

**Black Canadian Studies Association Conference**  
**Where are you from? Reclaiming the Black Presence in Canada**  
**Brock University, May 24-26, 2013**

Black people have been in Canada since 1604. Their contribution to the nation-building process is, however, subject to erasure and their presence is often taken as a sign of trouble, “a problem.” Furthermore, African Canadians, in spite of their long history in Canada are seen as recent immigrants and thus not a part of the historical memory of the nation. Erasing the African Canadian presence retroactively liberates Canada from the context and rich histories of the Black Diaspora, and the Trans Atlantic World. Between erasure and perceptions of trouble, the richly textured lives of African Canadians and their contributions to Canada is emerging from a growing body of scholarship. The conference organizers welcome papers that examine any aspect, region or time period of Black Canada that advances the study of Black Canada by enriching examinations of the African Canadian experience and its connection to Africa and the Black Diasporic world. We welcome papers from a wide range of disciplines. Those seeking to participate may propose individual papers or panels of 3 or 4 papers. We also welcome proposals for roundtables. We encourage the participation of Francophone and other non-Anglophone communities and will provide limited translation services. The conference is open to undergraduate\* and graduate students, academics, cultural workers and community scholars, etc. Undergraduates may apply to participate on the student initiative panel and must submit a letter of support from their supervising faculty member.

**Topics and themes may include but are not limited to:**

- Black leadership and ‘crisis’ in the Black community
- The role of the Black intellectual
- Narratives and memory
- Minstrelsy in Canada
- Black Canadians and health
- Education/Schooling and curriculum
- African Canadians and technology
- Blacks, urbanization and immigration
- African Canadians, religion and spirituality
- Canadian slavery and its legacies
- Black Canadian art and cultural production
- Crime justice and the security state
- Law, security and the neoliberal state
- Black/Native relations in Canada
- Un/Employment and labour
- Black youth
- Gender/Women’s Studies and Black Canada
- Interracial/mixed-race studies
- Sexuality, sexual identity and the Black community

**Please forward:** name, title, affiliation, maximum 250 word abstract, contact e-mail and telephone; \*students should indicate their degree status

**Reply to:** [bcsa2013@gmail.com](mailto:bcsa2013@gmail.com) (c/o Conference Committee)

**Abstract Deadline:** March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Notification:** Accepted abstracts will be notified by **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.**

**Website:** <http://blackcanadianstudiesassociation.weebly.com/>

**Conference Place and Dates:** Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada  
Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013