

Lulu Anderson

Not much is known about Lulu Anderson. She was born in Atlantic City in about 1885 or 1886 and moved to Edmonton, Alberta. She was active in her local church and in the choir. But on May 12, 1922, Lulu Anderson made history. She went to the Metropolitan Theatre to watch a performance of *The Lion and the Mouse* and was denied entry and reportedly assaulted. Anderson sued the theatre. Her case lasted from May 26 until November 3, 1922. In the end, the judge ruled that the theatre had the right to exclude her so long as they refunded the cost of the ticket. The ruling cemented legal segregation in Alberta. Unfortunately, court records for the period were destroyed by the Alberta government and the details of her case have been lost. However, twenty-four years before Viola Desmond challenged racial discrimination in Nova Scotia, Lulu Anderson resisted racial segregation in Alberta. She should be remembered as one of Canada's earliest civil rights pioneers.

Lucille Hunter

Lucille Hunter was only 18 and pregnant when she and her husband, Charles, set out for the Klondike from Michigan in search of gold in 1897. She gave birth to her daughter, Teslin, named after the lake along the arduous trail through which they travelled. They reached the Klondike by dog team in mid-winter. Lucille and Charles staked claims at Bonanza Creek in the Yukon and operated a restaurant in Grand Forks. For years Lucille would walk 225 km (140 miles) to protect their claims. Lucille later opened a laundry in Whitehorse with her grandson, Buster, and continued to mine

after the death of her husband. Lucille Hunter was one of the first black women to arrive in the Klondike and the only one documented to have been both a prospector and a miner during the Gold Rush. Because of her trailblazing spirit, she was granted honorary membership in the Yukon Order of Pioneers, the only woman to be so named. She died at the age of 94 in 1972. Her spunk and tenacity contributed to the fabric of Yukon society.

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Women in Canadian History



Black women were among the earliest pioneers in Canada.



Josephine Sullivan

Josephine Sullivan and her husband Phillip came to Granville (North Vancouver) in 1859, from the United States and Phillip from the West Indies. The couple was among the earliest Black settlers in the Lower Mainland. By 1870, Phillip was a steward at Moody's Mill on the

Photo by James Hogg, City of Vancouver Archives, AM54-54: Port P67.3

North Shore and Josephine apparently helped her husband prepare the meals. In that year, it is reported that Phillip and Josephine opened a small restaurant on Water Street. They were said to be the first Methodists in Granville, and services were held in Josephine's kitchen. Phillip, also a fine pianist, started a band and Josephine later played the organ at her church. They built Sullivan's Hall, a popular meeting place on Cordova Street used for musical performances, union meetings and other civic and entertainment purposes. Their son, Arthur, established a general store in Granville in 1882 and, along with his brother Charles, followed in the footsteps of their parents as the town's leading musicians.



Olive Phillips

Winning a scholarship enabled Olive to enroll in the science program at the University of the West Indies (Jamaica). She graduated with a BSc degree (1964) and a Diploma in Education (Dip Ed) from London University in 1966.

In 1969, she married Rev. Trevor Phillips in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and moved to Nova Scotia, where she worked with the Halifax District School Board as a science teacher and retired after 30 years.

Olive also served with the Science Teachers Association and other provincial bodies to advance science teaching in the province. She became a role model for all students when females were not well represented as science teachers. Olive used her skills, talents, and strong work ethic to contribute to the cultural and social well-being of the province.

She was the Co-founder of the Jamaican Cultural Association of Nova Scotia (JCANS) - President of JCANS in 2012, and an active member of CARANS (Caribbean Association of Nova Scotia from 1984 to 1996).



Valerie Jerome

At 15, athlete, educator and activist, Valerie Jerome, sprinted into the record books in the 1959 Canadian National Championships in the 60, 80 and 4x100 meter relays as well as the long jump. She went on to compete in the Pan-American Games that year in the long

Photo: ca. 2004, NVMA 14863; Olympedia.org

jump and high jump, and she won a bronze medal in the 4x100 relays. Jerome achieved the distinguished status of Olympian when she competed in the Olympic Games in Rome in 1960. These exploits should not come as a surprise given that Jerome's grandfather, John Howard, represented Canada at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics and her brother was the famous track and field icon and Olympic medalist, Harry Jerome. After retiring from track and field, Valerie graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor in Education and worked as an educator for 35 years. She has also been a tireless volunteer. Among other things, she helps facilitate an athletic club for inner-city children named in honor of her brother, as well as the Harry Jerome International Track Classic. In her book, *"Races: The Trials and Triumphs of Canada's Fastest Family"*, Valerie Jerome recounts not only her and her family's athletic successes but also the racism they experienced growing up in North Vancouver.