



For Immediate Release

Hope For A World Where All Are Accepted

St. John's, Antigua, March 25, 2024. World Down Syndrome Awareness Day observed in Antigua and Barbuda on Thursday March 21, 2024 has been described as a success. This year while the central theme was “End the Stereotypes”, one of the traditional sub themes was “Lots of socks” and everyone was encouraged to wear multi-coloured socks to participate and raise awareness.

Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis, Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre's (SLBMC) Pediatric Department Chair, said that she was happy for the level of awareness that has been raised over the past 5 years that Antigua and Barbuda has been observing the day.

Speaking at a presentation of \$2,500 by CIBC Caribbean to the awareness campaign, she thanked the bank for their generous contribution, noting that an awareness campaign requires funding, which means so much to SLBMC and the families which they serve.

“Our goal now is seeking more partnerships such as what we've started with CIBC Caribbean as well as getting other organizations in our society, including our non-profit organizations, to join us in providing the care, support, and recognition each individual with Down Syndrome deserves. With time, we'll get where we need to be — a world where all are accepted, where differences are embraced and a world where we all feel included. That is how we end the stereotype.”

The bank's Human Resources Officer, Jesseca Ormond, said that CIBC Caribbean believes in the shared commitment to foster an inclusive community.

“As we reflect on the theme for World Down Syndrome Awareness Day 2024 “End the Stereotypes” we encourage individuals and organizations to champion the rights and dignity of individuals with Down Syndrome, not just today, but every day. It is through collective efforts that we can create a world where diversity is celebrated, and differences are seen as strengths rather than limitations.

We thank the medical professionals at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre, and its affiliates, for their dedication to providing care and support to individuals with Down Syndrome.

CIBC Caribbean reaffirms its dedication to support these initiatives as we strongly believe in social corporate responsibility.”

Down syndrome is a genetic condition in which a baby is born with an extra chromosome 21. The extra chromosome is associated with delays in the child's mental and physical development, as well as an increased risk for health problems.



Caption: Left to Right: Abdul Browne (CIBC Platinum Associate), Dr. Claudine Richardson (SLBMC Consultant Pediatrician), Jesseca Ormond (CIBC Human Resources Officer), Dr. Shivon Belle-Jarvis (SLBMC Pediatric Dept. Chair), Deborah Brokes (CIBC Sale Support Officer)



Caption: CIBC staff display their multi-coloured socks to raise awareness.

About CIBC Caribbean

CIBC Caribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Personal and Business Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in twelve (12) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services through approximately 2,700 employees in 45 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 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 Caribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

CIBC Caribbean 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](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#).

Media contact:

Debra King, Director of Corporate Communications, CIBC Caribbean, Barbados Head Office
Telephone: 246 367 2248; Fax: 246 421 7148 and Email: debra.king@cibcfib.com

Ladesa James-Williams |Director, Retail Sales OECS and Country Head Antigua |CIBC Caribbean| PO Box 28 |Old Parham Rd. Antigua|T: 268 484 5126|M: 268 764 5126| Fax: 268 480 5140 | ladesa.james@cibcfib.com