

# THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

[www.thelabourspokesman.com](http://www.thelabourspokesman.com)



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

Year 69 NO. 18

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, 02nd SEPTEMBER, 2026

EC \$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend

Maximum Price ULG per gallon -

Dated : 01/10/26

DELTA \$18.12/ SOL \$18.29

## UNION UPDATES

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## SCAM SHIELD

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# THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

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## Editorial

# A Stronger Union Begins With You

With the countdown underway for the 87th Annual Conference of the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union, we take this opportunity to remind workers across the Federation that the strength of any trade union rests not simply in its leadership but in the collective will, participation and solidarity of its membership.

Scheduled for Sunday 25th October 2026, the conference will be held under the theme: 'Stronger Union, Stronger Workers, Stronger Nation: United in Partnership for Progress.'

These words carry a message that deserves serious reflection, particularly at a time when the world of work continues to evolve and workers must remain informed, organised and adequately represented.

Indeed, how often do we hear workers express dissatisfaction with workplace conditions, wages, benefits or perceived unfair treatment? Yet, how many have taken that important step towards becoming part of an organised body through which their concerns can be collectively addressed?

The trade union movement was not built on the principle of standing alone. It was founded on solidarity, collective bargaining and the understanding that working people have a stronger voice when they stand together.

For over eight decades, the Union has been part of the Federation's labour history, championing the interests of workers and contributing to the advancement of workplace rights. However, the gains of yesterday must never be mistaken for permanent guarantees tomorrow.

Consider, for example, the ongoing efforts at the National Tripartite Committee level towards developing the Federation's first Labour Code, an undertaking aimed at strengthening and modernising existing labour legislation, some of which has long become antiquated.

Such developments should concern every worker, whether unionised or not. The conditions under which we work, the protections we enjoy and the standards we expect are matters that ultimately affect our livelihoods and families.

This year's Conference, featuring Guest Speaker Dr. Simon Black of Brock University in Canada, provides

# Minister Maynard Offers Tips To Protect Against Cybercrimes

By: Spokesman Newsroom

**BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Thursday 1st October 2026)-** With cybercriminals increasingly using sophisticated methods, including artificial intelligence (AI), to target unsuspecting individuals, Minister responsible for public Infrastructure, Energy & Utilities, Domestic Transport, Information, Communication, Technology and Post, Konris Maynard, is urging citizens and residents of St. Kitts and Nevis to adopt four practical habits to strengthen their online security.

Delivering a statement on Thursday 1st October 2026 to mark the start of Cyber Security Awareness Month, observed annually in October, Maynard, who is also the newly-elected President of the C a r i b b e a n Telecommunications Union, highlighted the growing importance of protecting personal information, financial accounts and electronic devices as digital technology becomes increasingly integrated into everyday life.

He shared, "Our message this month is straightforward: 'Don't make it easy for them'.

"Cybercriminals often carry out their exploits in the most familiar of situations: a message that appears to come from a bank, an urgent request for

payment, a password used across several accounts, or a device whose security updates have been ignored or postponed," Maynard cautioned.

He further warned about the growing sophistication of online deception.

"And as technology continues to rapidly evolve, these cybercriminals are getting better at what they do. Increasingly, artificial intelligence can help them produce convincing messages, imitate voices, and even misrepresent trusted people and organizations."

Recognising that navigating online security can be particularly challenging for some individuals, Maynard, outlined four recommended actions.

"Now, for many people, staying safe online can be complex, challenging, or even confusing. Account settings, unfamiliar terms, and convincing scams can make it difficult to know what to do."

He continued: "People need clear guidance, services that are easier to use securely, and someone they can turn to for help."

## The Minister then outlined the following four measures:

**1. Strengthen your passwords-** "Use a long, unique password for each important account. A trusted password manager can help you create and store them securely. Give particular attention to your email account, which is often used to reset passwords for other services."

**2. Double-check who gets in-** "Set your accounts to ask for a second check when you sign in, such as a code sent to your phone. This gives you extra protection if someone steals your password."

Maynard additionally advised: "Keep these codes private and approve access only when you are signing in yourself."

**3. Pause and check-** "When an unexpected message asks for money, personal information, or urgent action, contact the person or organization through a number or channel you already trust."

He emphasised that this precaution should also extend to telephone calls and voice messages, particularly given the ability of AI technology to imitate familiar voices.

**4. Stay up to date-** "Keep your phones, computers, and applications updated, and enable automatic security updates

(cont'd on page 04)

another opportunity for workers to engage with the broader conversation surrounding labour, representation and national development.

We therefore encourage workers to attend the public session, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Solid Waste Management Corporation building, Taylor's Range, Basseterre. Members are equally urged to participate in the subsequent business session, including the election of a new Executive Body.

Importantly, we extend an invitation to non-members to take the next step and join the Union. Membership must not be viewed merely as something to consider

when trouble arises at the workplace. It is an investment in collective strength, representation and the future of working people.

A union cannot grow on the expectation that someone else will always carry the responsibility.

If we desire stronger representation, we must be prepared to participate in strengthening the very institution entrusted with that responsibility.

Workers, the invitation is yours. Come, listen, participate and become involved.

After all, a stronger Union begins with stronger membership, and stronger membership begins with YOU!

# The Union Announces Guest Speaker For 2026 Workers' Conference

**By: Spokesman Newsroom**

**BASSETERRE, St. Kitts** (Thursday 1st October 2026)- Dr. Simon Black, PhD, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Labour Studies at Brock University in Canada, has been announced as the Guest Speaker for the upcoming 87th Annual Conference of the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union (SKNT&LU), as the countdown gets underway for this year's gathering of workers.

This year's conference is slated to take place on Sunday 25th October 2026 at 10:00 a.m., in the Conference Room of the Solid Waste Management Corporation (SWMC) building, Taylor's Range, Basseterre. All attendees are asked to be seated by 9:45 a.m.

This year's Conference will be held under the theme: 'Stronger Union, Stronger Workers, Stronger Nation: United in Partnership for Progress.'

As customary, the event will feature two sessions, beginning with a public session, followed by a business session reserved for members of the Union.

General Secretary Precious Mills has expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming event, particularly the opportunity for workers to engage in discussions surrounding the importance of trade unionism, membership growth and collective progress.

"We are definitely looking forward to welcoming our members and workers in general to the upcoming Conference. We are equally delighted to have Dr. Black as our Guest Speaker, and he is looking forward to sharing with the audience on this year's theme and other relevant areas," Mills stated.

She emphasised that it is critically important for both unionised and non-unionised workers to understand the significance of belonging to a trade union and the role such representation plays in advancing their interests.

According to Mills, the work of the Union is dynamic and

expansive, extending beyond individual workplace matters to broader national discussions aimed at improving the working environment and strengthening labour protections.

"One area of advancement that the Union is looking forward to relates to the work being undertaken at the National Tripartite Committee level towards the Federation's first-ever Labour Code. We see this as an opportunity to strengthen areas of existing labour legislation, many of which are antiquated," she explained.

Mills further pointed to the relationship between workers and their representative body as a central focus of this year's conference theme.

"Workers need to fully recognise and understand that their voices matter, and with this year's theme, we are aiming to place emphasis on that. The relationship between workers and the Union is significantly critical. We also want members and workers in general to understand that the Union is made stronger through its membership base, and so we continue to urge workers to become members," she said.

Meanwhile, the SKNT&LU General Secretary highlighted the importance of the Conference's business session, which provides members with an opportunity to participate directly in the administrative and decision-making affairs of the organisation.

"An important aspect of the conference is the business session, when we get into the administrative affairs of the Union as a union family. You have to be a member to participate in this session, which includes matters such as the General Secretary's Report, as well as the election of a new Executive Body for another term," Mills outlined.

The Union is encouraging members, workers and other interested stakeholders to attend the public session as it continues to promote workers' solidarity, stronger representation and meaningful partnership in advancing the interests of working people throughout St. Kitts and Nevis.

For further information about the conference, interested persons may contact the Union at 1-869-465-2229, email [info@sknunion.com](mailto:info@sknunion.com) or [skntlu1940@gmail.com](mailto:skntlu1940@gmail.com), or visit its Facebook page.

**Front Page Photo: Photo Caption:** Dr. Simon Black, PhD, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Labour Studies at Brock University in Canada, has been announced as Guest Speaker for the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union's (SKNT&LU) 87th Annual Conference, scheduled for Sunday 25th October 2026, in Basseterre.



**2026 WORKERS CONFERENCE**  
**SUN 25 OCT**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Simon Black, PhD,**  
Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Labour Studies  
Brock University, Canada

**'Stronger Unions, Stronger Workers:  
United in Partnership for Progress'**

**VENUE:**  
**SWMC CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**TAYLOR'S RANGE, BASSETERRE**

**TIME:**  
**10:00 AM**



# Minister Maynard Offers Tips To Protect Against Cybercrimes

(cont'd from page 02)

where possible. These updates help protect your devices from weaknesses that criminals may exploit.”

Beyond individual precautions, Maynard underscored the shared responsibility of government, businesses, service providers and employees in maintaining a secure digital environment.

He disclosed that the Government's Public Service Cybersecurity Awareness Campaign has completed its first phase, with 142 public officers participating in training sessions covering phishing, password security, social engineering and the protection of sensitive information.

The Ministry is also working towards establishing a Cybersecurity and Data Management Unit, expanding specialist training and strengthening coordination through a Public Service Cybersecurity Task Force.

Further awareness and capacity-building activities are scheduled for October and November in collaboration with the Ministry of National Security and regional and international partners.

Turning his attention to the workplace, Maynard urged public and private sector leaders to train employees, review access to sensitive systems, maintain recoverable backups and test their response arrangements.

“Employees should know how to report a suspicious message, and those responsible for operations should know how services will be maintained or restored during an incident.”

He also encouraged families to assist older relatives, children and others who may need guidance in identifying scams and securing their accounts.

“If you believe an account or financial transaction has been compromised, contact the relevant provider promptly through its official channels.”

Maynard is urging every citizen, institution and business to contribute towards strengthening cybersecurity through informed decisions, accessible support and collective responsibility.

“We can protect our livelihoods and strengthen the foundations of our digital future.”

**Front Page Photo: Minister responsible for Information, Communication, Technology and the newly-elected President of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU), Konris Maynard seen delivering his Cyber Security Awareness Month address on Thursday, 1st October 2026, urging citizens and residents to adopt four practical online safety habits amid increasingly sophisticated cyber threats, including AI-assisted scams.(Screenshot image via Youtube/ SKNISmedia)**



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the sixty-six Annual General Meeting of Carib Brewery (St. Kitts & Nevis) Ltd. will be held at the Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions, Wilkin Street, Forlands, Basseterre St. Kitts, on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2026 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon for the following purposes: -

- To receive the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 2025, and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon.
- To appoint a director in accordance with article 99
- To declare a Dividend.
- To appoint Auditors and authorize the Directors to fix their remuneration.

NOTE: A member entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend, and on a poll, to vote on their behalf. Such proxy need not also be a member.

The Transfer of Books and Registrar of Members will be closed from 21<sup>st</sup> September to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2026 inclusive.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Merja Phipps  
Company Secretary  
September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Marshall House  
1 Independence Square West  
Basseterre  
St. Kitts  
West Indies

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# WWW.FLY-WINAIR.SX

# Saint Kitts And Nevis Justice Reforms In The Global Spotlight At UN Crime Congress

**BASSETERRE, St. Kitts, September 28, 2026 (SKNIS):** Saint Kitts and Nevis took its place among leading justice ministers on the world stage on Sunday. The United Nations invited the Federation to share its criminal justice reforms at the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Abu Dhabi.

The Attorney General and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, the Honourable Garth Wilkin, addressed a High-Level Thematic Meeting on "Advancing Access to Justice for Effective and Fair Criminal Justice Systems." He shared the panel with the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Monica Juma, and with ministers and senior officials from the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Canada, the United Kingdom, Kenya and Romania.

In extending the invitation, UNODC highlighted the Federation's role in advancing equal access to justice. It pointed to the country's sustained commitment to policing that is people-



The Attorney General and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, the Honourable Garth Wilkin, addressed a High-Level Thematic Meeting

centred, evidence-based, professional, inclusive and accountable, and to joint initiatives planned with the UN agency.

The Federation brought strong results to the discussion. Homicides fell by 75 percent in 2025 compared with 2024, reaching the lowest levels in more than two decades.

Speaking by video, Attorney General Wilkin said the reforms rest on a change in approach. "Rather than only how we bring people into the justice system more efficiently, we increasingly ask, what is the appropriate justice pathway for this

person, this harm and this community?" That thinking has produced a Diversionary Caution framework. More than one hundred police, prosecutors, judicial officers and social sector personnel have been trained to apply it in partnership with UNODC. It has also produced a Restorative Justice framework, with pathways from the police, the prosecution, the courts and the community. The Attorney General also described the upcoming Community Justice Cup, which will use youth football to teach conflict resolution and restorative values.

He told the gathering that the Federation's size is an advantage. "Small States can therefore be not merely beneficiaries of justice reform, but important contributors to its development."

Looking ahead, the Attorney General named correctional reform as the next frontier. He called for international partnership to help Small Island Developing States build modern, rehabilitation-focused correctional systems. "If we invest in fair trials and effective prosecution but not in what happens during and after incarceration, the justice continuum remains unfinished," he said.

Case Number :SKBHCV2026/0230

FILED  
HIGH COURT  
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS  
(ST. KITT'S CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:30/09/2026 14:48  
Filed Date:30/09/2026 14:48  
Fees Paid:4.00

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
A.D. 2026  
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP. 10.19  
CLAIM NO. SKBHCV2026/

In the Matter of Section 12 (1) (a) of the Title by Registration Act, Chapter 10.19 of the 2009 Revised Laws of the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis  
And  
In the Matter of an Application for a FIRST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE by FARON TENISON LAWRENCE and JACQUELINE MARVA LAWRENCE

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION

For Certificates of Title and notings thereon, and caveats, for the week ending the 2nd day of October, 2026.

| Date of Request | Person Presenting                                                                                                                                                     | Nature of Request, whether for Certificate of Title, or noting thereon, or caveat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                 | FARON TENISON LAWRENCE and JACQUELINE MARVA LAWRENCE both of Frigate Bay, in the Island of Saint Christopher by their Attorney-at-Law, Sonya Parry of Gonsalves Parry | ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 24 of Half Moon Courtyard Housing Development situate in the Parish of St. Peter in the Island of Saint Christopher and comprising 10,780.66 square feet bounded and measuring as follows:- On or towards the North by the junction of two Development Roads, 23.53 feet; On or towards the North-East by a Development Road, 129.25 feet; On or towards the South-East by Drainage Easement bordering Lot No. 25, 81.16 feet; On or towards the South-West by Lot No. 30, 137.32 feet; and On or towards the North-West by a Development Road, 64.83 feet |

Dated the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026  
Registrar of Titles

LAND REGISTRY  
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS

Case Number :SKBHCV2026/0229

FILED  
HIGH COURT  
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS  
(ST. KITT'S CIRCUIT)

Submitted Date:30/09/2026 14:47  
Filed Date:30/09/2026 14:47  
Fees Paid:4.00

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS  
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT  
A.D. 2026  
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT CAP. 10.19  
CLAIM NO. SKBHCV2026/

In the Matter of Section 12 (1) (a) of the Title by Registration Act, Chapter 10.19 of the 2009 Revised Laws of the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis  
And  
In the Matter of an Application for a FIRST CERTIFICATE OF TITLE by FARON TENISON LAWRENCE and JACQUELINE MARVA LAWRENCE

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION

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| Date of Request | Person Presenting                                                                                                                                                     | Nature of Request, whether for Certificate of Title, or noting thereon, or caveat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                 | FARON TENISON LAWRENCE and JACQUELINE MARVA LAWRENCE both of Frigate Bay, in the Island of Saint Christopher by their Attorney-at-Law, Sonya Parry of Gonsalves Parry | ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 25 of Half Moon Courtyard Housing Development situate in the Parish of St. Peter in the Island of Saint Christopher and comprising 8,947.56 square feet bounded and measuring as follows:- On or towards the North-West by a Drainage Easement bordering Lot No. 24, 85.15 feet; On or towards the North-East by a Development Road, 27.41 feet and 67.16 feet; On or towards the South-East by Lot No. 26, 95.03 feet; and On or towards the South-West by Lot No. 29, 104.47 feet. |

Dated the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026  
Registrar of Titles

LAND REGISTRY  
ST. CHRISTOPHER / NEVIS



# Cayon Community Centre Reopens After Extensive Renovation

**Basseterre, Saint Kitts, October 01, 2026 (SKNIS):** The Cayon Community Centre and Post Office officially reopened on Wednesday, September 30, following extensive renovation to address structural, environmental and operational challenges that kept the facility closed since November 2021.

The reopening ceremony was attended by the Acting Prime Minister, the Honourable Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, Minister of State with responsibility for Social Development and Gender Affairs, Senator, the Honourable Isalean Phillip, senior government officials, community stakeholders and residents of Cayon and surrounding communities.



Project Officer within the Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs, Kerissa Roberts, outlined the extensive work undertaken to prepare the facility for reopening, including roof repairs, interior and exterior painting, perimeter fencing, rehabilitation of the cistern and plumbing systems, improvements to internal spaces and the removal of mold-affected materials.

"Today, we are not here simply to celebrate a fresh coat of paint or cosmetic improvements," Roberts said. "We have arrived at this point because we addressed key structural, environmental, and operational issues that stood between this facility and its safe reopening."

The rehabilitation process presented several unexpected challenges, particularly relating to persistent water intrusion and air-quality concerns. Roberts explained that after initial roof-sealing works failed to fully resolve the problem, further assessment revealed that the roof was not adequately sloped toward its perimeter drains.

In December 2025, the ministry, with assistance from the Public Works Department, mobilised Davis Construction to undertake a further roof addition project. The works included deep cleaning of the existing roof sealant and the installation of a second gable concrete slab. Subsequent monitoring and air-quality testing ultimately provided the confidence needed for the centre to reopen.

Minister Phillip described the reopening as an important development for the Cayon community, noting that the facility will once again provide space for community activities while restoring access to essential government services.

"This is not just about opening a building space," Minister Phillip said. "There are already plans in place to make sure we establish services and programmes that will serve the community in this area."

The renovated facility will house the Cayon Post Office and a satellite office for social services and community development, giving residents improved access to services and programmes offered by the Ministry of Social Development and

## SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

**James Swanston** of **Webbe's Ground, Gingerland, Nevis** having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. J554004822** issued **Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc.** on **his** 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 **21<sup>st</sup> September, 2026**

By Order

**Andrew Greaves**  
Corporate Secretary

  
**Sagicor**

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

## SAGICOR LIFE (EASTERN CARIBBEAN) INC.

**Karis Browne** of **Charles Ground, St. Paul's, St. Kitts** having made sworn deposition that **Policy No. J554003711** issued **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 **28<sup>th</sup> September, 2026**

By Order

**Andrew Greaves**  
Corporate Secretary

  
**Sagicor**

Wise Financial Thinking for Life

Sagicor Life (Eastern Caribbean) Inc

Gender Affairs and other government agencies.



Minister Phillip also called on residents to take ownership of the facility and help preserve the investment made in the community.

"Those efforts were truly made so that all of you in the community can take pride in this space, take care of it like it is your own property, and utilise it as a cornerstone for building partnerships, hosting events, activities, and offering programmes," Senator Phillip said.

The reopening brings to an end nearly five years of closure and restores an important community facility and service point for residents of Cayon and neighbouring communities.



# EU Ready to Mobilise Financial Support for Nevis Geothermal Project

NIA CHARLESTOWN, NEVIS (October 01, 2026)– The European Union has signaled its willingness to partner with Nevis in advancing the island’s geothermal energy project, including through technical expertise and potential financial support.

A high-level three-member delegation comprising David Mogollón, European Union Head of Cooperation to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States; Martino Vinci, Policy Officer for engagement with St. Kitts and Nevis; and Federico Fische of the EU Global Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (EU GTAF), met with Nevis Island Administration officials in the NIA Cabinet Room on September 24.

The NIA delegation included then Acting Premier the Honourable Spencer Brand; Legal Advisor Helene Lewis; Permanent Secretary in the Premier’s Ministry Wakely Daniel; and NIA Energy Consultant Dr. Ernie Stapleton.



European Union delegation holds high level discussions with Nevis Island Administration officials in Nevis on September 24, 2026: (l-r) Federico Fische of the EU Global Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (EU GTAF); Martino Vinci, Policy Officer for engagement with St. Kitts and Nevis; David Mogollón, European Union Head of Cooperation to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States; then Acting Premier the Honourable Spencer Brand; Legal Advisor Helene Lewis; Permanent Secretary in the Premier’s Ministry Wakely Daniel; and NIA Energy Consultant Dr. Ernie Stapleton



European Union delegation holds high level discussions with Nevis Island Administration officials in Nevis on September 24, 2026: (l-r) Federico Fische of the EU Global Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy (EU GTAF); Martino Vinci, Policy Officer for engagement with St. Kitts and Nevis; David Mogollón, European Union Head of Cooperation to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States; then Acting Premier the Honourable Spencer Brand; Legal Advisor Helene Lewis; Permanent Secretary in the Premier’s Ministry Wakely Daniel; and NIA Energy Consultant Dr. Ernie Stapleton



Premier of Nevis and Minister of Energy in the Nevis Island Administration, the Honourable Mark Brantley

Mogollón underscored the significance of the discussions and the potential regional impact of Nevis’ geothermal resource, noting that the initiative is important not only to the people of Nevis and the wider Federation, but also to the region, given the potential for other islands to benefit from the energy generated on Nevis.

“The European Union is ready to partner and support this initiative and for that we are discussing with all the right stakeholders...because we are ready to bring expertise. We believe we have important know-how in the European Union when it comes to geothermal energy generation and transmission, to do the necessary analysis, engineering, etcetera so that we have the right figures, the right information and we consider all the different elements to make sure that this can be well executed and achieved.

“We are ready to mobilise financial support as well, this is what we are deciding, what is the specific setup we are going to work together in to make that happen. We are ready to mobilize concessional loans, investment grants, and different modalities can be explored to ensure that we have the financial resources together to make sure that we get this project done.”

Mogollón also said the EU has access to industrial partners and companies with experience in geothermal development, energy transmission and for the inter-island connectivity.

He thanked the NIA for the excellent collaboration, saying the EU’s priority is what is good for the people of Nevis and the Federation and to see how the EU can be of help in that regard.

Premier of Nevis and Minister of Energy, the Honourable Mark Brantley, welcomed the EU’s engagement on the critical renewable energy project.

Speaking at his monthly press conference on September 29, Premier Brantley said the ongoing engagement relates to significant financing that the EU is seeking to make available for the project, not only at the local or national level, but also at the regional level.

“The EU is trying to do a project where they connect Nevis; St. Kitts; the Dutch islands- Saba, St. Maarten; the French islands- St. Barths, St. Martin; then looking farther field to places like Antigua. They’re trying to work out a framework to see how that project can proceed.

“They’ve had a number of discussions, I’m advised, with the Honourable Prime Minister [Dr. Terrance Drew] including discussions in Brussels, and they’ve now decided to bring the delegation here to meet with stakeholders at the NIA level...They’re trying to basically persuade us to partner with the EU on this project for a wider subregional project on geothermal and on energy security for the sub region.”

Premier Brantley said the NIA would continue to assess the proposal, noting that other governments, including the United States Government, have also expressed interest in partnering on the geothermal initiative.

“I feel that the people of Nevis and the wider federation should note that it is really the fact that this project is so transformative that these governments, these agencies, want to be a part of it. They want to play a role because they recognize the value of what geothermal energy exploration on the island of Nevis can mean. So that is something that we’re looking at and to see where that goes.”

The Nevis Island Administration, through the Nevis Electricity Company Limited (NEVLEC), is advancing preparations for the next phase of the project at the Hamilton geothermal site. The project is being developed around a planned 30-megawatt geothermal power plant, which will provide reliable, clean and renewable electricity while reducing the island’s dependence on imported fossil fuels. The project is also expected to strengthen Nevis’ energy security, support lower and more stable electricity costs, and create opportunities to supply renewable energy to neighbouring islands through future regional interconnection.

# St. Paul's Primary School Renamed In Honour Of Former Headteachers

Basseterre: St. Kitts, Thursday, October 01, 2026: St. Paul's Primary School has been renamed Connor- Gumbs Primary School in recognition of the outstanding contributions of two former headteachers, Ms. Ryscille Adina Connor and Mr. John Gumbs.

The renaming ceremony was held on Wednesday, September 30, at the school, to honour their dedicated service, leadership, and lasting impact on the school community and generations of students.

Minister of Education, Hon. Dr. Geoffrey Hanley, said the new name was intended to honour the legacy and contributions of Ms. Adina Connor and Mr. John Gumbs, who played important roles in the development of the institution and the wider community.



“Today, St. Paul’s Primary School becomes the Connor-Gumbs Primary School – CGPS, honoring Ms. Adina Connor and Mr. John E. Gumbs, two educators whose lives became deeply woven into the story of this institution and this community.

Together, as principals, they represent 27 years of outstanding leadership. Twenty – seven years of opening school gates, guiding teachers, encouraging children, meeting parents, solving problems, celebrating successes and carrying the tremendous responsibility that comes with leading a school.

The best educators are usually fully immersed in their community.”

Ms. Adina Connor served as principal from 1989 to 2006, while Mr. John Gumbs served from 2010 to 2020.

Their years of dedicated service, leadership, and commitment to education

(cont'd on next page)





# Eastern Caribbean tourism can drive productivity, decent work and formalization

**A new ILO study covering five Eastern Caribbean countries calls for productivity, decent work and the transition to formality to advance together in the tourism sector.**

25 September 2026

## Informality in the tourism sector in the Eastern Caribbean

This study examines the drivers and characteristics of informality in the tourism sector in five Eastern Caribbean countries and identifies pathways to advance productivity, decent work and the transition to formality.

Port of Spain (ILO News) – Tourism contributes an average of 39 per cent of GDP and more than 11 per cent of total employment in the Eastern Caribbean, but its economic importance coexists with persistent informality and decent work deficits. A new International Labour Organization (ILO) study argues that strengthening productivity, working conditions and formalization together can help turn the sector's economic weight into more sustainable and inclusive development.

The study, *Informality in the tourism sector in the Eastern Caribbean*, examines Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada and Saint Lucia. It finds that informality is sustained by mutually reinforcing factors, including low productivity

among many micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), limited access to finance, fragmented regulatory environments, persistent skills mismatches, gaps in social protection and limited capacity to enforce labour regulations. Strong seasonality and exposure to climate shocks further constrain the ability of enterprises to invest, grow and sustain formal operations.

The challenge is not simply to reduce informality, but to transform tourism into a genuine platform for decent work, productive development and social inclusion.

Ana Virginia Moreira Gomes, ILO Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean

“The challenge is not simply to reduce informality, but to transform tourism into a genuine platform for decent work, productive development and social inclusion,” said Ana Virginia Moreira Gomes, ILO Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Rather than treating formalization as a stand-alone objective, the study proposes an integrated approach based on the ILO's normative framework, as well as on the Strategy for the Promotion of Formalization in Latin America and the Caribbean (FORLAC 2.0), and the ILO guidelines on decent work and socially responsible tourism. Its nine pathways combine measures to strengthen productive development and MSMEs, upgrade skills and employment opportunities, extend social protection coverage and improve labour rights and compliance. They are complemented by action to strengthen social dialogue, promote gender-responsive policies and improve data collection and regional collaboration.

The study stresses that these measures need to respond to different realities within the sector. Subsistence-level operators and growth-oriented enterprises face different barriers to formalization, while conditions also vary among the five countries. This calls for gradual and differentiated approaches that make formalization viable for workers and enterprises while strengthening productivity and improving working conditions.

Advancing formalization in Caribbean tourism is not only a labour market priority; it is a development imperative.

Joni Musabayana, Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean

“Advancing formalization in Caribbean tourism is not only a labour market priority; it is a development imperative. By turning evidence into action and strengthening tripartite cooperation, we can build a tourism sector that delivers decent work, greater resilience and sustainable development,” said Joni Musabayana, Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean.

The ILO will continue working with governments, employers' and workers' organizations to translate these priorities into practical actions for more sustainable enterprises, better-protected workers, more resilient communities and a tourism sector whose growth creates opportunity and dignity.

The study was developed within the framework of FORLAC 2.0, with financial support from the European Union and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). It is part of the ILO's strategy to strengthen an integrated and coherent response to support the transition to the formal economy in Latin America and the Caribbean over the period 2024–2030, through innovative solutions tailored to national contexts, aiming to increase productivity, sustainable enterprises, formalization and decent work, and foster partnerships to advance integrated formalization policies across the region.

# St. Paul's Primary School Renamed In Honour Of Former Headteachers

(cont'd from last page)

have left a lasting impact on the school and the wider communities they served.

The renaming of St. Paul's Primary School to Connor-Gumbs Primary School therefore serves as a lasting tribute to their

outstanding contributions and enduring legacy.

The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of the school's new sign bearing its new name.





# Ministry of Justice Unveils "Restoring Together" Mural at Newtown Playing Field

Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis, 29 September 2026 — The Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs has unveiled Restoring Together, a new public mural at the Newtown Playing Field in Basseterre. The mural uses art to bring the ideas behind restorative and people-centred justice into the community.

The mural was designed and painted by local visual artist and muralist Miláno Welcome of Miláno's Art Studio, whose design was selected through an open call to local artists. It was delivered under the Justice Mural Initiative, funded through the Justice Action Coalition Catalytic Fund with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Country Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean. The initiative is part of the Ministry's wider work to strengthen access to justice in Saint Kitts and Nevis.



Attorney General and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, Hon. Garth Wilkin, said the mural is meant to take conversations about justice out of the courtroom and into everyday community life.

"Justice is not only about what happens in a courtroom or in Parliament. It is also about how we look out for one another, how we put things right when someone has been hurt, and how we give people, especially our young people, a real chance to do better," Attorney General Wilkin said. "This mural puts those ideas somewhere everyone can see them."

At the centre of the mural, two hands weave a multicoloured rope, representing the shared responsibility of government, justice institutions, civil society, families and communities in building safer and stronger communities. The scales of justice



stand for accountability, while a woman looking towards the horizon represents hope, resilience and leadership. Surrounding scenes show families, young people, education, creativity and community life, set against local architecture, landscape and cultural imagery that root the work firmly in the Federation's identity.

The mural's themes include accountability, healing, repair, reintegration, inclusion and opportunity. These reflect the Ministry's ongoing work to develop a restorative justice framework for Saint Kitts and Nevis, with a focus on prevention,



rehabilitation and community involvement.

"Putting things right does not mean excusing wrongdoing. People must still take responsibility," Attorney General Wilkin said. "But it also means asking who was hurt, how the damage can be repaired, and how we stop it from happening again. That is a conversation for every family and every community, and I hope this mural helps to start it."

The Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs thanks the Justice Action Coalition, UNDP, Miláno's Art Studio, and all partners supporting people-centred justice in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

# Land Prize Returns After Almost 40 Years for Carnival Queen

By: Spokesman Newsroom

**BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (Thursday, 1st October 2026)** - For the first time in almost 40 years, a plot of land will be awarded to the winner of the National Carnival Queen Pageant, Carnival Committee Chairperson Shannon Hawley has announced.

The announcement came during the official Sugar Mas 55 Queen Pageant reveal event held at the Sky Lounge of the St. Kitts Marriott Resort on Wednesday 30th September 2026, where Hawley also disclosed that this year's winner will receive EC\$20,000 in cash.

"So, tonight I told you that we are raising the standard, and I meant it. This year's Queen Pageant winner will receive EC\$20,000 in cash. And for the first time in almost 40 years, the winner of the Queen Pageant will also receive something that represents far more than a prize. She will also receive a plot of land.

"Because as we celebrate our young women, we should also invest in their future. A crown may be worn for a year, but an investment in a young woman's future can change the trajectory of her life," Hawley stated.

The return of land as a prize was among several announcements concerning the 55-year-old competition, which will also see changes to its venue and the name of the crown.

For only the second time in its history, the pageant will be staged at the Royal St. Kitts Event Dome, under the theme, "Diamonds and Elegance: Come Dressed to Sparkle."

Five contestants will vie for this year's national title: Xyarra Wilson, Mia Alexander, Karina Dore, Ajane Bristol and Ashley Wilson.

I would place this immediately after the paragraph naming the five contestants:

Of note, the five pageant ambassadors were previously introduced to the public through a social media launch held on Tuesday, 1st September 2026, featuring their official photographs and written biographies.

"This year, the Queen Pageant, after 55 years of existence, is entering a new era with a new home and a renewed vision. For the second time in the pageant's history, we are hosting the pageant in the Royal St. Kitts Event Dome under the theme, 'Diamonds and Elegance: Come Dressed to Sparkle.'

"This move is intentional. We want to elevate the entire Queen Pageant

experience, from the moment our ambassadors begin their journey to the moment that one of these extraordinary young women is crowned," Hawley said.

Another change announced by Hawley concerns the pageant crown, which she disclosed will carry a new name as part of this year's 55th anniversary competition.

"And this year, the crown itself will carry a completely new name. That name represents more than a change in title. It represents our commitment to building a pageant that reflects excellence, sophistication, national pride, and the extraordinary women who step forward every year to represent St. Kitts and Nevis," she stated.

The Carnival Chairperson also announced the St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla National Bank as the official title sponsor of the National Carnival Queen Pageant, with the partnership coinciding with the institution's 55th anniversary.

"This partnership represents exactly where we want Carnival to go. It is about bringing together two institutions that are deeply connected to the people of St. Kitts and Nevis. It is about corporate partnership meeting cultural preservation.

"It is about investing not simply in an event, but in our young women, our creativity, and our national identity.

"And the timing could not be more meaningful because National Bank also celebrates 55 years as an institution that has grown alongside our nation and our people.

"And now, as the Queen Pageant begins this exciting new chapter, National Bank is stepping forward to help us build what comes next," Hawley stated.

Meanwhile, National Bank Marketing and Communications Coordinator Sheridan Maynard, speaking on behalf of the institution and its subsidiaries, addressed the sponsorship arrangement and the bank's association with Carnival.

"National Bank has been a part of our story, the story of St. Kitts and Nevis, for 55 years, just like Sugar Mas. We are therefore especially pleased to continue our partnership as title sponsor of the Miss St. Kitts and Nevis Queen Pageant.

"The pageant provides a platform for young women to demonstrate not only their beauty, but confidence, intelligence, creativity, discipline, and pride in who they are and where they come from.

"These are qualities worth celebrating, and National is proud to be a part of providing a platform on which our young women can continue to develop and to excel," Maynard said.

She also addressed the wider economic activity associated with Carnival, including opportunities for those involved in the creative and entertainment industries.

"Our wider partnership of Sugar Mas 55 also reflects National's commitment to supporting the cultural and creative sectors of St. Kitts and Nevis.

"Carnival creates opportunities for our entertainers, designers, musicians, artisans, small businesses, and many others whose work contributes to the experience and economic activity surrounding the season.

"So, as Sugar Mas 55 unfolds, we look forward to working alongside the Carnival Committee to make our partnership meaningful, not simply through our presence at events, but through opportunities to engage with our customers, our communities, and the wider public throughout the Carnival season," Maynard stated.

The pageant is scheduled for Tuesday, 22nd December 2026, at the Royal St. Kitts Event Dome.

**Front Page Photo: Chairperson of the St. Kitts-Nevis National Carnival Committee Shannon Hawley pictured delivering remarks during the official Sugar Mas 55 National Carnival Queen Pageant reveal event, held on Wednesday 30th September 2026, at the Sky Lounge of the St. Kitts Marriott Resort. (Screenshot via Youtube/SKNCarnival)**



Photo: The five National Carnival Queen Pageant ambassadors pose pretty following the official reveal event held on Wednesday, 30th September 2026. From left to right: Xyarra Wilson, Mia Alexander, Karina Dore, Ajane Bristol and Ashley Wilson. (Official Sugar Mas Photo)

# Young Cadet Breaks Through To Claim Top Honours At Independence 43 Drill Competition



**Basseterre, Saint Kitts, September 26, 2026 (SKNIS):** The Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force (RSCNPF) once again dominated at the Independence 43 Drill Competition. But the precision of Snaika Desamour of the St. Kitts-Nevis Defence Force Cadet Corps impressed the judges, earning her the top individual award and also the Best Female in Drills title.

The standard of the competition held on the Bay Road on Friday (September 25, 2026) was extremely high as participants from the aforementioned RSCNPF and Cadet Corps were joined by representatives from the St. Christopher Air and Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA) and the St. Kitts and Nevis Fire and Rescue Service (SKNFRS) in a showcase of military drills.



After the initial scores were tallied, there was a tie in the individual category. A drill-off was necessary. It featured the winner of the 2024 and 2025 Drill Competition, Woman Police Constable Danecia Henry, and 16-year-old Desamour, who entered the competition for the first time.



*Photo: Minister of the Creative Economy, Hon. Samal Duggis presents to Cadet Desamour*



*Photo: SKNDF Commander (Ag) Major Kayode Sutton presents to WPC Henry*



*Photo: WPC Henry congratulates Cadet Desamour*



*Photo: PC Clarke receives award from Deputy Commissioner Cromwell Henry*

"I was scared," said Desamour, reflecting on Henry's dominance over the past two years. However, she trusted her training, focused on the commands being called, and moved confidently. With support from fellow Cadets and the cheering crowd in attendance, she earned the top spot.

"God is good! I feel really proud of myself," she stated, brandishing a broad smile.

WPC Henry took the runner-up position with the grace she exhibits every

(cont'd on next page)

# Hope Restored: 2023 Sagicor SIGMA Corporate Run Funds Rebuild Top Floor of Studio at Edna Manley College

KINGSTON, Jamaica: Sagicor Foundation Jamaica has officially handed over the newly rebuilt top floor of the Hope Brooks Painting Studio at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts. This marks the completion of substantial work, supported by a 158 thousand US dollar (J\$25 million) investment in the restoration of a significant part of the important visual arts facility, located at the only tertiary institution of its kind in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The studio, which is a part of the College's School of Visual Arts, was rebuilt with funds contributed by patrons of the 2023 Sagicor SIGMA Corporate Run. The College was allocated just over 158 thousand US dollars (J\$25 million) from what was then a record raise of over 581 thousand US dollars (J\$91.8 million). Ground was broken for the reconstruction work to commence in November 2024.

The rebuilt facility replaces the studio that was damaged by fire in October 2021 and provides students and faculty with a renewed environment in which to develop their skills, produce work and participate in Jamaica and the Caribbean's creative industries.

Christopher Zacca, President & CEO of Sagicor Group and Chairman of Sagicor Foundation, said the completed studio reflects the collective impact of the 'SIGMA Run' community.

"This studio is a powerful example of what we can achieve when we come together around a shared purpose. It is a space where ideas will be explored, talent will be nurtured and outstanding work that represents the best of our region will be produced," he continued. "More importantly, it is an investment in the students whose creativity will help shape the Caribbean's cultural legacy and strengthen our creative economy."

The relationship between the Sagicor Foundation and the College predates the rebuilding project. Since 2016, teachers and students from the School of Visual Arts have supported the Sagicor SIGMA Corporate Run by creating the event's signature start-line mural.

Interim Principal of the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, \*DorrettRCampbell, expressed the College's gratitude to Sagicor, reiterating that the relationship between the two institutions extends well beyond the studio project.

"Edna Manley College is grateful for the partnership and relationship forged with Sagicor. It is not a partnership predicated on the rebuilding of the first floor of the studio only; it existed before, as it is our same painting students who paint the mural for the annual Sagicor SIGMA Run," said Ms. Campbell.

"By supporting Edna, Sagicor has demonstrated that it understands the value and importance of the arts and the pivotal role Edna plays as the enabler, hub, and driver of the creative industry in the English-speaking Caribbean. For us, the arts are neither tangential nor peripheral; they are critical to social transformation and national development."

The facility bears the name of Hope Brooks, former head of the College's School of Visual Arts, who has played an influential role in the development of generations of Jamaican artists and continues to serve the institution as an adjunct lecturer.

For students, the return of the studio provides access to a dedicated space where they can strengthen their practice, collaborate with their peers and prepare for careers in the arts.

"Having this studio available to us means that we have a space where we can focus fully on developing our ideas and improving our work," said Lavanya Jones, 4th year Bachelor of Fine Arts Painting student at the College. "It also reminds us that there are organisations and individuals who believe in the value of what we do. We are excited to make the space our own and to create work that honours the legacy of Hope Brooks."

## Young Cadet Breaks Through To Claim Top Honours At Independence 43 Drill Competition

(cont'd from last page)



year.

"I'm still honoured to be able to compete in the competition, which went to a drill-off," said Henry. "It (the results) says plainly that I was still at the top. But at the end of it, I am still proud of myself, and I am proud of the Cadet (Desamour)."

Henry noted the marked improvement in drill skill and commended all of the



competitors, most of whom were entering for the first time. Such was the case for Police Constable Khalel Clarke. The 19-year-old was adjudged the Best Male in Drills in the competition and earned third overall. Coming off a respectable showing in the Number Four Guard at the recent Independence 43 Ceremonial Parade, he was determined to stand out at the drill competition but kept his expectations in check.

"I was nervous at the start as I looked around and saw the competition. I really didn't expect to be here as the best male. I can't explain how it feels, but I know I feel good," he said with a nervous laugh as the range of emotions was evident.

The group results saw the RSCNPF taking the top spot. The Cadet Corps were second, while SCASPA finished third.

# Botswana condemned for slaughtering 23 elephants for independence celebrations

Wycliffe Muia

BBC News



Getty Images A close-up of an elephant with tusks Getty Images  
Botswana is home to the world's largest elephant population, with more than 130,000 elephants (file photo)

Animal rights activists have criticised Botswana's decision to authorise the killing of 23 elephants to provide meat for independence celebrations.

The southern African country, home to the world's largest elephant population, is holding nationwide festivities on Wednesday to mark the 60th anniversary of independence from Britain.

A licence issued by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, seen by local media, authorises the hunting of 23 elephants and other wild animals for "complimentary purposes".

The Botswana-based Elephant Protection Society warns the decision could undermine conservation, with its chairman Oaitse Nawa telling the BBC elephants needed greater protection.

He warned that slaughtering elephants for celebratory feasting could encourage poaching by creating the impression that killing elephants is acceptable when sanctioned by government.

"Elephants have lost their social structures because they are always being pushed from one place to another by gunshots," Nawa said.

Several social media users in the country have also expressed concerns about eating the game meat amid an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, which has prompted authorities to impose measures to contain its spread.

Tshenatshe Monwela, an elder in Maun, a tourism town in north-western Botswana told local media that his community should have received buffalo instead.

He argued that elephants had particular cultural and ecological significance and that Botswana's historic role in protecting the country's wildlife and livestock should have been recognised in the government's allocation of meat for the anniversary celebrations.

Elephants use medicinal plants to treat themselves, researchers find

Botswana's government has organised a series of events to mark the country's diamond jubilee, including a carnival in the capital, Gaborone, as well as cultural performances, concerts and sporting events.

The game meat is expected to be served as part of the traditional feasting

associated with the Independence Day celebrations.

The 23 elephants were allocated in eight districts across the country.

It was not immediately clear how many of the animals had been killed by Wednesday morning. The BBC has asked the government for comment.

But local media published images from different parts of Botswana showing residents gathering around elephant carcasses, some with knives in hand and sharing the meat.

In Chobe, a wildlife-rich district in northern Botswana near the borders with Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, a local MP raised concerns after residents reportedly collected portions directly from a carcass at a school.

He said the system risked creating congestion and disadvantaging elderly people, pregnant women and people with disabilities, and suggested the meat should instead be processed into 5kg or 10kg packages to improve hygiene and ensure fairer distribution.

"For the sake of dignity, fairness and public hygiene, we respectfully call on the hunter and the relevant leadership to ensure that future distributions are properly organised," MP Simasiku Mapulanga posted on Facebook, attaching photos of people scrambling for meat around an elephant carcass.

Botswana government/Facebook Botswana supporters smile, wave flags and pose for photos, many with the national flag painted on their cheeks Botswana government/Facebook



People across Botswana are gathering to mark the country's 60th Independence Day

Elephant meat is common in some wildlife-rich communities, particularly when meat from legal hunts is distributed locally, but it is not an everyday staple.

Botswana also tightly regulates game meat, and its legal possession generally depends on proving it came from a lawful hunt.

The decision has reignited a long-running and often heated debate in Botswana over how the country manages its huge elephant population.

Botswana has more than 130,000 elephants and communities living alongside them have long complained about animals destroying crops, damaging property and sometimes killing people.

The government has defended regulated hunting as one way of managing the elephant population and human-wildlife conflict while generating income for communities.

The country banned trophy hunting in 2014 under former President Ian Khama but lifted the restrictions five years later under his successor, Mokgweetsi Masisi.

Hunting has continued under President Duma Boko, who defeated Masisi in elections in 2024.

The government says proceeds from hunting supports conservation and local development.

Minister of Environment and Tourism Wynter Mmolotsi told parliament last year that special elephant quotas raised 15.6m pula (\$1.1m; £820,000) in 2025 for projects in areas where elephants are found.

But conservation organisations have questioned whether the level of hunting is sustainable.

Supporters of Botswana's hunting policy, however, argue that international criticism often overlooks the costs borne by rural communities living alongside one of the world's biggest concentrations of elephants.

They say elephants destroy crops and infrastructure and pose a danger to people, particularly as their range increasingly overlaps with farms and settlements.

# Djokovic wins first match since Wimbledon at China Open

Djokovic beats Borges at the China Open for first win since Wimbledon

By Sam Drury - BBC Sport journalist

Novak Djokovic maintained his remarkable unbeaten record at the China Open as he beat Nuno Borges to secure his first win since reaching the Wimbledon semi-finals in July.

The 39-year-old former world number one struggled in the second set but came through to win 6-3 7-6 (7-2) for his 30th consecutive



Novak Djokovic plays a backhand at the China Open in Beijing - Image source, Getty Images  
Novak Djokovic has won six titles at the China Open between 2009 and 2015

victory in Beijing, albeit in his first appearance at the event since 2015.

Djokovic revealed in August that he has been dealing with an underlying health condition that causes particular issues in hot, humid conditions for "the past couple of years" and was far from his best against Portuguese Borges.

During the

second set he used his racquet to help stretch his back

between games and needed a medical timeout to receive treatment to his right shoulder.

But despite that Djokovic battled to victory in one hour and 50 minutes to set up a

second-round match against wildcard Bu Yunchaokete of China.

Playing in the tournament

(cont'd on next page)

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Weiyi Zhang now residing in Cardin Avenue in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Beer Licence in respect of my premises in Cardin Avenue in Basseterre..

Dated this  
29th day of September, 2026

Signed: Weiyi Zhang

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Zhensheng Hou now residing in #74 Central Street in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Fine Life Supermarket in #21 Cayon Street in Basseterre..

Dated this  
29th day of September, 2026

Signed: Zhensheng Hou

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "B"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Zhaoge Cao now residing in Bourkes Road in the town of Sandy Point do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Sandy Point for a Retail Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Easy Shop in Main Street in Sandy Point.

Dated this  
29th day of September, 2026

Signed: Zhaoge Cao

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Ozini Kerryanna Collins now residing in Boundary Lane in the village of Molineaux do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Stainfort Street in Newtown in Basseterre..

Dated this  
29th day of September, 2026

Signed: O. Collins

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Royal Fish Market now residing in Port Zante in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Port Zante in Basseterre..

Dated this  
22nd day of September, 2026

Signed:

**LIQUOR LICENCES  
ORDIANANCES, 1906  
SCHEDULE A**

**To the Magistrate,  
District "A"**

To the Superintendent of Police.

I, Royal Lounge Restaurant now residing in Port Zante in the town of Basseterre do hereby give you notice that it is my intention to apply on 04th day of January, 2027, to the District Magistrate at Basseterre for a Liquor Licence in respect of my premises in Port Zante in Basseterre..

Dated this  
22nd day of September, 2026

Signed:

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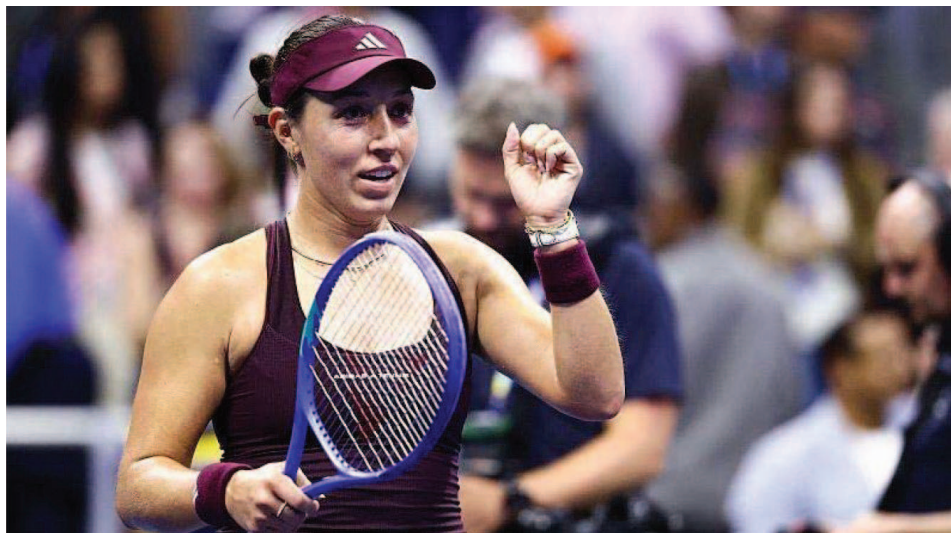
2) Housekeeping Manager

4) Food & Beverage Manager

6) Sous Chef

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# More elite-level events to award equal prize money



Jessica Pegula, in maroon outfit and cap, celebrates a victory as she clenches her left fist

The WTA was formed in 1973 and changed women's tennis

By **Steve Sutcliffe**

BBC Sport journalist

Men and women will receive equal prize money at all combined 1,000 events - the highest level of competition outside of the Grand Slams - from next year, the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) has announced.

Events at Indian Wells, California, Miami, Madrid and Beijing already met that commitment, as well as all four Grand Slams.

However, the Italian Open, Canadian Open and Cincinnati Open will now also fall into line to meet a long-standing aim of the WTA, at events where men and women both feature.

In 2023, Italian Open organisers had vowed to have equal prize money from 2025 but did not follow through on that pledge.

The total men's prize money this year in Rome was £7.3m while the women received £6.3m.

"Achieving equal prize money across all combined WTA 1,000 tournaments is a major milestone for tennis," said WTA chair Valerie Camillo.

"It demonstrates the WTA's continued commitment to leading the sports industry in delivering our athletes competitive and financial equality and is a testament to the enduring nature of the founding vision of the WTA."

The WTA has also announced adjustments to the calendar to give players greater flexibility.

Those alterations include a reduction - from six to four - in the number of WTA 500-level tournaments players ranked inside the top 50 in the world are mandated to play.

It will also allow players to replace one eligible WTA 1,000 tournament result with a stronger WTA 500 or 250 result on their ranking.

"We have listened to player feedback on the demands of the calendar, and responded with a meaningful reduction in commitments," said Camillo.

American world number three Jessica Pegula said: "The 2027 changes give us more ability to build our seasons around our own goals - competitively and personally."

"That's an impactful step forward for players."

## Djokovic wins first match since Wimbledon at China Open

(cont'd from last page)

for the first time in 11 years, the Serb, a 24-time Grand Slam champion, is bidding to win the China Open for a record-extending seventh time.

Meanwhile, Great Britain's Katie Boulter is through to the second round in the women's draw with a straight-set victory over Mai Hontama of Japan.

Boulter, 30, claimed a 6-3 6-4 win and will now face Czech seventh seed Karolina Muchova in the next round.



## SKNFA Workshops Help Nevis PE Teachers Strengthen Grassroots Sports Development

Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis — The St. Kitts and Nevis Football Association (SKNFA) is continuing its focus on grassroots sports development, recently hosting a series of workshops for Physical Education instructors on Nevis.

The sessions, led by SKNFA Technical Director Giba Damiano, focused on providing teachers with new ideas and practical activities designed to develop fundamental skills among students and young athletes.

"This week it was great that we could share experiences. There's so many people here with bundles of experience, you know, 10 years, 15 years, 17 years of experience within schools. And we created a set of games that aligns with PE curriculums in St. Kitts and Nevis that can be used for many different purposes."

Damiano explained that the activities were built around four key areas of Physical Education: social development, motor skills, health and well-being, and safety. The exercises included activities designed to improve agility, balance, coordination, acceleration, deceleration and changes of direction — skills that can benefit students across a range of sports. For the SKNFA, the initiative also forms part of a longer-term approach to football development, recognizing that the pathway to national team selection begins at the grassroots level.

"Selection for national team starts in school. A national team player needs to be able to have good coordination, good agility, good change of direction — all the basic skills that a PE session can teach a kid, and that is transferable to football in so many different aspects."

For the PE teachers taking part, the workshops provided an opportunity to refresh existing knowledge while gaining new activities they can take directly into their classrooms. Adelvin Phillip, a PE teacher with 17 years of experience in the education system, welcomed the opportunity to learn from the sessions.

"I've been in the system for 17 years. I'm involved in all the different sporting activities. So I came to take in some of what my friend Giba here has come to offer."

You're never perfect to learn information. There's always more room in your brain for knowledge."

Phillip said the activities covering agility, concentration, coordination and deceleration are among the exercises he plans to incorporate when school resumes. The SKNFA says its work with schools will continue, with further grassroots initiatives planned, including opportunities for PE teachers, coaches and students to participate in activities under the Bigger Game Academy.

The Association also plans to build continuity from 1v1 activities into 3v3 and 5v5 formats within schools, providing young players with opportunities to develop their skills in progressive game environments.

Damiano said the objective is to spend more time in schools, where young athletes can develop the foundations needed to progress through the national football pathway.

With schools serving as an important starting point for sports development, the SKNFA is seeking to strengthen the connection between Physical Education, grassroots football and the future development of national teams in St. Kitts and Nevis.

-ENDCaption: SKNFA Technical Director Giba Damiano interacts with one of the PE Teachers during the training workshop at the E T Willet Park in Charlestown, Nevis.