

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

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

Year 68 NO. 47

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 25th APRIL, 2025

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend

Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

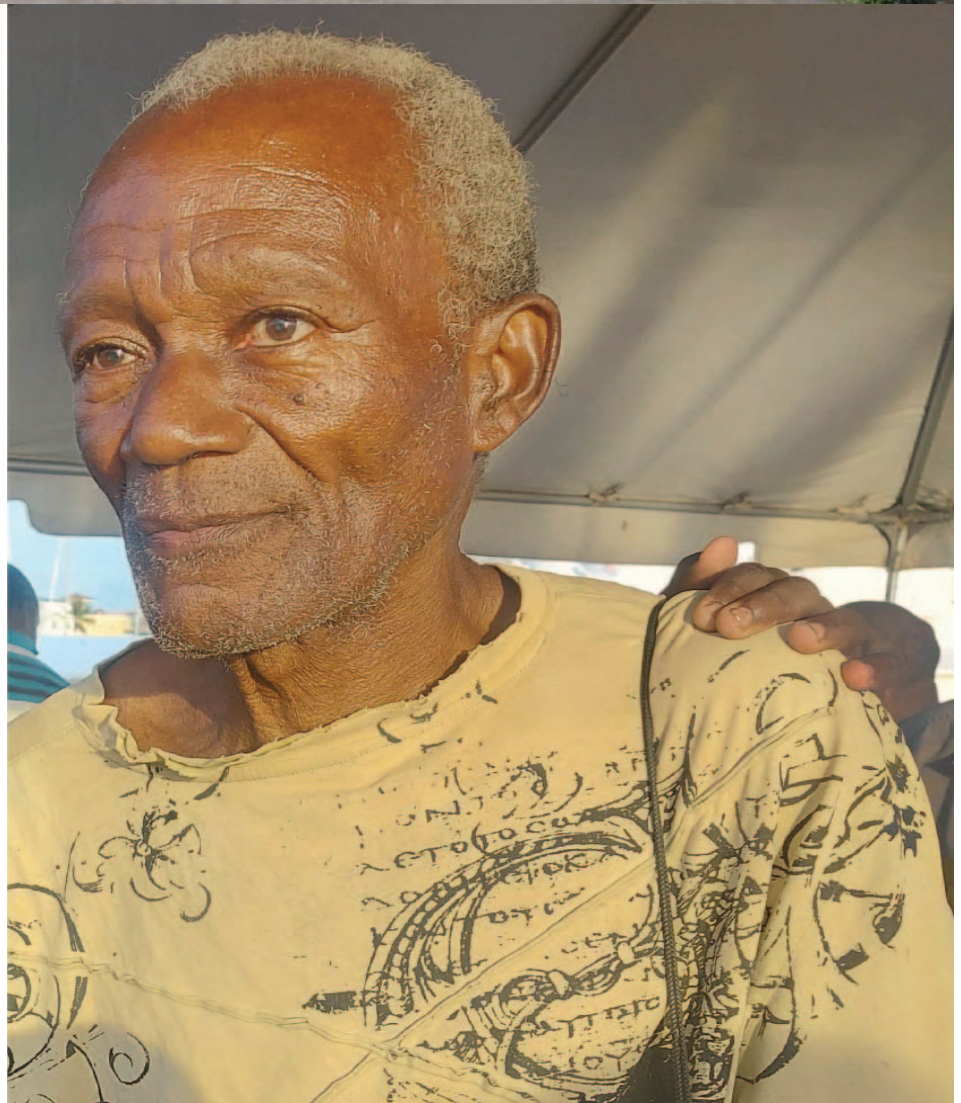
Dated : 24/04/25

DELTA \$13.41 / SOL \$14.3

WAIT TIME DEBATE



MORE MONEY



STORY ON PAGE 08

CRITICS RESPONSE

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

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Editorial

More Than Just A Meal: The Meaning Behind Easter Traditions

Over this past Easter, as families gathered to partake in what has become a culinary staple of the season-saltfish with ground provisions, coconut dumpling, and a refreshing drink-many may not have paused to reflect on the deeper meaning behind the meal.

Much like the colourful spectacle of kites filling the skies, these Easter traditions are rooted in significant religious symbolism and cultural observance. Yet too often, we participate without reflection.

Easter is more than a long weekend. It is the most sacred time on the Christian calendar, marking the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The practice of eating fish, particularly on Good Friday, stems from the long-standing Christian tradition of abstaining from red meat as a form of devotion and remembrance of Christ's suffering. Fish, therefore, is not just a lighter, healthier option-it is symbolic, a spiritual gesture that underscores humility, sacrifice, and observance.

When we gather around the table to share saltfish and coconut dumplings, we are partaking in a communal memory-one that connects us not only to faith, but to our heritage. It is worth asking: do we truly understand why we eat this meal, or has it become just another routine? Reflection transforms a habit into heritage and a meal into meaning.

Similarly, the flying of kites is not simply a carefree pastime or a reason to be outdoors. In many Christian cultures, the kite represents Christ's ascension, rising from the grave and soaring into new life. Its lift into the sky during Easter weekend, especially Easter Monday, is not just tradition-it is an unspoken testimony of the resurrection.

In a society moving increasingly fast, where holidays are often reduced to food, fun, and photographs, it becomes even more important to anchor ourselves in meaning. Understanding the why behind the what can add depth to our celebrations and foster intergenerational dialogue. What better way to spend Easter than not only enjoying a meal, but using it as a conversation starter-sharing stories, discussing beliefs, and connecting culture to faith?

So next Easter, when the saltfish is steaming and the kite strings are tightening against the wind, take a moment to reflect on the meaning behind the meal and the motion.

Let our traditions not just nourish our bodies, but also our spirits.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
NEVIS CIRCUIT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim No. NEVHCV2013/0145

ST KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED

- Applicant

and

FREDERICK JONES

-Respondent

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at High Court, Prince William Street, Charlestown, Nevis, on the 2nd day of May 2025 at 10-00 o'clock

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land with building thereon described as Lot No. 104A on the Ramsbury Housing Development Plan situate in the Parish of St. Paul in the Island of Nevis bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On the North by an Access Road 67.65 feet, On the South by Lot No. 103 of Ramsbury Housing Development 68.20 feet, On the East partly by Lot No. 108 and partly by Lot No. 109 - 135.65 feet and On the West by Lot No. 101A 135.25 feet and containing by admeasurement 9,200.0 square feet, all as the same is described in a Certificate of Title dated the **24th day of September, 1983** and registered in **Book 21 Folio 90** of the Register of Titles of the Nevis Circuit in favour of **FREDERICK N. JONES** of Camps Road, in the Island of Nevis as registered proprietor thereof.

UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above property shall be **EC\$595,000.00**

Dated the 24th day of March 2025.

M. Flemmy
Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court



In the matter of the Companies Ordinance 1999 of Nevis

and

In the matter of BON BANK LTD (In Voluntary Liquidation), members winding-up

The Liquidators of BON Bank Ltd., a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, Chapter 335 of St. Christopher and Nevis and continued under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance, 1999 of Nevis has scheduled a General Meeting of the Shareholders on May 22, 2025, at 5:00pm, at the Bank of Nevis Limited, Main Street, Charlestown, Nevis. Should any shareholder request to join remotely, kindly email your first and last name and email address to gtinfo@kn.gt.com.

Dated this 24th day of April 2025.

Jefferson E. Hunte

Jefferson E. Hunte
Liquidator

Health Care Official Urges Public To Use Centres In Avoiding Hospital Wait Time For Non-Emergency Issues

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Wednesday 23rd April 2025)- Director of Institution at the Joseph N. France (JNF) General Hospital, Dr. Jenson Morton, is encouraging the public to utilize health centres for non-emergency issues as a way to help address hospital waiting time - a topic that draws criticism.

Speaking during an interview on Freedom FM's 'Issues' programme on Wednesday 23rd April 2025, with host Austin Edinborough, Dr. Morton emphasized that health centres across the island are staffed with trained personnel capable of handling mild to moderate medical complaints.

"[At JNF] ...any day in the week between the hours of 8:00am to 4:00pm, it could be a bit problematic but if it's a Monday and it's not a major complaint, it's a bit of an issue, and the issue is just that the reason why we have health centres all over the island is because when you have a mild and moderate complaint, it's really supposed to go to a health centre because a lot of those things either a nurse can deal with them directly or the nurse can deal with it with instruction from a physician...If further assessment is needed, the nurse can reach out to the physician, and a decision can be made to escalate the case to the hospital if necessary."

He clarified that between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, there is always a District Medical Officer assigned to each health centre-even when it is not a clinic day.

"You can go. The nurses will see you. And if it's deemed to be something very bad, the nurse might be the one to be able to identify right away, 'Okay, this needs to go to the hospital' or if it's a gray area, they might call the physician to discuss it..."

Dr. Morton highlighted what efficiency would look like with the appropriate use of emergency services for minor ailments.

"If the full utilization of the health system in the proper manner was taking place, the overall wait time for persons that come with actual things that need a hospital setting would decrease," he said, adding that the Ministry of Health is currently planning public awareness campaigns to help educate the public about how to use the health system efficiently.

"We are actually working on rolling out campaigns to help the general public better understand how to use the healthcare system



Director of Institution at the Joseph N. France (JNF) General Hospital, Dr. Jenson Morton (SKNIS image)

efficiently. That way, we can minimize unnecessary crowding and improve the overall experience for everyone."

According to Dr. Morton, hospital waiting times are monitored against regional standards such as those set by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), which aim for patients to receive a definitive response-whether treatment, discharge, observation, or surgery-within four hours of arrival.

As understood, the PAHO framework looks at how quickly a person can enter a hospital and receive definitive care, meaning that within a four-hour window, the patient should be seen by a doctor and either begin treatment, be observed, discharged, admitted, or sent to surgery.

"We have usually been able to satisfy that nearly to its entirety because people in St.Kitts, they don't want to wait four hours for something definitive, only now and again," Dr. Morton stated.

He acknowledged, however, that Mondays and certain peak hours tend to be more challenging due to heavier patient loads.

On the topic of public complaints, Dr. Morton urged individuals to direct their concerns through proper administrative channels rather than airing them on social media.

"If persons have a complaint in the hospital, I'm kindly asking for persons to complain to the administration," he pleaded. "Jumping to social media is a very ineffective and inefficient route to actually get your problem solved."

Dr. Morton noted that despite the criticism, JNF performs relatively well in the region, especially in emergency cases.

"We are actually outperforming regional neighbors and that is when you'll appreciate what we have in St. Kitts a little bit more," he said.

Dr. Morton expressed optimism that with increased public understanding and more effective use of available services, St. Kitts can continue to improve its health system performance and patient satisfaction.

He issued a call for greater patience and understanding from the public while stressing that the administration is

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

FEDERATION OF CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

ST. CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT

A.D 2025

(PROBATE)

SKBHPB2025/

In the Estate of AUSTIN C. ROUSE, of Sandy Point in the Parish of St. Anne in the Island of St. Christopher, who resided in Concord, Ontario, Canada, Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF PROBATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by LOUISE PEMBERTON of Main Street Sandy Point and ANDERSON STAPLETON of Shadwell Housing Development for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above named deceased who died on the 4th day of December 2022 without revoking his Will bearing the date of 26th day August, 2016 wherein the applicants are named Executors.

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

Dated this 24th day of April, 2025.

Inniss and Inniss

Inniss and Inniss
Solicitors for
The Executors

For the Estate of the Austin C. Rouse

Filed by Inniss and Inniss, Solicitors for the Applicants whose address for service is 11A Cayon Street, Basseterre, St. Kitts.



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Masses House, Church Street, Basseterre

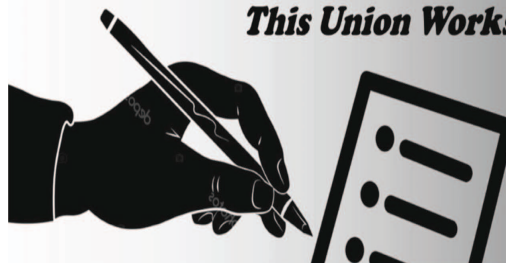
to learn more about Union membership,

or call us at

869-465-2229

The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union

This Union Works For You.



constantly working to deliver quality care.

Front page Image of Joseph N. France General Hospital



Chairman
Dr Marcus L Natta

National Cost-of-Living Task Force Intensifies Efforts Amid Global Trade Shifts, Calls for Public Partnership

Basseterre, St. Kitts - April 24, 2025 -The National Cost-of-Living Task Force continues to prioritise the economic stability of Saint Kitts and Nevis amid evolving global challenges, including recent U.S. tariff impositions impacting international trade. The Task Force remains steadfast in its mission to shield citizens and residents from rising costs while adapting strategies to address new pressures on supply chains and local prices.

A tariff is a tax imposed by one country on goods imported from another country. These taxes are typically designed to protect domestic industries but can inadvertently increase costs for nations reliant on imports. For Saint Kitts and Nevis - a small island economy dependent on imported essentials like food, fuel and construction materials - U.S. tariffs may lead to higher import expenses. This could result in delayed shipments, reduced availability of goods and gradual price increases for consumers. The Task Force is actively analysing these risks and collaborating with regional partners to identify alternative suppliers and mitigate disruptions.



Since 2024, the National Cost-of-Living Task Force has prioritised close coordination with customs authorities, importers, retailers, and regional bodies to track price fluctuations and ensure transparency in pricing. A key focus has been the VAT Holiday Initiative, which lowered the Value Added Tax (VAT) from 17 to 13 percent for the first half of 2025. The Consumer Affairs Department's surveillance confirms widespread compliance, with businesses adjusting shelf prices downward and passing savings to consumers. This measure has provided critical short-term relief, stimulating spending while safeguarding vulnerable households.

Case Number :NEVHPB2025/0031

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

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NEVIS CIRCUIT
A.D. 2025
(PROBATE)

Submitted Date:23/04/2025 11:35

Filed Date:23/04/2025 11:35

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of **Samuel Jones a.k.a. Malvern Montgomery Jones a.k.a.**

Melvin Jones late of Mount Lily Village, St. James' Parish, Nevis

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT DE BONIS NON ADMINISTRATUS

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **IONA E. JEFFERS** of Mount Lily Village, St. James' Parish, Nevis, for a Grant *de bonis non administratus* to the applicant who is the daughter of the late **Samuel Jones a.k.a. Malvern Montgomery Jones a.k.a. Melvin Jones** of Mount Lily Village in the Parish of St. James in the Island of Nevis ("the Deceased") who died intestate on the 15th day of March 1983 in St. Paul's Parish, Nevis, a Grant of Letters of Administration of the Estate the Deceased having been previously issued out of the Probate Registry of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court at Charlestown, Nevis on the 11th day of December, 2012 to his son **VINCENT L. JONES** Nevis now deceased.

Any person having an objection to the grant *de bonis non administratus* to the applicant shall file an objection within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2025

Belva L. Nisbett
Nisbetts, Solicitors

Filed by: Nisbetts, Solicitors, whose address for service is Chapel Street, Charlestown, Nevis.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS ENROLLMENT OPEN



VISIT US AT DORSET VILLAGE, BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS

Now accepting children ages 0-3 years for September 2023 term

1-869-665-4252

rlbradshawdaycarecentre@gmail.com

While the Task Force pursues policy solutions, Chairman Dr Marcus L Natta emphasised that curbing the cost-of-living crisis requires collective effort.

"We understand the daily strain faced by families and assure the public that every resource is being deployed to stabilise prices. However, the government's action alone cannot resolve this challenge. Consumers can amplify these efforts by making thoughtful purchasing decisions," stated Chairman Dr Natta.

The Task Force urges citizens to:

- Choose locally grown foods and goods, wherever possible.
- Compare prices across supermarkets and other businesses.
- Utilise publications such as the "A Look at the Supermarket" price listing, published by the Consumer Affairs Department via their Facebook page: facebook.com/consumeraffairsskn.

The Task Force is evaluating long-term measures, including diversifying trade partnerships, investing in sustainable agriculture and expanding price-control mechanisms for critical goods. Regular updates will be shared as global conditions evolve.

Nevis Airport Expansion Project Draws International Attention, Poised to Transform Island’s Tourism Industry

NIA CHARLESTOWN NEVIS (April 23, 2025) - Global attention is turning to Nevis as major international news outlets highlight the island’s upcoming airport expansion project, which promises to dramatically increase tourism.

Recent features in the UK’s Daily Mail and The Mirror spotlight the Caribbean gem’s plans to improve accessibility and welcome a new wave of visitors, many drawn by the island’s strong ties to the British Royal Family.

The Honourable Mark Brantley, Premier of Nevis and Minister of Tourism in the Nevis Island Administration, welcomed the international coverage, emphasizing how critical the project is for the island’s future.

“We are proud of our rich history and the fact we were the destination of choice for Princess Diana,” said Premier Brantley. “We look forward to welcoming more visitors and fans of the British Royal Family from the UK and further afield to experience everything our island has to offer.”

Nevis, known for its stunning beaches, lush landscapes, and warm hospitality, famously provided Princess Diana and her sons, Princes William and Harry, a private sanctuary in the early 1990s. The Montpelier Plantation Estate, where they stayed, along with other Royal-linked landmarks, are expected to see increased interest as greater numbers of tourists gain direct access to the island.

The expansion of the Vance W. Amory International Airport will allow for direct flights from major cities, significantly boosting Nevis’ appeal to visitors from North America, Europe, and beyond. Currently, travelers from international destinations to Nevis must connect via St. Kitts, through neighbouring islands such as Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, or Antigua.

The comprehensive upgrades include an extended runway to accommodate larger aircraft, a modernized passenger terminal, a new fire hall, expanded parking apron, new road network, and the refurbishment of the control tower. All developments are being designed to meet International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards, along with recommendations from Airport Council International (ACI) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Premier Brantley noted, “Enhancing our airport infrastructure is central to our goal to become a regional Caribbean leader. Our beautiful island continues to strive forward, and this project is key to strengthening our economy, attracting major foreign investment,



Vance W. Amory International Airport, Nevis to undergo major expansion and upgrade

Case Number :NEVHPB2025/0029

FILED

HIGH COURT

ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS

(NEVIS CIRCUIT)

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

NEVIS CIRCUIT

A.D. 2025

(PROBATE)

Submitted Date:15/04/2025 08:45

Filed Date:15/04/2025 08:45

Fees Paid:52.00

In the Estate of ILa Kay Loomis of Ramsbury Site, St. Paul’s Parish, Nevis, deceased

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by **Stephanie Marie Hall** of Ramsbury Site, St. Paul’s Parish, Nevis, for a Grant of Probate of the Will of the above deceased who died on the 8th day of April, 2025 without revoking a will bearing date the 21st day of April, 2023 wherein the applicant is named the sole executrix.

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

Dated this 15th day of April, 2025



Belva L. Nisbett
Nisbetts, Solicitors

Filed by: Nisbetts, Solicitors, whose address for service is Chapel Street, Charlestown, Nevis.



Premier the Honourable Mark Brantley interacts with tourists at the Alexander Hamilton Museum, Nevis

and making Nevis more resilient to external shocks.”

Construction is anticipated to begin later in 2025, with completion expected within two years. The expanded airport is expected to bring more private jets, regional traffic, and

commercial flights, opening up Nevis to a broader global audience.

With its rich heritage, including being the birthplace of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, and its historical ties to the British Royal Family, Nevis offers visitors an authentic and unforgettable Caribbean experience. The imminent airport expansion will make it easier than ever for a new generation of global travelers to experience the island’s unique magic.



The Island of Nevis, poised to become more accessible than ever to travelers worldwide with the upgrade and expansion of its Vance W. Amory International Airport

**BUDGET ADDRESS 2025**



HON. DR. TERRANCE M. DREW
PRIME MINISTER OF ST. CHRISTOPHER
(ST. KITTS) AND NEVIS

BUDGET BOOST WALLETEligible individuals earning **\$5,000** or less per month will receive **\$250** per month for the first six months of 2025 (January to June)

Government Reaffirms Commitment to Budget Boost Wallet Programme Amid Inflation Challenges

The Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis is highlighting the critical role of the Budget Boost Wallet (BBW) programme in mitigating the impact of rising inflation on citizens, while addressing recent reports of misuse. Since its inception in January 2025, the BBW initiative has delivered vital financial support to approximately 23,000 households monthly, injecting an average of EC\$5.6 million per month into the economy to ensure access to essentials such as groceries and utilities. This effort reflects the St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party Administration’s strong commitment to safeguarding vulnerable populations during a period of global economic uncertainty.

The BBW programme has become a cornerstone of national resilience, reaching a significant portion of the adult population. This scale of assistance highlights its importance as a lifeline for families navigating inflationary pressures, which have strained household budgets across the nation and being felt throughout the Caribbean region.



Recent allegations of businesses permitting the purchase of prohibited items, including alcohol, through the BBW platform have prompted immediate action. The government reemphasises that BBW funds are strictly reserved for essential goods and services, and any deviation from these guidelines undermines the programme’s integrity. Enhanced monitoring mechanisms are being implemented to ensure compliance. Businesses found in breach of the terms will face suspension from the programme and potential legal repercussions, while consumers misusing funds risk disqualification.

The BBW programme aligns with broader efforts to stabilise the economy and promote social equity. The initiative not only alleviates immediate financial strain but also stimulates economic activity, supporting small businesses and community-driven growth. This dual focus on relief and development underscores the government’s strategy to build long-term resilience against inflation and external economic shocks.

The success of the BBW programme hinges on shared accountability. Businesses are urged to uphold ethical standards by adhering strictly to approved product and service categories, while citizens are reminded to use BBW funds responsibly.

As Saint Kitts and Nevis continues to navigate global economic headwinds, the BBW programme remains a pillar of support for thousands of families.

The government encourages the public to learn more about the programme by visiting the BBW portal at <https://budgetboostwallet.jad.cash>.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
NEVIS CIRCUIT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CLAIM NO. NEVHCV2013/0056

IN THE MATTER of Section 81 of the
Title by Registration Act, Cap. 10.19
and
IN THE MATTER of an Application to
Settle the Scheme of Division of the sale
price of land described in Certificate of
Title dated the 17th day of January, 1992
and registered in Book 30 Folio 7 of the
Register of Titles of the Nevis Circuit

BETWEEN:

ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED
Applicant

and

FENELLA GUMBS-VANTERPOOL (Deceased)
Respondent

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
TO SETTLE SCHEME OF DIVISION

LET ALL PARTIES APPEAR before the Honourable _____ in Chambers
at the High Court of Justice, Theodore L. Hobson Q.C. Court Building, Prince William &
Main Street, Charlestown, Nevis on the 2nd day of May 2025 at 9:00am
o'clock in the forenoon or so soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard on the hearing on
an application by the Applicant, ST. KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK
LIMITED of Central Street, Basseterre in the Island of Saint Christopher for Orders

1. That the Registrar grant certificate of title in favour of **RAVI CHINNASWAMY**
a citizen of the island of Saint Christopher being the purchaser of the
property described in Certificate of Title dated the 17th day of January 1992
and registered in Book 30 Folio 7 of the Register of Titles of the Nevis Circuit;
and

2. That the Scheme of Division herein be settled.

Dated the 24th day of March 2025


Natika M. Rawlins
Solicitor for the Applicant

NOTICE

This application will be heard by the Honourable _____ in Chambers on
the _____ day of _____ 2025 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon.

If you do not attend this hearing an order may be made in your absence.

The Court Office is at Prince William Street, Charlestown, Nevis. Tel: 469-5521. Fax No.
469-7140. The office is open between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays
except Public Holidays.

To: FENELLA GUMBS-VANTERPOOL

This Application is filed on behalf of the Applicant by Natika M. Rawlins, National Bank
Legal Unit, Central Street, Basseterre, Solicitor for the Applicant.

AI and digitalization are transforming safety and health at work

A new ILO report unveils opportunities and risks ahead of World Day for Safety and Health at Work.

23 April 2025

Revolutionizing Health and Safety: The Role of AI and Digitalization at Work

GENEVA (ILO News) - A new report from the International Labour Organization (ILO) explores how artificial intelligence (AI), digitalization, robotics and automation are reshaping occupational safety and health (OSH) in workplaces worldwide.

The report, titled *Revolutionizing Health and Safety: The Role of AI and Digitalization at Work*, highlights how these emerging technologies are improving worker health and well-being while underscoring the need for proactive policies to address new risks.

By taking on hazardous tasks, assisting in surgeries, and optimizing logistics, robots help reduce risks and improve efficiency. AI-powered systems enhance safety and health monitoring, and streamline tasks and operations, easing workloads and driving innovation - even in traditionally low-tech sectors. However, the report stresses the need for proactive policies to ensure these technologies are implemented safely and equitably.

“Digitalization offers immense opportunities to enhance workplace safety. Robots can replace workers in hazardous ‘3D jobs’, which can be dirty, dangerous, and demeaning. Automation can reduce repetitive tasks, such as in factory production lines or in administrative work, allowing workers to take on more challenging tasks,” said Manal Azzi, Team Lead on OSH Policy at the ILO. “But for us to fully benefit from these technologies, we must ensure they are implemented without incurring new risks.”

Technology’s impact on safety and health

The report highlights that advanced robotics and automation, the use of virtual and extended reality, as well as new tools such as smart wearable devices that provide real-time risk detection or environmental sensors that track air quality, are transforming safety and health by preventing accidents and reducing hazardous exposures. Furthermore, digitalization is leading to the rise of hybrid and remote work arrangements that are creating flexibility and improving mental health.

However, these advancements may also bring in new risks. While robots effectively take on hazardous tasks, workers who maintain, repair, or collaborate with these machines may face new dangers. Unpredictable robotic behaviours, system failures, or cyber threats can compromise safety. Ergonomic risks may arise from human-robot interaction, as well as from the use of wearables and exoskeletons that lack proper fit, usability, or comfort.

The study highlights that over-reliance on AI and automation may reduce human oversight, which would, in turn, increase OSH risks, while algorithm-driven workloads and being continuously connected can contribute to stress, burnout, and mental health issues.

The report also exposes safety and health risks faced by workers across the digital supply chain, from those in extraction processes to those powering AI, as well as workers handling electronic waste.

Global policy response and the role of the ILO

The report highlights regulatory gaps in managing OSH risks linked to digitalization and

calls for stronger global, regional, and national policies. The ILO’s OSH conventions (Nos. 155 and 187) provide a foundation for ensuring the right to a safe and healthy workplace in the digital era.

Ensuring that digitalization drives safety

and health at work

Policies and regulations worldwide increasingly include new measures covering robotic safety and human-robot interaction, the right to disconnect, improved algorithmic management of work, and safe telework and platform work.

Worker’s involvement is essential at every stage of technology adoption. Training and awareness raising initiatives are key to ensuring safe use of new technologies. Further research will be needed to fully understand the long-term occupational safety and health impacts of digital transformation.



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P O Box 80
Needsmust
Basseterre
St. Kitts, W.I



WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Energy, Utilities and Domestic Transport

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis through the St. Kitts Water Services Department (SKWSD) invites quotations for the procurement of three (3) pick-up trucks for our operations. The trucks will be used for transportation of personnel, equipment and materials etc.

Requestor Information		Date of the RFQ	Closing Date
Contact	Mr. Cedrin Williams 869-467-1442 cedrin.williams@gov.kn	26 th March, 2025	7 th May, 2025

Delivery Address
Water Services Department, Needsmust, Basseterre, St. Kitts

Pick-up Truck Specifications

Item	Specification/Requirement
Vehicle Type	Pick-up Truck
Engine Type/Capacity	2.7L, 4-cylinder, Diesel
Transmission	6 Speed Automatic
Drivetrain	Four-Wheel Drive (4x4)
Seating Capacity	Five (5)
Body	Protected Back Glass Bed Liner

RFQ Terms and Conditions

- Suppliers response to the RFQ must be sent to the SKWSD via email to the attention of the requester as specified above.
- Supplies must have a valid business licence.
- Where applicable, the quotation should include freight in the final cost.
- The expected delivery time and payment terms should be indicated when submitting quotation.
- Detailed specifications of the proposed vehicles must be provided.
- The SKWSD reserves the right to request any additional information that it deems necessary in order to make a decision on any quotation submitted.

Zack Responds to Critics About His Aquatic Sports Leadership Role

...Gives Another Successful Event Rating

By: Spokesman Newsroom

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Wednesday 23rd April 2025) - Well-known cultural preservationist Winston 'Zack' Nisbett is brushing off criticism of his leadership relating to the annual Basil Henderson Easter Monday



Coast Guard Unit on duty (Photo by Peter Ngunjiri)

Aquatic Sports, insisting that the popular event continues to thrive under his stewardship.

"Wine gets better with time," he said during an exclusive interview with this media house, on the heels of this year's 68th edition of the Aquatic Sports-held on Monday 21st April 2025 at the Ferry Terminal in Basseterre, as he responded to suggestions that he should hand over the reins after more than twenty (20) years of managing the event.

"It always happens like that-when something is successful, there are always people who want to come in to upset the cart. A lot of them are jealous. They have no contribution to make to this country but to criticize. They want to come in and mash it up-and it's not going to happen," he further commented after being quizzed by this reporter.

According to Nisbett, while some have called for him to step aside or to get help, he already works with a solid team of dedicated individuals and welcomes support from those with genuine intent.

"I have a core of men and women. You must be genuine in your approach," he emphasized. "Zack Nisbett will be stronger than ever."

This year's edition has been described by him as one of the most vibrant yet, with a massive crowd, enthusiastic participation, and overwhelming public and corporate support.

"It was overwhelming. It was superb. People came out. In the morning, there's usually jamming in Sandy Point, and you'd see a light crowd. But this year, when I looked down, I couldn't even see behind the thickness of the crowd and the excited yelling and the mood."

Events included the traditional greasy pole climb-this year with hams sponsored by swimming races, skipping contests and hula-hoop contests. Though the bun eating competition was skipped this year, the greasy pole competitions-featuring the hams and money grab as well as the boxing exhibition stole the spotlight.

"The pole needs to be greased properly. That's the most attractive part. People want to see the balance, the skill, and the falls," Zack chuckled, pointing out that spectators especially enjoy the suspense and humor of the event.

Usual support also came from safety agencies such

(cont'd on next page)



'Flight mode' for swimming action as a competitor leaps off the Ferry Terminal pier for race mode (Photo by Peter Ngunjiri)

Zack Responds to Critics About His Aquatic Sports...

(cont'd from last page)

as the St. Christopher Air and Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA), Coast Guard, police, EMS, and Red Cross, ensuring that the event was conducted in a secure and family-friendly environment. Special thanks was extended to lifeguard Eddie Pemberton-a former Coast Guard officer.

Sponsors played a crucial role this year. Nisbett gave high praise the contributors including Courts (Unicomer) St.Kitts-Nevis, Island Purified Water, Carib Brewery (St.Kitts-Nevis) Ltd., TDC, Indigo Yachts, Kumar's, Scenic Railway, Best For Less, Koscab, Coury's Wholesale, Best Buy, Horsford, KFC, Burger King, media professional Peter Ngunjiri and RAMS.

He also singled out individuals such as Levi Bradshaw and Scott Caines for their contributions which helped meet key costs.

"Some of them [the sponsors], when I go into their offices, they just sign the cheque. No stress," Nisbett said. "This year's support was better than before. And I'll be making sure that the names of all sponsors are



Warm up session with swim race competitors facilitated by lifeguard Eddie Pemberton (Photo by Peter Ngunjiri)

publicly acknowledged."

Looking ahead, Nisbett says the 2026 edition will be "bigger and better." He noted that the Nevis contingent plans to return in large numbers next year and that efforts are being made to involve more students and younger participants in the games and organization.

"This is a national event, and I put my head and heart into it every year," he concluded. "I walk through town and people hug me, telling me well done and to

keep my head up. That tells me it's worth it. And with the right support, we'll take it even further."

Front Page: Event Coordinator of the annual Basil Henderson Easter Monday Aquatic Sports Winston 'Zack' Nisbett poses for a photo during the 68th edition held on Monday 21st April 2025 at the Ferry Terminal (Spokesman Snap)



Audience at the Ferry Terminal looks on as a participant falls after a greasy pole climb fail in collecting the ham prize (Photo by Peter Peter Ngunjiri)

Shein and Temu tax-free parcels rule under review

Faarea Masud

Business reporter, BBC News



Getty Images

Image of two packages being handed over to someone at a front door

Major retailers have welcomed the government's review of a rule that allows small parcels to enter the UK duty-free, saying it gives overseas firms such as Shein and Temu an unfair advantage over British businesses.

The current rule allows international retailers to send packages to the UK worth less than £135 without incurring import taxes.

Former Dragon's Den star Theo Paphitis, whose retail group includes the Ryman and Robert Dyas, told the BBC the measure was ruining UK High Streets.

Some retailers have argued they are being undercut by overseas rival, but a body representing small businesses said scrapping the exemption could raise costs for them and price rises for customers.

Chancellor Rachel Reeves announced on Wednesday that the government planned to review the customs treatment of low-value products entering the UK following complaints from retailers.

The explosion of parcels being shipped under the measure has prompted increased scrutiny in recent years. While all retailers use the exemption, those who sell fast-fashion and cheap goods have seen their sales soar.

It has fuelled the rise of Chinese retailers, such as online giants Shein and Temu, which ship low-value packages to the UK and other countries to reach millions of customers.

Speaking to the BBC's Today programme, Mr Paphitis said retailers had been lobbying government "for a very, very long time", arguing the rule had had devastating impact "on our retail landscape and our high streets".

He joined the bosses of Sainsbury's, Currys and the British Retail Consortium in welcoming the government's consultation on the rule.

UK businesses bringing in larger shipments have to pay taxes, and they also argue that cheaper goods might fail to meet the same environmental and ethical standards that they keep to.

Aside from concerns over unfair competition with domestic retailers, it has also been raised that governments could be missing out on potential tax income.

The so called "de minimis" rule has received renewed interest after US president Donald Trump scrapped a similar measure in America amid his escalating trade war with China.

Goods worth less than \$800 into the US will soon be subject to charges, where they were previously exempt. The move has already prompted Chinese retailers to raise their prices.

In the UK, there are further concerns that China will dump goods here to avoid the tariffs which Trump has imposed on Chinese goods.

Earlier this month, the boss of Currys told the Financial Times that the "single biggest area where lots of stock is likely to land in the UK... is from the likes of Shein, Temu, Alibaba, TikTok shop and, most of all, Amazon marketplace".

On Thursday, Alex Baldock told the BBC he was pleased the government was "reviewing the low-value shipment loophole, and that they're committed to levelling the playing field between British and overseas retailers".

But the Federation of Small Businesses urged the government to proceed with caution in its de minimis consultation, suggesting that scrapping it might "ultimately lead to higher prices for consumers".

"With 16% of goods moved by small firms sitting below the £135 threshold, a

China sends Boeing planes back to US over tariffs

Simon Browning

Business reporter, BBC News



Reuters A Boeing 737 MAX 8, the second jet intended for use by a Chinese airline to be returned to its manufacturer, lands at Boeing Field, as trade tensions escalate over U.S. tariffs with China, Reuters

A Boeing 737 MAX 8 intended for a Chinese airline is returned to a Boeing airfield, as trade tensions escalate over US tariffs on Chinese imports

China has sent back planes it ordered from the US in its latest retaliation over Trump tariffs, the boss of aircraft maker Boeing has said.

Kelly Ortberg said two planes had already been returned and another would follow after trade tensions between the two countries escalated.

Boeing's chief executive told CNBC that 50 more planes were due to go to China this year but their customers had indicated they will not take delivery of them.

The US put 145% tariffs on imports

from China and it hit back with a 125% tax on US products.

A Boeing 737 MAX 8, the second jet intended for use by a Chinese airline to be returned to its manufacturer, flies mid-air before landing at Boeing Field.

Speaking in the Oval Office on Tuesday, Trump said he was optimistic about improving trade relations with China, saying the level of tariffs he had imposed would "come down substantially, but it won't be zero".

However, Mr Ortberg said China "have in fact stopped taking delivery of aircraft because of tariff environment".

Boeing is America's largest exporter

(cont'd on next page)

decision to scrap it impacts on trading and inflation," said Tina McKenzie, chair of the FSB.

"It's right to be concerned about potential future dumping of goods, as escalating tariffs applied by bigger global blocs against each other may mean a surge in goods arriving in markets like our own," she added.

'Absolute nonsense'

Mr Paphitis told the BBC it was "absolute nonsense" that the measure kept inflation and prices down, arguing it led to a loss of jobs and tax revenue for the UK, due to businesses being unable to compete with cheaper foreign rivals.

Helen Dickinson, the chief executive of the British Retail Consortium, the trade body for retailers, said the review was "more critical now" due to a "rise in the number of potentially non-compliant products entering the UK market".

The British Independent Retailers Association said small packages having no tax or charges was a key concern. It called on ministers to act to "deter import surges" in order to "protect independent retailers".

When Sainsbury's announced their latest financial results earlier this month, boss Simon Roberts called on the government to act as soon as possible.

"Everyone should pay their tax... so if there's a loophole here which means that's not happening then that needs to be closed so it's a level playing field for everybody," he said.

New Learning Resource Centre Offers Hope to Vulnerable Children and Youth in Saint Lucia

April 24, 2025 - Bridgetown, Barbados: A new Learning Resource Centre is offering opportunities for academic and personal growth to vulnerable children and youth at the New Beginnings Transit Home in Saint Lucia.

The Learning Resource Centre - a cheerful, renovated space equipped with desks, desktop and laptop computers, and an interactive, touchscreen television - offers the young residents a safe and supportive environment for structured academic work, digital training and personal development.

In addition to the equipment, the Centre's teaching staff received training in inclusive, technology-enabled



instruction and cybersecurity to enable them to guide learners safely in an increasingly digital world.

Part of the Safety Nets for

Vulnerable Populations Affected by the Coronavirus Project, a joint initiative of the Government of Saint Lucia, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Learning Resource Centre was officially opened on April 8, 2025 in Cas en Bas, Gros Islet, in the north of the island.

"Today, we celebrate not just the renovation of a physical space but a renewed commitment to our youth," said the Honourable Joachim Henry, Saint Lucia's Minister for Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment at the opening ceremony, which brought together representatives from the Ministry, CDB and the IDB, as well as implementing agencies, contractors, and members of the local community.

"This Learning Resource Centre stands as a testament to our shared vision of providing every child, regardless of their background, with the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed," he said.

The Learning Resource Centre was funded through a \$5.2-million loan from CDB's Special Funds Resources from funds provided by the IDB to CDB

under the Global Loan Programme to build health, social and economic resilience in member countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States during the COVID-19 crisis.

"The IDB and CDB recognised that a robust COVID-19 response had to include - yet go beyond- health interventions," said Mr. Elbert Ellis, Senior Operations Officer, Social Analyst, Social Sector Division at CDB. "For this reason, the upgrade of the Learning Resource Centre for students at the New Beginnings Transit Home was conceived - not as a temporary fix, but as a long-term investment in the human capital of Saint Lucia."

In his remarks, Mr. Michael Hall, Financial Sector Senior Specialist at the IDB, underscored the importance of investing in youth. "The IDB and CDB share a commitment to the sustainable growth and development of the Caribbean region, as well as the determination to help the region face future crises," he said. "I am honoured to be here to celebrate this achievement, which is focused on the goal of supporting learning continuity for the youth in this community."

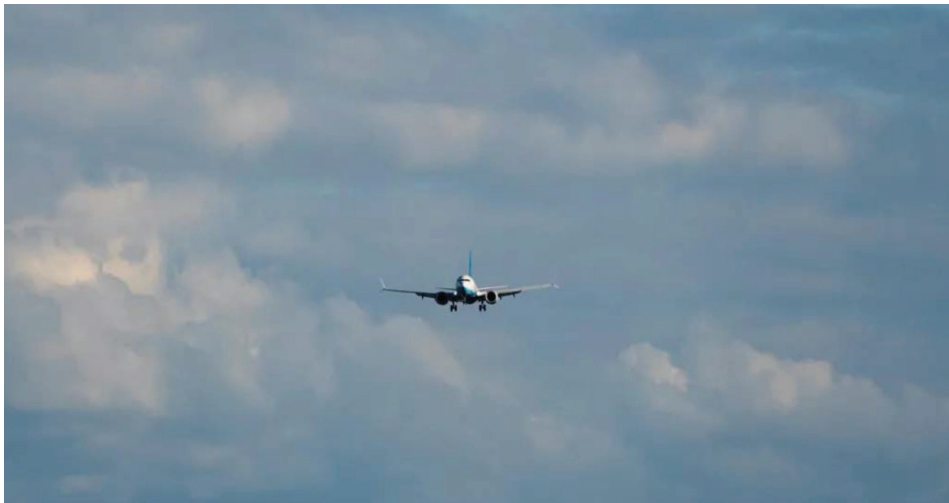
The opening was attended by residents and staff of the New Beginnings Transit Home and included remarks by stakeholders, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, cultural presentations, and a tour of the facility with demonstrations of the equipment on hand.

"This centre is a clear and powerful message for the youth who pass through New Beginnings: they matter, and their future matters," said Dr. Charmaine Hippolyte Emmanuel, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Equity, Social Justice and Empowerment, who encouraged the young residents to explore the facility and thanked project partners and staff: "Your commitment to human-centered development is helping us turn intent into impact. Thank you for helping us bring this vision to life."

The Learning Resource Centre is just one of several initiatives that have been rolled out in support of vulnerable populations in Saint Lucia under the Safety Nets project.

China sends Boeing planes back to US over tariffs

(cont'd from last page)



Reuters A Boeing 737 MAX 8, the second jet intended for use by a Chinese airline to be returned to its manufacturer, flies mid-air before landing at Boeing Field, as trade tensions escalate over U.S. tariffs with China, in Seattle, Washington, U.S. April 22, 2025. *Reuters*

with about 70% of its commercial aircraft sales outside of the US.

Mr Ortberg said Boeing was assessing options to re-market 41 of the already built planes to other customers as there was high demand from other airlines.

He said there were nine planes not yet in Boeing's production system and he wanted to "understand their intentions and if necessary we can assign to other customers".

He added Boeing was "not going continue to build aircraft for customers who will not take them".

Boeing in daily talks with Trump's team

Later in the afternoon, Mr Ortberg told an investor call "there is not a day that goes by that we're not engaged with either cabinet secretaries or either POTUS himself (President Trump) regarding the trade war between China and the USA."

He added he was "very hopeful we'll get to some negotiations".

On Wednesday, America's Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told the

International Monetary Fund (IMF) conference there was an opportunity for a "big deal" between the US and China on trade.

Asked about an upcoming meeting between the countries, Bessent said it would be an "incredible opportunity" to strike an agreement, if China was "serious" on making its economy less dependent on manufacturing exports.

Mr Ortberg also told investors others in the Boeing supply chain were now exposed to tariffs - mainly in Japan and Italy where universal tariffs of 10% are being implemented.

Brian West, Boeing's chief financial officer said during the call "free trade policy is very important to us" and Boeing will continue to work to with suppliers to ensure continuity.

Boeing has reported smaller losses for the first quarter of the year after it manufactured and delivered more planes.

Production had slumped in 2024 due to a series of crises and a strike by about 30,000 American factory workers.

It wants to increase output of its 737 MAX jets to 38 a month in 2025.

Marquel Greene Repeats Money-Grab Victory at Aquatic Sports Meet

By: Precious Mills

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts (Tuesday 22nd April 2025)- After about 15 attempts, 14-year-old Marquel Greene has once again proven himself the reigning champion of the ‘Money Fetch’ competition, following the recently held 68th annual Basil Henderson Easter Monday Aquatic Sports Meet, having scale the slippery vertical greased metal pole to seize the coveted top prize.

On Monday 21st April 2025, the event-hosted at the Ferry Terminal-attracted its usual large crowd of enthusiastic locals and visitors alike.

Spectators assembled along the shoreline of the eastern end of the Irish Town Bay Road, fully engaged by the spirited outdoor spectacle as more than five other competitors vied for the win.

But it was Greene who emerged victorious, capturing both the \$605 prize and the hearts of the onlookers. Originally a \$350 prize, the reward grew as excited spectators donated additional cash on the spot in support. Of note, some also contributed towards the \$1 per attempt- including the fans of Greene in admiration of the young athlete’s effort and drive.

An extra \$100 was donated from a spectator, towards the overall \$705 winnings.

Speaking with this reporter following his win, Greene shared his excitement and strategy saying: “I’m feeling quite good. I’m feeling excited. I thank God. The strategy was really to push up the grease and track my feet really, that’s it.”

He added that perseverance was key: “I would say I had more

than 10, [maybe] more than 15. I had a [a lot] of tries but nobody else was trying so I had to do most of the work.”

When asked whether he was watching his competitors or focusing on his own plan, Greene responded confidently: “I was thinking about what I was going to do next.”

And as for his winnings? “I have some plans for it,” he said.

Greene, who also participated in the swimming races, described the entire aquatic sports experience as “fun,” noting the thrill of competing against both friends and “frenemies.”

“Today was a very exciting day. I’m now waiting for next year,” he said, already eager to defend his title.

On the swimming races side of things, Greene secured first place in both the breast stroke and underwater dive, and placed third in the butterfly and backstroke events in the 13 to 16 male category.

Having learnt to swim at age 12, Greene admitted it was difficult at first, but ultimately rewarding. His advice to those hesitant about swimming was thoughtful: “I would say it’s a good thing, but if you don’t want to do it, it’s up to you.”

Front Page Image: 14-



Event Coordinator Winston “Zack” Nisbett (right) takes a photo with the back to back “Money Fetch” champion Marquel Greene (Spokesman Snap)

year-old Marquel Greene, the back-to-back winner of the ‘Money Fetch’™ greasy pole competition at the 68th Basil Henderson Easter Monday Aquatic Sports Meet, poses for a photo following his interview with this media house (Spokesman Snap)



A section of spectators eagerly awaiting the “Money Fetch” greasy pole excitement on Monday 21st April 2025 (Spokesman Snap)

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London Marathon waits on report before transgender

Published

23 April 2025

London Marathon organisers will wait for reports from the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Sport England before taking any future decisions on the categorisation of transgender runners.

The UK Supreme Court ruled last week the legal definition of a woman is based on biological sex.

The ruling does not lead to any immediate change regarding eligibility in elite sport. Governing bodies are not now compelled to amend or reconsider their rules.

But the weight of the ruling is likely to influence policy-making over time, and may lead to more sports banning transgender women from competing in women's categories.

The London Marathon does not allow transgender women to compete in elite, championship and 'good for age' female races, in accordance with World Athletics guidelines introduced in 2023.

Transgender athletes are able to compete in the mass participation event and can self-select their gender on the ballot.

"The London Marathon has been very clear about protecting women's rights, that's women from birth, women as defined by the court, in terms of competition, good for age, championship, elite athletes," said event director Hugh Brasher.

"We have to wait, as does everybody, for the detailed report to come out from the Equality and Human Rights Commission. It is said to be coming out in the summer and we will also wait for the report from Sport England as well.

"We don't know what detail is going to come out [in the reports]. We obviously will meet what the law says - but there has to be that detail coming out of that Commission and out of Sport England.

"We are clear about what we have done and we are really clear about the



General view of the London Marathon Image source, Getty Images
The first London Marathon took place in 1981

competition element - anywhere where there is competition, and that includes good for age, has to be your biological birth sex."

World Athletics president Lord Coe announced in March 2023 that transgender women would be banned from competing in the female category at international events.

Under the governing body's previous rules, transgender athletes could compete in women's events provided their testosterone levels remained below a certain level for a period of 12 months before competing.

"We delight in being both inclusive, but also protecting in competition the rights of women, which is incredibly important," said Brasher. "Lord Coe and World Athletics have always led on that and we absolutely look to continue doing

that."

More than 56,000 people are expected to take part in the 2025 London Marathon through the streets of the capital on Sunday.

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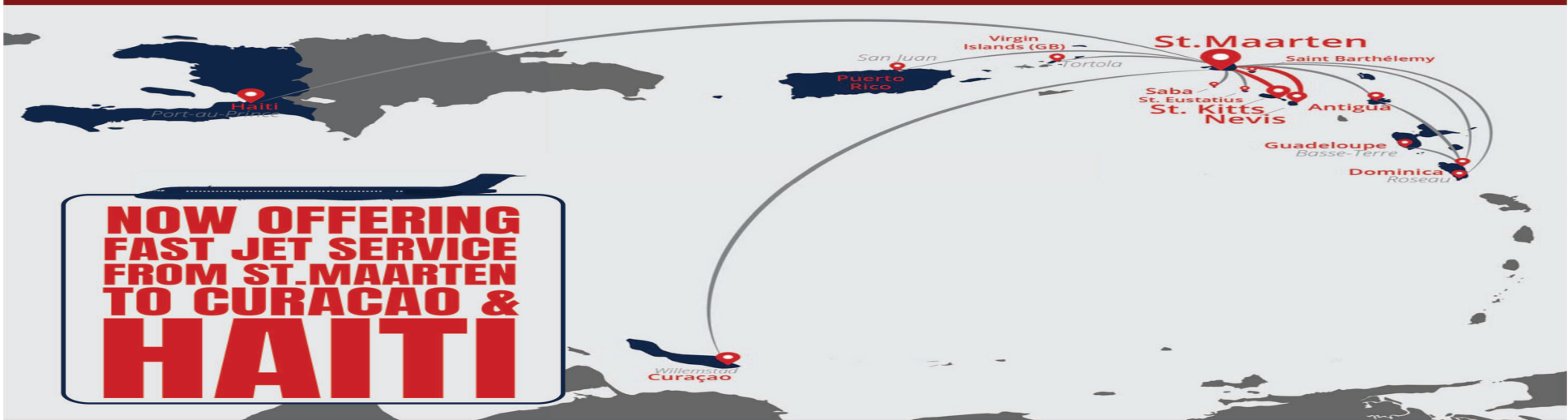
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CEO Dehring Hails Barbados' Dominance in U-15 Cricket Triumph



ST JOHN'S, Antigua- Chief Executive Officer of Cricket West Indies (CWI), Chris Dehring, has extended heartfelt congratulations to Barbados following their impressive unbeaten run to retain the CWI Rising Stars Under-15 title in Antigua on Wednesday.

"I offer sincere congratulations to the Barbados team for claiming consecutive titles. This is a testament to the hard work and collective effort of the players and the coaching staff. Barbados played with great skill, enthusiasm, and passion throughout the tournament. Their consistency showcased the rising talent in the Caribbean, and it was inspiring to see so many young players competing at this level." Dehring said.

Barbados secured back-to-back titles with a 49-run win over Guyana in the top-of-the-table clash at the Coolidge Cricket Ground. After posting 209 for 8 in their allotted 50 overs, Barbados bowled out Guyana for 160.

There were also standout individual performances. Barbados captain Justin Parris was named Best All-Rounder after scoring 121 runs and claiming 13 wickets with his leg-spin. His teammate, top-order batter Kelani Clarke, finished as the tournament's leading run-scorer with 216 runs.

Reyaz Latif of Guyana took 15 wickets to earn the award for Most Wickets. Richard Ramdeholl, also of Guyana, and Jâ€™Quan Athanaze of the Leeward Islands shared the award for Most Catches, with five each. Jamaica's Luwain Pryce was named Best Wicketkeeper after recording 11 dismissals.

Dehring praised the overall standard of play during the competition.

"This is the development phase for our players, and the pride and skill on display throughout the tournament bodes well for the



future. The individual winners will have moments to cherish as they continue their growth and progress through the age-group levels, with the ultimate goal of representing the West Indies."

Barbados finished with 27.4 points, ahead of Trinidad & Tobago on 19.4 points.