



# Black Educators Association



## For Immediate Release:



Tuesday, May 13, 2025  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Contact: Jacqueline Herriott, **Chair – 2025 BEE**

### **BEA's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Educators Program (REP) Provincial Spelling BEE finishes with winning word 'T.E.M.P.E.S.T.U.O.U.S.'!**

Eleven-year-old Ayokunmi Oladipo (Speller #38) who attends *Whitney Pier Cultural Academic Enrichment Program (CAEP)* and is a student at *Whitney Pier Memorial Junior High School* in the *Cape Breton Victoria Regional Centre for Education (CBVRCE)*, Nour Hussain (Speller #59) of *Bayers Westwood CAEP – Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE)* and Chloe Brimicombe (Speller #21) – *New Glasgow CAEP* and a student in the *Chignecto-Central Regional Centre for Education (CCRCE)* are the top winners in the **2025 REP Provincial Spelling BEE**. Ayokunmi Oladipo who attends the *Whitney Pier Cultural Academic Enrichment Program (BEA's after-school program)* captured first place in Saturday's event hosted by the *Black Educators Association (BEA)*, supported by its education partner – the *African Canadian Services Branch* of the *Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Nova Scotia's Regional Centres of Education*, businesses and corporations across Nova Scotia. Nour Hussain (15-years-old) took home second-place honors. And, 14-year-old Chloe Brimicombe came in third place in the nail-biting competition.

BEA's challenging and long-standing academic competition, which draws up-to-100+ spellers from across the province annually was held Saturday at the *Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU)*. The **BEE** is held annually in May in recognition of the United States-based *Scripps National Spelling Bee*. Ayokunmi Oladipo triumphed as first-place speller in the one-word championship round proudly spelling out 't-e-m-p-e-s-t-u-o-u-s'. **2025** marked the **19<sup>th</sup> Year** of the **REP Provincial Spelling BEE**, Truro's own Sebastian Barrington (2016's *Spelling BEE Champion*) again, assumed the role of *Pronouncer* for the **2025 REP Provincial Spelling BEE**.

### **2025's Top 8 Spellers & Regions:**

**#01 Daniel Ajuwon – Cape Breton**

**#21 Chloe Brimicombe – Northern**

**#44 Olateju Oladipo – Cape Breton**

**#76 Kayla Chimamanda Oforiduru – Halifax Central**

**#12 Tirenoluwa Akinmejiwa – Halifax West**

**#38 Ayokunmi Oladipo – Cape Breton**

**#59 Nour Hussain – Halifax Central**

**#86 Sean Ehimare Obeahon – Halifax Central**

The annual competition is open to black students ages eight to 15 years in public, private schools and home-schoolers and any student enrolled in the *BEA's Cultural Academic Enrichment Programs (CAEPs)* across Nova Scotia. The purpose of the *Regional Educators Program (REP) Provincial Spelling BEE* is to focus on English language basics; foster learning of African Nova Scotian students studying the English language and introduce and encourage students to compete in regional, national and international finals.

First, second and third-place winners took home *BEA Education Awards* of \$1000, \$800 and \$500 respectively along with trophies, a *Samsung Galaxy Tablet A* each and gift cards and prizes from local businesses. **2026's Competition Day** (and the **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year**) is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, May 9, 2026** at *Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU)* @ 1:00pm. For more information on the *REP Provincial Spelling BEE*, *Regional Educators Program*, the *CAEPs*, *Adult Learning Program* & all other *BEA Programs/Projects*, please visit: [www.bea-ns.ca](http://www.bea-ns.ca).



**TOP 3 WINNERS**



**TOP 8 WINNERS**