International Black Women Excellence's award for Canada's top 100 Black Women to watch 2022, and the Ted Rogers Humanitarian and CEO Awards.