

“I have always considered running for different levels of government, more so, federal and provincial governments and for a variety of different parties.”



*Politics*  
Page 8

Movie review - *My Cousin Vinny*. We explore eye witness accounts as it affects people of colour in the penal system. Bill and Stan could as well be young black kids.



*Justice*  
Page 2

We introduced a new segment and by responses already received, it appears to be popular. We now present to you the beautiful people of Afro-Canadian descent on page 3.



*Arts*  
Page 3



IRAL Summer Fest  
*Music*  
Page 5

# Is Winnipeg Ready For Its First Black Mayor?



Markus Chambers

History has a way of repeating itself. When Councillor Markus Chambers was first elected in October of 2018, he made history as the first elected black official in Manitoba’s history. Is it likely that Councillor Chambers is on the verge of another history making epoch? Just recently, Winnipeg Mayor, Brian Bowman, announced that he will not be seeking re-election for a third term this year. That seemed to send sparks across the sky and many candidates saw that as a good opportunity to showcase themselves. It is usually a good sign when an incumbent is not running in an electoral contest. This gives many the opportunity to throw their hats in the ring to test their political will and popularity. Unfortunately, Mayor Bowman’s announcement may not be the biggest news out there about the 2022 Winnipeg City Council’s Mayoral race. According to the city’s website as at the time of writing this article, about 8 candidates have indicated interest for

the position. They include Robert-Falcon Ouellette, Scott Gillingham, Rick Shone, Jennifer Motkaluk, Christopher Clacio, Shaun Loney, Idris Adelakun, and Don Woodstock. That the acting Deputy Mayor of the city, Markus Chambers, will not be vying for the seat is a much bigger news to many black Canadians and people of colour. Councillor Chambers himself having confirmed that he has received a ton of calls from leaders and members of the black community asking him to consider putting his name forward to run for the position of Mayor of the City of Winnipeg. For black people to call on the deputy Mayor to contest the position doesn’t sound like a request and the deputy Mayor may consult widely to confirm this. Also, when being appointed acting Deputy Mayor about eight months ago, Mayor Brian Bowman had described Councillor Chambers as “a better fit” for the position (CTV News). But up until now, Councillor Chambers has shied away from

the contest giving personal reasons or perhaps he is bidding his time. According to the election schedule for the 2022 Mayoral race, registration of candidates which just opened on May 1st, 2022, is still in effect until 4:30pm on September 20th, 2022. So, there is still a lot of time for other interested candidates to file in their registration forms. One would expect that having served as deputy Mayor, under Bowman, and gathered the prerequisite experience, that Councillor Chambers, the first elected black official in Manitoba’s history, would be taking a bold step towards the office of his departing boss. Among Councillor Chambers’ experience are the following:

*continued on page 8*

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# Exploring eye-witness account with *My Cousin Vinny* (1992).



How clearly can you see? This is a question that many give a careful thought about when considering visiting an optometrist. Interestingly, not many give it a good thought, it appears, when considering taking the stand as a witness in a court proceeding. Eye-witness account has been identified as the leading cause in false testimony that often leads to catastrophic outcomes. Some defendants lose their case, some their livelihoods because some neighbour thought they saw something or someone when in actual fact they were just hallucinating or making things up to please the prosecution. It must be mentioned that for one to go the long-haul - to convince the police investigators after numerous questioning sessions, picking out a suspect from a line-up, a lie detector test perhaps, countless tutoring sessions at the feet of the prosecution, and, not one but multiple appearances in court - and still stick to their story that those black kids were the ones they saw brandishing a gun and robbing a store owner of his goods and money must take some kind of belief in their eyes, at least, if not in themselves. Many people of colour have been at the receiving end of such eagle-eyed witnesses and the end result has never been palatable to say the least. Some have lost their children, jobs, social status, spouse, even their life because one “good Samaritan” saw something and wanted to make sure the police were aware. I am not advocating for a community of broken windows here: we should all be our brother’s keeper. But sometimes we blame the police for their tunnel vision and as is the case with police investigations, it is supposed to be done under utmost secrecy. So, to have the police say they have a “suspect” or “a person of interest” simply because they’re relying on an eye-witness account sometimes is appalling. I believe this to be somewhat circumstantial. But for a prosecutor to build their case solely on an eye-witness testimony should be something that prosecutors should get hard knocks for. It smacks of prosecutorial misconduct to charge a person solely because of what you think is a watertight case - an eye-witness who thinks they’re 100% sure about what they saw could come crumbling down like a pack of cards under a very good cross-examination. Yet many have been convicted, even for murder, purely based on circumstantial evidence. This is why some are of the opinion that justice is constructed to serve the interest of a particular few. Is justice really colour-blind? Back to our story. You will expect the defence team, at least, or the judge to pick holes in the prosecution’s argument but, hey, this is life. It’s been happening for over a hundred years now and it continues to happen even today. The Innocence Project has helped to vindicate over 30% of convicted felons, some of them on death row (Bernhard and Miller, 2018) and sadly, some of them ended up on death row because of an eye-witness testimony. Wait a minute! Are you saying a witness who thought they saw something actually is responsible for sending another fellow to death row? Not quite. We cannot put all of the blame on the eye-witness alone. The lousy police investigators (hopefully, not in this country) who took the bait and refused to

pursue other leads. The prosecutor who hid exculpatory evidence. The defence lawyers who refused to drive a hard bargain because the defendant was indigent or poor; and the judge or jury who wanted to move on because they had other pressing matters; and even you that had that evidence that could turn the case on its head - we are all guilty. But the police who took the case to the prosecutors are more guilty because if they didn’t, that black kid won’t be on death row for what they didn’t do. Why did I find the police more guilty than the others? Simple. When the police (think they) have a good case they allow it to run its course. They drill the defendant to the point where he believes his alter ego may have committed the offence. Then they run to the prosecutors who in turn run to the courts. And since the court is a trade center where the price of crime must be exacted from the criminal, the prosecution and defence must do the dance based on who has the upper hand. The government has all the resources to prosecute a single individual. You will have to be super rich or have some fortune of some kind (even good fortune) to escape from the hands of the prosecution. That means you must be a man of means. You must be able to pay a good lawyer or lawyers to argue your case. Adelstein (1979) argues that “every crime is a cost imposing activity” from which the buyer (the criminal) must pay to society (represented by the criminal justice system) for the satisfaction he has derived. So, the defence knows this. What do they do? They go in and exert the least minimum energy because

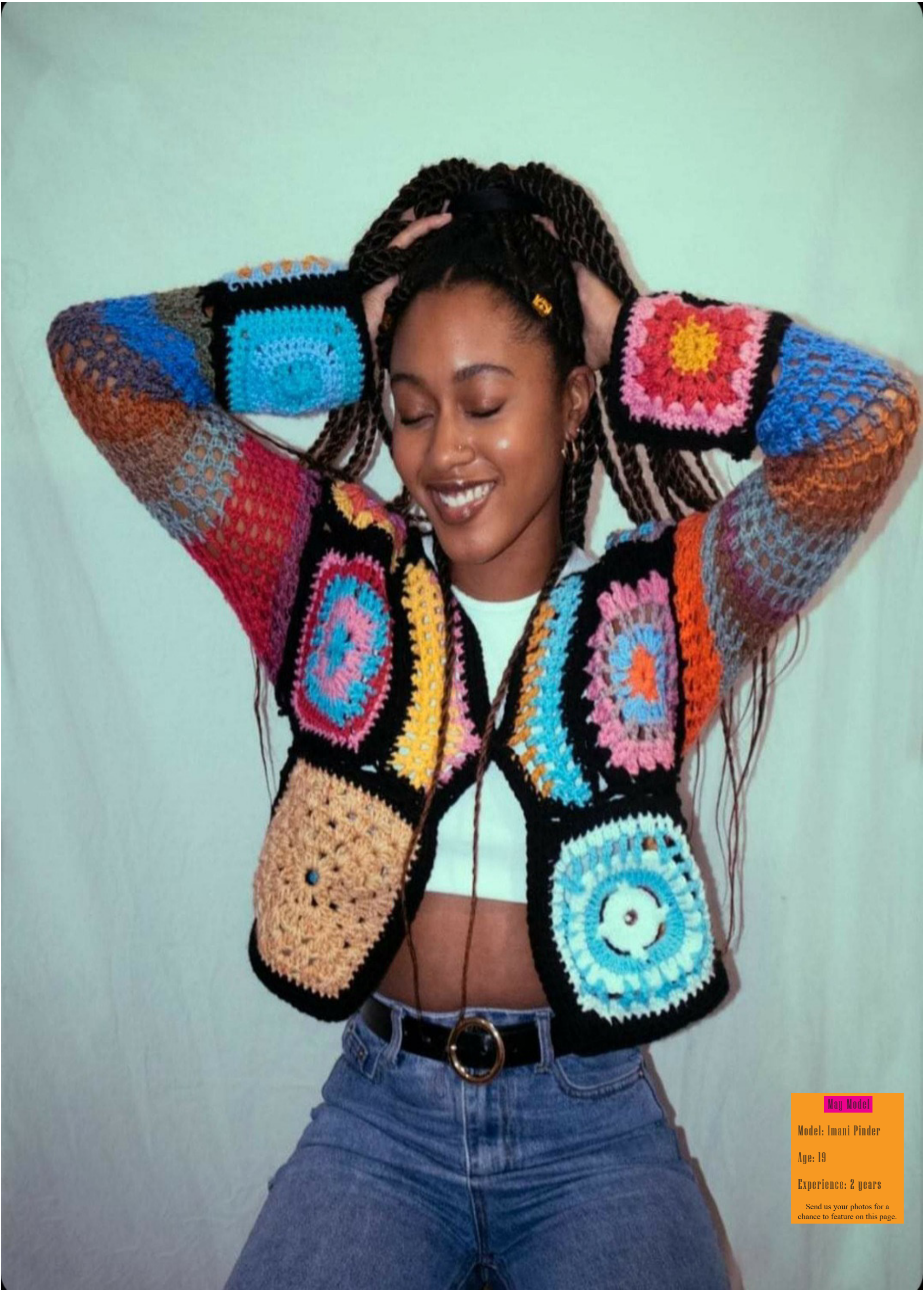


there are so many cases (transactions) happening on this same day. In fact, they want to quickly move on to the next case. It’s like being in an auction sale. The auctioneer wants to sell that first item to get the ball rolling. Then comes a desirable item where he jacks up the price, and the people are left wondering. That’s exactly what happens in court. There comes a case where the defence lawyer stands toe-to-toe with the prosecution because his pocket has been leavened. He now has a fresh wad of notes to buy that expensive item. Such is the case in *My Cousin Vinny*, a 1992 legal drama that has justice as its main theme. Though a parody of the legal system - sharp, witty, funny, and with lots of humour - *My Cousin Vinny* (1992) explores some of the interesting concepts I have just mentioned above. It is a story of two young boys accused of murder. A store clerk has just been killed during a robbery operation gone wrong. These two boys, Bill, and Stan (both college students who have just arrived in Alabama on a scholarship) had just left the store and mistakenly stole a can of tuna on their way

out. A couple eye-witnesses who happened to see the whole thing told the investigating officers that they saw the boys leave after they killed the store owner and drove off in a getaway car. The getaway car will be the key that ultimately unravels the mystery of the crime. It was a metallic mint-green 1964 Buick Skylark convertible and Bill owned one. The boys were consequently arrested and charged for murder and accessory to murder. During interrogation, the police had misconstrued their admittance of the shoplifting act as a confession for the robbery and murder. Being poor, the boys had no means to pay for a good lawyer for a shoplifting and mistaken identity case turned murder. They were on a journey to the electric chair if found guilty. Those boys could have been black. I learnt the director had to substitute colour in the movie to gain a wider viewership. However, help comes when Bill is reminded by his mum that even though they have no money to hire a good lawyer, his cousin Vinny Gambini had just passed the bar exams after several tries and was now practicing in Brooklyn, though Vinny had never actually set foot in a courtroom before. He is a personal injury lawyer, and the preliminary hearing quickly gives him away as having no experience. Vinny makes rookie mistakes such as failing to cross-examine any witnesses, for example, and is exposed as lacking in the knowledge of court procedures. This gets him fired by Stan who opts for the public defender. But the public defender is no good either. He is nervous and has a severe stutter, unable to complete a full sentence. Not only that, his lack of experience is also too obvious that the prosecution is able to manipulate him in favour of their case. The prosecutor in this case is a district attorney with many years of practicing experience. Backed up by able assistants, the team has a watertight case on their hands. They have the suspects (already identified and in custody) and a retinue of witnesses to call on to prosecute their case, among them an expert witness, an FBI analyst whose job is to match the skid marks of the getaway car to Bill’s metallic mint-green 1964 Buick Skylark convertible. The judge also has tremendous respect for the lead prosecutor, Jim Trotter III. The only evidence they lack is the murder weapon but that should be no problem given that they are up against upstarts in legal procedures. Karl Delossantos in reviewing the movie writes that *My Cousin Vinny* (1992) “has actually been praised by lawyers for its accuracy in legal strategy and courtroom procedure with Max Kennerly saying, “the movie is close to reality even in its details.” Also, William Anderson writes that three facts make the movie “similar to the actual procedures within the justice system” - investigations were carried out to identify suspects before the arrests; the presence of a defence lawyer; and the possibility of appeal as in the real world. Do experienced lawyers sometimes volunteer their services as public defenders? Do judges show respect for the public defender most of whom are upstarts and inexperienced? Do prosecutors take them for granted? Is it possible that both the prosecutor and the defence even the judge know the outcome of a matter

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**May Model**

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Richard Elendu is an advocate for racial equality and social change in the community.

Hey, it's a new dawn for the black community here in Manitoba. I'm so excited about the positive developments in our community. Without divulging too much, I want to assure you that the black community is working hard towards uplifting the cause of the black man here in Manitoba, and the prairies at large. One of the things that got me excited is the fact that we now have a mental health toolkit available to all black Canadians, and everyone can access that toolkit to stay healthy. Also, the black community is continuing to consolidate on the gains of the last couple years with a number of community blocs forging partnerships and setting up new projects. One association I know is already working towards the establishment of our own radio and TV stations, not to forget the beautiful edifice being planned to house most of our community's efforts. I hear many black professionals would be engaged when these projects kick off and would also be paid for their services. Ask how you can be a part of this.

A warm felicitation to our muslim brothers and sisters on their recent Ramadan celebrations. May you continue to uphold the teachings and dictates of the holy prophet Muhammad (*Sallallahu ^Alayhi Wa Salam*) even in this holy month.

I hope many of you did see The Porter on television. It's our own - black people retelling stories of resistance and freedom to inspire us all that we too can succeed in our chosen endeavours.

## Our Mission

Remember, nobody will sing our praise if we don't. Nobody will tell our story if we don't. And nobody will set the cause in motion if black folks don't. There is the need for little black girls and boys to see their image on screen and on the front pages of newspapers; imagine what this could do to their psyche, seeing successful black people that they can relate to. Speaking of which, the Mayoral race comes to mind. Who's best to occupy the position?

In this issue, we bring you stories from successful black professionals, politicians, entrepreneurs, businesses and sports.

What do you know about your roots? Find out on *Brother man, know thy roots* - (page 6). This time we examine the Benin Empire.

Sarah Jama, a person with disability, rises up where able-bodied people fail to thread. *In case you missed it* (just below) is where we present various successful African and Black people who continue to do us proud in spite of the discrimination they face. Only a snippet below. We encourage you to follow their stories.

On page 8, we share the story of Shakespeare. Did he disparage black people in his works? if so, we shall conduct further research.

And on page 11, we have the contact of all relevant community associations. Now, you have no excuse not to get involved.

## In case you missed it



Canadian novelist, Esi Edugyan has come a long way. Born to immigrants from Ghana, Esi studied creative writing at the University of

Victoria, and was a writer-in-residence in Stuttgart. Her debut novel, *The Second Life of Samuel Tyne*, published in 2004 was shortlisted for the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award in 2005. A two-time winner of the Giller Prize, for her novels *Half-Blood Blues* and *Washington Black*, Esi holds a master's degree.



Outreach Coordinator, Sarah Jama, is an embodiment of ability in disability. A community organizer and co-founder of the Disability Justice Network of Ontario (DJNO), Sarah's also

been a speaker for many organizations such as Start up Fest, The Broadbent Institute, the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL), Sexual Assault Centre for the Greater Hamilton Area (SACHA), and The Elect more Women Conference, Canadian Association for the Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment in Higher Education (CAPDHHE),



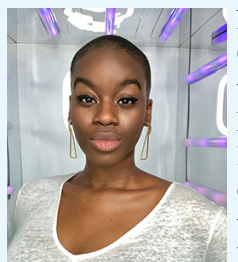
Maggie Yeboa is not just a community leader but also a people person. She is the Project Manager, Resource & Immigration Partnership

Winnipeg. Maggie has also been helping out on many boards and associations. Among them, the Ghana Union of Manitoba; Social Planning Council of Winnipeg; the Ethnocultural Council of Manitoba, and is on the board of African Communities Of Manitoba Inc.



Cyril Indome has just been appointed the new Vice Principal of St. George School. Cyril is a certified teacher with successful teaching

stints in Egypt, China, and Canada. He holds a Bachelors of Education Degree in Health and Physical Education as well as a Masters of Education degree and a Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Education. Cyril's interest include athletic coaching, administration and exercise science.



Nigerian-born Joy Ofoedu currently works as a Marketing Manager at the largest social media company in the world, Instagram. Joy has also worked on

brands like Facebook, Star Wars, thredUP, and the NAACP Image Awards and has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, AdWeek, and AfroTech. Joy focuses on inclusion in scaled global campaigns and is an alumna of the University of Southern California, and Santa Clara University.



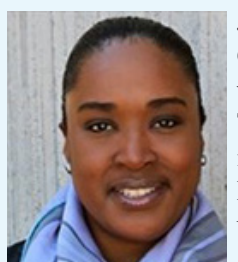
Mubarak Nsekerije is a business analyst who specializes in business growth and marketing. In his 10 years as a business coach, Mubarak has consulted with over

54 industries and businesses. An immigrant from east Africa, Mubarak is also involved in a couple volunteer opportunities in the community. Among them, the Youth Awakening Camp of Canada, and the Neighborhood Empowerment & Resource Centre. He is married with four children



Councillor Markus Chambers is the chair of the Winnipeg Police Board. Appointed deputy Mayor in 2021, the Jamaican-born Councillor

graduated from River East Collegiate and the University of Manitoba. Chambers has volunteered on many boards including the United Way and on the Friends of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights Campaign Cabinet. He's married to Judith and they both have 2 children.



Jill Andrew is a Canadian politician who has represented Toronto - St. Paul's in the Ontario Legislative Assembly under the NDP since June 2018. Andrew

attended Humber College, where she earned a child and youth worker diploma. She also holds a Bachelor of Education (BED) from York University, a master's degree from the University of Toronto in women and gender studies, and a PhD from the York University Faculty of Education



Nigerian-born Ebenezer Adesola Fatimehin is a chartered Accountant by profession but he enjoys making movies especially for his church. Mr.

Fatimehin is also an actor, producer, and director. This foremost Drama Minister is the President of Christian Drama Ministers Association of Canada, (CDMAC). Ebenezer is happily married to Anna Mosunmola Fatimehin and they are blessed with two children.





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Letters & Feedback

**Hello, my name is Jeff and one of my former cricket players sent me an image of an article published by your newspaper. It was about cricket in Manitoba and the Brandon Renegades. I have a close connection with the team as it was the first cricket team Crocus Plains had. All the players were players or coaches at Crocus. I was wondering where I can get a copy of the paper. Thank you.**

Hi Jeff,  
Thank you for your email. Prairie African is a grassroots print publication. Copies are available at major ethnic stores like Akin’s Groceries, Millard Supermarket, MySpiceHouse, X-cues, Lisbon Bakery, African Food General, Dino’s, Indian Spice House and many more. If you are in Brandon, copies can be found at the following locations: Sangees, Tana Ethiopian Restaurant, Bombay Spices, Asian Spices, and Apna Bazaar. You can also grab a copy at community centers, sports shops, and a host of other locations within the city. I can also mail you some copies if you’re having problems laying your hands on one. Thanks for reaching out.

**“Congratulations on a successful and important edition of your publication Richard. On a personal level I enjoyed sharing the page with 2pac and Malcolm X in your paper, two people I’ve followed for many years.**

**All the best,” - Wab Kinew, NDP Caucus Leader in Manitoba Legislative Assembly.**

Thank you.

**“Hi Richard, Thank you for your hard work and for your kind follow up email. Please do not ever hesitate to be in touch and let me know when there are more opportunities and ways to support!” – Cindy Lamoureux, Liberal MLA in Manitoba Legislative Assembly.**

Thank you.

**“Hi Richard, we certainly were happy to help amplify the message and understand that representation matters. Happy to contribute.” - Wasyliw, Mark (Fort Garry Constituency).**

Thank you.

**“I reached out to Prairie African for a print ad to promote my coffee business (Diaspora Cafe) to the African community. Needless to say, we got more than we asked for when Richard (Editor and owner) did a full page feature! So grateful! It’s awesome that we have a newspaper that focuses on the African diaspora!” – Jason Pinder, Diaspora Café.**



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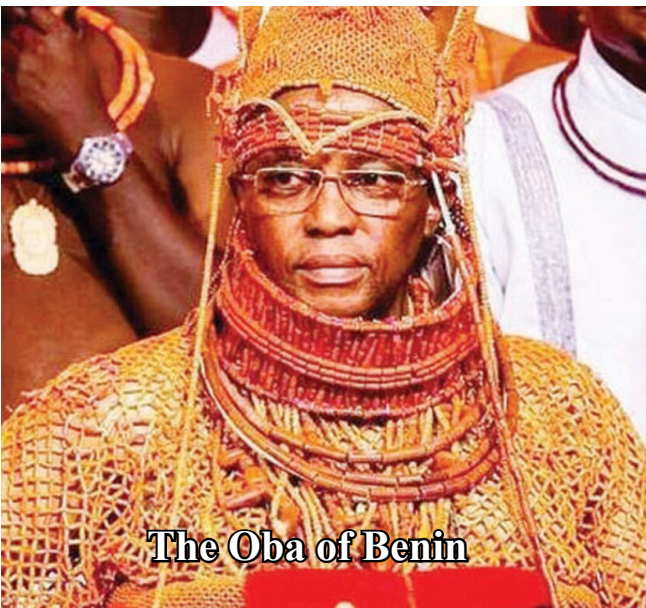
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# The Empire of Benin

*Brotherman, Know Thyself*



**The Oba of Benin**

Many African empires thrived long before the senseless jostle for African art, African peoples, and Africa’s natural resources. The Benin Empire was one of them. It lasted from the 11th century until the late 19th century when it was invaded by the British army and special forces (Strayer, 2013). The Benin Kingdom, as it was also known, was ‘one of the oldest and most highly developed states’ along the coast of West Africa (New World Encyclopedia). ‘The kingdom reached its greatest power and size under Oba Ewuare the Great. He expanded the kingdom and improved the capital,’ Edo (National Geographic). At its peak, ‘the empire is claimed by the Edos to have extended from Onitsha in the east, through the forested southwestern region of Nigeria and into present-day Ghana. The Ga peoples of Ghana trace their ancestry to the ancient Kingdom of Benin’ (New World Encyclopedia). At the height of its splendour and power (around the sixteenth century), the Oba of Benin sent an ambassador to Lisbon, and this gesture was also reciprocated by the king of Portugal (Worldhistory.org). The Dutch historian, Olfert Dapper, writes that ‘(t)he King of Benin can in a single day make 20,000 men ready for war, and, if need be, 180,000, and because of this he has great influence among all the surrounding peoples. His authority stretches over many cities, towns, and villages. There is no King thereabouts who, in the possession of so many beautiful cities and towns, is his equal’ (Dapper, 1668). The kingdom of Benin ‘offers a snapshot of a relatively well-organized and sophisticated African polity in operation’ before the race to colonize Africa (The Centenary Project). ‘Military operations relied on a well-trained disciplined force’ (Osadolor, 2001). ‘At the head of the host stood the Oba of Benin. The monarch of the realm served as supreme military commander. Beneath him were subordinate generalissimos, the Ezomo, the Iyase, and others who supervised a Metropolitan Regiment based in the capital, and a Royal Regiment made up of hand-picked warriors that also served as bodyguards.



Credit: National Geographic

Benin’s Queen Mother also retained her own regiment, the “Queen’s Own” (Smith, 1989). The Benin Empire controlled trade between African peoples and European traders led by the Portuguese (the first Europeans to reach Benin around 1485) and the Dutch who wanted tropical products and slaves for the European labour market; that was of course long before the British joined in many years later (New World Encyclopedia). Trade was usually done by barter as there was no agreeable currency at the time (Onwubiko, 1982). These European traders provided African states with firearms in exchange for slaves. In other words, they encouraged internecine wars between African peoples by providing them with the means to subdue and capture other Africans for onward shipment to Europe, the Caribbean, and North America. It should be pointed out that slavery had existed in Africa before the advent of Europeans in Africa (Onwubiko, 1982). People could be made to serve their creditors if they refused to pay their debts. But the contact with European vessels escalated and deteriorated the nature of slavery, and by now, large numbers of people were being chained together in the gallows of European ships against their will and transported outside their home territories. This was a new normal for many African peoples. ‘The first English expedition to Benin was in 1553’ following such beautiful ‘tales of “the Great Benin,” a fabulous city of noble buildings, ruled over by a powerful king’ (Dapper, 1668). A significant trade soon grew between England and Benin ‘based on the export of ivory, palm oil, and pepper’ (Dapper, 1668). ‘Trade consisted of 20 percent ivory, 30 percent slaves, and 50 percent other things’ (New World Encyclopedia). ‘The state developed an advanced artistic culture especially in its famous artifacts of bronze, iron, and ivory. These include bronze wall plaques and life-sized bronze heads of the Obas of Benin. The most common artifact is based on Queen Idia, popularly called the FESTAC mask. Most artwork was commissioned by or created for the palace, often for ceremonial use. Much art depicted the Oba



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# Winnipeg's First Black Mayor

Councillor Chambers has served as chair of the Winnipeg Police Board; chair of the Innovation and Economic Development Committee; vice chair of the Human Rights Committee of Council; Executive Policy Committee; member on the Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works; Standing Policy Committee on Parks, Community Services and Protection; Standing Policy Committee on Finance; and the Standing Policy Committee on Water Waste and Riverbanks. For a man who is good at engaging with members of his ward and the public, Councillor Chambers should have no problems convincing the electorate that he is the best man for the job. Councillor Chambers attended River East Collegiate, and graduated from the University of Manitoba where he double-majored in Political Science and Sociology (1987) and later went back, in 2016, to study Public Sector Management. Councillor Chambers definitely loves education that is why he went back to school almost 30 years later. He says the knowledge he acquired from studying Public Sector Management taught him “a lot about the inner workings of government including budgeting and how to build consensus on different programs that may be implemented.” A family man per excellence who, together with his wife, Judith, has raised two boys and shown them the path to community service, Councillor Chambers’ eldest

son, Quinton, plays a vital role on the committee for Black History Month Manitoba; and the younger son, Kordell, participated in raising over 40,000 pounds of food for the Siloam mission food drive. Chambers has been married to Judith for 30 years, in an era where longevity in marriage is a coveted virtue; and theirs have been a life of service to the community. Judith is currently the chair of the Manitoba Opera and has also spent years volunteering with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and the YWCA. Councillor Chambers, on his part, has coached sports at a local community center, and volunteered on different boards. Chambers has spent 6 years on the board of trustees of the United Way of Winnipeg; 10 years on the Friends of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights Campaign Cabinet; 3 years at the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation;



and 2 years on the board of directors for Henteleff Park. Chambers says, “it’s about giving back to your community and recognizing how fortunate you are and not taking that for granted.” Councillor Chambers says he is ready to roll up his sleeves and get to work for another 4 years as Councillor for the citizens of St. Norbert - Seine River. See full interview on our website.



## “Parity”

Men of the Ivory Shower  
Hide not your faces in displeasure  
For you are champions  
Just like the rest of us.

You have made meaning  
Of our great legends  
For how do we create champions  
In a battle without truce?

Mind not the Egg-heads  
Hold your heads at par  
For when they demanded your feet  
You rose to lay down your arms.

You have taken a great decision  
Bound in immortal wisdom  
To avoid confusion  
When all you have is at stake.

Arise! Great compatriots  
Hold your heads up high  
For you are indeed glorious  
Even in their very eyes.

The above poem was written in 1993 to placate the Non-Academic Staff Union of Nigerian universities who were locked in a battle for parity with their Academic counterparts when I had just arrived the university for studies. This poem was first published in The Quill magazine in 1995.

# Of Shakespeare and relevance

## - Looking through Sonnet 91

William Shakespeare, whether you like it or not, is regarded as one of the most important poets of the Elizabethan era - this was an era when Britain had to “stand her ground” against noble opposition led by the Pope and one of the greatest superpowers of the time (the Spanish). Shakespeare was more like a rebel against a literary tradition that had existed for ages. His rise to stardom in Britain is inextricably linked to this historical period as he had an enabling environment, aided by the queen and her rebellion against the Roman Catholic Church.

William Shakespeare didn’t invent the sonnet. In fact, the sonnet was believed to have been invented by Giacomo da Lentini, a 13th century Italian poet, and made popular by the Italian scholar, Petrarch. The Petrarchan Sonnet, which consists of an octave and a sestet, usually has the issue(s) presented in the first eight lines (octave) and then resolved in the last six lines (sestet), which contributed immensely to its musicality. The *volta* (turn), which directs the conclusion, is usually between the 8th and the 9th lines, and it had a rhyme scheme of abba abba cde cde or (cdc dcd). The Elizabethan Sonnet, on the other hand, comprised of three quatrains (the first 12 lines divided into 3 stanzas of 4 lines each) and a rhyming couplet with its *volta* between the 12th and the 13th lines. The rhyme scheme was different. It was a Shakespearean rhyme scheme that had an abab cdcd efef gg. Like Petrarch, Shakespeare became known for this in an era when the Queen and Great Britain rebelled against the Pope and the Roman Catholic church, and he composed over 150 sonnets. And as such, the term Elizabethan became synonymous with Shakespeare, hence the term Shakespearean.

“Some glory in their birth, some in their skill” (Sonnet

#91) was one of the sonnets Shakespeare composed, in a sequence, to woo his young, lushing same sex mate, named Fair Youth. Shakespeare compares the pride many (especially nobles) take, in their pursuit of pleasure, directly to Fair Youth.

During the Elizabethan era, it was important, especially for the nobility, to be seen as been engaged in some kind of activity they derive pleasure from. It was a way to distinguish social climbers – a class thing. Many had tamed beasts from the wild including hawks; horses; and hounds (hunting dogs). In “The Great Chain of Being,” men with high birth (the Dukes, Earls, Marquises, Barons, Viscounts and Knights, in no particular order) are at the top of the hierarchy only below God, Angels and Kings. So, when Shakespeare opens with the idea of what “some” hold dear, by listing out (in the first quatrain) some of the things that people are proud of, he skillfully sets us on a collision path, albeit through comparison, with the high-minded.

Comparing these things to Fair Youth, Shakespeare made himself vulnerable positing that not getting his desire (that is, Fair Youth) would be comparable to death itself. In other words, Fair Youth’s love “is more important than any possession or amount of wealth that another man could achieve” (Emma Baldwin Poemanalysis.com). This sonnet shows how far Shakespeare would go to land and keep his love. The poem is reproduced here below.

Some glory in their birth, some in their skill,  
Some in their wealth, some in their bodies’ force,  
Some in their garments, though new-fangled ill,  
Some in their hawks and hounds, some in their horse;  
And every humour hath his adjunct pleasure,  
Wherein it finds a joy above the rest:

But these particulars are not my measure;  
All these I better in one general best.  
Thy love is better than high birth to me,  
Richer than wealth, prouder than garments’ cost,  
Of more delight than hawks or horses be;  
And having thee, of all men’s pride I boast:  
Wretched in this alone, that thou mayst take  
All this away and me most wretched make.

Shakespeare is saying, here, that though he does not belong to the top echelon of society - that upper social class that some take pride in, he still has what amuses him like everyone else. Though he is not skilled like the merchants and tradesmen (of course, his literary ability is a skill; but it was not thought of highly as we do today) who boast about their abilities, he can boast about his one interest. Though he is not proud of his wealth as some are, nor his strength, expensive and fashionable apparel like some are. Though he has no hawks, hunting dogs, or horse to show off with, yet, he’s convinced that every personality type has something that makes them happy. Shakespeare rebels against society’s standards and refuses to be “measured” by such standards, because, like he says, “All these I better in one general best.” In other words, I tower above them all. Addressing the object of his interest, he proclaims: your love is worth more than high social status to me. I esteem it more than wealth or costly apparel; and, of course, it makes me happier than a hawk or horse might make me feel. You alone complete me: but I must say that I am afraid lest you withdraw your love from me – what a terrible thought it would be.

“Some glory in their birth, some in their skill” follows the Elizabethan sonnet style of the first twelve lines divided into three stanzas made up of four lines each

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# Avoiding Pitfalls in Vehicle Purchase

Hey folks! I am excited to talk to you today about avoiding pitfalls that lie in wait when making the decision to purchase a vehicle. Did I hear you ask why there should be pitfalls in vehicular purchase? Imagine this: an immigrant family arrives the country and need a vehicle to move around. They decide to ask their friends or relatives about where to buy a car for their immediate need. That friend or relative checks online and advises of a private sale “that could save them some money.” They buy the car only to notice some serious problems after a week. The sale is already concluded. The seller has pocketed his money and is now out of reach. Even in cases where the seller can be reached, he says the purchase was based on “as is” and therefore cannot do anything about the problems the new immigrant is facing. Money gone down the drain. This has happened to a couple people I know. It is interesting to note that new comers to Canada rely solely on friends and relatives when making the decision to purchase a vehicle. This, in itself, is no crime provided your friends or relatives work in automobile sales for a living. Otherwise, they could mistakenly and honestly mislead you since they know no better. Back home, it is not uncommon to rely on friends and relatives to purchase a vehicle as long as you already have cash to make the purchase. But here in Canada, a number of factors come into play when deciding to purchase a vehicle. Factors like leveraging on a vehicle purchase to build or consolidate credit and overall benefit to the purchaser and would-be owner. I have decided to guide our folks using my over 7 years experience in automobile sales, in Canada, by putting down these seven factors to consider when the time comes to purchase a vehicle. These guidelines will work for both new and pre-owned cars.

1. **Accountability.** I would not make a purchase from anyone whom I cannot hold accountable. A vehicle purchase is considered, by most, the second biggest decision you would make, only second to buying a house. So, why would you want to leave that decision in the hands of people who know very little about it. You should endeavour to talk to the experts whose business it is to sell cars, whether brand new or pre-owned, to avoid such a pitfall as mentioned earlier.

2. **Financing.** Financing your purchase should be one of the factors to consider when making the decision to purchase a vehicle. Financing gives you the option to pay for your new purchase with ease as most car payments can be spread out to accommodate your financial status. It also helps you get into the vehicle of your choice. Also, financing is a way to build or consolidate your credit within a short time. There are financing options available at the dealerships.

3. **Verification.** At a dealership, you have all the history of the vehicle: the registration history, accident history, service history; and whether the car has been involved in theft before. Most importantly, the dealership can tell if a car has a lien on it because you want to make sure you are not paying for a car that some other person owes money on.

4. **Warranty.** The reason warranty is key when purchasing a vehicle is so that in the case of eventualities, you can go back to the dealership and they will take care of the problem. Private sales do not offer warranty. Most dealerships offer between 30-day warranty (for pre-owned vehicles) and between 3 - 5 years (for new vehicles). This gives you the opportunity to go back to the dealership should you notice any problems with your vehicle.

5. **Guidance.** Closely related to the above is that dealerships have rules and regulations that guide their practice. They belong to the Manitoba Motor Dealers Association (MMDA). Dealerships are held to a higher standard. So, there is some form of checks within the system to ensure the purchaser is treated well.

6. **One-stop shop.** When shopping for groceries, most people want to go to a store where they can get everything and then go about their daily business. Most dealerships are one-stop shops. That means you can walk-in, make a choice selection, discuss financing options, and take delivery of your purchase same day. Who wants to wait around when we all have something important to do?

7. **Customer satisfaction.** When purchasing a car here in Canada, you want to make sure you buy from a reputable company that deals in cars. At the dealership, their sole aim is to get qualified customers into their desired vehicles with very minimal stress, if any. Because the dealership is a well-established organization, their interest is to treat you well so you can tell others. That way, they get repeat customers. It’s all about relationship building; a win-win for everyone.

**Jim Pattison**  
**on Regent**

For a free no-obligation consultation,  
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**TOYOTA**





# List of black-owned businesses in Winnipeg and environs

Recently, I was challenged by a very smart black lady to put together a compendium of African and black-owned businesses that people can access whenever they need certain services. We were able to scratch our heads and come up with the list below. Please understand that this is no exhaustive list. If you own a business or planning to setup one, please reach us to update this list. We apologize ahead of time if your business has been omitted from the list below. Also, we have listed businesses under categories (e.g. restaurants, real estate). Some businesses are already running while some others may still be in the works. We encourage you to contact these businesses directly should you need their services. Thanks always for your understanding.

Real Estate		
Bukki Solanke	Maximum Realty	204-997-6117
Weyni Abraha	EXP Realty	204-999-8795
Chuck Edwards	Sutton Group	204-880-4925
Piou Bilivogui	Royal LePage	204-914-4278
Wole Osineye	Royal LePage	204-952-0230
Vincent Apiyo	RE/MAX	204-612-2422
Yettie Adewunmi	Judy Lindsay	204-898-2253
Ola Ogunniyi	Sutton Group	204-997-0094
Dayo Ashiru	Century 21	204-218-0222
Anthony Adigun	3% Realty	204-599-5637

Financial Services		
Yomi Adebisi	WFG	204-963-9169
Obineche Ukonu	Experior Financial	204-232-9450
Habeebat Allimson	Dominion Lending	204-391-5462
Anastasia Kelly	Experior Financial	431-388-7559

Auto Sales		
Chukz Okonkwo	Jim Pattison Toyota	204-402-0069
Chika Anyanwu	Vickar Nissan	204-669-0791

Auto Repairs		
Abbey Lubega	Abbey Autos	204-222-5854
Tamerat Sisay	T.S. Autos	204-505-7278
Biruk	Yemu Autos	204-995-1041

Auto Detailing		
Simon Mogambo	M-Pire Group	204-869-0036
Mobile Car Wash	Car cleaning	204-509-3449

Professional Services		
Geoffrey Oramasionwu	Chidi Engineering	204-295-2559
Tola Opejin	Crest Eye Care	204-421-8080

Restaurants		
Akins African Restaurant & Bar	570A Sargent Ave.	204-786-8400
Gladys Caribbean Kitchen	726 Sargent Ave.	204-415-7344
Gojo Restaurant	533 Sargent Ave.	204-615-0785
Tana Ethiopian Cuisine	302 10th St. (Brandon)	204-284-3194
Di Reggae Grill Restaurant	254 Main St (Steinbach)	204-326-5858
Gohe Restaurant	595 Notre Dame Ave.	204-414-1529
Merkato Restaurant	352 Cumberland Ave.	204-947-9802
Habesha Restaurant	594 Ellice Ave.	204-306-6200
Chef Restaurant	Sargent Ave.	
Kokeb Restaurant	266 Edmonton St.	204-784-9267
Chivis & Rehoboth African Eatery	400 Edmonton St.	201-891-6666
Diaspora Cafe	101-250 Marion	204-257-8488
Ibile Cuisine		

Groceries		
Akins International Foods	550 Sargent Ave	204-779-8666
My Spice House	1875 Pembina	204-261-3636
African Food General	245 Notre Dame	204-414-9226
Rah Firdaus Foods	158 St Anne's Rd	204-881-2402
Shopright C-Store	833 Sherbrook	204-887-5966
African Foodways	282 St Anne's Rd	204-253-4455
Bura International	1172 Pembina	204-944-0964
One Stop Meat Shop	1604 St Mary's Ave	204-505-6144
Sangees African Shop	10th St. Brandon	204-901-1083

Household Services		
Lyke	Painter	431-374-5606
EE Stores	Clothes	204-869-4696
Legible Designs	Typing/Graphic Design	204-952-8578
Mo Aglow	Class 5 instructor	204-887-0940
Paradise Cleaners	Cleaning	204-952-3003
M&R Shine	Cleaning	204-299-4209
Gill's Furniture	Appliances	204-582-8726
Gifted Edible Fruits	Fruits	204-218-6473
Save Your Time Inc.	Delivery	204-402-0069
Moe Cleaning	Garbage disp	204-588-4412

Salons & Barber Shops		
King's Barbershop	510 Sargent Ave	204-451-7315
Monti's Hair Studio	526 Sargent Ave	204-775-9220
Royal Touch		204-295-9924
Roots Salon	259 Vaughan St	204-415-3112
Moses Barbers		431-336-8788
Zizu Barbershop	255 Vaughan St	204-783-8388

Community Associations		
African Communities Of Manitoba Inc.		204-221-6696
Barbadian Association of Winnipeg		204-202-7197
Congolese Community of Manitoba Inc.		204-995-1326
Council of South Sudanese Community of Manitoba Inc.		204-446-7000
Ethiopian Society of Winnipeg		204-415-4277
Eritrean Community in Winnipeg Inc.		204-794-4981
Ghana Union of Manitoba Inc.		204-887-6163
Jamaican Association of Manitoba		204-786-5496
Kenyan Association of Manitoba Inc.		204-694-1402
Manitoba Somali Association		204-943-9555
Nigerian Association of Manitoba Inc.		204-998-4239

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Europa League Final

Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán Stadium

May 18, 2022



UEFA

EUROPA LEAGUE

Eintracht Frankfurt

VS

Rangers



# Manitoba Cup of Nations 2022

The Manitoba African Cup of Nations, a mock tournament designed to entertain and bring Africans living in manitoba together will be kicking off July 2nd 2022. The Manitoba African Cup of Nations tournament seems to have grown in stature as well as number of participating teams. Sixteen teams are supposed to slug it out in the annual fiesta which doubles as a Summer festival of sports. This year’s tournament, which is in it’s fourth edition, will feature the Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, Eritrea, Zambia, and Ivory Coast. Others are Congo Brazaville, Egypt, Cameroon, Ghana, and Nigeria. While South Sudan, Kenya, and Rwanda complete the list of teams already registered for the competition. Two venues have been slated for this year’s tourney - the Shaughnessy soccer complex on Kee-watin street and the Ralph Cantafio soccer complex on Waverly street. Prairie African gathered that the teams will be divided into two groups of eight teams to play at each of the slated venues. Those eight teams will be further placed in 2 groups from which quarterfinalists will emerge. You will recall that Nigeria’s Super Eagles defeated the DRC after a penalty shootout, in the final, to lift last year’s trophy. According to the organisers, the tournament is a way to repay the love Canada has shown to many African residents living in Manitoba, some of which were refugees admitted from war-torn African countries, as well as others fleeing poverty in their home countries.

## How they stand

Premiership										La Liga										Serie A										Ligue 1									
P	Club	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	P	Club	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	P	Club	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	P	Club	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1.	Man City	38	29	6	3	99	26	73	93	1.	R.Madrid	38	26	8	4	80	31	49	86	1.	AC. Milan	38	26	8	4	69	31	38	86	1.	PSG	38	26	8	4	90	36	54	86
2.	Liverpool	38	28	8	2	94	26	68	92	2.	Barcelona	38	21	10	7	68	38	30	73	2.	Inter Milan	38	25	9	4	84	32	52	84	2.	Marseille	38	21	8	9	63	38	25	71
3.	Chelsea	38	21	11	6	76	33	43	74	3.	A. Madrid	38	21	8	9	65	43	22	71	3.	Napoli	38	24	7	7	74	31	43	79	3.	Monaco	38	20	9	9	65	40	25	69
4.	Tottenham	38	22	5	11	69	40	29	71	4.	Sevilla	38	18	16	4	53	30	23	70	4.	Juventus	38	20	10	8	57	37	20	70	4.	Rennes	38	20	6	12	82	40	42	66
5.	Arsenal	38	22	3	13	61	48	13	69	5.	R. Betis	38	19	8	11	62	40	22	65	5.	Lazio	38	18	10	10	77	58	19	64	5.	Nice	38	20	7	11	52	36	16	66
6.	Man U.	38	16	10	12	57	57	0	58	6.	Sociedad	38	17	11	10	40	37	3	62	6.	Roma	38	18	9	11	59	43	16	63	6.	Strasbourg	38	17	12	9	60	43	17	63
7.	West Ham	38	16	8	14	60	51	9	56	7.	Villareal	38	16	11	11	63	37	26	59	7.	Fiorentina	38	19	5	14	59	51	8	62	7.	Lens	38	17	11	10	62	48	14	62
8.	Leicester	38	14	10	14	62	59	3	52	8.	A. Bilbao	38	14	13	11	43	36	7	55	8.	Atalanta	38	16	11	11	65	48	17	59	8.	Lyon	38	17	11	10	66	51	15	61
9.	Brighton	38	12	15	11	42	44	-2	51	9.	Valencia	38	11	15	12	48	53	-5	48	9.	H. Verona	38	14	11	13	65	59	6	53	9.	Nantes	38	15	10	13	55	48	7	55
10.	Wolves	38	15	6	17	38	43	-5	51	10.	Osasuna	38	12	11	15	37	51	-14	47	10.	Torino	38	13	11	14	46	41	5	50	10.	Lille	38	14	13	11	48	48	0	55
11.	Newcastle	38	13	10	15	44	62	-18	49	11.	Celta Vigo	38	12	10	16	43	43	0	46	11.	Sassuolo	38	13	11	14	64	66	-2	50	11.	Brest	38	13	9	16	49	57	-8	48
12.	C. Palace	38	11	15	12	50	46	4	48	12.	Vallencano	38	11	9	18	39	50	11	42	12.	Udinese	38	11	14	13	61	58	3	47	12.	Reims	38	11	13	14	43	44	-1	46
13.	Brentford	38	13	7	18	48	56	-8	46	13.	Elche	38	11	9	18	40	52	-12	42	13.	Bologna	38	12	10	16	44	55	-11	46	13.	Montpellier	38	12	7	19	49	61	-12	43
14.	Aston Villa	38	13	6	19	52	54	-2	45	14.	Espanyol	38	10	12	16	40	53	-13	42	14.	Empoli	38	10	11	17	50	70	-20	41	14.	Angers	38	10	11	17	44	55	-11	41
15.	S/thampton	38	9	13	16	43	67	-24	40	15.	Getafe	38	8	15	15	33	41	-8	39	15.	Sampdoria	38	10	6	22	46	63	-17	36	15.	Troyes	38	9	11	18	37	53	-16	38
16.	Everton	38	11	6	21	43	66	-23	39	16.	Mallorca	38	10	9	19	36	63	-27	39	16.	Spezia	38	10	6	22	41	71	-30	36	16.	Lorient	38	8	12	18	35	63	-28	36
17.	Leeds	38	9	11	18	42	79	-37	38	17.	Cadiz	38	8	15	15	35	51	-16	39	17.	Salernitana	38	7	10	21	33	78	-45	31	17.	Clermont	38	9	9	20	38	69	-31	36
18.	Burnley	38	7	14	17	34	53	-19	35	18.	Granada	38	8	14	16	44	61	-17	38	18.	Cagliari	38	6	12	20	34	68	-34	30	18.	S. Etienne	38	7	11	20	42	77	-35	32
19.	Watford	38	6	5	27	34	77	-43	23	19.	Levante	38	8	11	19	51	76	-25	35	19.	Genoa	38	4	16	18	27	60	-33	28	19.	Metz	38	6	13	19	35	69	-34	31
20.	Norwich	38	5	7	26	23	84	-61	22	20.	Alaves	38	8	7	23	31	65	-34	31	20.	Venezia	38	6	9	23	34	69	-35	27	20.	Bordeaux	38	6	13	19	52	91	-39	31





# It's La Ca-torce for Madrid



## - In a Repeat of the 2018 Final

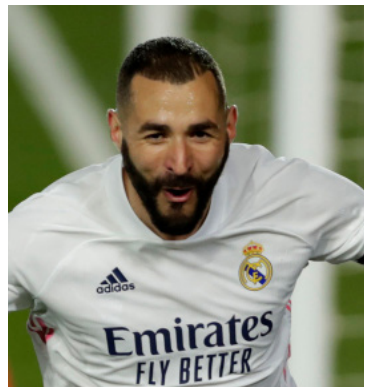


Real Madrid have won their 14th Champions League title after pipping Liverpool 1-0 in a repeat of the 2018 final. The Brazilian,

Vinicius Junior, settling the scores between the teams just after the interval. With this win, Real Madrid continue to be the most successful club in the tournament as they have now won more than twice the number of Champions League trophies than their closest rivals. Although there have been reports of violence and fan troubles at the Stade de France venue of the 30th Champions League final with Liverpool fans crying foul, Madrid did show that they are a club with the propensity to win trophies at the European stage. You will recall that both teams met in the 2018 final, at the NSC Olimpiyskiy Stadium, in Kyiv, with Madrid running out winners courtesy of a 3-1 victory. That is a match many a Liverpool fan will want to forget for a number of reasons. As if Ramos' foul on Liverpool's talisman, Mo Salah, which ended with the

Egyptian maverick leaving the game early in the first half was not enough, the same Ramos collided with the then Liverpool shot-stopper, Karius, whom laboratory tests later revealed suffered a concussion which affected the rest of his game. You will also recall that Karius had to switch clubs following death threats made to him after some embarrassing blunders in that final. The club has grown tremendously since that 2018 final culminating in a Champions League trophy victory of their own in 2019. Even though Ramos has since joined PSG, there had been talks of payback time after Liverpool fortified their team right after that final. But that was not to be. Jurgen Klopp had beefed up Liverpool's defence as well as attack. Klopp shook the transfer market in late 2018 to land the most expensive defender in Virgil van Dijk and has since

added a formidable goalkeeper in Allison. Klopp also beefed up his attack with other high-profile attackers like Diogo Jota and Luiz Diaz as supporting casts for perennials like Mo Salah, Sadio Mane, and Robert Firmino; and this did improve Liverpool's stock. Many pundits will tell you that though Liverpool appeared the favourites before kick off, *Los Blancos* experience in the tournament put them ahead in a scramble to increase the number of Champions League trophies in their official cabinet. And with a coach reputed for winning the Champions League across Europe, there was no stopping Madrid from taking this one as well. Real Madrid now have 88 trophies since inception, They have been prolific in maintaining a class above other teams and that is why the best players want to play there.



# Winman 15U Boys Head to Edmonton

By the time you're reading this, Winman 15U boys would've arrived in Edmonton where the National Volleyball Association tournament will be taking place. Winman 15U boys (WinMan Wolves) are Manitoba premier tournament champions. The Winnipeg based volleyball team won gold at the just concluded provincial tournament which recently took place at the Brandon University Healthy Living Center. Participants came from major towns and cities in the province. The tournament which showcased a lot of talented kids featured the likes of Selkirk Royals, 204 Gold, Brandon Volleyball Club, Junior Bisons,

204 White, WinMan Dynasty, and Junior Pilots, all volleyball clubs based here in the province. The provincial tournament which served as a tune-up for the National Volleyball Association tournament to take place in Edmonton between May 18th – 22nd was keenly contested by all teams present. It was based on a round robin format, that means all teams had to play one another to determine which teams progressed to the knockout rounds. In the ensuing contest, WinMan Wolves beat all other teams to book their place in an exciting final match where they squared off against 204 Gold. In the final, WinMan Wolves took the first set 25-18, while

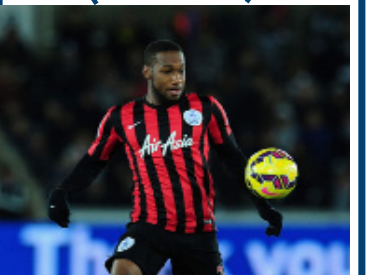
204 Gold fought back winning the next 25-22. Tied one set apiece, the Wolves dug deep in the final set to prevail 25-12 on the day to cement their place as the best overall team at this year's provincial tournament. Being the best two, both teams booked their spot to the nationals and could be seeded in the upcoming tournament if seeding should be used. However, Prairie African gathered that all the other teams would eventually get the exposure of playing at the national tournament in Edmonton to enable all players grow their game. WinMan Wolves appear to be on a winning streak this season. It is worthy to mention that aside

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**2022** inside  
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## Canadian Player Profile



**Junior Hoilett**  
Age: 30  
Club: Reading  
Number: 23  
Position: Winger  
Height: 1.73m (5ft 8")  
Birthplace: Brampton, ON  
Youth Clubs  
Brampton SC  
Blackburn Rovers 2003-07  
Senior Career  
Blackburn Rovers 2007-12  
QPR 2012-16  
Cardiff City 2016-21  
Canada Men 2015-P