

TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION *of* BC

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CEO's Message

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February is Black History Month, an opportunity to honour the legacy of Black Canadians. This month, we reflect upon the steps we must take to create a more inclusive society that learns from past and present wrongs and looks ahead to the future.

The Trial Lawyers Association of BC advocates for access to justice for British Columbians from all walks of life. We recognize that BC's justice systems and laws can have disproportionate and negative impacts on marginalized people, particularly those from Black communities. As lawyers and legal professionals, we all have an important role to play to be actively anti-racist and improve our supports for all British Columbians. The legal profession (including TLABC) has significant work to do to recruit, train, and retain professionals (lawyers, justices, and others) from Black communities, whose lived experiences reflect the diversity of the clients and pro bono cases taken on by our TLABC members. As an organization, TLABC will continue to work towards equitable access to justice, in Black History Month and year-round.

In keeping BHM, [this online resource about BC's Black Pioneers](#), hosted by Digital Museums Canada, includes digitally archived articles, images and video story telling that are both informative and compelling.

Thank you for your continued support of TLABC and please do reach out to us if there is any way that we can be of service.

Sincerely,

Shawn Mitchell
CEO
Trial Lawyers Association of BC