ST. KITTS-NEVIS TRADES AND LABOUR UNION

Unity Is Strength · Est. 1940

87th Annual Workers' Conference

THEME

STRONGER UNIONS, STRONGER WORKERS, STRONGER NATION:

United on Partnership For Progress

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2026
10:00 a.m.

SWMC Conference Room
Taylor's Range, Basseterre, St. Kitts

ST. KITTS-NEVIS TRADES AND LABOUR UNION

87th Annual Workers' Conference

DATE

Sunday 25th October 2026

TIME

10:00 a.m.

VENUE

SWMC Conference Room, Taylor's Range, Basseterre, St. Kitts

● **All attendees are asked to be seated by 9:45 a.m.**

THEME

> *'Stronger Unions, Stronger Workers, Stronger Nation: United on Partnership For Progress.'*

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01

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2026 · 10:00 A.M.

Conference Agenda

PUBLIC SESSION	01	National Anthem
	02	Invocation: Deacon Joseph Edmeade
	03	President's Address: Sydney Bridgewater, President, St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union
	04	Remarks: Ministry of Employment and Labour, Mr. Junique Eddy
FRATERNAL GREETINGS	05	Labour Movement Representative of the St. Kitts and Nevis Labour Party
	06	Other Fraternal Greetings
	07	Introduction of Guest Speaker
	08	Guest Speaker: Dr. Simon Black
	09	Lunch Adjournment
BUSINESS SESSION	01	Roll Call
	02	Financial Report
	03	Obituaries
	04	Executive Committee Report 2025–2026
	05	Resolutions from the Floor (Delegates)
	06	Election of Executive Committee
	07	Guide for the New Term
	08	Date and Place of Next Annual Conference

PLEASE BE SEATED BY 9:45 A.M.

SWMC CONFERENCE ROOM

2025-2026 TERM

02 Report from the Executive Committee



BY **PRECIOUS MILLS**, GENERAL SECRETARY

Introduction: Our Strength Is Our Members

The strength of a trade union does not rest only with its Executive Committee, but more importantly, with its members. It is the workers who give the Union its strength, purpose and voice.

> ***Every worker has a role to play, and every voice matters.***

This is an important message that we want every member and worker to fully understand and appreciate. A strong Union depends on workers standing together, supporting one another and taking an active interest in matters that affect their rights and well-being.

Our Conference theme, 'Stronger Unions, Stronger Workers, Stronger Nation: United on Partnership For Progress,' reminds us that real progress comes when we work together towards common goals.

While the Executive Committee has the responsibility to lead and represent the membership, the Union's true strength lies in its members. Every worker has a role to play, and every voice matters.

Together, through unity, commitment and cooperation, we can build a stronger Union, strengthen our workers and bring about the positive change we all want to see.

The Labour Code: An Important National Priority

The proposed Labour Code continues to be an important matter for the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union and the wider working population.

Having been under development for more than ten years, the proposed Code represents an opportunity to bring together and strengthen the legislative framework governing employment and labour relations in St. Kitts and Nevis.

> *The Union continues to advocate for a Labour Code that provides meaningful protections for workers.*

The Union continues to participate in discussions through the National Tripartite Committee, which brings together representatives of government, employers and workers.

We are encouraged by indications that discussions are progressing and remain hopeful that the long-awaited legislation will move closer to becoming a reality.

The Union continues to advocate for a Labour Code that provides meaningful protections for workers, promotes fair treatment and supports constructive relationships among workers, employers and government.

Domestic Workers Are Workers Too!

The Union continued its advocacy for greater recognition and protection of domestic workers, including housekeepers, cleaners, caregivers, nannies and others employed in private households.

Domestic workers perform important work that supports families, households and the wider economy. However, many continue to face challenges associated with informal employment arrangements and limited access to workplace protections.

The Union remains committed to promoting awareness of their rights, encouraging domestic workers to become organised and advocating for the ratification of International Labour Organization Convention No. 189, which concerns decent work for domestic workers.

Our work in this area is supported by regional and international connections, including the Caribbean Domestic Workers Network (CDWN), for which General Secretary Precious Mills serves as Public Relations Officer.

The Union has also benefited from training and engagement through organisations including the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) and Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO).

We encourage domestic workers, and persons who know or employ domestic workers, to support efforts to ensure that these workers receive the dignity, respect and protection they deserve.



Union officials and domestic workers pictured at Masses House, the headquarters of the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union, during a regional training session held in 2024, aimed at advancing the rights, recognition and protection of domestic workers.

DECEMBER 2025

Recognising Dedicated Service

The Union was represented at the Harowe Servo Ltd. Christmas luncheon held at Eco Park, during which employees were recognised for their service and contributions to the company among its celebration highlights.

Among those recognised was outgoing Union Shop Steward and retiree Yvette David, who had given more than 40 years of service to the company.

The Union commends her years of dedication, including her contribution as a workers' representative, and recognises the important role shop stewards play in maintaining communication between workers and the Union.

JANUARY 2026

Remembering the Buckley's Uprising

On Wednesday 28th January 2026, the Union participated in the commemoration of the 91st anniversary of the 1935 Buckley's Uprising at Buckley's Estate.

The event, organised by the Nyabinghi Theocracy Order, was held under the theme "The 1935 Buckley's Uprising in St. Kitts – The Spark That Awakens The Region."

Executive Committee member Nalissa Sewnauth delivered remarks on behalf of the Union, reflecting on the historical significance of the uprising and its wider Caribbean connections, including its relevance to her homeland of Guyana.



Executive Committee member Nalissa Sewnauth delivers remarks on behalf of the Union at the 91st anniversary commemoration of the 1935 Buckley's Uprising, held at Buckley's Estate on Wednesday 28th January 2026.

Also representing the Union were General Secretary Precious Mills and Executive Committee member and Field Officer Sean Kelly.

The Union recognises the importance of remembering the struggles and sacrifices that helped shape the labour movement and the advancement of workers' rights.



General Secretary Precious Mills, Executive Committee member Nalissa Sewnauth and Executive Committee member and Field Officer Sean Kelly pictured at the commemorative ceremony.

FEBRUARY 2026

Regional Engagement

Members of the Union's Executive Committee attended the opening ceremony of the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), hosted in St. Kitts and Nevis during 24th–27th February 2026.

The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis, Hon. Dr. Terrance Drew.

The Union welcomed the opportunity to be present at the opening ceremony of this important regional gathering, recognising the relevance of Caribbean cooperation to employment, skills development, economic opportunities and matters affecting workers.



Union representatives Precious Mills, Sydney Bridgewater and Eva Henderson pictured at the opening ceremony of the 50th Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM. Executive Committee member Jereth Morton also attended but is not pictured.

Strengthening Regional Ties

The Union welcomed an impromptu visit to Masses House by Dwaine Paul, President of the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL), while he was in St. Kitts.

The visit provided an opportunity for cordial discussion and engagement on matters of mutual interest, including the importance of regional cooperation among workers' organisations.

The Union values its relationships with regional labour bodies and recognises the benefits of maintaining communication and solidarity across the Caribbean.



CCL President Dwaine Paul pictured with Union President Sydney Bridgewater during the visit.



CCL President Dwaine Paul pictured with Union President Sydney Bridgewater and Executive Committee member and Field Officer Sean Kelly during his visit to Masses House.



SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM: WORKERS' VOICES MATTER

APRIL 2026

Social Security Reform: Workers' Voices Matter

On Tuesday 21st April 2026, General Secretary Precious Mills participated as a presenter at the Social Security Stakeholder Reform Conference held at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort under the theme "Refining Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow."

The conference brought together local, regional and international stakeholders to discuss the future sustainability of the Social Security system. The Union's participation provided an opportunity to contribute a workers' perspective to an issue of direct importance to employees, retirees and future beneficiaries.

The Union recognises the importance of meaningful consultation and informed decision-making as discussions on Social Security reform continue.

Growth and Resilience Dialogue

Union President Sydney Bridgewater and General Secretary Precious Mills attended the 10th Annual Growth and Resilience Dialogue, held from 22nd to 24th April 2026.

The event was held under the theme "Resilient Leadership in a Dynamic World: Turning Global Uncertainty into Opportunities for Partnerships and Shared Prosperity."

The Union attended following an invitation extended by Sybil Welsh, who had served as the Union's guest speaker at its 2025 Annual Workers' Conference. The engagement provided an opportunity to remain informed about regional discussions



GROWTH AND RESILIENCE DIALOGUE

on economic resilience, leadership and partnerships.

ILO Caribbean Director Visits Masses House

On Thursday 23rd April 2026, the Union welcomed Joni Musabayana, Director of the International Labour Organization Office for the Caribbean, to Masses House.



ILO CARIBBEAN DIRECTOR VISITS MASSES HOUSE

Discussions included the proposed Labour Code and the importance of social dialogue.

The Union appreciates opportunities to engage with the ILO and other partners whose work supports labour standards, workers' rights and constructive labour relations.

MAY 2026

Honouring Champions of Workers' Rights

On Sunday 3rd May 2026, the Union participated in the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Springfield Cemetery in Basseterre, honouring the contributions of labour movement pioneers Sir Robert L. Bradshaw, Joseph N. France, Paul Southwell and Lee Moore.

Executive Committee member Kevion Hodge Huggins, First Vice President Curtis Francis and General Secretary Precious Mills delivered remarks recognising the contributions of these pioneers to the development of the labour movement and the advancement of workers' rights.

The Union remains committed to preserving this history and helping younger generations understand the struggles that contributed to the rights and protections workers enjoy today.



Executive Committee member Kevion Hodge Huggins delivers remarks at the graveside of Sir Robert L. Bradshaw during the wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday 3rd May 2026, while First Vice President Curtis Francis and General Secretary Precious Mills look on.

Labour Day 2026: Workers at the Centre

On Monday 4th May 2026, the Union participated in the annual Labour Day march through Basseterre, joining workers and supporters in recognising the significance of International Workers' Day.



Members of the Union's Executive Committee, including General Secretary Precious Mills, Assistant General Secretary Kirsty Lennon, First Vice President Curtis Francis, President Sydney Bridgewater, Treasurer Jutambien Kelly, Second Vice President Nadine Natta and floor members Eva Henderson, Jereth Morton and Nalissa Sewnauth, pictured during the Labour Day march along George Street, Newtown, on Monday 4th May 2026.

The Union used the occasion to promote worker awareness, encourage participation and reinforce the importance of collective representation.

We continue to welcome suggestions and feedback from workers on how Labour Day activities can become even more engaging, inclusive and worker-centred.

Ask the Union!

As part of the Labour Day activities, the Union maintained a presence at Patsy Allers Play Field, where representatives interacted with workers and members of the public.

> *Know your rights. Learn them. Understand them.*

An arrow-shaped 'ASK THE UNION' sign was among the features used to encourage persons to approach Union representatives, ask questions and learn more about the organisation.

Union Treasurer Jutambien Kelly also delivered remarks during the Labour Day rally, encouraging young workers to become informed about their workplace rights.

As she reminded workers: "Know your rights. Learn them. Understand them. Understanding your rights is not optional, it is practical. It is personal."

The Union recognises the importance of making workers' education accessible and creating opportunities for workers to engage directly with their representatives.



Union Treasurer Jutambien Kelly and Field Officer Sean Kelly pictured with the "HAPPY LABOUR DAY 2026 – ASK THE UNION" sign along Cayon Street on Monday 4th May 2026.

JUNE 2026

Domestic Workers Matter

On Tuesday 16th June 2026, the Union joined in recognising International Domestic Workers Day, using its social media platforms to highlight the important contributions of domestic workers.

Under the continuing message "DOMESTIC WORKERS ARE WORKERS TOO!", the Union encouraged greater awareness of the rights and needs of persons employed in domestic work.

The Union continues to promote education, organisation and meaningful protections for domestic workers, drawing on regional and international engagement through the CDWN, IDWF and WIEGO.



The Union's domestic workers awareness backpiece, worn during the 2025 Labour Day march, illustrating the continuing campaign for recognition and protection of domestic workers.

Maintaining Workplace Connections

Union President Sydney Bridgewater and Field Officer Sean Kelly visited Harowe Servo Ltd. in Sandy Point, where they engaged with Union Shop Steward Jacqueline Francis and company Manager Carol Evelyn.

The visit formed part of the Union's continuing efforts to maintain communication with workers and management at workplaces covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements.



Union officials seen with manager Carol Evelyn.



Union President Sydney Bridgewater and Shop Steward Jacqueline Francis having a chat.

The Union recognises that maintaining contact throughout the life of an agreement is important for identifying workplace concerns, encouraging cooperation and supporting constructive working relationships.

We appreciate the willingness of workers, shop stewards and management representatives to engage in ongoing dialogue.

Diplomatic Engagement: Cuba

The Union welcomed an introductory visit from the newly appointed Cuban



DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT: CUBA

Ambassador His Excellency Giuvel Orozco Ortega to St. Kitts and Nevis at Masses House on Friday 5th June.

The interaction provided an opportunity for cordial discussion and the strengthening of goodwill.

The Union appreciates opportunities for respectful engagement and cooperation with diplomatic representatives.

Diplomatic Engagement: Venezuela

The Union also appreciated opportunities for cordial engagement with the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in St. Kitts and Nevis, including interaction with Rubén Mogollón Munich, Acting Chargé d'Affaires Ad Hoc and Head of Mission.

Union representative Sean Kelly signed the Book of Condolences at the Embassy following the earthquake in Venezuela in June 2026, as an expression of sympathy and solidarity.

The Union values opportunities for dialogue, goodwill and cooperation in strengthening relationships.

JULY 2026

Engaging Carib Brewery Workers

On Friday 10th July 2026, Union representatives met with workers at Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd. at the company's Buckley's site, ahead of the expiration of the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement in December 2026.

The meeting was attended by Union President Sydney Bridgewater, General Secretary Precious Mills, Field Officer and Executive Committee member Sean Kelly,

and Union Shop Steward Alfred 'Joash' Liburd.

The engagement provided an opportunity to interact directly with workers, discuss matters of interest and encourage participation in the Union, including among younger workers.



Union Field Officer and Executive Committee member Sean Kelly (right end) and Shop Steward Alfred 'Joash' Liburd (third from right) interact with two employees following a workers meeting held at Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd. manufacturing plant at Buckley's Site in Basseterre on Friday 10th July 2026.

The Union remains committed to maintaining open lines of communication with workers as preparations for further collective bargaining discussions continue.



Union Field Officer and Executive Committee member Sean Kelly, Union Shop Steward at Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd. Alfred 'Joash' Liburd (Carib Brewery employee) and Union member Samuel O'Loughlin (Carib Brewery employee) pose for a photograph following the meeting with workers at Carib Brewery (St. Kitts-Nevis) Ltd. manufacturing plant at Buckley's Site in Basseterre on Friday 10th July 2026.

Partnership for Progress

In addition to its workplace visits, the Union continued its engagement concerning Collective Bargaining Agreements, including discussions towards renewal of the agreement covering workers at Courts Unicomer.

We appreciate the participation of workers, shop stewards and management representatives in ongoing discussions aimed at addressing workplace matters and strengthening labour relations.

The Union remains focused on constructive dialogue and meaningful partnership for the mutual benefit of workers and employers, while keeping the protection and advancement of workers' rights and welfare at the centre of its work.

OCTOBER 2026

Improving Our Surroundings

The Union continued efforts to improve the surroundings of its Masses House headquarters, including a clean-up exercise at Masses Yard undertaken by members of the Executive Committee.



IMPROVING OUR SURROUNDINGS

The first phase of the targeted project reflected a practical commitment to teamwork and to maintaining the Union's headquarters.

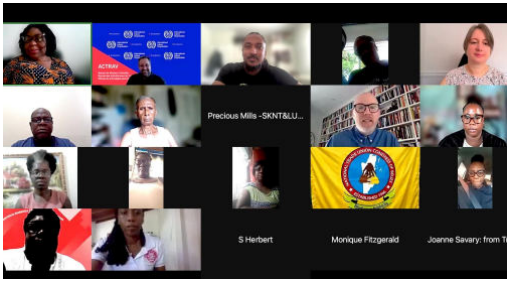
The Union recognises the historical significance of Masses House and the importance of caring for the property as part of preserving the organisation's identity and heritage.

Further improvements remain an area for continued attention.

Continuing Domestic Workers Advocacy

The Union remains engaged in regional and international discussions concerning domestic workers' rights, including participation by General Secretary Precious Mills in a virtual consultation involving representatives of the Caribbean Domestic Workers Network and Dr. Simon Black.

The consultation formed part of engagement ahead of an ILO ACTRAV global conference scheduled for 3rd–5th November 2026 in Montevideo, Uruguay, focusing on the progress and continuing challenges associated with Convention No. 189.



Screenshot of virtual meeting attendees including General Secretary Precious Mills (second from right bottom).

The Union also looks forward to opportunities for further domestic workers' education and training, including plans being explored for a training conference in St. Kitts and Nevis in 2027.

A Voice for Workers at Every Level

The work of the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union extends beyond the negotiation of Collective Bargaining Agreements

and the handling of individual workplace grievances.

As a national workers' representative organisation, the Union participates in discussions and bodies whose decisions can affect workers across different sectors of the economy.

> ***...ensuring that workers have a voice wherever decisions affecting their interests are being considered.***

This representation includes involvement in the Social Security Board, National Tripartite Committee, Minimum Wage Advisory Committee and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Council, among other national bodies.

Through such representation, the Union contributes workers' perspectives to discussions involving Social Security, wages, employment, skills development, labour relations and other matters affecting working people.

The Union recognises the importance of ensuring that workers have a voice wherever decisions affecting their interests are being considered.

We encourage workers to take an active interest in the work of the organisation, support its efforts and recognise the value of collective representation.

The Labour Spokesman: The Union's Media Entity

The Labour Spokesman newspaper continues to provide a platform for information, workers' education and coverage of matters of public interest.

Through its print publication and online presence, the newspaper helps to keep readers informed about workplace issues, labour developments, community affairs and national events.

The Union recognises the importance of communication in promoting awareness and encouraging informed discussion about the rights and responsibilities of workers and employers.

Readers can also access the newspaper online at www.thelabourspokesman.com.

Follow Us, Like Us!

The Union continues to use social media to share information about its activities, workplace matters, workers' rights and opportunities for public engagement.

Workers are encouraged to connect with the Union, ask questions, share concerns and remain informed about matters affecting their working lives.

Masses House, Basseterre, St. Kitts
WhatsApp +1 (869) 661-2544
Website www.thelabourspokesman.com

CELEBRATING OUR OWN

Kudos Corner

AUGUST 2026

The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union extends hearty congratulations to our youngest Executive Committee member, Kevion Hodge Huggins, who was among 37 nationals awarded scholarships to pursue university studies in the Republic of China (Taiwan).

The scholarships were formally presented during a ceremony held on Saturday 8th August 2026 at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort.





According to the St. Kitts and Nevis Information Service (SKNIS), this represented the largest number of scholarships awarded to the Federation by Taiwan in a single year.

We commend Kevion for taking this important step towards furthering his education and personal development.

As a Union, we recognise that education is an important tool for empowering workers, developing skills and creating opportunities for personal and professional growth.

We wish him every success in his academic journey and look forward to the positive contributions he will continue to make.

Kudos also to the other scholarship recipients! We congratulate them on their achievements and wish them continued success.

SEPTEMBER 2026

27 Years of Dedicated Service!

The Union extends hearty congratulations to our Assistant General Secretary, Kirsty Lennon, who celebrated an impressive 27 years of service as a civil servant on 1st September 2026.



27 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE!

Twenty-seven years of integrity, dedication, commitment and contribution to the public service represent a remarkable milestone and an achievement worthy of recognition.

Kirsty, we salute you! Your journey of service is one to be proud of, and we wish you continued success in the years ahead.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

Conclusion: Moving Forward Together

As we reflect on the period under review, we recognise the contributions of the Executive Committee, shop stewards, members, workers and partners who have supported the Union's work.

We express appreciation to those who have participated in meetings, workplace engagements, national consultations, educational activities and other efforts aimed at advancing the interests of workers.

At the same time, we recognise that there is still much work to be done.

Strengthening the Union requires greater participation, stronger communication, continued membership development and a shared commitment to carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to us.

As we enter a new term, we encourage every member to take a more active interest in the organisation and in the issues affecting workers.

Our strength depends on what we are prepared to do together.

> ***Stronger Unions. Stronger Workers. Stronger Nation.***

IN MEMORIAM

Obituaries

During the period under review, the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union extended condolences to members of the Union family who experienced the loss of loved ones.

We remember the late Londya Lennon, sister of our Assistant General Secretary, Kirsty Lennon, who served in the field of health, particularly with the National AIDS Programme.

We also remember the late Leonora 'Momma Coolie' Henry-Bassue, mother of the Supervisor of the Union's R. L. Bradshaw Day Care Centre in Dorset Village.

The Union extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and loved ones.

May their souls rest in peace.

2025-2026

Executive Committee Members

OFFICERS

Sydney Bridgewater
PRESIDENT

Curtis Francis
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Nadine Natta
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Precious Mills
GENERAL SECRETARY

Kirsty Lennon
ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY

Jutambien Kelly
TREASURER

FLOOR MEMBERS

Sean Kelly	Eva Henderson	Kevion Hodge Huggins
George Dixon	James Pemberton	Vanessa 'Vandel' Browne
Jereth Morton	Nalissa Sewnauth	Lloyd Rouse

STRONGER UNIONS.
STRONGER WORKERS.
STRONGER NATION.



LENNOX WARNER & ASSOCIATES
BUILDING CONTRACTORS

Join in
CONGRATULATING

The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades & Labour Union

on the attainment of its

87th Annual Conference

03 Workers' Education, News and Features



Representatives of the workers representative organisation – the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union (SKNT&LU) – of which the late Devon 'Rollerz' Hutton was a member – (From right to left) President Sydney Bridgewater (also a Field Officer), Floor Members Sean Kelly (also a Field Officer) and Eva Henderson, General Secretary Precious Mills and office Senior Clerk Vassil Roberts, pose for a photograph as a mark of respect following part one of Hutton's funeral service on Wednesday 12th August 2026 at the premises of the Church of God of Prophecy located at Buckley's Site in Basseterre.

TRIBUTE

Devon 'Rollerz' Hutton Remembered for Linesman Legacy, Work Reputation

BY SPOKESMAN NEWSROOM

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST 2026) – "His reputation spoke for itself. When Daddy was on the job, things got done. His work ethic became a part of a legacy he left behind, and it was something he passed on to his children."

Those were the words of Tadesha 'Taddy' Hutton, daughter of the late 50-year-old Devon 'Rollerz' Hutton who joined the St. Christopher Air and Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA) staff as a linesman in December 2012, as she paid tribute as part of the eulogy presentation during his funeral

> *When Daddy was on the job, things got done.*
>
> TADESHA 'TADDY' HUTTON

service held on Wednesday 12th August 2026, at the Church of God of Prophecy at Buckley's Site in Basseterre.

She remembered her father as a hard-working man whose years in the shipping industry earned him a reputation for getting the job done.

"Daddy spent many years working in the shipping industry where he became well known for his hard work and the ability to get the job done," she said. "He helped offload containers from the cargo vessel, and even if he had his own way of doing things and sometimes causing a little trouble, there was no denying that he was one of the best at what he did."

As shared by her, his work ethic also became part of the legacy he passed on to his children, all of whom found their own paths within the shipping industry.

"His work ethic became a part of a legacy he left behind, and it was something he passed on to his children. All of us have found our way in the shipping industry in some form, whether hands on or in administrative roles, carrying on a piece of the world he knew so well," Hutton said.

She recalled being pleased when she began working at the port, joking that it gave her an opportunity to keep tabs on her father.

"I was so glad when I started working at the port just so I could keep tabs on my father," she said, before adding humorously, "But [you all] can't tell him I said that."

Hutton said one of the jobs she saw her father take great pride in was working as a linesman at the cruise port, helping to bring cruise ships safely alongside the dock.

"One of the jobs I saw my father take great pride in is working as a linesman at the cruise port, helping to bring the cruise ships safely alongside the dock, and I'm telling [you all], that is not an easy task, and I know the linesmen would agree with me," she said.

> *It required strength, skill, teamwork, and courage.*

She recalled watching her father at work from a young age and gaining an appreciation for the demands of the profession.

"When I was younger, I would watch my father at work, and even then, I understood what he was doing wasn't an easy task but back then, there were fewer linesmen, so you



Union Shop Stewards for the linesmen membership, Lawson 'Laba' Liddie (left end) and Hani Lake (right end), join other unionised linesmen for a photograph at the graveside following the funeral service of the late Devon 'Rollerz' Hutton at the Springfield Cemetery on Wednesday 12th August 2026.

could only imagine. The responsibility on each man was even greater," she said.

"It required strength, skill, teamwork, and courage. The cruise ships would arrive early in the morning and sometimes leave late in the night but it was demanding work, and he showed up to do it."

Hutton also spoke about the practical skills her father developed throughout his life and his willingness to take on difficult work.

READ MORE… WWW.THELABOURSPOKESMAN.COM

WORKERS' MENTAL HEALTH

Health, Safety Manager Highlights Importance of Mental Health in the Workplace

BY PRECIOUS MILLS

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 2026) – The importance of protecting workers' mental health in the workplace has been placed in the spotlight as safety officials have emphasised the need for supportive work environments that safeguard not only physical safety but also the psychological well-being of employees.

Speaking on 'Power Talk' by the St. Kitts Electricity Company Ltd (SKELEC) – aired live on ZIZ on Wednesday 15th April 2026 on the topic 'Safe Minds, Strong Minds' – the Health, Safety, Security and Environment Manager at SKELEC Clarissa Langley-Stephens outlined the company's efforts to strengthen workplace safety and mental health awareness.



Health, Safety, Security and Environment Manager at SKELEC Clarissa Langley-Stephens and Head of Occupational Safety, Health and Environment within the Ministry of Employment and Labour Junique Eddy while appearing on 'Power Talk' by the St. Kitts Electricity Company Ltd (SKELEC) – aired live on ZIZ on Wednesday 15th April 2026 on the topic 'Safe Minds, Strong Minds'. Programme host – Corporate Communications Officer at SKELEC Geneisha Hendrickson seen at left while in studio. (Credit: Youtube.com/ZIZonline).

She appeared on the programme alongside Head of Occupational Safety, Health and Environment within the Ministry of Employment and Labour Junique Eddy.

> *So we are trying to change a culture.*
>
> CLARISSA LANGLEY-STEPHENS, SKELEC

Langley-Stephens highlighted that the company took a step four years ago so as to address safety culture.

"So we are trying to change a culture. Four years ago, the company made a decision to onboard a safety department, a department specifically zeroing in on matters and issues and policies and processes and procedures that heighten the alertness of staff members when it comes to safety."

During the discussion, Eddy explained that understanding the psychosocial work culture of a workplace is essential to maintaining a healthy and productive workforce.

"Psychosocial work culture can be broken down by simply saying the mental state of our workforce – how stable we are as a people not just physically but emotionally, mentally and psychologically."

He added that this stability plays a crucial role in national productivity.

"Of course this will be massively important to any country as this directly impacts on the type of productivity you get from healthy workers, workers who operate on sound mind, stable workforce, one that is not affected too much by outside of work issues."

Eddy, however, acknowledged that workplaces must recognise the realities employees face in their daily lives.

"But that isn't somewhat a perfect world, and we have to understand that in any undertaking, there must be balance, and that is what we seek to do from a national level by ensuring that enough awareness and programmes are there to support the mental state of our workforce and our people."

> ***Psychosocial work culture can be broken down by simply saying the mental state of our workforce.***

According to Eddy, the Ministry continues to monitor the labour landscape.

"Our ministry continues to police the world of work closely analysing trends and patterns as we develop."

READ MORE… WWW.THELABOURSPOKESMAN.COM

> *Psychosocial risks directly affect health, safety and organisational performance...*
>
> MARISA BHAWANIE WHITE, TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

OSH Expert Shares Concerns About Workplace Burnout, Fatigue

BY SPOKESMAN NEWSROOM

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (THURSDAY 30TH APRIL 2026) – As workplaces across the Caribbean region continue to evolve, a critical but often overlooked issue is gaining sharper focus – how burnout, fatigue and psychosocial risks are silently undermining worker well-being and productivity.

Director of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Department at the Tobago House of Assembly Marisa Bhawanie White, brought this concern into view as she addressed a live webinar, hosted by the Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies (in Trinidad and Tobago) on Tuesday 28th April, 2026 which marked the observance of World Day for Safety and Health at Work.

That online session was held under the theme 'The Psychological Working Environment: Global Developments and Pathways for Action.'

Bhawanie White made it clear from the outset that workplace safety must no longer be viewed through a purely physical lens.

"So when we think about workplace safety, we often just focus on the physical hazards but psychosocial risks are just as important," she stated. "Factors that were mentioned...like stress, fatigue, and poor work design, they can directly impact performance and increase the risk of incidents."

According to Bhawanie White, there has been a significant shift in how occupational safety and health is approached globally, with psychosocial risks now treated with the same level of importance as physical hazards.

"Psychosocial risks directly affect health, safety and organisational performance, and they're not just personal issues," she emphasised, noting that modern OSH systems now integrate these risks into formal risk management processes.

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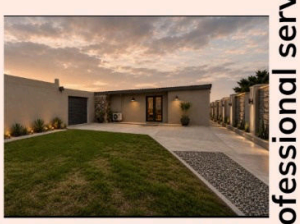
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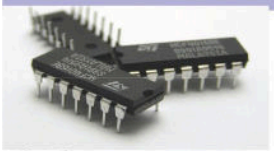


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