## Backgrounder Document d'information



Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

Ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration

March 2007

## NEW ONTARIO AWARDS PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE CHAMPIONS FOR NEWCOMERS AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY NEWCOMER CHAMPION AWARDS

## **About the Award**

The Newcomer Champion Awards program is a newly created program designed to recognize Ontarians who have facilitated cultural understanding and diversity or helped newcomers to successfully settle and integrate. Awards will be presented for contributions in areas such as cultural outreach, cultural celebration, and connecting newcomers in communities.

- Cultural Outreach: recognizes contributions in education and information sharing that increase the awareness of an ethnic group's culture within the broader community.
- Cultural Celebration: recognizes outstanding individuals who organize events to showcase Ontario's diversity.
- Connecting Newcomers in Communities: recognizes exemplary individuals whose actions helped to welcome and integrate newcomers into communities across Ontario.

## Visionaries

Colle named three visionaries who epitomize the award and who served as an inspiration for others to follow: Daniel Iannuzzi, Jean Lumb and Mary Ann Shadd.

Iannuzzi was a pioneer in the media industry. Among his many accomplishments, he founded CFMT, the regional multilingual television station in 1979.

Lumb was a tireless community worker who accomplished a number of firsts as a Chinese woman in Ontario. Lumb was the first Chinese woman on the Board of Governors at Women's College Hospital as well as at University Settlement House.

Shadd was a pioneering black lawyer, abolitionist and editor. Born a free person, Shadd settled in Windsor in the 1850s and lead a movement to integrate blacks into the community. Her many accomplishments included establishing the first racially-integrated school in Canada. Shadd also started the newspaper *The Provincial Freeman* which made her the first female newspaper editor in Canada.

Nomination forms are available on the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration website at: www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citdiv/honours/index.html Applications for the award are being accepted until April 13, 2007.

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Contact: Rick Byun Minister's Office (416) 325-3460