

JAMES R. JOHNSTON CHAIR IN BLACK CANADIAN STUDIES

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ANNUAL REPORT

September 2008 – January 2010

Professor David Divine

James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian
Studies

Room 202, Henry Hicks Bldg.

6299 South Street

Halifax, NS, B3H 4H6, Canada

Tel: (902) 494-2957

Introduction

This report is the fifth Annual Report of Professor David Divine, the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies. The first covered the period January 2004 – April 2005, the second report covered the period May 2005 – April 2006, the third report covered the period April 2006 – May 2007, the fourth report, covered the period June 2007 to August 2008, and the current report, the last during the tenure of Professor David Divine as the Chair, covers the period September 2008-January 2010.

Health update on Professor David Divine, James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies

The following is a Dalhousie University Notice from the office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost, Dr. Alan Shaver, dated 4th June 2009, addressed to the Dalhousie University Community:

“ As many of you know, Professor David Divine of the School of Social Work, the James Robinson Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, was very seriously injured in a pedestrian/motor vehicle accident two years ago.

His recovery has been miraculous but, nevertheless, the multiple permanent injuries have left their mark. Recently David informed me that in February and March he underwent a major medical review and lengthy subsequent consultations with his doctors. Upon medical advice he has decided, with considerable regret, to step down as Chair.

As Chair, David was a towering proponent of the aims of the position of the James Robinson Johnston Chair and he had considerable impact both academically and in the African descent communities in Nova Scotia, across Canada, and internationally.

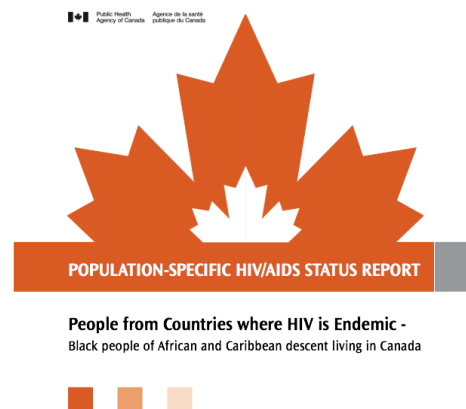
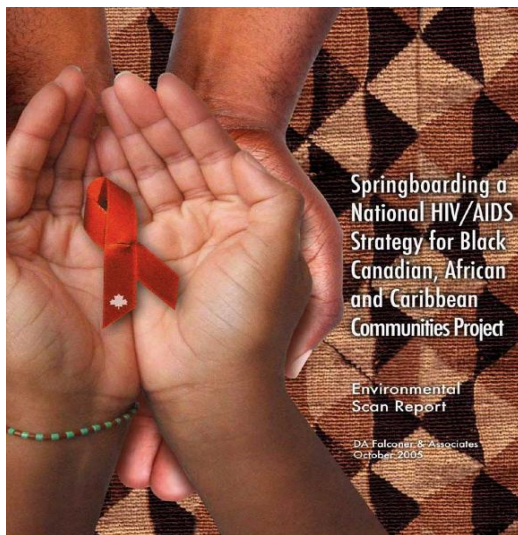
David will remain associated with the University on long term disability. A process to appoint a new James Robinson Johnston Chair will be initiated in due course.”

I wish to thank Dr. Shaver for his gracious comments.

Research Priorities of the James R. Johnston Chair 2007/2009

Due to the continuing recovery and rehabilitation of Professor Divine since the last annual report, there was no active involvement in the key research priority areas outlined in previous annual reports, and professor Divine's formal involvement was withdrawn as a result.

However Professor Divine's work in AIDS/HIV and Black Communities, was acknowledged by the Public Health Agency of Canada's publication in 2009, titled: **Population-Specific HIV/AIDS Status Report-People from Countries where HIV is Endemic-Black people of African and Caribbean descent living in Canada**. The report built upon the earlier report which Professor Divine was also involved in contributing to: **Springboarding a National HIV/AIDS Strategy for Black Canadian, African and Caribbean Communities Project**, published in October 2005 and authored by Falconer, Dionne A. and published by the Interagency Coalition on Aids and Development (ICAD).



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Conclusion

The period of September 2008 – January 2010 was, as in the period covering the last annual report, marked by intensive rehabilitation. Professor Divine continues to progress and is still writing and presenting at select events. Professor Divine intends to continue to contribute Provincially, Nationally and Internationally.

Professor Divine wishes to thank Dr. Dorothy Wills, Chair of the National Advisory Committee to the James R. Johnston Chair, Dr. Alan Shaver, Vice - President Academic and Provost, and Dr. Tom Traves, President of Dalhousie University, for their unfailing support.

Professor David Divine