

# Kaycee Madu: No One Saw Me Coming

Black on the Ballot Episode 2 Transcript

# [Music]

**Kaycee Madu:** Here is a guy, who took on something that both the media, progressive politicians, and the community have been complaining about for years.

**Nana aba Duncan** That's Kaycee Madu, of Edmonton, Alberta, and in case it isn't clear, the "guy" who took something on, is himself.

**Kaycee Madu:** And here comes, for the first time in our history, a politician with a backbone to actually end that. And that ended up becoming the source of his political downfall.

Nana aba Duncan: The source of his political downfall. What did Kaycee Madu have the backbone to end? It was carding. Carding is when the police stop you to gather information, and not necessarily because there's a crime taking place. Research shows that Indigenous and Black people are disproportionately stopped by police. It's a racist practice and its controversial, in many places. That includes Alberta, where Kaycee Madu was the minister of justice and solicitor general between 2020 and 2022.

#### [Music]

Nana aba Duncan: I'm Nana aba Duncan. Welcome to Black on the Ballot, a show from Operation Black Vote Canada and Carleton University, where we talk to Black former politicians about their experiences. You're going to hear from Kaycee Madu a lot in this episode, which is all about his story. That is crucial for any politician. What's your origin story? Where did you come from? What experiences formed your values?

**CBC news clip:** "I think it's a powerful statement that Alberta will have the first ever Canadian Justice Minister of African origin...who is a man who experienced racial prejudice firsthand ..." Jason Kenney. https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/1.5700053

**Nana aba Duncan**: That clip, courtesy of the CBC news, is from 2020. It's Jason Kenney, then premier of Alberta, announcing Kaycee Madu as the new justice minister. Kaycee is an immigrant. His family lost everything in Nigeria's Civil war, he put himself through law school, came to Alberta and joined the Conservative party—rising up the ranks.

Great story.

Of course we wanted to interview him. But as we were getting ready to talk to Kaycee, his name was popping up in the news. Kaycee had left politics, but his story is still unfolding in a public way.

Here's a headline from the Edmonton Journal "Kaycee Madu Faces Law society misconduct trial over 2021 call to police chief".

And this one is from CBC News: "Former Alberta justice minister Kaycee Madu to face law society hearing"

We saw these headlines and weren't sure what to expect, but we did know that getting him to tell his story, in his words, was part of us finding out what it means to be Black on the Ballot.

### [Music]

**Kaycee Madu:** My name is Kaycee Madu, but my real first name is Kalechi. So, I go by Kalechi Kaycee Madu. Elected here politically in 2019 as a member of the legislature for the constituency of Edmonton Southwest. I served in that particular role between 2019 and 2023 up until the 2023 general election in May 29. In between, I served in four different capacities as minister and then ended up as the deputy premier of Alberta.

Nana aba Duncan: So, your name is Kalechi Madu, but you go by Kaycee. Why?

**Kaycee Madu:** It's a long story, but I'll keep it short.

You see, when I came to, this country about 20 years ago, I was already a lawyer practicing in Lagos. So, I came as a lawyer. As with any other immigrant, you have that, um, period where you need to figure out yourselves all over again. I initially was tough.

My first employment was at the University of Alberta, a hospital, a small unit, they are called patient food services.

And what I did there was make meals and wash dishes.

From there I went on to work for Legal Aid Alberta, ultimately with the provincial government in a policy role. And then I decided to go back, return to my profession. And I challenged my law exams, qualified to article, and I could not find a spot to article.

After hundreds of applications and one day a colleague of mine at the provincial government said to me .... have you thought of coming up with a formalized name as Kaycee because the truth is where I was born and raised, Kelechi are called KC. So, I grew up being called KC, but not as in *(spelling)* K A Y C E E, just K dot C.

And so, um, this friend of mine says, you know what? That may solve this problem. So, I created a name out of K dot C in (spelling) K A Y C E E.

The moment I did that it opened the articling door for me

Nana aba Duncan: Because of a name change.

Kaycee Madu: Because of a name change....

Nana aba Duncan: What did you take from that?

**Kaycee Madu:** Well, I think for me, it was, it was one of an eye opener. In so many ways, it led me to begin to think deeply about the obstacles and impediment that immigrants face in this country.

And for me, it was shocking, but at the same time, it was a teachable moment.

It was a learning opportunity for me to better understand, as I said before, the place of Black people in this country, especially those of us who have names that are not westernized. And those of us who still maintain our mother tongue.

And you hear that all the time in the community, but sometimes there are institutions Uh, leaders, whether political leaders, academic leaders, institutional leaders, they live in denial

Nana aba Duncan: about...?

**Kaycee Madu:** about the reality of these experiences.

And so, for me, um, it confirms once again that at that point in time that we have a long way to go, notwithstanding the progress we've made as a society.

**Nana aba Duncan:** Mm-Hmm... So, this was just one of the challenges I'm sure of that you went through, um, being an immigrant in this country. Let's go back to your country.

Um, the civil war in Nigeria really impacted your life. Can you explain how?

**Kaycee Madu:** Yeah. So, so first and foremost, I, um, I'm a Nigerian, proud Nigerian, born, uh, from the southeastern part of Nigeria called the Ebos of Nigeria.

Between 67 and 1970 a brutal civil war took place in Nigeria. I would argue, one of the worst humanitarian crises that the world has ever seen, but not really talked about in the public square or within the international community.

More than three million people were slaughtered in Nigeria. Um, more than a million children died of starvation.

Nana aba Duncan: So, what happened with your family?

**Kaycee Madu:** My dad was a butcher, who, um, traded in, in cattle, um, owned a butcher business.

After the war, he lost everything.

**Nana aba Duncan:** How does that early part of your life prepare you for entering into politics in another country?

**Kaycee Madu:** It was by luck that I completed high school, but from then onwards, I had to fend for myself. I, you know, I traded on the streets of Lagos to pay my way through the university.

And while doing that, had to pay for my younger ones to go to school.

I'm talking about elementary, high school, and university.

Nana aba Duncan: So, in Ghana, I know the name, we use the word hawker.

Kaycee Madu: Yes.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So a hawker is someone on the street that is selling some type of item so that on the streets you have drivers in the cars and when they get to a certain stop, they have to Then all of the, uh, the, the street sellers, some of them, children, some of them adults are coming to the window with an item for selling.

So, you were one of these people?

**Kaycee Madu:** I was, I did that and then graduated to taking merchandise to offices, like, I'm including items, shirts, ties, shoes to various offices in Lagos.

**Nana aba Duncan:** And then you make it, you make it and then you find yourself here. And somehow you decide that you want to serve in politics. Why?

**Kaycee Madu:** You know, because when you, when I came here, it was obvious to me that, although black people have been coming to this country since the 1700s, we are yet to build a community.

I couldn't find ourselves in public life. And because of my own experiences, my philosophy was already formed before I left Nigeria, that first you have to overcome poverty.

Second, you have to make sure that you have the tools to survive in life and you have to understand that government plays a key role in how we build our communities, how we build our society, the type of future that we have, the wealth of the state is controlled and distributed by government.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So that's why you want to be part of it. And you choose to join The Conservatives. What initially drew you to the Conservative Party?

**Kaycee Madu:** My experiences growing up, the need to work hard, when I came here, my first job was washing dishes and making meals at the hospital for people who are going through extremely devastating time in their lives medically.

That job opened a whole new world for me. And at the same time, I also saw different economic ups and downs and how they impacted our communities.

Anytime there is an economic crisis, people that look like me are usually the first people to be let go, and I saw that when I became a lawyer here. I practice in labor and employment law.

So, I saw all of that and for me the goal was how do we build a resilient community?

When you read the various political party platforms, when you listen to their leaders, on one hand you hear the conservatives talk a lot about opportunities, economic prosperity, jobs, growth.

Most immigrants that I know, they come here in pursuit of opportunity.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So, does that mean that choosing this conservative party was a strategic move?

**Kaycee Madu:** It was strategic. There's no question about that. It was strategic in the sense that I am in Alberta.

#### [Music]

**Nana aba Duncan:** There haven't been a lot of high profile conservative Black politicians in the party. I'm curious about the specific issues you faced while campaigning. In regard to your identity as a black man, what did you face?

**Kaycee Madu:** Oh boy. So, um, it's always shocking, when I say this to folks, if you go back to the 2019 general election and even before the election, I had my nomination. I competed in my party's nomination in 2018, December of 2018.

I won that nomination on December 6th of 2018. It was a three-way contest. I was the only black man in that nomination contest.

There was a Pakistani guy who was a former member of the legislature and then there was a white guy who was backed by the evangelical community. So, no one, no one, thought I was going to win.

No one saw it coming.

Nana aba Duncan: Did you see it coming?

**Kaycee Madu:** I saw it coming because I know that hard work, building relationship and bridges were the things I know how best to do because of my own history.

I knew all I had to do was to go to the community, door to door, sell memberships, talk to them about who I am, my values, and ultimately that prevailed.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So, I'm curious about how much support you got from members of different Black communities, uh, here in Alberta at the different stages of your career.

So, let's start with how much people supported you when you first started.

**Kaycee Madu:** It was tough. Yeah. There was, there was, I am going to be blunt and transparent with you. There was, this is a difficult one for me, because I don't want to be

Nana aba Duncan: It's okay, you can be plain.

**Kaycee Madu:** Yeah, I don't want my community to think that I did not appreciate their participation, but I would say this, however, there were a lot of skepticism.

I was told at that point in time that I was wasting my time.

Nana aba Duncan: Really?

**Kaycee Madu:** That I would never be elected. That I would never be given an opportunity under the Conservative Party, by Black leaders.

Nana aba Duncan: How did that feel?

**Kaycee Madu:** It was depressing, but again, if you, if you think about my history, um, those are the things that actually strengthens my resolve.

**Nana aba Duncan:** Were they objecting to it or skeptical because they didn't have faith in you or was it because they didn't have faith in the system?

**Kaycee Madu:** The Conservative Party. They didn't have faith in the Conservative Party. They didn't think that the Conservative Party represents their interest. They didn't think that they think that the conservatives were racists.

They didn't think that the things that they hear from the Conservative Party tells them that they have, that they understand their difficulties, their anxiety, their fears as human beings.

Nana aba Duncan: But then you are elected.

**Kaycee Madu:** I was elected predominantly by a white population. And I think for me, that shattered that narrative.

Nana aba Duncan: And, and did it? I mean, did, did members of Black communities speak differently to you about your position and what you were doing? I mean, did the support change?

**Kaycee Madu:** I wouldn't say the support changed. No, it did not, but it attracted a lot of interest.

Nana aba Duncan: In what way?

**Kaycee Madu:** A lot, a lot of people began to, look at the conservative party a little bit differently.

It changed some minds and began to open the door to having Black participation within the conservative movement in Alberta and in this country.

## [Music]

**Nana aba Duncan:** You mentioned that it was primarily white people who voted for you. What do you think it was that made them want to vote for you when you were going door to door?

**Kaycee Madu:** I think it was, they saw someone who, and I have to be modest about this, they saw someone who was not, who was not afraid to confront the challenges that we face at the time.

While we may have come from different cultural, ethnic, religious, diverse background, as humans, our fears and anxieties are the same, irrespective of our social, cultural, and economic circumstances.

And I think that's what they saw.

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**Nana aba Duncan narrative:** According to a recent survey, most Black Canadians who enter politics are either recent immigrants, like Kaycee or the children of immigrants. Kaycee Madu is *beyond* passionate about politics. He gave us a tour of his law office and his walls are covered in framed certificates of his accomplishments in both law and politics. So why isn't Kaycee Madu still a politician?

Velma Morgan is the chair of Operation Black Vote Canada. Their goal is to increase the representation of Black Canadians in politics and engage Black communities in the political process. They partnered with Carleton University to conduct the survey.

**Velma Morgan**: When you see Black elected officials being pushed out, resigning or not running again is because they've come to their wits end, they've done their best to try to work within the system. They brought their lived experiences and are trying to help to make public policy better and accessible to everybody. But it takes a mental toll on them, and then they have to leave. They bring the weight of the Black community on their shoulders.

If they do something wrong, then it reflects badly on the entire Black community. So, there's that stress. There's a stress of, being able to do the job to the best of their ability given the environment that they're in and there's systemic racism within the government, on the political side and on the bureaucracy side.

Again, Black politicians are more scrutinized intensely by their peers and by the media. And when something happens, the story gets sensationalized, and it feeds into the stereotype and the biases that people have for Black elected officials.

## [Music]

**Nana aba Duncan:** For a lot of people, Kaycee Madu's success in Alberta politics, was remarkable. He became an MLA in 2019 and was appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs. The next year, he became the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General.

He was climbing up the ranks.

Had he continued in politics, he believes that he could have been Alberta's *and Canada's* first Black premier –but his plan was very publicly derailed.

[Newsclip]: "Former UCP Cabinet Minister and Deputy Premiere Kaycee Madu is facing allegations of misconduct...he is alleged to have undermined the respect for the administration of Justice in 2021..." <a href="https://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/video/c2726638-kaycee-madu-facing-misconduct-allegations">https://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/video/c2726638-kaycee-madu-facing-misconduct-allegations</a>

**Nana aba Duncan:** You left politics after a highly publicized traffic stop. Can you explain what happened?

**Kaycee Madu:** Absolutely, so I became the Attorney General I'm Minister of Justice and Solicitor General on August 20, August 25, 2020. If you remember, it was during the time of the death of George Floyd.

The global protest for racial justice for the black community and the people of color, not just here in Canada or in the U.S., but around the world. There were protests here in Alberta for racial justice to end police brutality and police illegal interactions. With ethno-cultural communities, they call it carding here, or street checks.

Nana aba Duncan: Mm hmm.

Kaycee Madu: And

Nana aba Duncan: And just to be clear, what is carding?

**Kaycee Madu:** Carding is the, it's a tool used by law enforcement to arbitrarily stop people of color for no justifiable reason, simply on the basis of the color of their skin.

Nana aba Duncan: Under the guise of what?

**Kaycee Madu:** Under the guise of trying to prevent crime. But the law doesn't provide legal justification for them to do that.

And yet the data showed that they predominantly carried that out against people of color, ethno cultural people, black, brown, indigenous people, who were mostly the target and the victims of carding. And so, when I became AG, I was clear that if we are going to rebuild trust, instill confidence, repair relations with law enforcement, that we must tackle.

And I, and I banned it. And, you know, I can tell you it was not easy. It was one of the most difficult policy work that I had embarked on.

But I say to myself, I happen to be the first black attorney general in our country. That must mean something to that community where I come from. And if I, as the first black attorney general, couldn't muster the political will to end their practice that people that look like me have largely complained against.

Then I wasn't worthy to sit on that particular chair as the first black attorney general. So, I was prepared to sacrifice it. I was prepared to sacrifice my political future.

And I made a commitment to bring legislation in the spring, in the spring of 2021. I tabled that bill on April 7th, 2021. I was traffic stopped on March 10th, 2021. And while I was working on the policy and drafting the legislation to ban carding.

Nana aba Duncan: And then you're stopped.

**Kaycee Madu:** On the morning, I was going to the legislature to speak to the media as to whether or not I was going to disband the Lethbridge Police Service.

A minute and 58 seconds of leaving my home, a police officer pulled at my back, came to my car, and accused me of being on my phone when in fact, my phone was nowhere near me.

And I said to him, I said, you must be mistaken.

Nana aba Duncan: And what did the officer say? He said,

**Kaycee Madu:** No, I'm going to go with my observation. At that moment in time, I knew that I have just been carded and confronted with what was going on at Lethbridge Police Service. And in my mind, it was all about the carding and Lethbridge Police Service.

Nana aba Duncan: What happened after that?

**Kaycee Madu:** After that, I would, so I told him, I said, listen, if you don't want to listen to what I have to say, then go and write a ticket, because I have, I'm in a hurry.

And first and foremost, he asked for my driver's license, asked for my insurance, asked for my car registration. I provided all three. As ministers, we don't carry the yellow in Alberta it's called the pink slip for insurance. We don't carry that. We carry a white card given to us by government in the event of an incident or an accident, because the government is responsible for the insurance.

And, and then he wrote a ticket as I was about to leave, I said to him before I drove off, I said, by the way, I am the minister of justice within seconds and then I drove off because, because I wanted him to understand that, that, listen, that insurance is not fake.

It's not, it's not fraud, it's real.

And then I drove across the street parked at a superstore and called the Edmonton chief of police.

Nana aba Duncan: What were you calling him for?

**Kaycee Madu:** So, the reason is very simple number one in the past Six months when I became the AG, we have been having this conversation about banning carding and at every turn they've always said to me carding doesn't exist, they don't do it. They will tell you they support it because they don't do it, but privately they will tell you that it it's it's a figment of our imagination.

I said chief you recall all of our conversation around carding and the fact that you, you have told me repeatedly that it doesn't, those things don't exist. Guess what? I have just experienced it.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So, you're basically calling him to say, see, this is what I was talking about. This is exactly what we've been talking about. So, what happens after that? What's the fallout after all of this?

**Kaycee Madu:** The media, I mean, with all due respect to them, I have enormous respect for the media as an institution because their work is vitally important in a free and democratic society.

Nana aba Duncan: What did happen?

**Kaycee Madu:** They collectively accused me of abusing my power. They said I called over a private matter that I called the police to do something about the ticket, they said that. They said as attorney general, that was a 'no no' now you can't do that and, and they called for my resignation.

And, you know, you know, the people that jumped on my neck to call for my resignation, most of my progressive politician friends in Alberta on something that they know is true, but the difference is, oh, it happened to a conservative politician.

They ignored the facts, they ignored the issue, they ignored the reason for my call, and even when the chief, publicly, in writing, in social media, in video, said that Minister Madu never called him to do anything about the ticket, And in fact,-that was his testimony, both at the, at the inquiry and the investigation by a former justice and at the law society hearing.

He said, no, Mr. Madu called to make sure that he hasn't been profiled.

Even then the media ignored all of that and focused on an attorney general that abused his power because for them the issue is to get to the person, it was about Kaycee Madu as a black politician, not about the issue.

**Nana aba Duncan:** This must have been from your perspective, just so frustrating because you are trying to make change over here about a thing that people don't believe.

And then this thing happens to you, and you want to highlight that yes, it happens. And then the media from your perspective is not supporting you. So, this kind of fallout, I understand it must have been so frustrating.

How were you actually feeling at that time?

**Kaycee Madu:** You know, disappointed. Um, because here, here is a guy who took on something that both the media, progressive politicians, and the community have been complaining about for years. And here comes, for the first time in our history, a politician with a backbone to actually end that.

And that ended up becoming the source of his political downfall.

Nana aba Duncan: Do you think this would have happened to a white politician?

**Kaycee Madu:** No chance. In the first place, the white politician would not have taken up that particular cause. That's why, that's why it hasn't been done before. And that's why the former attorney general happened to be a white politician. Despite all those protests, despite all those debates in the legislature, despite all the town halls said, she was not going to do it.

It wasn't an issue because the law enforcement convinced it was a non- issue.

**Nana aba Duncan:** So how does all this impact your political ambitions? At that time, all of this is happening.

**Kaycee Madu:** Yeah, well, it was a huge setback. Uh, for me, because when, when the media broke this story, obviously this first black attorney general had to step away from his role as attorney general and never returned.

It was from there that I moved on to the, became the minister of labor and immigration.

Nana aba Duncan: You were shuffled.

**Kaycee Madu:** Absolutely, when, when the traffic stop took place, I believe the goal was to get me out as attorney general, because I wasn't listening to the powers that be on those policy items.

And a lot of people, uh, Were, we're looking at who a lot of people saw a change in our party leadership coming.

They had concluded then that, that the leadership of former Premier Kenny was untenable. And the question was, amongst us, who are the likely people folks to attempt to succeed him?

# [Music]

And in the names that are being mentioned, you, you would hear Kaycee Madu.

At the time, I happen to be one of those people that can put together a coalition of people from all walks of life, black, brown, white, Muslims, Christians, Jews, you name it, across the province. And someone with that ability was going to be very difficult to be stopped.

Nana aba Duncan: And do you feel that your reputation has been damaged?

**Kaycee Madu:** Well, for sure, it's been, I wouldn't say it's been damaged, but it impacted the outcome of the last election, because I can tell you there were a lot of people who refused to vote for me because of that.

If it was not for that traffic ticket, I would, I would still be an MLA right now.

Nana aba Duncan: What you're describing is a very hard thing. So, it feels like a major loss.

**Kaycee Madu:** You know, for me, I was asked, I would certainly say that it's a setback, a loss for a loss for the province, a loss for the country and a loss for the community.

Nana aba Duncan: Did you also feel a personal loss?

**Kaycee Madu:** There's no question about that. A personal loss in the sense that it, it impacted the trajectory of my political career at the time and impacted my family in a huge way.

Nana aba Duncan: How so?

**Kaycee Madu:** Oh, you know, I have two teenage daughters and, and during that particular period, they were, they were reluctant to go to school.

Sometimes they will go to their bathroom, lock themselves up in their school bathroom and cry all day. Because of the stuff that they were reading about their dad.

And so, beyond the political loss and the loss of a strong, credible, conservative voice in Alberta and in the country.

The difficulties that my family endured were unbearable over something that is an allegation that is not true.

But, but that is the price. I've always said that that is the price that black folks like myself must pay. It's a price, it's a difficulty that we come from. It doesn't matter whether you are a KC in Alberta, whether you are a KC in Nova Scotia. Whether you are a KC in Ontario, it doesn't matter the political environment and the philosophical and the philosophy of, of that particular community or environment, it is a price that all of us as black people must pay for daring into public life.

My experience has always been that I think the media, if it was someone else, the media would have attempted to investigate whether or not this is even true.

Did he actually do what he was accused of doing? But there was no appetite for that investigation. That was the shocking, the most bizarre aspect of that whole media reporting.

#### [Music]

Nana aba Duncan: I want to talk about your own success. What are you most proud of? accomplishing.

**Kaycee Madu:** So, so when I think about all of those things and think about the protests between 2016 and 2018, think about the personal stories that I hear from the community, black, brown, indigenous people. When I think about friends of mine, family members, colleagues that

look like me, that complain bitterly about their interactions with law enforcement, banning carding is without question one of my proudest policy work.

And second achievement I must add, August 25th when I became Attorney General, I, if you read in my public statement I said, I am going to do everything I can to ensure that the four walls of our court reflect the diversity of our people and province.

It was what I said when I ran for office in 2019 that I'm going to do everything I can within my power to make sure that our institutions reflect all of us. At that point in time, we have institutions that did not reflect all of us. And the leaders of those institutions and the public service and government, they all talk about the need for inclusivity, diversity, but in reality, they don't practice it.

You, you literally have to force their hand.

So, I am proud of those things that I helped engineered in Alberta.

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**Nana aba Duncan:** With that experience, what would you say needs to change or be improved for black people in politics?

**Kaycee Madu:** Participation. Black people must be intentional about politics and clarity of thought about the benefit, the obstacles, and the challenges of getting involved in politics.

And the commitment and the backbone to understand that nothing in life comes to you without sacrifice. And the system is not designed to just open the door for us.

Be optimistic, be hopeful, get involved, build alliances and relationships, but also be clear, because it won't be easy.

And I don't care whether you are conservative or liberal or NDP or whatever political party or party or philosophy you're in, our experiences politically are the same.

The difference is how those political parties talk about them.... sometimes we carry ourselves and pack ourselves in one political party. So, our fortune is largely dependent on one political party. So, I say diversify. Diversify.

Nana aba Duncan: Kaycee, thank you. Kalechi, thank you.

**Kaycee Madu:** Thank you so much. Thank you. It's been a pleasure.

Nana aba Duncan: Talking to Kaycee Madu reminds me of the words of another trailblazing conservative Black politician... the late Lincoln Alexander. He said, "It is not your duty to be average. It is your duty to set a higher example for others to follow."

Alexander served as lieutenant-governor of Ontario from 1985–91, and he was member of Parliament from 1968 to 1980. At the time that he served, there were no Black politicians holding such prominent positions in government. That man was by himself.

In 2023, Operation Black Vote Canada worked with researchers at Carleton University to conduct the first ever survey of Black Canadians in politics. That survey showed that most Black Canadians, 53%, first run for office because they want to represent communities who haven't always had a voice in politics.

9% said they wanted to change the way government works, and just 4% said they ran to advocate for a specific policy issue.

Kaycee Madu might have initially been motivated by the opportunity to give people in the Black community a voice. Once he got into office, he used his voice and pushed hard to change how things work.

It wasn't easy, sometimes that's how politics is! But the road might be steeper for some:

71% of Black Canadian politicians who responded to that survey said they had experienced discrimination while they were campaigning or while they were serving in office.

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There's other research that suggests racialized politicians get less favorable news coverage, even when they are more qualified than their competitors.

Despite all this, when they were asked whether they'd run for office again? 87% of survey respondents said yes.

You can go to blackcanadian politics.ca to learn more about this research.

Thanks to Kaycee Madu for being part of this episode.

This podcast was produced by Media Girlfriends for Carleton University and Operation Black Vote Canada.

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We'd love for you to share, subscribe and tell all your politically engaged friends about Black on the Ballot...wait shouldn't we all be politically engaged??

I'm Nana aba Duncan, thanks for listening.