## **OSSTF/FEESO Black History Month Statement**

**February 1, 2025** – Every February, OSSTF/FEESO is honoured to celebrate Black History Month and the rich history of African peoples across Canada and globally. It's an important opportunity for us all to reflect on how we as individuals and as a Federation can continue to work to dismantle anti-Black racism in our schools and campuses, workplaces, communities, and our own union.

The national theme for Black History Month 2025 is "<u>Black Legacy and Leadership:</u> <u>Celebrating Canadian History and Uplifting Future Generations</u>", and celebrates the prolific legacy and leadership of Black Canadians throughout our shared history and focuses on the importance of uplifting the generations that will come after us.

While reflecting on Black history, excellence, and leadership this month, we encourage everyone to consider how intersectional identities have impacted Black communities across Canada. Learning about intersectional identities, such as race, gender, sexual orientation, and class, helps to understand the discrimination and oppression that Black individuals and communities face in life.

It's important to take time this month to plan actions throughout the year to combat anti-Black racism. It's up to all of us to ensure that the Black curriculum is taught throughout the year at our schools and campus spaces. Anti-Blackness must be unlearned by students and staff alike, and we must all play a part in creating safer spaces for Black youth, educators, and education workers.

For more information, visit the <u>Educators' Resources page</u> on OSSTF/FEESO website for resources and ways you can take action for Black History Month and all-year round.

OSSTF/FEESO also supports the national labour movement's campaign, led by the Canadian Labour Congress. <u>Send an action letter</u> to your Member of Parliament to tell the government that we want to see justice for Black workers.