

The US Court Of Appeal Rules In Favour Of PM Browne

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Lady Sandra Williams (extreme right) poses with other spouses of heads of state and heads of government at an event hosted by US First Lady Melania Trump at the White House

The US Court Of Appeal Rules In Favour Of PM Browne



Prime Minister Gaston Browne continues to score important victories in the US Court system against those who have attempted to sully his name and reputation and that of the people of Antigua and Barbuda.

The latest development comes

as the Appellate Court has just affirmed the order of the District Court rejecting Yulia Gur-ryeva’s application for discovery and quashing the subpoenas for documents that her attorneys had served on the Clearing House and Federal Reserve.

All documents received by Gur-ryeva’s attorneys pursuant to the subpoenas must now be destroyed, and a certification that they have done so must be provided to the prime minister and his attorneys.

PM Browne’s attorneys have informed him that they will explore whether there is a possibility of recovering some of the costs incurred in the appellate proceedings.

The attorneys added that although

it is theoretically possible for Gur-ryeva to attempt to appeal Monday’s decision to the US Supreme Court, the likelihood of her taking the case to the Supreme Court is less than one in a thousand.

“There is no appeal of right to the Supreme Court. It is up to that Court, in the exercise of its discretion, whether to grant a request for appeal. We do not expect Gur-ryeva’s attorneys to waste their time trying,” the attorneys noted.

PM Browne has already filed a counter motion suing US attorney Martin De Luca and his law firm.

Reports are that the law firm *Boies Schiller* has been served, however, De Luca has not been served as attempts to locate him to serve him personally have been futile.

Midweek Deals

TUESDAYS / WEDNESDAYS

-Burger
-Medium Drink
\$19.99



-Leg and Thigh
-Biscuit
-Medium Drink
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Industrial Consultant Anderson Carty Wins Case Against the Industrial Court

The Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal last Friday heard the appeal that industrial consultant, Anderson Carty brought against the Industrial Court. I represented him in the Appeal court but the matter was initially filed by Wendel Alexander.

The matter stems from an issue in 2024 where the Industrial Court had banned Carty from appearing before them to represent aggrieved employees unless, he had apologized for statements he made on his radio show.

Carty sued in High Court and was unsuccessful and so he appealed.

Attorney Wendel Alexander was his lawyer in High Court and had initially filed the appeal but Carty subsequently changed attorneys, opting instead to be represented by Warren Cassell

It was Cassell who appeared in the Appeal Court last Friday on Carty's behalf in the case where the Industrial Court cited him for contempt because of the statement he made on radio.

The Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal held that while the Industrial Court Act dealt with contempt in the face of the court i.e during proceedings before it, however, it makes no provisions for indirect contempt, i.e for actions outside of court. Moreover, it affirmed that the IC is a creature of Statute and does not have unlimited powers like the High Court. It can only exercise power given to it under the Act. It follows then that the IC had no jurisdiction to disci-



pline Anderson Carty for indirect contempt.

The Industrial Court had banned Carty or two years denying him the opportunity to represent clients in cases it is considering.

According to Cassell...Carty has already filed a motion in the High Court seeking damages and since the issue of jurisdiction was dealt with at the Court of Appeal, his client will now return to court on issue of compensation for not being able to work for 2 years.





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Prime Minister Signals Shift Toward Livable Wage

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda is examining the likelihood of implementing a livable wage.

Once introduced, it will be a major policy shift for the administration that is currently continuing with negotiations aimed at increasing the national minimum wage.

Speaking on *The Browne and Browne Show on Saturday*, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Gaston Browne, revealed that the Government has already moved the minimum wage from \$9.00 to \$11.50 per hour—an increase of approximately 28 percent, which he described as unprecedented.

“At no point in the history of this country have minimum wage earners received such a large increase,” Browne said, adding that the adjustment signals the Government’s broader commitment to improving workers’ earnings.

The Prime Minister indicated that the increase is only the first step in a phased plan to transition toward a livable wage. He disclosed that the Government is aim-



Prime Minister Gaston Browne speaking on the Browne and Browne show

ing to raise the minimum wage to approximately \$13 per hour within the next one to two years, with further adjustments to follow.

According to him, the long-term goal is to establish a minimum monthly income of around \$2,100, which he said would represent a meaningful improvement in the standard of living for low-income workers.

“We are determined that the gains we make in this country must be shared equitably,” he stated, stressing that economic progress must benefit all segments of

society.

However, PM Browne cautioned that the Government must strike a careful balance in implementing wage increases. While acknowledging the importance of improving wages, he stressed that setting the minimum wage too high could reduce incentives for individuals to pursue higher education and skills development.

“You also want people to upskill,” he explained, noting that entering the workforce often involves an initial period of financial struggle that can motivate

individuals to advance.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that Antigua and Barbuda, while making steady economic gains, remains a developing, middle-income country with limited resources. As such, he said expectations must be managed regarding the pace and scale of wage increases.

“This is not Dubai or Saudi Arabia,” Prime Minister Browne remarked, underscoring that the country does not have vast reserves of wealth, but is instead focused on ensuring fairness within its economic system.

He reiterated his Government’s commitment to building a more equitable society, where workers can benefit from national growth while maintaining incentives for personal and professional advancement.

The planned transition to a livable wage is expected to remain a key pillar of the Government’s economic and social policy agenda, though no timeline was given by which work is expected to commence towards the implementation of a livable wage.




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Local Task Force Completes Critical Meetings With Colleagues From Across The Commonwealth

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has successfully presented its ongoing preparations for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) during the Liaison Committee Meetings and the Media Liaison Committee Meetings held last Thursday. The meeting was held virtually, as the country prepares to host the high-level event in St. John's from 1st to 4th November 2026. It provided a framework through which the local Task Force members were able to inform representatives from Commonwealth countries across all time zones on the state of preparations towards CHOGM 26 in St. John's.

The first session brought together key national stakeholders, technical leads, and members of the CHOGM Taskforce to assess progress across critical operational areas. Discussions focused on venue readiness, accreditation systems, delegate transportation, security coordination, conference materials, and overall logistics planning. Emphasis was placed on strengthening inter-agency coordination and ensuring alignment with established timelines ahead of the upcoming Advance Visits in St. John's, scheduled for 28th to 29th April and 5th to 6th May 2026.

The second session, convened as the Media Liaison Committee Meeting, focused on communications and public engagement strategies. Participants re-



E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs and Chairman of the CHOGM

viewed plans for media accreditation, establishment of the Media Centre, digital platforms including the official CHOGM website and mobile application, and international media outreach. The Committee underscored the importance of clear, consistent messaging to effectively showcase Antigua and Barbuda as a premier host nation.

Both sessions highlighted the Government's commitment to delivering a seamless, well-coordinated, and impactful CHOGM 2026. Continued collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat and international partners remains central to ensuring that all operational and protocol requirements

are met to the highest standard.

Speaking on the outcomes of the meetings, E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs and Chairman of the CHOGM Taskforce, stated: "These engagements demonstrate the level of coordination, commitment, and national alignment required to deliver a successful CHOGM. Antigua and Barbuda is fully mobilised across all sectors, and we are working in close partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat and our international partners to ensure that every element - from logistics to media engagement - is executed to the highest standard. We look forward with confidence to welcoming the Commonwealth family to our shores in November."

The Liaison Committee Meetings and the Media Liaison Committee Meetings form part of a structured engagement framework designed to monitor progress, address gaps, and reinforce coordination among all stakeholders involved in the planning and execution of CHOGM 2026.

Antigua and Barbuda looks forward to welcoming Commonwealth leaders, delegates, and partners to St. John's in November 2026 under the theme: "Accelerating Partnerships and Investment for a Prosperous Commonwealth."



ABHTA Elevates Housekeeping Excellence with Advanced Supervisor Training



Hotel Housekeeping professionals from across the industry have completed a Housekeeping Supervisor – Advanced Level Course organized by the Antigua & Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA).

An ABHTA release said the course aimed at equipping hospitality professionals with the advanced skills needed to lead with excellence. It was held at the Muriel O’Mard Campus, formerly the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality In-

stitute.

Designed for housekeeping supervisors and professionals seeking to advance their careers, the two-day training focused on strengthening leadership and team management skills, improving quality control and inspection standards, enhancing guest satisfaction and service consistency, developing stronger budgeting and cost-control techniques, building professionalism and workplace ethics, and positioning par-

ticipants for career growth and advancement.

The course was facilitated by Patricia Louisa Tully, CHHE, CHE, a seasoned hospitality professional with extensive experience across multiple roles, including Executive Housekeeper, Rooms Manager, Consultant, Trainer, and Hospitality Educator.

Participants took part in a combination of examinations, interactive exercises, and practical sessions over the two-day training. On the second day, Tully conducted a hands-on walkthrough of a demonstration room, highlighting the critical protocols and attention to detail required by supervisors when inspecting all areas of housekeeping operations.

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Lady Williams leads H.O.W Delegation to Inaugural “Fostering the Future Together” Summit

A powerful message of “Hope, Opportunity, and Well-being – H.O.W” echoed from Antigua and Barbuda to the global stage, as Lady Sandra Williams joined fellow spouses of Heads of State, Heads of Government and other international delegates at a landmark charitable summit hosted by First Lady of the United States, Melania Trump in Washington, D.C.

The inaugural “Fostering the Future Together” Coalition Summit, held last week, brought together educators, innovators and technology leaders to explore collaborative approaches to advancing child well-being through education, innovation, and the responsible use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and robotics.

The delegation consisted of emerging youth leaders Elijah James (Tech Founder of The Local App & STEM Instructor) and Kamalie Mannix (Educator & Historian), who both played key roles in crafting a national program titled “H.O.W” that seeks to expand access to not only innovative, but inclusive technology-driven education beyond the traditional classroom. Also present was Corporal Shane Williams (Personal Aide to Her Excellency).

The participation of both young men, James and Mannix, was made possible through the support of a private donor, and allowed them to contribute meaningfully to dialogues on improving access to programs focused on coding, e-sports, virtual reality, entrepreneurship and other opportunities for disadvantaged youth across communities. “It was imperative for me that there were young people from Antigua and Barbuda present,” commented Lady Williams. “Not only do they tend to be far ahead on the technological learning curve, but the safety of our universe is dependent upon their level of responsibility and empathy. The youth are an integral part of any project in which I



become involved.”

Prior to attendance at the meeting, Lady Williams also held talks with Dr. E Jonah Greene, Deputy Director of Education; Dr. Mahasen Hadeed and Feona Charles-Richards, Director of Family and Social Services of the Antigua and Barbuda Support and Referral Centre (SPARCC), to gain a deeper and more practical appreciation of the relevant issues affecting our islands in the areas of access and management of artificial intelligence for our youth.

Day one of the summit featured a high-level working session and fire-side chat focused on four priority areas: EdTech tools, artificial intelligence in education, online safety and protection, and digital literacy. A technology expo also allowed delegates to engage directly with leading global companies including Microsoft, Google, Meta, Zoom Starlink and many others – highlighting how access to emerging technologies could unlock opportunities for youth worldwide.

During the high-level engagements on day two, Lady Williams commended First Lady Trump’s leadership through her charitable “Be Best” ini-



tiative and highlighted Antigua and Barbuda’s existing efforts in youth development and digital education. She further expressed readiness to support and advance “Be Best” through strategic partnerships that enable access to sustainable funding and scalable programs for vulnerable youth.

Lady Williams encouraged First Lady Trump to continue the initiative, and to reach out to all nations — including Antigua and Barbuda — to experience the work of “H.O.W” firsthand, an invitation that was warmly welcomed.

Youth Nature Rangers Receive Birdwatching Training to Support Conservation Actions

Eight (8) youth members of the IHO Nature Rangers recently participated in a hands-on birdwatching and wetland ecology training throughout the McKinnon's Wetlands, delivered in partnership with Pelican Safaris. The training introduced participants to bird identification, wetland ecology, and the growing opportunities for community-based ecotourism.

During the field session, youth explored the ecological importance of the McKinnon's Wetlands ecosystem, observing a range of bird species including herons, egrets, locally known as "garlins", West Indian whistling ducks, mangrove cuckoos, and pelicans, commonly referred to in Antigua and Barbuda as "booby." Participants learned practical birdwatching techniques while discussing how birdlife supports biodiversity and sustainable tourism experiences. McKinnon's Wetlands provided an accessible path to similar birdlife found in the North East Marine Management Area (NEMMA), the key biodiversity area.

The training was supported by renowned photographer, Christine Andrews, who guided participants in spotting birds and observing wildlife behaviour in the wetland environment. Through her expertise, youth were encouraged to appreciate the value of patience, observation, and documentation in conservation work. Additionally, she shared birdwatching techniques and provided expert identification of species found within the area.

In addition to birdwatching, the group examined environmental challenges affecting the area. While travelling along the narrow strip connecting the Old Runaway and York's communities, participants observed evidence of illegal dumping and marine debris accumulation. The presence of waste



IHO Nature Rangers - Credit Christine Andrews - Wetlands Birds - White Cheek Pin-



IHO Nature Rangers - Credit Christine Andrews - Wetlands Birds - West Indian Whis-

within this sensitive wetland system raised concerns among the youth and facilitators, highlighting the urgent need for stronger community awareness and responsible waste management. Discussions of project ideas for the area began and are now in the development process.

Project Manager, Britney McDonald provided an educational overview of the mangrove species found within the wetlands and explained their role in protecting coastlines, supporting marine life, and filtering pollutants. She also demonstrated the visible tidal changes within the wetland system, noting how water levels and ecosystem conditions shift between Antigua and Barbuda's rainy season and dry season.

"The wetlands are living systems that respond to the seasons and to hu-



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IHO Nature Rangers - Credit Christine Andrews - Wetlands Birds - Osprey carrying the Catch of the Day

man activity,” McDonald explained during the session. “Understanding how these ecosystems function helps young people see both the opportuni-

ties for conservation and the threats they face.”

The training forms part of ongoing

efforts by the IHO Nature Rangers to build youth capacity in environmental stewardship, biodiversity monitoring, and community conservation. By combining ecological learning with field-based experiences, the programme encourages young people to become active stewards for the protection of Antigua and Barbuda’s natural ecosystems. Future training opportunities can be found on the IHO Nature Rangers Facebook Page.

This activity is part of the “Strengthening Conservation Actions in the North East Management Area, Antigua and Barbuda” project, which is led by the IHO-Nature Rangers and is funded by the [Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund](#) and the World Bank with the implementing support of the [Caribbean Natural Resources Institute](#) and partner [Integrated Health Outreach](#).



Antigua & Barbuda Electoral Commission

OFFICIAL REPORT



#	COUNSTITUENCY	Balance from 2025 SUB-TOTAL	JAN		FEB		MARCH 2026					GRAND TOTAL	% Complete
			TOTAL	TOTAL	2nd-6th	9th-13th	16th-20th	23rd-28th	30th-31st	TOTAL			
1	ST. JOHN'S CITY WEST	758	12	14	5	3	7	127	50	192	976	42%	
2	ST. JOHN'S CITY EAST	486	9	13	4	2	5	103	20	134	642	41%	
3	ST. JOHN'S CITY SOUTH	475	7	10	3	4	10	85	25	127	619	42%	
4	ST. JOHN'S RURAL WEST	1451	46	25	5	5	13	196	77	296	1818	40%	
5	ST. JOHN'S RURAL SOUTH	961	24	27	5	1	9	144	49	208	1220	42%	
6	ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST	1333	41	35	12	8	12	234	68	334	1743	42%	
7	ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH	1158	24	12	3	4	30	229	58	324	1518	45%	
8	ST. MARY'S NORTH	1271	38	26	6	4	9	198	54	271	1606	39%	
9	ST. MARY'S SOUTH	845	14	12	6	1	7	97	44	155	1026	48%	
10	ALL SAINTS EAST AND ST. LUKE	1195	31	16	14	11	11	159	62	257	1499	45%	
11	ALL SAINTS WEST	1493	35	34	14	9	18	232	70	343	1905	48%	
12	ST. GEORGE	1755	22	30	10	9	22	203	53	297	2104	46%	
13	ST. PETER	2219	7	6	3	2	4	33	18	60	2292	80%	
14	ST. PHILIP NORTH	695	22	218	108	63	14	6	3	194	1129	71%	
15	ST. PHILIP SOUTH	417	9	13	4	2	1	89	23	119	558	53%	
16	ST. PAUL	1088	13	15	10	1	8	127	50	196	1312	48%	
17	BARBUDA	720	1	2	0	0	0	8	2	10	733	72%	
Total Weekly Application Count					212	129	180	2270	726				
MONTHLY TOTAL		18320	355	508						3517	22700		

Flow Antigua and Barbuda Celebrates Women's Month by Giving Back and Paying It Forward



Flow Antigua and Barbuda partnered with Scrub Life Cares, a registered nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting women, girls, and youth across Antigua and Barbuda through health education, advocacy, to celebrate women and girls as part of Women's Month activities throughout the month of March.

While International Women's Day

(IWD) was officially observed on March 8, Flow extended the spirit of the occasion across the entire month, embracing the 2026 IWD theme, "Give to Gain," through a corporate outreach initiative titled "Give Back, Pay It Forward."

Throughout March, Flow employees were invited to donate essential self-care and vital feminine hygiene

items to support women and girls in the community. Donation bins were placed at all three Flow locations, making participation accessible and encouraging a strong culture of giving among staff.

In a demonstration of corporate responsibility and solidarity, Flow Antigua and Barbuda matched the donations made by staff, effectively doubling the impact of the initiative and reinforcing the company's ongoing commitment to community upliftment.

"At Flow Antigua and Barbuda, we believe that meaningful change happens when we come together with purpose. By extending our International Women's Day observance throughout Women's Month and matching our staff's contributions, we were able to double the impact of this initiative and support the vital work being done by Scrub Life Cares to uplift women and girls in our communities," said Wayne Hull, Country Manager, Flow Antigua and Barbuda.

All donated items were formally presented to Scrub Life Cares by Hull, highlighting the importance of dignity, personal wellness, and empowerment for women and girls, while underscoring the value of collaboration between the corporate sector and community-based organizations.

This Women's Month initiative served as a reminder that celebrating women extends beyond a single day. Through collective action and generosity, Flow Antigua and Barbuda continues to support initiatives that create meaningful, lasting impact within the community.

Flow Antigua and Barbuda extends sincere thanks to all staff members who contributed and helped turn compassion into action.

Training Begins For Volunteers Ahead Of The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

The 1st Phase of Volunteer Training for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) has commenced at the Eustace Hill School of Business, Innovation and Information Technology.

The training session is being held specifically for volunteers who have been selected as Delegate Liaison Officers (DLOs), and Hospitality Team Members. Training modules focused on professionalism, work etiquette, team building,



conflict resolution, effective communication, cul-

tural sensitivity, and general information regarding The Commonwealth. The training sessions are being organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and facilitated by Anika Kentish, General Volunteer Lead for CHOGM.

Volunteers will undergo extensive training over the next few months in preparation for CHOGM slated to take place 1-4 November, 2026 in Antigua and Barbuda.

Murder Accused Jermaine Nicholas Rushed To Hospital From Court Hearing



Murder accused Jermaine Nicholas made a court appearance in the magistrate court on Monday, and was remanded to a new court date.

But during the hearing, Nicholas openly complained of not feeling



well and reportedly said he felt pain about his body. He was taken to the hospital by prison officers following the hearing.

Nicholas, who is answering charges related to the homicide of

fellow villager, Jahmarlie Pierre last Wednesday, is believed to be responsible for Pierre's death. Pierre was stabbed in his neck and was rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

REGGAE IN THE PARK 15

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THE STRAYS

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April
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16|17|18



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Caps of Change: The Flag on Tour

Across the land, a movement grows,
From where discarded plastic flows,
What once was waste, tossed aside,
Now stands transformed with strength and
pride.

On Global Recycling Day we saw,
A vision built without a flaw,
A flag arose, both bold and bright,
From caps that caught the nation's sight.



Thirty thousand pieces strong,
Each one placed where it belongs,
Six great boards aligned with care,
A story rising in the air.

But just as quickly as it came,
The flag refused to stay the same,

For now it moves, it takes a stand,
A traveling message through the land.

“Caps of Change” — the name it bears,
A journey built through hands that care,
From schoolyards wide to village streets,
It carries lessons as it meets.



And as International Zero Waste Day draws
near,
A global call becomes more clear,
Observed each year on March the thirtieth
day,
Reminding us there's a better way.

The United Nations has long declared,
Our habits show how much we've cared,
That what we waste and what we use,
Defines the future that we choose.

“Unsustainable paths,” they say,
Are leading us all far astray,

Yet hope is found in what we do,
In every cap, in me and you.

And UNESCO shares a truth so strong,
That learning guides us right from wrong,
For education lights the flame,
That helps us rethink how we change.



So what if homes began to sort?
And saw their waste as something more?
What if businesses took a stand?
And built solutions across the land?

What if schools made daily space,
For habits we can all embrace?
What if change was not a trend,
But something we choose to defend?

The flag now moves from place to place,
A silent teacher in each space,
Inviting eyes and hearts to see,
What waste can truly come to be.

And in each stop, a question grows,
About the waste each person throws,

Where does it go? What does it mean?
And what if we chose to keep it clean?

No longer can we turn away,
Or promise change another day,
Because the truth is clear and loud,
The answer lives within the crowd.

For every cap upon that frame,
Represents more than just a name,
It tells a story, bold and clear,
That change begins with people here.



The journey now has just begun,
This is not work that's ever done,
For every year these days return,
And still, there's more for us to learn.

So watch for it as it draws near,
A moving message strong and clear,
A flag that shows what we can do,
When we believe and follow through.

Because waste is not the end of all,
It's just a chance to stand up tall,
To rethink, rebuild, rearrange,
And step into a world of change.

So let this flag remind us all,
No effort ever is too small,
For when we act and take a stand,
We shape the future of our land.

Rhea, a Rough Road, and a Practical Idea: How one small farm is strengthening Antigua's food security



By Zoë Carlton

The road was rough, unmarked, rutted and overgrown, barely deserving of the name, it wound through struggling cassia and untamed banana groves, with no hint of what lay ahead. Then, miles from anywhere, we arrived—to the sudden, deafening chorus of birds. What followed was not just an unusual afternoon, but a close look at something increasingly relevant: how Antigua might begin to feed itself more reliably.

What sits at the end of that track is not just a farm, but a working example of something Antigua and Barbuda increasingly needs: a more resilient, locally grounded approach to food production.

We were promptly adopted by an entourage—a fluffy rhea with the personality of an overfriendly puppy, two determined turkeys, a procession of ducks, and an assortment of rare and rather opinionated poultry. At the centre of it all was biologist Giles Osborne, whose work turns what might look like an eclectic collection into something far more deliberate.

Entirely run by Osborne, the farm blends scientific understanding with practical, small-scale agriculture. With a background in zoology and years of hands-on experience, he has built a system that prioritises adaptation over scale.

“This is really about food security,” Osborne explains, “We’re experimenting on different crops that haven’t been widely used here, and at the same time building a base with poultry that Antigua can actually rely on.”

Breeding is in full swing: chicks everywhere—underfoot, under wings, and inside the incubator. It is busy, alive, faintly chaotic—but also productive.

Because this is not eccentricity. It is strategy.

As we walked the reclaimed land—once choked with scrub, now carefully managed—Osborne explained the thinking behind every bird and every crop. Sixteen breeds of chickens, alongside ducks, turkeys, quail and pheasants, form what is effectively a living genetic library.

“We’ve got pure breeds here for a reason,” he says. “If you want to develop birds that work in Antigua, you need that genetic base. Otherwise, you’re just mixing backyard birds and you don’t really know what you have.”

In a country where most food—and much of its poultry stock—is imported, that distinction matters. Heavy reliance on external supply chains leaves Antigua and Barbuda vulnerable to disruption, price volatility, and climate-related shocks beyond its control.

By maintaining pure breeds, Osborne is creating the foundation for something more stable.

“If you lose the pure breeds, you lose your starting point,” he explains. “What we’re trying to do is give Antigua the ability, in the future, to produce its own crosses—birds that actually thrive here, rather than depending entirely on imported hybrids.”

The same principle runs through the crop trials.

Rather than focusing on what grows well elsewhere, the farm is testing what works here. Sikkim cucumber shows resistance to mould. Winged beans provide both food and soil improvement, fixing nitrogen while producing a protein-rich crop. Passion-fruit thrives despite limited water.

“You have to match the plant to the environment,” Osborne says. “Crops from similar climates—parts of Asia or South America—can do very well here.”

These trials are not about novelty, but reliability.

They also speak to a broader issue in Antigua’s agriculture: uniformity. Too often, farmers grow the same crops at the same time, leading to gluts followed by shortages.

“There’s a tendency for everyone to do the same thing,” Osborne says. “You get gluts—you can’t give things away—and then at other times there’s



nothing. Diversity is what helps balance that.”

The risks are not only economic, but biological.

“If you depend too heavily on one crop, you become vulnerable,” he adds. “We’ve seen what can happen when disease comes in and everything is the same.”

A more varied system—across both crops and livestock—offers a degree of built-in resilience, reducing risk and improving consistency of supply.

The farm, in this sense, functions as a small-scale research site. What works here could, over time, be adopted more widely.

“I can’t produce at scale here,” Osborne acknowledges. “There’s no water for that. But I can test what survives, what produces—and that’s where the value is.”

This practical approach aligns closely with broader food security priorities: strengthening domestic production, reducing reliance on imports, and adapting to local environmental constraints. Here, those ideas are not theoretical—they are being worked through, day by day.

Osborne also sees the project as educational.

“A big part of this is teaching—genetics, breeding, understanding how traits are passed on,” he says. “If people understand that, they can make better decisions about what they’re producing.”

Yet for all its promise, the project remains limited in scale and support. Like many small agricultural initia-

tives, it operates largely independently, despite its relevance to national priorities.

For Osborne, the motivation is straightforward.

“It’s about trying to give something back,” he says. “Using what I’ve learned to show what’s possible here.” Because somewhere down that improbable track, it becomes clear that

this is more than an isolated effort.

It is a working model—small, practical, and grounded—of how food security in Antigua and Barbuda might be strengthened. Not through a single large intervention, but through careful selection, local adaptation, and a willingness to do things differently.

One breed, one crop, and one tested idea at a time.

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Expression of Interest Submission for

Consulting Services from Firms

using Selection Methods: QCBS, QBS, FBS, LCS and CQS

(FE-S)

Version	Date
Original Publication	June 26, 2023
Revision 1	March 18, 2024

Expression of Interest (EOI) Consulting Firms

[Note to Firm: Insert signed Cover letter in a format of your choosing]

General Information

Project Country	Antigua and Barbuda
Project Number (if applicable)	Not Applicable (N/A)
Project Name	Integrated Solid Waste Management Preparation Project
Specific Assignment Name	Consultancy Services for a Feasibility Study, Detailed Design and Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategy for Antigua and Barbuda
EOI Identification Number (if applicable)	N/A

I. Consulting Firm Information

Name of Firm ¹ :	
Country of Registration: ²	Registered Postal Address:
Contact Telephone Number:	E-mail Address:
Name of Authorised Representative EOI Submitted by:	Position of Authorised Representative:

A. Brief Background of Consulting Firm

Present a brief background of the firm and list the services provided by the firm. A company profile/brochure can also be attached but not copied and pasted below. **[500 words]:**

¹ The Name of Firm shall be the full legal name of the firm which would be used under any subsequent contract for this assignment. In case of JVs established or to be established for this assignment, identify the legal name of the Lead consulting firm. A Firm is defined in "Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB" (Procedures), January 2021.

² In case of JVs, specify the country of registration of the Lead consultant. The lead consultancy firm must submit a copy of the Certificate of Registration / Incorporation of itself and of each JV member and SC through section VI. EOI Attachments.

B. Associations (Joint Venture³ partner(s) or Sub-consultancy firm(s) in association with the Lead Firm)

Name of Firm	Country of Registration	Joint Venture (JV) or Sub-consultant (SC)	Name of Authorised Representative EOI Submitted by	Position of Authorised Representative
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		
		Choose an item.		

C. Brief Background of JV partner(s) or SC firm(s)

Present a brief background of each of the JV partner(s) or SC firm(s) and list the services provided by the firm(s) relevant to the assignment by each entity. Include the date of establishment of the JV and major relevant highlights similar to this assignment. A company profile/brochure of each entity⁴ can be attached (Section VI. EOI Attachments.) ***(Maximum 1,000 words for each entity)***

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional text boxes as necessary for each entity)

³ A Joint Venture (JV) is defined in “Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB” (Procedures), January 2021 paragraph 6.22.

⁴ Entity refers to the consulting firm and/or the affiliated parties under the partnership arrangement.

D. Summary of Rationale for the Structure of the Consultants Expressing Interest

Present the rationale for and benefits of working in association (JV or SC) with others rather than undertaking the assignment independently (as appropriate). Describe the proposed management and coordination approach between the firms and the anticipated role of each. **(Maximum [500 words]: 500 words for each entity):**

We confirm that: (please check)

- Documentation regarding our corporate structure including beneficial ownership has been attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.
- Documentation regarding our Board of Directors or equivalent has been attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.
- A written agreement to associate for the purpose of this Expression of Interest or a letter of intent to enter into such agreement to perform the assignment if successful has been signed between the JV partners and has been attached (if applicable).
- The lead consulting firm and JV partners, if any, are not sole proprietorships.⁵
- If our team is shortlisted and invited to submit a Proposal, we understand it is not permissible to transfer the invitation to any other Firm, such as a parent company, subsidiaries, and affiliates⁶.
- We understand that the Recipient/Client⁷ has the right to reject a Proposal if the Consultant removes or changes a JV member without the Client's prior consent.

⁵ Refer to footnote 21 of the Procedures, January 2021, i.e., "Sole proprietorships shall be deemed as equivalent to an individual Consultant."

⁶ Refer to permissible arrangements of the parties as described in the Procedures, January 2021 under paragraph 6.21.

⁷ "Recipient" refers here to the entity which signed the Financing Agreement with CDB who may be represented by an implementing or executing agency, and which may also be called the "Client".

II. Assignment Specific Qualifications and Experience of Lead Firm or JV Partners.⁸

Please provide relevant project information in the Sections below.

A. Project References

Please select the most recent and relevant projects to demonstrate the entity’s technical qualifications, technical experience, and geographical experience [**minimum two (2) projects within the last ten (10) years**].

i. Project Summary

PN ⁹	Project Title	Country	Duration (no. of months)	Contracting Party	Entity ¹⁰
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

ii. Project Details

PN 1	
Project Title	
Country/Region	

⁸ Sub-consultants' qualifications and experience are not considered.

⁹ PN refers to each Project Number listed and as referenced in the preceding project summaries.

¹⁰ List name of each entity as it applies to the details of experience such as the name of the Lead Consulting Firm, JV partner, etc.

Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous/Intermittent	
Contracting Party	
Lead Firm	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate name of the Lead Consulting Firm/JV partner)</i>
Firm (if not Lead Firm and JV Partner)	
Role within contract (if not Lead Firm)	
Funding Source	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate, for example, whether from MDB, Private Sector, Public Sector, etc.)</i>
Value of Contract in USD	
Value of Services provided in USD	
Description	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate your role, for example, whether Consulting Firm, JV partner or sub-contractor and inputs in person-months and describe the types of activities undertaken)</i>
Point of Contact of Contracting Party ¹¹	Name: Contact Number: E-mail address:

PN 2	
Project Title	

¹¹ Procuring Entity reserves the right to contact the Contracting Party to ascertain information included in the EOI.

Country/Region	
Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous/Intermittent	
Contracting Party	
Entity	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate name of the Lead Consulting Firm/JV partner)</i>
Funding Source	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate, for example, whether from MDB, Private Sector, Public Sector, etc.)</i>
Value of Contract in USD	
Value of Services provided by the entity in USD	
Description	<i>(Note to Firm: indicate your key position role, for example, whether Consulting Firm, JV partner or sub-contractor and inputs in person-months and describe the types of activities undertaken)</i>
Point of Contact of Contracting Party	Name: Contact Number: E-mail address:

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional Project Details tables as necessary with their corresponding PN reference numbers against the Project Summary table.)

B. Financial Capability

i. Financial Documents

The (lead) firm and its parties shall provide copies of financial statements of the (lead) firm and JV partners, where applicable, within the last 5 years during the period **years 2021 to 2025** (including turnover from consulting services and other activities, profit & loss, current asset & liability, and fixed asset & liability) to demonstrate that they have the necessary financial capacity to undertake the assignment. The financial statements shall:

- (a) reflect the financial situation of the (lead) firm or in case of JV member, and not an affiliated entity (such as parent company or group member).
- (b) be independently audited¹² or certified in accordance with local legislation.
- (c) be complete, including all notes to the financial statements.
- (d) correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited.

(Please check)

Attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments are copies of financial statements¹³ 5 years required above; and complying with the requirements.

ii. Financial data

Table 1 below should be completed to reflect the data provided in the financial statements.

Table 1

Financial information in (USD ¹⁴ equivalent in 000s)	Historic information for previous 5 years				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Statement of Financial Position (Information from Balance Sheet)					
Total Assets (TA)					
Total Liabilities (TL)					
Total Equity/Net Worth					

¹² Unless financial statements are not required to be audited under the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction of the firm.

¹³ If the most recent set of financial statements is for a period earlier than 12 months from the date of Application, the reason for this should be justified.

¹⁴ If the currency is not in USD, use the prevailing exchange rate at the time of this EOI submission.

(NW)					
Current Assets (CA)					
Current Liabilities (CL)					
Working Capital (WC)					
Information from Income Statement					
Total Revenue (TR)					
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)					
Cash Flow Information					
Cash Flow from Operating Activities					

III. Brief Comments on Terms of Reference (maximum of 500 words)

IV. Organisational Structure and Staffing of entity with experience related directly to the type of assignment.

Provide details in the table below of the human resources available (key and non-key experts) to execute the type of assignment in question (if required). An organogram / organisational chart can be attached in Section VI. EOI Attachments.

1	2		3	4	5	6
No.	Category of Specialisation of Expertise and Skillset ¹⁵	General number of this resource available	Minimum required degree level	Minimum years of experience	Total number of resources who meet the requirements	Comments/ Further information, if any
N.B.		<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, e.g., total number of Civil Engineers available.</i>			<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, e.g., total number of Civil Engineers available with at least 10 years of experience</i>	<i>Note to Firm: complete this section, if any</i>
1	Solid + Liquid Waste Management Specialist	<i>[5 persons]</i>	Post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering, or Waste Management.	A minimum of 15 years' experience in solid waste management projects, including integrated system assessments, feasibility studies, and strategy development.	<i>[3 persons]</i>	
2	Social Safeguards Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Social Development.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in social impact assessments for infrastructure projects, including experience in at least one solid waste infrastructure project.		

¹⁵ Listed individual experts will not be evaluated at this EOI stage but rather the human resources available collectively within the entity.

3	Environmental and Climate Change Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Environmental Science, Climate Science, Environmental Management, Engineering.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in conducting environmental assessments for infrastructure projects, including experience in at least one solid waste infrastructure project.		
4	Financial and Economic Analyst		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Economics, Finance, or Business Administration.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in financial and economic analysis of infrastructure or environmental projects.		
5	Civil / Environmental Engineer		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering.	A minimum of 10 years' experience in engineering design, including the design of solid waste facilities such as sanitary landfills, transfer stations, recycling centres, and composting plants.		
6	Policy and Institutional Specialist		A post-graduate degree or equivalent professional certification with demonstrated experience in Public Policy, Environmental Law, or Institutional Development	A minimum of 10 years' experience in reviewing and reforming policies, legislation, and institutional frameworks related to environmental management.		
7	Non-key Experts:					

Procurement and Contract Specialist					
Capacity Development and Training Specialist					
Community Engagement Specialist					
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist					
Mechanical Engineer (Plant and Equipment Advisory)					
Disaster Management Specialist					
		Post-graduate degree in any relevant discipline related to the assigned role		Minimum 5-10 years of relevant professional experience in infrastructure, environmental, or public sector projects. Experience relevant to the specific functional area.	

(Note to Firm: Please insert and modify rows and columns as necessary)

V. List of existing commitments

Provide a list of existing active commitments of projects being undertaken, if any.

Commitment Contract Title	Value of Contract (USD)	Value of Work remaining to be completed by Entity (USD)	Start Date	End Date (Estimated)

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional rows as necessary)

VI. EOI Attachments

No.	Description
1	Certificate of Registration or Incorporation of the Lead Member
2	Certificate of Registration or Incorporation of the JV member (for each member)
3	Documentation regarding Corporate Structure including beneficial ownership for each member of the Association
4	JV Agreement Letter of Intent to enter a JV Agreement (where relevant)
5	Documentation regarding the firm's (JV partners, as applicable,) Board of Directors
6	Financial Statements
7	Signed Governance and Eligibility Declaration on letterhead of consultant
8	Litigation & Arbitration Disclosure Statement

(Note to Firm: Please insert additional rows as necessary)

[Note to Firm: Insert Letterhead of (lead) Entity]

VII. Governance and Eligibility¹⁶ Declaration

We [insert name of the consulting firm or joint partners], represented by the undersigned, certify to the best of our knowledge and belief that: *(please check all boxes that apply)*

Understanding: We have read the Request for Expressions of Interest, including the draft terms of reference (TOR), for this assignment.

1. Governance:

No Conflicts of Interest: Neither the consulting firm nor its JV member or SC or any of its experts prepared the TOR for this activity and have no conflict of interest in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.17 Conflict of Interest.

No Conflicts of Interest: None of the members of our entity are subsidiaries of and/or dependent on the Client, Executing Agency or the Implementing Agency or individuals related to them and do not have an unfair competitive advantage in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.18 – 5.20 Unfair Competition.

Suspension and Debarment: We, the lead entity and JV member or SC along with any of our subcontractors, suppliers, consultants, manufacturers, or service providers for any part of the proposed services, are not subject to, and not controlled by any entity or individual that is subject to a temporary suspension or a debarment imposed by CDB or subject to a public debarment by an MDB which is a signatory to the Agreement on Mutual Enforcement of Debarment Decisions. Further, we are not ineligible under the Employer's country laws or official regulations or pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council. Neither the consulting firm nor the JV member or SC has ever been convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime related to corruption, fraud, collusion, coercion, or obstruction.

Suspension and Debarment: We understand that it is our obligation to notify CDB should any member of the entity become ineligible to work with CDB or other MDBs, in the context described in the above point, or be convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime as described above and in accordance with the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021) Section 5 specifically Paragraphs 5.25-5.27 Prohibited Practices.

¹⁶ Eligibility refers to the details as set out in Section 4 of CDB's Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) or former versions of the CDB's Procurement Procedures and any such waivers by CDB, as relevant.

- No Misrepresentations: We understand that any misrepresentations that knowingly or recklessly mislead or attempt to mislead, may result in the automatic rejection of the proposal or cancellation of the contract, if awarded, and further remedial action, in accordance with CDB's Prohibited Practices and Other Integrity Related Matters Framework, may be pursued.

2. Eligibility:

- Eligibility: All consulting entities proposed in this EOI are eligible to participate in CDB-funded, -supported and -administered` activities in accordance with Section 4 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021).
- Experience Declaration: We confirm that the project references submitted as part of this EOI accurately reflect the experience and involvement of the specified entity.
- Agreement of Association: JV member(s) named in this EOI, authorised us in writing to represent them in expressing interest in this activity as detailed and attached in the Letter of Agreement / Intent to enter into a JV Agreement.
- Agreement of Association: Sub-consultant(s) named in this EOI, confirmed their interest in this activity in writing by way of signing a document indicating their willingness and availability to participate in the assignment.
- State-owned Enterprise or Institution: We are not a state-owned enterprise or institution.
OR
- State-owned Enterprise or Institution: We are a state-owned enterprise or institution but are legally and financially autonomous¹⁷ and operate under commercial law¹⁸.

Signature:

Authorised Representative

Date of Submission: [*dd-mm-yyyy*]

¹⁷ "Legally autonomous" means a legal entity separate from the eligible country's government. "Financially autonomous" means not receiving budget support from any public entity, and not being obliged to pass financial surplus to the same, except through dividends to shareholder.

¹⁸ Being vested with legal rights and liabilities similar to any commercial enterprise, including, being incorporated or established by statutory charter under local law; having the right: (i) to enter into legally binding contracts; (ii) to sue; (iii) to be sued; and (iv) to borrow money, being liable for the repayment of debts and being able to be declared bankrupt.

Regional News



Tied up thief taken to police in wheelbarrow



Residents of Curepe caught a suspected thief in the act early Thursday morning, tied him up, and transported him to the St Joseph Police Station using a wheelbarrow.

The man, believed to be in his mid-40s, was spotted around 5 a.m. carrying two vehicle amplifiers he had reportedly stolen from a local garage. Residents who were out early noticed the man struggling with a bag containing the items and confronted him.

When questioned, the suspect initially failed to respond, but after

further questioning, he admitted to stealing the amplifiers. The residents then restrained his hands and feet before placing him in a wheelbarrow and taking him to the police.

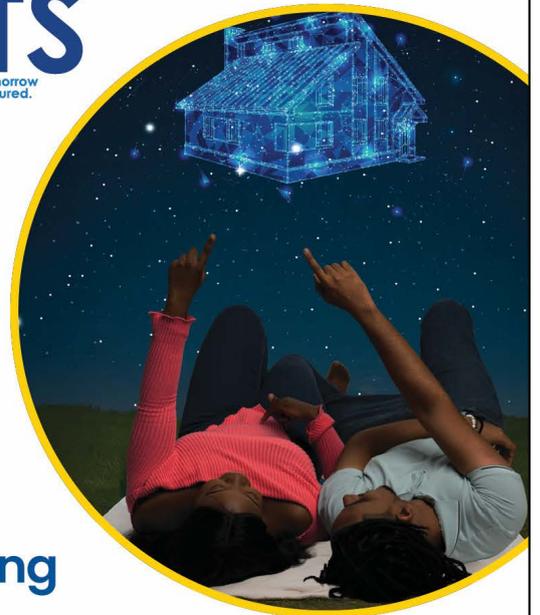
Video footage of the incident was recorded by the residents and has circulated online.

Police confirmed that the suspect remained in custody as of Thursday night while investigators continued to question him about the theft. (Trinidad Express)



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New appeal for Jamaicans to help hurricane-impacted students return to school

St Elizabeth Homecoming Foundation Chairman Donna Parchment Brown has issued a call for Jamaicans, individuals and organisations to come forward and assist students who have not returned to school since Hurricane Melissa in October 2025.

In St Elizabeth alone, there have been reports that more than 400 students have failed to return to school since the hurricane, with lack of bus fare and hygiene issues, among other factors, being identified as causes. In addition, the Ministry of Education, Skills, Youth and Information said last week it was still unable to account for 335 students across the island, while urging stakeholders to assist in locating them.

The foundation recently launched an initiative to help students, beginning with those attending Newell High School, located in Watchwell in the parish.

The initiative covers bus fares, and personal care and hygiene products.

Speaking with The Gleaner



after the launch, Parchment Brown said members of the foundation, assisted by family members, have contributed personally to the initiative, but acknowledged that Newell students are just a fraction of the student population that needs assistance.

“I do think it would be good if, through the Homecoming Foundation or directly to the schools, people would reach out and try and address this problem of the students’ in-

ability to attend [classes],” Parchment Brown said.

She said the further away people are from St Elizabeth, the less they can appreciate the extent to which families have been affected.

“So, parents may have lost their farms, their crops; they may have lost jobs; their houses may have been damaged or roofs removed, and that has had to be the priority. As a result, some stu-

dents have not been able to get bus fares, uniforms, and so on to go to school.

“So, I call on every caring person and institution who can assist – it may be a small thing – reach out to the school in your community that you have a connection with, or any school in the parish; ask if they have students who need assistance, and see what you can do.”

Outside of pressing issues such as bus fares and hygiene products, some students, especially those preparing for Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate examinations, also need textbooks and other items.

As a continuation of its initiative, the foundation last Friday handed over several items to the school, including an inflatable mattress, hygiene and sanitation items, food, and shoes. The items were sourced from friends and family members from Jamaica and the United Kingdom, and from Imani’s Lemon-aid Stand for Kids. (Jamaica Gleaner)

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SVG gov signs historic WTO fisheries agreement



In a major move to advance its Blue Economy and ensure the sustainable management of its marine resources, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has officially signed the World Trade Organization (WTO) Fisheries Subsidies Agreement.

The instrument of acceptance was signed and deposited on March 26, 2026, by the Honourable Dwight Fitzgerald Bramble, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, Foreign Investment and Diaspora Affairs, during the 14th Ministerial Conference of the WTO.

Combating Harmful Fishing Practices The WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement is recognized as a landmark achievement for both global trade and environmental policy. At its core, the agreement seeks to eliminate harmful fisheries subsidies that drive overfishing, overcapacity, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. By doing so, it encourages

sustainable fishing practices among all WTO member states and reaffirms the nation's commitment to responsible fisheries governance.

Boosting the Blue Economy and Local Livelihoods For Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, this international commitment directly supports the nation's ongoing development of its Blue Economy.

The government noted that marine resources play a critical role in the country's economic growth, national food security, and environmental stewardship. Furthermore, the local fisheries sector remains a vital contributor to economic activity and livelihoods across the nation.

Special Provisions for Developing Nations A crucial aspect of the agreement for small island developing states (SIDS) like Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is the inclusion of "special and differential treatment" provisions.

These provisions guarantee that developing nations can implement their new commitments in a way that aligns with their national development priorities. Additionally, the agreement unlocks access to crucial technical assistance and capacity-building support, which will be utilized to strengthen the nation's fisheries management and monitoring systems.

Minister Bramble underscored the significance of the signing, calling it a valuable opportunity to protect the marine resources that Vincentians depend on, while enhancing the long-term viability, resilience, and sustainability of the local fisheries sector.

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has reaffirmed its dedication to participating actively in the multilateral trading system, working alongside international partners to champion policies that foster economic resilience and responsible ocean stewardship. (St Vincent Times)

Russian oil tanker reaches Cuba after Trump appears to loosen blockade



A Russian tanker carrying oil to Cuba has entered the waters off the Communist-run island, Russia's Interfax news agency reports.

The oil shipment - the first to reach Cuba since January - comes hours after US President Donald Trump said that he had no problem with countries, including Russia, sending supplies to the island.

Trump's remark appeared to signal a loosening of a de facto oil blockade his administration had imposed on Cuba since January.

Cuba has been experiencing a series of nation-wide blackouts as the blockade exacerbated existing shortages.

According to Interfax, the Russian tanker Anatoly Kolodkin is carrying a "humanitarian shipment" of 100,000 tonnes of crude oil.

Last week, the World Health Organization (WHO) had warned that severe fuel shortages meant that Cuban hospitals were struggling to maintain emergency and intensive care services.

Cuba's situation has deteriorated rapidly since 3 January, when US forces seized Venezuelan leader Nicolás

Maduro - a staunch ally of the Cuban government - who had been providing the island with oil under highly preferential terms.

Trump also threatened to impose tariffs on any nation sending oil to Cuba.

Russian Minister of Energy Sergei Tsivilev said on Wednesday that Cuba "had found itself in a difficult situation as a result of sanctions pressure".

"That is why we are currently sending humanitarian supplies to Cuba," he added.

Just over a week ago, the US Treasury department added Cuba to a list of countries barred from receiving oil deliveries from Russia.

But in an apparent reversal of his strategy, Trump told journalists on board of Air Force One on Sunday that he had "no problem" with Russia delivering oil to Cuba.

"We have a tanker out there. We don't mind having somebody get a boatload because they need (...) they have to survive," he said.

It was not clear from Trump's comment if this represented a reversal of the fuel blockade policy or just a tem-

porary softening.

The Russian tanker is expected to offload the oil in Matanzas terminal in the coming hours.

The oil it carries is expected to provide Cuba with a short-term lifeline

Its Communist government, led by President Miguel Díaz Canel, has been in talks with the Trump administration to find a route out of the crisis.

But both sides have publicly set out a number of political and economic red lines which make it hard to see where they could find common ground.

President Trump recently said he could "take" Cuba while the island's leadership has said it refuses to accept any enforced changes to the personnel or political direction of its government.

Cuba was already facing its worst economic and energy crisis since the end of the Cold War, because of a combination of a fall in tourism after the coronavirus pandemic and government economic mismanagement.

This crisis has been further worsened by the de facto fuel blockade. (BBC)

Spain and Catholic Church sign deal to compensate abuse victims



The Spanish government and the Catholic Church signed an agreement Monday to compensate victims of sexual abuse by clergy in cases that can no longer be pursued through the courts.

The deal for the Church to pay reparations comes ahead of a June 6-12 visit by Pope Leo XIV, in what will be the first papal visit to the country since 2011.

Justice Minister Felix Bolanos said the deal, first reached in January, is aimed at victims who are unable to pursue legal action because the crimes have proscribed or the alleged abusers have died.

After signing the agreement in Madrid, Bolanos called it “a day of justice” for “the thousands of victims who suffered sexual abuse within the Catholic Church and were not only left without support, but were doubted and forgotten”.

Under the system, compensation will be determined on a case-by-case basis rather than through fixed guidelines.

The process will involve representatives from the government, the Church and Spain’s ombudsman, with the state having final authority over decisions.

The Church will be responsible for paying the compensation awarded.

Bolanos described the model as “pioneering worldwide”, saying it ensures state oversight while requiring the Church to provide reparations to victims.

Luis Arguello, president of the Spanish Episcopal Conference (CEE), described the agreement as “a gesture” by the Church.

“Even though we are dealing with cases that are legally time-barred or where the accused have died, the Church wants to acknowledge its responsibility as part of the same body,”

he said.

The agreement follows years of scrutiny over clerical abuse in Spain.

A 2023 report by Spain’s ombudsman found that more than 200,000 minors had suffered sexual abuse by Roman Catholic clergy since 1940.

That number could rise to 400,000 if abuse by laypersons in religious settings is included.

The Church’s own records list 1,057 “registered cases”, with 358 deemed “proven” or “credible”.

Unlike in other nations, in Spain — a traditionally Catholic country that has become highly secular — clerical abuse allegations only recently started to gain traction, thanks mainly to media reporting on the issue.

Church efforts to compensate abuse victims have long been inconsistent, with programmes and payouts varying widely around the world. (AFP)

World Cup risks being ‘stage for repression’ says Amnesty International

Amnesty International warned this summer’s football World Cup, spread across three North Acountries, risks becoming a “stage for repression” in a report published Monday.

The London-based human rights organisation’s report — “Humanity Must Win” — called on both FIFA and host countries the US, Canada and Mexico to take urgent action to protect fans, players and other communities.

FIFA has promised a tournament where everyone “feels safe, included and free to exercise their rights”.

But Amnesty said that pledge sits in “stark contrast” to conditions on the ground in all three host nations, especially the US, which hosts three-quarters of the 104 matches.

Amnesty described the US as facing a “human rights emergency” under the Trump administration, marked by mass deportations, arbitrary arrests and what it called “paramilitary-style”



Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations.

The acting director of ICE said last month the agency will be “a key part of the overall security apparatus for

the World Cup”.

This comes despite anger at the killing of two American citizens who were protesting aggressive ICE raids in Minneapolis in January. (AFP)

GET Reddy

UPDATE YOUR VOTER ID

WHAT TO BRING

- Expired Voter ID
- Government-issued ID
- Proof of address
- Marital status documents (if applicable)

REGISTRATION UNIT
Yorks Community Centre
(Opposite the basketball court)

HOURS
Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

HON. CHARLES 'MAX' FERNANDEZ
St. John’s Rural North

FOR ASSISTANCE
764-4340

GET Reddy

UPDATE YOUR VOTER ID

WHAT TO BRING

- Expired Voter ID
- Government-issued ID
- Proof of address
- Marital status documents (if applicable)

REGISTRATION UNIT
Central Registration Unit
(Sir Sydney Walling Highway)

HOURS
Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

HON. MELFORD NICHOLAS
St. John’s City East

Russia expels British diplomat over spying allegations

Russia has ordered a British diplomat to leave the country over allegations of spying, the latest in a series of expulsions of embassy staff from both sides. The Federal Security Service (FSB) claims the man provided false information when applying to enter the country, as well as trying to obtain sensitive information during informal economic meetings, according to state media reports.

The diplomat has had their accreditation revoked and has been ordered to leave the country within two weeks.

A UK Foreign Office spokesman called the move “complete nonsense” and accused Russia of an “aggressive and co-ordinated campaign of harassment against British diplomats”.

In a statement, they said Russia has been “pumping out malicious and completely baseless accusations about their work”. “The UK does not stand for intimidation of British embassy staff and their families,” they added.

The FSB claims the diplomat “intentionally provided false information” when obtaining a permit to enter Russia, and that there were “signs of intelligence activities” detected, according to state news agency Tass.

His name has also been shared in Russian state media.

Following the expulsion, the UK’s charge d’affaires Danae Dholakia was summoned to the Russian Foreign Ministry, which she reportedly left without comment.

This is just the latest in what is a series of tit-for-tat responses from Russia and the UK.

Diplomatic relations between the UK and Russia have worsened in recent years, with both countries expelling a number of each other’s diplomats since Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Earlier this year, Russia expelled a British diplomat from the country over spying allegations.

In March 2025, Russia expelled two British officials over accusations of spying, with the UK Foreign Office accusing Moscow of “malicious and baseless



accusations” against its staff.

The UK, in response, revoked accreditation for a Russian diplomat and a

diplomatic spouse, saying it would “not stand for intimidation of British embassy staff and their families”. (BBC)

NOTICE

TO:Your Worship
St. John’s Magistrate’s Court
Gray’s Farm
St. John’s
Antigua

TO:The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St.John’s
Antigua

Dear Sir/Madame,

Re: Notice-Application for Tavern Licence

I,TRAVIS RICKFORD EDWARDS, of Village, with registered business situate at Bishop Gate Street St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licensing Court to be held at the Magistrate’s Court at, High Street, St John’s Antigua on Monday 6th April, 2026 next ensuring for a Liquor Licensing Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992, in respect of premises known as “Travis Rickford Edwards” situated at Bishop Gate Street, in the Parish of St.John’s, Antigua and Barbuda.

Dated the 13th day of January, 2026
Travis R. Edwards
268-775-8886



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GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PREPARATION PROJECT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY, DETAILED DESIGN, AND INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – FIRMS

The **Government of Antigua and Barbuda (GOAB)** has applied for financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of the **Integrated Solid Waste Management Preparation Project** and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds to eligible payments under this contract. Payment by CDB will be made only at the request of the GOAB and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement. The Loan Agreement prohibits a withdrawal from the Loan Account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOAB shall derive any rights from the Loan Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Loan.

The National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) is the Executing Agency of this Project and now wishes to procure consultancy services for a feasibility study, detailed design and integrated solid waste management strategy for Antigua and Barbuda.

The objective of the consultancy is to strengthen solid waste management in Antigua and Barbuda. Further details can be found in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of approximately fifty-two (52) weeks. The National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the provision of these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or bona fide resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.¹ Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria de-

¹ *Occasionally contracts may be financed out of special programmes that would further expand the number of eligible countries or restrict eligibility to a particular group of member countries. When this is the case, it should be mentioned in this paragraph.*

tailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021), as applicable and as published on CDB’s website.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to technical competence, qualifications and experience, local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability, and existing commitments. Key Experts will **not** be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Interested consultant teams are required to submit their Expression of Interest using the “EOI Consulting Firms template”² attached to this REOI or downloaded from the Specific Procurement Notice on CDB’s website.

All information must be submitted in **English**. Further information may be obtained from the **first address** below between 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. AST hours Monday to Friday.

Expressions of Interest must be submitted electronically to the email address under **Address 1** below, no later than **06 April 2026 at 4:00 p.m. AST** and copied simultaneously to CDB at the email under **Address 2** below. The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked “**Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services for a feasibility study, detailed design and integrated solid waste management strategy for Antigua and Barbuda**”.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three and not more than six applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment. GOAB reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not selecting any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

<p>(1) National Solid Waste Management Authority Sir George Walter Hwy, Piggotts St. George’s, Antigua Tel: +1 (268) 562-1348 Email: finance.pmu@ab.gov.ag</p>	<p>(2) Caribbean Development Bank Tel: +1 (246) 539-1600 Email: procurement@caribank.org</p>
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² *When drafting the REOI and the TOR, the Client should also prepare an Expression of Interest Submission Template. The latter should be tailored by the Recipient to the specifics of the assignment in question and can be downloaded from CDB’s website at: 20230626_CDB EOI Consulting Firms-template v1.docx (live.com) It will be included as an attachment to this REOI. For REOIs advertised in newspapers locally or nationally, the EOI submission template may be requested by the interested consulting firms directly from the Recipient, and wording in this REOI shall be modified accordingly.*

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More success for Stoneville women and men in volleyball league



Stoneville women's volleyball team



Stoneville men's volleyball team

Theatric Lighting and JOMA Stoneville have attained more success in both women and men's Division 1 competitions in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Women's Division 1 League.

Stoneville claimed their second win in as many games by pulling off a 3-1 victory against Hidow Caribbean Starz 1 in their Women's Division 1 encounter at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Stoneville delivered a solid performance, taking the first two sets, 25-11 and 25-23. Starz 1 responded with determination to take the third set 25-23, but Stoneville held their composure to close out the match by winning a tight fourth set 25-23. It was the second loss in as many games for Starz 1.

Stoneville also made it two wins in as many games by securing a 3-1 victory

over Gwava and N18 Construction Invaders in their men's Division 1 affair.

Stoneville took control early, winning the first two sets 25-18 and 25-22. The Invaders showed resilience to claim the third set 25-23. However, Stoneville remained composed to wrap up victory by taking the fourth set 25-22. It was the first loss in two games for the Invaders.

Jets have also continued their successful start in the ABAVA Women's Division 1 League.

The Jets claimed their second win in as many games with a 3-1 victory over the Royal Cruisers.

The Jets took an hour and 36 minutes to prevail 25-22, 21-25, 25-21, and 25-15 against the Royal Cruisers, who suffered their second loss in as many games.

After losing their opening game to defending men's Division 1 champi-

ons Pytonz, the University of the West Indies (UWI) rebounded to claim their first win of the season.

The UWI men took one hour and 29 minutes to beat the Renegades 3-1, prevailing 20-25, 25-15, 25-19, and 25-13. It was the second loss in as many games for the Renegades.

The Eagles Falcons got off to a successful start in the Women's Division 2 League. The Eagles Falcons launched their campaign with a 2-0, 25-14, and 25-22 victory against the Chargers Eagles 2, who were also playing their first game of the season.

The ASCSC Stingers also launched their campaign in the Men's Division 2 League with a 2-0 victory against Sharks. Stingers controlled the match from the start, using strong serving and organized play to secure a 25-16, 25-22 straight-set victory. It was also the first outing for the Sharks.



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Wins for Bullets and Tigers in Premier Division League



Players of the Pigotts Bullets starting XI

The Pigotts Bullets and the Potters Tigers picked up wins in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Sunday.

The Pigotts Bullets claimed their 10th win in 18 matches by pulling off a 3-1 victory against the bottom team, Sir Molwyn Joseph Jennings United, in the second game of a double-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Akeem Isaac's 23rd-minute conversion gave the Pigotts Bullets a one-nil lead at halftime. The Jennings United were reduced to 10 men with the expulsion of Jahmari George, who received a red card in the 45th minute.

Shortly after the interval, Jennings United drew level as Shemar Walters scored an equalizer with a strike in the 46th minute.

But the Pigotts Bullets scored twice in the second half to secure victory.

Elijah McDonald gave the Pigotts Bullets a 2-1 lead with a strike in the 60th minute, and teammate Mervyn Hazelwood sealed the win with an 85th-minute conversion.

The result allows the Pigotts Bullets to remain in fifth place on goal difference by advancing to 32 points, the same as fourth-placed Old Road FC.

The Jennings United FC remains at the bottom of the standings with six points after crashing to their 17th defeat in 19 matches.

The Potters Tigers consolidated their sixth-place position by securing their eighth win in 18 matches with a 2-1 victory against Green City FC in Sunday's opening game.

Keon Greene scored both goals on either side of halftime to snatch victory for the Potters Tigers. Greene struck the winner with his second goal of the match in the 57th minute.

He scored his first goal in the second minute of added time in the first half to equalize for the Potters Tigers after Samuel Semper put Green City FC ahead with a 12th-minute conversion.

Green City FC also finished the match with 10 players after Mali Johnson received a red card and was expelled in the 89th minute.

The result allows the Potters Tigers to remain in sixth place by advancing to 29 points.

Green City FC remains in ninth place on goal difference with 22 points after crashing to their ninth defeat in 19 matches. Garden Stars FC and the Attacking Saints also have 22 points.

The Garden Stars, who are in seventh place, have played 17 matches, while the eighth-placed Attacking Saints have played 19 games.

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Sports News



Bascombe expects West Indies to qualify for ODI World Cup

Director of Cricket at Cricket West Indies (CWI) Miles Bascombe has no doubt that the regional team will qualify for the 2027 ICC Men's ODI World Cup.

In the latest ODI rankings, West Indies slipped one spot to 10th to find themselves out of an automatic qualification spot for next year's World Cup, which will be hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Namibia in October.

Bangladesh, now occupy ninth place following their recent series win over Pakistan, which would see them automatically qualifying for the marquee event.

The West Indies are seeking a return to the World Cup after missing out on qualifying for the last edition in 2023 for the first time in its history.

Speaking during a recent CWI's quarterly press conference, Bascombe revealed that the West Indies had eight ODI matches remaining before the March 2027 deadline.



Miles Bascombe

He said he was very confident that even if the Windies did not finish in the top nine teams to secure an automatic spot, they would still advance through the CWC Qualifier, which awards four

spots.

"We have eight One-Day Internationals between now and March 2027, which is the cut-off date. All of those teams outrank us in ODI cricket, which is an opportunity, and it means that any victories against these teams would certainly help our cause in terms of automatic qualification.

"So that is what our plan would be, to ensure that we are as prepared as we could be so that we can maximise these eight matches and get as many points as we can," Bascombe said.

"I'm confident that we will be very prepared. Judging from what I've seen coming out of the World Cup, we will try to maintain that momentum.

"I'm sure we will maximise these eight matches and if that is not good enough and we have to go to the Qualifiers, we will certainly go there and represent the region and get ourselves into the World Cup, so no, I'm not nervous."

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- Marital status documents (if applicable)

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SEN. MICHAEL JOSEPH

St. John's Rural West

FOR ASSISTANCE

789-7579

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REGISTRATION UNIT

Turner's Apartment Building
(Bolans Village)

HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

SEN. DWAYNE GEORGE

St. Mary's South

FOR ASSISTANCE

726-2811 OR 723-0542

Economist gives failing grade to CWI's 2025 financial report



PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad - Cricket West Indies' (CWI) recently released financial report has come under heavy criticism from renowned chartered accountant and economist Mariano Browne, who has described it as a "PR document."

In a review of its financial performance made public last week, CWI disclosed that revenue was down from just over US\$88 million in 2024 to close to US\$41 million for the year 2025. It further revealed that in 2025 it recorded a net income loss of US\$28.5 million, compared to a net surplus of US\$22.6 million in 2024.

CWI also said its cash resources had fallen from US\$17.5 million in 2024 to US\$1.7 million in 2025.

However, speaking during an interview on iSports on i95.5 FM on Saturday, Browne, the chief executive officer at UWI's Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, said the report failed to provide necessary details on how the money was being utilised.

"On the basis of the evidence which has been released in its financial statements, the financial statements are highly aggregated; in other words, it gives a top line that says \$88 million, but how is it broken down? How did it go between the various tours? What did the various tours contribute?"

"Those numbers are not in the document, and it has to be intentional because they said they were going to be transparent. But if you're going to be transparent, then you need to know what the numbers are, and those numbers are not visible.

"So from that basis, all you're doing is making an objective assessment on the very large numbers, not on the actual details that happened. What tour contributed what? Did they make more money on this tour? Did they lose money on that tour? You can't tell that and you can't come to any conclusions on that. You just know that this is the total amount of cash that they generated, and that's it," Browne said.

"It doesn't speak with any degree of confidence in terms of what is going to happen next year and how much cash they're going to generate. They did say that they don't owe any bank any money, and they are negotiating new contracts and sponsorship deals. But no details are given with regard to what the sponsorship deal means in the form of cash or what it would pay for."

Browne maintained that while the report was "nice and glossy and looks good", it did not give a clear understanding of the operations of West Indies cricket.

When asked to rate it, he said based on what was presented with, he had no choice but to give it a failing grade.

"As a comprehensive report on the state of West Indies cricket it would get zero. On the basis of a financial statement to give me an insight, it would get a minus. In terms of a PR document, it will get a plus, because it's PR," Browne said. (CMC)

Sports

TUESDAY 31ST MARCH 2026



Multiple titles for CHSS during the Night of Champions finals



Clare Hall Secondary School won the Junior Boys Division playoff title during the Night of Champions finals in the Cool and Smooth Inter-School Basketball Championships at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday, March 29, 2026.

Post Millennial Academy won both league and playoff titles in the Mini Girls Primary Division. (Photos courtesy of the school basketball league)

Clare Hall Secondary Schools (CHSS) captured two titles during the Night of Champions finals in the Cool and Smooth Inter-School Basketball Championships at the JSC Sports Complex on Sunday.

Clare Hall Secondary retained their Senior Boys Playoff title with a 68-60 victory over Princess Margaret School. The Senior Boys Playoff Most Valuable Player (MVP) Tajahron Davis shot a game-high 42 points and Jahaziel Santana sank 14 points for Clare Hall Secondary. League MVP Gabriel De Suza converted 35 points, and Noah Massiah scored 12 points for Princess Margaret School. Princess Margaret School won the senior boys' league title, Clare Hall Secondary School claimed second place, and Antigua Grammar School captured third place.

Clare Hall Secondary School also captured the Junior Boys Division Playoff title by pulling off a 57-41 victory against Antigua Grammar School.

The Junior Boys League and Playoff Most Valuable Player (MVP) Tajahron Davis shot a game-high 34 points for Clare Hall Secondary School. Taje Amon sank 11 points, and Joshua Joseph scored 10 points for Antigua Grammar School.

Clare Hall Secondary School also won the junior boys' league title. Princess Margaret School took second place, and St. Anthony's Secondary School finished in third place. The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) completed the double in the Senior Girls Division by capturing the playoff title with a commanding 41-16 victory against Clare Hall Secondary School.

League and playoff MVP Jodaliah Constant shot a game-high 17 points, and Kinaya Lewis converted 13 points for ABCAS. Carena Smith scored six points for Clare Hall Secondary School.

ABCAS took the league title, Clare Hall Secondary School finished second, and Princess Margaret School finished in

third place.

Constant won the Female Player of the Year Award, while Tajahron Davis of Clare Hall Secondary School claimed the Male Player of the Year accolade. Edward Shaw and Tyea Ladoo of Clare Hall Secondary School captured the Coach of the Year Award.

Post Millennial Academy also completed the double in the Mini Girls Primary Division by capturing the playoff crown with a 10-7 victory against Five Islands Primary. League and playoff MVP Kimila Choy sank seven points for Post Millennial Academy, while Steveia Carr scored five points for Five Islands Primary.

Post Millennial Academy won the league championship, with Five Islands Primary taking second place and Greenbay Primary finishing third.

Greenbay Primary retained their playoff title in the Mini Boys Primary Division with a 21-10 victory over Mary E. Pigott Primary School.

Josue Rose sank nine points, and Lenys Paul scored six points for Greenbay Primary School, while AJ Kirwan converted six points for Mary E. Pigott Primary School.

Greenbay Primary won the league title, Mary E. Pigott Primary finished second, and Post Millennial Academy took third place. Justin Bridge of Greenbay Primary captured the League and Playoff MVP awards in the Mini Boys Primary Division. Antigua Grammar School won the playoff title in the Mini Boys Secondary Division by prevailing 23-19 against Ottos Comprehensive School.

Playoff MVP winner Derick Perez shot a game-high 18 points for Antigua Grammar School, while league MVP Levi Richards scored 15 points for Ottos Comprehensive School.

The Ottos Comprehensive School won the league title, Antigua Grammar School came second, and Post Millennial Academy took third place.