



BARBADOS CANADA
FOUNDATION



BRING ON THE SPRING

2025

WORKING TO MAKE
LIVES BETTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025



WE GATHERIN' 2025

PARISH	MONTH
St. Lucy	January
St. Peter	February
St. Thomas	March
St. Joseph	April
St. John	May
St. George	June
St. Philip	July
St. Andrew	August
St. James	September
Christ Church	October
St. Michael	November
All Parishes	December

WHEN YUH COMIN'?

Join us for a year of unforgettable events across the island, from lively festivals and street parades to intimate gatherings and cultural showcases.

Every parish has a story to tell,
let's rediscover them together

We Gatherin'
2025

BARBADOS

 wegatherinbim.com

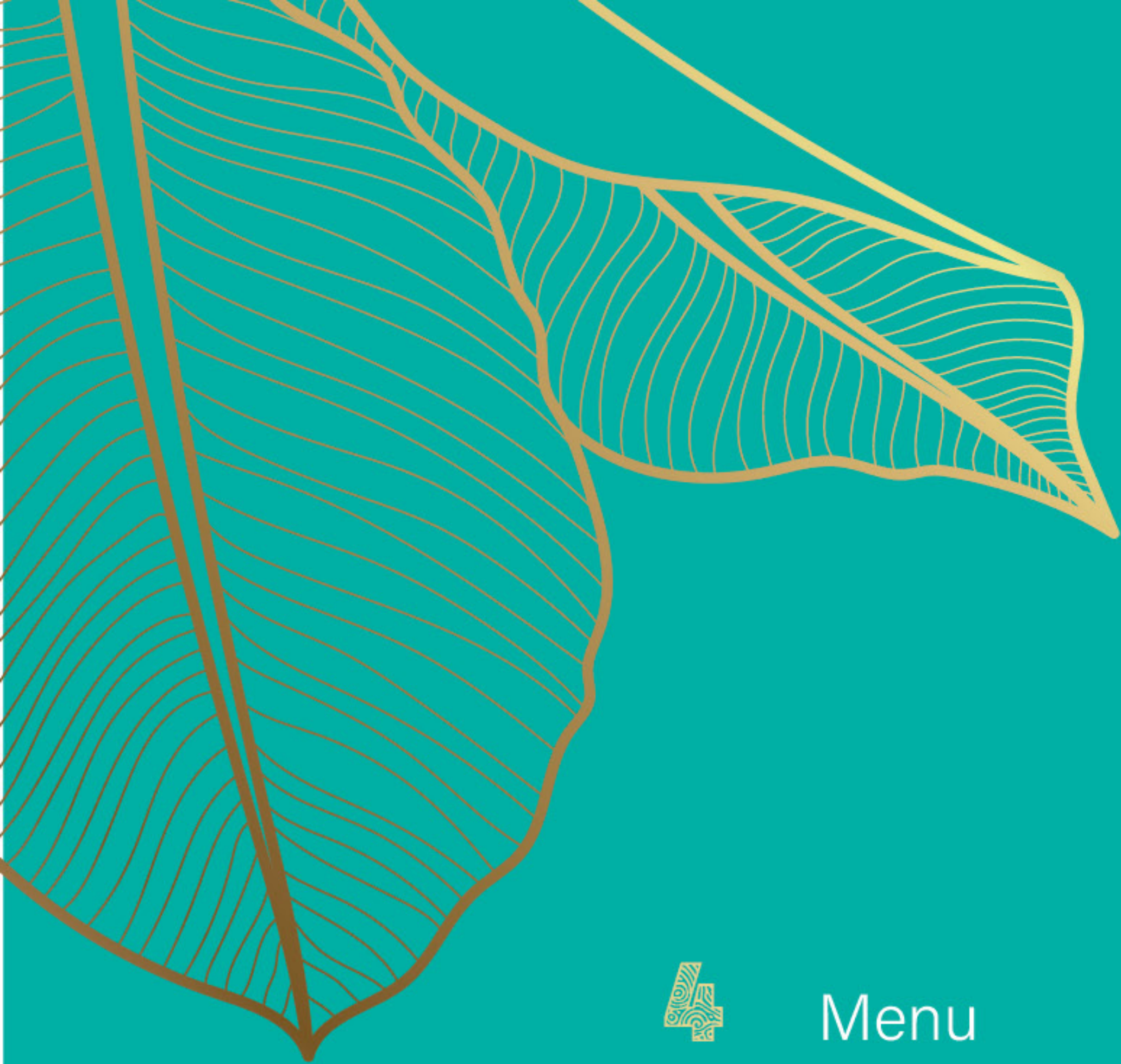


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MENU

.....

HORS D'OEUVRES

*Smoked Salmon Rosettes, Sweet and Sour Chicken Balls,
Lamb Kabobs, Spring rolls with plum sauce,
Brie on Pumpernickel, and 2 Vegetarians*

SOUP

Pumpkin Lentil

SALAD

*Mango, Avocado, Heart of Palm
Sweet Red Onions, Sweet Peppers, Radish and
Lettuce with Sweet Chili Dressing*

MAIN COURSE

*Chicken Supreme Stuffed with Dried Cranberries
and Apricots with a Light Demi Glace Sauce,
Rice with Adzuki Beans, Stem Carrots and Grilled Asparagus*

VEGETARIAN MAIN COURSE

*Roasted Sweet Red Pepper Stuffed with
Wild Rice and Cranberries, Garnished with Yam,
Potatoes and Grilled Vegetables*

DESSERT

Mango Mousse Cake with Lemon Sorbet



TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

.....

5:00 PM Reception

6:10 PM National Anthems sung by Susan Grogan.

6:20 PM Prayer of Invocation by The Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields,
Sub-Dean and Vicar, The Cathedral of St. James.

6:26 PM Welcome by BCF President Charles 'Phil' Broome.

6:32 PM Remarks by His Excellency Gline A. Clarke,
Barbados High Commissioner to Ottawa.

6:40 PM Speech by Dr. Kenneth Connell, Deputy Dean Recruitment &
Outreach, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical
Sciences, Cave Hill Campus, The University of the West Indies, and
President, Healthy Caribbean Coalition - *"Cardiovascular Disease and
The Critical Role Of The Diaspora In Turning The Tide"*

7:05 PM Question Period conducted by the Host.

7:20 PM 'Thank You' Presentation to Dr. Connell by Dr. Sandra Newton,
BCF Vice President.

7:30 PM Dinner - Live Auction and Background Music by DJ.

9:10 PM Performance by Singer Jay Harmony.

9:27 PM Special Presentation.

9:36 PM Performance by Comedian Marc Trinidad

9:58 PM Raffle & Door Prize Draws by Host. **Silent Auction Closes – 10:00 pm.**

10:03 PM We Gatherin Video Presentation.

10:10 PM Closing Remarks by Mr. Adrian Hurley, Director of Financial Services,
Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

10:14 PM Entertainment/Dancing – Music by Jay Harmony and DJ.

11:00 PM END



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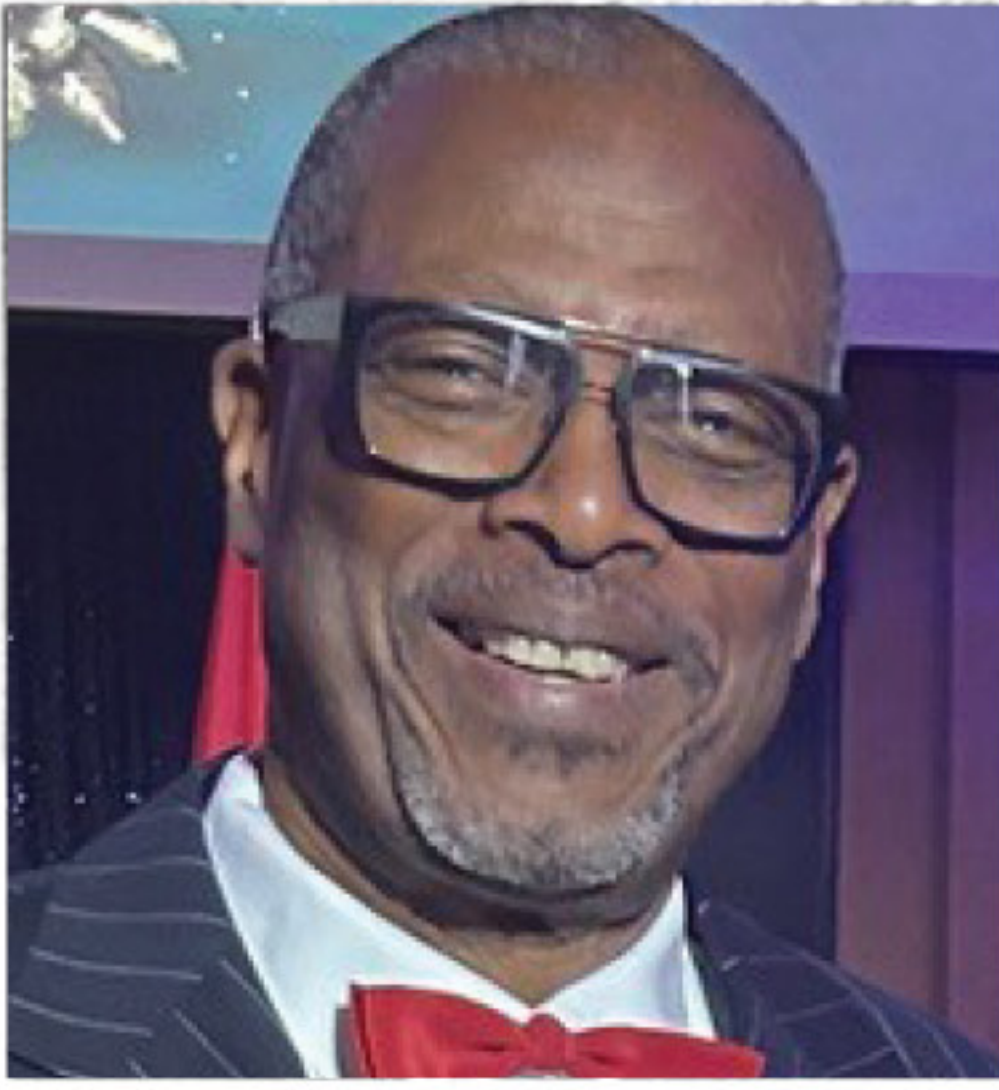


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Working to Make Lives Better



I am pleased to extend a very warm welcome to Bring on the Spring 2025 on behalf of the members of the board of Barbados Canada Foundation (BCF) Board, and myself.

The theme of Bring on The Spring 2025 is "***Working to Make Lives Better***" which describes what we do at BCF through our scholarships program, our commitment to assisting the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Barbados (the QEH), our support of the SickKids-Caribbean Initiative and Camp Jumoke, and our provision of disaster relief as

demonstrated by our donations to assist St. Vincent and The Grenadines and Grenada and Carriacou last October in the wake of hurricane Beryl.

Barbados Canada Foundation is a small board-managed organization, and the work we do in the absence of staff resources is challenging, however it is a labour of love, love for Barbados and our Bajan 'brothers and sisters', and love for others, inspired by the words of St. Francis of Assisi: "*For It Is In Giving That We Receive*", which we have adopted as our motto.

Bring On The Spring is our annual gala, organized specifically to raise funds to purchase and donate equipment to the QEH. Over the last six years this event has raised some \$218,000, which has allowed us to donate essential medical equipment including Ultrasound Machines, ECG Machines, Slit Lamps and Patient Transport Monitors. This evening our goal is to raise \$79,000 to purchase and donate 20 hospital beds to the QEH.

We have also made significant contributions to our other charitable causes, and I encourage you to read the back cover of tonight's program book for more information. We are proud of our accomplishments; however, our success is because of your support of our fundraising events, your donations and the support of the Barbados hotels who have donated generously to the live and silent auctions at *Bring On The Spring's* inception. Thank you all, your generous support helps to improve and save the lives of family and friends in Barbados.

Tonight's live and silent auctions and raffle will include amazing prizes, and I urge you to bid on these items vigorously and to participate in the raffle. Funds raised will assist us in achieving our goal.

Ladies and gentlemen this event could not have happened without the dedication and hard work of our Board members and volunteers, especially our Treasurer Hugh Graham, Secretary Jessica Carrington and board member Joan Hinds. I would also like to thank our Guest Speaker Dr. Kenneth Connell, Host Kevin Carrington, the artists who will entertain you tonight, our graphic artists X-Height Media, Pearson Convention Center and its Executive Chef, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc, Mark Ward Associates and all whose services contribute to the success of this event. In addition, 'thank you' to all who have made donations and placed advertisements in the program book, and to each and every one of you attending this event.

Thank you and have a great evening! And let us continue working together '*To help our youth create their future and improve the lives of those in need*'.

President
Barbados Canada Foundation



Message from David Gibbs
*Consul, The Consulate
 General of Barbados at Toronto*

The Consulate General of Barbados at Toronto is delighted to extend its support to the Barbados Canada Foundation (BCF) as it hosts the 2025 edition of Bring On the Spring. This event, which is celebrating its seventh anniversary, has become arguably the leading annual fundraiser in support of Barbados held by a

Barbadian organization in the diaspora.

The BCF has focused much of its energies on the critical area of tertiary level health care at the state-owned Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Barbados. To date the Foundation has donated twenty-two pieces of equipment valued at BBD\$320,000. This year it is seeking to raise CAD\$79,000 towards the donation of 20 hospital beds costing BBD\$109,800.

Philanthropic initiatives such as Bring on the Spring reflect two important guiding principles on which Barbados' diaspora diplomacy is based. Firstly, they highlight the importance of active citizenship, which is most viable when it adds value to the development of family, community and the nation. Such citizenship transcends mere individual concerns and focuses on the collective - 'I am because we are,' as expressed by the African concept of Ubuntu which recognizes that it is the collective that makes the difference.

Secondly such initiatives are testimony to the reality that Barbados' development prospects cannot be realized solely by the 275, 000 citizens residing in Barbados. Rather the resources and expertise of the approximately 250,000 members of the Barbados diaspora, including the 40,000 Barbadians that reside in Canada, are indispensable components if Barbados is to realize its potential. The approximately \$28 million remitted to Barbados annually by Barbadians in Canada is a simple example of how diasporic resources can enhance the quality of life of ordinary Barbadians.

Successive Barbados Governments have long recognized that developing strong relationships with the diaspora is an imperative for development and we recall the words of Prime Minister of Barbados Hon. Mia Amor Mottley when she addressed guests at Bring On The Spring in 2023:

"It is not only the people who are living in Barbados that have a role to play. It is you wherever you are on this planet. No matter where you are in the world, Barbados needs you as it seeks to become a world-class nation."

The Consulate General of Barbados at Toronto salutes Barbados Canada Foundation for its unstinting commitment to assisting Barbados as it seeks to become a world-class nation. We encourage all attending Bring On The Spring tonight to support the live and silent auctions and raffle. Spread the word about the work BCF is doing to assist Barbados and continue to support BCF by attending its fundraising events and by donating financially and of your time.

To the entire Barbados diaspora your Consulate pledges its commitment to continue to give unequivocal support to BCF and to forging and reimagining new and creative partnerships and opportunities for leveraging the fullest possible benefits on behalf of Barbadians. I wish you an enjoyable evening.



Message from His Excellency Gline A. Clarke,
Barbados High Commissioner to Ottawa

**Celebrating the Barbados Canada
Foundation's Commitment to Our Homeland,
Building a Healthier Future Together**

Today, I proudly stand with the Barbados Canada Foundation in celebrating yet another remarkable milestone, one that reflects a deep and unwavering commitment to the advancement of our beloved homeland.

For years, this organisation has been a beacon of generosity, providing vital medical equipment and resources to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH). As Barbados' primary healthcare institution, the QEH serves 99% of our population and remains in constant need of modern equipment to meet the evolving challenges of healthcare. While the government continues to invest heavily in its improvement, the reality is that the demand for upgrades never ceases.

This is where you come in. I urge all Barbadians, whether at home or abroad, along with descendants, friends, Canadians, and well-wishers, to give generously and joyfully to this noble cause. Every contribution, big or small, plays a vital role in ensuring that our people receive the quality healthcare they deserve.

Healthcare professionals, I encourage you to explore ways to lend your expertise, time, and resources to elevate medical services in Barbados. Your skills and dedication can help transform lives.

As we reflect on our duty in nation-building, let us remember the powerful words of President John F. Kennedy: **"Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."**

Together, through unity and generosity, we can make a lasting impact that echoes for generations to come.

Let's build a healthier future together.

Gline A. Clarke
High Commissioner



DONATIONS TO THE QEH 2019-2024

1



2



3



4



5



6



- 1) 2023 DONATION
4 Slit Lamps and Tonometers
- 2) 2021 DONATION
5 Welch Allyn ECG Machines
- 3) 2024 DONATION
3 Patient Transport Monitors
- 4) 2022 DONATION
1 Piccolo Blood Chemistry Analyzer
- 5) 2020 DONATION
1 Commercial Convection Oven
- 6) 2019 DONATION
8 Huntleigh Ultrasound Machines

*"For it is in giving that we receive"
..... St. Francis of Assisi*



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YOUR REF:

WEBSITE: WWW.QEHCONNECT.COM
TEL/PABX: (246) 436-6450



Message from Neil Clark
*Chief Executive,
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital*

On behalf of the Board, Management and Staff of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the Barbados Canda Foundation (BCF,) your donors and supporters, for your incredible generosity and unwavering commitment over the last six years. Your dedication in organizing and hosting the charity event "Bring on the Spring," year after year, has made a transformative impact on our ability to provide quality care to our patients.

Through your hard work, the funds raised during these events have enabled you to directly purchase much needed equipment and supplies for the QEH, which has enhanced the quality of care we provide. From life-saving diagnostic tools to specialized treatment equipment, your support has allowed us to expand our capabilities and ensure that our medical staff has the resources they need to give our patients the best possible care.

What makes your contribution even more remarkable is the personal involvement and commitment that you have shown in purchasing the equipment yourselves. Your belief in our mission and the direct investment in the tools that save lives is something we truly value. It's one thing to raise funds for a cause, but to take the additional step of directly purchasing the equipment demonstrates an unparalleled level of care and dedication.

Your tireless work to organize each event, your generous donations, and the sense of community you've fostered through this partnership has been nothing short of inspiring. These events have not only raised vital funds and purchased critical equipment, but they've also created lasting connections that strengthen our hospital and the community we serve. You have demonstrated the power of collective action and the difference that a group of passionate individuals can make when they come together for a common cause.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the ongoing possibilities of our partnership. Your support has set a standard of excellence, and with each event, we continue to build on the foundation you've helped create. Together, we will continue to make a difference and ensure that our hospital remains a place of healing, hope, and innovation.

Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your incredible generosity and your care for our patients. We are honored to work alongside such a compassionate and dedicated group of individuals.

With deepest appreciation,

Mr. Neil Clark
Chief Executive Officer

THE QEH:

60 YEARS OF SERVICE TO BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN



For just over a year, I have been honored to be the Chair of the BCF Scholarships Program Committee and to work collaboratively with committee members, sponsors, applicants, scholarship application assessors and other stakeholders.

In 2024, we received twenty-five applications from students engaged in a wide range of academic areas of study at Canadian universities and colleges. Eleven students were awarded scholarships and were recognized at our annual Awards Ceremony in October. Ninety-six (96) scholarships valued at \$347,000 have been granted to date.

These scholarships help the recipients further their studies and are possible because of the generous donations from our scholarship sponsors and individual donors to Barbados Canada Foundation. In this regard I would like to thank our sponsors: Barbados Overseas Community Canada, Bass Installation Ltd, Blue Circle Energy, Gloria Baylis Foundation and Diproinduca Canada Ltd. Sponsorship is an important component of our funding, and I would be pleased to speak with any individual or corporation who may be interested in learning more about our scholarship program, or who may be considering funding a scholarship to honour a family member or friend.

Scholarships of \$4,000 each are available to



students who are of Barbadian heritage and are or will be studying for an undergraduate degree, diploma or certificate at a Canadian university or college, and consideration will be given to graduate degree students.

It should be noted that scholarship applications are evaluated and recipients selected by individuals who are at arms-length to BCF's board of directors. Each scholarship grant will be paid directly to the university or college being attended by the recipient, who must have a Social Insurance Number to facilitate compliance with Canada Revenue Agency reporting requirements.

Students and others interested in the BCF Scholarships Program should visit our Scholarships Program page on our website. In closing I ask that you spread the word about the BCF Scholarships Program and the charitable work we do at Barbados Canada Foundation. Please support us by donating as you can afford and by attending our fundraising events.

"Getting Better Together"



DR. KENNETH CONNELL



DR. CONNELL IS A SCHOLAR, ACADEMIC INTERNIST/HYPERTENSION SPECIALIST, and public health policy activist. He is currently full-time tenured-faculty as Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor equivalent) in Clinical Pharmacology in the Department of Preclinical & Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Cave Hill Campus, The UWI. He holds the portfolio of Deputy Dean of Recruitment & Research.

Dr. Connell received his undergraduate and postgraduate training in medicine from the UWI St. Augustine & Cave Hill Campuses and graduated with MBBS and DM Internal Medicine degrees in 2000 and 2006 respectively. He was awarded a Barbados National Development Scholarship in 2007. He was awarded his Doctor of Philosophy degree on completion of studies from King's College London. He joined the Faculty of Medical Sciences as Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacology in 2011 and assumed duties of Deputy Dean- Phase 1 in August 2014.

Dr. Connell is a Consultant Physician at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and is Consultant-in-Charge of the hospital's Resistant Hypertension clinic.

He is also a member of the QEH's Drug & Therapeutics committee and Chair of the Specially Authorized Drugs (SAD) committee. He is a past member of the Barbados Medical Council, of the Ministry of Health, and is Chairman of the Drug & Therapeutics Committee of the Barbados Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Dr. Connell is the current President of the Healthy Caribbean Coalition, the CARICOM mandated civil society organization aimed at advancing the regions mandate of reducing the burden of non—communicable diseases (NCDs) as outlined in the 2008 Port of Spain Declaration. He is a former President of the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Barbados from March 2011-2017.

Dr. Connell was the Principal Investigator on the US CDC/PAHO Standardized Hypertension Treatment Project - Barbados pilot from April 2014- April 2016. This pilot expanded into the WHO-PAHO Global HEARTS Initiatives; an intervention aimed at improving hypertension control rates in primary care. HEARTS has been implemented in more than 30 countries worldwide

Dr. Connell is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians (ACP), the largest international College of doctors. He was elected as the youngest Governor for the ACP as Governor of the new Caribbean Chapter in 2015 for two years term.

In 2014, Dr. Connell was awarded the College's International Fellowship for research and collaboration with the University of South Carolina. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) and local Chief Examiner for the Royal College Physician MRCP examinations.

For his contributions to hypertension and cardiovascular science, he was invited to Fellowship of the American College of Cardiology (FACC).

KEVIN CARRINGTON ✿ HOST



Born and raised in Toronto Kevin Carrington is a CBC news reporter with over 20yrs of experience in broadcasting. Kevin is a regular face in the community, hosting numerous annual events. His energy is unmatched. Blending entertainment, culture, and community engagement. With a proven track record of delivering unforgettable experience.

He also promotes health and wellness through his reggae-inspired, cardio-fitness program called ReggaeCise. TDSB students know him as Uncle Kev.

Follow him on social media: @kevincarringtonthevoice or his website kevincarrington.ca.



MARC TRINIDAD ✿ COMEDIAN

Marc Trinidad may have been born and raised on the twin island republic of Trinidad and Tobago, but the Caribbean island paradise could not contain his talent and aspirations for long. After being exposed to theatre and sketch comedy on his native island, a craving for international exposure began. Marc packed his bags and headed to the great white north to sharpen his stand up comedy sabre.



In the twenty years since making that jump, he's worked the stage with some of the best in the business, the legendary Kenny Robinson, social media sensation Majah Hype, The Daily Show's Gina Yashere, living legend Dave Chappelle and the unconquerable Chris Rock are names that will ring a bell. He's created history as the first Canadian to have appeared on BET ComicView, was featured on the Comedy Network, Now Magazine rated him as 'One to watch', voted Best Comic 'Soul'd Out Comedy Festival, winner of the Brantford Comedy Festival 2019 and is in rotation at Sirius XM. Not satisfied with wowing crowds across Canada, he's toured the Netherlands, the UK, the US and the Caribbean. Armed with a versatile and wide ranging repertoire, new fans are routinely shocked by his unique island man swagger with razor sharp Canadian wit and timing.

Whether it's a corporate event that requires a host with polished professional subtle material, or a bar/club environment that needs to be more high energy and shocking, he lives his mantra, 'Honesty in comedy.'

Photographer: Dean Ellis

JAY HARMONY, AKA JAY DAVIS ✿ SINGER



Jay harmony, A college professor with a passion for music. Jay Harmony's thirst for anything musical started in the church and has grown into an international touring artist. As a multi-instrumentalist, singer and songwriter, Jay Harmony has performed at many festivals, Board of Trade's events and prestigious galas across Canada. She is the winner of several urban music awards and a two-time semi-finalist in the former CHIN music contest. Jay Harmony has taken her love and appreciation for music to fans across Canada - performances in popular venues including the Rogers Centre, Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the CNE, Rose Theatre and the legendary Massey Hall.

Jay's beautifully crafted sound is a reflection of her many inspirations and her innate ability to master genres from R&B and reggae to house, jazz, hip-hop and soul. Inspired by artists like Whitney Houston, Jennifer Hudson, Rihanna, Beyoncé, The Beatles, Elton John, Bob Marley, Beres Hammond, Dennis Brown, Gregory Isaacs, John Legend, Etta James, R. Kelly and Prince; Jay recognizes that those artists have all had an impact on the music she writes and performs. Some by their ability to write hit songs, others for their performance styles, and their captivating vocal abilities."

Jay Harmony continues to carve her own niche. She refuses to be relegated to a box. A singer and a songwriter, Jay Harmony's talent is undeniable. She is a breath of fresh air and has the makings of a mainstream and international phenomenon. The winner of many music and entertainment awards, Jay Harmony is one of Toronto's most sought-after entertainers.

In Jay's words, "Music is therapeutic and it seems to be as much therapy for me as it is for the people who appreciate my music. I get high on music and I am inspired to write about my experiences because I know they are never unique. Others can always relate and in many instances take comfort in listening to my melodic interpretations of love, growth, perseverance, the world, and supporting others."

Two albums to her credit, Jay Harmony is an artist to watch. Albums include **"No Giving Up"**, and **"Ever Present"**. Both albums are motivational and inspirational. These albums are a testament of Jay's vocal ability and her lyrical prowess. **Albums are available on iTunes and all online music distributors.**

The clientele includes many government and corporate and private organizations, such as Canada Helps.org, CARP, Brampton Board of Trade and Mississauga Board of Trade, Peel District School Board, Toronto District School Board, Centre Canadien pour l'unité de la famille, Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E.). Eli Lilly Pharmaceutical company and Barbados Canada Foundation.

Connect with Jay Harmony:

Twitter: @JayHarmonyMusic / **Phone:** 416-556-2899 / **Email:** jaysharmony@hotmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JayHarmonyakaJayDavis>
<https://www.facebook.com/JayHarmonyMusic/>

WUKUP PRODUCTIONS 🌸DJ

Owned and operated by DJ Kevin Castanheiro, Wukup Productions is a concept that has spearheaded, supported and supplied Barbadian music and culture since the 90s 'Bajan Invasion'. From introducing new Crop Over hits to Toronto DJ's/ personalities, to hosting and DJing live internet and radio shows, and to promoting live artist concerts. Wukup Productions has endorsed and pushed such artists as: Square One, Lil Rick, Krosfyah, Rupee, RPB, Blood, Contone, Mr. Dale, Statement, RPB, Stiffy, Mikey, LeadPipe & Saddis and so many others.



Wukup Productions will always do what can be done to make certain Bajan music and culture is known as best as possible, by playing, educating and informing true music lovers of the history and talent Barbados has to offer.



SUZETTE VIDALE 🌸PANNIST

An innovative steelpan artist with roots in Barbados, St. Lucia and Trinidad - the home of the steelpan, Suzette Vidale has incorporated the rich and vibrant cultures of the Caribbean and Toronto into her diverse repertoire.



As an ambassador of steelpan, she introduces this instrument, its cultural history, and unique sounds to attendees through her performances and interactive hands-on steelpan workshops. Wholeheartedly passionate about the steelpan, Suzette will continue sharing her craft with people from all walks of life and welcomes all to join her on the journey of "educating, entertaining and inspiring".

To quote Suzette: "Aside from seeing the steel pan being incorporated into educational institutions at all levels, my most favourite shift is the inclusion of the instrument as a wellness tool. I have had some of the greatest moments connecting with our city's most vulnerable citizens. I am always learning from others while doing steel pan workshops for the homeless, at-risk youth as well as marginalized women who have experienced trauma."

Performance highlights include the Viola Desmond Awards, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Levee, and most recently the Art Gallery of Ontario and Aga Khan Museum.

ITEM #1

**HILTON BARBADOS RESORT*****7 Nights for 2 Persons and Breakfast***

Home to the 17th-century ruins of Charles Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Hilton Barbados Resort boasts stunning views of the Caribbean from every guest room.

It also offers direct access to two white-sand beaches, two outdoor pools, a full-service spa and a gym. To complete your experience, enjoy a cocktail and world-class dining at one of its restaurants.

VALUE: CAD\$4,700**MINIMUM BID: CAD\$1,800**

ITEM #2

**THE CRANE*****7 Nights for 2 Persons and Breakfast***

The Crane Resort seamlessly combines historic architectural design with world-class amenities and services in a spectacular setting overlooking one of the world's best beaches. The Crane sets the ultimate standard in oceanfront accommodation with ultra-spacious residential suites designed to honour the century-old tradition of the resort, only rivalled by the majestic views – often called “the most beautiful on earth”.

VALUE: CAD\$7,700**MINIMUM BID: CAD\$3,000**

AUCTION

ITEM #3



BOUGAINVILLEA BARBADOS

7 Nights for 2 Persons- Room Only

Perched along two spectacular, white-sand beaches on the island's celebrated south coast, our resort offers a truly enchanting setting for romantic couple's getaways and unforgettable family vacations. The moment you step into our elegant, airy lobby, edged by lush, colourful gardens and view the azure ocean just beyond the glistening blue pools, you'll know you've arrived in paradise.

VALUE: CAD\$5,700

MINIMUM BID: CAD\$2,300

ITEM #4



WYNDHAM GRAND BARBADOS, SAM LORD'S CASTLE

7 Nights for 2 Persons - All Inclusive

Escape to the southeastern coast of Barbados for a stunning stay at Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lords Castle All-Inclusive Resort. Nestled in lush tropical gardens and perched on a cliff overlooking the Caribbean Sea, this gorgeous resort is steps from a beautiful beach and next to the iconic Sam Lord's Castle, a majestic 19th century castle with a fascinating history.

VALUE: CAD\$8,000

MINIMUM BID: CAD\$3,200

**ITEM #5**

MANGO BAY & THE SANDS

- *3 Nights for 2 Persons at Mango Bay*
- *4 Nights for 2 Persons at The Sands*
- *All inclusive*

Welcome to Mango Bay Hotel, your gateway to all-inclusive Bajan bliss. Nestled on a pristine beachfront in historic Holetown, our boutique hotel ensures you vacation like a local from the moment you book.

Managed by the Mango Bay Group, The Sands Barbados is the majestic playground you want and need. Once you are with us you may never want to leave!

VALUE: CAD\$5,300

MINIMUM BID: CAD\$2,100

ITEM #6

SEA BREEZE BEACH HOUSE

5 Nights for 2 Persons – All Inclusive

Set against the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea and infused with easygoing, authentic Bajan charm, Sea Breeze Beach House is a haven of laid-back luxury on the shores of Barbados' free-spirited South Coast.

VALUE: CAD\$7,100

MINIMUM BID: CAD\$2,800

RAFFLE

TICKETS ARE 25 FOR \$20.00 SALES CLOSE AT 9:25PM

1ST PRIZE



5 NIGHTS FOR 2 PERSONS —ROOM ONLY AT SOUTHERN PALMS BEACH CLUB.

- *Lunch for 2 at Champers Restaurant*
- *2 Harrison's Cave Eco-Adventure Park Passes*

Relax and unwind at Southern Palms Beach Club, in a tranquil ambiance, while enjoying an array of resort amenities. With an abundance of open, airy spaces bathed in the Caribbean sun, this is Barbados as it's meant to be experienced: quaint, charming, and brimming with local character.

VALUE: CAD\$5,100

2ND PRIZE



HISENSE 50" QLED 4K UHD GOOGLE TV

DONATED BY: WAYNE LEACOCK
VALUE: CAD\$450

3RD PRIZE



KEYTAN 5-PIECE UNISEX EXPLORER LIGHTWEIGHT HARDSIDE EXPANDABLE LUGGAGE SET

DONATED BY: WAYNE GRIFFITH
VALUE: CAD\$300

OUR BARBADOS RESORT HOTEL SUPPORTERS





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www.bougainvilleabarbados.com

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BOUGAINVILLEA
BARBADOS



Divi Southwinds Beach Resort congratulates the **Barbados Canada Foundation** on its **Bring On The Spring 2025** fundraiser and its incredible mission to support healthcare in Barbados. We are proud to be part of this meaningful initiative!



Unwind in paradise and savor authentic Caribbean flavors at our beachfront restaurant, open daily.

Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Lunch & Dinner: 12:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Reservations: 418-7303 ext. 7303

www.pureoceanrestaurant.com



While in Barbados, experience the best of island life at **Divi Southwinds Beach Resort**, located in the heart of St. Lawrence Gap. We offer great rates and staycation specials.

Email sws.frontdesk@divisouthwinds.com for more information.



**Come for The Views,
Stay for The** *Bajan* **Hospitality**

Come and experience the amazing beachfront Hilton Barbados Resort, featuring two white-sand beaches, stunning views from every room, world-class dining, a state-of-the-art gym, a spa and much more.

Call 246 426 0200 or email Reservations.Barbados@Hilton.com to book your stay



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mangobay

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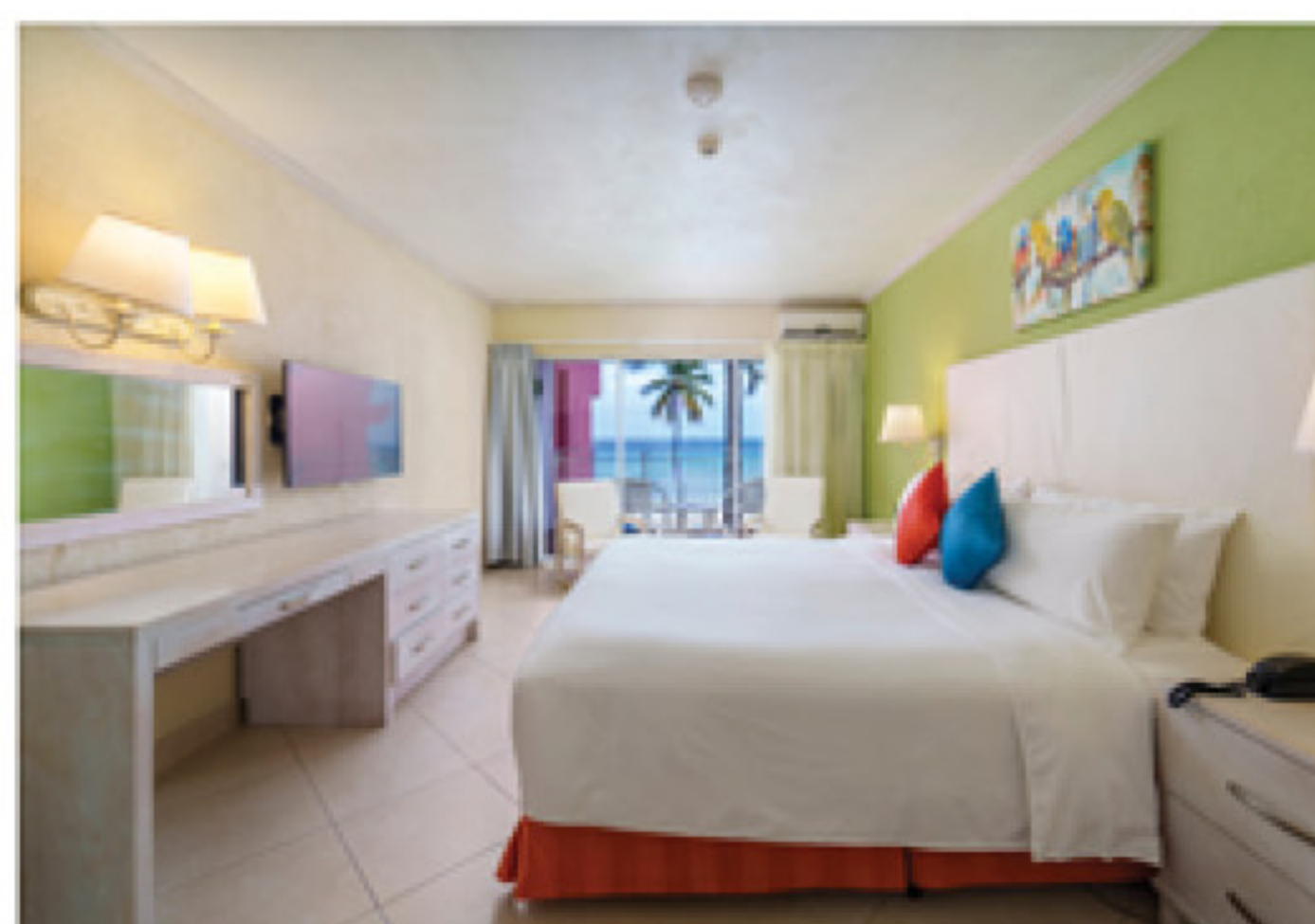
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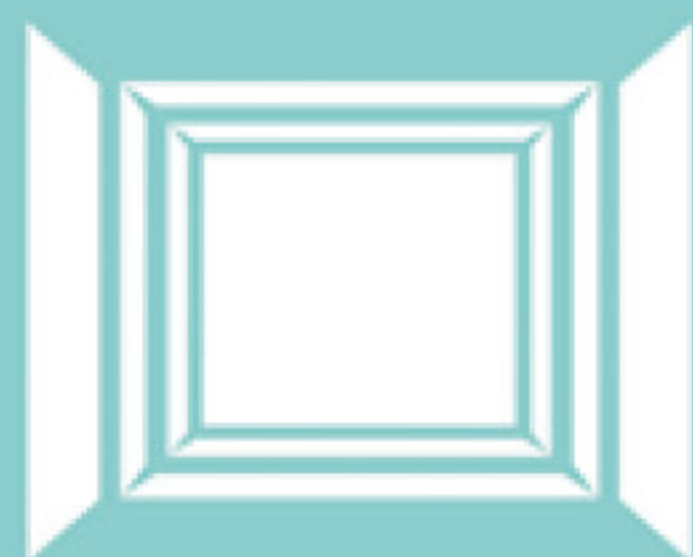
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BARBADOS -

THE PERFECT YEAR-ROUND DESTINATION

By Ukweli Wilson | Senior Business Development Officer
Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc.



If you're seeking the ultimate escape, Barbados stands out as the perfect year-round destination. With its stunning beaches, vibrant culture, world-class cuisine, and endless activities, this Caribbean gem caters to every type of traveler, no matter the season.

A Celebration Every Month

One of the many reasons Barbados remains a top choice for travelers is its year-round calendar of exciting events and festivals. Whether you're a music lover, foodie, sports enthusiast, or history buff, there's something happening every month to capture your interest. Crop Over, the Caribbean's sweetest summer festival, is a spectacle filled with music, dancing, and colorful costumes, drawing visitors from around the world. For sports fans, the island is home to world-class cricket matches, surfing competitions, and the famous Run Barbados Marathon. Food lovers can indulge in the Barbados Food and Rum Festival in the fall, showcasing the island's rich culinary heritage. And for those who love music, the Jazz Festival and Reggae Festival ensure the island is alive with rhythm throughout the year.

A Climate That Beckons Year-Round

Unlike Canada's harsh winters, Barbados boasts warm, sunny weather throughout the year. With an average temperature of 28°C and cooling trade winds, the island offers the perfect climate for beach lovers and adventure seekers alike. Even during the wetter months, rainfall is typically brief, allowing plenty of time for exploration and relaxation. Whether you're escaping the

cold or simply looking for a tropical retreat, Barbados offers the ideal setting, no matter when you choose to visit.

An Island of Endless Possibilities

In addition to its renowned luxury resorts and vast range of experiences available to travelers, Barbados is truly an island-inclusive destination. Thrill-seekers can dive into crystal-clear waters to explore shipwrecks, snorkel with sea turtles, or ride the waves at the famous Soup Bowl. Those who appreciate history can wander through UNESCO-listed Bridgetown or tour the beautifully preserved plantation houses. For a taste of local culture, visitors can explore bustling fish markets, enjoy a night of live music, or embark on a rum distillery tour to discover the spirit that made Barbados famous.

Culinary Capital of the Caribbean

Food is at the heart of the Barbadian experience, making it a haven for culinary travelers. From high-end dining to casual seaside eateries, the island offers an unmatched gastronomic journey. Fresh seafood, rich spices, and Bajan specialties like flying fish and cou-cou make every meal an adventure. The island's title as the Culinary Capital of the Caribbean is well-earned, with chefs blending tradition and innovation to create unforgettable flavors. So, whether you prefer to be out and about the island, or simply lounge on the island's prestigious, white, sandy beaches, there's something for all to indulge in, and that's the Barbados difference!

By Marville Travel Ltd



Travelling for business or leisure can be stressful at times, whether you are a seasoned or occasional traveller. Here is some advice that will help you have an enjoyable travel experience.

- Passport validity is **MOST** important. Check your passport prior to arranging any flights and or package holidays. Since so many countries are constantly changing entry requirements having at least a 6-month validity would be highly recommended. We make it a policy to check all entry requirements and advise all our clients ahead of time.
- Travel insurance is as important as a passport. It's imperative to realize that coverage on individual credit cards may be extremely limited if you are 65+ in age. When traveling transborder and overseas it is strongly recommended that everyone has medical insurance as costs for treatment can be very expensive.
- Book flights well in advance for peak travel dates to avoid the disappointment of not being able to travel on your desired dates.
- Airlines offer many different fare options from the **BASIC** Fare which is the most restrictive and will not allow for any changes, not even for a fee. We at Marville Travel **DON'T** sell the **BASIC** Fare as passengers encounter change of plans very frequently. We suggest the **STANDARD** Fares and above since you are allowed to make changes for a fee depending on the airline and if you need to cancel your flights we are able to bank your travel credit for future travel. Note that fares fluctuate daily.



- Seat assignment fees vary between airlines with rates ranging anywhere from \$35 - \$140 CAD per person, per direction. Travel within Canada and US will be the least expensive whereas flights to the Caribbean, Europe and Asia will be higher in cost.
- Baggage on most flights is no longer free of charge with baggage fees ranging from \$35 - \$55 CAD per direction. At Marville Travel, we offer the first checked bag free of charge to **BARBADOS** only
- When travelling to Europe, South America, Asia and Africa it's important to make sure if an entry Visa is required and if you need any sort of immunization prior to entry.
- It is important that you are informed of what you can take on board the aircraft and what you can bring into Canada. Should you have any concerns in this regard, visit Transport Canada's website.

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FRAUDS AND SCAMS IN CANADA

AND HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF



In recent years, the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) has voiced growing concerns about the inadequacy of laws and punishments for those convicted of perpetrating frauds and scams against seniors. Scams vary in nature, but deception by email, text and phone call is very common. Scams in person may also occur.

Here are the scams experienced by many unsuspecting seniors:

- ***Identity theft***

Identity theft occurs when a con artist steals personal information from someone so they can pretend to be that person and

then do things like apply for a credit card, take out a loan or mortgage, get a cell phone or withdraw bank funds. The con artist will try to get information such as a bank card number and personal identity number (PIN), credit card number, health card number, driver's license and Social Insurance Number (SIN).

Many scams and frauds attempt to imitate government services in order to gain access to your personal and financial information. You may receive false messages from Service Canada, Canada Revenue Agency, Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada, or Canada Border Services Agency, Canada Post.

• ***Credit/debit card fraud***

Credit card and debit card fraud occurs when a con artist uses your card, or a copy, to make purchases or withdraw money from your account. Keeping your card in sight, memorizing your PIN, and shielding your hand when you enter your PIN are ways you can reduce the risk of your credit card or debit card information being stolen and misused.

• ***Digital scams (websites, email or text)***

There are many digital scams, and new ones appear all the time. Some appear to be asking for your help; some say there is a problem with your bank account or tax return. If you are not sure about an e-mail or text, stop and verify. Do not open attachments or click on links, and do not provide personal or financial information. You can check that any telephone number provided is the same as others found online or check to see if there are scam reported that sound similar to what you are experiencing via CAFC.

• ***Phone and door-to-door scams***

Phone and door-to-door scams are also very common. Someone will call or come to your door pretending to be a representative of a charity, an employee of a credit card company, or even a distant relative. You might be offered a free prize or trip. If you aren't completely sure who you are dealing with, do not give the person any money or information.

Sometimes people call or come to your door using high-pressure sales tactics to get you to buy something you don't want or need, or to talk you into getting work done on your house and then overcharging you or doing a bad job. While this is not always illegal, it is wrong and should be reported.

How You Can Protect Yourself

- Keep tabs on current frauds and learn more about how to protect yourself or report scammers through the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

- Keep all personal documents in a secure place. If you don't need them, do not carry your birth certificate, passport or SIN card.

- Never tell another person your PIN or account passwords and take care to cover your hand when entering your PIN at bank machines and when making store purchases.

- Safely dispose of old bills and statements—shredding is best.

- Do not click on pop-up windows or respond to e-mails, open attachments or go to website links sent by people you do not know. Your bank or credit union will not send you anything by e-mail unless you ask them to.

- Never give out your credit card, bank account, or personal information to someone over the phone, at the door, or over the Internet unless you know the person or organization you are dealing with, or you made the contact.

- If your wallet is lost or stolen, or mail you are expecting goes missing, you should report it right away to your bank or credit union.

- Do not sign an agreement or contract to buy anything without giving yourself time to think it over. If a salesperson insists that an “offer” is “time limited” and you must decide that moment, it is probably better not to buy.

- Be suspicious if someone you don't know asks you to send them money or a cheque, or to return money they “accidentally” sent you.

- Before hiring someone or agreeing to have work done on your home, ask for proof of identity and references and check them.

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This article uses excerpts from an article published on the website of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons, etc.” This article was written using excerpts from an article published on the website of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons. Visit <https://www.carp.ca/our-advocacy/frauds-and-scams/> to read the entire article.



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BRIDGEPOINT HOSPITAL [BASS INSTALLATIONS]

BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING LEGACIES

THE STORY OF STEPHEN CALLENDER AND NATASHA CALLENDER-WILSON

By Angela J Carter,
AC Communications & Consulting



If you find yourself gazing at Toronto's skyline, take a moment to appreciate the towering glass facades that define the city. Behind some of them lies the skill, determination and legacy of Stephen Callender and his daughter, Natasha Callender-Wilson—two trailblazers whose mark is etched not just in steel and glass, but in the breaking of barriers for Black entrepreneurs in the construction industry. From the TD Canada Trust Tower on Front Street to the St. Regis Hotel to the Bank of Montreal's First Canadian Place, their work tells a story of resilience, vision and a deep commitment to building something greater than themselves.

Stephen Callender's journey is a testament to grit, integrity and vision. Born and raised in Lower Carlton, St James, Barbados, Stephen attended the St Alban's Primary School and then the Coleridge and Parry. He worked at the Labour Department for about two years before emigrating to Canada in 1976 shortly before his 20th birthday, stepping into a world where opportunities were scarce for Black workers, especially in the trades.

His first job in Canada was on Barbados Boulevard in Scarborough, working at a window factory. Looking back, he now sees the poetic connection—his career began in

a window factory on Barbados Boulevard and, today, he, a Barbadian, owns a glass company, BASS Installation. These full-circle moments reinforce his belief that everything in life is connected.

Determined to elevate himself, Stephen pursued higher education. He attended York University to learn computer science but quit his studies after two years when Natasha was born with the intention of returning to York. He didn't, instead opting to enroll in electronics and computer classes at Humber College. He actually started a business building and selling computers and writing computer programs. Juggling a young family, work, school and the computer business became overwhelming. This became a turning point for him. While he considered a career in the field of computer programming, construction had become his calling, and he was fully committed to it.

Stephen navigated the deeply entrenched racism of the industry with a steadfast resolve—understanding that if he could not go through the obstacles, he would find a way around them. His knowledge, skill and unwavering integrity quickly earned him the respect of his peers, helping him rise through the ranks from apprentice to foreman.

Yet, Stephen knew that true success was not just about personal achievement—it was about opening doors for others. When he co-founded his first construction company in 1992, the foundation was built on a single word: integrity. Over the years, he expanded and strengthened the business, eventually growing it into BASS Installation, adding a second firm, BASS Curtainwall, which Natasha managed. These companies now stand as symbols of Black excellence in the construction industry. Through all of this, he remained committed to uplifting others, mentoring young Black professionals and advocating for greater diversity in the trades. One of Stephen's greatest legacies is his daughter, Natasha Callender-Wilson. From childhood, she was immersed in the world

of construction, not as an outsider but as a participant. Encouraged by her father's ethos of curiosity and hands-on learning, Natasha grew up taking apart and rebuilding machines, visiting construction sites and experiencing the power of creation. She fell in love with being able to build something, fitting things together where there was value and purpose.

She vividly remembers, when she was around 12 years, going with her dad to the TD Canada Trust where he was working. They took the elevator to the 56th floor and she remembers exiting onto the floor slab and watched the crew who were installing the frames and putting in the glass curtainwall systems. She thought to herself, "Oh my gosh, this is so cool. How can I get to do this."

"I fell in love with it — the height, the adrenaline rush, knowing that you are building something from nothing," she added, stating that she admired her dad even more. From that moment "it was in her blood". However, she didn't fully understand then the difficulties of getting into the union as a Black woman. Therefore, when it came time for her to further her studies, her father



STEPHEN CALLENDER AND NATASHA CALLENDER-WILSON

persuaded her to “go to college or university and get an education”.

She decided to pursue a career in finance and enrolled at Humber College where she gained a certificate, after which she earned a business degree from York University. All the while she continued to work in the family business, bringing with her a strategic and structured approach that would transform BASS into a stronger, more resilient company.

In November 2024, Stephen made the bold and deliberate decision to appoint Natasha as CEO of BASS Installation, an announcement made fittingly on Barbados’ Independence Day. It was not a symbolic gesture—it was a recognition of the work she had already been doing for over two decades.

Natasha had stood by her father through economic downturns, cash flow crises, and industry shifts, proving time and again that she had the vision and capability to lead. Her promotion sent a powerful message to the industry: Black women belong at the highest levels of leadership in construction.

Together, Stephen and Natasha have embedded the values of diversity, equity and inclusion into their company long before it became an industry buzzword. They have created a workplace culture that prioritizes mentorship, education support and a family environment for employees. Their monthly cultural luncheons, scholarship contributions to the Barbados Canada Foundation and active involvement in the African Canadian Contractors Association (ACCA) are all testaments to their unwavering commitment to the Black community.

Beyond business, Stephen’s altruistic nature has driven him to create spaces where Black professionals in construction can thrive. As President of ACCA and Secretary/Treasurer of the Toronto Community Benefits Network (TCBN), he has worked tirelessly to break down systemic barriers

that have historically kept Black contractors on the fringes of the industry. His advocacy is not just about representation—it is about creating lasting change, ensuring that young Black tradespeople find pathways to success, mentorship and ownership.

Natasha, balancing her role as wife, mother of a 13-year-old daughter, community leader and CEO, continues to push BASS forward with innovation and a deep sense of responsibility. She understands the weight of her role—not just as a business leader and homemaker but as a trailblazer for Black women in a space where they have been historically excluded. Her leadership is a reminder that when given the opportunity, Black women do not just take seats at the table—they build the table.

Looking ahead, BASS is charting an ambitious path for growth. While the company has solidified its reputation for installation, the next evolution involves expanding into procurement. Instead of simply installing glass systems, BASS aims to secure contracts that include sourcing materials as well, creating a vertically integrated model. This shift will allow them to compete at a higher level in the industry, giving them greater control over projects and expanding their business reach.

Stephen and Natasha recognize that growth comes with challenges, but they are committed to learning, adapting and continuing to push the boundaries of what is possible. They remain steadfast in their mission to create opportunities, not only for their own company but for the broader Black community in construction.

The story of Stephen Callender and Natasha Callender-Wilson is one of perseverance, vision and legacy. As their company continues to grow, so too does their impact—shaping the skyline of Toronto and the future of Black entrepreneurship and leadership in Canada.

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

IF YOU WISH TO OWN OR OWN PROPERTY IN BARBADOS

By Wayne F. Leacock, BCom., MBA, LL. B, LL.M, LEC,



If you wish to own property in Barbados it is essential that you do the following:

- **Obtain permission from the Central Bank of Barbados (if applicable).**

Non-residents should obtain permission from the Central Bank. Central Bank's approval is generally granted as a formality. Your attorney will manage this process on your behalf. Foreign exchange brought in Barbados should be registered with the Central Bank during this process.

- **Register foreign exchange with the Central Bank of Barbados.**

Registration of foreign currency on the purchase of the property enables the owner to repatriate funds from Barbados upon sale of the property.

- **Conduct thorough due diligence on the property.**

Research, research, research, to ensure it is a sound investment. Look into the property's history, verify the title, and obtain a valuation report.

- **Engage a local attorney with expertise in property law.**

It is essential to engage a local Barbados attorney with expertise in Barbados property law to guide you through the process. The attorney will help draft the sales agreement, conduct a title search, and manage the conveyancing process, to ensure all legal requirements are met.

- **Negotiate and sign a sales agreement.**

A sales agreement will be drafted by the attorney(s) based on the agreement between the parties.

- **Pay the required deposit and complete the conveyancing process.**

On the signing of the sales agreement, a deposit, usually 10 per cent of the purchase price, is paid to the vendor's attorney. This deposit is held in escrow until the transaction is finalized. If the purchaser fails to complete the agreement, the deposit "may" be forfeited.

The purchaser's attorney will conduct a title search to ensure the vendor is who he/she says they are with rights to the property and to ensure that the property is free of any encumbrances or liens. The necessary documents for transferring the title will then be prepared for execution by the parties.

- **Register the property title with the Land Registry.**

On completion of the conveyancing process, the balance of the purchase price is paid to the vendor's attorney, and the new property title registered with the Land Registry. This requires all necessary fees and submitting the required documents, including the signed conveyance and deed of sale. Once complete, the property will be registered in the new purchaser's name.

- Finalize the transaction and settle all outstanding taxes and fees.

Registration is complete. Any taxes and fees associated with the transaction are paid, and the attorney will provide the purchaser with the registered title deed, signifying legal ownership of the property.

- **Legal and Notary Fees**

Legal and Notary fees associated with property transactions typically range from 1.75% to 2.5% of the purchase price, depending on the sale/purchase price and the complexity of the transaction.

- **Consider tax and estate planning.**

This may have implications for how to structure the holding of the property, as well as how that property is transferred or disposed of in Will drafting and estate planning.

If you already own property in Barbados, please:



- Ensure that annual land taxes are paid in a timely manner to avoid penalties for overdue payment.
- Pay close attention to the value of the property and ensure that any building(s) on your land is insured for its actual replacement value – well in advance of the hurricane season.
- Be aware that maintenance costs can be significant. Consider hiring a property management service. Avoid relying solely on family and friends.
- Do not allow the property(ies) to fall into and become “derelict.” The Barbados Government is instituting a process of (1) cleaning up the properties and charging the owners, (2) collaborating with owners to buy said properties making the land available to build affordable housing. (currently there are approximately 15,000 derelict properties and 10,000 vacant lots)
- Plan to have the properties maintained, de-bushed etc. This reduces the chances of squatters occupying the property and having to incur future costs to have them removed.

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Wayne Leacock is a Barbadian/Canadian lawyer with offices in Toronto and Barbados. He practices in the areas of – Corporate - Commercial – Family - Wills - Estates and Trusts law.

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Ms. Williams is a prolific published author, academic speaker, lecturer and mentor and is currently on the faculty of Osgoode Hall Law School.



BCF SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM



"I received my Doctor of Medicine (MD) at the University of Toronto in June 2023 and am now a resident in the Family Medicine Stream of the Public Health and Preventive Medicine Program at the University of Ottawa. The BCF Scholarships Program assisted me in the completion of my university education, and I am grateful to Barbados Canada Foundation for making a space for of Bajan heritage like me to pursue our dreams of having a at positive impact on our communities. I ask that you support the Foundation and play your part in assisting our youth."

Chantal Phillips
BCF Scholarship Recipient
President, Black Resident Physicians of Ontario

"I have been the beneficiary of Barbados Canada Foundation scholarships sponsored by Diproinduca Canada Ltd, which have supported me throughout my graduate studies and I thank the Barbados Canada Foundation, Diproinduca Canada Ltd. and Mr. Efrain Riera for investing in my future. I completed my PhD in Medical Biophysics at Western University recently and am now working at Henry Ford Health as a Radiation Oncology Medical Physics Resident. I am deeply grateful for the opportunities these scholarships have provided and remain committed to using my knowledge to make a meaningful impact in healthcare."

Dr.Jaryd Christie
BCF Scholarship Recipient



Our mission is **"To help our youth create their future and improve the lives of those in need."** We provide scholarships to youth of Barbadian heritage attending Canadian universities and colleges and have granted scholarships valued at \$347,000 to date. We look forward to growing the scholarships program and to helping many more youth realize their dreams.

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