



BROTHERS WHO CARE



Newsletter Appreciation

Greetings readers and supporters, and welcome to the October edition of the Brothers Who Care Newsletter. We have worked to provide premium news bulletins for our readers, incorporating news from all over Ontario.

This month we are focused on Financial Health and Wellness, and this edition includes financial tips and tricks, a special spotlight feature, and updates on what is up and coming with Brothers Who Care.

Have you signed up for our Newsletter?

We would love to stay connected! To hear more about our campaign's latest news, be sure to sign up for our monthly newsletter. We welcome questions, feedback, comments or any correspondence from subscribers. Together we have proved that together we can change our community.

IMPORTANT NEWS, UPDATES, AND IDEAS

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Andrew McDonald

Don't forget to visit our website
<https://brotherswhocare.com/>



@CanBwC



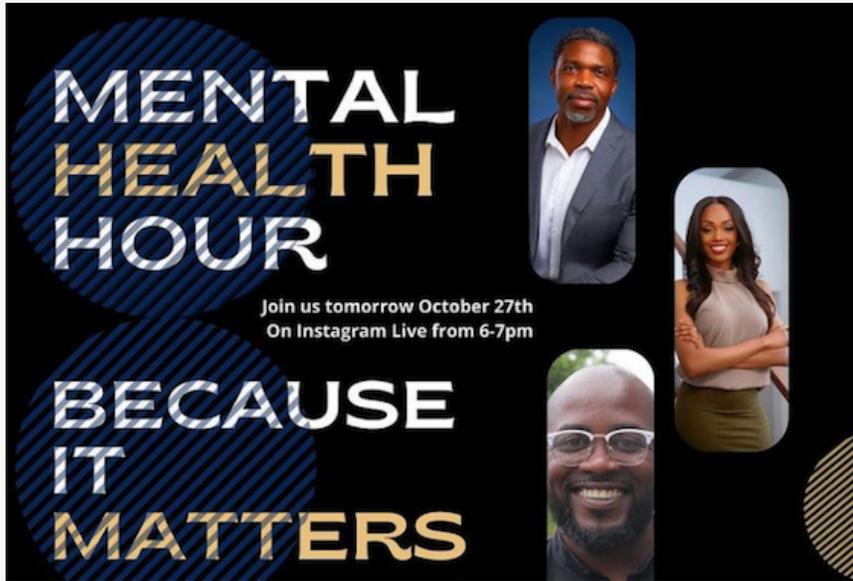
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Upcoming Events

I SEE ME Campaign & Documentary - Kick-off

The kick-off started on October 4th, and there are so many exciting details to come.

Follow us on our social media handles @canbwc, as we will be sharing news about the campaign highlighting the aspirations of our young boys and girls and the enthusiasm of the exemplifying role models, who have volunteered and raised their hands to inspire these young people.

BwC Quarterly Fundraiser

Our quarterly fundraiser focused on Financial Health and Wellness has been pushed to November 25th, 2021. Stay tuned for further details.

EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT

Special Guests Stacy-Ann Buchanan, and Brandon Hay

Brothers Who Care Mental Health Hour

On Tuesday, October 27th, 2021, Brothers Who Care (Hosted by David Griffiths) had special guests Stacy-Ann Buchanan and Brandon Hay join them for Mental Health Hour. This hour was dedicated to something that many of us do not get enough of ... REST! The panellists shared their stories, and great tools that viewers need to prioritize their mental health.



"We are excited to announce that we have reached a partnership with LifeWorks to continue to deliver our monthly mental health hour forum. These incredible forums have been very impactful, and the feedback that we have received shows us that forums like these are not only helpful, but also necessary.

Together, we will ignite and normalize the discussion around mental health in the black community, bring awareness to mental health related resources, and use conversations to build and strengthen the community. Don't miss our November mental health hour, and stay tuned for upcoming guests!

Finally, take some time to get some rest; your mind and body will thank you for it.
David Griffiths, Founder Brothers Who Care

The “I SEE ME” Program Updates

Thanks to the sponsorship from CIBC Wood Gundy Group and specifically the McDonald Group and the Commerce Valley Financial Group.

We will be providing more details on a program to be delivered in partnership with One Voice One Team (OVOT).



I SEE ME Youth Investment Competition

We will kick off the investment competition in early December and it will run from December 2021 through January 2022.

We are excited about this program and hope you are too. It is an amazing way to encourage and empower our young men and women.

Our efforts are centralized around amplifying the attitudes and cultural norms of young black children. Our aim is to maximize their life experiences.

If you have a child in grades 4 to 6, reach out to us and find out how your child can participate in the competition and have an opportunity to win \$1000 to invest in RESP and receive investment guidance from a CIBC representative.



WHAT'S NEW!

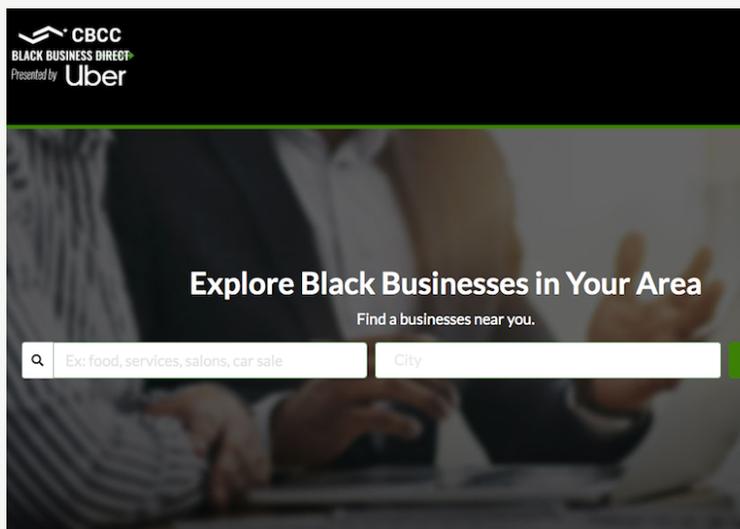
The Canadian Black Chamber of Commerce launches their Black Business Directory, presented by Uber

The Canadian Black Chamber of Commerce has committed to connecting and bridging the economic gap and increasing trade within the Black Business diaspora, and between mainstream local and international markets for a more thriving and inclusive interconnected Canadian economy.

They have been positively building economic bridges by promoting and empowering Black Entrepreneurs and the Black businesses community we serve on a local, national and international level. They promote, develop and sustain economic growth and prosperity within all local and the Global markets.

The Canadian Black Chamber has recently launched their Black Business Directory, presented by Uber. There is incredible power in being in the right place, with the right people and being connected in the right way. Black Business Direct is the newest National, digital directory available to support Black entrepreneurs across the country.

You can learn more by visiting <https://www.blackbusinessdirect.ca/>



3 Money Mistakes that Black People Make



NOT HAVING A BUDGET

How to Avoid It:

Start by keeping a spending diary to track your monthly expenditures. Use only your ATM card for purchases. At the end of the month, download the information into software such as Quicken (quicken.intuit.com). Once you know where the money is going, then you can decide where to gradually cut back.

Living check to check and not having an emergency fund

Prudential reported that having an “emergency savings” is the third priority, after paying down debt and saving for retirement. Financial planners are advising that emergency savings should be a top priority, even before retirement savings.

How to Avoid It:

Pay yourself first. Automate your savings and set the money aside in an account that is not easily accessible.

Not having life insurance, a will or long-term disability insurance

Protect your dependents: your kids, spouse and parents. Remember that life insurance can also help defray costs and pay off any debt not discharged by death. Without a will you could be letting the government make one of your most important financial decisions for you.

How to Avoid It:

Get yourself life insurance. You should have enough to cover any debts, including your mortgage; enough to support your spouse and children until they reach adulthood; and enough for their college education. It would be wise to include a guardianship clause if you have kids to designate caretakers for your little ones.

Spotlight Profile

Andrew McDonald

“The cream rises to the top, you have to put the work in.”

He is up earlier than most, checking the European markets when they open at 3:00 am. Then he reads the paper to catch up on the day's finances, and goes back to sleep. Then he is up again at 5:30 am to get in his daily exercise.

Canadians, who identify as visible minorities, usually do not have the same access to investments and other sources of wealth as non-racialized people. Brothers Who Care Spotlight Feature Andrew McDonald has broadened the lens to look at wealth, rather than just looking at income. He has paid his dues by working hard to come up in an industry that minorities are not frequently seen in.

It is one of the reasons that he was selected for our “I SEE ME,” campaign, an initiative aimed at assisting our young BIPOC girls and boys see themselves in careers not commonly thought of in their communities. He was one of our first interviews, and he definitely set the stage for what is to come with this campaign.

~

He took some time to sit down with us and share his journey into the financial industry.

“I was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and I moved in with my grandmother at two years old. I had an interesting start in life; many people don't know that I lived on a farm in St. Ann's Jamaica”

When I came to Canada I was only eight years old. No one explained to me how cold it was to me,” Andrew shares chuckling. “It was such a distant land for me, and like that my life changed. My mom was married at the time, and I had a little brother, then my sister came. I eventually adapted.

“I remember in grade 4, I had a terrible rash. The doctor told me the rash was stress related. I learned something cool that day at the office, and from then, I thought I wanted to be a dermatologist. That meant that I had to do some science courses and advanced math.

The later part of my teens was tumultuous. I met this one lady at church who rented a room to me in my last two years of high school. When I got to University, I got into politics and was on the student council. After a few initial courses, it became clear that I was not getting into medical school. I had a passion for human physiology, but not anything else related to medical school. While on the school council, I was in charge of the finances, and I have to say that this was the catalyst to my love of finances.

I ended up switching my degree to Finance, and when I finished my degree, I got my introduction to the financial world when six months later, I landed a job at Midland Walwyn on Bay St, and I have been there ever since.



When I came to Bay St, I think that people were surprised to see a person of colour. It was a different experience. One of the things that you have to understand about Bay St is that there is a lot of classism, more so than racism. It was the first time I had experienced classism.

“I learned that when you go into a room, you can occupy your mind with how people see you, or you can say, ‘How do I present myself as the best in the room. ‘It helps to transform your mind from a place of insecurity to strength.”

I worked my way up to Senior Wealth Advisor. It was very helpful to have a mentor, and was gifted with one by the name of Joyce Eisen. When I got the job, it was an entry-level job, and I was a floater, going from team to team helping out. Scotiabank eventually recruited me, and when I went to resign my floater position, my manager at the time gave me a better contact, which was Joyce Eisen.

I was obsessed with researching, and Joyce allowed me to build portfolios. She nurtured me, and would correct me when necessary. I would sleep at the office sometimes just to get work done. She saw my work ethic, so she invested in me. She gave me the opportunity to become an associate with her. In 2005, I became a junior partner, and in 2010 she retired, and I took over her clients.

You don't get where you are by yourself. It is wrong to omit even the small things that people do for you. To this day, she calls me to check on me. It continues to show me the importance of building relationships.

I am grateful to be in Canada; the opportunities that it offers are like no other. I am very grateful for my professors at university, and now when I get an opportunity, I give back. I have an internship program where I do my best to bring in people of colour into the financial industry. The marketplace is ready for people of colour. It is ready to accept you, as long as you are ready to put people first, and come ready to serve.”