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## Michael Tulloch Appointed New Chief Justice of Ontario

By Stanley Ugagbe

Canada Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, has announced the appointment of the Honourable Michael H. Tulloch, a judge of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, as the new Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Following the announcement, the new CJ will replace George

R. Strathy, who retired effective August 31, 2022.

In a statement, the PM said "The Honourable Michael H. Tulloch is a highly respected member of Ontario and Canada's legal community. As he takes on his new role as Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, I wish him continued

■ *New Chief, see page 23*

## My passion in waste diversion led me to start Harvest Recycling - Peter Olorundimu

By Stanley Ugagbe

Nigerian born Peter Olorundimu is a living testament of the fact that with a clear vision and determination, you can turn even waste to riches.

**O**LORUNDIMU came to Canada to attend university. He earned a degree in business with a major in computer science, graduating in 1999.

"After I finished university, I worked with companies like HP and Dell. I also worked with some property management

companies, and that's when I discovered there was a lot of waste," Olorundimu said in a chat with newsmen.

"There are a lot of recyclables, like plastic wastes and metal wastes. At food processing plants and restaurants, there is often a lot of food waste. Only small changes are needed to reduce the amount going to landfills. I find at restaurants often about 65% is food waste and 15% are recyclables. So only about 20% is actually garbage that needs to go to the landfill. We are helping people to look differently at their waste".

In what started in 2010



as a part-time business, Olorundimu's Harvest Recycling has now become a full blown business that helps its clients save money by reducing waste. He began modestly with only himself and one truck, and he worked evenings and weekends while holding down a full-time job in the computer industry.

■ *My passion, see page 29*

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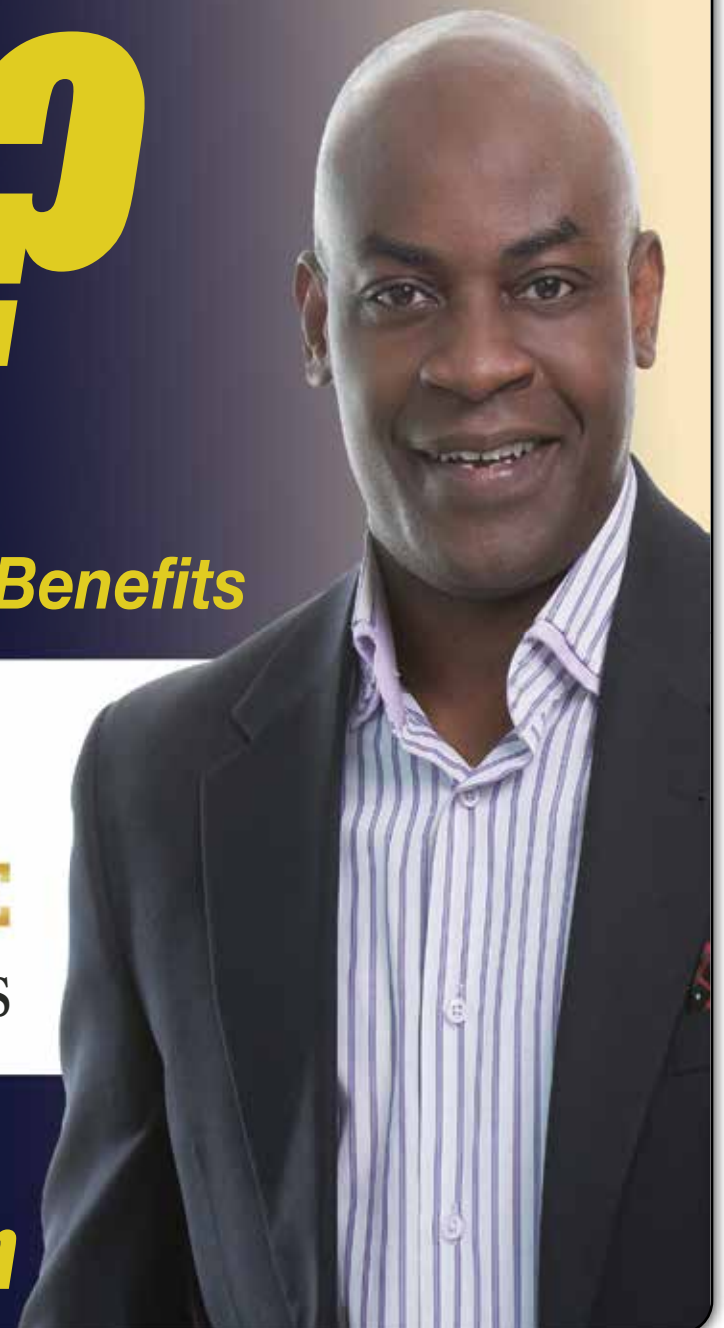


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# Brazing Up For The Coming Year

In a recent intensive interview, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau averred that interest rate hikes, ballooning inflation and sky-high cost of living have battered Canadians' bank accounts in 2022 and unfortunately, 2023 isn't looking any better.

In his summation that was hinged on indices, the PM said "Next year is going to be tough, too. It's going to be a tough year," a strong warning for all residents of the nation to braze up for the upheavals that will come with the coming year. He added that "The coming winter is going to be tough for people".

It could be recalled that in an International Monetary Fund (IMF) assessment released earlier this month, the global financial agency warned that Canada is at risk of tipping into a "mild recession," despite outperforming its G7 counterparts. The

IMF report is forecasting "substantial" cooling in Canada over the next year in which "shocks could easily push the economy into a mild recession."

The IMF warning comes after years of global economic upheaval — the result of several colliding factors, including the COVID-19 pandemic shutdowns and supply chain chaos, and Russia's war in Ukraine. "We know that for all the challenges Canadians are facing with inflation, with food prices, with energy prices, it's much worse in Europe and it's much worse for Ukrainians. When we're dealing with higher prices in the grocery store — which is no fun, it hurts — Ukrainians are paying with their lives," Trudeau said.

In a report IMF staff said growth in Canada is expected to slow to 1.5 per cent in 2023 from 3.3 per cent in

2022. The unemployment rate could rise to above six per cent. But the report also warned that the economic outlook could be "substantially worse." If inflation remains high, the Bank of Canada may have to raise rates further, bringing on a more severe downturn. How the rest of the world, especially the United States, fares will also have an important impact on Canada, it said.

IMF's Canadian mission's annual statement said "A mild recession could easily emerge, and the historical distribution of risks suggests a roughly 10-per-cent chance that the economy would contract for 2023 as a whole".

In the wake of IMF's report, economists at Canada's biggest bank have also warned that the country is likely fall into recession sooner than they had expected. Recall that the Royal Bank of Canada had originally predicted the contraction would come in the second quarter, but it now expects a recession early in 2023, as higher interest rates and inflation sap growth.

"Cracks are forming in Canada's economy," RBC economists Claire Fan and Nathan Janzen wrote. The economist

also told newsmen that "Demand is outstripping available supply on the consumer side, and that's pushing up inflation. And so the Bank of Canada has been pretty clear that the economy needs to slow in order to get inflation under control".

To mitigate the dire consequences of the looming recession, IMF staff expect the Bank of Canada will take its rate to at least four per cent by the end of this year and leave it there for several quarters, resulting in inflation falling back to the two-per-cent target by the end of 2024. Higher borrowing rates will lead to a 20 per cent fall in home prices, but rising immigration should buffer the decline.

The fund also urged Canadian governments to support this fight against inflation, by saving revenue windfalls from the commodity boom and avoiding widespread spending increases that would undercut the central bank's efforts.

However, Trudeau expressed optimism that Canadians will "get through" the year ahead if they stick together, and pointed to what he described as "direct supports for Canadians" from the government.

While noting that

"The coming winter is going to be tough for people," the PM opined that "that's where we need to continue to pull together". Trudeau pointed to the GST rebate, dental care, and low-income rental supports as part of the direct support for Canadians.

The above alarming reports and predictions should serve as a first-hand warning for Canadians and prepare them for the coming days. Like the Biblical Joseph, we believe that this information will arm Canadians against the terror of the looming recession.

It is often said that to be forewarned is to be forearmed. You must be in total control of your spending, cut down unnecessary expenses, save as much as you can, and mentally, psychologically, physically prepare for the days ahead.

However, we must warn that a looming recession is not a death sentence. So, avoid unnecessary jittery, panic buying and false alarms. Like the PM said, we will get through the tough times if we continue to pull together.

The Editorial Board of The Nigerian Canadian Newspaper wishes you a Happy New Year.

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## Reps' move to ban female circumcision

By Stanley Ugagbe

The Nigeria's House of Representatives is pushing a bill for an Act to amend the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act, 2015 and increase the penalty for the offence of female genital mutilation.

The bill which has passed through second reading at the House of Representatives is sponsored by Hon. Ganiyu Johnson. The bill pushes for 4-year imprisonment or a fine not exceeding N200,000.00 for any person who practices female genital mutilation or engages another to carry out such circumcision.

Harping on the move, Johnson said section 6(2) of the Act needed to be amended to read thus "6 (2) Any person who performs female circumcision or genital mutilation or engages another to carry out such circumcision or mutilation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding one million nairas or to both".

While noting that the new legislation will put a stop to the practice, he said "A UNICEF survey recently revealed that in Nigeria, one out of four girls and one out of ten boys suffers from sexual molestation and about one out of ten children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. Among the factors that encourage the commission of such unwholesome practices like female genital mutilation is the lack of adequate sanctions. Female genital mutilation, also known as female circumcision, excision or genital cutting, comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injuries to the genital organs for non-medical reasons, mostly carried out between infancy and age 15.

"The procedure has no health benefits for girls and women. Because it is usually performed without permission and often against will, it violates girls' right to make important decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. Reports show that 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone a form of genital mutilation (FGM). An additional 2 million girls could undergo female genital mutilation by 2030 as a result of Covid-19. It is for this reason that this Bill is proposed, to review the sanctions provided within the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition), VAPP Act, so as to give it the required deterrence it deserves".

# Canada To Seize \$26 Million In Assets Owned By Roman Abramovich

By N.Ugoh

The Canadian government announced the start of a process to seize \$26 million in assets from a company owned by Roman Abramovich.

**W**HILE other Canadian Western allies have seized yachts, oil, and gas ventures and other assets of people close to Russian President Vladimir Putin, this is the first time Canada is doing something of this nature.

Ottawa stated that it would secure a court injunction to go after Abramovich's Granite Capital Holdings, and use the proceeds for the reconstruction of

Ukraine.

"Putin's oligarchs are complicit in Russia's illegal and barbaric invasion of Ukraine," Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland revealed.

"Canada will not be a haven for their ill-gotten gains, and today's announcement demonstrates our determination to ensure that Russia's elites pay the price for their support of Putin's brutal regime," she said.

The 56-year-old former owner of the Chelsea football club in London, was sanctioned by Canada, as well as Britain and the EU.

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Canada has sanctioned more than 1,500 Russian individuals and establishments as well as their supporters.



## Claudine Gay Becomes Harvard's First Black President

By Stanley Ugagbe

The evergreen book of blacks making positively reverberating impacts across the globe as again appreciated as Claudine Gay has been selected as Harvard University's 30th president, making her the first Black person and the second woman to lead the Ivy League school.

Remarkably, Gay, who is currently a dean at the university and a democracy scholar, was elected to the presidency by the Harvard Corporation, the university's principal governing board.

The history maker will become president on 1 July, replacing Lawrence Bacow, who is stepping down to spend more time with his family.

According to the university's Harvard Gazette, the daughter of Haitian immigrants, Gay graduated from Stanford and then earned her Ph.D. in government at Harvard in 1998, winning the Toppan Prize for best dissertation in political science.

She is regarded as a leading voice on the issue of American political participation. It could be recalled that in 2006, she joined Harvard as a professor of government and of African and African American studies and has since explored a variety of issues, including how a range of social and economic factors shape political views and voting.

Also, Gay is the founding chair of Harvard's inequality in America initiative, which studies issues like the effects of child poverty and deprivation on educational opportunity and American inequality from a global perspective.

Harping on the heroic feat in a video posted by the university, Gay said she was "humbled" to be elected, and thanked Bacow for his guidance.

She continued that "It has been a privilege to work with Larry over the last five years. He has shown me that



leadership isn't about one person. It's about all of us, moving forward together. And that's a lesson I take with me into this next journey."

"As I start my tenure, there's so much more for me to discover about this

institution that I love. And I'm looking forward to doing just that, with our whole community," Gay added.

The history maker sued for greater collaboration among schools at Harvard and said there was an urgency for the university to be more engaged with the world and to "bring bold, brave and pioneering thinking to our greatest challenges".

She said "The idea of the 'ivory tower' - that is the past, not the future of academia. We don't exist outside of society, but as part of it. That means that Harvard has a duty to lean in, engage and to be of service to the world."

In a statement, Bacow said the university's future is "very bright" with Gay at the helm.

"Claudine is a person of bedrock integrity. She will provide Harvard with the strong moral compass necessary to lead this great university. The search committee has made an inspired choice for our 30th president. Under Claudine Gay's leadership, Harvard's future is very bright," the statement added.

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## Shola Agboola honoured by Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada



By N.Ugoh

Shola Agboola, a prominent Canadian politician, philanthropist and member of the Conservative Party of Canada's Leadership Election Organizing Committee (LEOC), was recently honoured by Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada by presenting him the prestigious Community Service Recognition Award.

The Community Service Recognition Awards were initiated by Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada in 2015 to recognize individual contributions to the Manitoba community. The Award was bestowed to Agboola in recognition of the contributions of his Founda-

tion, SAGA FOUNDATION Inc., during a recent Gala Dinner which took place at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The Nigerian High Commissioner in Canada, Ambassador Adeyinka Asekun and other important diplomatic dignitaries were in attendance during the event.

Justice Louise Arbour, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, was also honoured with the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award during the Gala Dinner.

After the award presentation, Agboola took to social media to thank Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada for the honour and those that came out to sup-

port him.

He wrote: "I am honoured and extremely humbled to receive the 2022 Mahatma Gandhi Community Service Award today as the Founder/CEO of SAGA FOUNDATION Inc. from the Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada for the contributions of SAGA FOUNDATION to the service of humanity."

"This award recognizes individuals who has consistently demonstrated unyielding dedication and commitment to community service, and to improving the lives of others through their time, actions, talents and humanitarian efforts.

"Sharing the same platform of honour tonight with iconic and exceptional individuals like Hon. Justice Louise Arbour, the former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and Former Judge at the Supreme Court of Canada was truly humbling.

"I thank the Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Canada for this recognition and honour and I appreciate the efforts of all those that believe in me and continue to walk with me on this journey. Huge thank you to everyone that came out tonight especially from our community to celebrate with me tonight and congratulations to other outstanding recipients."

## Ontario Education Minister urges school board to solve Oakville transgender teacher issue

By Marcel Chukwuka

Ontario's Education Minister, Stephen Lecce, has revealed that the Halton District School Board has tried enough in ensuring the safety of students of an Oakville high school where death threats are persistently received over the presence of a transgender teacher who dressed provocatively.

While speaking to the media recently, Lecce said he felt the Board could enforce workplace standards against the teacher, Kayla Lemieux.

It should be recalled that Kerry Lemieux, a teacher surprised students at Oakville-Trafalgar High School some months back by wearing oversized prosthetic breasts, tight clothing and a blonde wig into the class.

The persistent wearing of the outfit has brought the school global attention and some parent groups

have requested Lemieux's removal from teaching.

In spite of the protests, the Board has made it known it cannot discipline the teacher over fears of human rights violations.

The response of the Board has generated protests at the school alongside death threats and bomb scares.

While responding to the Minister's request to intervene, the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) says that current workplace standards and governing legislation take care of teacher professionalism in the classroom and how they should conduct themselves.

In its report to the Minister, the OCT said: "All Ontario certified teachers, in their position of trust, are expected to demonstrate responsibility and sound judgment in their relationships with students, parents, guardians, colleagues, educational partners, other professionals, the learning environment and the pub-

lic. Teachers are required to uphold the standards of their professional practice and ethical standards both in and out of the classroom."

The OCT noted that it has not gotten a specific complaint about the teacher.

Lecce revealed further that the Oakville-Trafalgar school community is extremely disappointed with how the Board has handled the situation, and he agrees. While making reference to the OCT report, he said he believes the Halton District School Board has the power to enforce employment standards in respect of the school's current situation.

Lecce added that the Board must ensure that classrooms are safe, learning environments must be respectful and teachers must uphold "the highest professional standards" when on the job.

The Board has not responded to the OCT report or Lecce's remarks.

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## Canada mandates electric vehicle sales starting in 2026

By Stanley Ugagbe

Canada's Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault has proposed that one-fifth of all passenger cars, SUVs and trucks sold in the nation starting 2026 will need to run on electricity under new regulations.

According to the proposal, by 2030, the mandate will hit 60 per cent of all sales and by 2035, every passenger vehicle sold in Canada will need to be electric.

Harping on the development, Guilbeault's parliamentary secretary Julie Dabrusin said the new target is "about making sure that Canadians have access to the vehicles they want."

The Canadian Environmental Protection Act has it that manufacturers or

importers who don't meet the sales targets could face penalties.

Experts believe that Canada still has a long way to go before approaching the first target in 2026. Records have it that in the first six months of this year, sales of fully-electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles made up just 7.2 per cent of new car registrations. For all of 2021, the proportion was 5.2 per cent.

Making her input on the development, Cara Clairman, president and CEO of Plug'n Drive, a non-profit organization that encourages electric vehicle use, said the toughest part of promoting the change from gas-powered vehicles is availability.

She said "Long waiting lists are definitely discouraging consumers that

are ready to make the switch. And if we all agree that we're in a climate emergency, we need to help consumers make the switch as soon as possible."

On his part, the president and CEO of the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association, Brian Kingston noted that the federal government should be building out necessary infrastructure for electric vehicles before regulating sales.

Brian averred that Canada's infrastructure is not on track to support a growing fleet -- and those who will be driving the new cars. "The vehicles are coming, but we need a super-charged effort to help marketing, and actually make that purchase and make it easy, convenient and accessible," he said.

*continued on p(29)*

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# YOU & the LAW

## Four people bag 10-year jail term each for kidnapping Canadian girls

By N.Ugoh

Four people who kidnaped two Canadian girls at Nhyiaso in Kumasi, Ghana in 2019 have been sentenced to 10 years jail term each by an Accra High Court.

This sentencing happened after they were found guilty by the court on the

charges of conspiracy to kidnap and kidnapping at the end of a three-year trial.

The accused persons are Sampson Agalor, Elvis Ojiyorme, Jeff Onarsar and Yusif Yakubu.

The victims, Lauren Tilly and Bailey Chitney, were in Ghana for voluntary service and were kidnapped at the entrance of their hostel in Kumasi.

## British Columbia man bags life in prison for stabbing family members to death and burning their house



By N.Ugoh

A man in British Columbia accused of stabbing 3 family members to death before burning their house has been sentenced to life in prison with no parole chance for at least 15 years.

The man, Kia Ebrahimi, pleaded guilty not too long ago to the second-degree murders of his brother, Befrin Ebrahimi; mother, Tatiana Bazyar and his mother's partner, Francesco Zangrilli in Langley on June 13, 2020.

Firefighters saw the bodies of the three victims inside the home in the

19600 block of Wakefield Drive. No fewer than two dozen firefighters responded. They were able to stop the flames from spreading.



## Allow judiciary to decide Kanu's fate without political interference, HURIWA charges Buhari

By Stanley Ugagbe

For the second time, the Human Rights Writers Association of Nigeria (HURIWA), has urged President Muhammadu Buhari to free the leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra, Nnamdi Kanu, as a 2022 Christmas gift to the South East.

The body, in a statement by its National Coordinator, Emmanuel Onwubiko, challenged Buhari to be a man of his words by allowing the judiciary decide Kanu's fate without political interference.

HURIWA also asked the Nigerian number one man to direct the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, to comply with the Appellate

Court's judgement, which had ordered the release of Kanu from the custody of Department of State Services (DSS) before Christmas.

According to the group, the release of Kanu will restore peace and stability to South East, as well as restore economic growth of the zone.

The Human Rights Advocate bemoaned the nonchalant attitude of South East governors, who, they said, should be mounting pressure on Buhari to do the right thing by releasing Kanu from detention.

It could be recalled that in May, President Buhari, at a meeting with Ebonyi State Stakeholders' Forum, held at the Government House, Abakaliki, said a political solution to Kanu's travails was impos-

sible, and insisted it is only the court that will decide his fate.

The President had pledged: "I have listened carefully to appeals from elders to traditional leaders, regarding a wide range of options, and as I have said previously, this matter remains in the full purview of the court where it will be properly adjudicated."

But, about 18 months since his detention at the DSS custody, in Abuja, Kanu has not tasted freedom despite the judgement of the Appeal Court granting him freedom, and awarding billions of naira as damages against the Federal Government for Kanu's extraordinary rendition from Kenya mid-2021.

In their remarks, the major presidential candidates for the 2023 general

elections, including Labour Party's (LP) Peter Obi, All Progressives Congress' (APC) Bola Tinubu and Peoples Democratic Party's (PDP) Atiku Abubakar, have said they will explore dialogue to end secessionist agitations in the South East, and restore the economy of the Igbo people, which has been marred with untold violence and activities of unknown gunmen.

Recall that in June last year, Kanu was re-arrested and brought back to Nigeria to face his trial. Kanu was first arrested on October 14, 2015 on 11-count charge bordering on terrorism, treasonable felony, managing an unlawful society, publication of defamatory matter, illegal possession of firearms and improper importation of goods, among others.

## Arbitrator upholds firing of New Brunswick woman who refused to take COVID-19 rapid tests

An arbitrator in New Brunswick has upheld the firing of an unvaccinated public-sector worker who refused to take at-home rapid tests for COVID-19 and report the results to her employer.

Jennifer Poulos was a long-term public servant in the province. She held various positions since she was hired in July 1997.

On March 22, 2021, she started a job with the Regional Development Corporation as a probationary employee as a program support assistant. After six months, she was made permanent. About six weeks later, on Sept. 28, 2021, Poulos was fired for cause.

The reason the employer gave was her refusal to comply with a government-wide policy that required employees who did not show proof of vaccination by Sept. 13, 2021, to

complete three COVID-19 rapid tests a week at home and share the results with the employer.

A bulletin on the policy was sent to all workers with the following text: "Instances where an employee who has not provided proof of full vaccination does not comply with either the masking or testing requirements will be subject to the disciplinary process up to and including dismissal."

Poulos said the employer had no authority to impose a new term and condition of employment by requiring her to share the results of the rapid tests.

### Refusal to test

On Sept. 20, management sent Poulos an email asking if she had changed her mind about refusing to take the rapid tests.

She responded, via email, with a simple "no."

The employer met with her and gave a written warning, stating that her refusal to follow policy was "unacceptable, constitutes insubordination and puts the health and safety of your coworkers and students at risk."

It warned that if she didn't comply with the policy by Sept. 21 (the next day), she would be placed on unpaid suspension for up to five working days.

The following day, when she arrived at work, she again refused the policy. She was suspended with a return-to-work date of Sept. 28. A letter from her employer stated:

"You are expected to comply with the policy by September 28, 2021. If you fail to comply by this date a disciplinary meeting will occur on September 28, 2021 after which, in the absence of mitigating circumstances, your employment will be terminated with cause."

Poulos returned to work on Sept. 28 and again refused to comply with the policy. She was terminated.

*continued on p(29)*

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# INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATED TO BRING LIFE TO HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION



Youth for Human Rights International award presentation to York Regional Police Chief, Mr. Jim MacSween, by Youth for Human Rights Ontario, Nicole Crellin

By Nicole Crellin

Youth for Human Rights Ontario celebrated their 17th annual International Human Rights Day celebration in partnership with the York Regional Police's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Bureau members on the theme of "Bringing Life to Human Rights". The celebration was held last week at the York Regional Police's Community Safety Village where the one of its kind and unique newly built Hu-

man Rights Classroom is located.

Nicole Crellin, Ontario Director for Youth for Human Rights, stated, "It is an honor to collaborate with the York Regional Police (YRP) to celebrate Human Rights Day 2022. This police force is the only one in the world to have recently built a human rights classroom with the purpose of educating and enlightening others about their human rights. They are at the very forefront of human rights education."

A video message

from Founder and President of Youth for Human Rights International, Dr. Mary Shuttleworth, congratulated the YRP Chief of Police, Mr. Jim MacSween, for his dedication and valuable work in the education and protection of human rights. As a token of her appreciation for this historic occasion, a beautiful sculpture created by renowned artist, Hughes Soucy, was presented to the Chief on her behalf, by YHR Ontario Director, Nicole Crellin. The sculpture, based on the concept of fireworks, was created in the spirit of acknowledging and highlighting a major achievement.

Keynote speaker, Imam Ibrahim Hussain, stated, "Values of tolerance, equality and respect promote cohesion and can help reduce conflicts within society. Putting human rights ideas into practice can help us create the kind of society we want to live in."

The audience was uplifted and entertained by the high energy perfor-



Inspector Kolin Alexander, Head of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Bureau (middle) receiving an award for his dedication to human rights education from Youth for Human Rights Ontario Director, Nicole Crellin with the York Regional Police Chief, Mr. Jim MacSween (left)

mance of electric violinist Dr. Draw with a piece entitled, "Alexandria". The evening ended with a lovely dance performance by the Sankalana dancers and the guests were invited to tour the Human Rights Classroom.

International Day is celebrated worldwide on December 10th to acknowledge the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights document, the first docu-

ment in history to establish international political, moral and cultural accord on the meaning of human integrity and social justice, which was adopted in 1948 and is now embraced by 193 nations.

YHR Ontario Director, Nicole Crellin, added, "Yet, in the end, declarations are just that. Individuals and groups of unshakable courage, vision and goodwill can make

these 30 human rights known and applied. That is why the purpose of Youth for Human Rights International is to provide human rights educational resources and activities that educate, inform, assist and unite individuals, educators, organizations and governmental bodies in the dissemination and adoption of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights at every level of society.

## Some Crucial Questions You Should Honestly Answer Before Saying 'I Do'

By N.Ugoh

Marriage is a lifelong journey and so it's important that you prepare well for it before signing the dotted lines. And the litany of divorces rocking the society today are a more reason you should be extremely careful and do a lot of background work before saying 'I Do'

### 1. Do we really accept one another?

One of the most terrible things that can happen to anyone is to get married to someone who doesn't accept you. The reason someone will appear special to another is because of the love they have for the person so if you don't accept them for who they are or they don't accept you for who you are, there is no point getting married to them.

### 2. Who am I?

It's important to get a good understanding of what you hope to experience and achieve in life and what you truly like and don't like before you bring someone else into your life. This is because you can't know if your partner is a

good match if you have no idea who you are.

### 3. Am I happy to be in this relationship?

Being with someone who doesn't make you feel happy - if being around them doesn't make you happy, it is a red flag. Being unhappy at home can seep into other areas of your life ... and fast.

Experts are of the view that if you're always fighting or just generally not feeling great about your twosome, it doesn't mean you have to bail out (counseling might be a good option) but marrying someone in the hope that it changes things is a bad, bad idea.

### 4. Am I feeling trapped?

It is important to ask yourself, if you really want to be in this relationship the majority of the time or you find yourself wishing for a way out? Do you stay because you've invested time or are you really invested in your mate? Do you like them or are they just good on paper? Are they what you want or they are just the available option? Red flag!

### 5. Is this relationship

### balanced?

It is important to ask if you both are on the same page in terms of compromise, care, support, effort, and sacrifice. If it is a parasitic relationship, you've got to wake up.

### 6. Why am I in this relationship?

It is a common adage that when a purpose of thing is not known, abuse is inevitable. Are you in the relationship because you respect, love, trust, and value the person you are with? Or because you're afraid of being alone, worried about finances, or have built a life you're scared to leave?

### 7. Where is this going?

Sadly, so many people date for the moment nowadays. Truth is that living in the now is great, but eventually, the partnership will need a plan or someone will begin to feel anxious. There has to be a defined roadmap of the relationship.

### 8. Do I really trust my partner?

No relationship or marriage can work without trust. It is important to honestly ask yourself if both of you trust each before com-

mitting to marriage.

### 9. Am I with a good person?

If he or she is not someone you can vouch for, you've got to put things in perspective before signing the dotted lines.

### 10. Am I attracted to my partner?

According to relationship experts, physical attraction is hardly the most important component in a relationship, but forcing yourself to be in a relationship with someone who you're not attracted to just because it's comfortable or "perfect on paper" isn't fair to anyone. You will feel resentful and they will feel rejected.

### 11. What is my gut telling me?

Except you just don't want to admit it, there is always that intuition that tells you something about the relationship. Do you feel like this relationship is healthy and moving at a healthy pace in a positive direction? You need to pay attention to that inner voice.

OCT. 2021

## Excitement as TREM Holds Annual Family Banquet



Pst. Ndy Onyido, Pastor-In-Charge, TREM TORONTO

By N.Ugoh

It was a colourful moment of love on Saturday December 3rd 2022 as The Redeemed Evangelical Mission, Toronto held its annual family banquet.

In the event, which was held at Greenbriar Recreation Centre in Brampton, Ontario, there were lots of fascinating activities that had all attendees giggling in complete excitement.

Among others, there were talks that centered on professional advice about

career, living in Canada for new comers and those who have been around over the years, and how to navigate the journey of life in general.

The program was also laced with different games. More so, attendees danced in appreciation to their Maker until their feet began to hurt. Remarkably, everyone was treated with special meals until they were filled.

In his remark, the Pastor in Charge, Pastor Ndy Onyido thanked everyone that came from far and near for the event. He also lauded the organizers of the program as well as those that performed in one way or the other.

The Pastor wished everyone a Happy New Year and prayed that 2023 will be good to them.

For more information, TREM Toronto, 20 Regan Road, Unit 8, Brampton, On. L7A 1C2. Tel.:647-457-3030

See photos on Pages 16 and 17

# Manitoba Police Failed to Investigate Police Dog Biting of Nigerian-Canadian Child

By Dele Akintilo

The parents of a five-year-old say they were appalled by the Manitoba's police reluctance to investigate an incident where their son was terribly bitten by a Winnipeg police dog. The attack left the child requiring several stitches to his lip in the hospital.

Femi and Omolara Aloba say they're disappointed the Independent Investigation Unit failed to contact the family or investigate the injury suffered by their son.

"This saddens my heart right now and I feel that we are probably being treated in a certain way," said Femi Aloba.

"You don't just sweep things under the carpet. You don't just downplay things. You're talking about a five-year-old. A toddler. He was in a safe spot ... in his school."

Their son was bitten by the police dog during a visit by the Winnipeg Police Service's K-9 unit to Samuel Burland School in Winnipeg's South St. Vital neighbourhood.

An investigator from the unit informed CBC News that it was determined it did not fall within the "serious injury classification" because the child was taken to hospital but not admitted.

She said someone from the school and a paramedic each gave her versions of what happened.

In both versions, the dog then bit the child.

In a statement issued on the day of the incident, the principal, Ross Cathers, said "the student was provided with the necessary medical care on-site" and transported to hospital as "an additional precaution."

"My son was so weak ... because he couldn't eat anything," Omolara Aloba said.

Then the boy was forced to wait another hour. They say the doctor told them because of nature of the injuries a plastic surgeon would have to do the stitching.

Just over a week later, the parents say their son is now doing better, but they see scars that run deeper than those on his lips.

"My child is scared,"

said the boy's mom.

She says now every night when she takes him to bed he wants her to sleep in the bed with him.

"He has never said that before. He has been sleeping on his own since he was a year old. He says that to me every night since the incident happened," she said.

She said he also asks her repeatedly, "Mommy, why did the dog bite me?"

The parents said they had a "scare" last Saturday as the family ate.

The boy held his mouth and his throat and appeared as if he was choking or trying to vomit.

They say they tried to get him to tell them what was wrong — because he was only having spaghetti and vegetables — but for about 30 minutes he continued that way.

"We were really terrified because that was not [my son]," said Femi Aloba.

"That has never happened before. We've never had to take him to the hospital in a rush. He doesn't have any allergies and he didn't eat anything different from what he's used to eating."

While it does include "cuts or lacerations," for example, it goes on to say "that require admission to a hospital on an in-patient basis."

It also includes "the loss of any part of the body."

"How serious can it get?" asked Omolara Aloba.

"You don't think that it's important to reach out to the family? Do you know how difficult and how painful this has been for us? Each time I keep thinking about it, I am just happy and we are glad that it wasn't worse," he said.

The father also said "there should be a level of responsibility from the organization itself," which would prompt it to investigate the matter.

"If it were to be their own child, would they have said the same thing? Wouldn't they have wanted to get an explanation of what happened, how it happened and what the organization would do to prevent it in the future?"

# Brampton City Council Passes Election Sign Reforms To Address A Litany of Resident Complaints and Concerns

By N.Ugoh

Brampton City Council unanimously passed a motion at a Special Council Meeting on November 28th in response to overwhelming resident complaints associated with election signs on private property. The motion was moved by Councillor Rowena Santos and seconded by Councillor Gurpartap Singh Toor and amends the city's Sign By-law to only permit the display of election posters in windows or in windows in doors with this restriction applying to all private property, including residential and non-residential lands.

The motion will reduce proliferation of signage throughout the City that causes visual clutter and driver distraction, mitigate the environmental impact of signage and reduce the cost associated with enforcement of the Sign By-law.

The motion is consistent with a city staff report (see references below) which provided additional options instead of a complete ban of election signs and the potential for charter



pic: insauga.com

rights implications. As stated in the report, the selected option continues to permit the expression of political speech through the posting of election signs, and has several other advantages including:

- Allows renters to display election posters inside of their dwelling and who may have been previously restricted by landlords or condo boards from showing support of a candidate

- Reduces visual clutter and minimizes driver distraction while still providing residents, property owners and

third party advertisers with a means to express their support for individual candidates and/or support/opposition related to a question on the ballot.

- Continues to provide candidates with an opportunity to secure the consent of a property owner to promote their candidacy.

- Eliminates the opportunity for signs to be tampered with or relocated without the consent of the candidate or occupant.

- Eliminates the opportunity for unlawful posting without consent

of the property owner or resident.

- Eliminates the need to determine the extent of the private property boundaries which may be difficult to determine without reference to a survey.

The motion also requires city staff to recommend an increase to fines associated with illegal election signs in order to deter and recuperate costs associated with illegal signs.

With this motion, council expects to finally end the "sign wars" that have plagued the city during election periods.

# Tim Hortons Unveils New Eco-Friendly Packaging

By Dele Akintilo

Canada's favourite coffee and doughnut chain Tim Hortons has made public new eco-friendly changes to its cutlery, lids and sandwich wraps that will be in stores starting in early 2023.

This announcement was made on the same day the federal government banned the importation and manufacturing for sale of single-use plastics. This includes ban on plastic check-out bags, cutlery and food-service ware made from problematic plastics.

The more than 4,000 Canadian locations will begin the switch in January, replacing plastic cutlery and lids with wooden and fibre cutlery and fibre lids for its bowls. The new compostable items will eliminate the use of an estimated 90

million single-use plastics a year across Canada, the company said in its statement.

The goal is "to develop products that are alternatives to plastic and easier to recycle and repurpose while still offering a great guest experience," the statement said.

New breakfast and lunch wrappers will begin circulation early next year. It will carry "an efficient design that uses 75 per cent less material than the prior wrap box, which is estimated to save more than 1,400 tonnes of material a year."

The outfit has been working on transitioning to a plastic-free environment.

"We recognize that given our scale, every small thing we do or change we make has the potential to add up to a big impact," a Tim Hortons spokesperson told the Star.

"Our wooden cutlery is made with wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council based on its sustainable forestry standards," the spokesperson added.

The company offered a 10% discount to its customers who use reusable mugs (and bowls).

The federal government's ban of single-use plastic is the next step toward achieving zero plastic waste by 2030, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Kelly Higginson, chief operating officer of Restaurants Canada, said "half of food service operators are currently operating at a loss or just breaking even."

"In removing single-use plastics from the market



without enough affordable and sustainable replacement options in place, the industry could take on an estimated 125 per cent increase in costs," she told the Star.

"Eighty per cent of our operators believe environmental sustainability is an important piece to their success," said Higginson. "Our sector understands the need to shift in this direction."

However, they need to ensure they can secure more sustainable options that are safe, affordable and available to meet the demand, she said.

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## FOOD & RECIPES

### Tips to choose healthy at the grocery store

(NC) Here are some ways to make sure you get the good stuff next time you're out grocery shopping.

- **Look at location:** It's a common tip to read labels in the grocery store, but for products without nutritional information, look at the label on the shelf to see where the items are grown. Choose produce locally or from within Canada when you can, as it may be both fresher for you and better for the environment. Choosing what's in-season is often a cheaper way to eat fresh.

- **Shop the edge of the store:** The aisles on the side of a grocery store typically have the least processed foods, which are often the healthiest. Start your shopping along these perimeter aisles to fill up with healthy goodness like kale, mushrooms, eggs and beets.

- **Don't stress about colour:** You may have heard that a plate or grocery cart full of healthy food is a colourful one, but that's really a reminder to get you



thinking of all the veggies you could add to your list and to encourage variety. But it's not the be-all-and-end-all - in fact, some of the most nutritious veggies are not brightly coloured, including cauliflower and mushrooms.

- **Plan your meals:** Setting out a rough menu for the week helps you actually make use of the healthy food you get at the store to prevent food waste and a wasted food budget. Otherwise, it can be tempting to let that kale go limp in the fridge or not even pick it up in the first place. A little trial and error will help you add new meals to your rotation, and help you discover new healthy additions to include in them.

We all know how im-

portant our immune systems are, so look for a variety of nutrient-rich foods to help your overall health. Some simple ideas:

- **Mushrooms** provide zinc, which supports the immune system; selenium which helps keep your body's tissues healthy; and vitamin B6 which helps your body get ready to use and store energy.

- **Lean ground beef** has vitamin B12 and iron to help out your nerve and blood cells.

- **Spinach** offers vitamins A and E which can protect your vision and help prevent blood clots.

- **Milk** is often fortified to help you get more vitamin D.

- **Beans and legumes** can help vary your sources of protein and provide fibre and iron.

- **Oranges** provide vitamin C, which helps you absorb iron from other foods.

*Find more healthy eating information and ideas at mushrooms.ca.*

### HEALTH BENEFITS OF EATING BRUSSEL SPROUTS HAPPINESS HERO

Looking for ways to reduce your risk of blue moods, irritability and anxiety by 65%? Consume three servings of Brussels sprouts weekly, say researchers in the journal *Annals of General Psychiatry*. Credit alpha-linolenic acid, a calming, happiness-boosting nutrient found in this and other cruciferous veggies.

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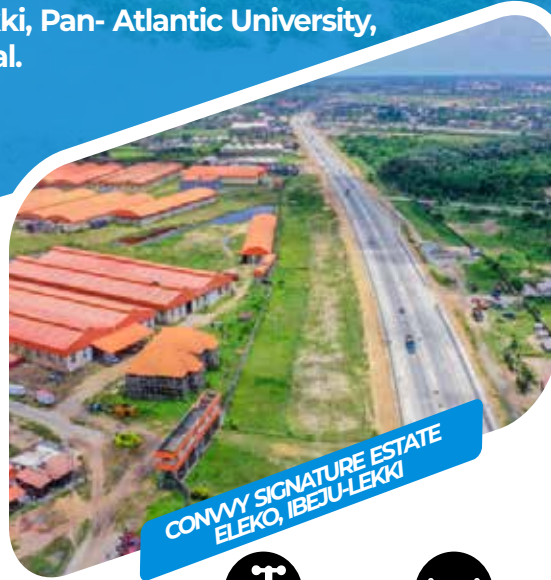
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## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### 3 ways to reduce your cancer risk

(NC) Most Canadians have been affected by cancer in some way. In fact, two in five Canadians are expected to be diagnosed with the disease in their lifetime. Cancer is a complex disease, and many factors affect whether someone develops it or not. There's nothing that can guarantee prevention, but there are a few things you can do to help manage some of your risk.

#### GET YOUR SCREENINGS

There are several cancer-screening programs

in our provinces and territories. Taking part in routine screenings as recommended by your health care provider will help ensure cancer is detected in earlier stages when it is usually much easier to treat. Common cancer screenings include mammograms for breast cancer, the PSA test for prostate cancer or a colonoscopy to look for pre-cancerous polyps or colorectal cancer.

#### CONSIDER YOUR HEALTH

We all know smok-

ing is bad for us and getting enough exercise is important for good health and wellbeing. But did you know they are considered modifiable risk factors for cancer? Research from the Canadian Cancer Society shows that these are some of the few risk factors for cancer that we can do something about, unlike age, family history or random chance.

#### TEST FOR RADON

Risks for cancer can also be environmental, such as air quality. Radon is

a naturally occurring radioactive gas that's present in most buildings in the country. Long-term exposure to high levels of radon is one of the leading causes of lung cancer. It's worth testing the level in your home to make sure that it's under Health Canada's guideline. You can buy an easy do-it-yourself test kit or hire a certified professional. If your home's level is high, fixing it is easy and less expensive than updating your furnace or air conditioner.

Find more information at [canada.ca/radon](http://canada.ca/radon).

### Google launches feature to decode doctors' vague handwriting



By N.Ugoh

Google has announced that it is liaising with pharmacists to solve the handwriting code by doctors when writing medical prescriptions to patients.

This announcement was made by a Google executive during a recently organized Google annual conference in India.

Google said it intended to launch the feature on its Google Lens product.

According to reports, the feature will allow users to either take a picture of the prescription or upload one from the photo library.

Meanwhile, the company didn't immediately disclose when it plans to launch the new feature to the masses.

### Canadian Singer Céline Dion Diagnosed with Rare Neurological Disease

By N.Ugoh

In a social media post filled with emotion, singer Céline Dion revealed that she had been diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder called "stiff-person syndrome."

In two recent videos posted to Dion's social media accounts (both in English and French), she claimed the disease prevents her "to sing the way I'm used to."

The syndrome is incurable and it causes progressive muscle rigidity and spasms. Sufferers of this disorder eventually become disabled, bedridden or unable to care for themselves, according to The Stiff Person Syndrome Research Foundation.

The legendary star said the muscle spasms she suffers "affect every aspect of my daily life." She tearfully informed her fans that the disorder is "sometimes causing difficulties when I walk



and not allowing me to use my vocal cords to sing the way I'm used to."

"I've been dealing with problems with my health for a long time, and it's been really difficult for me to face these challenges and to talk about everything that I've been going through," she said.

Dion was deeply saddened that her diag-

nosis will preclude her from launching the European leg of her tour scheduled to hold in February. Following the diagnosis, her scheduled 2023 tour was rescheduled for the following year.

The five-time Grammy award winner was hopeful she will sing again.

"All I know is singing," she said. "It's what

I've done all my life. And it's what I love to do the most."

Dion said she is working with a sports medicine therapist to aid her to get back to optimum performance.

"I miss you so much. I miss seeing all of you," Dion told her fans. "I always give 100 per cent when I do my shows, but my condition is not allowing me to give you that right now."

Earlier this year, Dion postponed her world tour due to "severe and persistent muscle spasms."

Details about her rescheduled tour can be found on her website. The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCAT) reported there are fewer than 5,000 known cases of stiff-person syndrome in the U.S.

The symptoms of the disorder can begin at any point in a patient's life, though it is most commonly noticed in adulthood.

with arthritis, the impact can be severe, affecting their ability to perform daily activities others take for granted."

Having a chronic illness can also come with increased expenses such as assistive devices and medications. Here are some options that could help if your chronic condition is impacting you financially.

#### 1. Funding and benefits for persons with disabilities

While the legal definition of disability can differ between provinces/territories, there are several federal benefits including the Canada Disability Savings Grants and Bonds; Child Disability Benefit; Canadians Pension Plan Disability Benefit; and benefits specifically for those under 25.

#### 2. Tax credits

The federal government provides tax relief through the Disability Tax Credit, Medical Expense Tax Credit, and GST/HST exemption on medical devices and supplies. For those with a permanent mobility impairment who cannot safely use public transit, there's the option to ask for a refund of part of the federal excise tax you pay on gasoline.

#### 3. Regional supports and benefits

There are a number of benefit options for residents of specific provinces or territories and some municipalities also have supports.

To find out what's available in your area, check out the *Financial Wellness Guide* at [arthritis.ca](http://arthritis.ca).

### 3 tips to keep your finances on track with a chronic illness

(NC) Financial security is important for everyone, but for those living with a chronic illness it can look a little different.

This can be due to

challenges with staying in or entering the workforce. For instance, even though many people living with arthritis manage well at work with no additional support, many

others must stop working or cannot start working due to their arthritis symptoms.

"People might be surprised to learn work-

ing is bad for us and getting enough exercise is important for good health and wellbeing. But did you know they are considered modifiable risk factors for cancer? Research from the Canadian Cancer Society shows that these are some of the few risk factors for cancer that we can do something about, unlike age, family history or random chance.

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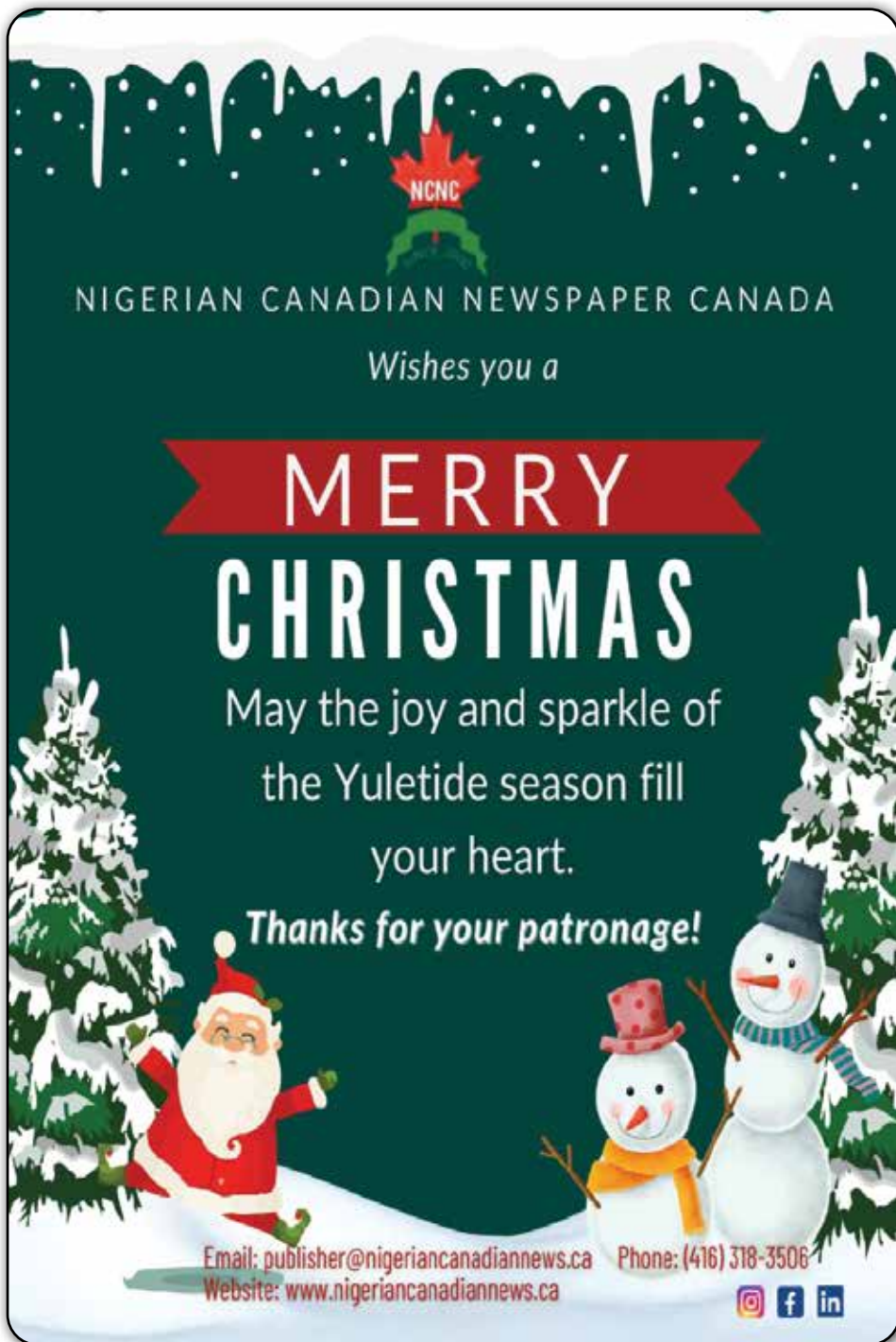
# Is Annual Family Banquet



Mrs, Akudo Onyido



by TREM



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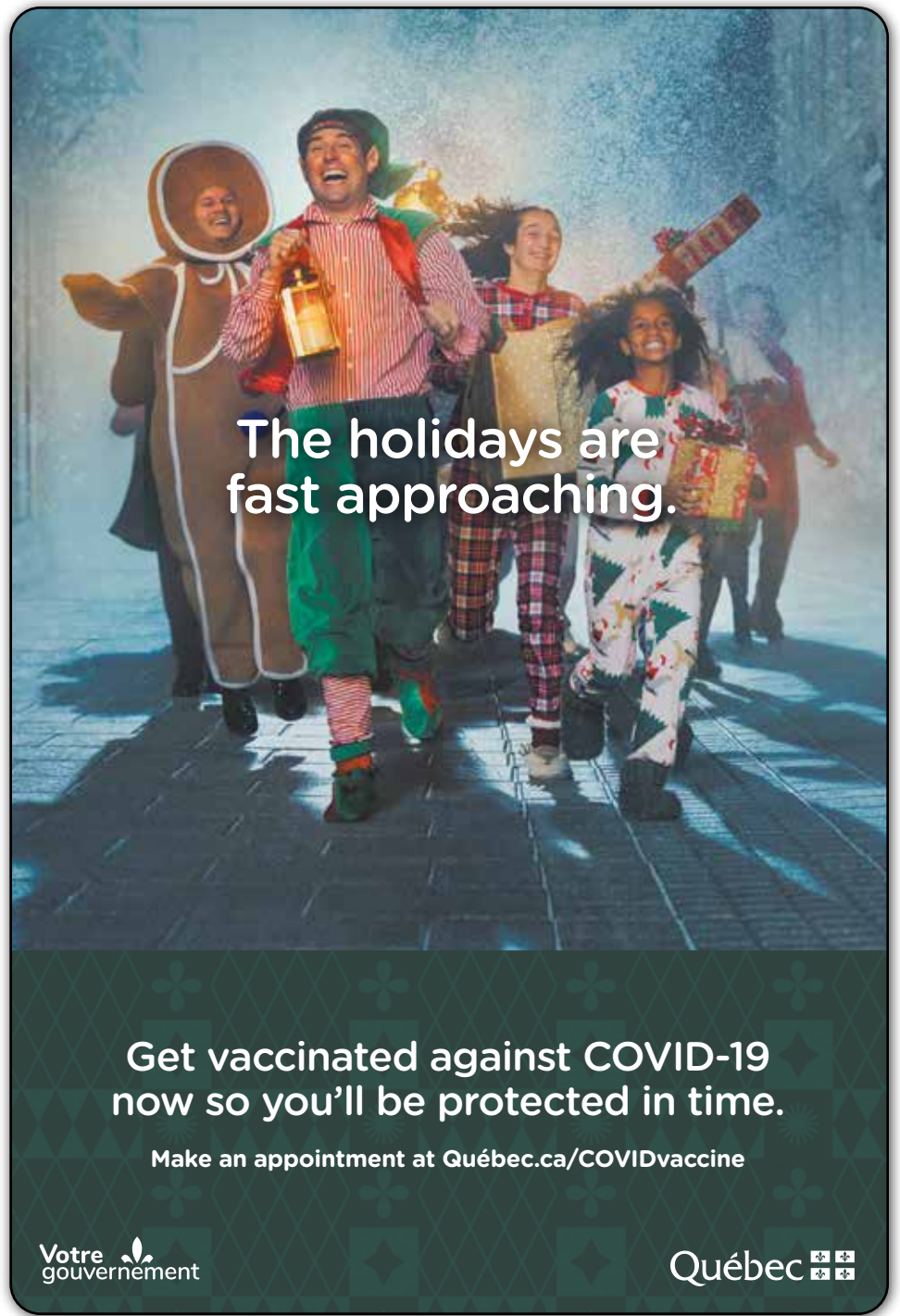
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## Why a will or charitable gift is the perfect gift idea



(NC) Holiday season may seem like an unusual time to think about writing a will. But as strange as it may sound, a will, or planning to leave a charitable gift within a will, can be meaningful for children, spouses and charities.

Financial planners reported an upsurge in Canadians writing wills during the pandemic, but even with that increase, more than half of Canadians don't have one. Of the Canadians who have a will, roughly 2.95 millions

of them are out of date, according to recent research by Canadian Legal Wills.

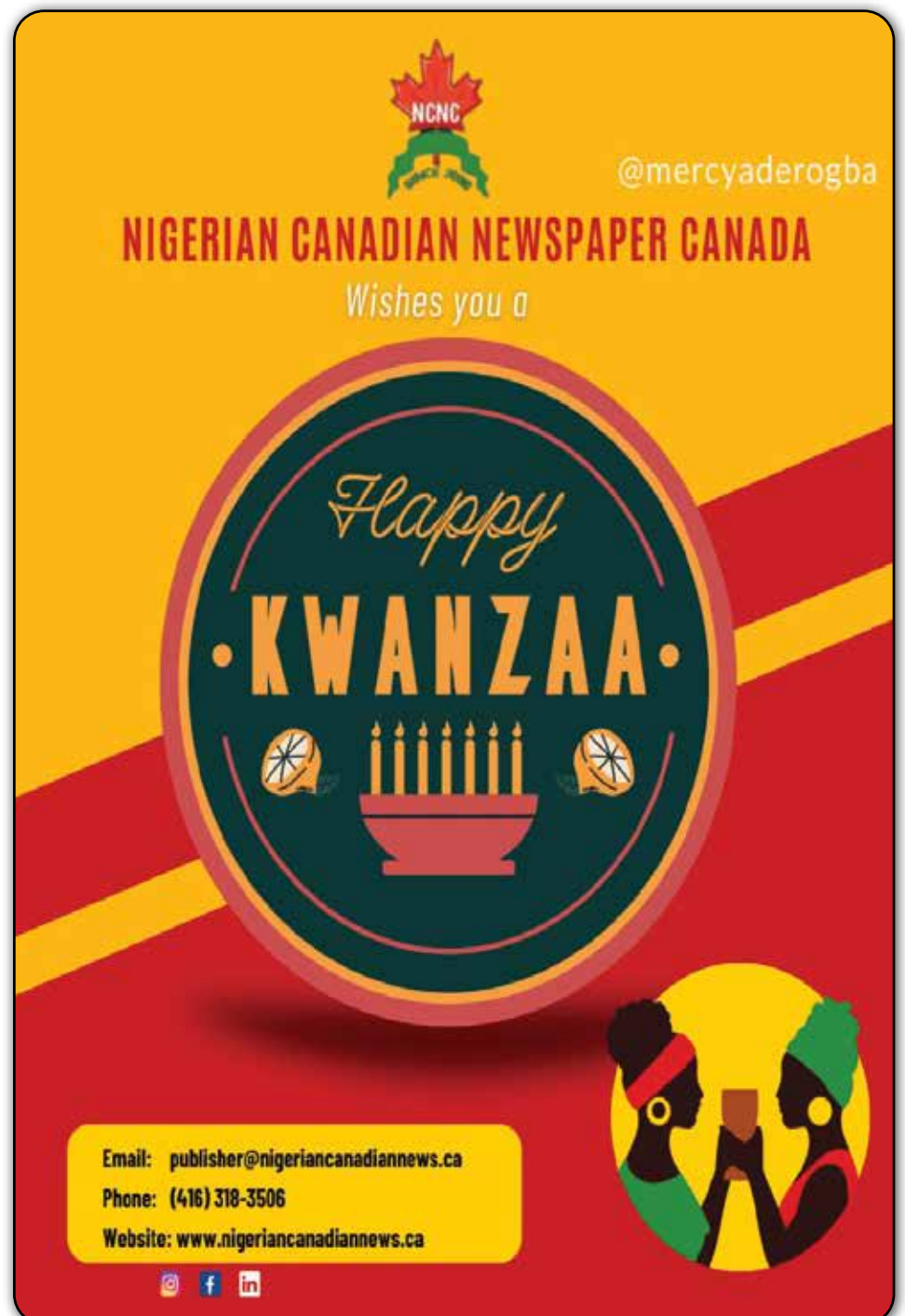
For those of us with children, a will is the perfect gift because it ensures children are clearly named as beneficiaries and that any plans for guardianship and care are clear. When someone dies without a will, provincial succession laws kick in, leaving children vulnerable to delays, assumptions about what a parent's intentions were and potential complications in receiving their in-

heritance. A will clearly spells out everything out so there's no room for confusion.

A will is also a caring way to protect your spouse or partner. The existence of a clearly written legal will relieves some of the stress that could make an extremely difficult time even worse. Wills can help prevent family conflict and clear up confusion about estates.

Canadians can use their will to leave a gift for their favourite charity too. When people leave a percentage of their estate to a charity such as World Vision, it could be a larger gift than they were able to make in their lifetime. It can also reduce potential taxes, meaning there can be more left for everyone when a charity is included in a will.

So as opposed to a will being an unlikely part of the holiday season, it may be one of the most meaningful gifts to plan and share.



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Black Business Leaders Network Reception with Mayor Patrick Brown at the Brampton City Hall on Dec., 15, 2022



# PHOTO NEWS OF 2022



Entrepreneur Impact Award 2022 from Canada Vendor Nigerian - Dec 10, 2022



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Pa Ujomu dancing



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# YOUTH CORNER

••••• Oluchi Ugoh •••••

**“YOUR CHILDREN NEED YOUR PRESENCE MORE THAN YOUR PRESENTS”. – JESSE JACKSON**

*We want to use this opportunity to thank you for your continuous support. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. See you next year.*

## QUIZ

1. What is the name of the angel who appeared to the shepherds to tell them of Christ’s birth?
2. In which country is it tradition to eat KFC on Christmas Day?
3. What age was Kevin McAllister in ‘Home Alone’?
4. What did my true love give to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
5. Saint Nicholas was born in which modern day country?
6. What colour are mistletoe berries?
7. Which UK monarch delivered the first Christmas Broadcast to the BBC in 1932?
8. In what year was the first Christmas card sent in the UK?
9. What is the name of the skin that hangs from a turkey’s neck?
10. Which company was the first to use Santa Claus in an advertisement?

Answers: Pg. 29

## ‘T’WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

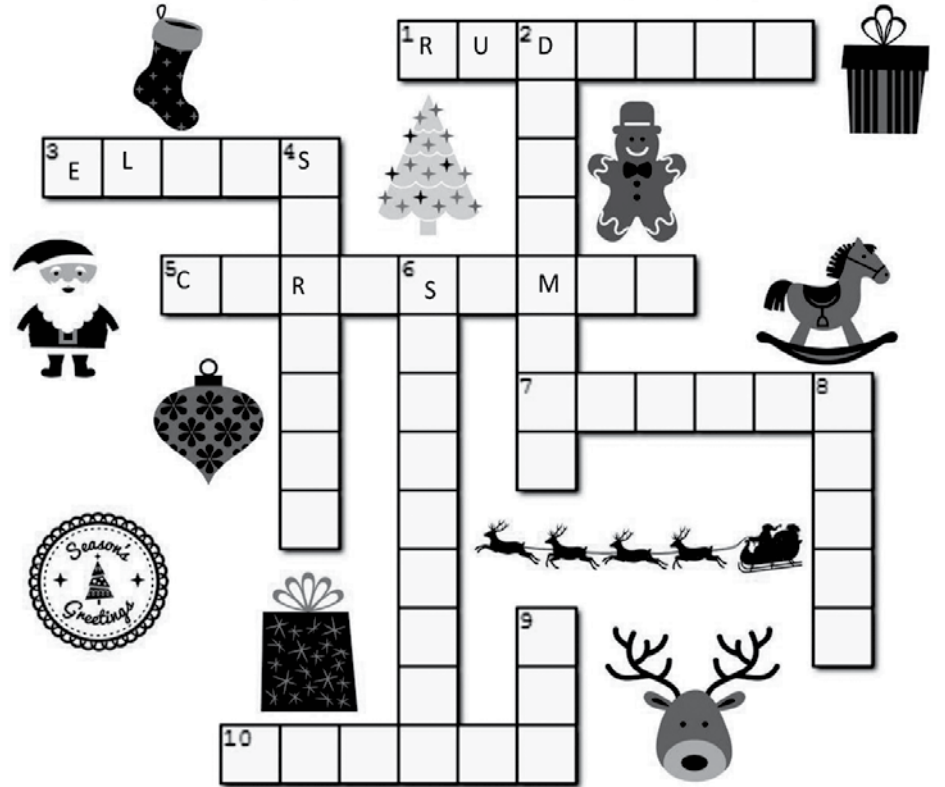
A Christmas Poem by Clement Clarke Moore

’Twas the night before Christmas,  
when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even  
a mouse;  
The stockings were hung by the  
chimney with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon  
would be there;  
The children were nestled all snug in  
their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced  
in their heads;  
And mamma in her ‘kerchief, and I  
in my cap,  
Had just settled down for a long  
winter’s nap,  
When out on the lawn there arose  
such a clatter,  
I sprang from the bed to see what  
was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a  
flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up  
the sash.  
The moon on the breast of the new-  
fallen snow  
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects  
below,  
When, what to my wondering eyes  
should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny  
reindeer,  
With a little old driver, so lively and  
quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St.  
Nick.  
More rapid than eagles his coursers  
they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and

called them by name;  
“Now, DASHER! now, DANCER!  
now, PRANCER and VIXEN!  
On, COMET! on CUPID! on, DONNER  
and BLITZEN!  
To the top of the porch! to the top of  
the wall!  
Now dash away! dash away! dash  
away all!”  
As dry leaves that before the wild  
hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle,  
mount to the sky,  
So up to the house-top the coursers  
they flew,  
With the sleigh full of toys, and St.  
Nicholas too.  
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on  
the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each  
little hoof.  
As I drew in my hand, and was turn-  
ing around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came  
with a bound.  
He was dressed all in fur, from his  
head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished  
with ashes and soot;  
A bundle of toys he had flung on his  
back,  
And he looked like a peddler just  
opening his pack.  
His eyes — how they twinkled! his  
dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose  
like a cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up  
like a bow,  
And the beard of his chin was as  
white as the snow;

## CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

USE THE CLUES TO COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



### Across

1. One of Santa’s Reindeer
3. Santa’s Helpers
5. December 25th is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Christmas Drink
10. The name of a popular snowman.

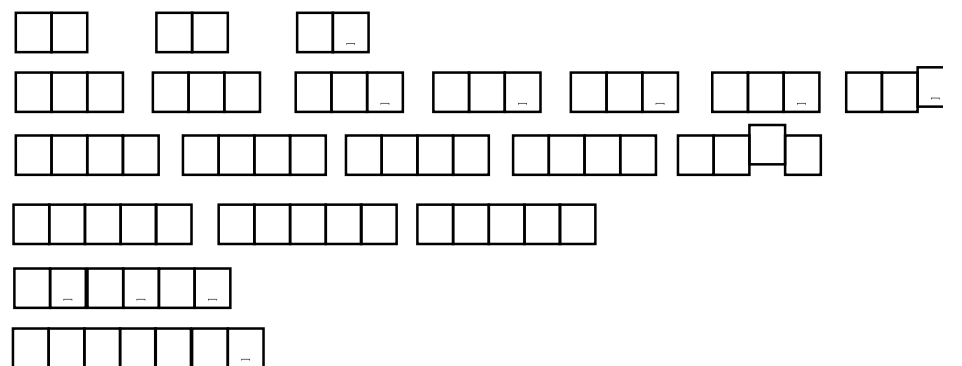
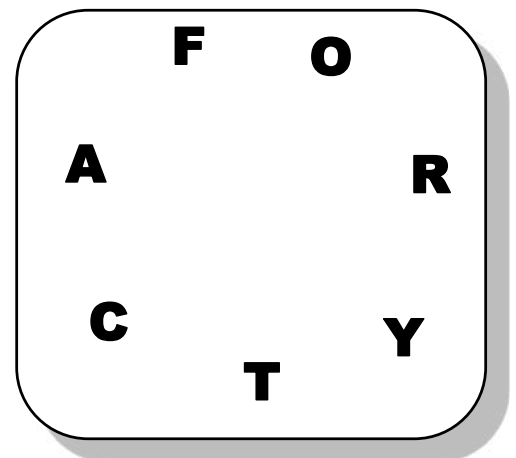
### Down

2. Christmas Month
4. He hates Christmas!
6. You hang them by the chimney.
8. On Christmas morning we unwrap our \_\_\_\_\_.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ to the world!

Answers: Pg. 29

## WORD GAME

**CAN YOU FIND AT LEAST 20 WORDS FROM THE LETTERS ON THE RIGHT?**



Answers: Pg. 29

The stump of a pipe he held tight in  
his teeth,  
And the smoke it encircled his head  
like a wreath;  
He had a broad face and a little  
round belly,  
That shook, when he laughed like a  
bowlful of jelly.  
He was chubby and plump, a right  
jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in  
spite of myself;  
A wink of his eye and a twist of his  
head,  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing  
to dread;

He spoke not a word, but went  
straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings; then  
turned with a jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his  
nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney  
he rose;  
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team  
gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down  
of a thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove  
out of sight,  
HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND  
TO ALL A GOOD-NIGHT!

## ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

# BIEBER LASHES OUT AT H&M OK

By N.Ugoh

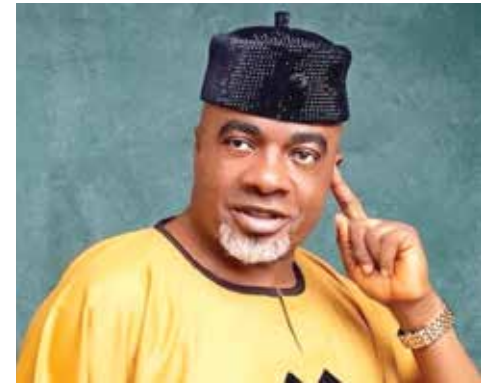
H&M, a Swedish clothes retailer H&M stated that it had the rights to sell Justin Bieber's merchandise it pulled from stores this week after the popstar said he had not given his approval.

“JUSTIN'S license holder has confirmed that H&M had the right contracts in place and followed all proper approval procedures for each selected design,” H&M wrote in a statement.

Bieber had urged his 270 million Instagram followers not to purchase the merchandise, calling it “trash” and stating that he had not granted approval for its sale. H&M pulled the items from sale.

“Out of respect for Justin, we removed the products from our site and stores, and we're working to find the best way to make use of them,” H&M said, adding that the company had been Bieber's merchandise partner since 2016.

H&M, the world's second largest fashion retailer, offered hoodies, t-shirts and sweatshirts with pictures of Bieber or quotes from his lyrics such as “I miss you more than life” from the song “Ghost”.



## Olaiya Igwe summoned by TAMPAN over unclad video

By N.Ugoh

Nollywood actor, Olaiya Igwe, has been summoned by The Theatre Arts and Motion Pictures Practitioners of Nigeria (TAMPAN) over his unclad video.

According to reports, the actor will face a disciplinary committee, constituted by the association, over a viral video of him praying unclad at the beach for the victory of the presidential candidate of the All Progressive Congress, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

While talking to Sunday Scoop, TAMPAN executive and fellow actress, Rose Odika, confirmed that Olaiya had been summoned to face a disciplinary panel to explain himself but he has not appeared before it.

She said: “He has the right to support whoever he wants to, but we have the moral justification angle. We are looking at the morality behind that advert (video). It is not about who he is supporting. It is about him breaching the code of ethics (of our association and industry.”

## Cardi B removes her bum fillers

By N.Ugoh

American rapper, Cardi B, has revealed that she has removed 95 percent of her bum fillers.

She said she had a series of injections to enlarge her backside but she dissolved most of it in August. She later sensitized young fans about the effects of cosmetic treatments including Brazilian bum lifts and insisted anyone considering the procedure should consult a doctor first.

In a video posted on Instagram, Cardi B said: “In August I got surgery and I removed 95 percent of my biopolymers ... if you don't know what it is, it's ass shots. It was a really crazy process.

“All I'm going to say is that if you're young, if you're 19, 20, 21, and sometimes you're too skinny, and you be like ‘OMG I don't have enough fat to put in my ass,’ so you result to ass shots, DON'T!”

While talking about Brazilian bum lifts, she said: “When it comes to BBLs, if y'all want advice from me, before you get your BBL done you have to make sure your blood levels are all right. If a doctor says your blood levels are too low or you have diabetes or whatever, don't do it.”



Cardi B has always been open about her body insecurities. She revealed she got her first boob job at the age of 18 and worked on her bum two years later.

While chatting with Mariah Carey for Interview magazine, she said: “Well, I'm from New York, right? And New York is a melting pot, especially where I grew up in the Bronx. I was really skinny when I was younger, and in the Bronx, it's about being thick and having an ass so young boys would be

like, ‘Look at your flat ass. You ain't got no t\*\*\*\*\*.’ And it would make me feel so ugly and undeveloped.

“When I was 18 and became a dancer, I had enough money to afford to buy boobs, so every insecurity that I felt about my breasts was gone.

“When I was 20, I went to the urban strip club, and in the urban strip clubs, you had to have a big butt. So I felt insecure about that. It took me back to high school. So I got my ass done.”

## Kirstie Alley, ‘Cheers’ actress, dies

By N.Ugoh

Kirstie Alley, Emmy-award-winning actress, has died. She died at the age of 71.

According to a statement posted on her Twitter account, she died of cancer that was very recently detected.

The statement read: “We are sad to inform you that our incredible, fierce and loving mother has passed away after a battle with cancer, only recently discovered.

“She was surrounded by her closest family and fought with great strength,

leaving us with a certainty of her never-ending joy of living and whatever adventures lie ahead.”

Alley starred as Rebecca Howe on the NBC sitcom Cheers between 1982 and 1993, winning an Emmy for the role.

## Popular Iranian actress, Taraneh Alidoosti, arrested over criticism of death penalty

By N.Ugoh

Popular actress, Taraneh Alidoosti, has been arrested by Iranian authorities over her criticism of the death penalty in the country.

The actress, who starred in the Oscar-winning film “The Salesman,” expressed solidarity with an executed protester in a recent post.

According to pro-government media, she was accused of “spreading false information.”

As reported by Iran's state IRNA news agency, Alidoosti was detained a week after she expressed solidarity with a man who was executed for alleged involvement in a protest.

She posted on Instagram: “His name was Mohsen Shekari. Every international organization who is watching this bloodshed and not taking action is a disgrace to humanity.”

Alidoosti's account has been suspended.

According to ISNA, she was arrested because she did not provide “any documents in line with her claims.”

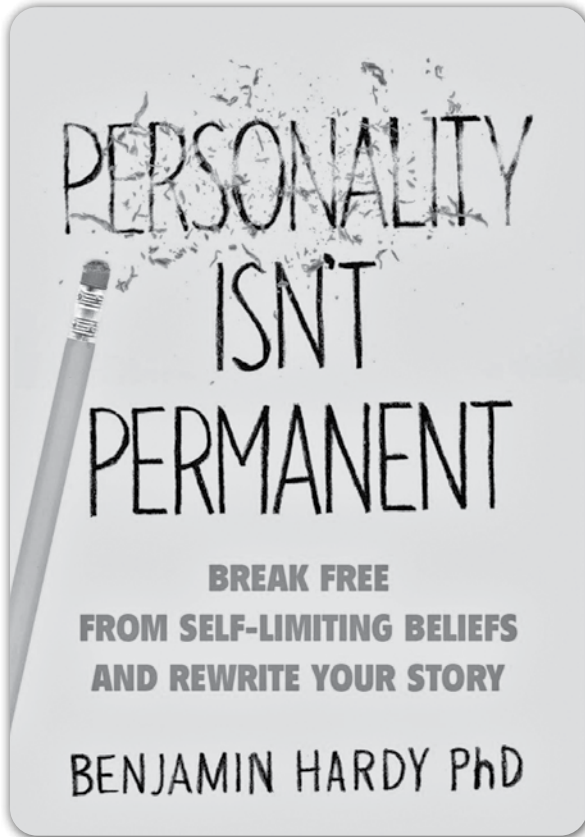
Tasnim, a pro-government news agency, reported that she was detained for “spreading false information and supporting counter-revolutionary circles.”

In 2020, she was given a five-month prison sentence in 2020 after criticizing the police officer who assaulted a woman who had removed her headscarf.

## BOOKS

*"What better occupation, really, than to spend the evening at the fireside with a book, with the wind beating on the windows and the lamp burning bright." - Gustave Flaubert*

## Personality Isn't Permanent: Break Free from Self-Limiting Beliefs and Rewrite Your Story



Benjamin Hardy

The book is filled with strategies for reframing your past and designing your future. The author draws on psychological research to demolish the popular misconception that

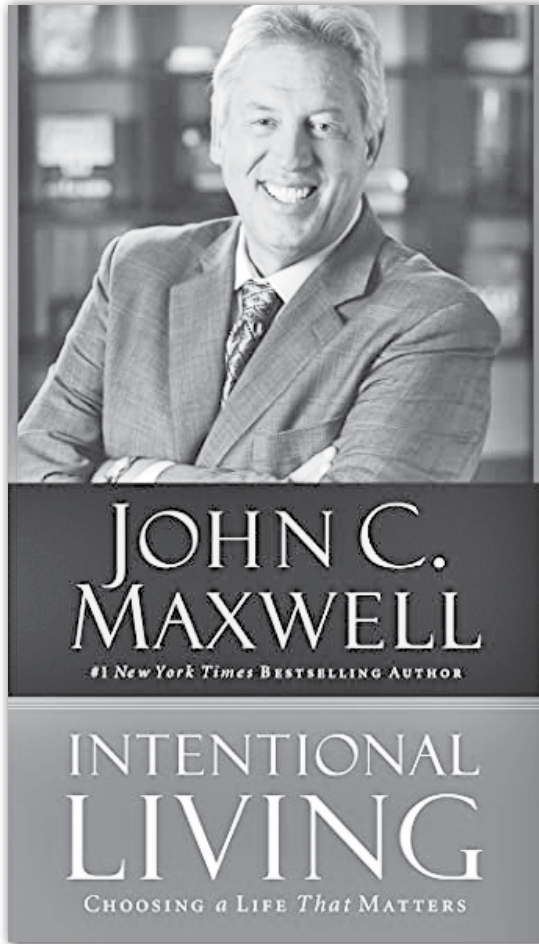
personality—a person's consistent attitudes and behaviors—is innate and unchanging. Hardy liberates us from the limiting belief that our "true selves" are to be discovered, and shows how we can intentionally create our desired selves and achieve amazing goals instead.

He offers practical, science-based advice to for personal-reinvention, including: why you should never be the "former" anything—because defining yourself by your past successes is just as damaging to growth as being haunted by past failures; how to design your current identity based on your desired future self and make decisions here-and-now through your new identity; how to reframe traumatic and painful experiences into a fresh narrative supporting your future success

It also sheds insight on how to become confident enough to define your own life's purpose, how to create a network of "empathetic witnesses" who actively encourage you through

the highs and lows of extreme growth, how to enhance your subconscious to overcome addictions and limiting patterns, how redesign your environment to pull you toward your future, rather than keep you stuck in the past, etc.

## Intentional Living: Choosing a Life That Matters



John Maxwell

In this life changing book, John Maxwell will help you take that first

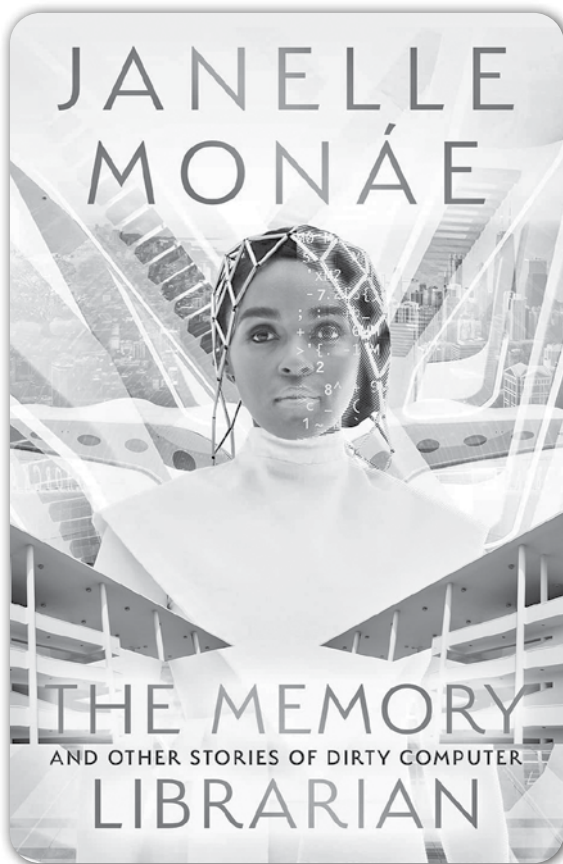
step, and the ones that follow, on your personal path through a life that matters.

Reality is that we all have a longing to be significant. We want to make a contribution, to be a part of something noble and purposeful. But many people wrongly believe significance is unattainable. They worry that it's too big for them to achieve. That they have to have an amazing idea, be a certain age, have a lot of money, or be powerful or famous to make a real difference.

In this practical guide, the author will make you understand that none of those things is necessary for you to achieve significance and create a lasting legacy. He proves that the only thing you need to achieve significance is to be intentional. And to do that, all you need to do is start. You can't make an impact sitting still and doing nothing. Every major accomplishment that's ever been achieved started with a first step. Sometimes it's hard; other times it's easy,

but no matter what, you have to do it if you want to get anywhere in life. It is a highly recommended read that will change your mind set about life.

## The Memory Librarian: And Other Stories of Dirty Computer Hardcover



Janelle Monáe

It is a mind-blowing collection of the author's Afrofuturistic world of one of her

critically acclaimed albums, exploring how different threads of liberation—queerness, race, gender plurality, and love—become tangled with future possibilities of memory and time in such a totalitarian landscape...and what the costs might be when trying to unravel and weave them into freedoms.

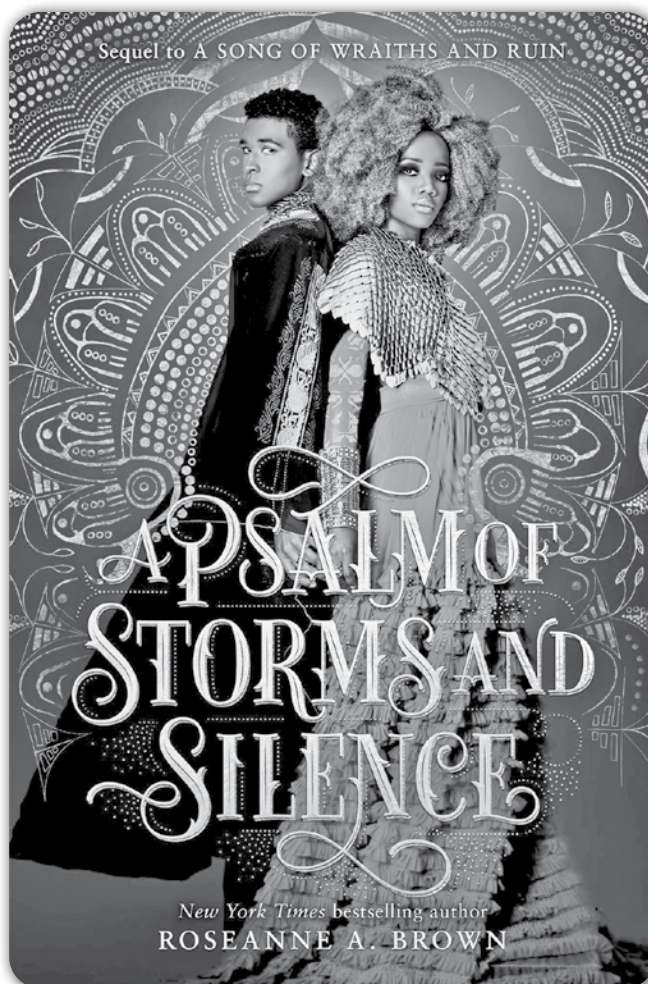
The book substantiates the fact that whoever controls our memories controls the future.

Remarkably, Dirty Computer introduced a world in which thoughts—as a means of self-conception—could be controlled or erased by a select few. And whether you were human, AI, or other, your life and sentience were dictated by those who'd convinced themselves they had the right to decide your fate.

However, that was until Jane 57821 decided to remember and break free. Expanding from that mythos, these stories fully explore what it's like to live in such a totalitarian society . . . and what it takes to get out of it.

The Memory Librarian serves to readers tales that dissect the human trials of identity expression, technology, and love, reaching through to the worlds of memory and time, and the stakes and power that pulse there. It is highly recommended.

## A Psalm of Storms and Silence



Roseanne A. Brown

Drama started when Karina lost every-

thing after a violent coup left her without her kingdom or her throne. Now the most wanted person in Sonande, her only hope of reclaiming what is rightfully hers lies in a divine power hidden in the long-lost city of her ancestors.

On the other hand, the resurrection of Karina's sister has turned the world into chaos, with disaster after disaster threatening the hard-won peace Malik has found as Farid's apprentice. Eventually, when they discover that Karina herself is the key to restoring balance, Malik must use his magic to lure her back to their side. But how do you regain the trust of someone you once tried to kill?

Meanwhile, as the thin line holding Sonande together begins to tear, Malik and Karina once again find themselves torn between their duties and their desires. And when the fate of everything hangs on a single, horrifying choice, they each must decide what they

value most—a power that could transform the world, or a love that could transform their lives. Surely a book worth your time.

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RELIGION

# Rescued for what?

By Pastor Amos Dada PhD;P.

"We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live" Lk 1:74-75 "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:4

I do hope you are enjoying your Christmas.

Those who have followed my writings will notice that some terminologies and vocabularies tinkles my fancy or better said fascinates me or better said resonates with me. Words like fresh, rescue, power, anointing etc . The word rescue eventually emerged as a key word on one of my books that I believe will define me and my legacies - To The Rescue( Say No To Corruption ).

So this morning the world Rescue caught my attention as I lovely and delightedly enjoy my quiet time.

**What does it mean to Rescue? It means**

save (someone) from a dangerous or distressing situation. Synonyms include :

Deliver, redeem, ransom ,reclaim,. Set free from confinement . Rescue means freeing from imminent danger by prompt or vigorous action.

So you and I were rescued by a vigorous action of Jesus facing, the religious

leaders of his days, who ensured he was crucified, died, buried , but thank God he resurrected .

What it means is that your life is not cheap. It cost someone . The scripture above says you were rescued from your enemies !

In our modern Christianity we most times belong to two extremes , the school of thought of those who see enemies in all things, let a cockroach or ant pass by they know it is an enemy from their village or work place or household. The other extreme are those millennia generation who think the word enemy should be deleted from English vocabulary because they do not believe that enemy exists.

Well the bible has not shied away from using the word enemies, you should use it albeit appropriately . It will be foolish to think enemies don't exist . For all you know if you are a born again child of God, Satan is your enemy and he manifests its enmity towards you and I through the instrumentality of human beings. But the good news as we read from above concerning John the Baptist even before he was born he was rescued from his enemies , you and I belong to that phylum too." In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:" Col 1:14 says it cost Jesus his blood!

**But what are you rescued for?**

Meaning what is your

purpose ? Jesus did not die in vain for you. It is good to celebrate Christmas but it's also good to know he was born for a purpose so are you and I.

We were told in that scripture to serve.

John the Baptist we were told served his generation by being a witness to Helrald and pronounce the coming of Christ . To identified him to the world and a good read of the synoptic gospels especially that of Matthew and John shows how John served his generation :

Let me give you some areas you can serve your generation as we approach the new year 2023.

But before I do that let me point your attention to Vs 75 which says "he served in fear , holiness and righteousness " so it is not just serving that matters, the way you serve matters, but that will be a discussion for another day. Jesus served in obedience even to the death on the cross . Phil 2:5-9.

**So which area can you serve?**

1. In the area of your profession. Janitorial , Carpentry, plumbing, engineering , health sector , construction , administration , , you see service is not only a matter of being in full time pastoring , your career path is an area of service to humanity . If there are no farmers what shall we eat, if there are no builders where shall we live ?

2. In the area of min-

istering : Man is a tripartite personality , much as food, shelter, clothing are necessary the souls and spirit commonly referred to as inner man are of critical importance . Without them you are gone . So some are called to serve in that capacity . Eph 4:11. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;" The only warning is that all are not called to serve in those office, and many they are in our generation who are serving not in their area of gifting.

3. In the area of ministry of help. The people operating in the ministering needs people to serve in the area of worship, administration , ushering , media, drive, give food to the underprivileged , volunteers during events, . It is generally called "behind the scene ministry "

4. In the area of teaching. From kindergarten to tertiary institutions , teaching is a veritable area for humanity to serve. You need to be taught, some argue that they are self-trained, I rejoice with them ,but someone designed what you used to train yourself , someone wrote the books.

5. Area of innovation. See the pace at which creativity and innovation is making life more livable, easier and accommodating. See what aircraft ,ships and automobiles are doing to humanity . Not to talk of computer generation, the advancement of social media . You are rescued to



Pastor Amos Dele Dada

serve.

6. Area of enforcement and protection. The military, Air Force , Marine, Police, Fire Department , etc. Choose the are

7. Area of writing. Writing makes the world go round. Imagine if Bible was not writing and other religious books. Imagine all the books for different subjects , mathematics, medicine, architecture . Go ahead in the coming year, put your experience in paper. You are indirectly serving even a generation unborn . You also throwing more light in an area that would probably have remain unknown . Writers serve the world in special ways you can develop that skill and serve your generation . Do you know your story is peculiar and has the potential of helping people ? There is a lady Preacher call Joyce Meyer, she is a global preacher , but one of the areas that has help her ministry and endeared her to a large fellowship is the forgiveness she gave to her dad who abused her in her infancy and she has put this into writing that has helped many to overcome all kinds of abuses particularly from close relations.

8. Areas of giving money . Learn to support NGO, World Vision, Good Samaritan Purse, church-

es, Red Cross and many humanitarian agencies. You can support our own NGO - Say No To Corruption Movement of Nigeria. There are many orphan-ages, motherless and fatherless shelters, rehabilitation centres. You can give money to research centres . Every year to the glory of God I donate to more than 20 agencies, Cancer, Arthritis, Alzheimer's , etc. Give scholarships. There are many indigene students that have potential to be great stayed in Abuja with my cousin, who was an orphan whom my father spend his resources to serve by sending him to school and he rose to the pinnacle of his banking career. Today he is a consultant to world bank ! You read it well! You are rescued to serve, go ahead and serve.

Conclusion: I do hope you are enjoying your Christmas. One of the area of Jesus specialties is rescuing us from sin and destruction and giving us eternal life. Embrace it. In this Christmas season you can rescue someone from poverty, lack, confusion, misplaced priorities and more. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

O taste and see that the Lord is good.(Psalm 34:8). I have tasted and found that the Lord is good. I do testify that the Lord is good. Join me to taste him.

[www.cacbethel.com](http://www.cacbethel.com)  
[www.igoeministry.com](http://www.igoeministry.com)

## COVER STORY

### Michael Tulloch Appointed New Chief Justice of Ontario

success. I know he brings a wealth of experience to the position and will continue to serve Ontarians well."

It could be recalled that Tulloch was appointed a judge of the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario in 2003. He was elevated to the Court of Appeal for Ontario in 2012, becoming the first Black Canadian to sit on any appellate court in Canada. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Chief Justice Tulloch had served as an assistant Crown Attorney in Peel and Toronto from 1991 to 1995 before entering private practice, where he

specialized in criminal law.

In 2016, Chief Justice Tulloch was appointed by the Ontario government to conduct important reviews which resulted in two extensive reports: the Report of the Independent Police Oversight Review (2017) and the Report of the Independent Street Checks Review (2018). He served on the Government Response Team for the Commission on Systemic Racism while working as a Crown Attorney. He was chair of a review panel on Osgoode Hall Law School's admissions policy in 2006.

Chief Justice Tulloch

served as a member of the Ontario Superior Court Education Committee, the National Judicial Institute, and the Commissioner's Judicial Advisory Committee on International Engagement. He was a Distinguished Fellow at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto and a Distinguished Research Fellow in the Centre of Law and Policy at Ryerson University (now Toronto Metropolitan University). He was a founding member and a patron of the Second Chance Scholarship Foundation and Chair of the Ad-

visory Board to the Black Business and Professional Association. He has been a frequent speaker in various post-secondary institutions as well as professional and community forums.

Chief Justice Tulloch was born in Jamaica. He holds a B.A. from York University and a LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School. He has also received honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from the Toronto Metropolitan University, the University of Guelph, and the Law Society of Ontario, as well as an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from



Tyndale University and Seminary. He was admitted to the Bar of Ontario in 1991.

Chief Justices and Associate Chief Justices in Canada are responsible for the leadership and administration of their courts. They also serve as members of the Canadian Judi-

cial Council, which works to improve the quality of judicial services in the superior courts of Canada.

Chief Justices and Associate Chief Justices are appointed by the Governor General on the advice of Cabinet and the recommendation of the Prime Minister.

## INTERNATIONAL

# Guinea Ex-President, Camara Denies Role in 2009 Massacre



## 'Leave Cuba alone,' Gonsalves tells United States

By Stanley Ugagbe

The Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves has called on the President Joe Biden-led United States government to stop spreading false information about the Government and people of Cuba.

It was reported that Gonsalves made the call when he met with Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel.

In his words, Gonsalves averred that the United States has no understanding of the selflessness of Cubans, and due to the lack of knowledge lies are being told constantly.

He said "Well, you really do a disservice to the fight against the global crime of human trafficking when you exploit the name "human trafficking" in that way and pervert it into nothingness, utilising international law on trafficking to suit your ideological and hegemonic aims".

"The Cuban brothers and sisters, the internationalist workers who are here, we request from time to time the help of the Cuban Government and people and you come to us voluntarily; and the United States of America must stop this lie. If they want to win affection in that regard, support a programme by Americans to provide a similar service to countries like ours which may need that service," Gonsalves said.

He emphasized that even though his country has a friendly relationship with the United States, he will not "embrace" their "follies".

"We are friends of all and we strive for a better world but don't ask me, this Government, to embrace your follies, your absurdities, which are determined not by any logic or common sense, not by considerations of humanity, but because of presidential, senatorial, Congressional and gubernatorial politics, especially in South Florida where you have a significant number of anti-revolutionary Cubans," he stated.

"So I make this plea to my American brothers and sisters: 'Leave Cuba alone in its internationalist humanitarian mission. I make bold to say that since the dawn of civilisation there is no country in the world, no people who have been as selfless as revolutionary Cuba and its people,' the PM added.

By Stanley Ugagbe

Former President of Guinea, Captain Moussa Dadis Camara has out rightly denied being the mastermind of the 2009 massacre that happened in the nation.

**T**HE former dictator and 10 other former military and government officials are accused over the killing of 156 people and the rape of at least 109 women by pro-junta forces at a political rally in a Conakry stadium in September 2009.

The embattled men face charges ranging from murder to sexual violence, kidnappings, arson and looting. Specifically, Camara is charged with "personal criminal responsibility and command responsibility".

In a recent court appearance, presiding judge Ibrahima Sory Tounkara reminded Camara of the charges the court had brought against him.

Tounkara said "And to the question to know whether you recognise them, you replied in the negative".

"Absolutely," Camara replied before launching into a long monologue evoking philosophers Heraclitus and Immanuel Kant along with the Egyptian pharaohs.

According to local reports, Captain Moussa's deposition was a key moment survivors and relatives of the victims had been waiting for at the trial that opened September 28, 13 years to the day after the massacre.

The lawyer for Aboubacar Sidiki Diakite, a former aide de camp to Camara



who has accused him of preparing the massacre, accused Guinea's ex-leader of faking his illness.

In his summation, one of Camara's lawyers said his client had been suffering from an exhausting bout of malaria for weeks and that he had the "absolute right" to rest.

It could be recalled that Camara seized power in December 2008 shortly after the death of Guinea's second post-independence president, General Lansana Conte, who had ruled for 24 years.

Also recall that in December 2009, the embattled Camara was wounded in

the head in an attempted assassination and headed to Morocco for medical treatment.

Camara fled into exile in Burkina Faso, where he was indicted in July 2015 by Guinean magistrates for his alleged role in the stadium massacre.

He was detained on September 27, a day before the long-awaited trial began in a purpose-built court in the capital Conakry.

Camara served as the President of Guinea from 23 December 2008 to 15 January 2010. He was the leader of the National Council for Democracy and Development.

## Embattled Greek MEP stripped of vice president powers over corruption scandal

By Stanley Ugagbe

44-year-old European Parliament vice president, Eva Kaili has been suspended from her duties after being caught up in an investigation into influence peddling at the EU assembly allegedly involving officials from Qatar.

According to official reports, the Greek MEP had her powers as a vice president of the European Parliament suspended over a corruption probe implicating World Cup hosts Qatar.

A spokesperson told newsmen that European Parliament President Roberta Metsola "has decided to suspend with immediate effect all powers, duties and tasks that were delegated to Eva Kaili in her capacity as Vice-President of the European Parliament".

Recall that European politicians had earlier called on Kaili to resign after she was arrested in a corruption probe implicating a wealthy Gulf state. Kaili was arrested by Belgian police, along with four others, in connection with a suspected influence-peddling investigation. The

five were detained after a series of raids in Brussels which prosecutors said turned up €600,000 (\$630,000) in cash. Computers and mobile phones were also seized, reports said.

Belgian prosecutors suspect the country — identified by several media outlets as World Cup hosts Qatar — has influenced the decisions of the European Parliament through cash payments or gifts to lawmakers in the EU assembly.

Harping on the development, German Green Party MEP Anton Hofreiter told the Redaktionsnetzwerk Deutschland that if the accusations prove to be true, Kaili "must not only withdraw from the [vice] presidency of the EU Parliament but also resign her mandate."

Also, Jens Geier, the chair of the German Social Democratic Party's 16-member delegation in the European Parliament, called on Kaili to resign immediately, adding: "It can't go on like this for another day."

Similarly, the president of the Greek socialists (PASOK), Nikos Androulakis,

announced on Twitter that Kaili had been expelled from the party.

More so, the center-left Socialists and Democrats (S&D) in the European Parliament said Kaili had been suspended from their grouping.

In a swift move, S&D president Iratxe Garcia Perez tweeted that they would call for Kaili to be replaced as a parliamentary vice president.

On their part, anti-corruption campaign group Transparency International said the allegations showed that MEPs needed to be held to higher standards. Group director Michiel van Hulsten said "This is not an isolated incident. While this may be the most egregious case of alleged corruption the European Parliament has seen in many years, it is not an isolated incident."

Van Hulsten said the parliament had "become a law unto itself" by allowing a culture of impunity to develop over several decades, with a combination of lax financial rules and controls and a complete lack of ethics oversight.

## INTERNATIONAL

# 18-Year-Old Black Elected Mayor In The US

By N.Ugoh

18-year-old Jaylen Smith has become the youngest Black mayor in the United States after being elected in a runoff election.

**A**CCORDING to reports, the history maker defeated Nemi Matthews Sr. in a runoff election to emerge the mayor of Earle, Arkansas.

The election body said Smith garnered 218 votes, as against his opponent, Matthews who scored 139.

In post victory post on Facebook, Smith wrote: "Citizens of Earle, Arkansas, it's official!! I am your newly elected Mayor of Earle, Arkansas... 'It's Time to Build a Better Chapter of Earle, Arkansas.' I would like to thank all my supporters for stepping up getting people to the polls. I am truly grateful for you all."

It could be recalled that Jaylen Smith finished high school in May. The American state of Arkansas includes Earle as a city in Crittenden County. There were 1,831 people there as of the



2020 census.

In his Facebook post, the history maker averred that it's time to create a better chapter for Earle, Arkansas.

As a newcomer, "I have what it takes. At this point in time, I want to do a lot. I wish to make all the necessary improvements to Earle, Arkansas," Smith told newsmen in August.

Smith ran on a programme that included strengthening the local police force, fixing the drainage system, dealing with vacant homes, and increasing

community involvement.

It was gathered that he held executive positions in school groups while in high school and served as president of the student government association.

While noting that you really do need to start someplace, he said "When I could become mayor straight away, I preferred not to wait until I was 30 or 40."

Smith intends to one day practice law and has plans to balance his studies at Arkansas State University Mid-South with his obligations as mayor.



## Corruption scandal: Former Mozambican president's son bags 12 years prison term

By Stanley Ugagbe

In a major ruling that has gotten tongues wagging across the nation, a court in Mozambique has sentenced two former intelligence chiefs and the son of a former Mozambican president to 12 years in prison in a massive corruption scandal known as the "hidden debt".

According to reports, the former head of intelligence and state security, Gregório Leão, and the former head of economic intelligence, António do Rosário, along with Armando Ndambi Guebuza, son of former president Armando Guebuza were sentenced by a special court in the capital, Maputo.

Reports also have it that the case, which involved \$2 billion in secret loans from foreign banks to Mozambican state-owned companies, had plunged the country into a serious financial crisis.

It was further stated that the case relates to debt contracted by the government in 2013 and 2014 without parliament approval that prompted the International Monetary Fund to intervene triggering a sovereign debt collapse in 2016.

In his ruling, Presiding judge, Efigénio Baptista declared "Proceeding with the legal accumulation of the sentence and the material accumulation of the fine, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 102, subparagraphs 1 and 97, both of the Penal Code of 1986, the accused Armando Ndambi Guebuza is sentenced to a single sentence of 12 years of major prison, 12 years in prison and a fine of 102,000 meticaís."

It is imperative to note that former finance minister, Manuel Chang, who signed off the loans, has been held in South Africa since 2018, pending extradition to the US for allegedly using the US financial system to carry out the fraudulent scheme.

Armando Guebuza was the third President of Mozambique from 2005 to 2015.

## Exportation of Raw Lithium Banned in Zimbabwe

The largest lithium mine is located in the Bikita mine in Harare with reserves of 10.8 million tons of lithium ore. The Zimbabwean government has introduced a ban on the exportation of lithium to encourage local growth.

Zimbabwe has the largest lithium reserves in Africa and the fifth largest in the world. It has many lithium greenfield projects in Goromonzi, Mberengwa, Shurugwi, Zvishavane, Bikita and Mutoko.

"The Arcadia Lithium Mine is expected to reach an annual production of 2.5 million tons of lithium ore after the mine is deployed, which would roughly equate to US\$3 billion in exports."

60 per cent of Zimbabwe's export earnings are from exports in mineral resources, while mining contributes 16% to its GDP, according to the London School of Economics report of 2021.

Order 213 of 2022 promulgated last week, banned the exportation of unprocessed lithium.

"...No lithium bearing ores, or unbeneficiated lithium whatsoever, shall be exported from Zimbabwe to another country except under written permit of the Minister."

"On written application by any party— wishing to export samples of lithium-bearing ore or unbeneficiated lithium for assaying outside Zimbabwe; or to a miner or exporter of lithium upon production of written proof satisfactory to the Minister that there are exceptional circumstances justifying the exportation in question and that the lithium bearing ores or unbeneficiated lithium in question have been valued in terms of section 12D(3) of the Value Added Tax Act [Chapter 23:12] for purposes of payment of the export tax



on unbeneficiated lithium.." read part of the SI

"...any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any order or with the terms and conditions of any permit issued to him or her under an order shall be guilty of an offence and liable to— (i) a fine not exceeding level 9 or twice the value of the base minerals in respect of which the offence is committed, whichever is the greater; or (ii) imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years; or to both such fine and such imprisonment," further read parts of the SI.

Chamber of Mines of Zimbabwe (CoMZ) and Zimbabwe Miners Federation (ZMF) lauded the ban and added that it was a step in the right direction to push for the development of the 'green metal' mining sector in the country.

In an interview published by Daily News, ZMF president Henrietta Rushwaya said the mining of lithium was marred by leakages that have led to revenue loss, which has compromised

the attainment of the US\$12 billion mining economy by 2023.

"There are lots of leakages and the government continues to lose out on revenues. As a country we are not realizing the true value of the resource that we possess as a nation.

"We want the participation of serious players in the beneficiation process so as to create jobs for local indigenous Zimbabweans for us to attain the US\$12 billion mining economy target," she said.

"If we continue exporting raw lithium we will go nowhere. We want to see lithium batteries being developed in the country," he said. "We have done this in good faith for the growth of industry," said deputy mining minister Polite Kambamura.

Lithium is the most crucial component due to its high electrochemical content. Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, which are used in most personal electronics and, most crucially, electric cars, contain lightweight metal.

In like manner, Indonesia banned the exportation of bauxite, as part of a strategy to develop indigenous mineral refining and processing industry. The ban on exports of bauxite, the world's primary source of aluminium, will take effect in June 2023.

"The government is committed to continually building sovereignty in our natural resources sector and add value to domestic in order to open as many jobs as possible, increase foreign exchange [revenue] and create an even economic growth," the Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo said.

Indonesia was the world's fifth-largest producer of bauxite in 2020 and had the sixth-most reserves, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

## SPORTS

## Delta wins 2022 National Sports Festival



By Tunde Ajibode

For the seventh time in a row, Team Delta has emerged the winners of the 21st National Sports Festival which was held in Delta State.

The exceptional Team Delta won historic 320 gold, 200 silver and 128 bronze medals to edge 35 other states and the Federal Capital Territory to stay atop the Nigerian apex sports fiesta.

Team Bayelsa, came second with 132 gold, 115 silver and 90 bronze medals, while Team Edo, which hosted the festival's 20th edition, won 78 gold, 94 silver and 167 bronze medals to make it a South-

South affair in the top-three ranking.

Team Oyo emerged fourth with 50 gold, 51 silver and 62 bronze medals, while Lagos secured 41 gold, 57 silver and 74 bronze medals to come fifth.

Rivers completed the circle of all-Southern states' domination with 35 gold, 57 silver and 117 bronze medals to occupy the sixth position.

Meanwhile, Kano broke the Southern dominance with 19 gold, 27 silver and 30 bronze medals to emerge seventh on the medals table.

Ogun, FCT and Akwa Ibom emerged eighth, ninth and 10th respectively. At the bottom of the table is

Zamfara, with no medal to their name.

Official reports have it that no fewer than 14,000 athletes participated in 38 sports at the festival.

President Muhammadu Buhari congratulated Team Delta for winning the 21st National Sports Festival.

The President, who was represented by the minister of youth and sports development, Sunday Dare at the grand finale, said "As sportsmen and women, we have been trained to accept defeat at a Sports event as a challenge to do better next time, therefore we are all winners. With that, I congratulate all the Athletes,

Coaches, Technical and other Officials for making the Festival a memorable one."

"I salute the government and people of Delta State for the successful organization of the best National Sports Festival. I commend His Excellency, Governor Ifeanyi Okowa, and his team for the high standard of facilities provided for the Festival. I urge you to be creative in putting the facilities to good use that can generate revenue for the coffers of the state government".

"Sports has over the years proven to be an enabler for economic activities in the host state and community, it has also fast-tracked the provision of infrastructure and led to the development of new cities and therefore urged all states of the Federation and the FCT to continue to partner the federal government in its sports development efforts so that together as a nation, we can attain our sports development vision,"..

Buhari disclosed that Ogun State will be the next host for the National Sports Festival in 2024.

## Mayweather's Daughter Bags Six-year Probation for Stabbing Woman

By Tunde Ajibode

22-year-old Iyanna Mayweather, the daughter of boxer, Floyd Mayweather, has been sentenced to six-year probation for stabbing a woman in 2020.

Multiple reports have it that she pleaded guilty to the stabbing, which took place inside the home of her child's father, NBA Young-Boy on April 4, 2020.

Mayweather, who was 19 at the time, pleaded guilty to an aggravated assault with a deadly weapon charge. In the recent ruling, she received Deferred Adjudication of Guilt and was sentenced to six years of probation.

The victim, a 35-year-old black female, suffered multiple lacerations on her arm and needed surgery.

Iyanna had initially avoided prison time after pleading guilty to the stabbing. Iyanna Mayweather pleaded guilty to "unlawfully, intentionally and unknowingly" causing "bodily injury" to Lapattra Jacobs by cutting her with a knife. Jacobs and Mayweather both have children with popular rapper NBA Youngboy.

It could be recalled that Mayweather was arrested nearly three years ago following an altercation with Jacobs at the rapper's home.

Iyanna is reportedly said to have stabbed Jacobs twice with two knives in the kitchen. Jacobs was hospitalised and Mayweather was later taken

into custody. The second-degree felony charge that Mayweather pleaded guilty to carries up to 20 years in prison, but she entered a plea deal with prosecutors who agreed on six years of deferred adjunction.

Earlier this year, Mayweather's attorney, Kent Schaffer, had said: "We resolved the case between Iyanna and the State. The agreement calls for Iyanna being on deferred adjudication for a period of six years after which she will have no felony conviction and the case will be dismissed.

"She is eligible to have the deferred adjudication end after two years pending her good behaviour. Although we believe that Iyanna was defending herself after being attacked, we thought this was the safest resolution for her. This is especially true since her boyfriend and his bodyguards refused to testify; probably due to their own legal problems."

Reportedly, as part of her plea deal, Mayweather was forbidden from contacting Jacobs, who received a protective order against the boxer's daughter in December 2020.

It should be noted that Iyanna is Mayweather's second-oldest child and the only one of his biological children to have a different mother from the other three. Her mother is American businesswoman and television star Melissa Brim, who met Mayweather when she worked at the Rio Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

## FIFA President hails African teams' performance at 2022 World Cup

By Tunde Ajibode

President of World Football governing body, Gianni Infantino has lauded the performance of the African teams in the 2022 world cup.

For the first time in the history of the world cup, an African country made it to the semi-final, a feat that drew applause from all walks of life, including the President of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari.

A dogged Morocco put up a sterling performance to become the first African country to achieve the feat of semi-finalist at the 2022 world cup.

The African country defeated Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal in the quarter final to reach a historic first ever Semi-final but failed to progress to the finals as they were brushed aside by a star-studded France team.

In his remarks, the FIFA boss said "I want to congratulate Morocco, hat. And also I want to congratulate the other African teams. Senegal made it through the group stage. They played against a very strong England.

"And also Cameroon, Ghana and Tunisia. Fighting until the last minute to qualify. This puts on display the level of African soccer. I am very happy. The moment of African soccer was always about to arrive. And it finally did."

Also, Infantino said that from the next edition, which will take place in the United States, Canada and Mexico, twice as many African teams will qualify. Indeed, the World Cup will be held in 2026 with 48 teams instead of 32 until now.

It was stated that 9 or 10 places will be allocated to African soccer.

## Again! Qatar Government Denies Involvement in EU Corruption Case

By Tunde Ajibode

Qatar government has reiterated that the country has no involvement in the corruption case being investigated by Belgian authorities involving people linked to the European Parliament.

Recall that Belgian authorities charged four people linked to the European Parliament over allegations that World Cup host Qatar lavished them with cash and gifts to influence decision-making. Qatar has previously denied any wrongdoing.

In a fresh statement, a diplomat from Qatar's mission to the European Union said the country had been "exclusively criticized and attacked" in the investigation and was deeply disappointed that the Belgian government "made no effort to engage

with our government to establish the facts."

The statement added that "limiting dialogue and cooperation" on the issue before a legal process has ended will negatively affect security cooperation and discussions on global energy security.

It is imperative to note that the four people which include former vice-president of the European Parliament Eva Kaili, were charged with participation in a criminal organisation, corruption and money laundering. NCNC had reported that Kali has been stripped off her VP position.

Investigators reportedly recovered over €1.5 million of cash in suitcases and briefcases in searches carried out recently with pictures released by the Belgian police going viral.

Harping on the issue, 'Transparency Interna-

tional's Michiel van Hulst had said "I'm not shocked that there is corruption in the Parliament, but I am shocked by the scale of it".

"The sheer numbers involved, numbers of MEPs, former MEP staff, but also the size of the amounts, that's really unprecedented," he said adding that more people are likely to be implicated.

The former MEP believes the system is rotten to its core and that there is a culture of impunity that allowed this kind of incident to happen.

Irish European Affairs Minister Thomas Byrne said "I think the magnitude of it is deeply shocking and it is surpris-

ing, quite frankly, that this would happen in this day and age".

He expressed his support for the Irish Taoiseach's call for an EU-wide ethics body. "That is the correct response in this particular scenario that needs to be as strong as possible and needs to cover all of the lawmaking processes in the European Union."

Meanwhile, European Parliament President Roberta Metsola has promised a wide-ranging reform package to tackle corruption among MEPS including more protection for whistleblowers and a ban on so-called friendship groups.

SPORTS

# CANADA PROUD OF WORLD CUP PERFORMANCE



By Tunde Ajibode

The Head Coach of Canada Men's National Soccer Team, John Herdman, has said his team would leave the World Cup with heads held high after their outing ended in a third straight defeat against Morocco.

Canada returned to the World Cup for the first time since the 1986 finals in Mexico after dominating CONCACAF region's World Cup qualifiers but could not replicate that win-

ning form in Group F, where they lost to Belgium and Croatia before losing 2-1 to Morocco.

While talking after losing to Morocco, Herdman said the team was proud of its achievements in Qatar.

He said: "It's been the first time in a long time we've been here. We'd have liked to have been here longer but we've enjoyed the ride.

"We're a young team, we're developing. It's been a hell of an experience."

Though they were already eliminated before Thursday's game, they wanted to sign off with a victory but their hopes were dashed after Morocco went scored in the fifth minute before adding another goal in the 24th minute.

While talking about Morocco's first goal, Herdman said: "The first goal rattled us. It was a tough moment to take. They came out blood boiling. You really felt their intensity."

He reflected on Canada's tournament and said the team performed well.

He said: "As a football country we can be definitely proud of the performances.

"We showed up in every game. We were front-footed and fearless. That was a big part of the DNA we wanted to show.

"This isn't Canada walking away with our heads down. We leave with our heads held high."

## Star Girl, Tobi Amusan Named Africa's Best Female Athlete

By Tunde Ajibode

Nigerian track and field athlete who specializes in the 100 meters hurdles and also competes as a sprinter, Tobi Amusan has been named the Best female athlete on the African continent for the year 2022 for her heroics on the track.

The Ogun-State born Amusan was bestowed this honour by the Confederation of African Athletics (CAA), beating the likes of 2020 Tokyo Olympic 1500 meters champion Faith Kipyegon and Ethiopian world record long-distance runner, Letesenbet Gidey for the third position.

Recall that the 25-year-old hurdler had a fantastic year and became the first Nigerian world champion in an athletic event when she

lowed up by a 12.06 s in the final.

Remarkably, she also won gold again at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, before retaining her Diamond League Trophy in Zurich in a new meet record of 12.29s. The previous record, which stood for 22 years, was held by an American legend, Gail Devers.

It could also be recalled that in Benin City, Edo State, at the All Nigerian Championships, Amusan effortlessly erased the 12.63 seconds record set in 1997 by Angela Atede as she won another national title for herself, having run an impressive 12.58 seconds.

Following her year-long exploits, Amusan was also awarded the Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON) award in September by President Muhammadu Buhari.



won the 2022 World Championships 100 m hurdles gold medal, setting the current world record of 12.12 seconds in the semifinal, fol-

The World Athletic ranked Amusan the fifth-best female athlete in 2022, following her brilliant run of form.

## Ontario Teachers invest \$95M in FTX, Pension Fund Says Collapse Will Have 'Limited Impact'

By N. Ugon

The Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan has disclosed that the \$95 million it invested in FTX Trading and FTX US will have a "limited impact" on the plan.

The Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan in a recent statement said the investment represents 0.05% of its total net assets

If a Canadian pension fund investing in a cryptocurrency firm that's gone bankrupt strikes a chord, it is because it has occurred

before. In August, CDPQ, one of Canada's biggest pension managers, announced that its \$150 million investment in bankrupt crypto lender Celsius Network had been written off.

There are some large pension funds that have indirect exposure to a bankrupt crypto firm following FTX's recent filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. FTX's sister entity algorithmic trading firm, Alameda Research; its American subsidiary FTX.US and approximately 130 affiliated companies will also file

for bankruptcy.

According to a report from Pensions & Investments, Alaska Permanent Fund Corp., (a \$70 billion pension fund for residents) and Washington State Investment Board (a \$144 billion pension fund for public employees) have Sequoia Capital's Global Growth Fund III in their portfolios.

Sequoia, which manages at least \$85 billion in assets, shared a letter recently on Twitter calling its exposure to FTX "limited." The company revealed that it invested \$150 million in

FTX.com and FTX US, but it was offset by around \$7.5 billion in realized and unrealized gains, as such, the fund remains in good shape.

Also, the firm noted that its SCGE Fund invested \$63.5 million in FTX.com and FTX US, which represents below 1% of the fund's portfolio.

Users were struggling to get their money off the exchange but FTX's enabled withdrawals were limited to residents of the Bahamas.

The company said: "Per our Bahamian HQ's

regulation and regulators, we have begun to facilitate withdrawals of Bahamian funds. As such, you may have seen some withdrawals processed by FTX recently as we complied with the regulators."

FTX's trouble started last week after leaked documents revealed that a minimum of \$5 billion of Alameda Research's \$14 billion balance sheet was FTX, a token issued by FTX. Those documents confirmed long-standing suspicions that Sam Bankman-Fried's companies were more interwo-

ven than he let on publicly.

The revelation generated a widespread sell-off of FTX and established a liquidity crunch for FTX serious enough that it ran to a competitor and former investor, Binance, for help.

Binance disclosed it would acquire FTX in a non-binding agreement, but pulled out of the deal a day later. The CEO of FTX, Sam Bankman-Fried, apologized and promised that the team would work on finding liquidity during the week and signed the bankruptcy paperwork that day.

# Edo State Multicultural Services Donates Food to Toronto Food Bank

By N.Ugoh

As part efforts to fulfil its corporate social responsibility and in continuation of its mission of providing support leading to relieve poverty for seniors, new immigrants, persons of low income and homeless in their community, the Edo State Multicultural Services has donated some food items to Toronto Food Bank.

Led by its Executive director Mr. Philips Udofe, the group, on Friday No-

vember 25, 2022 donated food items to Argincourt Community Services Association in Scarborough-Toronto.

ESMS is a non-profit multi-service agency founded in (1998) to enhance the social-cultural values of our diverse local community and to provide responsive program and services to empower new comers and marginalized individuals in Canada and to provide poverty relief assistance to less privileged people in Africa.

ESMS is also involved in providing relief assis-

tance for needy people living in Africa.

The group is focused on improving lives locally and internationally through moving people from poverty to opportunity, helping kids and youths to be all they can be, and build strong and healthy communities.

"We are all about fostering awareness, advocacy, solidarity and action at local, national, and international levels, on a wide range of human rights, humanitarian, and development issues," a statement

on its website reads.

ESMS invites the general public to join them to help improve lives locally and internationally through moving people from poverty to opportunity.

For enquiries, visit [www.Edosms.com](http://www.Edosms.com). You can contact the group through the email [info@edosms.com](mailto:info@edosms.com) or phone number 647 436 2711, C: 416-464-7851

You can also visit their office at 28 Nelson Street, Toronto On, M1J 2V3. Their mailing Address is 20555 - 2991 Sheppard St. E, Toronto ON M1T 3I3.



Mr. Philips M. Udofe ED



# PHOTO NEWS OF 2022



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ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH GTA CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE. - DEC. 11, 2022



LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE CANADA INC. - 15<sup>TH</sup> OCT., 2022



# COVER STORY

## My passion in waste diversion led me to start Harvest Recycling - Peter Olorundimu

Harping on the journey in a chat with newsmen, he said "It was incredible to see how much waste was being thrown into the landfills—tons and tons of waste every month"

"I didn't know much about recycling then, but I thought, 'There's something not right there, and there must be a better way.'"

He recalled that "I did sales, I did operations, I did accounting—I did everything. It was just me," and today, the story is now an inspiration.

Olorundimu stated that three years later he left his day job to focus on his

recycling company and over the years, his company has grown and now has seven full-time employees.

"Since I've got into it full-time, I've never looked back".

On reducing the waste to landfills, he explained that "We collect different kinds of waste from different clients, then take it to the appropriate disposal site so it is disposed of appropriately".

"Often by making minor changes, like putting in recycling bins for plastics, a lot of material can be diverted from the landfill. It's good for the environment,

and businesses can save money. We pride ourselves on what we are doing to address landfill waste."

Harping on how they are helping businesses to reduce waste going to landfills, Olorundimu thinks people may be reluctant to recycle because they believe it would take too much time to separate their waste.

He said "In most cases, I get the impression that businesses think it would be more expensive and more time consuming to divert waste and recycle. They think it's easier to just put everything in the trash and have it taken to the land-

fill. But we've done a lot of research to find simple and effective collection methods that make it easier to sort their waste".

However, he said very often when businesses see what his company can do, they are open to the ideas. "We have a program specifically for restaurants, and when we go to a restaurant and show them how it works, often their response is, 'Really? Is that all?'"

Olorundimu admitted that he got help from Business Development Bank of Canada. He noted that even with a business degree, marketing was one of his big-

gest challenges. "Although I had the basics, I wouldn't say I'm the best marketer," he said.

Then he heard about the BDC through other entrepreneurs. "I thought, 'why wouldn't I want to deal with an organization that is doing so much to help small businesses?' They're definitely on my side".

He noted that working with BDC's Advisory Services has been helpful in coming up with strategies for digital marketing, driving traffic to the website and doing online advertising.

"We got some ideas on how to proceed, and some practical materials that have been helping us ramp up our marketing efforts".

That's helped him provide added services to his clients. The focus is still on reducing landfill waste, but now Olorundimu also offers consulting to companies to advise them on better ways of handling waste. On top of recycling, businesses can also compost their organic

materials.

He maintained that "We want to have more impact than just collecting waste".

The Nigerian entrepreneur also stated that becoming more sustainable also helps his clients grow. "Over time, most people realize the value of having green measures in place and having a recycling program in place. If you do more recycling, your garbage will be reduced, which will save you money."

The father of two's target is to have three Harvest Recycling franchises up and running in Alberta by the end of 2023. He hopes to also expand to other provinces in Western Canada and within five years his goal is to have franchises in major cities across Canada.

Olorundimu proudly added that "Diverting waste is something you can see. I'm making an impact for future generations".

## New Year's resolutions you can actually stick to

(NC) For many of us, it's an annual tradition: come up with New Year's resolutions so we can be our best selves, diligently follow the plan for a few days or weeks, and then ditch the resolutions and go back to our usual habits.

Part of the problem is that we often set overly ambitious targets. Once we start to fall behind on our goals, we eventually give up in frustration. This year, set some goals you can actually achieve.

### Ease into exercise

Most of us would benefit from some more physical activity. But joining a gym or signing up for classes can feel daunting. Instead, start

small. Find a friend who you can go on a brisk walk with two or three times a week. If you're back in the office, consider riding your bike to work once a week. Get off the bus or subway a couple stops early and walk the rest of the way. And use the stairs a couple of times a week instead of taking the elevator.

### Master home cooking

We've all felt the pinch of inflation. One way to save money on meals is to skip restaurant and takeout meals and prepare your food at home. Cooking at home also gives you control over how much sugar, salt and

If you're the kind of

person who eats out for almost every meal, set a goal of making at least one dinner at home a week - and make extra so you can have leftovers or freeze it for another day.

If you already cook at home regularly, encourage your children to join in and learn a valuable life skill. Inspire variety by challenging yourself to try one new recipe every week.

### Get to bed earlier

Regular, restful sleep boosts your mood, health and cognitive functioning. Try to have your head hit the pillow 30 minutes to an hour earlier than you're used to.

Start by avoiding caf-

feinated drinks and vigorous activities late in the day. To help you fall asleep earlier, put away your phone and laptop and turn off the TV at least an hour before you plan to go to bed. Instead, dim the lights in your room, and maybe curl up with a book.

### Protect your digital self

Make this the year you protect yourself from cybercrime. Don't reuse a password for multiple purposes or accounts. If you're worried about remembering all your passwords, consider using a password manager. With this tool, you only have to remember one password to access all your accounts.

For a higher level of security, consider using passphrases instead of passwords. Passphrases are a series of four or more random words that are easy for you to remember, but almost impossible for cybercriminals to guess, such as BathroomLampClosetMug.

Also set up a schedule

to make sure all your devices and software are updated. Better yet, enable automatic updates whenever possible. Make a habit of clearing your cache and browser history after browsing online, and always log out of your accounts.

Find more cybersecurity tips at [getcybersafe.ca](http://getcybersafe.ca).

## CANADA MANDATES...

- PAGE 7

It is imperative to note that under the draft regulations, to be formally published Dec. 30, the government proposes tracking the sales by issuing credits for vehicle sales.

More so, fully electric cars and trucks would be worth a bigger credit than plug-in hybrid versions, though the government acknowledges that plug-in hybrids will likely remain in demand in rural and northern areas.

Experts believe that the new policy would decouple Canada's regulatory regime from the United States, Kingston warned, and the impending penalties for vehicles sold outside of the prescribed federal targets could

raise the overall cost of operating in Canada.

Reacting to the development, Clean Energy Canada, an advocacy group housed at Simon Fraser University, celebrated the announcement in a press release but warned that the penalties will need to be legally enforced, "a time-consuming process" that will create complexity and uncertainty.

According to the group, other countries have opted to use immediate financial penalties as soon as auto-makers are non-compliant.

The government said the new targets will be countrywide, though some provinces are already ahead of others.

## ARBITRATOR UPHOLDS FIRING OF NEW BRUNSWICK WOMAN

- PAGE 8

### Changing vaccination policy

The province changed its COVID-19 policy again in October 2021, requiring all employees to be fully vaccinated without exception. On Nov. 19, 2021, it announced that public servants who were not fully vaccinated would be placed on leave without pay.

The policy changed again in March 2022 when it announced vaccination would no longer be a condition of employment, with some exceptions for regional health authorities and certain other vulnerable sectors. Even that mandate was lifted on April 11, 2022.

### The ruling

The arbitrator said that while Poulos' behaviour was not theft, dishonesty or violence it was

"sufficiently serious to be incompatible with the fundamental terms of her employment relationship."

Her refusal to take the tests was wilful disobedience.

"As was her right, the grievor decided not to provide the employer with her vaccination status and declined to accept the offer of the employer to take three POCTs a week and inform the employer of the results so as to protect her co-workers," the arbitrator said. "This was, as noted above a reasonable response by the employer addressed to protect the workforce and comply with its obligations under the OHSA."

Poulos argued the policy change in November 2021 would have allowed her to go on unpaid leave until March 18, 2022. On that date, the vaccination

requirement was lifted and she would have been able to return to her position. But the arbitrator was unswayed.

"While this is an unfortunate reality it ignores the fact that a further interim policy was announced in October 2021 requiring all employees to be vaccinated. In my view what (Poulos) is asking me to do is to condone her refusal to comply with a reasonable response by the employer for a period of two months," the arbitrator said.

In short, the case hinged on the reality at the time of dismissal - not what might change down the road.

"The grievor did not suggest what would have been an appropriate response by the employer during this period. Was the employer required to allow her to come to work in vio-

lation of its own policy?" the arbitrator said. "In my considered opinion at the time of termination, the employer acted reasonably in formulating the policy in question and in altering it as more scientific knowledge of COVID-19 was obtained. Therefore, the decision to terminate was appropriate given her intransigent stance regarding the relatively non-invasive requirement to take the POCT at home and advise the employer of the results."

The termination of Poulos was warranted, the arbitrator concluded, in dismissing the grievance.

For more information see:

*Poulos v Treasury Board (Regional Development Corporation), 2022 CanLII 37635 (NB LA)*  
[hrlawcanada.com](http://hrlawcanada.com)

## ANSWERS OF YOUTH CORNER

- PAGE 20

### 20 Words Answers:

Of, or, to, for, cot, cat, Rat, far, act, fat, fort, fact, foray, fart, coat, fray, actor, forty, factor, factory

### Christmas Puzzle Answers:

**CROSS:** 1. RUDOLPH, 3. ELVES, 5. CHRISTMAS, 7. EGGNOG, 10. FROSTY

**DOWN:** 2. DECEMBER, 4. SCROOGE 6. STOCKINGS 8. GIFTS, 9. JOY

### Quiz Answers:

1) GABRIEL 2) JAPAN 3) 8  
4) 8 MAIDS A MILKING, 5) TURKEY  
6) WHITE 7) GEORGE V 8) 1843  
9) WATTLE 10) COCA COLA

# PHOTO NEWS OF 2022



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## PESBODS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

*Sights and Sounds from the 1st Annual Christmas party organized by PESBODS for children living with physical disabilities, autism and Sickle Cell. The*

*event was held on the 17th of Dec., 2022 in Scarborough, Ont. Deputy Mayor Jennifer Mckenzie was in attendance and other dignitaries.*

*For more information, please contact: PESBODS at 647-483-4729. Email: smileboostersca@gmail.com. Instagram and Facebook: pesbods*

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