

Doing Justice Being Peace

- 26 January 2024 -

Weekly Newsletter



February's Black History month theme, "**Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build**" highlights stories of success, sacrifice, and triumph. Such as Viola Desmond, who in 1946, refused to give up her seat in a Nova Scotia cinema's whites-only section. She was jailed for tax evasion of one penny – the price difference between the seats. Her case eventually went to the Supreme Court and inspired a wider civil rights movement. Honored in 2018, Desmond now appears on the \$10 bill, symbolizing the fight for racial equality.



January 27, the *International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust*, focuses this year on "**Recognizing the Extraordinary Courage of Victims and Survivors.**" It spotlights those who bravely held secret art and writing classes for children confined in imprisonment camps, offering hope and solace amidst the Nazi's hatred and widespread dehumanization of that perilous time.



Plastic pollution is harmful to our common home. It litters beaches, parks, woodlands, waterways, and roadsides. In 2019, Canadians threw away 4.4 million tonnes of plastic waste. Only 9 percent of which was recycled. The issue of plastic pollution extends beyond visible waste; it encompasses microplastics – small plastic filaments that injure wildlife, especially marine creatures and birds.

The Government of Canada is taking action towards zero plastic waste by creating a *Federal Plastics Registry*. This will require plastic producers to report on how many products enter the market and track what happens to the items at the end of their lifecycle.

The proposed *Registry* will collect and report data on major categories of products that contain plastic. These include packaging, single-use and disposable products, construction, transportation, white goods (e.g. home appliances), electronics, tires, textiles, and products used in aquaculture, agriculture, and horticulture.

A [Notice of Intent](#) document for the *Federal Plastics Registry* is open for public feedback until February 13, 2024. Comments can be sent to plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca



*Practicing contentment is a radical act
in a consumption-driven society.*

–Robin Wall Kimmerer

How do you experience the joy of
simplicity in your daily routine
and what steps can we all take to find
greater fulfillment in living with less?

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