



News Release

ALTA, LIVING WATER COMMUNITY, GIFT FOR LIFE GET SUPPORT FROM COMTRUST FOUNDATION

Port of Spain. 2 December 2022. The season of giving and sharing was evident at CIBC FirstCaribbean when the bank recently made some charitable donations.

Through its ComTrust Foundation, Living Waters Community, Adult Literacy Tutors Association (ALTA) and the Gift for Life Foundation received necessary funding that will assist with their Christmas preparation.

“When these donations were made, it was on the cusp of the Advent Season. During this time, words such as Hope, Peace, Joy and Love come to mind. It is in that spirit, that we share what we have with those in need,” said Anthony Seeraj, Managing Director of CIBC First Caribbean’s Trinidad Operating Company.

The FirstCaribbean International ComTrust Foundation was established as a registered charity back in 2002 and over the years has committed over USD\$30 million in support of projects and activities in communities across the bank’s business footprint in the English and Dutch Caribbean.

The foundation offers support and partnership under three primary areas: Youth and Education; Health and Wellness; Community and the Environment.

At the centre of those areas of support is the uplifting and empowering of people in communities where the bank has a presence.

In this case, the Trinidad Operating Company built longstanding associations with the non-Governmental organisations Living Waters Community, ALTA, and the Gift for Life Foundation. Based on the history of donation requests from these organisations, the country management committee considers these associations strong partnerships as continue to offer necessary support to help improve the lives of those affiliated with the respective organisations.

Registered in 2009, the Chaguanas-based Gift for Life Foundation has as its aim to assist underprivileged children at Children’s Homes and in needy communities by providing a traditional family-living environment and guiding them in their education. This Foundation reaches out to a minimum of three Children’s Homes on a monthly basis, with the aim to build children’s self-esteem and social interaction skills.

The Living Water Community is a Catholic Ecclesial Community which began in Port of Spain in 1975. It was founded by Rhonda Maingot and Rose Jackman. The community has been a vibrant ministry to the poor in Trinidad as there continues to be a need for basic care, nourishment and self-development programmes managed in an efficient, cost-effective manner.

ALTA has been in existence since 1992. It provides the only comprehensive, structured, adult literacy programme in Trinidad and Tobago.

Representing the organisations were Shaks Ragoonanan from The Gift For Life Foundation; Michelle Acqui from the Living Water Community and Judith Affoo from ALTA.

Ends



Photo Caption:

Anthony Seeraj presents the ComTrust donation to Shaks Ragoonanan from The Gift For Life Foundation



Anthony Seeraj presents the ComTrust donation to Michelle Acqui from the Living Water Community



Anthony Seeraj presents the ComTrust donation to Judith Affoo from ALTA.

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 2,700 employees in 54 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\$1.0billion. 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. For more information about CIBC FirstCaribbean, visit www.cibfcib.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#).

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