

*A Membership / Social Service Agency serving the Black and Caribbean Community; providing Cultural Integration & Settlement to New Immigrants, Advocacy, Crisis Intervention, Youth and Family Services, Counselling to Women who are Survivors of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault and Employment Preparation for Experienced Workers*

## NEWS RELEASE

### THE JCA'S 53<sup>rd</sup> INDEPENDENCE GALA WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

#### For Immediate Release



Premier Wynne and MPP Anderson poses with JCA Board at 53rd Independence Gala

**Toronto, Ontario, August 8, 2015** - On Saturday, August 8th, the Jamaican Canadian Association celebrated Jamaica's 53<sup>rd</sup> year of independence at its Annual Independence Gala. The JCA had the pleasure of having in attendance and the support of the Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Judy Sgro, MP York West, Hon Granville Anderson, MPP (Durham), Lloyd Wilks, Consul General of Jamaica at Toronto, and Mark Saunders, Chief of Toronto Police Service.

The evening's keynote speaker was Toronto Star columnist, Royson James. He implored all in attendance to become fully integrated into and make Canada our home. He asserted that Jamaicans have made tremendous contributions within the Canadian borders; and, as such, should be viewed positively.

Arnold Auguste, Share Publisher, and Winston LaRose, of Jane Finch Concerned Citizens, were honored for their community service.

Fitzroy Gordon, of G98.7FM, received a Special Recognition Award. In his acceptance speech, he appealed for everyone to embrace his radio station as it belongs to the people.

Barry Coke, JCA President, stated that "It was a fabulous event, the quality was superb and all the special guests were excellent in their delivery of great positive messages. We thank everyone who attended, and supported, the event".

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For more details please contact the Jamaican Canadian Association  
Phone: (416) 746-5772 Email: [info@jcaontario.org](mailto:info@jcaontario.org) [www.jcaontario.org](http://www.jcaontario.org)