

NO: 672/19

## **B'DOS' ROLE IN ILO RECOGNIZED AT 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF MINISTERS OF LABOUR**

Barbados has come in for praise for its work with the International Labour Office (ILO) over the years.

The plaudits came on Tuesday as ILO's Director-General, Guy Ryder, announced 2019 as "a special year for the ILO and for its relationship with the Caribbean" during the opening ceremony of the 11<sup>th</sup> ILO Meeting of Caribbean Ministers of Labour at Accra Beach Hotel and Spa.

Commending Barbados for hosting the event, Mr. Ryder noted that this year would mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ILO, and also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ILO's Caribbean office in Port-of-Spain.

Acknowledging that the biennial ministerial meeting, convened since 2003, was an important date in the ILO's calendar, and an equally important instrument for the strengthening and consolidation of cooperation, he added: "I am convinced of the significant role, both of the ILO in the Caribbean sub region and the Caribbean in the ILO, where it is today most ably represented in our governing body by the Government of Barbados, and in the workers' and employers' groups as well. I must say that today's representation follows in the path of Barbadian greats who have truly marked the 100-year history of the ILO."

Reminiscing on the role Barbados played in aiding his early development in the ILO, the Director-General stressed: "I received a good part of my training and education from Sir Frank Walcott, a number of years ago. I got my education from him, but I got my instruction from Sir Roy Trotman for many years.

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## **ADD: B'DOS' ROLE IN ILO RECOGNIZED AT 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF MINISTERS OF LABOUR - 1**

“It was a different but equally valuable experience and I think we should remember as well other great Barbadians who graced our Committee of Experts - Sir Grantley Adams, himself, and Sir William Douglas, who I also had the pleasure of working with. So, today's representatives are truly standing on the shoulders of the giants of the past.”

Mr. Ryder also underscored the importance of social dialogue to the ILO and its Caribbean members, highlighting Barbados' own understanding of this. He said the notion of social partnership, the collective representation of interest by employers and workers, and their interaction with government in processes of partnership, was fundamental.

“The ILO's global commission says that these partnerships and this representation of interest should be considered as a public good,” he stressed.

“Something which is good not just for the worker or the employer, but good for the cohesion and good for the welfare of society as a whole. And, we believe and we take inspiration from the example of Barbados, that these notions of partnership need to be promoted as a matter of public policy around the world, and that we will all be better off as a result of so doing,” he stated.

The May 14 to 15 meeting was held under the theme: **Shaping A Brighter Future of Work For The Caribbean. (JG/BGIS)**

NO: 673/19

## **PORT HEALTH NEEDS TO BE A SEPARATE ENTITY**

Minister of Health and Wellness, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic, wants to see the Port Health Section of the Ministry of Health established as a separate entity.

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**ADD: PORT HEALTH NEEDS TO BE A SEPARATE ENTITY - 1**

Speaking at a port health seminar for public health nurses and doctors at the Radisson Aquatica Hotel today, the minister noted that at the moment the port health service was “a bit ad hoc”, explaining that it was staffed by the same doctors, nurses and environmental health officers who worked in the polyclinic system.

He stated: “I think the time has come, given the vulnerabilities that we are exposed to as a small island developing state, that we need to establish a specialized port health entity that would be part of a national border security apparatus, which ought to also involve Customs and Immigration, because you need all the eyes and the ears that we can get to be able to provide proper surveillance.”

Minister Bostic said that he was proposing that the entity should be able to stand on its own so that “if there is an incident at one of the ports of entry, responding to that incident by port health officials would not impact in a negative way on the remainder of the public health sector”.

“It is a highly specialized area that requires its own focus, that requires its own staff complement, its own equipment and I think that is how any national security entity, which I consider port health to be, ought to be treated,” he argued.

Lt. Col. Bostic further submitted that the ports of entry needed to share in the cost of port health services.

“I believe the Ministry of Health and Wellness has a responsibility to the country to make sure that the officers have all the equipment that they require in terms of providing health care and being able to do the surveillance. But at the ports of entry I think that those entities need to take greater responsibility for providing the infrastructure that would facilitate the performance of the duties of the port health staff.

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**ADD: PORT HEALTH NEEDS TO BE A SEPARATE ENTITY - 2**

“For example, the provision and maintenance of a quarantine station has to be the responsibility of the ports of entry and also transportation to get the officers to vessels or aircraft.”

Minister Bostic said that he had already started discussions with the ministers responsible for the airport and the seaport in respect of this matter.

He assured the port health workers: “Nothing is going to happen until it is discussed with you, so that you have an input and can share your views. Even if you do not agree with the establishment of a separate entity, and I will not fault you if you don’t agree, I’m not going to impose my belief, at least collectively we can come up with a plan to enhance, not only the performance, but to strengthen the organization of the port health officers at the ports of entry.” **(JS/BGIS)**

**ATTENTION NEWS EDITOR:**

**THE OFFICIAL FUNERAL SERVICE FOR LEGENDARY BARBADOS AND WEST INDIES CRICKETER, SEYMOUR NURSE, WILL TAKE PLACE THIS FRIDAY, MAY 17, AT KENSINGTON OVAL, BEGINNING AT 9:30 A.M.**

**GUESTS AND MEDIA COVERING THE EVENT SHOULD BE SEATED BY 9:00 A.M.**

**THE BODY WILL REPOSE FOR VIEWING FROM 7:45 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, IN THE WALKWAY OF THE 3WS STAND, WHERE SEATING WILL BE PROVIDED. THE CASKET WILL THEN BE TAKEN ON TO THE FIELD.**

NO: 674/19

### **BCC EXAM BREACH BEING INVESTIGATED**

New principal of the Barbados Community College (BCC), Annette Alleyne, has given the assurance that the breach in a recent exam at the college is currently being investigated.

A statement from the principal today disclosed that there was indeed “a breach in the examination regulations for the CORE 101 Ethics and Citizenship final examination scheduled for May 14, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.”.

“On behalf of the administration of the college, I offer my sincerest apologies to all students who were affected. The CORE 101 examination is now rescheduled for Thursday, May 16, at 9:00 a.m.,” Ms. Alleyne stated. **(MR/BGIS)**

NO: 675/19

### **UPCOMING PARISH TALENT SHOWS IN THE NORTH**

The public is invited to attend several parish talent shows being hosted by the northern Parish Independence Committees, throughout the month of June.

The first show, to be hosted by the St. Andrew Parish Independence Committee (PIC), will take place on Saturday, June 15, at the Alleyne School, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The same day, the St. Lucy PIC will also host its parish talent show, at the Darryl Jordan Secondary School, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The following Saturday, June 22, St. Peter will have the opportunity to showcase the parish's talent at the Alexandra School, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The final northern talent show will be hosted by the St. James PIC at the Frederick Smith Secondary School, on Saturday, June 29, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

There will be a nominal admission fee.

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**ADD: UPCOMING PARISH TALENT SHOWS IN THE NORTH - 1**

For further information, persons may contact the Community Independence Celebrations Secretariat at 535-5840 or via email at [cicsbarbados@gmail.com](mailto:cicsbarbados@gmail.com). **(CICS)**

NO: 676/19

**FOLKESTONE MARINE MUSEUM OPEN DAY**

Folkestone Marine Museum will host an open day this Friday, May 17.

As part of the International Council of Museums' celebrations to mark International Museum Day, the Folkestone Marine Museum will be open to the public free of cost, between 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The public is invited to come out and view the various interactive displays, artefacts and live aquarium displays.

Refreshments will be on sale. **(SF/BGIS)**

**ATTENTION NEWS EDITOR:**

**THE MEDIA RESOURCE DEPARTMENT AND THE BARBADOS LIGHT & POWER COMPANY LIMITED'S ANNUAL ELECTRICITY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SCIENCE EXPOSITION WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW, THURSDAY, MAY 16, AT THE SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, WILDEY, ST. MICHAEL, FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON.**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THIS EVENT.**

NO: 677/19

**BURST MAIN REPAIRS AFFECTING SOME ST. MICHAEL AND CHRIST CHURCH DISTRICTS**

The public is advised that as a result of the Barbados Water Authority (BWA) carrying out repairs to a 9-inch main at Belle Gully today, some St. Michael and Christ Church districts may experience water outages or low pressure.

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**ADD: BURST MAIN REPAIRS AFFECTING SOME ST. MICHAEL AND CHRIST CHURCH DISTRICTS - 1**

Those areas in St. Michael which may be affected are: Haggatt Hall, St. Barnabas, The Pine, Wildey, Clapham, Flagstaff, Highgate and surrounding districts. In Christ Church those areas are: Fort George Heights, Upton and surrounding districts.

While repairs have been completed and the water has been turned back on, the authority's tanker crews will be dispatched to the affected areas to assist customers until the water supply is back to normal.

The BWA is also carrying out repairs to a burst main in Bush Hall Yard Gap, St. Michael, as well as investigations into reports of suspected burst mains in Massiah Street and Rosegate, St. John; and the Crane and Dodds in St. Philip. Crews are also addressing reports of low water pressure in Harrises, St. Lucy.

The Barbados Water Authority sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience caused to customers. **(BWA/BGIS)**

NO: 678/19

**NIS, TREASURY AND BWU INFO UPLOADED TO TAMIS**

The Barbados Revenue Authority has advised that the pensions information from the NIS and Treasury Departments has been uploaded into TAMIS as well as third-party information from the Barbados Workers Union (BWU).

Those persons who were awaiting the information uploads from these agencies can file their returns in TAMIS.

Filers are advised that the draft returns previously saved would need to be deleted and replaced with a new return in order for the information from these agencies to be included.

Taxpayers are reminded that the deadline for filing Personal Income Tax (PIT) has been extended until Friday, May 31, 2019. **(BRA)**

NO: 679/19

### **LATE FILING PENALTY ADJUSTED IN TAMIS**

The Barbados Revenue Authority (BRA) has advised that system updates in TAMIS were recently completed.

The authority asks taxpayers to note that as a result of these updates, all taxpayer accounts where the penalty and interest fees were applied to returns filed after April 30, 2019, have been adjusted. **(BRA)**