



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN SEEKING TO PUT REGION'S TOP TERTIARY STUDENTS ON 'ICE' NEXT SUMMER

Bridgetown, Barbados, August 29, 2018: Several highly creative millennials across the region will get the chance to introduce their innovative ideas to the financial services sector during a special summer programme to be implemented, next year, by CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank.

This was announced recently by the bank's Senior Manager, Talent Development, Tyneesha Watson during the closing and judging session for the pilot project called ICE - Innovate, Create, Elevate.

Twelve critical thinkers with a passion for change and who are at the tertiary level of their education participated in the six-week pilot programme held at the bank's refurbished and repurposed Warrens Great House.

They were divided into three groups, namely, client relationships; modern digital banking and simplification and assigned projects to solve an existing problem or improve on an existing way the bank performs a particular function. Each team was assisted by a coach and its members spent a small portion of their work week on the project. The teams also benefited from the mentorship of department heads as well as engagement with the banks' top executives.

During the closing session, they presented their projects to a panel comprising Chief Operating Officer, Colette Delaney; Managing Director, Human Resources, Neil Brennan and Managing Director, Retail and Business Banking, Mark St. Hill. They were judged on creativity, the feasibility of implementation, technical soundness of solution, level of return on investment expected, use of proper project management methodology and level of buy-in.

Their presentations received positive comments from the senior managers. Mr. St. Hill said he was impressed with the quantity and quality of the work done in the limited time assigned; Mr. Brennan agreed pointing out that the results showed that the interns spent time understanding the banking environment and processes.

At the end of the judging, Ms. Delaney said the judges were amazed and very impressed with the projects and told the participants that they should all be very proud of themselves. She added the judges had a difficult time making a determination and had therefore decided to give two second prizes instead of a second and third prize.

The first prize went to Team Simplification made up of Chelsea Rose, Makaela Beckles, Shaquille Leacock and Leann Brathwaite and the second prizes to Team Client Relationships - Jadon Jacob, Zudie Payne, Andaiye Burrowes and Ashlee Callender; as well as Team Modern Banking- Brandon Alleyne, Clorissa Callender, Ron Alexis and Romaria Renee.

The team members were congratulated by Ms. Watson who described them as trailblazers, adding that their performance and enthusiastic approach to the projects assigned demonstrated that having a similar action-learning programme would be welcomed by their peers regionally.

She added that bank was therefore happy and looking forward to introducing the programme, next year, in the other countries where CIBC FirstCaribbean has a presence.

In addition to the 12 interns who took part in Project ICE, 29 other interns from Barbados and scores more throughout the region took part in the bank's regular Summer Internship Programme.



Caption: Success- First prize winners, Team Simplification Shaquille Leacock, Leann Brathwaite, Makaela Beckles and Chelsea Rose

About CIBC FirstCaribbean

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Retail and Business Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in seventeen (17) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services that fit our customers' lives through approximately 3,000 employees in 68 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with over US\$12 billion in assets and market capitalization of US \$2 billion. We also have an office in Hong Kong. The face of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC FirstCaribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a member of the CIBC Group. CIBC is a leading Canadian-based global financial institution with 11 million personal banking and business clients. Through our three major business units - Retail and Business Banking, Wealth Management and Capital Markets - CIBC offers a full range of products and services through its comprehensive electronic banking network, branches and offices across Canada with offices in the United States and around the world.

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