

Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CIBC Caribbean Enhances Blood Banking Capabilities with Specialized Transport Equipment

Castries, Saint Lucia, November 25, 2024 - CIBC Caribbean has reinforced its commitment to healthcare advancement with a XCD\$4,500 donation to the Ezra Long Laboratory at the Millennium Heights Medical Complex.

The funds are to procure specialized blood transport equipment, enhancing the facility's mobile blood collection capabilities.

The certified transport boxes, designed specifically for blood banks, feature heavy insulation and can maintain optimal temperatures for up to 96 hours at 32°C, significantly improving the facility's ability to conduct remote blood collection campaigns across the island.

"In an era where our healthcare system faces mounting pressures from increasing noncommunicable diseases, road accidents, and trauma cases, efficient blood management becomes crucial," stated CIBC Caribbean Country Manager, Nigel Ollivierre. "This donation aims to strengthen the laboratory's capacity to meet these growing demands while maintaining international standards in blood handling and storage."

Dr. Wayne O. Felicien, Director of Ezra Long Laboratory, emphasized the equipment's significance: "These specialized transport boxes will allow us to store and transport between 15 and 30 blood bags during our mobile campaigns, meeting international accreditation standards for blood banks and transfusion services."

This latest initiative builds on CIBC Caribbean's commitment to an empowered healthcare system, following their XCD\$45,000 contribution for equipment to bolster the COVID-19 response in 2020, quadrupling the facility's COVID-19 testing capabilities. These ongoing investments reflect the bank's dedication to strengthening Saint Lucia's healthcare infrastructure.

During the handover, Ollivierre, a blood donor himself, announced plans for a bank-wide blood donor recruitment initiative in partnership with the facility.

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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 eleven (11) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services through approximately 2,600 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 Caribbean, visit <u>www.cibcfcib.com</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Instagram</u> or <u>YouTube</u>.

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