

I want to be able to represent the people of St. Vital as best as possible. Currently, I'm advocating for a local vaccine site, in St vital, to make vaccination more accessible.



*Politics*  
Page 3

Hagler had to fight his way to a title after being snubbed by high-profile opponents who would rather not engage a southpaw; but his opportunity did come.



*Sports*  
Page 10

Africa is a diverse continent, anyone could tell you that. But did you know that descendants of the medieval Nubia people can still be found amongst us? Meet Martino Laku.



*Culture*  
Page 5

This year's Canada Day celebration should be low-key, especially after shattering discoveries regarding residential school victims were unearthed.



*Life*  
Page 8



Jamie Moses  
MLA (St. Vital)

# Bill 212 Is Geared Towards Change In Our Province.

- Says Rookie Black Politician Who Beat An Incumbent
- Mandatory Training For Provincial Employees

Jamie Moses is one of the three black MLA's sworn into the Manitoba legislative Assembly, after 150 years of its existence. Remember, no black person has ever served as member of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly before now. And we captured three seats, all at once. Mr. Moses beat an incumbent and former minister, Colleen Mayer, in a rematch of the 2016 contest for the seat of St. Vital MLA. Jamie, who is a long-time resident of St. Vital, previously worked in the financial and agricultural services sectors of the economy. He was elected MLA for St. Vital in September of 2019 and serves as the Official Opposition Critic for Economic Development and Training. Mr. Moses has been a community leader for health care groups, the Glenwood Community Centre, and the Glenwood Parent Advisory Council. As a former

Manitoba triple A (AAA) provincial male athlete of the year, and a basketball coach, Jamie is passionate about sports and funding recreation opportunities for young people. He played football for the Manitoba Bisons, during his hey days as a sportsman, and still holds the Winnipeg High School Football League record, for the most receiving yards in a game (270 yards). Jamie and his wife, Shannon, raise their two children in St. Vital.

We caught up with Jamie, early in the Winter, to ask him about Bill 212, a bill he introduced to the assembly, last November, seeking mandatory training for provincial employees. The bill which did not pass second reading last March, owing to some kind of filibustering by members of the ruling party, is likely to come up again in the future; and Jamie is hoping to get

*continued on page 8*

## Who Is TB Joshua?

A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, so goes the viral biblical quotation by the lord Jesus. One of his most revered apostles, Saul who later became Paul, also wrote that, "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise." If you want to see a christian minister pambulate and beat around the bush without answering your question, just ask



them when the world will come to an end? No one knows for certain because the one who should know never gave a definitive answer to that question. It is stated that the lord will return "like a thief in the night"

*continued on page 6*



## Something needs to happen



# Store Greeters or Hostile Watchers?

Shopping is fast turning into a nightmare these days. Imagine walking into a grocery store and seeing armed police personnel at store fronts instead of the usual greeters. You'll almost pinch yourself to consciousness. Armed personnel in grocery stores is usually the norm in countries where they are at war, and there's no hope of a resolution in sight. I'm sure you have a picture of those countries, either farther south of our borders or far far away in some distant Banana republic where gun-wielding security men are a constant menace to the psyche of the citizens. It reminds me of an African proverb that says, "an aged woman will always feel uneasy whenever dry bones are mentioned" (Author unknown). To think of having law enforcement (armed to the teeth) in a grocery store where mothers have clutching young ones, in a country that prides itself as one of the safest countries in the world, leaves much to be desired. Yet, that is the fate of some of us in Canada. Many of us emigrated to Canada because of security issues back home, but I can't recall seeing law enforcement in grocery stores back home either. That puts me in a really precarious situation. It's either I'm losing my mind or someone's playing a trick on me. Walking into a superstore location reminds one of those countries where armed struggle still exist; or better, countries where terrorists hold sway and the government is trying hard to dislodge them. I thought we were supposed to be in an information age? I thought we are supposed to be in a civilized country? I thought Big Brother was always watching? With all the private security companies around. With all the hi-tech security gadgets flying around (some even owned by private citizens). Even with corporate security, we still police our grocery stores with armed law enforcement officers who could be put

to better use elsewhere. Some citizens might not understand the hue and cry. After all, if you don't like it you can shop at the competition. The problem with that line of thinking is that these people, most likely don't shop there, or don't even shop at all. If they do, they also cannot bear the imagery of armed combatants at their local store on a daily basis. The very idea is anachronistic to shopping. It is crude, suspicious and troubling, like the Orwellian Thought Police. History has never been wrong. History shows that the society condones the targeting of Black and communities of colour by providing socially acceptable reasons for injustice. The idea is not about monitoring goods and persons, it seems, but to strike fear into the minds of innocent immigrants who have come to shop for their daily needs. It smacks of over-policing in Black and Indigenous residential areas. No thanks to the fact that they have chosen to shop there for reasons of proximity or availability of products. Comparing apples to apples, Walmart, Sobeys, and Save-On-Foods don't have such intimidating presence, at least, not in my neighbourhood.

In line with our commitment to always ask the hard questions, we went out to seek answers to this riddle. First, I approached one of the officers in the store, and inquired to know why there was police presence there. The officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they were being hired by the store management to provide security against pilferers. Wait a minute! I thought that was the job of private security? Who hires law enforcement to provide services that a private security firm can comfortably provide? I'm putting out the caveat now. Even though I sometimes earn money from providing security, I have not been paid by any private security outfit to write this article. No company has solicited my services as a writer or business promoter to pen down

## - How do you feel shopping with Armed Police on the watch?

these lines. My writing comes from a strong resolve to warn before things start to go wrong. Something needs to change quickly. I remember a didactic lesson that new drivers always are told. I'm sure you must've heard it too. Anytime a pedestrian comes in contact with a moving vehicle, they always end up on the losing side, at least physically. Anytime a car comes in contact with a train, I shouldn't complete that for you. So, you see! Anytime a human comes in close proximity to a lion, it doesn't always end well, at least not for the human, and, I admit, sometimes, not for the lion too. Why put armed police in a store where minorities and immigrants frequent? Anyway, the officer directed us to the store management if we had further questions, and we did. A customer service clerk we spoke to directed us to speak with the store manager and provided us with a phone number. On calling that number, we spoke with a customer service agent, named Terry, who claimed there were no law enforcement personnel in their stores but only private security. When asked to provide her location for verification, she quickly docked under privacy concerns and asked that we go to the local store with our concerns. Terry quickly ended the call, as expected, when asked to transfer me to a supervisor. A call back to the same number put me in the French queue, and further calls on the same day were never answered. A call to the local store was answered by Barb who said she couldn't answer those questions and transferred me to Jay, an assistant manager, who quickly directed us to the PR department and hung up. We did email the PR department at Loblaw (over 6 weeks now), but as at the time of going to press we are yet to get a response. What are the questions we asked? Why is it taking too long to get answers, even if the answer is a simple "no comment"? Why is everyone at Loblaw avoiding us like the plague? These are our

questions so you can be the judge:

1. Why do we have gun-toting policemen in Superstore?
2. Is this the only solution to whatever made you arrive at this decision?
3. How long are we going to keep seeing these men with guns in Superstore?

Why are we afraid for nothing? The reason is simple. People who know will tell you that police work is guided by too much leeway, that is, they work mostly by discretion; and this, however, has been proven to be unfavourable to Blacks and people of colour in Canada. So much so that it has not only seen Black, Indigenous and people of colour harassed and embarrassed by the many dehumanizing practices of the police such as, "stop and frisk" and "strip searches," to mention a few, but has also led to the unwanton deaths of many Black and Indigenous youth at the hands of the police.

History has shown that the police are not necessarily the right organization to handle certain tasks. They just don't have the required skillset. The funny thing is that nobody knows who Machaur Madut is, and nobody cares to find out, because he's not their family. But he was killed by police attending to a mental health call, on Colony street, in Winnipeg. And there are many other cases: Abdirahman Abdi in Ottawa, Sammy Yatim and Ian Pryce in Toronto. If we do not call them out in our city, we'll be the losers at the end. Our sons would be killed before our very eyes, and as you know, it is abominable by African standards. We have to look for

History has shown that the police are not necessarily the right organization to handle certain tasks. They just don't have the required skillset. The funny thing is that nobody knows who Machaur Madut is, and nobody cares to find out, because he's not their family. But he was killed by police attending to a mental health call, on Colony street, in Winnipeg.



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# I Want To Be Able To Represent The People Of St Vital.



**Jamie Moses**  
MLA (St. Vital)

St. Vital MLA, Winnipeg-born Jamie Moses, is a man of many callings: an athlete, sportsman, family man, community leader, activist, basketball coach, father, husband, and one of the three black MLA's sworn into the more-than-a-century-old Manitoba legislative Assembly for the first time. Mr. Moses beat an incumbent and former minister, Colleen Mayer, in September 2019, to become the member representing St. Vital in the Manitoba Legislature. Jamie, who is a long-time resident of St. Vital and a community advocate, previously worked in the financial and agricultural services

sectors of the economy, and serves as the Official Opposition Critic for Economic Development and Training in the house. Mr. Moses has been a community leader for health care groups, the Glenwood Community Centre, and the Glenwood Parent Advisory Council. He has also contributed, on a not-for-profit basis, to the Barbara Mitchell centre.

As a former Manitoba triple A provincial male athlete of the year, and a basketball coach, Jamie is passionate about sports and funding recreation opportunities for young people. He played football for the Manitoba Bisons, during his days as a sportsman, and still holds the

Winnipeg High School Football League record, for the most receiving yards in a game (270 yards). Jamie is married and has two children together with his wife.

We wanted to know if Jamie was going to become a career politician going forward, and his response was that he "hopes to be able to prove and show residents of St. vital that he is able to represent them, taking their interest, their values, and their concerns to the legislature and trying to make sure that we have a government that represents all of the aspects of their lives."

The River East Collegiate graduate says that "it's been an interesting ride,

so far, being able to listen to all the interesting stories of the people of St Vital and to help communicate their interests to the government" adding that "St Vital is a really great community with a lot of diversity," a dynamic that really makes him happy. According to Jamie, he has had no cause to look back at any disappointments or regrets since taking up the role of MLA for St. Vital.

On what he has been up to recently, especially in regards to the pandemic vis-à-vis his job as the peoples' representative, Jamie had this to say, "recently, I have been working on bill 232 - the Emancipat

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Let's all support government's efforts at flattening the curve



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Email the editor

Richard Elendu

richardelendu@prairieafrican.com

It's another Canada Day and the ongoing pandemic should not prevent us from marking it, at least virtually, you would think. But something bigger than the pandemic appears to be brewing as discoveries of remains of victims of Canada's residential schools have continued to turn up in unmarked graves, at least in two provinces (Saskatchewan and British Columbia) so far. Canada day means different things to different people: to some, it reminds them of joy and peace; yet others are far from experiencing all the fun that is Canada due to one reason or another. This year, let us all endeavour to celebrate responsibly keeping in mind that someone somewhere, might be grieving and hurting amidst the ongoing discoveries. In the words of the Canadian prime minister, Justin Trudeau, it should be "a time of reflection." For us, at Prairie African, we join with the grieving parents and offsprings of many Indigenous peoples of Canada, enjoining them to focus more on the struggle for self-determination as this would be the only solace for all their troubles.

In this issue, we bring to you a son and descendant of the great medieval people of Nubia, from the very diverse continent of

## Our Mission

Africa. Also, we wanted to get your opinion on the burning issue of "people watching" in a civilized country like Canada, in the guise of armed police officers in grocery stores.

Many people, perhaps, didn't hear the news about Marvin Hagler's passing (and they could be forgiven for it) because of the pandemonium brought about by the pandemic. We delved into his life and why he is still an enigma even in death.

For music lovers, we bring you the most educated performing musician alive today, and the most enterprising musician to come out of Africa, Sir Victor Uwaifo. He is a multi-talented individual who dons many hats - guitarist, composer, artist, writer, sculptor, inventor, and university don. There was also the passing of an international prophet in Africa, a man who they say touched many lives both at home and abroad.

Which black leader inspires you the most? the same question I was asking myself when I decided to research more on Malcolm X, the one true generalissimo of the black race. "How long shall they kill our prophets while we stand aside and look?"

And in sports, Cameroon's Francis Ngannou captured the heavyweight world title in the UFC making it three African champions to reign at the same time.

Also, we have our "In case you missed it" column (see below), where we present snippets of various successful African and Black people who continue to do us proud around the world, in spite of the discrimination and rejection they sometimes face. Remember, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good (people) do nothing" (Edmund Burke). Let us all strive to find something to do. There must be something new that we can do to dissuade racists amongst us. Racism is not a fight that one person can fight alone. I need you to think outside the box and come up with that solution the world has been waiting for. Let's help each another.

Finally, my gratitude goes to the many Black and African businesses that continue to show their support for what we do. As usual, it is with much pleasure and pain that I salute your courage. Africans (Blacks) are a great people, and great people communicate in proverbs: "When you point to the sky to show the moon to a child, they only see your finger." We salute you.

## In case you missed it

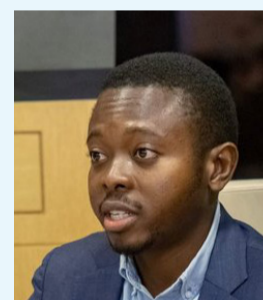


Harvard Law School professor, Dehila Umunna is a Clinical Professor of Law and Deputy Director of the Criminal Justice Institute (CJI).

She's also nationally renowned expert on criminal law, criminal defense and theory, mass incarceration, and race issues. This George Washington Law School graduate is married with 2 children. She's 47 and from Nigeria.



Popular CBC Fresh Air talk show host, Nana aba Duncan, is an Ontario based journalist, writer, and gender gap advocate. She also hosts and produces the podcast Media Girlfriends. Nana has contributed to local Black-owned media publications in the GTA, and was selected as one of 30 women to participate in the Poynter's 2020 Leadership Academy for Women in Media. She's Ghanaian.



Baby-faced winner of the BNP Paribas Group Deep Tech Award, Nigerian Pharmacist, Samuel Alonge is a King's College

and UI graduate. He won the award for creating a handheld nanoscanner that detects counterfeit drugs. A graduate of Yale, Alonge also received the State Dept award for outstanding contributions to business entrepreneurship in Africa



Canadian Olympic wrestler, Golden-girl Ohenewa Akuffo, of Brampton, Ontario, is of Ghanaian descent. She competed in the

freestyle event at the Commonwealth Games, and won Gold (New Delhi); Silver (Moscow) and Bronze (Tokyo) at the World Championships; and was inducted into the Brampton Hall of Fame in 2009. Ohenewa is 42.



Born to Liberian parents fleeing the second Liberian Civil War, Ghanaian-born Liberian-Canadian, Alphonsus Davies, is a professional soccer player at German and UEFA Champions, Bayern Munich. Davies arrived Canada when he was only five years old, and is the first player born in the 2000s to feature in an MLS match, and the youngest player to play for the Canadian Men's National Soccer Team. He won the UEFA Champions League at 19.



Foremost black scientist, Kizzmekia Corbett was instrumental to Moderna's mRNA vaccine. An American viral immunologist and

scientific lead of the Coronavirus Team at NIH Vaccine Research Center, Kizzy has met with both Presidents Trump and Biden; and is on the list of "Time 100 Next". She holds a PhD from University of North Carolina.



Founder of the Forum for African Women in Politics (FWAP), Dr. Kate Anolue, is Mayor of Enfield for a second time. First elected Mayor in 2012,

Ms Anolue who worked as a midwife for 40 years with the National Health Service holds a Bachelor in Law, and is a recipient of an honorary Freedom of the Borough. This "Ada Jelu Mba Tulu Ugo" (African Chief) is 70.



The Canadian actor who portrayed Anthony in Steven Spielberg's film, Falling Skies is of South African descent, and his name is Mpho Koaho. First cast in the lead role of Maya Angelou's 1998 film, Down in the Delta, the Gemini award nominee has also appeared in myriad other films, among them, Kojak (2005), Dark Matter (2016), and The Expanse (2017).



Multi-talented Canadian personality, Jay Manuel is also of South African origins. He is an acclaimed TV host, Creative Director,

for television show America's Next Top Model, for the first nine seasons, author, and make-up artist. He's also Founder and CEO of the beauty line, Jay Manuel Beauty, and was one of the judges for Miss Universe 2017. He's 48.



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

# We Provided 100 Families With Computers

- To Mitigate Hardships Caused By Pandemic

**A**frica is a diverse continent, anyone could tell you that. But did you know that descendants of the medieval Nubia people can still be found amongst us? In fact, some of them actually live in Winnipeg, Manitoba, today. The Nilotic people of South Sudan (Africa's latest democracy) are descendants of the great Nubia civilization. This includes the Acholi, Anyuak, Bari, Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Kaligi, Zande, Mundu, Avukaya, Baka, and others. History has it that they migrated from their ancient abodes to their modern locations in Bahr El Ghazal, the Upper Nile Region, and Equatorial Region; this happened between the 15th to the 19th century. We sat down with one of the sons of these great people to chat about their experiences, so far, in Canada. What should you expect? The great, the not-so-great, and the, let's see. Please welcome the president of the Council of South Sudanese Community of Manitoba Inc. Mr. Martino Laku.

**Can you please introduce yourself to our readers?**  
My name is Martino Laku, I am the President of the Council of South Sudanese Community of Manitoba. We have a community centre located at 129, Dagmar St. in downtown Winnipeg. We've had that place for 16 years

now, that is, since 2004. **Wow, that's good. But I want to believe it must have had another name in 2004, right?**

Yes, you're correct, Richard. It was formerly called SAM – Sudanese Association of Manitoba – when it was formed in 1991. After the political separation of South Sudan as a country, in 2011, our northern brothers formed another association and are now known as the Community of Sudanese Canadian in Manitoba Inc. It's a functional and active community association on its own. Even though we're politically two countries, we still have a relationship together. We coordinate some of their activities, because we still have some similarities, socially and culturally.

**That's good. I think you guys are the only African community association with its own building in Manitoba, am I right?**

Yes, you are right. I believe Africans tried to have a building – an African Centre – once, but I'm not sure what happened to that idea.

**That must make you the big brother of other African communities here. You guys play a major role in the African community just having that building alone, right?**

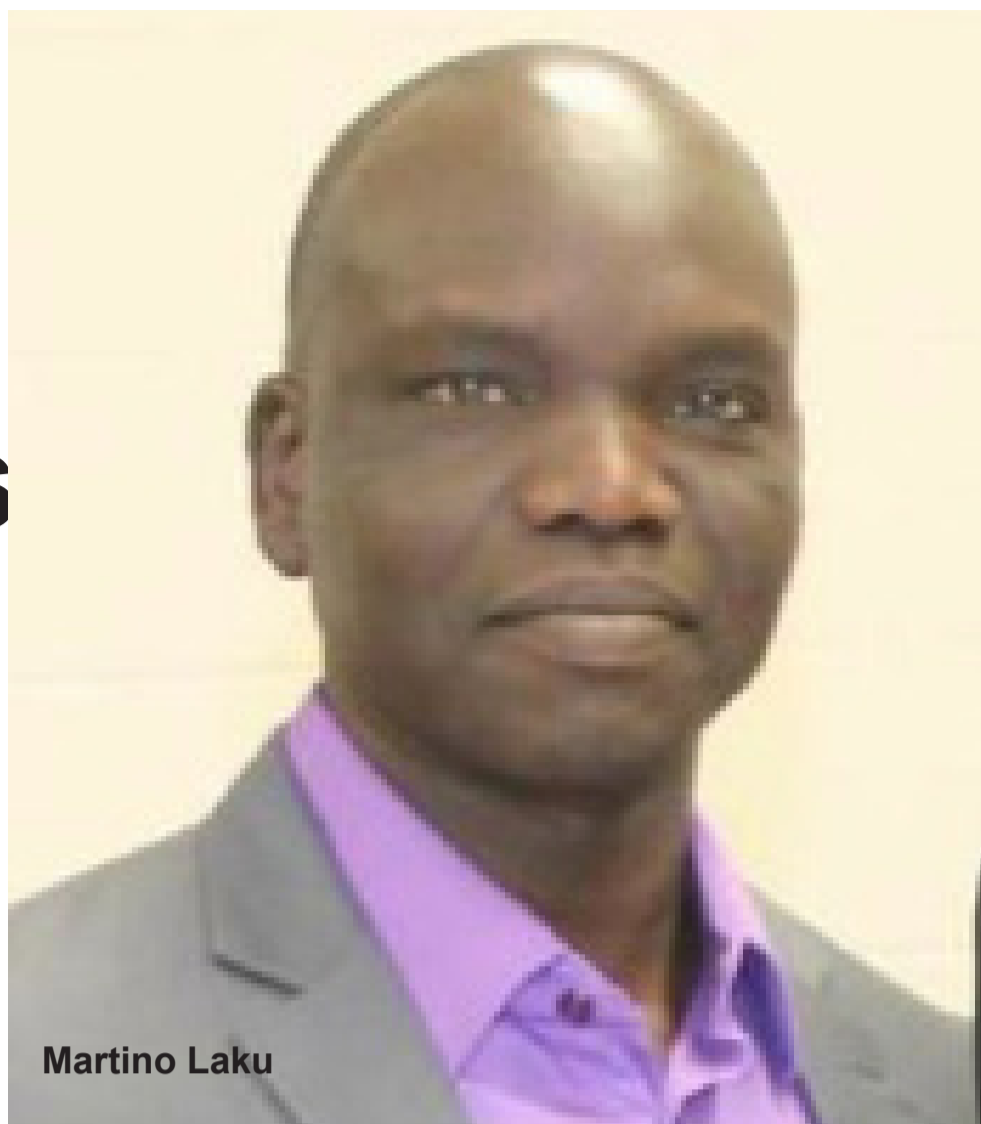
Yes, that's absolutely right. We are the only African community association that owns its own building here in Manitoba, Canada. So, we always encourage other African communities who don't have a space to come to us. And we offer discounts to them when they use our facility.

**So, you're talking to other African community associations about using your facility?**

Yes. In fact, some of our past tenants include IRCOM, Yazidi, and the Somali community. They rent our halls and rooms for their programs. Some of them run their after-school and summer programs from our community centre. For the past 10 years, we've had a solid management of the building. And since, we're downtown, with its parking problems, we got a developer to help out with our parking lot, and lately, we started to generate income from there, with over 80 stalls available for parking.

**Can you tell us a little about your association?**

We help new immigrants to



Martino Laku

Canada navigate the initial challenges they face when they arrive in Canada – job search, resume building, and a few course upgrades etc. And our people also come here to socialize (not during the pandemic). They come here to play chess and other games. We also offer help with resettlement programs, helping them integrate fully into the larger Canadian society. During the pandemic, because most of our people lost their jobs, and are going through a lot of difficulties, daily, we supplied over 100 families with basic amenities of life - oil, flour, onions, sugar, protective gears like masks, hand sanitizer etc. We have actually done that 4 times during this pandemic. We also provided families with 100 computers to help their online learning during this pandemic season. You know most of the resource centres where people go to study and use their facilities were closed, because of the coronavirus pandemic, but students need to still do their assignments, jobseekers have to apply for jobs – these things are done online these days.

**How do you raise revenue for your programs?**

We make some money from running the building, and we also apply for funding and grants from the government, United Way and Red Cross to augment.

**How did you get into running the association?**

I have been serving my community for quite sometime now. First, I started as a volunteer in the association, and then moved up to become the general secretary, and four years ago, I was elected the president of the association. We conduct our elections once every 2 years, and I'm in my second term now.

**Wow! You have a very democratic association there.**

Yes, we do. It's good for transparency.

**How do you gather people together, tell us more about your social programs?**

Well, you know Africa is very diverse, and we take pride in our culture. In Sudan, we have over 64 different and unique cultures. Here in Winnipeg, we may be down to about eight different cultures, and each of them have their own dance, traditions, food, dress costume, unique ways in conducting marriage ceremonies etc. We recognize that, and that is why we have a cultural committee to coordinate all of these. Some of our dances include the Madi, Azande, Bor Twic, and Acholi dances. We always put them on display, especially during the Folklorama. They reflect our culture. We also have art works, produced by our community members, displayed at our centre. We still connect with our people electronically despite the pandemic.

**Do you have any advice for other African Communi-**

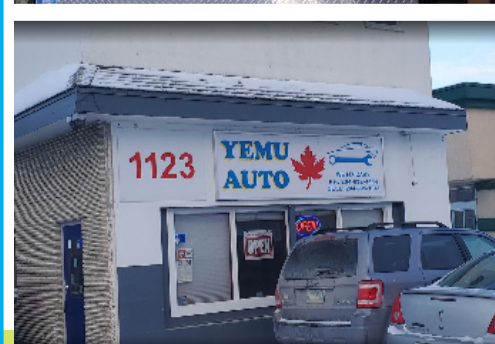
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# Malcolm X - The Black Moses?



Bois and a host of other Black leaders of the segregation era all had one thing in common - education. As a researcher of black history, one thing I can tell you, for sure, is that we have information about what schools they attended and how they were influenced, but not for Malcolm X. Young Malcom dropped out of high school after a white teacher told him that practicing law, his aspiration at the time, was "no realistic goal for a nigger." Yet, like a magnet, he was able to attract even the finest of grains from afar. Malcolm X was widely accepted from far and near. He gave speeches in several countries around the world, granted interviews, and spoke on radio and television. He also met with other world leaders and officials. In fact, by the time he was 39, Malcolm X had met with essentially all of Africa's prominent leaders: Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, and Ahmed Ben Bella of Algeria, who all courted him to serve in their governments. If Malcolm X did not attend any recognized schools, then where did he get his knowledge from? Was it from travelling, perhaps? Again, we know that even though he travelled the globe - travelling is education - which must have given him the opportunity to tap from many world and community leaders, Malcolm X only started travelling to other parts of the world after coming

to prominence in America. His frequent travels though irked the FBI who placed him on their watch list. So, how did he get his knowledge, prison? He sure did read in prison as a way to put his wandering mind in check but prison alone cannot make a man a visioner for his entire race. If Malcolm X did not attend any schools that would've exposed him to the things he spoke about, nor get them from prison or by rubbing minds with other erudite scholars then it must've been by divine providence that a man whom the system thought lowly of (a common criminal) should provide so much hope to a people scattered around the world. Having searched earnestly, I came to the conclusion that Malcolm X was schooled both at home and abroad. If you recall, his father was a local leader of Garvey's Negro Improvement Union. That must've set him up for a lot of knowledge, at least about the Black man. **Malcolm X was someone who could take a line out of your recipe and whip you up a dish that you never expected.** No wonder the masses identified with him wherever he went. Apart from his brilliance coupled with his doggedness and fiery temper (in a speech in London, he was reputed for saying: "I would not wait for the fascist element in Smethwick to erect gas ovens"), Malcolm X had a mind that was constantly updating. Like a computer

programme, it becomes obsolete when updates don't take place. This messenger of God was like the biblical Berean, he always went home to consider the things you told him, and was always willing to reconsider his stance if he thought you had a superior argument. That was why you could see him stand against racial integration one day and for it the next. He could tell you "no" to your face today, and tomorrow he's smiling and saying "yes" - this should not be taken for weakness or vacillation but a conscious effort at learning. He would go on to become a leading mind against segregation and the subjugation of Black people all over the world. Malcolm X's activism transcended the American political spectrum; he spoke in the Salle de la Mutualité, in Paris and participated in a BBC nationally televised debate in Britain. Some of the countries he visited include Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Guinea, Senegal, Liberia, Algeria, and Morocco. Some of them he visited two or more times. Though he identified as muslim, Malcolm X' activism was firebrand. He called a spade a spade and was a widely celebrated figure within African-American communities for his pursuit of racial justice. For these reason el-Hajj Malik Omowale el-Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X, will continue to be remembered.

It is believed that God sends his people a messenger and a judge whenever they cry out in the midst of oppresion. This archetype can be seen in many cultures and traditions around the world - in China and India for example. In biblical times, the Jews laboured and toiled in slavery, under the rulership of the Egyptian Pharaohs, until their God sent them Moses the deliverer. Though many did not believe in him but that didn't stop him from leading the Jews out of Egypt. That's who I believe Malcolm X is, a messenger of God to Black people, first, and to the world. How do I know this? Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, George Washington Carver, Booker T. Washington, Marcus Garvey, WEB Du

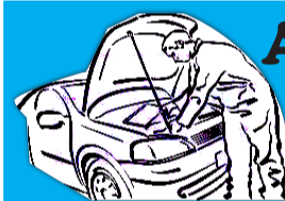
## TB Joshua

for for his second coming. Like the return of the lord the acknowledgement or lack thereof of the most enigmatic messenger of God to have lived in our times is uncertain and problematic. Many who should know are unsure if his powers are from God. Others who acknowledge the power claim it is from Belzebug (1 Corinthians 12:3). These are really confusing times for the christian faithful. Is Prophet T.B. Joshua a prophet of God? Without adding to that uncertainty and paranoia, let us look at some of the gifts and temperament of the holy spirit to see if they can be found in this man. His death, at least has confirmed that he was a man like other men in terms of being born and to die. But, no doubt, Joshua was no ordinary man. He was a man who contacted the highest forms of power available to man. A man who with one wave of his hand could banish a curse from another man's life without bragging about it (1 Corinthians 12:4-6). If Elijah and Elisha lived in our times, we would also have our doubts about their source of power. This type of power is not available to everyman but only to those who make themselves available for the master's use. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul the apostle admonished christian faithfuls about the giftings of the holy spirit. He writes that while spiritual gifts are given to individuals, they are intended for the common good of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:7) not primarily for the benefit of the individual to whom they are given. What did Joshua do with his spiritual giftings? Did he use them solely for himself or did he benefit others with it? You be the judge

now. Many a minister of God are desirous of the power that this man possessed and because they could not attain it resulted to envy and bastardization of the giftings he possessed forgetting that we all cannot have the same gifts even though we try to covet them because of the appeal they have. Also, the holy spirit chooses who to bestow what gift on; and we all cannot be chosen to have the same gift because we don't all have the same temperament (1 Corinthians 12:14). Prophet T.B. Joshua has been much maligned by other pastors but there is no record of him replying back. This is quite unusual in a country where many are want to have their say. There must be a pact between the Prophet and God not to abuse his powers. In Joshua's home country of Nigeria, most of the notable "pastors" are teachers of the word; there are also miracle workers who try to play the role of teachers. But there was only one man who truly occupied the office of a prophet.

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men" (Proverbs 22:29). Some notable men who visited T.B. Joshua in the Synagogue Church of All Nations include Presidents Pascal Lissouba (Congo), Andre Kolimba of the Central African Republic, and Zimbabwe's Morgan Tsvangirai. Others are Zambia's Frederick Chiluba, Gabonese President, Omar Bongo, Liberian President, George Weah, John Magufuli (Tanzania), Ghanaian President John Atta Mills, South Africa's opposition

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## St. Vital

ion Day Act - is a bill that will recognize August 1st as Emancipation Day in Manitoba to enlighten Manitobans of the history and impact of slavery in Manitoba." He explains that the Emancipation Day bill is modelled after a similar federal motion to recognize same date as Emancipation Day across all of Canada and as a national day.

Also, concerning his specific activities for members of his constituency, St. Vital, the community advocate said that he has "been working hard for the people of St vital, specifically over the last few months, advocating for a local vaccine site, in St vital, to make vaccination more accessible and more convenient to residents of St. Vital who have had to travel to the Maples or even downtown" for inoculations. The MLA representing St Vital also stated that he's "written a few letters, and spoken in the legislature about it, on multiple occasions, and hopefully we can alleviate the hardship associated with the process of getting a vaccine to those who need it, increase the number of people who are vaccinated, and help us put an end to the pandemic."

On whether he's surprised that it took 150 years to produce a black MLA in Manitoba, Jamie had this to say, "I'm glad it happened now and not later. There is an artificial barrier there, having never had a black person there in the legislature, and it has been broken by the three of us. It is better that it's broken now. So

many people would have wished that it happened sooner but I don't usually work with regrets. I usually look at how we can make progress now, and I think we made some progress in 2019 and need to consolidate on that for the future."

On racism against Indigenous people, Jamie was quick to point out that "there's undoubtedly systemic racism against Indigenous peoples in Canada, and opined that it is rather unfortunate that it is still something they face even today." Jamie also added that "Indigenous people have a unique relationship with our country and our jobs as legislators is to continue to ensure that their rights are being upheld; to work with them, beside them, and to support them accomplishing their goals on their terms."

Jamie who introduced a bill to the assembly, last November, seeking mandatory training on racism for provincial employees is optimistic that the idea will take root someday. The bill which did not pass second reading last March, owing to some kind of filibustering by members of the ruling party, is likely to come up again in the future, he says. "There is an artificial barrier there, having never had a black person there in the legislature, and it has been broken by the three of us. It is better that it's broken now. We made some progress in 2019 and need to consolidate on that for the future."

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# Canada Day 2021

- Low key celebrations amidst shattering discoveries

This year's Canada Day celebration should be low-key, especially after shattering discoveries regarding residential schools and their victims were recently made public. Some had called for the outright cancellation of this year's celebration to mark the day the Dominion of Canada came into existence, after the amalgamation of then British colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada (which comprised of Ontario and Quebec) in 1867. Moreso, since there was little pride in the discoveries, if any, to warrant an outlandish show. If anything, the country Canada ought to be ashamed of its past as this is not a good time to recount historical or cultural achievements. However, many - including prime minister, Justin Trudeau - agree this year's celebration should be "a time of reflection" given the rather sad discovery of another 751 unmarked graves (by ground penetrating radar) of residential school victims on the grounds of a former residential school in Saskatchewan (Canadian press). This is in addition to the 215 discovered earlier on the site of another school in British Columbia. What a shame! Already, communities in New Brunswick have begun to shelve the idea of fireworks for this year's celebration since the discoveries, just as CTV News reports that Calgary may decide against the usual Canada Day fireworks display. There have also been calls to cancel the celebrations in many provinces across the country with Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories spearheading the efforts; while the PC government in Manitoba has also pledged \$2.5 million towards the search for unmarked residential school graves within her domain (Canadian press).

Canada Day has always been marked since it came into existence, by then Governor General Lord Monck's proclamation, in 1868, requesting "all Her Majesty's subjects across Canada to celebrate July 1" as the anniversary of the

confederation as it was initially known. Since 1879 when a federal law made it a statutory holiday, Dominion Day, as it was later called, had continued to be celebrated in one form or another until 1982 when the Constitution Act of 1982 officially changed the name to Canada Day. Remarkably, in 1981, for the first time, about 15 Canadian cities celebrated with fireworks lighting the skies; which has come to be associated with present day Canada Day celebrations.

More importantly, the July 1 celebrations have witnessed some august visitors in the past, notably in the year 2010, when Her Majesty, the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh graced the occasion. A year later, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Catherine, were present during the Canada Day festivities on Parliament Hill. Again, in 2017, the Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, Charles and Camilla also graced festivities on Parliament Hill to mark the 150 years anniversary of the Dominion of Canada.

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### Poetry

"Give me my change"  
This world is not real  
But appears so  
Her deceptive flatness  
A huge blow  
Her constitution: an illusion  
Come, have a go at her inhabitants  
Who claim to have souls like heavenly  
militants  
If only we could search a little further...  
Then we'll be unblinded  
We live in a false flutter  
Every one of us or...  
How do we explain the Holocaust,  
Apartheid, Segregation and Discrimination  
Or the abortion of D E M O C R A C Y in...  
How else can one explain that today you are  
Tomorrow no more  
Mighty in war; weak in sickness; decay in  
death  
(slowly) Some inhabitants come with a  
Farce of an argument  
That...the world is not static, not constant  
Not-a-thing is permanent except change  
So...Give me my change!

## Jamie Moses

people, especially members of his constituency, to know why he put the bill forward. Not one to unnecessarily speak out about racism (he's married to a White lady), we tried to find out what the bill was all about and how to bring such a lofty idea to fruition. Jamie, who by the way is an excellent communicator, explains that Bill 212 is supposed to provide mandatory training for provincial employees in the area of systemic racism and human rights. The whole idea, he explains, is to arm provincial employees with enough knowledge, by learning and being educated, on a regular basis, to acquire the prerequisite tools to fight racism. Jamie is hopeful that the knowledge they derive therefrom will hopefully bring about a change in our society and put provincial employees in the driver's seat as leaders in terms of building a new culture of anti-racism in our society. Now, if you know anything about politics you'll understand that this is not a day's job. It could take months, years or even decades to actualize. Politics is a game of numbers and if you have the right number on your side, you're most likely to accomplish a lot quicker. The MLA for St Vital painstakingly explains that there are, at least, five stages before a bill can be assented into law "and we have just gone through the first stage, which is to introduce the bill to parliament." Other stages include: a call for second reading - during which it may or may not come up for debate; a vote; presentation before

a public committee; a third reading, and finally, the royal assent. "Like I said, we were not successful this time but will try again in the future."

"Recently, I have been working on bill 232 - the Emancipation Day Act - is a bill that will recognize August 1st as Emancipation Day in Manitoba to enlighten Manitobans of the history and influence of slavery in Manitoba." He explains that the Emancipation Day bill is modelled after a similar federal motion to recognize same date as Emancipation Day across all of Canada and as a national day.

On what he's been doing specifically for members of his constituency, St. Vital, the River East Collegiate graduate said that he's "been working hard for the people of St vital, specifically over the last few months, advocating for a local vaccine site, in St vital, to make vaccination more accessible and more convenient to residents of St. Vital who have had to travel to the Maples or even downtown" for inoculations. The MLA representing St Vital also said that he's "written a few letters, also spoken in the legislature about it, on multiple occasions, and hopefully we can alleviate the hardship associated with the process of getting a vaccine to those who need it, increase the number of people who are vaccinated, and help us put an end to the pandemic."

On whether he's surprised that it took 150 years to produce a black MLA in  
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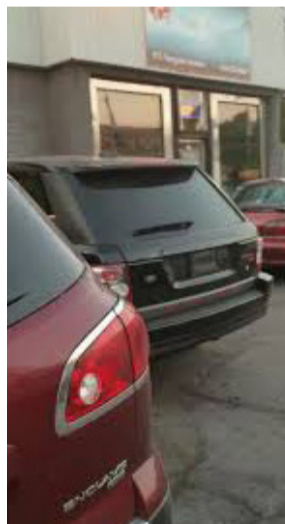
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# Canada Can Do Better With Minorities

- Neville Hamilton



**Neville Hamilton**

Since moving to Canada 11 years ago, Neville Hamilton has always been busy, be it in the electrical company which he runs or the musical promotions company that he has come to be known for. Like he says in his unmistakable Jamaican accent, “I

am heavily involved in music. I’m passionate about it and I want to help create an enabling environment for our music to grow in Canada especially as it relates to the Afro-Caribbean and Latino community in Canada.

Neville comes from a family of

musicians. He started playing music since he was 13 and played with his brother and cousins in Jamaica. He recalls playing at weddings and other social events. Since moving to Canada, he has played with a number of local bands like Small Town Limits, Inside Out, Classic Overdrive and Rockalypso; and also featured as back up for a number of international artists like Richie Spice, The Voice season 5 winner, Tessanne Chin, Lieutenant Stitchie, Singing Melody, Jah Cutta, Glen Williams, Chelsea Stewart and Papa San to name a few. The Reggae-Soca Festival made some of that possible. Neville now leads the vibes band, a reggae band based here in Winnipeg. In addition, Neville promotes upcoming local artists by helping with music recording in the studio. Most recently, in 2019, to be precise, Neville and his band, Jah vibes, toured western Canada alongside the Jah Cutta band.

Neville thinks Canada can do better with minorities especially in terms of music. With his musical promotions company, he plans to showcase local artists in a festival setting similar to what is obtainable in the Caribbean, uplifting them to the standard that they should be. He says, “back home the festival was a way of bringing the comm

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## Guitar Boy

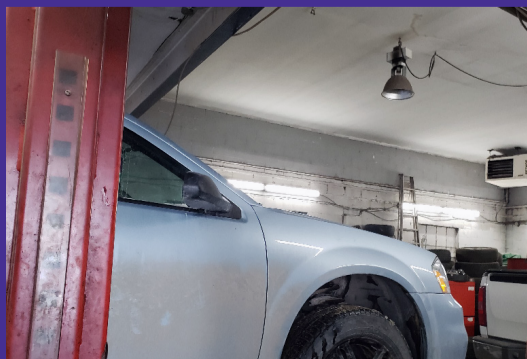


Sir Victor Uwaifo, as he’s popularly called, is the most enterprising musician to come out of Africa. He is a multi-talented individual who dons many hats - guitarist, composer, artist, writer, sculptor, inventor, and university don. Sir Victor Uwaifo is reputed to be the most educated performing musician alive today. He holds a Bachelors Honors degree (with first class), a Masters degree and Ph.D in Architectural Sculpture from the University of Benin, all in addition to his National Diploma from the reputable Yaba College of Technology and a High school diploma from the prestigious St Gregory’s College Lagos. A recipient of National Honors Merit in 1983 and a Justice of the Peace, Sir Victor Uwaifo is an Honorary Member of the Biographical Advisory Council, Cambridge, England, and a member of both the Performing Right Society, and of the Advisory Board of American Heritage University, California. He won the first gold disc in Africa (at 24 years) with the album “Joromi” released in 1965 and has a combined total of 12 gold discs to date. Other notable numbers of his include: Guitar boy, Arabade, and the Ekassa series. The widely travelled Uwaifo owns the Joromo Hotel in Benin City, as well as a television station. Some of the countries he’s visited include: Canada, Spain, the United States, Russia, Germany, France, Japan, and the United Kingdom. He is also the first musical legend to be named Arts, Culture and Tourism

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# Remembering the Marvelous One - Marvin Hagler

The news of Marvin Hagler's death hit like a super punch from the hard knuckles of a skilled



Leonard

fighter. Even

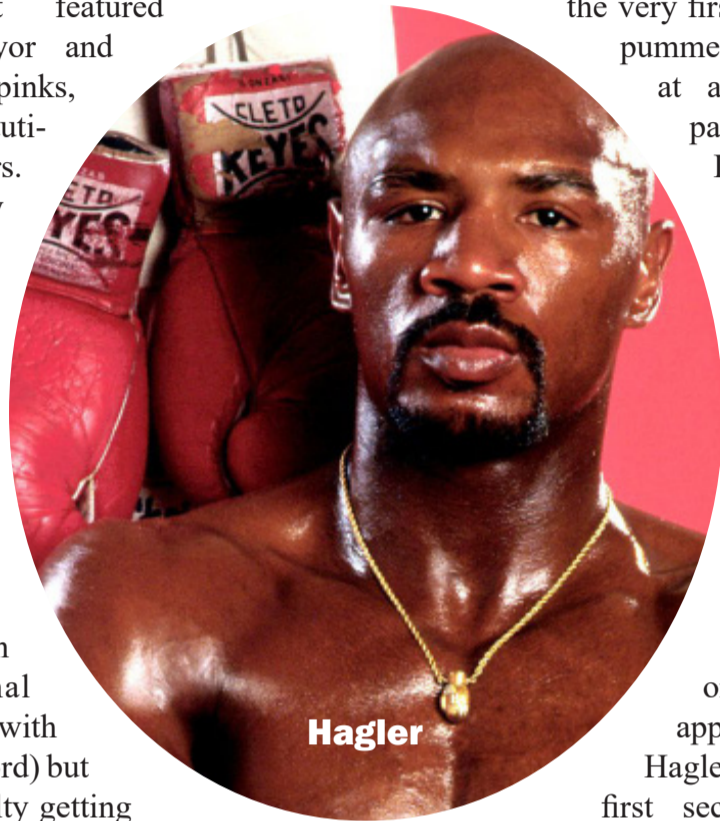
more devastating is the period when this happened. It was in the middle of the Coronavirus pandemic and the world was going through a rather difficult time altogether. Marvelous Marvin Hagler passed away at his home in New Hampshire, on March 13th 2021, after complications of chest pains and breathing difficulty leaving behind a wife and five children. He was 66. The pervading mood around the subject of death is always sadness and gloom but for me, Marvin Hagler represents so much that I don't find time to see him as one who's lifeless. He exudes so much energy and passion and was a principled man. Hagler brought so much joy to the world, especially to black folks, as his rise to fame and stardom is representative of the everyday struggles of the blackman in America. Born Marvin Nathaniel Hagler to Robert Sims and Ida Mae Hagler, on May 23rd 1954, Marvin Hagler was the first among six children and had another brother (Robbie Sims) who was a middleweight boxer (famous for defeating Roberto Duran in 1986) and four sisters. He dropped out of school at the age of 14 to help support the family by working in a toy factory; but was first kitted when he was 10 years old. He would later take to boxing fulltime, at just 15, "after being roughed up on the street," and had to lie about his age to



Duran

be allowed into the gym. Hagler who cuts the

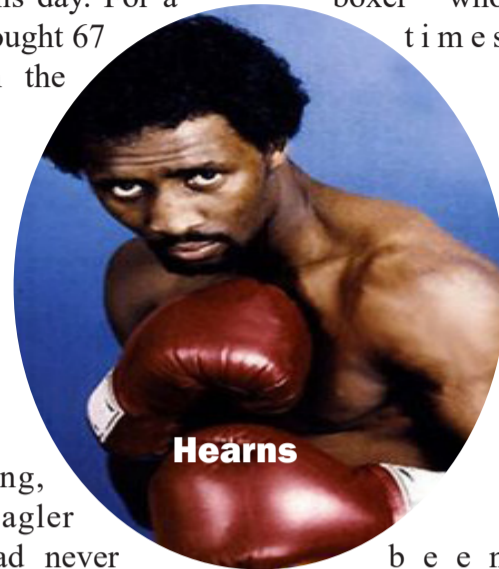
figure of one schooled in the university of hard knocks would go on to defeat Terry Dobbs, at 165-pounds and win the National AAU title in 1973, and was voted the 'Outstanding Boxer' of the tournament, in a competition that featured Aaron Pryor and Leon Spinks, two beautiful boxers. The only place to go when there's no more room below is to go up, and up he went. Hagler would turn professional that year (with a 55-1 record) but had difficulty getting the attention of big-time promoters, predominantly because he was too lethal. Hagler had to fight his way to a title after being snubbed by many high-profile opponents who would rather not engage a southpaw; most times travelling to his opponents' domain to get fights. He literally fought for his first title after 37 fights but did get his opportunity when Boston promoter Rip Valenti took an interest after Hagler knocked out Willie 'The Worm' Monroe (one of the fighters he promoted) in two rounds; and like they say, the rest is history. Hagler battered almost every boxer that was placed in front of him, so bad that one "required 40 facial stitches." This earned him the attention of big-time promoter, Bob Arum who signed him. Hagler would win his first world title in the famous Wembley Arena, stopping then World champion, Alan Minter, inside three rounds necessitating a riot among the spectators. Minter was so brutally beaten forcing the referee to stop the fight. He actually elicited the treatment he got after allegedly saying that "No black man is going to take my title." Hagler and his trainers had to be escorted to their locker room by a phalanx of policemen, all the while enduring a steady rain of beer bottles and glasses. After seven years and 50 fights, Hagler was the world middleweight champion and defended his belt against the brightest and the best of the division - the likes of Fulgencio Obelmejias, former world champion, Vito Antuofermo, Bobby Czyz, and Mustafa Hamsho who beat Wilfred Benitez. Many boxing



Hagler

fans remember Hagler for a number of interesting fights - especially against the likes of Thomas the hitman Hearn - which produced the best 1st-round in a boxing match, tagged "the war," both boxers suffered injuries in the very first round as they pummelled each other at an unbelievable pace; Roberto Durán - the first challenger to go the distance with Hagler in a world-championship bout; Juan Roldán - the only man who appeared to knock Hagler down, in the first seconds of their fight, for which he paid dearly; and Sugar Ray Leonard - arguably the only boxer to outpunch Haglar and run

away with the most contested result to this day. For a boxer who fought 67 times in the



Hearns

ring, Hagler had never been knocked out in a fight. He had this go-get-him attitude in the ring which can be seen in his 62 wins, 3 losses and 2 draws; and every loss he had - by judges decision of course - he avenged by a brutal KO or TKO, except the last one, against Leonard, for which he decided he'd had enough of crappy judging and walked away from the sport. Marvelous Marvin Hagler bowed out March 13th, ten days to his 67th birthday. He will forever remain fresh in our minds as the one truly undisputed middleweight world champion despite



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# Reminiscing on the Outset of the Pandemic

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When the coronavirus pandemic first announced itself, early last year, it did so with a bang. The world and everything in it seemed to have come to a standstill, with uncertainty everywhere. The gridlock ensured that things were never the same again. People were forbidden to visit their aging parents in seniors' homes, even as some of the staff in those homes abandoned them. Life became unbearable and inaction replaced action. Many daycare facilities closed their doors, as children were asked to remain at home, for fear of infecting their caregivers. Students were not left out, they too were forced off campuses, arguably for the same reasons. Many offices, including government offices, were shut down. Hospitals and clinics became the last places on people's minds as doctors themselves avoided the virus like the plague. Many doctors rescheduled appointments for many unclear reasons and because they were wary of protocols at the early stage of the pandemic. Most countries shut down their borders to prevent foreigners from coming in. Many were stranded on cruise ships, and some even died. Returning travellers were subjected to quarantine procedures before being admitted into the country. It was tough. We were all condemned to wear masks and other forms of face coverings in our daily endeavours. And the debate sometimes shifted from the source of the virus to which mask was

adequate. Some argued the N95 masks were superior while others argued that we were supposed to use breathable masks. But it did not prevent people from dying globally. It was confusion everywhere as the virus, itself, came to symbolize it. Before we knew it, new words like lockdown and quarantine gradually crept into our everyday vocabulary. And, for the



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first time, we all became prisoners in our own homes. It didn't take long, however, for despair to change to hope, as many of us, glued to our television sets, for the first time in months, watching in vain for a solution to the ravaging pandemic. We all hoped to hear news about a cure, a vaccine, relief of some sort. No one dared watch any other thing; nothing was more important at this time. All major sports shut down anyway, whole seasons were canceled one after the other. Football, then baseball, then tennis, then soccer, then basketball, and hockey followed suit. It was unbearable. The only thing that

could help lift our spirits in times like this was being put on hold like many other aspects of our lives – birthdays, graduations, weddings, and funerals. The virus had such power, it had pummelled us into submission. Gyms and other such

places were long shutdown; recreation was now least in our minds. With loved ones lost, jobs lost, household incomes shrunk, and our living spaces reduced, we all had to relearn living again. Sports fans were not left out; they too had to re-watch old episodes of games and so did movie-goers - new movies had to be put on hold too. This virus indeed was powerful. Then in a bid to gradually return to normal, my many retail stores turned to online shopping, schools introduced virtual classes, and some churches even introduced drive-in services - for which they got into trouble (don't ask me why). Many online resources sprang up. There was zoom, which became a huge success. It was used for meetings. Hope was coming back, as long as people could re-connect. Major sports franchises and associations began to tinker with the idea of returning to the arenas, and I began to see hope again. Until they dropped the bombshell – no fans are to be allowed. What?! No fans to be allowed?! What was sports without fans anyway? How is that going to work? These were the questions I asked myself. Then hockey season started, and all of the teams were divided into two groups and headed into two different bubbles. Hmm, that was a new word, at least, in sports. Players and officials only, no fans, they could watch from home. I tried to make a case that watching is different from supporting but no one would listen to me. I am not a sports watcher but a team supporter. How was I supposed to support my beloved Winnipeg Jets from afar? They were bound to lose. And they did lose. I don't get it; may be somebody can

help explain it to me. How was I supposed to inspire or cheer my team to victory? I must admit, it's a little bit funny, having to dress up in your pajamas to cheer your team to victory. I understand I'm not the only one, all hockey fans have been made to sit at home, unable to attend the games in the arena, just like me. How can this be happening to our beloved sport? We're still allowed to wear our team's shirt and shout them to victory (or defeat, which is mostly the case these days). It appears to normal, my team loses more often because I'm not there to cheer them on. Supporting a team is huge. It involves being present. The mere presence of so many people in the home team's shirt kind of affects the visiting team. There's power in numbers. It appears our presence helps to subdue the other team, especially when playing at home. Seeing blue, orange, or green all around the stadium when you're not

**We've almost taken it for granted, because we are there every time our team plays, at least, in our cities. Because we're able to easily connect with friends after work, go for beers, and watch games together over wings or hotdogs. Because we're certain of catching the bus or relying on that friend who doesn't drink to be our designated driver. We really need people to come to the world's aid, and we need them fast, right now.**





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Africa now has 123, yes three UFC Champions

From l - r, Cameroon's Francis Ngannou (Heavyweight champion), Nigerians Kamaru Usman (Welterweight) and Isreal Adesanya (Middleweight champion)

*Canadian Player Profile*



**Jonathan Christian David**

**Age:** 21

**Club:** Lille

**Number:** 9

**Position:** Forward

**Height:** 1.75m (5ft 9)

**Birthplace:** Brooklyn NY

**Nationality:** Canada

Youth Clubs

**Gloucester Dragons** 2010

**Gloucester Hornets** 2011-2015

**Ottawa Internatnls** 2016-2018

**Gent** 2018-2020

**Lille France** 2020-present

**National Team**

2017: Canada U17

2018: Canada U23

2018: Canada Men

# Francis Ngannou

- Is The Baddest Man on the Planet

It is no longer news that Francis Ngannou is the new UFC heavyweight champion of the world. Ngannou dethroned Stipe Miocic via a 2nd round knockout, last March, to avenge his 2018 loss to Miocic and is now on a five fight winning streak, all by TKO, the last four being first-round finishes (Curtis Blaydes, Cain Velasquez, Junior dos Santos and Jairzinho Rozenstruik). The baddest man on the planet is now set to make his first title defence against either Derrick Lewis or Jon Jones, depending on how negotiations pan out. For Ngannou, a fight against the legendary Jones who recently moved up to heavyweight vacating his lightweight title is the real deal but the UFC are still having a hard time figuring out the legend's purse and are poised to settle for a less glamorous encounter with the Black Beast who handed Ngannou his last loss. Meanwhile, the UFC middleweight champion, Israel Adesanya, defeated Italian challenger Marvin Vettori in a one-sided beatdown to cement his legacy in the division. Adesanya who came up short in his quest to dethrone the light-heavyweight champion, Jan Blachowicz,

last March, quickly returned to the division to continue his dominant reign. Also, welterweight king, Kamaru Usman has not been slipping up either. Usman had a dominant performance against Jorge Masvidal, in April, winning by 2nd-round knockout to retain his welterweight crown. If you recall, the two had earlier duelled, last July, when Gamebred, who holds the fastest knockout in UFC history, at five seconds, was drafted on six days notice to fill in for Burns who tested positive for Covid-19 back then. The welterweight champion who has since defeated Burns wasn't satisfied with his performance on the night and decided to run it back resulting in a resounding victory for the champ. Remember, Usman, a former NCAA Division II wrestling champion at 174 pounds won the title in a one-sided showdown against former champion, Tyron Woodley, and has since successfully defended the crown four times, against Colby Covington and Jorge Masvidal, Gilbert Burns and Masvidal. Usman has also beaten the likes of Leon Edwards, Rafael dos Anjos, and Demian Maia. He is now 19-1, and is unbeaten in his last 18 fights.

Uefa Champions League

Congratulations to Chelsea Football Club on winning the 2020/21 Uefa Champions League trophy. It was indeed a collective effort from the club owner, Roman Abramovic, club legend and former coach, Frank Lampard, new and current coach, Thomas Tuchel, the entire team and the club. Kudos to you guys! Up Blues!

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