



## TORONTO HOME ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION

### Statement of Solidarity – Anti-Black Racism

June 10, 2020

On behalf of the THEA Board of Directors,

We are at a loss for words in regard to the racial injustices taking place against Black communities across the world and in Canada. The violent deaths and police brutality of Black communities in North America showcase the alarming impact of anti-Black racism. As an organization committed to *educating others on building healthy homes*, we believe it is crucial for home economic groups like ours to be involved in the conversations concerning racism's impact on public health and well-being.

As an organization, we also acknowledge that we may not have always been racially diverse or active in social justice conversations. The efforts for racial justice do not lie with Board Members alone; we call on everyone in opening the door to learning and addressing racism through anti-racist and anti-oppressive approaches. We can only be better ourselves if we work individually and collectively. As we do our own reflections and research on anti-Black racism and anti-racism of many different forms, we hope you will as well. This will also be a time for us to reconcile and decolonize our learning through an Indigenous lens to new ways of knowing treaty people and settlers residing in Tkaronto (Mohawk term for Toronto).

We are fortunate to have Gurneet Kaur Dhami, an MSc Candidate at Mount Saint Vincent University, Ryerson University alumna and newly elected THEA Board Member to share her emerging Master's thesis "Re-setting the Table: Exploring the Counter-stories of Racialized Dietitians in Canada" with us at an upcoming event we have planned. We hope this will help us start a much-needed discussion on racism, so we can move forward with anti-racism approaches together.

Today we are naming our intentions and next time we hope to solidify the facts as we take part in social justice movements within the Greater Toronto Area and stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement in Toronto. If you wish to support the movement search [blacklivesmatter.ca](https://blacklivesmatter.ca) to learn more on how to get involved.

Home economics started from the fabric of the home and we aim to keep it sewn and connected to all of our homes without discrimination.

In Solidarity,

**President:**

Kamaria Francis

**Board Members:**

Karen Dee

Heike Heinze

Gurneet Kaur Dhami

Ruth McDonald

Carol Fraser

Janet Jessica Wiles

Judy Fricker