

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

www.thelabourspokesman.com



SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED... TITUS 2:8

Year 67 NO. 29

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 15th DECEMBER, 2023

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 21/10/23

DELTA \$14.36/ SOL \$13.64



STORY ON PAGE 03

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LIVEABLE WAGE INCREASE

WORKERS SAY...

STORY ON PAGE 03

'IN MY SHOE'

STORY ON PAGE 12



THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

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Editorial

Let Villages Go Back To Raising Our Children

Whenever there is a police report about a missing teen girl, automatically as a society we come together with mixed emotions of shock, concern and anger accordingly. Some people even seek to put together their own theories based on whatever speculation or gossip.

The widespread concern comes about within seconds of hearing about the matter. After all, the welfare of women and children in various societies around the globe warrants talk about special protection.

We show empathy as we collectively connect through prayers and best wishes for the reported missing young person to be found safe.

As a society and a people, we must always be concerned about the future of our youths; not just when an alarm is raised about their safety or well-being. We must all take on the collective responsibility to do what we can as a community so as to be involved in the upbringing of the nation's young children. We must take charge to change the mindset of 'drinking water and minding my business' when it comes to being good citizens in looking out for each other. What happened to being each other's keeper?

Most recently, there was some debate via social media claiming that when the reported missing teen girls are found safe, for the police to just state the 'found safe' information is not enough to satisfy the worry and

Case Number :SKBHPB2023/0153

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
(PROBATE)

SKBHPB2023/00

In the Estate of CLIVE JORDAN late of Upper Bourryeau, St. Kitts, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by EMILETA JORDAN of Upper Bourryeau in the island of Saint Christopher for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicant who is the wife of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 18th day of July 2018.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the application shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this ~~14~~th day of December 2023

Filed by Hendrickson's Legal Chambers Attorneys-at-Law whose address for service is New Road, St. Peter's, St. Kitts.

FILED
HIGH COURT
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS
(ST. KITTS CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:14/12/2023 15:31

Filed Date:14/12/2023 15:31

Fees Paid:52.00



Committed to representing workers.

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Masses House, Church Street, Basseterre 869-465-2229

concerns of so many people who have been following the matter and especially since public's help is requested in such matters by police in tracking down whereabouts.

In response, a very thoughtful point-in the general gist of the subject matter- as raised by someone who responded in speaking about those emotionally invested in such cases, in encouraged the understanding that sometimes such individuals might have been victims of crimes and so their privacy should be respected so as to not tell the public about any traumatizing details as well as keeping

information confidential for future court cases. That person made it clear however, in agreeing that more information could be shared though including an update that indicates whether the found missing person is receiving counselling.

Surely, the local authorities have certain protocols in handling such sensitive topics involving minors.

As a society, let us become emotionally invested in letting our villages raise our children like in the good ole days.

We would become a better society for it.



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Domestic Workers Applaud Training Sessions

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Tuesday 12th December 2023)- Local domestic workers (members of the St.Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union-SKNT&LU) who recently participated in a second training session are in high praise of the experience.

The virtual session was conducted on Saturday 9th December 2023, at the Union's Headquarters- Masses House-located on Church Street in Basseterre, organized by the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) and Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) in partnership with the Caribbean Domestic Workers Network (CDWN).

Other participating countries were Jamaica, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana as well as Trinidad and Tobago.

Following the workshop, the St.Kitts-Nevis participants were asked by this media to share their views:

Angela Simon - "For me, it's a good idea because we have some support; we are not alone and other workers could come and join the Union and get some support and help."

Shirley Walters - "I find that it's a good idea so that people can know that they can be part of these kind of workshops and it can help them, and if they have a problem, they can join the Union which can help them."

Andy Caines (President of the Dominican [Santo Domingo] Association of St.Kitts) - "The workshop for me is very important. I know that most of the domestic workers are from my community [the Spanish speaking]...most of the foreigners do domestic work so some of the employers don't like to give them their rights as workers. So the training is very good because the workers would understand that they have their rights just like any other workers like those who work in other places including Government Headquarters in any other office and any government employee. It's very important that here in St.Kitts and Nevis that we start the work of [educating] about domestic workers about their rights for vacation, holiday pay and all the other rights just like any other worker. So this workshop is good because you have a lot of domestic workers who do not know



Domestic workers-members of the St.Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union (SKNT&LU) in attendance at a training session conducted at the Union's Headquarters - Masses House- on Saturday 9th December 2023. Left to right-Andy Caines, Lauretta Joseph, Shirley Walters and Angela Simon. (Spokesman Snap)

that they have those kind of rights so it's very important that we could make them understand to join the Union and get them to better understand that it is very important that they have their rights because sometimes they would work for people and people wouldn't pay them because sometimes they are illegal so people [employers] would work them hard and if they ain't want pay them, they wouldn't pay them; they would just tell them if you come to me I could carry you to immigration."

Note: Caines indicated that in

his capacity, he always ensures to assist workers to go through the process to become legal residents of the Federation.

Lauretta Joseph - "It is a good experience because it allows me to be more transparent; well for me especially to come out of my comfort zone, and it allows me to face my fear which is good so at least I'll be able to address issues on the job. The workshops taught me how to approach management in addressing concerns that I may have. The training is good. I would encourage anyone to come ...you won't regret and you will enjoy coming."

Another training session is slated to take place on Saturday 27th January 2024.

Interested domestic workers are asked to contact the SKNT&LU office via info@sknunion.com, skntlu1940@gmail.com or call 465-2229 or 661-2544.

Front Banner Image: Domestic worker Lauretta Joseph-a housekeeper/maid (seen holding mic) shares her views during the workshop training session The virtual session was conducted at the Union's Headquarters on Church Street in Basseterre, on Saturday 9th December 2023. Another domestic worker Shirley Walter (right) looks on while President of the St.Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union (SKNT&LU) Sydney Bridgewater listens to the discussions (Spokesman Snap)

Minimum Wage In SKN To Increase After Almost 10 Years

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Thursday 14th December 2023)-After a near ten- year gap, dating back to November 2014 at \$360, minimum wage in St.Kitts-Nevis is scheduled for a two-phase increase,

starting January 2024.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Dr. Terrance Drew during his Budget Address in Parliament on Wednesday 13th December 2023 announced that an increase in the minimum wage will be implemented effective 1st January 2024.

"It will be done in a phased approach. The hourly minimum wage will be increased from \$9.00 per hour to \$10.75 per hour effective 1st January 2024. The rate would then be increased to \$12.50 per hour from 1st July 2025. The increase in the hourly rate would result in a weekly rate of \$430.00 from 1st January 2024 and \$500.00 per week from 1st July 2025."

PM Drew expressed: "Madam Speaker, I am elated to inform

(cont'd on page 12)

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Bank of Nevis Ltd was incorporated on August 29th, 1985 under the laws of the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis and opened its doors for business to the public on December 9th, 1985. It was created out of a desire to provide banking services to the local community with the hope that this would assist with the development of the island's economy. It is for this reason that the Bank adopted the motto **'Improving the Quality of Life'**. We offer comprehensive services including a variety of deposit accounts with attractive rates of interest, credit and debit cards and loans. Other services include ATM services, online banking, brokerage services, merchant services and foreign exchange purchases and sales.

In December 2019, BON as part of a consortium group of indigenous banks in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU), entered into an agreement with Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) to purchase regional businesses operating under RBC Royal Bank Holdings (EC) Limited in Nevis, St. Kitts, Antigua, Montserrat, St. Lucia, Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The acquisition was completed on 1 April 2021 with BON acquiring the RBC/RBTT operations in St. Kitts and Nevis. Accordingly, BON now operates from three locations in St. Kitts and Nevis and also maintains the former RBTT Bank in Nevis as a subsidiary under the name BON Bank Ltd.

The Bank of Nevis Limited invites applications from suitably qualified persons to fill the position of:

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Preamble

The Bank of Nevis Limited's (BON) Chief Executive Officer is a strategic leader dedicated to effective leadership who will forward the organization's vision and objectives. A person with a distinctive blend of business development, communication, and presentation skills, as well as previous experience managing a complicated organization and producing excellent business results, will have an exceptional chance in this job. The Chief Executive Officer speaks for the Bank and acts as its public face. He or she engages in active listening to comprehend the financial environment of the dynamic market we serve. They are a creative thinker who contributes a range of experiences and promotes change through exhibited cooperation and leadership abilities. The CEO will collaborate with and serve as the executive team's leader as they endeavor to effectively meet the variegated needs of the market.

Job Summary

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for the Bank's overall success and is accountable for the day to day management of the Bank under the direction of the Baord of Directors. The CEO will provide strategic direction, vision, leadership, and administration of the Bank's programs, products, and services, including the Bank's financial performance, credit quality, business development, operations, regulatory compliance, and risk management are all aligned to the organization's mission-critical objectives.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED

TO:

Leadership and Management

The Chief Executive Officer will administer, manage, and direct the affairs and activities in accordance with the policies, control, and direction of the Board. The CEO will execute the mission and vision of The Bank of Nevis Limited, consistent with the approved strategic direction.

- a. Comply with all legislated oversight requirements, including development of Performance Targets.
- b. Ensure the Bank operates within the scope of all relevant laws, regulations and guidelines including those of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, in order to promote the Bank's public image and reputation.
- c. Facilitating and overseeing the development, adoption, and execution of the Annual Report, Work Plan, and Budget.
- d. Work in coordination with, maintain, actively engage, and support a strong and effective Board of Directors.
- e. Ensure ongoing programmatic excellence, rigorous program evaluation, and consistent quality of finance and administration, fundraising, communications, and systems; propose timelines and procure resources needed to achieve the Bank's strategic goals.
- f. Actively engage with all stakeholders, to build and solidify support for The Bank of Nevis Limited.

Financial Management

The CEO, through the office of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide planning, guidance, and support activities to responsibly manage the Bank's investments and establish a pathway for financial sustainability.

- a. Work closely with the Chief Financial Officer to establish financial management and accountability structures.
- b. Develop annual and multi-year budgets to responsibly grow the organization with the goal of long-term sustainability.
- c. Lend funds, control and monitor loans on behalf of the Bank within limits and guidelines established by the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), Board and prudential banking requirements.
- d. Ensure the proper collection of all income and the effective management of expenditure.
- e. Develop and implement a capital development plan that prioritizes raising and deployment of funds that allow maximum flexibility, aligned with the mission, vision and goals of the organization and fill the gaps left by initial capitalization.
- f. Design a strategic business planning process with financial projections to inform Board and executive team decision-making about BON's financial offerings.



Human Resources

The CEO, in collaboration with the Senior Manager, Human Resources & Administration will build and assign talent in order to fully execute on the company's strategies.

- a. Selects, develops, evaluates and rewards key senior executive officers in order to foster:
 - i. A culture of diversity and ethical business conduct throughout the Bank
 - ii. A high level of management productivity and long-term shareholder value
 - iii. The best use of individual and overall Bank capabilities
- b. Embodies the values of BON, sets the right tone at the top, fosters a culture of integrity throughout the Bank and meets the highest ethical standards.
- c. Ensures leadership development and succession plans are in place to provide continuity of leadership required by BON for the future.
- d. Sets an operational philosophy that is performance driven and maintains an environment of high employee engagement.
- e. Seek to ensure that all employees of the Bank have their responsibilities and authorities clearly defined.

Capital Deployment

The CEO will be responsible for supporting capital deployment by launching projects and programs that align with and support the mission of the Bank.

- a. In consultation with the Board and input from relevant stakeholders, develop and launch catalytic financial offerings (e.g., consumer financial products, co-lending with approved lenders, credit enhancements).
- b. Develop origination and servicing structures, underwriting requirements, lending terms, rates, and structures for financial offerings.
- c. Negotiate lending terms with financial institutions and finalize product terms and structures.
- d. Build and grow partnerships with key stakeholders (e.g., contractors, lenders, associations, outreach groups, NGOs) to ensure financial offerings complement the market.

Outreach and Business Development

The CEO, in collaboration with the Marketing Department will be responsible for communication and outreach to key stakeholders, partners, and constituents for the purposes of developing a reputable brand and expanding The Bank of Nevis Limited's business opportunities.

- a. Fosters a climate of customer focus and collaboration; develops and maintains key client relationships as he/she sets the tone for effective business development by leveraging the Group's capabilities to bring the best of BON to clients.
- b. Serves as chief spokesperson – communicating effectively with the financial and investment community, customers, shareholders, governments, regulators and other key stakeholders.
- c. Build partnerships in new markets, establishing relationships with mission-focused foundations, corporations, utility providers and as appropriate, public officials and agencies.

- d. Broadly communicate organization results and successes to the Board, funders, public officials, and other stakeholders and partners.

Relationship with the Board of Directors

- a. Meets regularly and as required with the Chair of the Board and other Board members to ensure they are provided with all information in a timely manner and have access to management to permit the Board to fulfill its statutory and other obligations.
- b. Keep the Board aware of the Bank's performance and any events affecting its business, including opportunities in the marketplace and adverse or positive developments.

Qualifications & Experience

- 1. A Master's Degree in Business Administration, Finance, Banking & Finance, Economics or Management, **OR**
- 2. Full professional certification in Accounting/Finance (ACCA/FCCA, CPA, CIA), or equivalent
- 3. A minimum of twenty (20) years' Banking experience.
- 4. A minimum of ten (10) years' experience in a senior leadership role with a demonstrated track record of effectively leading a diverse executive team in a complex performance and outcomes-based organization.
- 5. Demonstrable critical competencies in four broad categories: commitment to results, business savvy, leading change, and motivating.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- 1. Highly organized, self-starter with the ability to manage projects with limited oversight.
- 2. Excellence in organizational management with the ability to coach staff, manage, and develop high-performance teams, set and achieve strategic objectives, and effectively manage a budget.
- 3. Highly analytical with a demonstrated ability to thoroughly interpret financial documents and other financial data.
- 4. Past success working with a Board of Directors with the ability to cultivate existing board member relationships.
- 5. Strong marketing, public relations, and fundraising experience with the ability to engage a wide range of stakeholders.
- 6. Strong written, verbal communication and oral presentation skills; a persuasive and passionate communicator with excellent interpersonal and multidisciplinary project skills.
- 7. Action-oriented, entrepreneurial, adaptable, and innovative approach to business planning.
- 8. Ability to work effectively in collaboration with diverse groups of people.
- 9. Enthusiasm, optimism, integrity, positive attitude, mission-driven, and self-directed.

CONT'D.....///



Core Competencies

1. Honesty and Integrity: The unwavering adherence to and clear-cut regard for the principles and guiding principles of the Bank, serving as an example of true professionalism and moral propriety.
2. Professionalism: Always acting in a conscientious, devoted, and ambassadorial manner, showing respect for the position, the Bank's interests, and the colleagues with whom one interacts.
3. Achievement Orientation: Demonstrates a genuine commitment to concern for achieving or surpassing results against legitimate and increasingly elevated standards of excellence, showing passion for continually improving the delivery of services. Self-motivated to outperform standard expectations.
4. Continuous Improvement: Analyzes and adjusts goals, objectives, and/or courses of action to meet needs in a changing environment. Recognizes when a situation calls for or could benefit from a different approach. Queries the utility of conventional methodologies.
5. Problem-solving and Decision-Making: Demonstrates the ability to identify, analyze, and solve problems quickly and effectively. Must be able to make tough decisions and take calculated risks, balancing the potential rewards and risks of each decision. Must also be able to lead a team through challenging situations, keeping everyone focused and motivated.
6. Client/Customer Focus: Establishes and fosters trust- and integrity-based working relationships with team members and external clients.
7. Commitment to Mission and Objectives: Shows fidelity to the assumed Office and Bank's objectives. Embodies and expresses the Bank's basic principles while respecting the Bank's goals within the market.
8. Initiative: Actively seeks out possibilities and challenges. Implements decisive action that is appropriate for the job; evaluates workplace needs and concerns in order to handle current or upcoming difficulties. Demonstrates good judgment while acting within the scope of their position's power.

Working Conditions/Physical Demands

1. This job operates in a professional office environment and routinely utilizes standard office equipment such as computers, phones, photocopiers, filing cabinets and other modern day office equipment.
2. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear. The employee is frequently required to stand; walk; use hands to fingers, handle or feel; and reach with hands and arms.

All applications should be submitted with detailed Curriculum Vitae and the Bank's application form which is available on the bank's website www.thebankofnevis.com. Applications should be submitted no later than 15th December 2023 to:

The Senior Manager, Human Resources & Administration
The Bank of Nevis Limited
P O Box 450, Main Street
Charlestown, Nevis
Tel: 869-469-5564
Fax: 869-469-1039

Email: recruitment@thebankofnevis.com and copied to info@thebankofnevis.com.

Please note that only those candidates selected for an interview will receive an acknowledgement.

CARIBBEAN JOURNAL
CARIBBEAN TRAVEL AWARDS 2024

CARIBBEAN
TOURISM
MINISTER
Of The Year



HON. MARSHA T. HENDERSON



St. Kitts

Hon. Marsha T. Henderson Named Caribbean Tourism Minister Of The Year Basseterre, St. Kitts (13 December 2023) – The Hon. Marsha Henderson, Minister of Tourism, St. Kitts, has been named Caribbean Tourism Minister of the Year in the 2024 Caribbean Travel Awards by Caribbean Journal. This prestigious award recognizes Minister Henderson’s exceptional leadership, vision, and dedication to the tourism industry in the Caribbean region.

In its remarks on the award, Caribbean Journal has hailed St Kitts as an Eastern Caribbean destination that has successfully reinvented itself with a redefined brand focusing on authenticity, sustainability, and fresh experiences. Minister Henderson’s

invaluable contribution to this transformation has been at the forefront of the commendable efforts that have led the island into a new future. From a wave of new airlift, including new flights from JetBlue, and a rapidly growing cruise port that is now among the fastest-growing in the Caribbean, her leadership has been instrumental to the success story of the tourism industry in St Kitts and Nevis.

Minister Henderson has been the epitome of a dedicated and visionary leader who has always been committed to sustainable tourism practices. Her focus on promoting eco-tourism and advocating for the protection of the destination’s natural resources has been pivotal in St Kitts tourism success story. Her commitment to sustainable growth has ensured that St Kitts flourish as an environmentally conscious and responsible tourism destination.

“I am humbled, honored, and grateful to be recognized as Caribbean Tourism Minister of the year,” said Minister Henderson. “This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all of our tourism stakeholders, who have worked tirelessly to showcase St Kitts to the world, as well as our unique and authentic culture. I am confident that we will continue to attract more visitors to our beautiful destination and provide them with unparalleled experiences that are sustainable and unforgettable.”

Minister Henderson has set a benchmark for her visionary leadership, dedication, and commitment to sustainable tourism. Her recognition as Caribbean Tourism Minister of the Year is truly well-deserving and duly acknowledged by all her peers and industry experts alike. It is an affirmation of her continued efforts to promote St Kitts as a world-class tourism destination. We congratulate Hon. Marsha Henderson on this prestigious award and look forward to the continued success of the tourism industry under her leadership in the years to come.



Career Opportunities



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 through its leading digital banking network and locations across the region. CIBC FirstCaribbean is one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean.

Customer Service Representative

The Customer Service Representative provides excellent customer service at all times, by adopting and utilising the CIBC FirstCaribbean Customer Service Standards. Provides a comprehensive range of day-to-day transaction services and assists in promoting the use of self-serve banking channels. Identifies and refers sales and diversion opportunities. Responds to and resolves customer inquiries and feedback (complaints) by adopting the Customer Feedback Management Process and the Customer Service Standards. Contributes to the achievement of customer service, sales and other branch targets and delivers quality service by acting promptly to reach satisfactory resolution to customers’ requests and enquiries.

About You

- Experience in the financial services industry with cash and/or administrative exposure.
- Experience with customer service delivery.
- Understanding offerings in terms of service and sales in the banking sector.
- Knowledge/understanding of the diversion strategy from the context of banking.
- Knowledge of job-specific processes and related computer applications, e.g. ABT, Microsoft office.
- Certificate at ACIB/First degree would be an asset but is not a requirement.

About Our Offer

You will have a challenging, diverse experience with opportunities for professional growth. Our compensation and reward package is attractively structured and performance bonuses are offered.

To view the full role profile and apply for this and any other positions, kindly visit <https://www.cibcfib.com/about-us/careers>. Applications with detailed resumes should be submitted no later than **3 January, 2023**.

CIBC FirstCaribbean thanks all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration will be contacted.

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

ST. CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

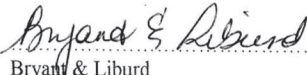
SKBHPB2023/

In the Estate of **GEORGE LEROY JEFFERS**
also known as GEORGE JEFFERS late of
the Island of St. Christopher but who resided at
7031 Pembroke Rd Apt. 1, Pembroke Pines,
Florida 33023, United States of America,
deceased

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR GRANT

Notice is given that after the expiration of 14 days of the second publication of this Notice application will be made to the Registrar of the Supreme Court for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the applicants who are the wife and daughter respectively of the deceased, both of the Island of St. Christopher but both residing at present at 7031 Pembroke Rd Apt.1, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33023, United States of America having died intestate on the 13th day of December 2017.

Dated this 12th day of December 2023.


Bryan & Liburd
Attorneys-at-Law
for **HELENA TRYPHENA DOUGLAS JEFFERS**
and **JOVELLE JEFFERS**



Large turnout to the Nevis Island Administration's first public consultation on the Vance W. Amory International Airport expansion and upgrade project (December 04, 2023)

Citizens and residents give input on the NIA's Airport Expansion Project during public consultation

NIA CHARLESTOWN NEVIS (December 14, 2023)- Citizens and residents turned out in large numbers to a recent public consultation to hear from the Nevis Island Administration (NIA) and the project consultants, and give their input on the proposed expansion and upgrade of the Vance W. Amory International Airport.

The Hon. Alexis Jeffers, Special Advisor to the Premier of Nevis, chaired the meeting. He was accompanied at the head table by consultants on the project Mr. Leonardo Perez and Mrs. Lucy Perez of Perez Engineering Construction and Consulting Services Limited, and Mr. Dennis Kane, architect expert. The event was held at the St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall.

"We are starting the process in terms of laying out what will be involved and over the next couple of months we should get to the end of the consultations and roll out a design to the Nevisian public," Hon. Jeffers said, adding that the project would bring tangible benefits to the island and its people.

"What is envisioned for this project is that we're hoping that with the development to come we will see an increase in airlift, we will see increase in employment, increase in investment, and we'll also see the opportunity for Nevis to be showcased to the international community in that the connection to Nevis should be much easier." business-class aircraft, Hon. Jeffers said the aim is to attract more tourists to the island for stay-over visits, which would augur well for industry stakeholders. Additionally, the Nevis Air and Sea Ports Authority (NASPA) is expected to generate revenue from the fuel farm proposed to be constructed as part of the upgrade.

Mr. Perez outlined the scope of the work, informing that the runway will be extended from 4005 feet to 5500 feet to accommodate landing and take off of larger aircraft. He pointed out that all work done would take into consideration the impact on

the environment, including improving the drainage system and safeguarding the surrounding coastline.

Mr. Kane explained the schematics of the upgrades to the terminal to accommodate the increased passenger traffic, as well as the reconstruction of the parking lot and Fire Hall.

Premier of Nevis the Honourable Mark Brantley and



Consultants on the Nevis Island Administration Vance W. Amory International Airport expansion and upgrade project participate in a December 04, 2023 public consultation: (l-r) Mr. Dennis Kane, architect expert; Mr. Leonardo Perez and Mrs. Lucy Perez of Perez Engineering Construction and Consulting Services Limited

other members of the NIA Cabinet were also in attendance in the audience.

Leader of the opposition Nevis Reformation Party (NRP) Dr. Janice Daniel-Hodge, a member for the clergy, public servants, and landowners in the affected area were among attendees who asked questions relating to tendering for the project, passenger screening, land acquisition, timeline for completion, access to Lovers Beach for area fishermen and the implications for Hurricane Hill.

The Hon. Jeffers assured that fishermen would still be able to access the beach and thus continue to earn their livelihood. He went on to inform that while the government has already received a number of acceptance letters with regard land acquisition, that process is still ongoing.

The NIA intends to host a series of consultations, including one specific to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), before designs can be completed to move on to the next phase.

When completed the Vance W. Amory International Airport will have an upgraded terminal, taxi ways and control tower, as well as an expanded runway and apron, new fire station and will see the realignment of the island main road in vicinity of the airport.

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Michelle Greenaway, having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. S05521962** issued by **The Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society** and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on her life, has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 11th November 2023

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC

Andresha Matthew of **Keys Extension, Keys Village, St. Kitts**, having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. 055405338** issued by **Sagicor Life Inc** and assumed by Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 13th December 2023

By Order

Andrew Greaves
Corporate Secretary



The Honourable Alexis Jeffers, Special Advisor to the Premier of Nevis chairing the Nevis Island Administration's first public consultation on the Vance W. Amory International Airport expansion and upgrade project (December 04, 2023)

ECSRC
EASTERN CARIBBEAN
SECURITIES
REGULATORY COMMISSION
PROTECTING INVESTORS. BUILDING OUR FUTURE.

ECCB Financial Complex
P O Box 1855
Bird Rock, Basseterre, St Kitts/Nevis
(869) 465-2537 Ext 3279

info@ecsrconline.org
ecsrc@eccb-centralbank.org
www.ecsrc.com

11/12/23

WARNING NOTICE

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COMMODITIES INC.

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Eastern Caribbean Securities Regulatory Commission
P O Box 1855
Basseterre
Saint Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis



TAG Christmas Session

Sunday, December 17, 2023

@4:30 pm at the Antioch Baptist Church

Community Notice

All young men ages 11-21 are invited to Turn Around Agenda's (TAG) Christmas session at the Antioch Baptist Church on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 4:30 pm

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Availability of its 2023 Annual Report

Pursuant to Section 67(2)(c) of the Trinidad and Tobago Securities Act, 2012 FirstCaribbean International Bank Limited (the "Company") announces that its 2023 Annual Report is available for viewing or download on the Company's website cibcfib.com.

REQUESTS FOR PRINTED COPIES

Shareholders who wish to receive a printed copy of the annual report or additional information, should contact the Company at agm@cibcfib.com.

Brian Clarke, KC
Group Corporate Secretary



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Senior Minister Douglas leads constituents in Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in St. Paul's

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, December 13, 2023 (MMS-SKN) — As the country prepares to celebrate Christmas, Area Parliamentary Representative for St. Christopher Six, the Rt. Hon Denzil Douglas has made a special appeal to those who have been blessed with more than they can consume, to give some of what they have to those who do not have.



Area Parliamentary Representative for Constituency Number Six, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs et al, the Rt. Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, addresses the audience at the ATM Park in St. Paul's before he switched the lights on the Christmas tree.

Senior Minister, and Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs; International Trade, Industry, Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Economic Development and Investment, the Rt. Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, made the remarks on Tuesday evening



Presentations, clockwise from top: Mrs Valda Morris reading a poem assisted by Mr Antony Morris who had delivered the invocation; Calixthe Hodge, Ms Personality St. Paul's Primary School; Kenver Francis, 2023 King, St. Paul's Primary School; Ms Arljanique Ward.



Area Parliamentary Representative for Constituency Number Six, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs et al, the Rt. Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, turns on the switch to light the imposing Christmas tree at National Bank ATM Park on Main Street in St. Paul's.

December 12, when he switched on Christmas tree lights at a ceremony held at the National Bank ATM Park on Main Street in St. Paul's.

Noting that Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ, the Senior Minister thanked individuals and organisations, including the White Gate Development Corporation, who were part of the ceremony where every year at that time they ensure that there is light and there is some demonstration of happiness, joy, and peace among men in the communities of St. Paul's.

"Also it is a time that we remember that God did present to us His son Jesus Christ, and so it is a time of giving, and it is also a time of receiving," observed Dr Douglas. "In other words it is a time of sharing and so those who have been blessed in having more than what you alone can consume, it is the time that you can give some of what you have to those who do not have."

The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in St. Paul's, which was chaired by Dr Elrick Francis, was held under the auspices of the Area Parliamentary Representative, Rt. Hon Dr Denzil Douglas, the C6 Capisterre Women for Development, and the Capisterre Health and Wellness Club.

Under a clear evening sky and with cool winds blowing, a large crowd had turned out at the ceremony, where invocation was delivered by Mr Anthony Morris. Presentations were made by Mrs Valda Morris, a poem; Ms Personality at the St. Paul's Primary School, Miss Calixthe Hodge; Calypso by Master Kenver Francis,

2023 King at St. Paul's Primary School; and a selection by Ms Arljanique Ward.

"Let us also remember that apart from the religious aspects of Christmas, it is also a time when in St. Kitts and Nevis celebrate Carnival," pointed out Dr Douglas. He reminded the audience that the ancestors of the people in St. Kitts and Nevis came from West Africa, and "they brought new culture and their customs here in St. Kitts and Nevis and to the Caribbean region when they came."

He opined that even though the people had been suppressed for centuries, their culture has come alive again especially when the people have sought to rediscover themselves and are practicing the culture of their ancestors and this is evidenced by the celebration of Carnival at this time of the year.

"That is why you will see on Boxing Day thousands of people on the streets in ceremonial parades, dressed in all kinds of costumes," said Dr Douglas. "I understand that they will have a special group of persons in a troupe this year and they will be demonstrating climate change. A troupe will be called Climate Change, and so I am waiting to see what that group called Climate

Cont'd on next page)

MOFA thanks allies for supporting inclusion of Taiwan at UNFCCC

Publication Date: December 11, 2023 | [twitter share icon](#)A-A+



Allies’ continual support for Taiwan’s participation in the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change is sincerely welcomed and appreciated by the government and people of Taiwan Dec. 10 in Taipei City. (MOFA)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed its sincere gratitude to 11 allies for speaking out on behalf of Taiwan and its meaningful involvement in the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change and international climate governance mechanisms Dec.

10 in Taipei City. With the 28th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC underway Nov. 30-Dec. 12 in Dubai, Taiwan’s allies backed the country during the Dec. 9 high level segment of the event, according to the MOFA.

The speakers included Orlando Habet, Belize’s minister of sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk management; Marco Vinicio Ochoa Galindo, Guatemala’s vice minister of natural resources and climate change; James Cadet, Haiti’s minister of environment; Reagan Moses, Nauru’s secretary for climate change and national resilience; and John Silk, the Marshall Islands’ minister of natural resources and commerce.

Cadet praised the dedication and sense of mission displayed by the people of Taiwan in responding to climate change while Moses expressed appreciation for the country’s launch of a just transition fund to assist its Pacific Island allies. Ochoa Galindo said that Taiwan

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has contributed to Guatemala’s efforts to strengthen its adaptation to climate change through international cooperative projects; for that reason, his country also recommended Taiwan’s admittance to the UNFCCC.

The ministry added that during the World Climate Action Summit Dec. 1 and 2, leaders of Eswatini, Paraguay, Palau, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and Tuvalu also spoke for Taiwan. The MOFA vowed that Taiwan would continue its cooperation with like-minded partners and make positive contributions to global climate change, and concluded by calling on members of the international society to promote Taiwan’s meaningful engagement in the UNFCCC. (POC-E)

Senior Minister Douglas leads constituents in Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony...

Change will be demonstrating.”

(cont’d from last page)



Present at the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony included Minister of Sustainable Development; Environment and Climate Action; and Constituency Empowerment, Senator Hon Dr Joyelle Clarke.

“Of course they will be reminding us that because of changes in the climate, there are serious threats to mankind on this planet,” advised the Honourable Senior Minister. “They will be reminding us that if we are not very careful, we can be destroyed by hurricanes, and by floods.”

Chairperson, Dr Elrick Francis, extended special thanks to those who assisted them to ensure that the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony was a success. They were Ambassador, His Excellency Michael Lin, and staff at the Embassy of the Republic of China on Taiwan; the St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank; St. Kitts Electricity Company Limited (SKELEC); VALLIES; and the Parks and Beaches Unit.

Others included Mrs Henrietta Douglas-Christmas and other members of Capisterre Women for Development; Pastor Renicia Huggins and other members of the St. Paul’s Wesleyan Holiness Church; and Mr Simon Rawlins and the children of the St. Paul’s Primary School.

Individuals thanked included Mrs Beverly Knight, Terry Morris, James Ward, Anthony Morris, Officer Lennox Hodge, Leon Bradshaw, Elton Bloice, Alice Buchanan, Jacob Hazel, Tamarjay Carty.

Clockwise from top: A section of the audience; the Rt. Hon Dr Douglas switching on the lights, behind him is Dr Elrick Francis; Dr Douglas with Mrs Henrietta Douglas-Christmas (left) and the Hon Dr Joyelle Clarke (right); crowds mill around the lit Christmas Tree.

Minimum Wage In SKN To Increase After Almost 10 Years

(cont'd from page 03)

this honourable house and the general public that the National Minimum Wage Advisory Committee has completed its work and the Government has accepted the recommendations for the increase in the minimum wage in St. Kitts and Nevis.”

He pointed out that in just a few months after taking office, a National Minimum Wage Advisory Committee was commissioned to review the existing minimum wage and recommend an appropriate rate of increase.

“By providing a fair and liveable wage, we empower our workforce, allowing them to support themselves and their families without the constant strain of financial hardship and insecurity. It is well known that when workers have more disposable income, they spend more within their communities, thus stimulating local businesses,” Dr. Drew noted.

He continued: “This creates a cycle of growth, leading to increased production and economic stability. We also acknowledge that raising the minimum wage is an investment in our future as it fosters a healthier, more motivated, and more productive workforce. It incentivizes people to pursue education and skill development, knowing that their efforts will translate into a better quality of life. Critically important, is the fact that increasing the minimum wage reduces the reliance on public assistance programs as workers are better able to sustain themselves through their earned wages. Numerous studies indicate that modest and gradual increases in the minimum wage have contributed to reducing turnover, improving employee morale, and overall productivity.”

PM Drew, the Leader of the St.Kitts-Nevis Labour Party (SKNLP) pointed out that “a key promise of this St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party Administration is to increase the minimum wage for the industrious working people across our Federation.”



Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Dr. Terrance Drew while speaking in parliament on Wednesday 13th December 2023 (SKNIS photo)

“I say to our people who have been patient for almost 10 long years for the government to bring relief to their situation, ‘We got you.’ Only a St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party Administration can rise to the defence of the workers of this country,” he highlighted.

Dr. Drew stated that: “Our Government is determined to ensure that this important policy initiative brings real improvement to the standard of living of the people in our workforce. We will therefore monitor its impact on the workforce on a continuous basis to ensure that it achieves the desired result of enhancing the well-being of our workers.”

Notably, the St.Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union (SKNT&LU)-owner of this publication- is a member of the National Minimum Wage Advisory Committee (as the workers’ representative) and would have submitted its position paper on topic as well as participated in various meetings of the body in adding its voice to the discussion of championing the cause of workers.

Gov’t Minister Calls For Respect Of All Persons During Differently-Able Event

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St.Kitts (Monday 12th December 2023)- Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy, and Utilities Konris Maynard is encouraging members of the public to respect and cherish all individuals including those who are differently abled.

“Together as a community and as a country, we all have our individual strengths. If we come together acknowledging our strengths, working on our weaknesses, we can be the better country that we need to be.”

He made the disclosure during an interview with this media house during the ‘Walk a Mile in My Shoe’ annual awareness event, organized by the St Kitts and Nevis Association of Persons with Disabilities (SKAPD) held on Friday 8th December 2023.

Asked about his experience as a wheelchair user for the occasion, Maynard shared: “Well, obviously when you’re in a wheelchair you have limited mobility and it really shows the courage and the mental strength of persons with disabilities because when we have all of our senses and all of our abilities, we encounter challenges in life that we think we can’t overcome. But when I think of persons with disabilities who don’t have access to a wheelchair, I think of them as people with disabilities.”

He continued: “And when I think of persons with disabilities who don’t have access to all of their senses and all of their capabilities then we really have

to respect and facilitate those with disabilities. One of the things that we are committed to as an administration is one focus on this particular group of persons.”

According to him, the government has “initiated a ministry that will deal specifically with their issues and we will also do the same at an infrastructural level where we are going to ensure we continue the upgrade of the sidewalks and [other areas] in Basseterre and around the country to make sure that persons with disabilities have appropriate access to everywhere in St Kitts and Nevis.”

In sending a ‘Walk in my shoes’ message to members of the public, Maynard stated: “So one thing you always hear your grandmother or your mother say is that don’t ever complain about your situation too much because there’s probably always somebody who has it worse than you and so I think that in appealing to persons who don’t have disabilities that yes you have challenges, we all have challenges and so on but we must pay due respect to those who are a bit differently able to us because their challenges; they have the same challenges that we have added to the additional abilities that they don’t have access to, and also we must always show them love and respect.”

Maynard further pointed out that: “In times past it has been very easy [for some people] to not be so nice to persons who have disabilities if I might put it mildly. We need to respect and cherish all of our citizens and residents. No matter what they have been dealt with or dealt in this life, we just need to all be there together.”

Front Banner Image: Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy, and Utilities Konris Maynard (left) -uses a wheelchair for the occasion of the ‘Walk a Mile in My Shoe’ going about Church Street in Basseterre during the event, organized by the St Kitts and Nevis Association of Persons with Disabilities (SKAPD) held on Friday 8th December 2023. Well-known calypsonian Joseph ‘De Awesome Navigator’ Bergan ‘a wheelchair user is seen moving about also. (Spokesman Snap)

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Basseterre, St. Kitts

St. Kitts Co-operative Credit Union Unveils New Branch Office in Basseterre

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (December 11, 2023)
- The St. Kitts Co-operative Credit Union (SKCU) announces the grand opening of its brand-new branch office, conveniently located at the corner of Cayon and Church Street in Basseterre. This expansion marks a significant milestone in SKCU's commitment to providing accessible and exceptional financial services to its growing membership.

Enhanced Accessibility and Convenience:

The new branch boasts a modern and welcoming design, featuring state-of-the-art technology and ample space. Members will benefit from:

- * • Convenient location in the heart of Basseterre

- * • Increased teller stations for faster transactions
- * • Dedicated member service areas for personalized assistance
- * • Modern ATMs with deposit and withdrawal capabilities
- * • Night deposit services
- * • Safety deposit box services

A Commitment to Growth and Community:

This new branch is a testament to SKCU's ongoing commitment to growth and community development. The investment in this state-of-the-art facility demonstrates the credit union's dedication to:

- * • Providing its members with the best possible banking experience
- * • Creating new jobs and contributing to the

local economy

- * • Strengthening its position as a leading Credit Union in St. Kitts and Nevis

Grand Opening Celebration:

SKCU invites the community to celebrate the grand opening of the new branch on December 18th, 2023. The event will feature:

- * • Special promotions
- * • Giveaways

Quotes: CEO, Janet Harris

"We are thrilled to open this new branch and expand our reach to better serve the needs of our members," said Mrs. Harris, CEO at SKCU. "This investment in our infrastructure reflects our commitment to providing our members with the best possible financial services experience and contributing to the growth of our community."

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MURDER CHARGES LAID AGAINST SHOMARI HANLEY



Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police press release: The Police have charged twenty-three (23)-year-old Shomari

Hanley alias 'Jelly Man' of Shadwell, Basseterre, St. Kitts, on two (2) warrants for the murders of twenty-three (23)-year-old Lequani T. James and twenty-four (24)-year-old Kevin Collins, both of Upper Monkey Hill, St. Peter's.

The offences were committed on November 22nd, 2023, in Upper Monkey Hill, St. Peter's, St. Kitts. The charges were laid on December 13th, 2023, at the Basseterre Police Station.

Police Photo: Shomari 'Jelly Man' Hanley (Police Photo)

VALIANA EDWARDS FOUND

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Wednesday 13th December 2023)-Police have reported that officers found 15-year-old Valiana Edwards on the morning of Wednesday 13th December 2023 at a residence in the Market Street area. She was found unharmed. One (1) male is now in Police custody in connection to the investigation.

She was last seen on 5th



December at her home in La Guerite, Basseterre.

The general public and the media are being thanked for their concern, persistence, and assistance in this matter.

Photo: 15-year-old Valiana Edwards



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Cameron Green: Australia all-rounder suffering from chronic kidney disease

By Sam Drury
BBC Sport

From the sectionCricket



Cameron Green is considered one of the best all-rounders in world cricket

Australia all-rounder Cameron Green has revealed that he has chronic kidney disease.

The 24-year-old was diagnosed with the condition at birth, with doctors telling his parents there was a chance he may not live beyond the age of 12.

Green has since gone on to play in all three formats for Australia and was in the squad for their recent World Cup win.

“I’m still trying to learn as much as I can about it,” Green told Channel 7.

“Basically, my kidneys don’t work as well as other people’s and don’t filter the blood very well.

“So I have got to keep my salt and my protein quite low, which isn’t ideal as a cricketer but around games I can pick that protein intake back up because I spend so much of it out on the ground.

“It’s just about finding the best ways to look after me.”

Green said his kidney function is currently at about 60%, which puts him at stage two with stage five being the most severe.

“I have always done everything right, eating and drinking in a professional way so I did have to make that quite clear, but it is a work in progress,” he added.

“There’s always a chance that if I don’t look after myself right, this could go from stage two to stage five.

“The kidneys don’t heal, it’s a regressive disease, they can’t repair themselves. So if you don’t look after them, it can get worse - maybe not in the space of a couple of months but certainly over

years.”

The condition was detected at Green’s mother’s 19-week scan and there were serious concerns about his life expectancy.

“At the time it was uncharted territory as such, the prognosis wasn’t great,” said Green’s father, Gary.

“There were life expectancy issues that he might not expect to live past 12 years of age.”

However, Green has not been held back by the disease and has played 24 Tests, 23 one-day internationals and eight T20 internationals since making his Australia debut in 2020.

“With the profile I’ve got, I just felt like it was important, and if I can help just one person with raising this awareness

then it’s worth it,” he said.

“It’s never really impacted me physically but some of the symptoms were a lot of cramping.

“I’d be playing footy and get to the third quarter and I’d go down with double-calf cramps but I never really put the link together, I just thought that maybe I was running too much or not eating or drinking properly.

“You can see that I am fine physically and that normally isn’t the case for people with this disease so I do consider myself pretty lucky.”

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LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate,
District “A”

To the Superintendent of Police.
I, Taste IT SKN Ltd. now residing in Zenway Boulevard in Frigate Bay in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 29th day of December 2023, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of our premises in Zenway Boulevard in St. Christopher Club Shopping Complex in Frigate Bay.

Dated this
11th day of December, 2023.

Signed : Dario Sigarolo

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate,
District “A”

To the Superintendent of Police.
I, Sharomie James now residing in Thomas Street in the village of Molineaux do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 29th day of December 2023, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Taylor’s Street in Kittsodarts in Basseterre.

Dated this
13th day of October, 2023.

Signed : S. James

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate,
District “A”

To the Superintendent of Police.
I, Qu Zhiqing now residing in Baker’s Corner in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 29th day of December 2023, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Wholesale Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Lida Supermarket in Baker’s Corner in Basseterre.

Dated this
14th day of December, 2023.

Signed : Qu Zhiqing

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate,
District “A”

To the Superintendent of Police.
I, Mixilalra SKN Ltd. now residing in OOJJ’s Commercial Complex in the village of Camps do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 29th day of December 2023, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail/Wholesale Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in OOJJ’s Commercial Complex in Camps, St. Kitts

Dated this
11th day of December, 2023.

Signed : Dario Sigarolo

LIQUOR LICENCES ORDIANANCES, 1906 SCHEDULE A

To the Magistrate,
District “A”

To the Superintendent of Police.
We, Ozini Collins & Oshana Edwards now residing in the village of West Farm in Trinity do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 29th day of December 2023, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of our premises in West Farm in Trinity in St. Kitts.

Dated this
21st day of November, 2023.

Signed : O. Collins

Driverless car firm Cruise to cut 900 jobs



IMAGE SOURCE, REUTERS

A Cruise car on the street in San Francisco

Cruise, the self-driving vehicle business which is majority owned by General Motors, is to cut 900 jobs.

The announcement comes as safety officials investigate the firm after reports of injuries to pedestrians.

Cruise pulled all of its US vehicles from testing this autumn after California halted its driverless testing permit.

The company's chief executive Kyle Vogt and co-founder Dan Kan have also both resigned in recent weeks.

On Thursday, Cruise confirmed the job cuts amounted to 24% of its workforce and were "primarily in commercial operations and related corporate functions".

"These changes reflect our decision to focus on more deliberate commercialization plans with safety as our North star," a statement said.

The start-up added that it was supporting staff with "strong severance and benefits packages".

Last month, General Motors said it would cut costs at Cruise, which lost more than \$700m in the third quarter, taking total losses to more than \$8bn since 2016, according to news agency Reuters.

"GM supports the difficult employment decisions made by Cruise," a GM spokesman said.

In October, the California Department of Motor Vehicles ordered Cruise to remove its driverless cars from the state's roads and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced an investigation into its fleet.

The moves came after two accidents involving pedestrians, both which involved people crossing after the cars' traffic lights had turned green.

In one incident from August 2023, the self-driving car hit someone at 1.4mph, while in the other incident, from October, the driverless car dragged a woman who had been thrown into its path after getting hit by another car, which was being driven by a person.

The October report said the driverless car "braked aggressively" but was not able to stop in time. Both the incidents happened at night.

Cruise has previously said its safety record "continues to outperform comparable human drivers".

Cruise is not the only driverless car company facing safety questions.

Tesla is recalling more than two million cars after the US regulator found its driver assistance system, Autopilot, was partly defective.

It follows a two-year investigation into crashes which occurred when the technology was in use.

Nick Kyrgios: Australian says he does not want to play tennis any more

From the section Tennis



Kyrgios was beaten in the 2022 Wimbledon final by world number one Novak Djokovic

Nick Kyrgios said he is "tired" and does not want to play tennis any more as he continues to recover from injury.

The 28-year-old Australian missed all four majors in 2023 because of wrist, knee and foot injuries.

On Saturday, Kyrgios said he will not take part in the Australian Open in January because of injury concerns.

"If it was up to me, I don't really want to play any more to be honest," Kyrgios told the On Purpose with Jay Shetty podcast.

"I have to [keep playing]. I've got so much more to give but, for me, I don't feel like playing any more."

Kyrgios enjoyed the best year of his career in 2022, reaching his first Grand Slam singles final at Wimbledon and a career-high of 11 in the world rankings.

But, he withdrew from the Australian Open in January with a knee injury before undergoing surgery for the issue.

He then missed the French Open because of a foot injury and Wimbledon with a wrist ligament problem, which also forced him out of the US Open.

The 2021 Australian Open doubles champion has since had surgery on his wrist but, having dropped out of the world rankings, he said he is "exhausted" with his continuing recovery process.

"I'm tired. I have had three surgeries now. I'm only 28 years old, I always wanted to have a family and not be in pain. When I get up, I can't walk without pain. It's a tough gig," he said.

Kyrgios has played just one ATP Tour match this year, losing to China's world number 64 Yibing Wu in Stuttgart in June.

"I only want to play for about another one to two years, be at the top, and go down my own terms," Kyrgios said.

"I would hate to have another surgery or anything like that. I think I've

still got the ability to have a good one to two years and then that's it.

"I think I'll be at peace with everything I've achieved and I'm going to have to just say to everyone out there who wants me to play more, 'you're just going to have to be OK with me not playing any more'."

He has previously opened up about mental health issues that left him contemplating suicide in 2019.

"That period in 2019 accelerated my exhaustion and almost pushed me to the end of my career a bit earlier.

"If I had a normal career and I flew under the radar, I don't feel I'd feel this way but those couple years really, I think, put a lot on my age," he said.

"It's just hard. I am tired. I'm tired of playing tennis."

Rafael Nadal: Former world number one to return at Brisbane International in January

From the section Tennis

Nadal is a 22-time Grand Slam champion

Rafael Nadal has confirmed he will return to competitive tennis at the Brisbane International after

(cont'd on next page)



Rafael Nadal leaves the court after losing his second round match at the Australian Open

West Indies v England: Brandon King stars as hosts go 2-0 up in T20 series

By Mike Peter
BBC Sport
From the section Cricket



Brandon King hit eight fours and five sixes in his 52-ball knock

Second T20, Grenada

West Indies 176-7 (20 overs): King 82* (52), Powell 50 (28); Rashid 2-11

England 166-7 (20 overs): Curran 50 (32); Joseph 3-39

West Indies won by 10 runs

Brandon King hit an unbeaten 82 as West Indies beat England by 10 runs in the second T20 in Grenada to go 2-0 up in the five-match series.

The Jamaican opener put on an 80-run partnership with captain Rovman Powell after the hosts slipped to 54-4 in the ninth over.

Sam Curran endured a torrid 16th over at the hands of Powell, conceding 30 runs including four sixes, before dismissing the 30-year-old with his final delivery.

But King carried on the charge, striking Rehan Ahmed's next over for 18, as the West Indies finished on 176-7.

England captain Jos Buttler fell tamely in the third over of their chase, caught in the covers off the bowling of Akeal Hosein.

His side fell behind the rate and lost wickets at steady intervals, with the next six batters all caught in the deep as they sought to mimic the boundary-heavy West Indies innings.

Curran, promoted up the order to number four, offered some resistance as he hit his maiden T20 international fifty, but was out next ball to Alzarri Joseph, who took 3-39, leaving the rest with too much to do.

The teams remain in Grenada for the third T20 on Saturday.

West Indies beat England in Grenada - as it happened

England in West Indies 2023 - fixtures & results

England outclassed by powerful Windies

After a subpar performance in the opening match of the series in Barbados, England appeared to have justified their decision to bowl when the hosts lost four wickets for 11 runs in the space of three overs.

Chris Woakes dismissed the dangerous Kyle Mayers before Buttler introduced five successful overs of leg-spin after the powerplay, with Adil Rashid picking up two wickets and Ahmed one.

Rashid, who took an excellent 2-11, finished his spell in the 15th over, with King and Powell accelerating after his exit from the attack, smashing the next 12 balls for 48.

Powell started Curran's second over on 22 but had raced to fifty by the fifth delivery, before holing out to Harry Brook at long-on.

Tymal Mills took two wickets with the last two balls of the innings but the damage was done.

West Indies struck 27 boundaries, including 14 sixes, from their 20 overs, but England were unable to copy their style, picking out fielders on the ropes instead.

Liam Livingstone scored 17, hammering 15 runs from the 12th over, but was caught by Powell at long-on the next time he faced, while Curran sliced to Hosein at point straight after reaching his half-century.

The tourists also got particularly bogged down against slow left-armer Gudakesh Motie, who conceded just nine runs for one wicket from his four overs.

England now need to win three consecutive matches if they are to win the series, a tall task given the current form of both sides.

'Everyone's playing with confidence' - reaction

Player of the match, West Indies batter Brandon King: "It was important, having lost so many early wickets, that I stayed as deep as possible into the innings.

"We're playing well and everyone's playing with confidence."

England captain Jos Buttler: "It was a few many runs more than we could have restricted them to.

"They had a couple of big overs at the back end which pushed the score up, but only losing by 10 - there are plenty of ways we can find those 10 runs."

West Indies captain Rovman Powell: "The way we managed to come back from 54-4 was really pleasing.

"I try to lead from the front, putting the additional responsibility on myself to do well."

Rafael Nadal: Former world number one to return at Brisbane...

(cont'd from las page)

almost a year out with injury.

The former world number one, 37, has been out of action since injuring his hip flexor in a second-round defeat at January's Australian Open.

He has previously said he plans to retire at the end of the 2024 season.

"After a year away from competition, it's time to come back,"

the Spaniard said in a video posted on social media.

"It will be in Brisbane, the first week of January. I'll see you there."

The Brisbane International will help Nadal prepare for the Australian Open - the first major of the year - which Nadal won in 2009 and 2022.

Last month, Australian Open chief Craig Tiley said Nadal would be participating in the tournament, although the player is yet to confirm this.

The 22-time Grand Slam champion has been sidelined

since his defeat by Mackenzie McDonald in Melbourne and underwent surgery in June.

When he announced he would miss the French Open for the first time in 19 years - the tournament where he has won 14 of his majors - Nadal said 2024 will "probably" be the last year of his career.

At the time Nadal was joint with Serbia's Novak Djokovic for the joint record number of men's major triumphs, but Djokovic has since won the French Open and US Open to move to 24 Grand Slam titles.

Nadal has dropped to number 633 in the world rankings but he is still eligible for a protected ranking having been injured and not competing in any event for at least six months.

The Brisbane International is returning after a three-year hiatus forced by the Covid-19 pandemic and will take place between 31 December and 7 January.

The Australian Open starts on 14 January.