

The Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) is to deliver programs and services, provides a physical hub, and to advocate to improve the well-being and equity of Jamaican, Caribbean & African-Canadian communities within the Greater Toronto Area



For Immediate Release March 12, 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

As you are aware, COVID-19 is causing increasing concerns and disruptions around the world and now in the GTA. JCA has assembled a team to plan and react to any impacts of the virus at the Centre, on our core business of hall rental and our programs. As the hub of community engagement, hundreds of people enter the space each week so we must take steps to minimize the spread of the virus to our customers, volunteers, staff and contractors. The financial and other impacts to the organization are potentially significant but the Board will assess the risks, plan and report back accordingly.

The following are a list of steps we will be taking:

- Increased cleaning and sanitization of the Centre – chairs, doorknobs washrooms etc.
- Increased signage in the lobby and on doors
- Increase the number of sanitizer stations especially by doors
- Cancel the Caribbean Canadian Seniors Club and Saturday Morning Tutorial Program until April 5; we will reassess at that time
- Ask individuals who have a cough or other symptoms not to enter the Centre
- Ask Committee Chairs to hold meetings via conference call rather than in person

At this time, we are **not** cancelling the Walk Good Walkathon or Independence Gala but will reassess each week.

A big thank you to the COVID-19 team for jumping in and assisting so quickly:

Dr. Sylvanus Thompson - Advisor
Orville Patrick
Jennifer McFarlane
Herrol Mattocks
Chris Williams

Owen Dunbar
David Betty
Janet Lewis
Donna Fancy-Lyte (CAFCAN)
Maureen Henry (CAFCAN)
Adaoma Patterson

In the meantime, please take care of yourself. We hope and pray all will be well sooner rather than later. Thank you.

Adaoma, on behalf of:

Alton, David, Jodieka, Kashane, Janet, Yolande, Michelle, Natalee – Board of Directors

The hub of community engagement since 1962.

Programming for all ages: Annual Scholarship Awards, Saturday Morning Tutorial Program, Caribbean Canadian Seniors, Spelling Bee, Domino Club, Advocacy, Speaker Series, Cultural & Heritage Events

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