

## YORK U ALUMNI NEWS



### Celebrating Black History Month

February is Black History Month, an important opportunity to recognize the contributions, achievements and histories of Black alumni, students, staff, faculty and instructors, and the many ways they enrich the University experience year-round. This month we'll be sharing stories celebrating Black York alumni and opportunities to participate in Black History Month events across the university. [Visit York's Black History Month website for more information.](#)



### Cynthia Appiah (BA '13) aims to inspire the next generation

The LA&PS alumna and former varsity track and field athlete will compete in the bobsleigh event this month at the 2022 Winter Games. A firm believer in the importance of people being able to see themselves in their heroes, Appiah hopes to be that example for others.

[Read the full story on CBC.](#)



## Advancing YU mentorship

Launched in October by the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, the Advancing YU mentorship program focuses on connecting accomplished alumni with Black students and women students — groups that have been historically held back in their pursuit of successful careers.

[Learn more about Advancing YU.](#)



## Alumni spotlight: Flavien Joubert (MES '03)

As the minister for agriculture, climate change & environment on the small nation island of Seychelles, Flavien Joubert continues to apply what he learned in his Master of Environmental Studies program nearly two decades ago. [Read Flavien's story.](#)



## UN Sustainable Development Goal report

On Jan. 26, York released a dynamic new report and website documenting its progress toward the United Nations (UN) 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2020, York formally declared its commitment to action on the UN SDGs, which align with the University's values, mission and core strengths. [Read the UN SDG report.](#)



## Celebrate While We Educate

The Student Community and Leadership Development's student engagement ambassador team is hosting "Celebrate While We Educate" (#CWWE) alongside Black student associations and clubs to celebrate Black culture at York. The weeklong series of events begins Feb. 7 and is open to alumni. [Register for the #CWWE event series.](#)



## Share your recent accomplishments with the alumni community

Keep the York community updated on your recent life and career milestones by sharing your accomplishments with Classes in *The York University Magazine*. [Share your story.](#)

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## ALUMNI BENEFITS



### Audiobook discount

Buy best-selling audiobooks at a discount with Chirp without paying subscription or membership fees! Save on the current Alumni Book Club read, *You Are Awesome* by Neil Pasricha. [Learn more.](#)



### Save on furniture

Redecorating? Furnishing a new home? Alumni have special access to preferred pricing on furniture and appliances from The Brick Commercial Division. [Learn more.](#)



### Home and Auto Insurance

York alumni receive a group discount with TD Insurance Meloche Monnex. To get a free, no-obligation quote, simply complete the quick, three-step application. [Learn more.](#)

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## ALUMNI EVENTS



**Feb. 8 | 12pm ET | Moving Forward Series | How LA&PS alumni are strengthening Black communities**

Join the LA&PS Faculty for a talk with graduates who are active in

various initiatives addressing anti-Black racism and contributing positively to Black communities, families, and students.



**Feb. 15 | 12pm ET | GRADitude | Young Alumni Speed Networking**

Are you a young alum looking to grow your professional network or practice your networking skills? Join this virtual speed networking session hosted by young alumni ambassador Javheria Ibrahim (BA '20) where you will have the chance to meet fellow York alumni from all over the world.



**Feb. 16 | 12pm ET | Scholars' Hub @ Home | Reactions to COVID-19 news overload and its impact on work**

Media coverage of COVID-19 has been virtually nonstop, and this overload of COVID-19 news has shown to cause people to withdraw from their work. In this talk, Professor Ruodan Shao will discuss the impacts of employees' exposure to COVID-19 information on their workplace behaviours and productivity.



**Feb. 24 | 12pm ET | GRADitude | How to network digitally after graduation**

Alumni panelists will discuss how young alumni and students can network and build relationships virtually to support their career goals. Panelists will share their experiences and offer guidance to attendees.



**Feb. 27 | 10am ET | York Circle @ Home | Cycles of inequality and exploitation in nation-building**

Hosted by Dr. Rebecca Pillai Riddell, Academic Chair of The York Circle, this virtual lecture series will showcase three of York's leading faculty members engaging in a lively panel discussion exploring thought-provoking questions.

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