







QUEEN'S BUSH SETTLEMENT MURAL PROJECT

Stories in the Land

The Queen's Bush Settlement (QBS) Mural Project is a community-driven public artwork that honours the Black settlers who built farms, families, churches, and schools in this region between 1839 and 1865. Through art, storytelling, and historical research, the mural brings visibility to a powerful chapter of local Black history, one rooted in resilience, land stewardship, and the pursuit of freedom and belonging.

Join us for the Celebration

Saturday, August 15, 2026 | 11AM-3PM

What's Happening

- Caribbean Food Truck & Ice Cream Truck
- Live Music & Children's Entertainment
- Pop-Up Black History Exhibit
- Driving Tour Launch (Grab your free map pamphlet!)

FREE ADMISSION | ALL ARE WELCOME





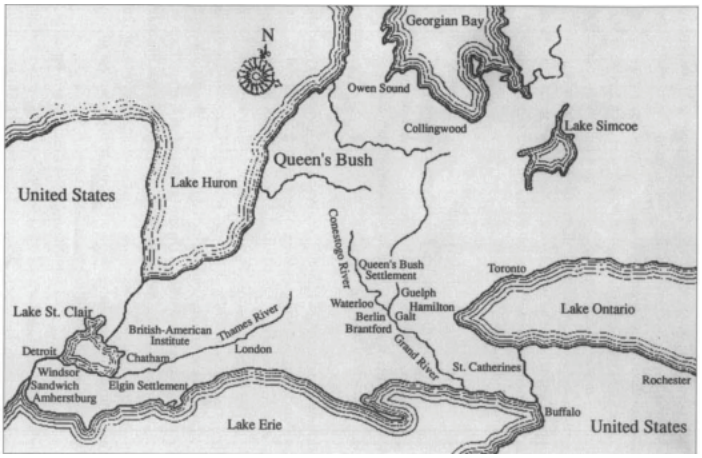






The History

- The Queen's Bush Settlement was one of the largest Black rural settlements in 19th-century Canada.
- Hundreds of Black families, including free-born Black Americans, formerly enslaved people, and descendants of Black Loyalists, settled here to farm land and build independent lives.
- These settlers were not part of the Underground Railroad; they came seeking land ownership and opportunity, just like other pioneers.
- Despite clearing land, building homes, and growing crops, many were prevented from purchasing their farms due to racism and unjust land practices.
- Though the settlement eventually dispersed, its legacy remains embedded in the land and in families across Ontario and beyond.

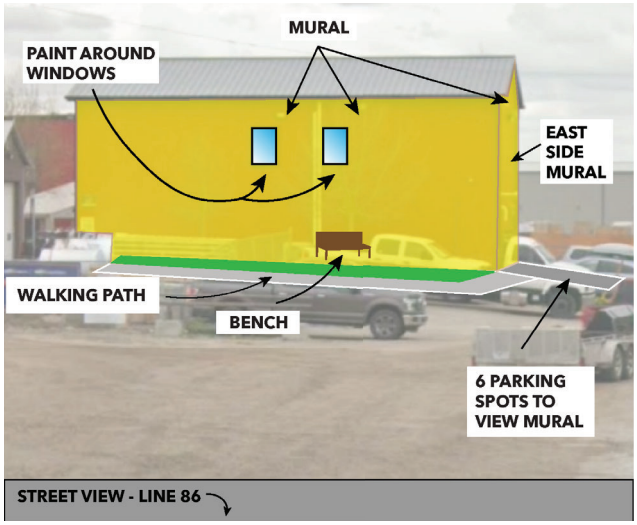


The Mural

This mural is being developed by artist Kalkidan Assefa and led by Hearts Open for Everyone (HOPE) in partnership with Earthscape Play and the Queen's Bush Settlement (QBS) Mural Advisory Committee.

More than a work of public art, the mural will serve as a cultural landmark and an educational touchpoint, honouring the resilience, achievements, and enduring legacy of Queen's Bush settlers and their descendants. The final design will be shaped through historical research and ongoing community consultation, ensuring it reflects authentic stories, symbols, and lived experiences connected to this place.

MURAL LOCATION: EARTHSCAPE PLAY, WALLENSTEIN, ON



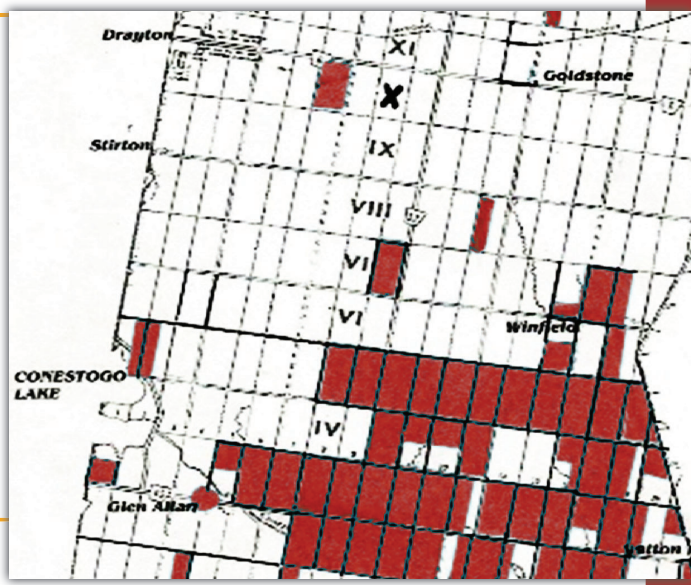
Learn More & Follow the Journey

Discover the history, meet the families, and follow the progress of the mural from concept to completion.

Scan the QR code to explore the Queen's Bush Settlement Mural Project or visit heartsopenforeveryone.ca/queens-bush-mural/.

Learn more about:

- Our Partner > earthscapeplay.com
- QBS Info > heartsopenforeveryone.ca/black-settlers/



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