

Capitalize where needed.

(Original passages from *Some Black Women* and *Black Pioneers of Science and Invention*)

ZANANA AKANDE

Zanana Akande was the first Black woman to hold a cabinet post in the Ontario government. She grew up in Toronto and has had a distinguished career as an educator, as well as being involved in community organizations including the United Way of Greater Toronto and the Ontario Teachers' Federation. Before entering politics, Akande served as the principal of George Syme Public School in Toronto. She was elected to provincial parliament for the New Democrat Party on September 6, 1990. Akande is currently the parliamentary assistant to Premier Bob Rae.

VERA CUDJOE

For Vera Cudjoe, the desire to educate in an entertaining fashion, has been an endless endeavour. Before 1973, Vera Cudjoe had a dream. She wanted a theatre for Blacks. To tell their stories and teach their history. She wanted an organization that would represent the Black community in an effort to share and enjoy. Cudjoe founded Black Theatre Canada and worked as the artistic director. Cudjoe used theatre as a means of informing, entertaining and uniting the Black community. The company staged many successful performances, workshops and seminars. In 1988, the Trinidadian-born Cudjoe co-wrote 'The Story of Mary Ann Shadd,' a biography of one of Canada's most significant Black pioneers. In 1978, she received the Queen's Canadian Silver Jubilee Award as well as the Caribbean Cultural Achievement Award. The Association of Black Women also recognized Cudjoe's achievements when they presented her with the Outstanding Award.

PEGGY DOWNES

Major Peggy Downes was born in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. She joined the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps Militia in 1955. For fifteen years, Downes was the only female member of the Negro Colour Guard attaining the rank of Master Warrant Officer. Her outstanding work in the military was recognized in 1968 when she was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration. In 1980, Downes became the first female honorary aide de camp to Ontario Lieutenant Governor John Black Aird. In recognition of her dedication to the Canadian Forces, Downes was appointed Officer of the Order of Military Merit in 1988.

NORBERT RILLIEUX 1806-1894

Very few inventions can be said to be of worldwide significance. It is generally recognized, however, that Norbert Rillieux's invention of the vacuum pan evaporator revolutionized the world's sugar industry. The familiar white, refined crystals of sugar that we take for granted today were made possible by this Black man's genius. What is the story of this remarkable inventor? On March 17, 1806, a child was born on a New Orleans plantation. The child's father was the master of the plantation, a wealthy Frenchman and engineer. His mother was a slave on the plantation. That child was Norbert Rillieux. His birth record, now on file in the City of New Orleans, lists "Norbert Rillieux, quadroon libre, natural son of Vincent Rillieux and Constance Vivant, born March 17, 1806.

BEVERLY MASCOLL

Beverly Mascoll is the president of Mascoll Beauty Supply Ltd, a company that specializes in beauty products for the Black consumer. Since Mascoll couldn't find suitable makeup for herself, she decided to open her own cosmetics business which would cater to women of colour. Originally, this was a small company which Mascoll ran from her home. The company has been quite successful and Mascoll has opened an international beauty complex on Bathurst St, in Toronto.