



DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment Forum

17th NOVEMBER, 2017 • MAGDALENA GRAND BEACH AND GOLF RESORT



Agenda



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Forum

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TIME	ITEM	FACILITATOR
8:00 a.m.	Registration	
8:30 a.m.	Safety Briefing National Anthem Opening Prayer	PASTOR NIGEL WILLIAMS <i>Castara Open Bible Standard Church</i>
8:37 a.m.	Introduction	Master of Ceremony MS. AVIAN PARKS
8:40 a.m.	Welcome Remarks	MS. JACQUELINE JOB <i>Administrator Division of Finance & The Economy</i>
9:00 a.m.	Address	DEPUTY CHIEF SECRETARY AND SECRETARY OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY ASSEMBLYMAN JOEL JACK
9:15 a.m.	BREAK	
9:30 a.m.	Keynote Address <i>ICT: The Infrastructure of the Future</i>	MS. SASHA LAYNE <i>Ginamco Caribbean Ltd.</i>
10:15 a.m.	Technology and Innovation <i>Ideate. Iterate.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SHELDON POWELL <i>Billionaires League App</i>• DR. NYONI WINCHESTER <i>Veterinary Scientist Officer in Charge - CARDI Tobago</i>• MR. SYLVANNAS BERKELEY <i>Tobago Information Technology Ltd.</i>



DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment

Forum

Agenda

TIME	ITEM	FACILITATOR
11:15 a.m.	Sponsor Segment - TSTT	
11:30 a.m.	LUNCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MS. CINDY ANDREWS <i>Spoken Word</i>• MS. DACHELLE MORRISON <i>Steel Pan</i>
12:30 p.m.	Agri-Business Innovators I <i>Innovate. Invest. "Scaling Up"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MS. RACHEL RENIE• MR. DAVID THOMAS <i>D' Market Movers (Farm & Function)</i>• MR. WARREN PETERS <i>Glorious Farms</i>
1:30 p.m.	Agri-Business Innovators II <i>Innovate. Invest. "Bean to Bar"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MR. JEAN-CLAUDE PETIT <i>Tobago Chocolate Delights</i>• MR. WINSTON RUDDER <i>Chairman - The Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad & Tobago Limited</i>
2:15 p.m.	Young Adults and the Creative Industry	MR. JOEL "POSITIVE" MURRAY
2:30 p.m.	Musical Performance	MR. JOEL "POSITIVE" MURRAY
3:00 p.m.	Vote of Thanks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MS. TRICIA BECKLES <i>Manager - Strategic Business Development</i>



DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment

Forum

Welcome



It is my honor to welcome you to the Division's annual Youth Empowerment Forum, as we continue to be responsive to the needs of our young people. Our human capital is our greatest asset and we have a duty of care to prepare Tobago's young adults for the future and to assume the mantle of responsibility for this island. The recognition that early engagement is key if we are to bridge the ambition gap and enhance employment and entrepreneurial readiness. This is the reason that the Youth Forum event remains a lynchpin of our Finance Week Programme. This year's Forum coincides with Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) in an effort to build upon the broader platform and to ensure that you are aware of entrepreneurial opportunities locally. In fact, as GEW celebrates their 10th anniversary, I was reminded of how deeply their mantra 'catalyze, don't organize' resonated with me. That is to say, as a Division and an Assembly we will provide opportunities such as this Forum for you to be inspired along with avenues for you to channel your creativity, but we are simply facilitators of the future you will forge.

The current reality is that we are in a period of economic constraint and structural adjustment, and you have and will, for the immediate future, be graduating into a skills based competitive global village. It is one which rewards transferable and soft skills, and which requires you to have developed competencies and not just the ability to retain content, where applied learning, formal or otherwise is king. This is not the world of yesteryear! Yet your generation's affinity for technology has already provided you with innate basic skills, but the goal isn't simply to be a consumer of technology, but a developer and entrepreneur.

As such, I am excited to witness the engagement with our facilitators today. We have brought together innovators, incubators, agripreneurs, artisans and artistes. Throughout their presentations will arise common threads: the challenges they have faced, their passion as fuel, the need for collaboration and or support, and of course the recognition that innovation is at its core, applied creativity. Moreover, this forum will reiterate and prescribe policy interventions to support the ecosystem necessary for our continued success.

Across the Tobago House of Assembly, we are refining our programs and activities to strengthen economic resilience by providing opportunities to enhance our collective economic circumstances. For the Division of Finance and the Economy, leveraging the expertise of our partners and stakeholders is one such catalyst. We strongly believe in the premise of learning by doing and from doers; and our panelists today will share their insights and experiences as well as how they have journeyed across the spectrum from Ideation to Iteration to Innovation and finally towards securing Investment.

This Administration has championed entrepreneurship and innovation programs as opportunities to build confidence as well as skills, and for us this remains a strategic investment in our future. We trust that you will find this program mind opening, and urge you to not only to engage the speakers and representatives of the Division, but also to foster connections and create communities amongst yourselves towards developing solutions for a better island and a better world.

As Frantz Fanon, the famed Caribbean philosopher and author once wrote, "every generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, and either fulfill it or betray it."*
Thank you!

Joel D. A. Jack
*Deputy Chief Secretary and
Secretary for Finance & The Economy
Tobago House of Assembly*

**(Frantz Fanon - The Wretched of the Earth, 1961)*



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Youth Empowerment

Forum

Presenters

Keynote Speaker

MS. SASHA LAYNE

Ginamco Caribbean Ltd.

Ms. Sasha Layne has been involved in telecommunications, civil works and information communication technologies procurement for more than 8 years. She has worked on several large scale and pioneering projects in the Caribbean, including the first LTE network in Guyana, the Safe City Project in Trinidad, the rollout of the 4G LTE Network in Trinidad and the first FTTH rollout in Trinidad and Tobago.

With a background in urban planning and development, Ms. Layne has a keen understanding of the importance of using technology as a catalyst for socio-economic growth. Her experience working on the UNDP Poverty Reduction Strategy in Guyana allows her the unique ability to tailor her work so that it not only focuses on national development but keeps in line with global development trends.

Ms. Layne was formerly employed with Huawei Technologies. Ms. Layne is the Business Development Consultant at GINAMCO Caribbean Limited. GINAMCO Caribbean Limited is a telecommunications firm making great strides in the development of the telecommunications landscape in Trinidad and Tobago.



MR. SHELDON POWELL

CEO - Billionaires League App

Sheldon Orlando Powell was destined for success from an early age. Sheldon's mother passed away while he was at the age of two. He was raised in Kingston, Jamaica, with other family members. By age fifteen, Sheldon had already started working at his cousin's garage washing cars and, a bit later, as a mechanic. From there he moved on to become a filing clerk at one of the largest printing companies in Jamaica.

Mr. Powell was encouraged by his adoptive mother and others to enter the Caribbean Stock Wizard Competition. Out of a field sporting over 1,100 participants, Mr. Powell secured tenth place - enough to pique the interest of MTI, one of the world's most trusted investment education companies. He was hired on the spot and by age nineteen moved to Trinidad & Tobago to head the company's local division.

Billionaires Mobile (BM) was conceptualised in 2015 and incorporated a year later as a Caribbean finch-tech company that uses algorithms extracted from large publicly datasets such as filing to the US Securities and Exchange Commission to identify life cycle changes in global markets and insights into the strategies of billionaires and large financial institutions. BM was envisioned by Mr. Powell with the aim to develop a mobile application that allows the average person access to the right data and mimic the investment moves of billionaires in real time. This unorthodox approach, fractional investing, allows users to copy the top eleven stocks owned by these billionaires and hitch a ride on their coattails.

Mr. Powell lists his children as his source of motivation and inspiration.



DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment

Forum

Presenters



DR. NYONI WINCHESTER

Veterinary Scientist

Officer in Charge - CARDI Tobago

Veterinary Scientist **Dr. Nyoni Winchester** currently serves as the Head of the Tobago Unit of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). She graduated from the University of the West Indies in 2015. She recently presented on the topic "ICT Led Innovation - Shaping the Future of the Caribbean Small Ruminant Industry" at the 30th Annual Caribbean Veterinary Medical Conference in Kingston, Jamaica.

MR. SYLVANNAS JIMMY BERKELEY

Tobago Information Technology Ltd.

Sylvannas Berkeley is a professional with over 23 years experience across the Technology, Security, Education and Marketing fields.

Mr. Berkeley holds an MBA from Heriot Watt University Edinburgh (UK) in General Management and Marketing. He speaks 3 languages including English and has various interests including art, music, languages and traveling. He has held many positions in the Telecommunications, ICT, Marketing and Education fields. His credo is "Technology with Purpose".

His interests range from New digital media, to M2M, Regulation and Customer Service.



MS. RACHEL RENIE AND MR. DAVID THOMAS

D' Market Movers

David Thomas and Rachel Renie combined their shared love of agriculture and fishing to penetrate a fairly untapped market in local on-line shopping.

D' Market Movers Ltd. (Est 2009) is an online distribution company that specializes in both health and convenience, delivering fresh produce, meats, dairy etc. to homes, offices and restaurants throughout Trinidad & Tobago. This online health food store (www.dmarketmovers.com) focuses on farm to table initiatives that secure the freshest, local

products and bring them directly to the consumer. This agro-processing company also produces a line of fruit products under the brand "Farm & Function," in addition to co-hosting a monthly farm to table food event called Our Moving Table.

Mr. Thomas made the decision to devote his effort to agro-processing rather than the corporate world, and with Rachel having completed a degree and gaining an understanding of digital marketing, they joined forces. They started working together in 2004. Identifying a business opportunity, they paired fish with fresh seasoning and sold to their colleagues. Rachel took on the challenge to teach herself, and created and designed the company's website and e-commerce platform.



DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment

Forum

Presenters

D' Market Movers (continued)

After being turned down by a number of financial institutions, Rachel and David managed to obtain a \$10,000 loan (which was repaid within one year) from the Youth Business of Trinidad and Tobago. The company was officially launched in March 2009.

Market Movers focuses on a target customer base that appreciates the company's careful selection of quality, safe produce. Market Movers has also built strong relationships with farmers, some exclusive to them. Today the company has a network of about 250 farmers/artisans who supply various types of fresh produce offered on the website. The relationship with the farmers is integral to the success of the business and David and Rachel are always trying to create new opportunities for these local "agri-preneurs." Since its launch, the company has experienced success with its product range growing from 25 products to 138 products and its customer base moving from 10 to over 700 retail customers, over 1,000 office customers and other wholesale customers across the country.

Rachel and David recently expanded the Market Movers brand through 'Farm & Function,' a line of frozen fruit products, which is geared for export, and 'Our Moving Table.' This is a monthly farm to table, dining event that showcases an all local menu, providing guests with an organic dining experience.

Rachel and David are involved in NGOs such as the North Coast Empowerment Group and Destination Chocolate. In addition, the two volunteer as mentors at the Youth Business of Trinidad and Tobago and the ADOPT program at the University of the WI.



MR. WARREN PETERS

Glorious Farms

Warren Dale Peters is the owner of Glorious Farms located in Whim, Tobago. A successful participant in the "Good Foods" project facilitated in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade, Glorious Farms was established in 2010 to provide fresh

vegetables to various business proprietors in Tobago who require fresh vegetables on a timely basis.

The company offers to supermarket owners, market vendors, restaurateurs and the business sector fresh organic produce. The company is in a special position as it has the expertise and the technology to become a successful enterprise in the agriculture sector, thus allowing customers the security of knowing that they will be getting the best quality organic produce at an affordable price.

MR. JEAN CLAUDE PETIT

Tobago Chocolate Delights

Jean Claude Petit is the owner/operator of Tobago Chocolate Delights. This is a local manufacturer and retailer of artisan chocolate products in Tobago. Located in Lambeau, the store features an exclusive line of over twenty (20) varieties of truffles utilizing local chocolate and features fruit fillings including guava, mango, passion fruit, golden apple, tambrin, sorrel and pineapple. In addition, the company has patented a single chocolate bar with a map of Tobago imprinted on the bar.

Mr. Petit has over 20 years experience, both locally and internationally as a business owner, consultant and educator.





DIVISION OF FINANCE AND THE ECONOMY

Youth Empowerment

Forum

Presenters



MR. WINSTON RUDDER

Chairman of the Board - The Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad & Tobago Ltd.

Mr. Winston Rudder is an experienced agricultural development professional and consultant who currently serves as Chairman of the Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd. His experience includes international appointments through the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations serving the wider Caribbean, and reaching as far as Nepal. He

has also served as Chairman of the Board of the Agricultural Development Bank (ADB) and as a Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute.

Mr. Rudder is the holder of an MSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Manitoba, and a BSc in Agriculture (General) from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, which included studies on Farm Management.

MR. JOEL "POSITIVE" MURRAY

Musician, Entrepreneur

Joel "Positive" Murray is a singer, songwriter, producer, motivational speaker and a young entrepreneur with one of the most unique voices in Caribbean Gospel. Hailing from the beautiful island of Tobago in the small village of John Dial, his catalog of 3 albums includes hit songs like 'Never Let Go', 'Two Man Army' and 'Blessing After Blessing'. He has carved out a distinctive territory in the music industry both regionally and internationally over the years, reaching Top 10 spots on both Billboard & iTunes Reggae Albums' Charts.



Among his many accolades he was the most-nominated artist at the Caribbean Gospel Music Marlin Awards twice in a row, winning eight awards in both 2014 and 2017. His consistency and passion has been his driving force in his writing and production, forming super collaborations with the likes of Jonathan McReynolds, V. Rose, and DJ Nicholas. He has featured on major events across the Caribbean, UK, North and Central America.

Most known by his soubriquet, "Positive" describes music as a means of sharing uplifting spiritual messages that can influence change for the better. Despite the accolades, impacting the listener is what is important to him. While his mission is to share the love of Jesus Christ, a listener can appreciate the style and depth of Positive's music. Strictly roots and culture, coupled with his authentic flavour, he is Positive.

MS. AVIAN PARKS

Avian Parks is currently employed as the Public Affairs Specialist in the Office of the Chief Secretary, Tobago House of Assembly. She has over ten years of experience in the field of media and communications and has filled positions such as news reporter, radio host, television producer and presenter. Filled with a passion for communication and coupled with a deep desire to see social and behavioral change in her society, Ms. Parks embarked on producing and directing her own television talk show 'Keepin' It Real', which had two seasons aired on TV6 and Tobago Channel 5 respectively.



Ms. Parks completed a Certificate in Media Practice with Birkbeck College, University of London before pursuing a BA in Communication and Anthropology with Goldsmiths College, University of London. Her desire for self-development and progress, led her to pursue an Executive Master in Corporate Communication with IE School of Human Sciences and Technology, Madrid, Spain.



Division of Finance & The Economy

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