



The Caribbean
Canadian Association
of Waterloo Region

ANNUAL REPORT for 2016-2017

Louis Allen
President

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
November 6, 2017
45 Columbia Street East,
Waterloo, Ontario

CONTENTS

1. Annual General Meeting Report
Louis Allen
2. Appendix 'A': Scholarship Report
Noel Richards
3. Appendix 'B': Book Club Report
Vincent Smith
4. Appendix 'C': Treasurer's Report
Anandi Carroll-Woolery

Caribbean Canadian Association of Waterloo Region Annual General Meeting Report October 3, 2016 - November 6, 2017

Prepared by
President: Louis Allen

1. Introduction

Welcome to all. It is hard to believe that another year has passed by since our last AGM in October 2016. Despite the challenges, we have attempted much and to a large degree, have accomplished much. This is all thanks to the faithful and dedicated Board members who continuously give so generously of their time despite the busy and involved lives they live. It is thanks also to your continued commitment to and support of the organization.

I submit this report with the wisdom of hindsight (which they say is 20/20 vision) going back to February 2016 when I took on the role of president. I must say I am as optimistic now as I was then about the promise and potential of the organization, although I must confess that my optimism has been tempered by the realities of the challenges that we face as we engage in the process of renewing and revitalizing the organization.

The Caribbean Canadian Association of Waterloo Region (CCAWR), (formerly, Caribbean Canadian Cultural Association - CCCA), is among Canada's earliest established social/cultural organizations. It was founded in 1975, and registered in April 1977. Like any organization of this mature stature, the needs of the community we serve has changed over the year and as such it behooves us to constantly re-examine our "raison d'être" (reason for being) to ensure we maintain currency and relevance to and with the community. Our challenge (and opportunity) is to know what it is the community requires of us and to ensure that we deliver accordingly.

During this past year under review, the CCAWR participated in, and/or promoted several new and varied initiatives. As we continue our work in the community we are grateful for and proud of the inroads that we have made and continue to make. As a not-for-profit association with an established volunteer board, we are committed to the fulfillment of our vision of "An empowered, collaborative Caribbean community that is fully engaged and equitably represented in the Region of Waterloo" and will continue working towards that stated goal.

The current board is comprised of:

President:	Louis Allen
Treasurer:	Anandi Carroll-Woolery
Secretary:	Ingrid Berkeley-Brown
Members:	Emily Yamoah, Loretta Sheriff, Donnette Spence, Sara Allen, Theresa Freeman-Simon, Lannois Carroll-Woolery, Junior Ramsoram, Noel Richards, Amanda Edwin, Veronique Simon and Dwain Linton

2. Highlights of the 2016 – 2017 Year:

During the year under review the Board members undertook or were engaged in a variety of activities and events, some of which were fund raising in nature. These included:

- January 2017: Drafting of a Revised Constitution
- February 2017: Design and Re-launch of the Association's Website
- March 2017: Ontario Anti-Racism Legislation Petition
- April 2017: Second Biennial Persons of Distinction Awards
- June 2017 : Family Brunch
- June 2017: Kitchener Multicultural Festival

- September 2017 Awards of Excellence Scholarship Brunch
- November 2017: Hosting of the Play "Blood is Thicker Than Water" (in partnership with Lauris DaCosta)
- Ongoing Book Club

a) Drafting of a Revised Constitution

Arising out of a Strategic Planning Session held in May 2016, the decision was made to engage in the redrafting of the constitution of the CCAWR, with a particular focus on moving the organization to an "incorporated non-profit" status. The organization is currently a registered non-profit.

With that focus in mind, in October 2016, a small Working Group consisting of Lannois Carroll-Woolery, Junior Ramsoram and Louis Allen began the work of re-drafting the constitution. The Working Group meet for many sessions between then and the middle of January 2017, at which time the draft was submitted to the Board for review and comments. However, given the need to focus on other pressing matters, a full review was not completed during the business year.

Given this exercise is in full alignment with the goals and objectives of the organization, there is full intent to pursue the completion of this task in the coming year and to move the organization into the status of an incorporated non-profit, subject to the approval of that directive at this AGM.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Junior and Lannois for the countless hours they dedicated to this exercise and for the enthusiasm and dedication they displayed throughout the drafting process.

b) Design and Re-launch of the Association's Website

In keeping with the need of the Association to maintain a strong online and social network presence, in November 2016, the Board approved the formation of a

Website Development Committee, with specific terms of reference to engage with a website development company and oversee the design and launch of a new website. The Committee was headed up by Lannois Carroll-Woolery and comprised Veronique Simon, Amanda Edwin, Clarissa Charles and Louis Allen.

Between November 2016 and the launch of the new website in early March, the Committee engaged in the drafting of a Request for Proposal (RFP) document, the identification and contracting of a website development company, choosing the template for the website, gathering and writing content for the website and "proofing" the site prior to launch.

Many volunteer hours were expended in this exercise and I am thankful for the expert leading and direction provided by Lannois and the hours and hours of dedicated service provided by the members of the Committee.

The hard work is certainly paying off as there have been many contacts made by way of this online presence. The challenge is now to keep the site fresh and the content current and relevant. This is a challenge I am sure the Board will rise to.

c) Ontario Anti-Racism Legislation Petition

On November 24, 2016, members of the Board participated in a Community Meeting hosted by the Province's Anti-Racism Directorate. The aim of the meeting (one in a series hosted in different locale in the Province) was to further the public dialogue and identify priority areas for the province's Anti-Racism Directorate as it applies an anti-racism perspective to government policies, programs and services. The focus of the meeting was on anti-Black racism, as well as Islamophobia, anti-Indigenous racism and racism experienced by other communities.

Arising out of earlier meetings in Toronto, a coalition several diverse entities mainly from the Toronto area called the Colour of Poverty - Colour of Change

(COP- COC) network, concerned about the sustainability of the current anti-racism effort, without the underpinning of a legislative framework, had crafted proposed legislation for consideration by the Ontario government. Subsequent to the community meeting, it was agreed that the CCAWR would craft and submit to the Premier, the Minister with responsibility for anti-racism and the Director, a petition supporting the passing the need for a legislative underpinning utilizing the proposal submitted by the COP- COC network.

This effort was lead by Junior Ramsoram and in early March, the petition was approved by the Board and submitted to the relevant parties. At the end of March, the legislation was introduced into parliament and passed into law on June 1, 2017.

The objectives of the Act are to:

- Establish the Anti-Racism Directorate in legislation to ensure its long-term sustainability
- Ensure the sustainability and accountability of the government's anti-racism work by developing and maintaining a multi-year anti-racism strategy. The strategy's initiatives, targets and indicators would be reported upon annually to measure the strategy's effectiveness
- Require a review of the anti-racism strategy at least every five years, in consultation with the public
- Enable the government to mandate race data collection and an anti-racism impact assessment framework, to apply an anti-racism perspective to public sector policies and programs.

While this is a significant accomplishment, we must ensure that we stay vigilant and engaged to ensure that both the spirit and the letter of this Act are maintained in the coming years. This passing of the Anti-Racism Act which is a direct response to the requests vocalized during the community consultation

process, allows government and public sector organizations to identify and combat systemic racism in policies, programs and services and effectively work toward advancing racial equity for all. Let us remain vigilant, realizing that the passing into law of this Act is just the beginning of the beginning. There is still much work to be done on the ground.

d) Second Biennial Persons of Distinction Awards

Consequent on the success of the inaugural Persons of Distinction Awards held in April 2015, the Board took the decision to undertake the event on a biennial basis. Following debates on the matter of whether or not to let this decision stand, the motion was reaffirmed in September 2016, following which a Planning Committee was put in place to spearhead the planning and execution efforts and a Nomination Committee was also engaged to deal with the election of the awardees.

The hardworking and dedicated members of the Committee poured countless number of volunteer hours into the planning and execution of the event. The efforts included, but was not limited to, venue selection, design and printing of associated materials (flyers, invitations, etc.), solicitation of sponsors, guest invitation, securing a Master of Ceremonies and guest artistes, venue decoration, marketing and organizing an accompanying silent auction. The Committee was also able to leverage the newly launched website to aid in the marketing process.

The efforts paid off in a glitzy and glamorous event, held on Saturday April 29, 2017 at the Paragon Banquet Hall, 15 International Village Drive, Cambridge.

The event, which was hosted by Tony “Master T” Young of MuchMusic fame, celebrated the 2017 awardees - Chloe Callender and Gordon Davis – for their significant contribution to or impact on the local Caribbean community. Special tribute was also paid to Lauris DaCosta who served the Association as President from 2001 – 2009.

The attendees, numbering over 150, included local dignitaries the Honourable Bardish Chagger – Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Minister of Small Business and Tourism, Raj Saini – Kitchener Central MP, Marwan Tabbara – Kitchener South-Hespeler MP, Ken Seiling – Region of Waterloo Chair, Berry Vrbanovic – Kitchener Mayor and Jane Mitchell – Regional Councillor.

Rhythm & Steel Band provided a taste of the Caribbean upon entry to the hall, with Kitchener born and Toronto residing upcoming keyboard and vocal sensation Chris Rouse delivering an enthralling set comprised of wide ranging numbers such as Ben E. King's *Stand by Me* and Prince's *Purple Rain*. Entertainment was also provided by local gospel singer Aileen Bennett who appropriately delivered renderings of *I Hope You Dance* and *Change the World*.

Chloe Callender was awarded the **2017 Person of Distinction of Caribbean Heritage**. Chloe has served the community promoting Caribbean culture and the empowerment of Black Women both in her professional career as an educator and as a volunteer. She was the co-founder of the K-W Caribbean Association in 1975. She served on many boards including the Congress of Black Women, Waterloo Catholic School Board, Wilfrid Laurier University, Conrad Grebel Univeristy College and St Mary's Hospital. She has shown her affection for young people as the first co-coordinator for the Betty Thompson Youth Centre and a regular committee member on Coalition for the Success of African-Caribbean Youth. She uses music and drama to educate and break down racial and cultural barriers.

Gordon Davis was awarded the **2017 Person of Distinction from the Wider Community**. Gord is well known in the Region for his work as a director with KW Musical Productions and the New Hamburg Community Players. Gord has lent his expertise to CCAWR's production of nine (9) theatrical performances, including the well-received "Once on This Island", "Ain't Misbehaving" and

“Bubbling Brown Sugar”. These productions gave local performers, primarily of Black and Caribbean heritage, the opportunity to perform and tell their stories. These productions afforded wonderful exposure for the CCAWR and built a Caribbean theatre community that had not existed before.

While the event was not monetarily successful in terms of turning a profit, it provided high visibility for the Association and visibility of the achievements and contributions of members of the Caribbean community to the wider Waterloo Region.

Unspeakable thanks to the Planning Committee, ably led by Sara Allen and consisting of Emily Yamoah, Olive Coke, Theresa Simon-Freeman and Lola Matrasingh. Your commitment to and selfless effort on behalf of the Association are greatly appreciated. Many thanks also to the Nomination Committee led by Ingrid Berkley-Brown, to our sponsors and to the Board.

d) Family Brunch

Over the past few years, the CCAWR has established a Family Brunch (formerly Father's Day Brunch) as its major fundraising event for the scholarship fund. While originally designed to be an annual event, this has not always been the case. After a brief hiatus, the event was revived last year and was held again this year on Sunday June 11, 2017 at the Wilmot Recreational Complex in the Township of Wilmot.

The brunch, which was well attended, was addressed by our guest speaker Dr. Michael Haughton, Professor of Operations and Decision Sciences, Lazaridis School of Business and Economics, Wilfred Laurier University, who shared his interesting life journey with the audience. The event also heard from Noel Richards, the Chair of the Scholarship Committee, who outlined what the scholarship has achieved over its 15-year history and made also launched the

Scholarship Fundraising Marathon, an effort to raise \$10,000 by challenging 100 persons to donate \$100 over the next year.

There was also participation from several young people who shared what benefits the scholarship have been to them in their career educational journey and others who appeared as performing artists. By all accounts the event was a successful in terms of raising visibility even though it failed to return a sizeable profit.

Special thanks to the Scholarship Committee who for the first time planned and executed the event. Thanks to all who planned, participated in or supported this event.

e) Kitchener Multicultural Festival

The CCAWR participated in the Kitchener Multicultural Festival through a partnership with Cafe du Monde. The major objective of this partnership was to drive visibility for the organization. However, there was no major participation by any member of the organization. Again, the effort of driving visibility was hampered by the lack of marketing materials available to the Board to support visibility and attract attention.

The nature of our participation in future events will need careful review and analysis.

f) Award of Excellence Brunch

The 16th Annual Award of Excellence Brunch was held on September 17, 2017 at the Sunbridge Hotel and Conference Centre (formerly Holiday Inn) in Cambridge. Four (4) scholarships were awarded by the CCAWR to deserving candidates from our community. Details on our scholarships and recipients are included in the Scholarship Report from Noel Richards attached as **Appendix A**.

The keynote speaker was Dominic Bell, a two-time past recipient of the CCAWR scholarship awards. Dominic is currently an articling student at the Crown Law Office of the Ministry of the Attorney General in Toronto. His speech was well received, earning him a standing ovation.

This year, the monetary value of the scholarships were increased and it is hoped that in the coming years we will be able to make an even more sizeable contribution (both in number and value) to the young people of our heritage community through this forum.

g) Hosting of Play - "Blood is Thicker Than Water"

The CCAWR partnered with Lauris DaCosta to host the Marcia Brown Productions play "Blood is thicker Than Water" at the Humanities Theatre (Hagley Hall) on the University of Waterloo campus on Sunday November 5, 2017. This is the second Marcia Brown Productions play the CCAWR is hosting, having hosted the highly acclaimed "I Need To Know My Father" a few years prior.

Proceeds from this production will go towards the scholarship funded. Due to the closeness of the timing of this production to the AGM, I am unable to report on the success of the event. Nonetheless, I would like to say a big thank you to Lauris birthing the idea and for the time, energy and resources she expended to ensure the success of this venture. Thanks also to all those who supported the event.

h) Book Club

A copy of the full report prepared and submitted by Vincent Smith is attached as **Appendix B.**

Persons of Distinction Award



Award recipients Chloe Callender and Gordon Davis, along with Special Tribute recipient Lauris DaCosta



Attendees at the Persons of Distinction Awards



Award recipients and dignitaries in attendance

Family Brunch



"Looking good. Just give me a little of everything"



Guest Speaker Dr. Michael Haughton

Awards of Excellence Brunch

"To Protect and to Serve" - Support from our men and women in uniform



A captive audience listens to Guest Speaker Dominic Bell



The "Chief" (Brian Larkin, Chief of Police, Waterloo Region Police Service) and the Awardees

3. Scholarship Report

The Scholarship Report, prepared and submitted by Noel Richards, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, attached as **Appendix A**.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report, prepared and submitted by Anandi Carroll-Woolery is attached as **Appendix C**.

5. *Conclusion and A Call To Action*

It is now almost two years since I assumed the role of president of the Association in February 2016 and must confess that I am constantly amazed by the time and effort put in by various Board member to make the different activities that the Association engages in possible. This is essentially a working board, comprised mainly of individuals with competing job and personal responsibilities and I must say I am heartened by their dedication and commitment to the organization and am honored to be working alongside them.

While I still see and am driven by the potential of the organization, over the years I have come to the position that at times I need to temper my enthusiasm with reality, recognizing that there are just so many things we can tackle at any given time, based on the resources available to us.

That being said, I believe we can do more with what we have and call on the Board to engage in a process of examining the strategic focus of the organization. Let us ask ourselves a few fundamental question, such as:

Why do we do the things we do?

Are we engaged in the right activities?

Do we know the needs of our constituents?

Are we addressing and meeting the needs of our constituents?

In fact, who are our constituents?

I call upon the Board to focus with me on addressing the fundamentals. Over the coming year I invite them to focus with me on the theme "***The CCAWR Re-imagined***". The concept of the theme is a simple one; it is asking ourselves some basic question, like "If we were designing an organization today to serve the needs and interests of the Caribbean Diaspora Community in the Waterloo Region, what would it look like? How would it be structured and function? What would be its priorities?"

I also ask that we continue to keep focus on what I define as our Five Strategic Priorities/Platforms:

- Awareness and Visibility
- Governance and Processes
- Events Execution
- Education and Advocacy
- Resources

I call upon the Board to once again see with me the enormous potential of the organization and to dream with me of the things we can accomplish with new vision and vitality. Let us challenge the better angels in each other as we work together and strive together in service to our heritage community.

In closing, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the very committed members of the Board, the friends of CCAWR and the broader community for their unwavering support to the organization over the years. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year!!

Thank You!!

Louis Allen
President

APPENDIX A

Scholarship Report by Noel Richards

Scholarship Committee

Noel O. Richards (Chair)

Olive Coke

Amanda Edwin

Professor Karl Bennett

Lannois Carroll-Woolery

Nigel Henriques

Ron Ball

2017 was an eventful year for the CCAWR Scholarship Committee, marking our 15th year of partnership and collaboration with the Congress of Black Women (Waterloo Chapter). We awarded scholarships to some outstanding individuals in the Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge communities. New initiatives were undertaken during the year in line with our vision of becoming a recognized leader for development, advancement and recognition of the youth.

Scholarship Committee Planning Strategy Meeting: March 4, 2017

The Committee convened for a face to face meeting at the Waterloo Regional Police Station (Columbia Street) on Saturday March 4, 2017. This forward planning session was primarily geared towards organizing the annual fundraising Family Brunch. Our main goals were to create heightened awareness around the scholarship program and fund raising. The Committee agreed on a proposal to increase the scholarship award from \$1,000 to \$1,500 payable over two years to address the issue of repeat applicants, which was approved by the Board. This was in keeping with the original target of the scholarship program being first year undergraduates.

Annual Family Brunch: June 11, 2017

Our 5th annual Family Brunch was held this year at the Wilmot Recreational Centre in Baden. Our guest speaker was Dr. Michael Haughton (Professor of Supply Chain Management, Wilfrid Laurier University). Overall the event was a success in terms of raising community awareness about the hosting of the event. It is important to note that we enjoyed participation from the youth. Veronique Simon (a past scholarship recipient and current board member) briefly shared with the audience how the scholarship helped her during her time at university. Entertainment for the event was provided by two young artists and we had youth volunteers for the organizing and decoration of the hall. Net Profit from the event was \$460 and we raised \$200 in donations and \$800 in pledges towards the scholarship fundraising project.

Approximately 110 individuals attended the event. We plan on increasing the charge for dinner next year from \$25 to \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth, as well as putting a greater emphasis on advertising.

Two new initiatives were launched at the event:

a) Scholarship Program Brochure:

This idea has finally been realized, special thanks to Amanda Edwin and the members of the Committee. The aim of producing a brochure is two-fold. To provide information on how to qualify and apply for a scholarship and to offer a simple way to make donations via a detachable form. This has been a success and has been circulated at various events and to individuals.

b) Scholarship Fundraising Marathon:

Theme: “Joining heads, hearts and hands; Together we win”.

In view of the increase in the scholarship award to \$1,500 we felt the need to find new ways to motivate our community to become part of the solution rather than just relying on sponsors. The Chairman of the Committee put up the first \$100 towards a fund- raising challenge to raise \$10,000 over the next year. Our goal

is to target 100 persons for a \$100 contribution over one year, which translates to 27 cents per day. We were successful in raising \$200 in donations and \$800 in pledges towards the project at our annual Family Brunch event.

To date we have collected \$3,400 and have received \$1,400 in written pledges towards our goal. The drive was promoted via the CCAWR website and Facebook page, as well as at our annual Awards of Excellence Brunch.

Awards of Excellence Brunch Presentation Ceremony: September 17, 2017

The 2017 Awards of Excellence awards presentation ceremony was held on Sunday September 17, 2017 at the Sunbridge Hotel and Conference Centre (formerly Holiday Inn) in Cambridge. Our keynote speaker Dominic Bell was a two-time past recipient of the CCAWR scholarship awards. Currently Dominic is an articling student at the Crown Law Office at the Ministry of the Attorney Office in Toronto.

This year we received nine (9) scholarship applications, which is highest number of qualified applicants ever received since the program started in 2003. This was attributed to our revamped website, which for the first time allowed us to receive on-line applications. Three out of the four successful award recipients were male (another first) and is a testament that our message is reaching the young men in our community.

Overall the quality of the applications were first rate and after careful deliberation, the Scholarship Committee unanimously agreed to award four (4) scholarships totaling \$6,000, instead of our target of three per year.

Scholarships were awarded to the following individuals as outlined below:

Avonae Gentles: 2017 CCAWR Keith Forde Scholarship Award;

Tarin Charles: 2017 CCAWR Leib & Fanny Pillersdorf Scholarship Award;

Dane Allen: 2017 CCAWR Lauris DaCosta Scholarship Award; and

Brent Parke: 2017 CCAWR Professor Karl Bennet & Jacoba Wessling Scholarship Award

Special thanks to our donors for providing us with their continued support. Thanks to the continued partnership and collaborative efforts of Chloe Callender, Lannois Carroll-Woollery, Marcia Smellie, and Louis Allen and others for holding joint meetings and organizing another successful Awards of Excellence event.

Donations

During the year we received a total of \$4,800 in funding from the following companies and individuals.

- S.E.P Holdings Ltd \$1,000
- Keith Forde \$1,500
- Professor Karl Bennett \$1,000
- Professor Michael Haughton \$500
- Neischa Bazzey \$500
- Westdale Construction \$200
- Herbert Braley \$100

New Scholarship Award:

The Professor Karl Bennett & Jacoba Wessling Scholarship Award

This award was presented for the first time this year to Brent Parke in honour of the illustrious accomplishments and contribution of Professor Bennett in the field of education from 1966 to 2002, before retiring as a Lecturer of Economics at the University of Waterloo. He has been a long-time scholarship donor and an active member of the Scholarship Committee since 2003.

In Memoriam

We pay tribute to Dr. Clifford Blake (Lecturer, Department of Management Sciences, University of Waterloo) a two-time scholarship donor who passed away on Wednesday December 7, 2016. We are grateful to him and his family for the contributions he has made to the CCAWR with respect to education, our culture and history.

Recognition of Active Youths

We recognize three of our past recipients who are actively involved with the ongoing activities and planning of the CCAWR. Veronique Simon (Board Member and website support), Brent Parke (board meeting attendee) and Clarissa Charles (website support). Our future looks bright as we engage our youths.

Forward Looking

For the foreseeable future, we hope to:

- a) Engage the youth in our community for future planning and board meetings;
- b) Post testimonials from past recipients on our website;
- c) Set up a database of past recipients and leverage their talents; and
- d) Establish a mentorship and professional network program for youths.

Thanks to all our sponsors, the members of the Scholarship Committee and well wishers who have helped in any way to make this year another positive outcome.

Our youth are the future of tomorrow.



.....
Presented by: Noel O. Richards
Chairman, Scholarship Committee
Date: October 22, 2017

The past recipients of the CCAWR Scholarship program are as follows:

PAST RECIPIENTS

2003

Athena Guy \$500

2005

Rori Brown \$500
Rufus John \$500
Chanel Martin \$500

2007

Aminka Belvitt \$1,000
Rena John \$750
Trisha Warren \$750

2009

Daniel Drummond \$1,000
Raechel Lovell \$1,000
Kimoy Marston \$1,000

2011

Matthea Eales \$1,000
Natasha Alli \$1,000
Tonya Malcolm \$1,000

2013

Destina Mattrasingh-Williams \$1,000
Ashley White \$1,000
Rickyonee Richards \$1,000

2015

Knajwa Cameron \$1,000
Destina Mattrasingh-Williams \$1,000
Jasia Carroll-Woolery \$1,000
Jason Allen \$1,000
Clarissa Charles \$ 600

2017

Avonae Gentles \$1,500
Dane Allen \$1,500
Brent Park \$1,500
Tarin Charles \$1,500

2004

Amanda Richards \$500
Lynta Yamoah \$500

2006

Alex Norris-Lue \$500
Jessica Nairn \$500
Rufus John \$500

2008

Lebene Numekevor \$1,000
Jason Simon \$750
Andre Claxton \$750

2010

Tonya Malcolm \$1,000
Ariel Berkeley \$1,000
Kamahe Lee \$ 750
Khadija lee \$750
Tracy Allan \$ 500

2012

Emese Sykes \$1,000
Jenneisa Claxton \$750
Jason Simon \$1,000
Royston Simon \$1,000

2014

Destina Mattrasingh-Williams \$1,000
Dominic Bell \$1,000
Dominic Bell \$700

2016

Jasia Carroll Woolery \$1,000
Amanda Facey \$1,000
Destina Mattrasingh-Williams \$1,000
Jayden Richards \$1,000

Total number of scholarships awarded to date = 48
Total dollar amount awarded to date = \$43,600

APPENDIX B

Book Club Report by Vincent Smith

What are some of the lessons learned from our books this year?

1. You can't move on until you deal with your issues (Alfred Vassell)
2. Empower victims of a situation to solve their problems
3. We all have a responsibility to the next generation. (Lisbeth Haddad)

Alfred's insight came from our discussion of the Nigerian novel, **THINGS FALL APART**, by Chinua Achebe. The second flowed from reflections on **BURNLEY "ROCKY" JONES REVOLUTIONARY** An Autobiography by Burnley "Rocky" Jones & James St. G. Walker. Lisbeth's inspiration came from Elie Weisel's **NIGHT**.

An average of twelve persons of African, Caribbean and Canadian heritage attend our four discussions each year. Thanks to Maranatha Lutheran Church in Kitchener for providing very welcoming space for our meetings which occur on Sundays.

It has become quite evident in our discussions that the theme of "man's inhumanity to man" encompasses all people. This has steered our club to an annual discussion of this broader theme. A guest from the wider pool of humanity leads the discussion, and without doubt, an engaging dialogue proves to be the highlight of the year. In 2016 the discussion of **Up Ghost River: A Chief's Journey Through the Turbulent Waters of Native History** by Edmund Metatawabin was led by Christine Lesedvre of the Metis Aboriginal people of Canada. This year's reflections on the Jewish Holocaust based on Elie Weisel's **NIGHT**, was led by Christine Solomon.

Enhancing this discussion was the role of Jamaican Jewry in Kingston as presented in **Dreams of Re-Creation in Jamaica the Holocaust, Internment, Jewish Refugees in Gibraltar Camp, Jamaican Jews and Sephardim** by Diana Cooper-Clarke, a Jamaican Jew who is a professor at York University in Toronto.

In our final meeting in October, participants are free to share any literature that provided a meaningful experience for them. How can I forget the first time we did this: I listened to twelve

new books. Enriching you say? I heartily agree. Here is this year's list of comments and books read obtained at this meeting:

Comments about what the reading club has done for them (October 15, 2017)

P.B: I got smarter

T.P: I've learned about lots of new issues, including questions about colour and first nations

K.B: I've become more aware of different struggles, but 400 years (slavery) is big

J.B.: The club has forced us to read a lot more

A.C.: I've met many people and have expanded my circle of friends and acquaintances

L.C: The club has opened me up to different experiences

V.S: the club has broadened my perspective

G.P: Enjoyed learning about the ideas of a wide variety of people

F. S.: Introduced us to new books and to new people who share an interest in reading

Books read mostly outside the club:

E.P: The Land and People of Central America by Gerald Colvin

G.P: Emancipation Day by Wayne Grady

P.B: By Chance Alone by Max Eisen

J.B.: Night by Elie Weisel and The Fix by David Baldacci

R. R.: Traveller's Tree by Patrick Fermor

S.S.: Destiny by T. D. Jakes

F.S.: Small Island by Andrea Levy

K. B.: Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years by Amy Hill Hearth, Sarah
and A. Elizabeth Delany

L.H.: From Behind the Counter by Easton Lee

V.S.: One Perfect Day by Diane Burke

A. C.: Reading about Hinduism after going to a temple

L.C.: Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe, Night by Elie Weisel and Ecclesiastes

It would be great if we could run a book club for youth concurrently with ours. Who will bell the cat? Perhaps someone will surprise us in 2018. Is that you?

That life lessons continue to titillate our imagination is reason enough to celebrate future book club gatherings.

APPENDIX D

TREASURER'S REPORT

**CARIBBEAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WATERLOO REGION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

**Prepared by:
Anandi Carroll-Woolery, Treasurer**

These statements were prepared based on the books and records of the Association.

These statements have not been reviewed by the external Accountant.

