



Trent Durham Student Association

55 Thornton Rd. S
Oshawa, On L1J 5Y1
905-435-5102

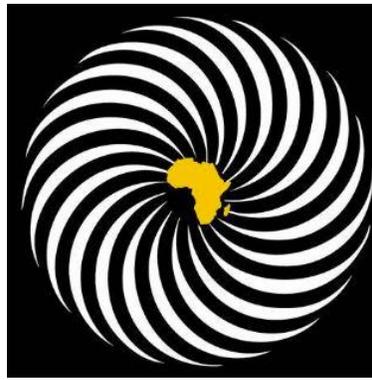
The Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) is aware of the United Nations General Assembly

Proclamation of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent (the Decade) in its Resolution 68/237 of December 23, 2014 stipulated under the theme “People of African descent: recognition, justice and development.”

This is a commitment based on the work presented by Director Carwyn Holland, to work towards the removal of barriers to participation to its members, the improvement of inclusive hiring processes, promoting and protecting the human rights, and other privileges of its Black students.

Read the full proclamation below or visit:

https://www.mytdsa.ca/uploads/2/9/0/6/29061437/proclamation_-_idpad.pdf



Proclamation

International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024

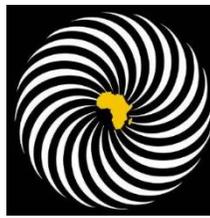
BACKGROUND

In December 2013, the UN adopted resolution 68/237 to proclaim the “International Decade for People of African Descent (the Decade), starting January 1, 2015 and ending on December 31, 2024 under the theme “People of African descent: recognition, justice and development.” During the 69th session of the General Assembly on December 10, 2014, this resolution was formally declared.

The Decade aims to fortify actions and measures to achieve the full realization of the economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights of people of African descent, and their full and equal participation in society. By leveraging the theme “Recognition, Justice and Development”, the Decade provides a charter to encourage humanity to eradicate social injustices inherited from history and to fight against racism, prejudice and racial discrimination to which people of African descent are still subjected.

The Decade seeks to accomplish the following operation framework:

- Promote respect, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by people of African descent, as recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- Adopt and strengthen national, regional and international legal frameworks according to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and to ensure their full and effective implementation.



DISCUSSION

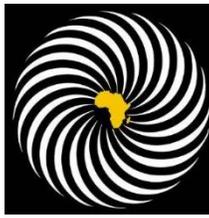
Since the official proclamation of the Decade seven years ago, several jurisdictions and organizations have officially proclaimed and adopted the Decade. These include:

- The Federal Government – January 2018
- City of Ottawa – March 2018
- Dalhousie University – October 2018
- City of Toronto – April 2019
- Ontario Government – May 2019
- University of Ottawa – May 2019

Trent University and the TDSA are yet to officially recognize, proclaim and adopt the Decade in its Black History Month Celebrations with only two more years left to show significant solidarity. It is not too late to formally endorse it as we are in critical times, where the atrocities against people of African Descent are being highlighted and rejected worldwide.

In adopting the declaration, the TDSA will be expressing its desire to become a leader in inclusion and equity among student unions and in educational circles at the provincial, national and international levels. The TDSA will be reiterating its support for:

- Implementation of inclusive practices at Trent University to foster the success of all students, including students of African descent
- Advocacy for increase diversity among Trent's teaching and support staff hires
- Giving all students, including those of African descent, an opportunity to participate in the decision making on matters related to student experience
- Fostering a motivating, respectful, and equitable University climate
- Reviewing Trent's equity policies and sensitizing our members of the needs of all our students, including those of African descent
- Celebrating the experiences and successes of all students, including those of African descent
- Recognizing the contributions of educators of African descent and their contributions to Trent University.



Proclamation

International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024

WHEREAS Trent Durham Student Association (TDSA) is aware of the United Nations General Assembly Proclamation of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent (the Decade) in its Resolution 68/237 of December 23, 2014 stipulated under the theme “People of African descent: recognition, justice and development”; and

WHEREAS the resolution designates people of African descent as a distinct group, whose human rights must be promoted and protected; and

WHEREAS, the Decade was officially recognized by the Government of Canada on January 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS the TDSA is committed to removing barriers that prevent full participation of its members and employees in university programs, services and all aspects of the student union; and

WHEREAS, the TDSA is committed to equal access to opportunities and representation of its members at Trent Durham Campus; and

WHEREAS the International Decade for People of African Descent is an opportunity for TDSA to acknowledge the efforts and initiatives undertaken by the Government and the Black Community to prohibit discrimination and segregation, and to engender the full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Trent Durham Student Association Board of Directors of 2021-2022, hereby proclaim our unwavering support for the International Decade for People of African Descent and enjoin all members, faculty and staff of Trent University Durham to take actions that will support the full inclusion of our African descendant members in all areas of our University.

Dated at Trent University Durham, Ontario

this 28th day of January 2022