October 1, 2022

SCARBOROUGH RESIDENT RECEIVES QUEEN’S JUBILEE MEDAL

Scarborough resident Sheila White received The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal on Tuesday (Sept. 27) from The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. White, of Agincourt, was recognized for volunteerism and contributions to Nova Scotia and is one of 5,000 people to be honoured with the medal, the last to bear the image of Queen Elizabeth II.

White worked with 21 other Canadians for eight months on a federal government initiative that led to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s formal apology in Truro on July 9 for systemic anti-Black racism that pervaded Canada’s military during the First World War. As a member of the National Apology Advisory Committee (NAAC), White served as chair of its communications and community outreach subcommittee. Her paternal grandfather, Rev. Capt. Wm. Andrew White, was the only Black officer serving in No. 2 Construction Battalion, the segregated, all-Black battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Tuesday’s medal ceremony at Government House in Halifax was followed by a reception for 60 guests including the 20 recipients, one of whom was retired Senator and author, Donald Oliver, one of White’s first cousins.

In 2020, White was the recipient of Metroland’s Urban Hero Award in the Environment category. She’s the holder of an African Achievement Award for politics and a Canada 150 Medal for her volunteer work in advocacy and litter prevention. She was twice president of C.D. Farquharson Community Association and a 25-year executive member prior to forming Friends of Farquharson, a non-aligned networking group and CDFarquharson Facebook page. For several decades White worked in municipal and provincial politics as a senior staffer. Contact: friendsoffarquharson@gmail.com or 416-321-0633.

White has a biographical novel due for release by Yorkland Publishing early in 2023.

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For more information, contact Sheila White at 416-605-0709 (cell).