

February 17, 2024

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION 2025:**

## - HONOURING THE LEGACY OF ALBERT JACKSON

Respected colleague(s),

On behalf of the Executive of the Scarborough Local of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, I am inviting you and your organization to participate in a joint celebration of **Black History Month** on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025.** 

This celebration will be taking place at the corner of **Tapscott Road and Steeles Avenue East**, at the northern end of the town of Malvern beginning at 12:30 PM.

The celebration this year focuses on the efforts to defend the legacy and struggle against Racism in the workplace which were waged by African people who came to Canada in the conditions of escaping from slavery and looking for an improved life. For many years CUPW has highlighted and brought to the forefront, the struggle of Albert Jackson against state sponsored racism in the workplace.

We highlight the struggle of Albert Jackson, who lived from 1857 to 1918, to show postal workers, who come from many lands, that his legacy is our legacy. It is the legacy of being rejected and refusing to accept such rejection. It is a legacy of fighting the battles against racism and rejection with the support of one's own community and with allies to put a stop to such backward practices.

Today, more than ever, the legacy of Albert Jackson, of **winning against racism in the workplace and earning respect, is an inspiration**. Even though Albert Jackson was designated as a national historic person in Canada in 2024, his battle against racism which established his legacy, is being ignored in the very workplace which has been named after him - Albert Jackson Processing Center.

The workers at this establishment now have to carry out the same struggle against the same kind of racism, perpetuated in 2025, by a version of the same colonial authorities with the same divide and rule outlook.

We are calling on you and your organization to join us in this short rally to protest the continuing racism and to call for an end to the prosecution of those who stand up against racism which is sullying the name of an anti-racism fighter and historic figure Albert Jackson.

In anti-racist struggle we all unite,

Learie Charles

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