

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

February 13, 2008

### **New Web site celebrates Alberta's Black pioneer heritage**

Edmonton... In celebration of Black History Month, the Black Pioneer Descendants' Society of Western Canada, in partnership with AlbertaSource.ca, home of the *Alberta Online Encyclopedia*, invites you to explore Alberta's Black pioneer heritage through an engaging new Web site set to launch February 4. A live demonstration of this community memory and living tradition project will be held at the Heritage Room at Edmonton City Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 4.

Explore dynamic cultural experiences as expressed through Black literature. Read excerpts from such writers as Linda Campbell. Learn about the famous Amber Valley Baseball Team, heavyweight prizefighter Joe Cotton, maverick cowboy John Ware, and pool hustler Dwain Saunders. Whip up and taste some Soul Food using some traditional Black recipes. Hear captivating Black gospel music and listen oral history interviews. Watch as many descendants of Alberta's Black pioneers tell their stories — in their own words.

This community cultural memory and living tradition project was accomplished by a partnership with the Black Pioneer Descendants' Society and made possible through funding provided by the Alberta Lottery Fund's *Community Initiatives Program*.

To explore the over 77 Web sites in the *Alberta Online Encyclopedia*, a resource representing a whopping \$11.3 million in intellectual property, log onto [www.AlbertaSource.ca](http://www.AlbertaSource.ca). The *Alberta Online Encyclopedia* is a sterling example of the Government of Alberta's working with educational, charitable and non-profit partners to develop educational resources using innovative technology.

No other province or state can claim to have a comparable resource, and the benefit to Albertans is immense.

AlbertaSource.ca brings Alberta to the world and the world to Alberta.

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