



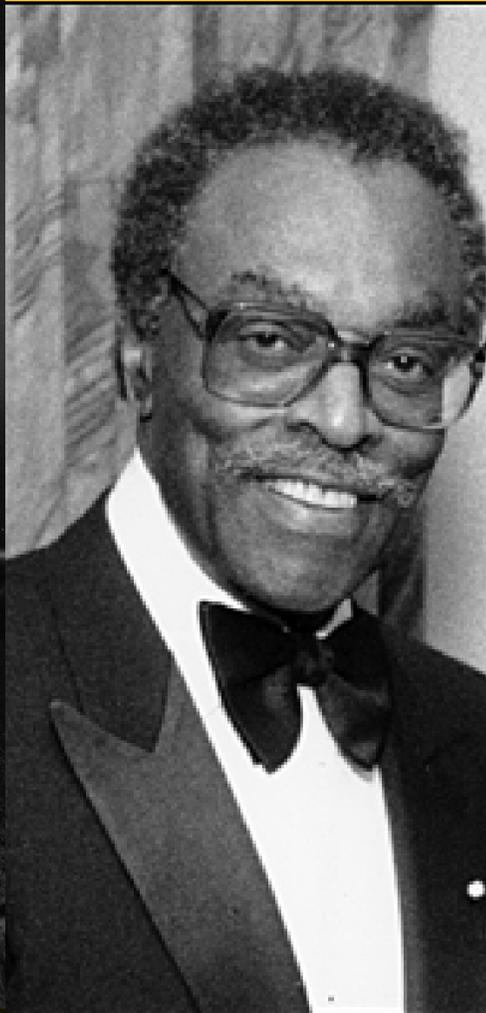
5 HISTORICAL BLACK CANADIANS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Black History Month is a time to reflect on the experiences, and accomplishments of Canada's Black community. Here are 5 black Canadians who made major contributions to Canada's culture and Black legacy.

TBOC PRESENTS:



Portia White



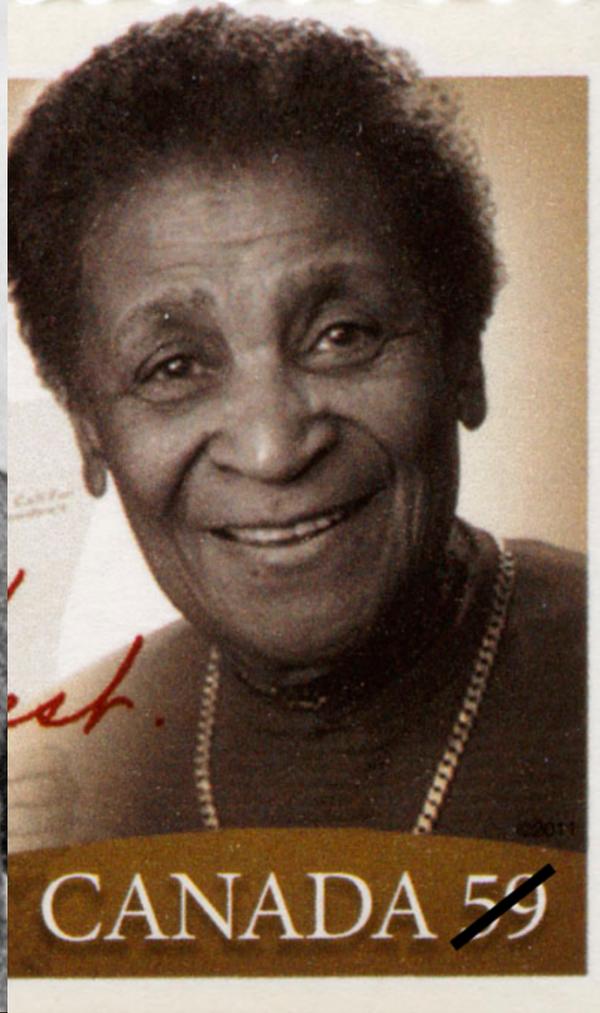
*Lincoln
Alexander*



*Marie Joseph
Angelique*



William Hall



Carrie Best

PORTIA WHITE

Born in Truro, Nova Scotia, Portia White was a classical concert singer and teacher who achieved international fame in the 1940s and 1950s.

Musically versed as a Contralto singer, Portia White was the first Black Canadian concert singer to win international acclaim, despite difficulties obtaining bookings because of her race. She was considered one of the best classical singers of the 20th century. Her voice was described by one critic as “a gift from heaven.”

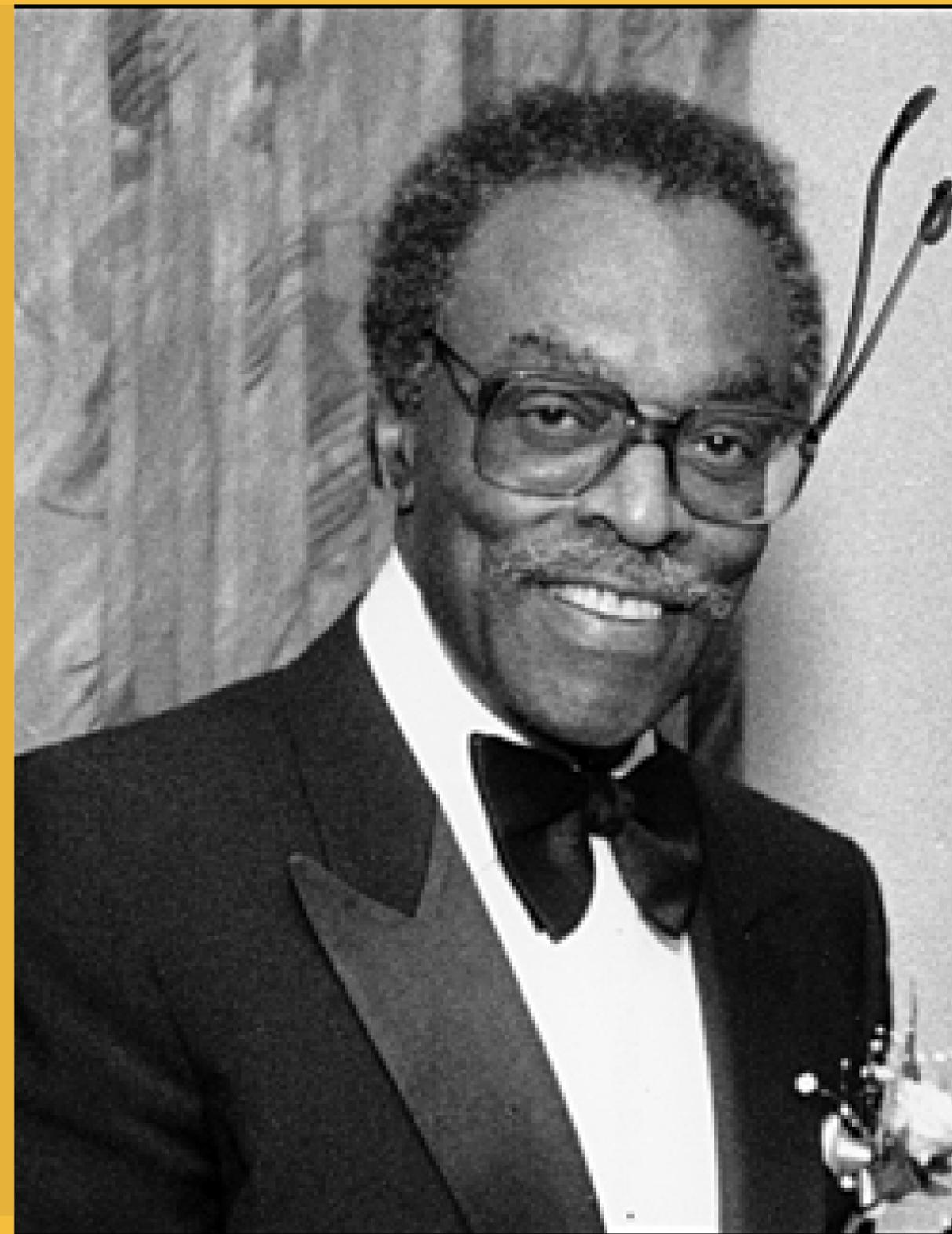
She was often compared to the celebrated African American contralto Marian Anderson.



1911-1968

LINCOLN ALEXANDER

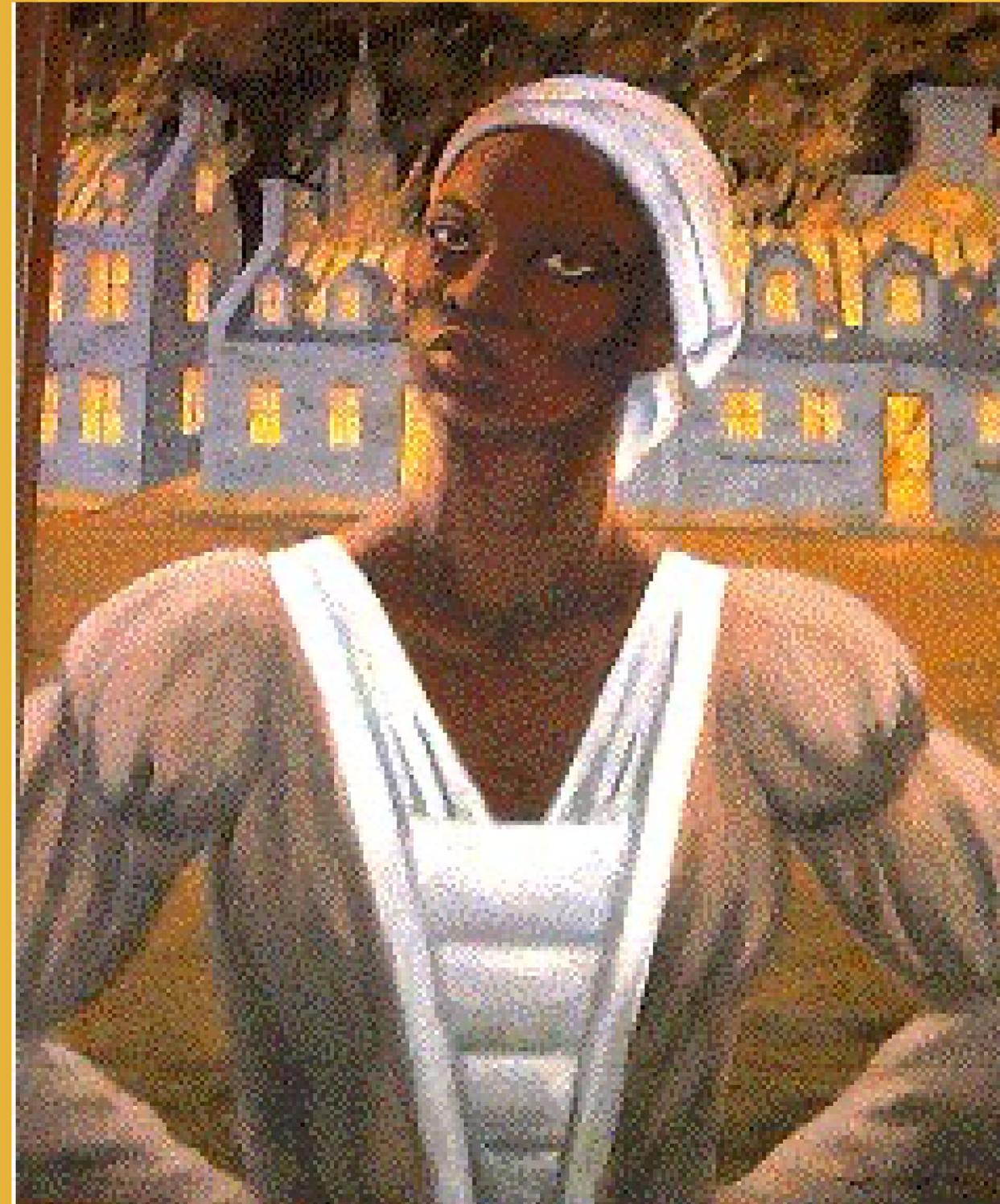
Lincoln MacCauley Alexander was a Canadian lawyer who became the first black federal Cabinet Minister, the first black Chair of the Worker's Compensation Board, and the 24th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario from 1985 to 1991. Alexander was the first Black Canadian member of Parliament (1968), Cabinet minister (1979) and lieutenant-governor (1985). He was a leading figure in the fight for racial equity in Canada. In provincial, federal, public and private roles, he consistently advocated for the equal treatment of black Canadians. In recognition of his many important accomplishments, 21 January has been celebrated as Lincoln Alexander Day across Canada since 2015.



1922 - 2012

MARIE JOSEPH ANGELIQUE

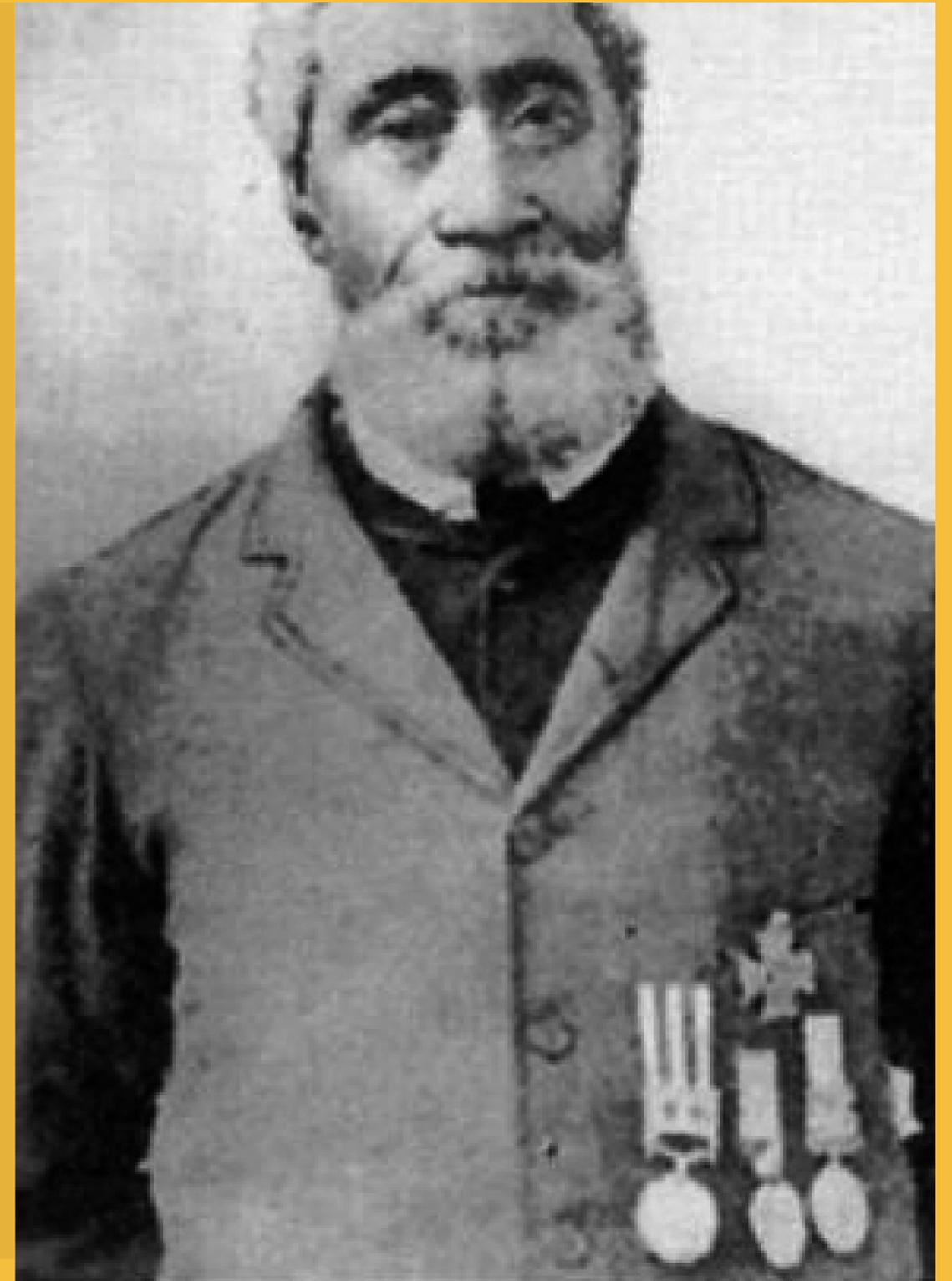
Marie Joseph Angélique was an enslaved Black woman owned by Thérèse de Couagne de Francheville in Montréal. Angélique was the name given by her last owners to a Portuguese-born black slave in New France. In 1734, she was charged with arson after a fire leveled Montréal's merchants' quarter. It was alleged that Angélique committed the act while attempting to flee her bondage. She was convicted, tortured and hanged. While it remains unknown whether or not she set the fire, Angélique's story has come to symbolize Black resistance and freedom.



1710-1734

WILLIAM HALL

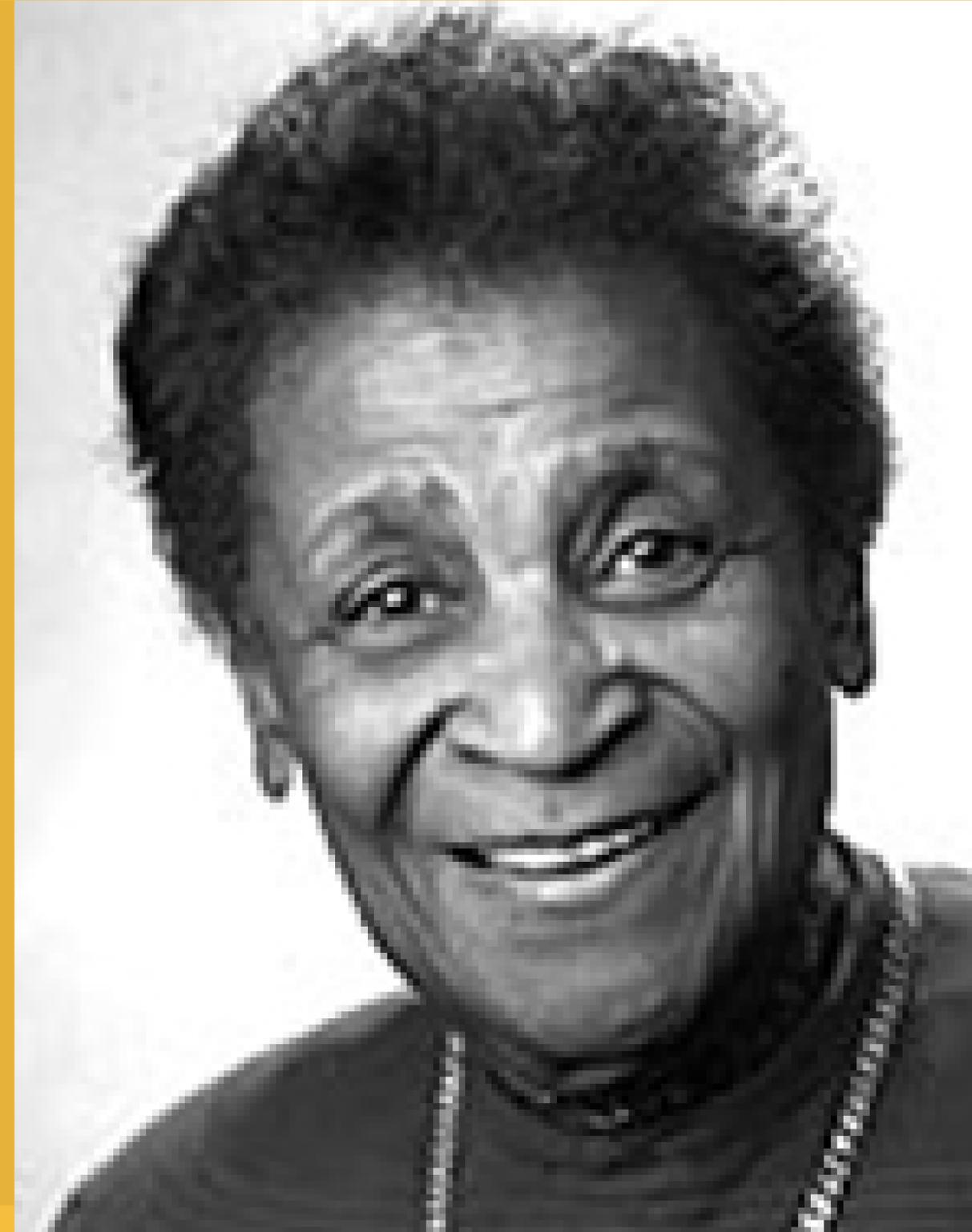
William Neilson Edward Hall was the first Black person, the first Nova Scotian and one of the first Canadians to receive the British Empire's highest award for bravery, the Victoria Cross. The son of Jacob and Lucy Hall, former slaves from the US who fled to Halifax in 1812, served 3 years in the US navy, then joined the British Royal Navy in 1852 where he and his colleagues displayed honourable bravery and determination and was awarded with a VC .



1827- 1904

CARRIE BEST

Carrie Best was a human rights activist, author, journalist, publisher and broadcaster. She is Co-founder of The Clarion, one of the first newspapers in Nova Scotia owned and published by Black Canadians, she used the platform to advocate for Black rights. As editor, she publicly supported Viola Desmond in her case against the Roseland Theatre. Best used her voice in radio and print to bring positive change to society in Nova Scotia and Canada.



1903-2001