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December 5, 2005

Ms. Josephine Bryant  
City Librarian  
789 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4W 2G8

Dear Ms Bryant:

Naming of the Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection at the Parkdale Library

I am writing in support of naming the Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection at the Parkdale Library after its founder, Dr. Rita Cox, former Head of the Parkdale Branch Library.

This collection has been an integral part of the Parkdale inter-cultural community since 1972 and over the 33 years of its existence has been responsible for raising the consciousness of Caribbean Literature within the wider literary community and making the Parkdale Library a 'place to go – a must see'. The Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection and the library programming conceived and supported by Dr. Cox enabled young literary artists of African and Caribbean descent to develop and showcase their talents and abilities.

Our diverse communities continue to benefit from collections like these and by ensuring that the uniqueness of each collection is preserved, we pay tribute to a person who was far-sighted and innovative to see the need and ensuing benefits. And what better way to name the collection after its founder: The Rita Cox Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection. The Collection thus name will be an easy identifiable and accessible collection for research, and further will serve to promote the Toronto Public Library.

Yours truly,

Inez N. Elliston

Inez N. Elliston

Educator, Researcher, Writer  
& Community Volunteer