



FirstCaribbean
International Bank

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN PROMOTES SOCIAL INCLUSION DURING READING MONTH

Castries, Saint Lucia, June 2nd, 2022; The month of May saw a continued focus from CIBC FirstCaribbean on primary education and reading, as part of Reading Month.

The bank engaged with a total of five primary schools in response to the call from the Ministry of Education to participate in Reading Month. Staff of the bank read to students at Les Etangs Combined, Ti Rocher Combined, Ciceron Combined, Gros Islet Combined, Kids Care and Anglican Combined throughout May

The participation of a visually impaired staff member on the bank's reading team was a highlight and a hit with students. Ms. Yasmin Houson exposed students to braille assisted reading.

"They were fascinated about the characters that represents the raised dots and how I was able to read by this method as confidently as sighted people do", Ms. Houson reported. She said that based on her interaction with students, the experience "has been unforgettable for them, and I am sure has definitely made them more conscious of persons with disabilities among us, and the fact that they are only differently able in some areas but can make a contribution to society like everyone else", Ms. Houson noted.

As part of the activity, the bank also made a small monetary contribution to each school towards materials for Reading Month. A representative of the bank reported that the donations were well received by school principals who noted the importance of the yearly reading activities for the schools and the positive impact it has on the students.

CIBC FirstCaribbean's Country Manager Nigel Ollivierre described the unbroken support of the bank to Reading Month as "just one way through which we make incremental deposits into primary education and literacy".

Earlier in May, the Morne Du Don Primary School was the recipient of a laptop donated by the bank to enhance the school's online learning in the classroom. The bank also responded to a request for sanitary and cleaning supplies from Foundations Early Childhood Education Learning Centre to assist in managing the spread of the COVID -19 virus.

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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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Photo Caption: CIBC FirstCaribbean's Yasmin Houson hands over the Reading Month donation