

**NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release**



IMPORTANCE OF EMPOWERED WOMEN SUPPORTED BY CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN

Turks and Caicos Islands, March 30, 2022- A local non-profit organization (NPO) is continuing its commitment to providing a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for girls and young women to help them achieve their purpose in life through self-discovery and personal growth through customised tutorial experiences.

The non-profit Jewels Ablaze, recently held an ‘empowerment experience’ under the theme ‘Our Stories Behind The Scenes’ which was followed by CIBC FirstCaribbean presenting a cheque to the organization in support of its future initiatives. Both the event and donation were in celebration of International Women’s Day.

Ruth Forbes, Jewels Ablaze’s Founder, said that she wants girls and young women all over the world to experience the love of God and through him come to the reality of their true purpose and worth.

During the empowerment experience, women of Turks and Caicos Islands with various backgrounds and talents shared the triumphs, trials, rewards and lessons learned along their life’s journey.

Organizers of the event noted, “Stories have the power to instil a sense of hope, revive confidence, provoke purpose, ignite a desire to continue to persevere, and propel you forward” and “inspiring changes come from listening to the stories and experiences of other women.”

CIBC FirstCaribbean’s Branch Manager, Rudell Williams, and Human Resources Business Associate, Bianca Dillon-O’Neil, presented the bank’s donation to Mrs. Forbes.

Ms. Williams said, “We know that for over four years, Jewels Ablaze has been empowering girls and women. We also know that their efforts- guided by the values of purpose, empowerment and growth- provide an invaluable experience to the ‘jewels’ that are involved in their initiatives.”

She added, “CIBC FirstCaribbean hopes that just as ‘Our Stories Behind The Scenes’ was a great time of reflection, empowerment, inspiration and sisterhood with impactful women, this donation will keep future initiatives by Jewels Ablaze burning bright.”

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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 sixteen (16) 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\$11 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.

For more information about CIBC FirstCaribbean, visit www.cibcfib.com, Facebook: CIBCFIB, Twitter: CIBC_FCIB, LinkedIn: CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank, Instagram: CIBCFirstCaribbean, YouTube: CIBC FirstCaribbean

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CIBC FirstCaribbean recently donated to empowerment organisation Jewels Ablaze in celebration of International Women's Day. L-R: Bianca Dillon-O'Neil, CIBC FirstCaribbean Human Resources Business Associate; Ruth Forbes, Jewels Ablaze Founder and Rudell Williams, CIBC FirstCaribbean Branch Manager.