

**NEWMARKET AFRICAN CARIBBEAN CANADIAN
ASSOCIATION**



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING APRIL 18, 2024**



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March 23, 2024

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 18, 2024 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.

NACCA is seeking new board directors to guide and influence the future of this innovative and award winning organization. If you are a member interested in contributing to the board of directors to fill present and upcoming positions, kindly complete the application form provided [here](#), by Tuesday, April 30, 2024. For further details, refer to the [Board of Directors description and expectations document](#). Please note that nominations will not be accepted during the AGM.

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, 2023, and to appoint the auditor for the year ending December 31, 2024.
- II. To review the current [By-laws](#).
- III. Election of officers

For your information, I have included hyperlinks 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
Chairperson
Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 18, 2024**



Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association

Meeting: virtual via zoom

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 7PM – 8:30PM

Meeting Agenda

1. **Welcome**

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

3. **Apologies of Absence**

4. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

4.1. Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2023.

1. That the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association AGM Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2023 be received.

5. **Open Forum**

6. **Staff Report; 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, 2023 be received.

8. **Election of Officers**

9. **Review of By-law**

10. **General Business**

10.1. Appointment of an auditor for the fiscal years ending December 2024.

1. That Micheal Pinnock be appointed as auditor for the 2024 fiscal year.

11. **Date of next meeting**

April 17, 2025

12. **Close of Meeting**



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

NACCA

est.2018

African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 7:00-8:30 P.M.

Via Hybrid

Present: Board Members and Participants

Jerisha Grant-Hall - Chair	Kolin Alexander
Janis Lutrell- Vice-Chair	Ginelle Skirrett & Quammie Williams
Suzette Benoit-Director-at-Large	Tony Van Bynen (MP)
Alicia Katsavos-Treasurer	Dawn Gallagher Murphy (MPP)
Matthew Palomino-Youth Director	Maxine & Benito Palomino
Keisha Davis- Secretary	Gavin Gunter
	Kirk Campbell
	George & Ashley Harper
	Chad Garel
	Phiona Durrant
	Kim Clark
	Michael Way Skinner
	Gloria Malcolm
	Karen Bramwell

There are 23 participants in attendance.

WELCOME

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance
2. The Youth Director read the Land Acknowledgement.
3. There were no apologies of absence for the meeting.
4. The Chair motioned for the agenda to be moved, the agenda was first approved by the Chair and seconded by the Youth Director in which the agenda was received with non-opposed.
5. The Chair motioned for the 2022 AGM minutes to be approved. The minutes were approved by the Secretary and seconded by the Youth Director in which the minutes were received with non-opposed.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

6. The Chair gave an overview of NACCA's pillars, accomplishments, volunteer recognition, and moving forward.

- To date, NACCA has received D.E.I Award for the Newmarket Chambers of Commerce, a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the T.E.A.C.H program, and the Queen's Jubilee Pin and Certificate.
- There are 30 active volunteers including Board members, totalling 35.
- NACCA currently has 2 staff members: 1 full time and 1 part- time.
- The Chair then thanked all the volunteers for their dedication and support.
- The Chair announced that NACCA is looking for Board members.

The Chair then asked the participants if anyone wanted to speak or were there any comments?

Phiona Durrant (ABC), complimented NACCA's Board for their cohesion.

The Floor was open to the audience for further comments.

Ginelle Skirrett (York CAS), complimented and thanked the Board for their partnership and hard work within the community.

Tony Van Bynen (MP), congratulated NACCA for their achievements for progress in the community and also for the Rogers award. He was thankful for the invite to the AGM.

The Chair thanked the MP for his ongoing support.

Dawn Gallagher Murphy (MPP), commended NACCA, its volunteers, and executive team for all the hard work and working for the community. The MPP then stated that there will be an announcement made on May 1, 2023, for NACCA's amazing accomplishments.

The Chair thanked the MPP for her support and allyship.

Chad Garel (YCDSB), thanked NACCA for keeping the community informed about building bridges and community. He then extended greetings from Dominic Scuglia, who was absent. He also thanked the Chair and NACCA Board members for community empowerment and the invite to the AGM.

The Chair thanked him for attending on behalf of YCDSB. No representative from YRDSB was present.

Kolin Alexander (YRP), thanked NACCA for the work and partnership with YRP. He stated that more steps need to be had but appreciated the steps made so far and commended NACCA for holding YRP accountable.

The Chair thanked everyone for their comments and compliments.

The Chair informed and updated the audience about NACCA's programming and objectives. She also announced that NACCA would be celebrating 5 years strong.

Ratifying and affirming the actions of the Board of Directors as presented at the AGM and as evidence through the work of the board.

The Chair motioned that all actions of the Board of Directors from 2019-2023, are hereby ratified and affirmed. The Secretary first and the Treasurer seconded the motion, with non-opposed.

The vote to approve is 14 yes, the majority voted to move, the motion was carried.

RECOGNITION

7. The Chair recognized and appreciated the Treasurer who is resigning at the end of June 2023. She also complimented the Treasurer on her years of service, dedication, leadership, and significant contribution to NACCA.

The Youth Director thanked the Treasurer for her work and dedication to the board.

The Treasurer thanked everyone for the opportunity and growth.

PROGRAM IMPACT

8. The Chair gave an update on the scholarship and mental health for community impact.

\$40,000 in distributed scholarships to 31 students.

Mental health services: total impact 466, workshops and support groups 340, individual counselling 84, and youth mental health 42.

The Chair gave a testimonial from a member's impact story.

The Chair played a game with the audience and Gavin Gunter guessed the correct answer.

The Vice-Chair updated the audience about NACCA's community hub which is located at 449 Eagle Street (NACCA's Headquarters) and the need for meeting community needs regarding food insecurities.

Tony Van Bynen (MP) announced the Canada Summer Jobs approved funding.

The Vice-Chair added that the funding is for the Kuumba Camp. The Vice-Chair also announced the New Horizons programming grant for \$4344 Ubuntu Elder Counsel to combat social isolation, she then thanked YRP and YRFN for their support.

The Vice-Chair also thanked the MP and the MPP for their support on the Community Resiliency Grant of \$167,100 over 24 years.

The Chair stated that the official announcement will be coming shortly. She then thanked the Vice-Chair for the update and asked if there were any comments.

TREASURER'S REPORT/THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

9. The Treasurer gave NACCA's financial summary:

Revenue Summary

Donations \$120,874

Grants \$108,587

Membership \$590

Interest \$25

Others \$6,703

Total=\$236,779

Expense Summary

Amortization \$221

Bank charges \$242

Insurance \$993

Office \$7,796

Programs \$159,635

Salaries and related costs

Total=\$168,887

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for the budget update.

Michael G.G. Pinnock was absent.

The Chair stated that the auditor's report is available on NACCA's website. Michael Pinnock to be re-appointed for the fiscal year ending 2023.

The Chair moved to retain Michael Pinnock as NACCA's auditor. The Youth Director first and the Vice-Chair seconded the motion with non-opposed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

10. The Chair motioned to have a Review of By-Laws so that the memberships consider adding a preamble and review the term for Board of Directors. The Youth Director first and the Treasurer seconded the motion, with non-opposed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11. The Chair announced that the next Annual General Meeting would be held on April 18, 2024.

CLOSE OF MEETING

12. The Chair closed the meeting by thanking the donors, community partners, and everyone for their support and attending the meeting. The Chair then moved to close the meeting at 8:21 pm, the Vice-Chair first and Michael Way Skinner second the motion with non-opposed.



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2024
RETURNING DIRECTORS**

Returning Directors

Nadia Hansen

Being a Newmarket resident since she was three years old, Nadia has personally seen the many drastic changes that this town has undergone in recent years. In her teen years, she grew a love for social activism and racial equity. This passion drove her to study human rights for undergrad and pursue a master's degree in political science. After working in three different political offices, she has been able to witness governance in action. Nadia is looking forward to building relationships within her community as part of the NACCA board.

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 B3 charity that is focused on building and connecting communities, 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 Chaired the Town of Newmarket's 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 2022 top 100 Canada International Black Women Excellence’s Award, a 2023 Ted Rogers CEO Award winner for humanitarianism, and Pickering College’s 2023 Agent of Change Award winner.

Chris Josiah

Chris was born in Toronto and raised in Thornhill, Ontario. His father was an immigrant from Antigua, and his mother is a second generation Canadian who was born in Montreal, Quebec. Chris earned a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Sociology and Anthropology from the University of Guelph. He was a proud member of the Race Relations Commission while he attended university.

Currently, Chris is a Newmarket resident and he is married with two adult children. Since high school, he has been an advocate for social equality and a youth mentor. He has coached children of all ages in a variety of sports, and he is extremely passionate about empowering Black youth to achieve their full potential.