

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CIBC FirstCaribbean Helps Men and Boys through Aquaculture certification and CR Skills

Castries, Saint Lucia, November 18th, 2022; The Centre for Adolescent Renewal (C.A.R.E) and the Bordelais Correctional facility were the two institutions selected by CIBC FirstCaribbean Bank to extend a hand of solidarity in observance of International Men’s Day (IMD). The theme for IWD 2022 is “Helping men and boys”.

On Thursday November 17th, a contingent from the bank called on the administrators of the two institutions to hear about their training and empowerment programmes, with a view to contribute to the development and sustainability of these initiatives.

At C.A.R.E, the CIBC FirstCaribbean team selected a new CVQ certified Aquaculture training programme being added to the curriculum. According to C.A.R.E. Director Dr. Karleen Mason, the programme is a “teach a man to fish” type of investment, in promotion of youth enterprise and climate smart livelihoods. “It equips the young men and women with a skill which they can use to go into business for themselves”, Dr. Mason, added. The bank made an initial donation to support the procurement of materials, inputs and equipment.

At the Bordelais Correctional Facility, CIBC First Caribbean opted to support the hosting of a workshop on Conflict Management (CR). The workshop, carded for International Men’s Day, was one of the ways in which the Probation and Parole Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs observes IMD 2022. A collaborative effort with the St. Lucia Crisis Centre, the workshop sought “to educate, sensitize and empower the participants in transforming harmful potential conflicts into opportunities for improved communication, and greater public trust through positive change and enhanced relationships’. It was facilitated by personnel from the two collaborating agencies.

Refreshments and the distribution of care packages to all participants followed the workshop. Both remanded and sentenced inmates took part in the workshop, totaling approximately 100 participants.

According to CIBC FirstCaribbean Country Manager Nigel Ollivierre, “poverty, economic dislocation, poor self-esteem and an inability to resolve conflicts are at the root of personal crises facing men and boys, and the types of crime we are experiencing at the societal level. These trends influenced the bank’s selection of these two institutions this year. And it is not just to give, but to also demonstrate that there is help and support.”

More than 80 countries observe International Men's Day on November 19 every year to place the spotlight on issues relating to men’s’ mental, emotional and physical health and well-being.

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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 fifteen (15) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking

services through approximately 2,800 employees in 64 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with US\$13 billion in assets and market capitalization of US\$1.3 billion. We also have a representative office in Hong Kong that provides business development and relationship management for our fund administration. 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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Bank personnel present a cheque to Director of Bordelais Correctional Facility Verne Guard