



McLAUGHLIN COLLEGE

McLaughlin College proudly presents its UN International Day Commemoration:

COMMEMORATION ON MARCH 23, 2021

**"Youth Standing Up Against Racism"
is the 2021 theme**

INTERNATIONAL
DAY for the ELIMINATION OF
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

"The United Nations General Assembly reiterates that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies. In its most recent resolution, the General Assembly also emphasized that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races.

The United Nations has been concerned with this issue since its foundation and the prohibition of racial discrimination is enshrined in all core international human rights instruments. It places obligations on States and tasks them with eradicating discrimination in the public and private spheres. The principle of equality also requires States to adopt special measures to eliminate conditions that cause or help to perpetuate racial discrimination." (<https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-racism-day>)

MODERATOR:



DR. JAMES C. SIMEON is the Head of McLaughlin College and an Associate Professor in the School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA), Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, and a former Director of the SPPA, and a former Acting Director and Deputy Director at the Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS), at York University. His principal areas of research include public international law, especially, international refugee law, and public policy and administration.

PANELISTS:



DEBBIE DOUGLAS is the Executive Director of OCASI -- the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants. Through her work in the NGO sector and particularly at OCASI, Ms. Douglas has highlighted issues of equity and inclusion. Ms. Douglas is a member of the Immigration and Refugee Advisory Committee of Legal Aid Ontario and the federal government's National Settlement & Integration Council, and she co-chairs the City of Toronto's Newcomer Leadership Table.



DR. MICHELE A. JOHNSON is a Professor in the Department of History and Associate Dean Students in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies (LA&PS). She has served as the coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Programme, York's Affirmative Action Officer and as the Director of the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and its Diasporas. Johnson previously taught in the Department of History at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica and currently teaches courses which focus on "Blacks in the Americas," including Canada. Her research interests focus on Jamaican cultural history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as well as on gender relations, race/racialization, labour, domestic slavery and domestic service in Jamaica and Canada.



RANA KHAN is a human rights lawyer who is the Head of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Toronto Office. Her work in Canada has covered all aspects of refugee protection, policy and practice. An experienced trainer, Rana has also been the UNHCR lead in Canada on judicial interventions, gender, children's issues and the Global Detention Strategy – Beyond Detention.



MARIAN MACGREGOR is the Executive Director of the Center for Human Rights Equity and Inclusion (CHREI). Marian is a lawyer by training and prior to her coming to the CHREI, she was the Equity Advisor to the Law Society of Ontario where one of her main responsibilities was the implementation of the strategies that flowed from the final Report of the Challenges Faced by Racialized Licensees working group.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Registration Link: https://yorku.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mahKrzQWRiG6LuM83dx8oA

For further information, please contact Vicky Carnevale at vcarneva@yorku.ca,