



MUNICIPALITY *of the*
COUNTY *of* KINGS

Municipality and Community Come Together to Celebrate African Heritage Month

Feb. 2, 2024

Conversations hushed as the steady beats of the Imani Drummers marked the start of an annual event known for remarks and reflections that resonate.

Community members and leaders joined together for the 6th annual Municipality of the County of Kings African Heritage Month Launch event hosted in Council Chambers Feb. 1.

“African Heritage Month is a time to celebrate our contributions, culture, history, and resilience in the Province of Nova Scotia. This year’s theme - Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians - outlines the spirit of perseverance that people of African descent have demonstrated over the centuries in Nova Scotia,” said Brenda Francis, a Program Administration Officer for African Nova Scotian Affairs.

“This African Heritage Month we celebrate our heritage, our culture, and the incredible spirit to overcome. The theme is as powerful as the people of African ancestry who are global architects and designers of civilization, achievement, and change.”

Krishinda McBride, coordinator of African Canadian Education Services for Annapolis Valley Regional Centre for Education, spoke of the importance of knowing history, celebrating history, and learning from history.

“You have to see it to be it,” stressed McBride, sharing a long list of names of changemakers who positively contributed to the lives of others in the past and present by continually believing they had the power to make a difference.

“As Angela Walker said: ‘The most common way people give up their power is thinking they don’t have it,’” McBride concluded.

Municipality of the County of Kings Deputy Mayor Emily Lutz joined event MC Dorian Palmer, a graduating Horton High School Africentric Cohort Student, in unveiling the provincial 2024 African Heritage Month poster.

Students Ellington Hughes and Sierra Cox spoke of the new experiences and sense of community they found in the Africentric Cohort at Horton High School.

“When I joined the Cohort, I didn’t just become a part of a program - I became a part of a family,” said Hughes, who added that she’s found mentorship in a guiding force teaching her to have pride in her identity in the Cohort.

Diversity Kings County chairperson Coun. Lexie Burgess and vice-chairperson Coun. June Granger teamed up to stress the importance of allyship while delivering remarks on behalf of the committee.

“Allyship is so important.... Look what it’s done. Look at our room,” said Granger, highlighting the diversity in the packed Council Chambers.

“It’s wonderful to see so many youth here,” Burgess added. “Take these messages with you.”

Want to know more?

Check out the full video recording of the [2024 African Heritage Month Launch](#) and visit the [Municipality’s African Heritage Month web page](#).