

### **Flora Almeida Marlow Champions of Freedom Award**

Recognizing Courage, Honesty & Perseverance in the Promotion & Preservation of Freedom, this award in written & oral communications was given to Valerie Drego of Canada. Valerie Drego was presented this award by Flora Almeida Marlow, the first female President of the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India, at an event in Mascouche, Quebec, Canada in July 2022.

Valerie Drego completed her doctoral thesis at Bombay University where she obtained her PhD degree in literature. Valerie also obtained a post-graduate diploma in Business Management. She is married to Don Drego and has two lovely daughters.

In 1998, Valerie received the Editor's Choice Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry presented by the National Library of Poetry. In 2012, her first attempt at crime fiction, *The Rhymester*, was judged a finalist in an open competition hosted by Crime Writers of Canada for the Unchanged Arthur Award. In 2017, her non-fiction work was published - *End Zone: Prophetic Timelines and the Last Days*. Written when everything was still very normal, the book lays out a timeline for the final zone we stand in today based not on any private interpretation but solely on the Word of God as delivered in the Old and New Testaments.

We would like to congratulate Valerie for her courage, her positive spirit, her achievements and wish her all the best in her upcoming adventures. We encourage her to persevere in her continual pursuit of the truth.

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