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B3J-1H1



Phone: 429-7922  
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June 10, 1996

Mr. Earvin (Magic) Johnson  
c/o Front Seat Marketing  
Suite 515, World Trade Centre  
1800 Argyle St. Halifax, N.S.  
B3J 3N8

Re: **Speaking Engagement while in Nova Scotia, October 24, 1996**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On behalf of the Black Outreach Project (B.O.P.) and the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, we send our sincere greetings to all our brothers and sisters south of the border.

The **Nova Scotia HIV/AIDS Black Outreach Project** originated in the spring of 1989 when members of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia began participating in workshops sponsored by the Black community organizations in Nova Scotia. As a result, the B.O.P. came into existence in May of 1991 with a provincial mandate to provide culturally specific information, education and support services to African Nova Scotians.

The projects' main objectives are to prevent the spread of HIV, to provide culturally sensitive support, to act as an advocate for persons affected and infected and to raise the profile and awareness of HIV/AIDS through community programming and consultations.

Working in partnership with a range of Black community organizations in Nova Scotia, we became aware of your scheduled visit to Halifax on October 24, 1996. Acknowledging your continued success in educating young adults on issues related to HIV/AIDS, we wish to invite you and your colleagues to participate in a joint effort organized by the Black Outreach Project and the Black Cultural Centre. In an effort to maintain open lines of communication for youth on this issue, we believe a presentation facilitated by you and your colleagues on the effects of HIV/AIDS will encourage informative positive discussions with youth in Nova Scotia.

In April 1996, the Black Outreach Projects' funding was discontinued. However, the Projects' advisory board members volunteer to continue to provide resources, public education workshops and presentations to African Nova Scotians despite its' lack of funding and support. With these challenges comes opportunities. The opportunity to link up with the Magic Johnson Foundation and other projects across the country allows us to share information, support and experiences.

We thank you in advance for your consideration and we look forward to a response to our invitation.

Sincerely,

Kim Bernard  
Former Community AIDS Educator  
N.S. HIV/AIDS Black Outreach Project