



Consulate General of Antigua and Barbuda

60 St Clair Avenue East, Suite 601, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4T 1N5
Tel: (416) 961-3143 • Fax: (416) 961-7218 • info@antigua-barbuda-ca.com

December 08, 2005

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

Ref: **Naming of Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection**

Dear Ms Bryant:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the CARICOM Consular Corps and 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 thirty-three years of its existence has been responsible for raising the awareness of Caribbean literature within the wider literary community and for 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 has 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 such as 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. We can think of no better tribute but to formally request to have the collection named after its founder: The Rita Cox Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection.

The CARICOM Consular Corps and its representative communities in Toronto believe that the preservation and appropriate naming of this collection would not only be a fitting tribute to its founder, but just as much so to the achievements and aspirations of scores of Black and Caribbean writers throughout this country.

Page 2 of 2

Ms Josephine Bryant
City Librarian
Toronto Public Library

We await your positive consideration and response.

Sincerely,

Madeline Blackman
Madeline Blackman
Consul General of Antigua and Barbuda
per/pro CARICOM Consular Corps (Toronto)