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**Ruth Forbes To  
Leave Pelican  
Energy; Devon  
Cox New Boss PG2**



**'Troubling Government  
Economic  
Management' –  
Opposition  
PG14**



**Sapodilla Bay Vendors  
Kicked Off Beach; Fear  
Livelihoods Will Be "Destroyed"  
PG25**

**BEST  
ECONOMY**

**Premier Says TCI's Economy Out-Performs All of its  
Regional Neighbors**

**Robust Revenue Pushes Size of Economy to \$1.7 billion,  
per capita income over \$34,000.**

**SEE PAGE 5**



# Ruth Forbes To Leave Pelican Energy; Devon Cox Announced As New Boss

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Pelican Energy TCI, formerly Fortis TCI has announced parting ways with President and CEO Ruth Forbes, who will be replaced by Senior Vice President Devon Cox.

The announcement, which was made on social media and on the company’s website on Wednesday, November 5, stated that the separation was on a mutual basis.

Forbes departs the Turks and Caicos Islands’ sole energy company as the entity recently, in clandestine fashion, changed hands.

Cox will take over the company’s reins effective January 1, 2026. Forbes, however, will serve up to the summer in an advisor role, according to the news release.

“Devon Cox will become President of the Company, succeeding President and CEO Ruth Forbes, who, through mutual agreement with the Board of Directors, will be leaving at the end of the year after almost two decades of distinguished service. She will serve as Strategic Advisor from January until June 30, 2026,” the Pelican Energy news release said.

As Pelican Energy pointed out in the release, Forbes is the first local CEO to

lead the entity, noting that she steered the company through “a highly dynamic chapter”, including the post-pandemic business landscape.

“Highlights of her tenure as CEO include delivering industry-leading safety performance, strong operational excellence, providing one of the most reliable energy services in the Caribbean, outstanding community outreach, and elevating the Company to Investors In People platinum status,” the Pelican Energy News Release stated.

It added: “Her commitment to both the Company and to modernizing the Turks and Caicos Islands’ (TCI) energy infrastructure to support the country’s economic growth and development over the last two decades have earned her deep respect across the utility industry and the broader business community.”

Forbes, who was quoted in the article, stated that her tenure was one of the greatest privileges she has had.

“It has been one of the greatest privileges to lead the company over these transformative years,” she said. “I’ve had the honor of working alongside a world-class team, one that consistently sets the bar for excellence in our industry. Together,



Forbes Leaves Pelican on what the company describe as on mutual grounds



Devon Cox to assume the leadership of Pelican Energy on January 1, 2026

with the support of our stakeholders and communities, we met the evolving energy needs of our nation and strategically positioned the company for the future.” Forbes believes that, based on his expertise and experience, Cox, in his new role, will do well.

“I am extremely proud to pass the baton to my successor, Devon Cox. He is a seasoned executive whose expertise and passion make him the ideal leader for Pelican Energy TCI’s future. I have every confidence that the Company will continue to thrive and deliver meaningful impact for the TCI.”

Chairman of Pelican Energy TCI’s Board of Directors Reuben Munger, thanked Forbes for her years of service, pointing out that she will do well in her new role. “On behalf of the Board, I extend our deep appreciation to Ruth for her exemplary leadership and commitment to Pelican Energy TCI. As she transitions

to Strategic Advisor, we will continue to benefit from her guidance following her long career with the Company. We wish her all the best,” Munger said, pointing out that Cox will take Pelican Energy to new heights.

“His expertise and leadership make him exceptionally well positioned to lead the organization into its next phase of growth and improvement, as we focus on business transformation,” Munger pointed. In the meantime, Cox pointed out that the focus will be on shoring up Pelican Energy’s generation capacity to increase the needs of a rapidly growing Turks and Caicos.

“With the partnership of our new owners, we will focus on improving the company’s generation mix to effectively meet the increasing power needs of local energy consumers as well as work towards achieving TCI’s national renewable energy target,” Cox outlined.

## WANTED

## PRE-SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

THE LEARNING CASTLE IS SEEKING TO HIRE SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF AS FOLLOWS: (1) A RELEVANT EARLY-YEARS DOMESTIC WORKER WHO WILL ASSIST WITH TOILETING AND HYGIENE, PERSONAL CARE DUTIES, FEEDING THE TODDLERS AND BE THE OVER-ALL HELP FOR THE TEACHER; AND (2) A MAINTENANCE WORKER WHO WILL ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL PREMISES/ CLASS-ROOMS ARE CLEAN AND WELL MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES. APPLICANTS SHOULD BE HIGHLY MOTIVATED, AND ENJOY WORKING IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PROUDLY PUTS CHILDREN FIRST.

Interested candidates may forward their applications along with their CVs and other relevant papers to  
[principal@thelearningcastletci.com](mailto:principal@thelearningcastletci.com).  
Contact: (649) 232-6281



# TOURISM & ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS MONTH 2025

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ALL ISLANDS

SUNDAY, 2 NOVEMBER

#### ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICES

Location: All Islands

### GRAND TURK

WEDNESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER

#### TASTE OF TURKS

Location: Victoria Public Library,  
Queen Street, Grand Turk  
Time: 12PM – 6PM

THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER

#### TOURISM CAREERS & ENTREPRENEURIAL FAIR

Location: HJ Robinson High School  
Auditorium  
Location: 10AM – 2PM

### SALT CAY

SATURDAY, 8 NOVEMBER

#### SALT CAY ECOSTAMP & LUNCHEON

Location: Salt Shed  
Time: 10AM – 3PM

### PROVIDENCIALES

SATURDAY, 8 NOVEMBER

#### NATURE'S PASSPORT FEST- AN ECO- EDUCATIONAL CELEBRATION OF TCI

Location: Kids Park, Lower Bight  
Road  
Time: 11AM – 3 PM

### NORTH CAICOS

MONDAY, 10 NOVEMBER

#### SCHOOLS & STAKEHOLDER VISITS

Location: North Caicos  
Time: 9AM – 11.45AM

#### AUTHENTICALLY NORTH

Location: Carlton Williams Promenade,  
Bottle Creek  
Time: 12 – 4PM

### MIDDLE CAICOS

TUESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER

#### SCHOOLS & STAKEHOLDER VISITS

Location: Middle Caicos  
Time: 8.30AM – 11AM

#### AUTHENTICALLY MC

Location: Lorimers Park, near  
Lorimers Creek  
Time 11AM – 3PM

### SOUTH CAICOS

WEDNESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER

#### MORNING DEVOTIONS

Location: Firm Foundations Ministries  
International  
Audience: Pre-K, Primary and High School  
students  
Time: 9AM

#### MICRO CAREER FAIR

Location: South Caicos Community Centre  
Time: 10:30AM – 1PM

#### HARBOUR FEST

Location: South Sporting Complex, (Parade  
Ground) Airport Road  
Time: 6PM – 9PM

### PROVIDENCIALES

THURSDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 2025

#### HELLO TOURIST!

Audience: Grade School Children  
Time: 9AM – 2PM  
Hosted by the Turks and Caicos Hotel &  
Tourism Association

SATURDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER

#### ECOSTAMP - NATIONWIDE CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN

Location: All Islands  
Time: 6:00 am – 8:00 am

MONDAY, 17 NOVEMBER

#### TOURISM FUTURES: YOUTH CAREER EXPO & NATIONAL TOURISM SPEECH COMPETITION

Location: Graceway Sports Centre  
Time: 9AM – 3PM

THURSDAY, 20 NOVEMBER

#### NATURE'S PASSPORT @ ISLAND FISH FRY

Location: Stubbs Diamond Plaza  
Time: 5.30PM – 9PM

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Members of the local political directorate are photographed with graduates and officials of the Turks and Caicos Islands Border Force following the graduation ceremony on Tuesday. Seated from left area are Hon. Arlington Musgrove, Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development; Deputy Governor Her Excellency Anya Williams; Her Excellency Dileeni Daniel Selvaratnam; Premier Hon. Washington Misick; and Deputy Premier Hon. Jamell Robinson. Standing (in suits) from left are Hon. Shaun Malcolm, Minister of Home Affairs, Religious Affairs and Transportation; Member of Parliament Hon. Randy Howell; Opposition Leader Hon. Edwin Astwood; Minister of Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment Hon. Zhavargo Jolly; and Minister of Innovation, Technology and Information.

# Resolute Border Force

## *Deputy Premier Vows Relentless Pursuit of Undocumented Migrants at Border Force Graduation*

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services, Hon. Jamel Robinson, has reaffirmed the government's uncompromising stance on illegal migration, promising an aggressive and sustained effort to remove all undocumented individuals from the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI).

Speaking at the graduation ceremony for the newest cohort of Border Force officers on Tuesday, November 4, at the Salvation Army's Brighter Futures Centre in Providenciales, Robinson said the country would not relent until order is fully restored along its borders.

"Today is a proud moment for the TCI Border Force," Robinson said. "As the Minister of Immigration and Border Services, it is heartwarming, to say the least, to be a part of such an astute, ambitious, and purpose-driven team. Getting to where we are and all that we have accomplished as a ministry with the Border Force is by no stretch of the imagination an easy feat."

He stressed that every step forward has been meaningful, even if small. "Every milestone, every achievement, and every win, no matter how small, is a big deal to us. It is motivation to push past every obstacle and break down the barriers in fulfilling our mission of safeguarding our borders and our nation's prosperity."

Robinson described the current moment as a major turning point for the agency. He said the Border Force has now entered "an era that transcends operational, cultural, and professional norms," marked by innovation, resilience, and sharper strategic focus.

"This marks a transformative moment where innovation, resilience, and strategic foresight converge to redefine how we protect our borders and serve our beloved Turks and Caicos Islands," he said.

The Deputy Premier commended the force's growing operational capability, saying its members have proven their ability to adapt to increasingly complex and evolving security threats.

"Through strategic vigilance, operational excellence, unwavering commitment, and dedication, our teams not only continue to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving security landscape, but also set new benchmarks in integrity, collaboration, and excellence," he stated. Their work, he said, has helped "successfully mitigate risk, intercept illegal and illicit activities, and ensure the integrity of our Border Force processes and systems."

Robinson emphasized that the government remains committed to building a modern, technology-driven, people-centered institution.

"We continue to focus our attention on building a Border Force that is agile, data-

driven, and people-centered, investing in advanced technology, while also nurturing a workforce that is empowered and equipped to meet tomorrow's challenges," he noted.

With improvements in training, recruitment systems, and professional development, he said the Border Force is becoming "a force to be reckoned with, shaping a future where border security is not just a function, but a force for national stability."

He noted that their successes have not only strengthened national security but boosted public confidence.

"Their accomplishments to date reflect their resilience and adaptability in the face of evolving challenges, and reinforce public trust in the country's national security framework as a whole," Robinson asserted. "Today we celebrate a Border Force, one of the best teams I know, one that continues to defy the odds, safeguarding and protecting our lives and livelihoods."

He applauded officers across all divisions, corporate, inland, and port operations, and paid special tribute to task-force members who put themselves in harm's way.

"Our task force officers, who risk their lives every day, sometimes literally weathering storms, often go unrecognized and are often void of the thank you they deserve. Today, I say a heartfelt thank you."

He added, "I want you to know that I see you. The ministry sees you. And your government sees you. Your hard work and dedication are much appreciated. An illegal migrant hates to see you all coming. But today, I want to encourage you to keep going. Don't stop until we've cleaned up every corner of our streets."

Turning his attention to Director General Seymour and his leadership team, Robinson said, "Heavy is the head that wears the crown. But I want to encourage you not to get weary in well-doing. I applaud your efforts and encourage you to keep up the good work."

With determination, he reaffirmed the government's security strategy: "We won't stop until we have eradicated these islands of every illegal migrant and stemmed the illegal and illicit imports."

Robinson also recognized the contributions of retired officers who helped build the foundation of the Border Force. He congratulated the newest graduates, saying they have "taken up the mantle and now seamlessly incorporated themselves into a dynamic Border Force team."

"Together," he concluded, "let us remain unrelenting in giving our best for the greater good of our country and people, shaping a border security environment that is smarter and safer."



# TCI ON TRACK FOR RECORD-BREAKING \$549.4 BUDGET PROJECTION

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

The Turks and Caicos Islands continues to outperform its regional counterparts, maintaining the strongest economic position in the Caribbean, according to Premier Hon. Washington Misick. Delivering his Half-Yearly Report in the House of Parliament on Thursday, the Premier detailed continued growth, strong fiscal health and high investor confidence, despite global uncertainties impacting tourism and trade.

Premier Misick told Parliament that tourism remains the engine of the national economy, contributing more than half of GDP and supporting employment across the islands. “Tourism continues to be the lifeblood of our economy, contributing more than 50 percent to GDP and sustaining thousands of livelihoods from Providenciales to Salt Cay,” he said.

Although the pace of growth has softened from the rapid expansion of prior years, he noted that ongoing hotel and resort projects illustrate robust investor appetite and signal a “promising medium- to long-term outlook.”

He acknowledged vulnerabilities such as inflation, reliance on imports, rising healthcare costs and security concerns, but said the government remains focused and proactive in confronting them. “We are facing these threats head-on with the steely resolve built by years mining salt and casting net on the open seas. This is the strength that has defined the TCI for generations,” he declared.

Data from the Turks and Caicos Islands Statistics Department shows that in 2024, the TCI economy expanded by 6.5 percent in real terms, pushing GDP to US\$1.7 billion. Per capita income now exceeds US\$34,000, placing the nation among the

highest-earning Caribbean jurisdictions. Premier Misick described the recent A- credit rating awarded by Standard & Poor’s as a major testament to responsible financial stewardship. “This is a global vote of confidence,” he said, adding that the country maintains cash reserve buffers of nearly 30 percent of GDP.

Placing TCI’s economic performance within the global context, the Premier referenced the International Monetary Fund’s July 2025 World Economic Outlook. While the IMF projects global growth of 3 percent this year and 3.1 percent in 2026, and Caribbean growth at 2.5 percent, the TCI forecast remains stronger, with GDP expected to grow 5.4 percent in 2025 and per capita income projected to hold above US\$35,000.

He cautioned, however, that inflation remains a concern due to heavy reliance on imported food, fuel and construction materials. “In the months ahead, inflation should stabilize at about 2.5 percent,” he said, but warned of possible volatility from geopolitical tensions and shifts in commodity prices. Still, he reassured the country: “We will always pivot and realign if we face external shocks such as geopolitical tensions, higher commodity prices or a dip in the US economy.”

Misick told Parliament that this year’s national budget, approved in May, has set ambitious but achievable goals. From April through September, revenue collections totalled \$283.2 million — 4 percent below target but 9 percent above last year. He said the gains reflect economic continuity and resilience. “Tourism feeds construction; imports fuel both, creating jobs and wealth for our people,” he said. His report showed that the government recorded continued growth, a healthy op-

erating surplus and strong cash reserves during the six-month period.

Tourism performance was mixed. The Premier reported a modest decline in stayover arrivals, falling by roughly 4,000 visitors year over year, from 493,604 to 489,333. Reduced airlift from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom contributed to the slight contraction. However, the cruise sector showed remarkable strength, rising 9 percent to just over one million passengers.

Overall, total visitor numbers were close to 1.5 million, according to Experience Turks and Caicos. “We can’t rely on luck. Our manifesto-driven strategy is to ensure that we get each visitor to spend more,” Misick said, adding that the government will significantly increase its destination marketing efforts to sustain tourism growth.

Revenue performance varied by category. Hotel and restaurant tax receipts reached \$71.7 million, slightly below target but nine percent higher than the previous year. Import duties totalled \$65.4 million, two percent below budget but 20 percent over last year, driven by strong demand within the construction and tourism sectors. Stamp duty on land transactions brought in \$26.3 million, affected by a softer real estate market and reduced duty rates for BOTCs and Status Holders. Work permit fees totalled \$22.6 million, exceeding projections, with most permit holders employed in tourism and construction. Customs processing brought in \$20.2 million, up 21 percent from last year, while excess revenue from statutory bodies amounted to \$19.5 million, boosted by a windfall transfer from the Financial Services Commission and additional remittances from the Airports Authority.

Total expenditure during the six-month period was \$208.9 million, or 23 percent below the \$269.9 million budgeted. Personnel costs remained the largest expense at \$82.7 million but were \$7 million below projections due to unfilled vacancies. “Of the 225 vacancies, we have filled 124,” Premier Misick reported, adding that government would balance hiring needs with technological upgrades to improve service delivery.

In the meantime, Premier Misick said the half-year results reflected solid stewardship and reinforced confidence in the country’s direction. He said investments throughout every island, from schools to health services to infrastructure, ensure that national development is inclusive.

“Our strength has always been our people. With discipline and vision, we remain ahead of the region and ready for whatever challenges come,” he said.



Premier Hon. Washinton Misick

## Turks and Caicos Islander Status Commission Inducted

The Turks and Caicos Islander Status Commission has officially welcomed its newly appointed board, marking a renewed national commitment to integrity, fairness, and responsible governance in the administration of Islander Status.

At the induction and orientation ceremony held Monday, 3 November 2025, Premier Charles Washington Misick reaffirmed the importance of the Commission’s mandate. The new Commission comprises Mrs. Clara Gardiner as Chair; Sarah Knight, Legal Representative; members Curtis Simmons, Hon. O’Neal Delancy, Jajuan Harvey, and Ben Walkin; with Shakia Francis serving as Secretary.

According to the government, appointment of the individuals to the body underscores the critical role the entity plays in safeguarding one of the nation’s most significant responsibilities: determining who is formally recognized as a Turks and Caicos Islander.

The Commission’s work will help preserve the dignity of citizenship, uphold national identity, and ensure that Islander Status is granted with fairness, integrity, and respect for the future of the Turks and Caicos Islands.



Premier Hon. Washington Misick (fourth from right), along with Minister of Home Affairs, Religions Affairs and Transportation Hon. Shaun Malcolm (fourth from left), and Attorney General Hon. Rhondalee Braithwaite-Knowles (second right) are photographed with the newly-inducted members of the Turks and Caicos Islander Status Commission. Sixth from left is the Chairman of the Commission Clara Gardiner.



# A Tale of Being Marginalised in One's Own Country

*An Open Letter to the TCI Governor and the TCI Integrity Commission*

By: Sabrina Elizabeth Green

I struggled for days contemplating whether or not I should write this article. I told myself to let it go, to move on quietly, as so many of us are expected to do when the system fails us.

In speaking out we often fear ridicule, victimization, being labelled as trouble-makers or even worst, blackballed all together for simply standing up for what is right. Finally, after considerable deliberation, I was lead to do so.

Silence feeds injustice, and if we, as Turks and Caicos Islanders, do not speak up when wronged, then the cycle of exclusion continues unchallenged.

This is not about my personal disappointment, I am merely an illustration of a forgotten people, whose dignity has been traded for progress; this is about us all, the unfairness, unethical conduct, and the growing pattern of marginalisation faced by qualified Turks and Caicos Islanders in their own country, by institutions that should embody integrity.

For over three decades, I have served the Turks and Caicos Islands as an interpreter in both Spanish and Haitian Creole. From the age of seventeen, I have helped bridge linguistic and cultural divides in our communities and public institutions so that justice could be fairly administered.

With years of experience and formal qualifications, I founded ProLingo Solutions, a homegrown company created to professionalise and streamline interpretation/translation services across the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The goal was simple: to ensure that translators and interpreters throughout the islands are certified to international standards, and that both public and private entities could access qualified, competent, and trained professionals through a transparent and efficient local system that provided language services for most languages. Where deficiencies in domestic capacity existed, services would be provided by an international sub-contractor through ProLingo Solutions.

In April 2025, I mentioned this business venture to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, hoping to work with the court system again. He appeared enthusiastic. He admitted that the courts were overwhelmed with cases involving non-English speakers and said my proposal was exactly what the Judiciary needed.

At his request, I submitted the full written proposal, including rate structure, staffing plans, and training models. I had every reason to believe the matter would advance.

Then came silence. Despite numerous calls and emails, I received no response, not even an acknowledgement of receipt for the proposal sent. Finally, after contacting him via Whatsapp, he replied to my request for an update by stating that he would forward the pro-

posal to the Chief Justice for discussion. On October 9th, 2025, after six months of waiting for a response, I sought an audience with the Hon. Chief Justice. I was successful in obtaining an appointment with her and the meeting was scheduled for 10:00am on October 15th. The Registrar was also present at this meeting. Upon learning that my proposal had never reached her, the Chief Justice expressed concern and admonished the Registrar in my presence, then instructed him to apologise to me for "dropping the ball."

Her Ladyship was otherwise gracious and very encouraging. She requested a detailed rate breakdown by day, week, month and the annual costings for services, and even spoke of piloting the service within the Judiciary once in receipt of the rate schedule. I left the meeting hopeful.

The requested information was sent to the Registrar immediately and I began rallying up my interpreters for the anticipated trial run.

But once again, only silence followed. Days after the meeting, I was reliably informed that allegedly, the entire meeting, including the apology, may have been nothing more than a performance. It was alleged that there was never any genuine intention to engage a Turks and Caicos Islander for this service and that certain individuals within the Judiciary generally preferred to contract from outside the country. Disbelief swept over me.

"Could it be possible that I was only invited to the meeting for the purposes of checking a box?" If true, this is both disheartening and deeply troubling.

On Monday, November 3rd, 2025, I received an email from the Registrar, written "on the direction of the Chief Justice." It stated that my company was unsuccessful due to "budgetary constraints" and proceeding with ProLingo Solutions would require the Judiciary to go through an "Invitation for Tender Process."

That explanation, however, raises serious questions. If procurement rules were truly the obstacle, why was I not guided on how to participate or reapply? Especially after my proposal offered alternative methods of engagement. Further, what is wrong with going through the tender process? And allegedly, why has another company, one that mirrors my proposal, been contracted for the same service without facing those same restrictions?

It is further alleged that this new company, reportedly based in the United States, is unlicensed and untaxed in the Turks and Caicos Islands yet is scheduled to begin Judiciary work on November 7th, 2025, via Zoom. It is also alleged that the Registrar maintains close personal ties with individuals associated with this company and that financial incentives may be involved.

These are all allegations, but they deserve serious scrutiny.

Is it not curious though, that the Judiciary, which has long adhered to an established system for managing its translation needs, chose now to depart from that practice only after receiving my proposal, and is now opting instead to engage a foreign entity to carry out the very initiative I had proposed?

"Please bear in mind that this is not about who was hired; it is about how the process unfolded. When local professionals are silenced, overlooked, and their intellectual property appears to be used without acknowledgment, it undermines the very values that justice stands for."

My proposal, the product of years of professional experience and development, was submitted in confidence. It outlined not only financial models but also training and certification systems unique to ProLingo Solutions.

If it is true that this information was used to structure the foreign company's operations, it raises serious concerns under intellectual property and administrative law. Whether through negligence or intent, such actions damage trust and erode public confidence in the Judiciary's commitment to fairness.

Here is the bigger picture though - Beyond this single event lies a broader and more unsettling truth; the growing climate of fear and exclusion within our country. Many Turks and Caicos Islanders no longer feel represented or protected, and our duly elected government appears paralysed into inaction. Those without the "right connections" are too often left to navigate a system that seems to reward silence and punish self-reliance, forcing capable citizens to stand on their own and fend for themselves in the very land they call home.

Integrity, it seems, is demanded only of locals. Time and time again, we hear of the allegations where some foreign workers have engaged in questionable dealings or practices and yet appear to walk away unscathed, while Turks and Caicos Islanders on the other hand, are often the ones dragged through the justice system, humiliated, and made to feel unworthy in their own land after their characters have been assassinated.

I am fully aware that by speaking out, I may be targeted, but I stand by what is right, and that is what matters most to me, besides, I am quite comfortable and confident enough to stand on my own. Please know that this is not an attack on anyone's nationality or origin; it is a cry for fairness and equity in a country that is forgetting its own.

I did not learn to speak foreign languages by accident, but because I believe in understanding and connection across cultures and an overall genuine love for all people. I am smart enough to recognise that foreign expertise is sometimes



necessary where local capacity is limited. However, that reality should never come at the expense of qualified and competent Turks and Caicos Islanders who are deserving of the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to their country's growth and development.

This environment has created silence, a silence that stifles innovation, crushes ambition, and erodes the national spirit. But all is not lost, now is the time for us to stand as one, to look out for each other as though our very lives depended on it, because they do. We must take the lead in demonstrating how we care for one another, so that those who live and work among us will be guided by the same example.

It is my considered view that had the Registrar, even for a moment, believed that I was supported or properly represented within my own country, there might have been no need at all for me to write this article.

Turks and Caicos, our dignity and our children's futures depend on our ability to stand in the face of wrong and call it what it is. Do not be deceived, we are good enough; in fact, in many cases, we are better; I implore you to not give up, but stand up for what is just.

If we cannot demand a fair opportunity in our own country, then tell me, where can we be expected to demand one? What happened to me is not unique. It reflects a growing and painful pattern: many qualified Turks and Caicos Islanders are continuously passed over for contracts, and positions that should rightfully build local capacity. We are told to study, to work hard, to invest in our communities, yet when we do, our innovation is quietly repackaged and our ideas outsourced.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 14**

**NEWSLINE TCI**  
Journalism of Accuracy, Balance & Courage

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Vivian Tyson – Editorial Department



# REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

## New Turnkey Housing Development

We are looking for **highly skilled** and **qualified** developers to submit a proposal for the construction of a **brand new community** for Turks and Caicos Islanders on up to four parcels of land in the North West and North Central areas of Providenciales.

This exciting new community will consist of approximately 200 units featuring two and three bedroom single-family homes across 40 acres of land.



Interested parties can review the full official request for proposal by visiting our government website at [www.gov.tc/publicservice/government-tenders](http://www.gov.tc/publicservice/government-tenders) to learn the full scope of details on the project.

**Tender Reference Number:** TR 25/03

**Contract Number:** TCIG 07/2025

**Parcel Numbers:** 60000/247, 277, 278 & 279

**Acres:** 40

**Units:** approx. 200

**Location:** North West and North Central, Providenciales

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M.**



**CLASP**  
INITIATIVE

*We are excited to launch this RFP under the Crown Land Access Support Programme (CLASP). This is a key project in redefining land management in the Turks and Caicos Islands.*



*This housing development is a joint effort presented by the Crown Land Unit and the Housing Department as part of the CLASP Initiative. For the latest news, be sure to follow the Crown Land Unit and the Ministry of Physical Planning and Infrastructure on Facebook and Instagram.*





OPEN JOB POSITION

# IT Manager

We are seeking a proficient and enthusiastic Executive to join our team!

**Job Overview:** A key member of Rock House team, primary responsibility is to maintain and manage the information technology infrastructure of Grace Bay Resorts which includes all the member hotels and villas. This position works directly with the Director of IT.

**Essential Functions**

- Ensure all areas of the hotel and resort across all properties are supported with proper computer systems.
- Provide technical support for all hotel and resort IT systems including but not limited to servers / network infrastructure / workstation and laptop / printers / wifi system / streaming infrastructure / point of sale / IOTs; Telecommunication systems including carriers, PBX, mobile systems, voip; All Hotel Software (Property Management System, Point of Sale, Back Office Financial, Time Management System; Productivity Applications (Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, Collaboration Tools); Administration of Email Systems.
- Perform system administration and maintenance task including data protection / backup and disaster recovery at sites; vulnerability management; management of software maintenance and updates (windows, office and etc); management of virus protection and endpoint protection; surveillance and control systems.
- General network and user administration tasks.
- Management and overseeing of IT-related projects across properties.
- Handle other systems administration and support and/or special projects directed or endorse by the Director of IT.
- Assisting with management of vendors and support services, evaluating new and updated technologies.
- Provide guest IT support.
- Work along-side the IT Manager in accomplishing these tasks.
- 

**Requirements**

- BS and/ or MS Degree in Information Technology and related field required
- Strong IT hospitality background and experience preferred
- Strong interpersonal, team member relations and leadership abilities.
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to identify and solve problems.
- Professional & appropriate business appearance and demeanor.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Flexibility to meet the demands of a 24-hour operation

**Must Have Excellent**

- Communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Advanced mathematical and accounting concepts
- Computer literacy
- Ability to analyze and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals and governmental regulations
- Ability to train staff

Salary \$52,000.00 - \$54,000.00 per annum  
Bonus + Service Charge



OPEN JOB POSITION

# Sous Chef

We are seeking a proficient and enthusiastic Executive to join our team!

**Job Overview:** Sous Chef will assist in supervising and coordinating all related culinary activities, estimating food consumption and requisitioning or purchasing food, selecting and developing recipes, and standardizing production recipes to ensure consistent quality. The Sous chef will assist with overseeing special catering events and may also offer culinary instruction and/or demonstrate culinary techniques. The Sous chef directly supervises kitchen personnel with responsibility for hiring, discipline, performance reviews, and initiating pay increases. He/she will assist in the development of employees.

**Requirements**

- Must have at least 3 years’ experience in a culinary leadership role.
- Education from a formal culinary institution highly desirable. Kitchen terminology required.
- Previous culinary experience in all aspects of operating a kitchen – prep cook, line cook, Jr. Sous or equivalent.
- Must have a working knowledge of Excel, Word & Power point. Should be well versed in making standard recipes & execute them as well. Perform mathematical calculation



- including but not limited to conversion of recipes, inventories etc.
  - Advanced culinary and artistic skills, cooking methods, knowledge of all different kitchen departments and product identification.
  - Prepare weekly rosters and payroll reports.
  - Enforce Health and Hygiene regulations within the kitchen and heighten staff’s awareness of good personal and food hygiene practices and procedures, i.e. cleaning of kitchen, storage, handling of food, etc.
- Must Have Excellent**
- Communication skills
  - Leadership skills
  - Advanced mathematical and accounting concepts
  - Computer literacy
  - Ability to analyze and interpret general business periodicals, professional journals and governmental regulations
  - Ability to train staff
- Salary \$38,000.00 - \$40,000.00 per annum**  
**Bonus + Service Charge**



GRACE BAY RESORTS  
HANDMADE EXPERIENCES SINCE 1993

OPEN JOB POSITION

# Executive Chef

We are seeking a proficient and enthusiastic Executive to join our team!

**Job Overview:** The executive chef will train and manage kitchen personnel and supervise/coordinate all related culinary activities; estimate food consumption and requisition or purchase food; select and develop recipes; standardize production recipes to ensure consistent quality; establish presentation technique and quality standards; plan and price menus; ensure proper equipment operation/maintenance; and ensure proper safety and sanitation in kitchen. The executive chef may oversee special catering events and may also offer culinary instruction and/or demonstrate culinary techniques. The executive chef directly supervises kitchen personnel with responsibility for hiring, discipline, performance reviews and initiating pay increases. He/she will assist in the development of employees.

Additionally, will supervise all kitchen workers and give performance reviews, grant pay increases and take disciplinary action when necessary. Executive chefs prepare meals in the kitchen and delegate work to other chefs and cooks during the restaurant’s busy times. At the end of the workday, executive chef will insure the proper cleanliness and closing of the kitchen. Attendance at meetings as required

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor’s Degree in Culinary Arts, Food and Beverage Management or Equivalent
- International culinary experience in a five star property with focuses on Mediterranean and Asian cuisine
- Candidate should have at least 5 years’ experience in an Executive Chef Kitchen management capacity and excellent knowledge of current culinary trends.
- Must have experience of resort pre-opening
- Must have experience in high volume hotel business.
- Must be competent in culinary creativity as demonstrated by cooking test.
- Have strong knowledge of food cost and inventories.
- Must possess the ability to handle stressful and busy hotel.
- Candidate must have good knowledge of computers (e.g. Excel & Word).
- Clear, concise written and verbal communication skills.
- Candidate must be comfortable to speak to guests and conduct meetings.
- Must have a good understanding of cost control.
- Candidate must be a leader and a mentor.

**Full time. Weekend and holiday work may be required.**

**Salary \$84,000.00 - \$86,000.00 per annum**  
**Bonus + Service Charge**

Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2

Qualified candidates should submit their Resumes to our Human Resources Department via **Email: [humanresources@rockhouserresort.com](mailto:humanresources@rockhouserresort.com)** or hand deliver applications at our office on #1 International Drive, Providenciales.

**Positions marked with an \* are currently being held by a work permit holder. Deadline for submission: November 17, 2025**





Melanie Smith of Talent Recruitment Group (TRG) interacts with the representatives from the various resorts, at the TIDES Train-The-Trainer Workshop at On Island Business Centre in Grace Bay.



Veteran Tourism Trainer Blythe Clare received a thunderous applause of appreciation at the event

# DTR Launches First TIDES “Train-the-Trainer” Workshop

The Department of Tourism Regulations (DTR) has successfully launched its first Together Individuals Delivering Excellent Service (TIDES) Train-the-Trainer workshop, held at One Season Plaza in Grace Bay. The session brought together an impressive lineup of facilitators, including former Director of Culture David Bowen, tourism educator Blythe Clare, and Melanie Smith of Talent Recruitment Group (TRG). According to Director of Tourism Regulations Avi Adams, the initiative follows recent stakeholder discussions with hoteliers, human resources managers, and training directors. He explained that the Train-the-Trainer model is designed to equip resort-based HR and training professionals with the tools needed to train their staff internally. “There are six to seven thousand people working in the hospitality sector, and it would be a huge task for our department to train everyone ourselves,” Adams said. “By empowering professionals within the industry, we can ensure frontline workers learn about Turks and Caicos history, culture, and up-to-date information.” Adams noted that the DTR anticipates hosting at least two more workshops, depending on participation. While the department continues to offer weekly TIDES classes to the public, he said the program is especially useful for large resorts with 200–300 staff who may find it difficult to attend external sessions.

Those completing the Train-the-Trainer workshop will receive a special certificate permitting them to conduct in-house training. Although the certification does not automatically qualify them for a traditional TIDES certificate, Adams emphasized that trainers may still apply through the department if they wish. Employees trained by these certified trainers, however, will qualify for standard TIDES certification once they complete the program and submit the required application. The TIDES program has trained nearly 3,000 people to date. Initial sessions focused on VIP drivers and taxi operators, but over the past two years, the initiative expanded to tour operators and other tourism-related sectors. As DTR continues to prioritize hotel employees, Adams stressed that consistent and accurate messaging from frontline workers is vital. “Guests deserve the same accurate information regardless of who they speak with,” he said. While TIDES certification is required for VIP and taxi operators, Adams clarified that renewals are not used to remove individuals from the system based on age or medical conditions. Those matters, he said, fall under the mandate of the DMV. Regarding exam performance, Adams acknowledged that some participants fail, particularly those who struggle with English. To ensure inclusivity, DTR offers oral examinations when needed.

“Just because someone struggles with reading doesn’t mean they don’t know the material,” he said. “We give everyone two chances to

pass the exam. They can sit the class as many times as necessary—our goal is not to discourage anyone but to help everyone succeed.”



Former Director of Culture, David Bowen was one of the facilitators.



# Rock House Resort Celebrates Outstanding Team Members at Quarterly Staff Awards

Rock House Resort hosted its Quarterly Staff Awards on Monday, October 27, honouring employees whose dedication and service have helped elevate the guest experience and overall resort operations.

The event highlighted standout performers across several departments, applauding their professionalism, teamwork, and commitment to excellence.

Two team members received top recognition in this category. They are Jamspley Phanor of Guest Experience (Front of House) and Fitzroy Richards of Engineering (Back of House).

Both were celebrated for consistently demonstrating a strong work ethic, reliability, and going above and beyond to ensure guest satisfaction and smooth resort function.

Nuris Vargas Corporan of Housekeeping won the Supervisor of the Quarter Award. She was honoured for exceptional leadership, team coordination, and maintaining the highest standards of cleanliness and comfort for guests.

Bernardo Rahming was awarded Leader of the Quarter. Rahming received praise for exemplifying strong leadership qualities, fostering a positive workplace, and contributing to the continuous growth and excellence of the resort.

## Tripadvisor Race for the Gold

Employees were also recognised based on positive Tripadvisor reviews submitted by guests, reflecting their impact on guest experiences:

- Gold: Jonathan Jean – 19 reviews
- Silver: Beljino Noel – 11 reviews
- Bronze: Tyree Elisee – 6 reviews
- Bronze: Alliano Brice – 6 reviews

Management congratulated all awardees, noting that the success of Rock House Resort is built on the dedication and talent of its team. The Staff Awards aim to motivate employees while reinforcing the resort's commitment to world-class hospitality and service excellence.

Rock House Resort continues to be one of Providenciales' premier luxury properties, combining stunning cliffside views with an exceptional guest experience, made possible by its hardworking and passionate staff.





MS. GRUNDY, THAT'S EXCESSIVE PUNISHMENT!

DETENTION HALL

© 2025 creators.com. © 2025 Archie Publ., Inc.

IT'S NOT PUNISHMENT! ARCHIE GOT THE HICCUPS...

FERDINAND'S BROTHER CHASE (BALDWIN)

... AND HE'S TRYING OUT SUGGESTIONS FOR CURES!

MY GRANDMA SAYS WHISTLE WHILE DRINKING WATER!

11-7

NEWSLINE  
COMICS

Just because I give you advice, it doesn't mean I'm

SMARTER THAN YOU.

It just means I've done more

STUPID STUFF than you.

NOTHING BEATS A GOOD ROLL ON THE RUG.

THAT'S FOR SURE.

FIGHT FOR THE FORGOTTEN

www.fightfortheforgotten.org

UNLESS...

YOU BRING SOMETHING FROM OUTSIDE TO ROLL AROUND ON.

HONEY, DO YOU SMELL THAT?

August 11-7

SHALL WE TOSS A COIN TO SEE WHO'S BUYING THE FIRST ROUND, ANDY?

WE CAN'T SEE THAT SIGN

STRICTLY NO GAMBLING ON THESE PREMISES

OH, LOOK WHO'S SUDDENLY A STICKLER FOR THE RULES...

...WHEN THERE'S A CHANCE HE MIGHT HAVE TO BUY A DRINK

GOLDSMITH & GARNETT

11-5

"AS A GIRL SCOUT, I'M AT ONE WITH NATURE."

"WELL, FOR A TREE HUGGER, I'M AT ONE WITH COOKIES!"

GARFIELD

Eric Scott

"Let's explore this feeling of being wound too tight."

000000000000!

IT'S HAUNTING TIME!

SCARY, HUH?

NOT REALLY

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SCREAM?

NOPE

HANG ON

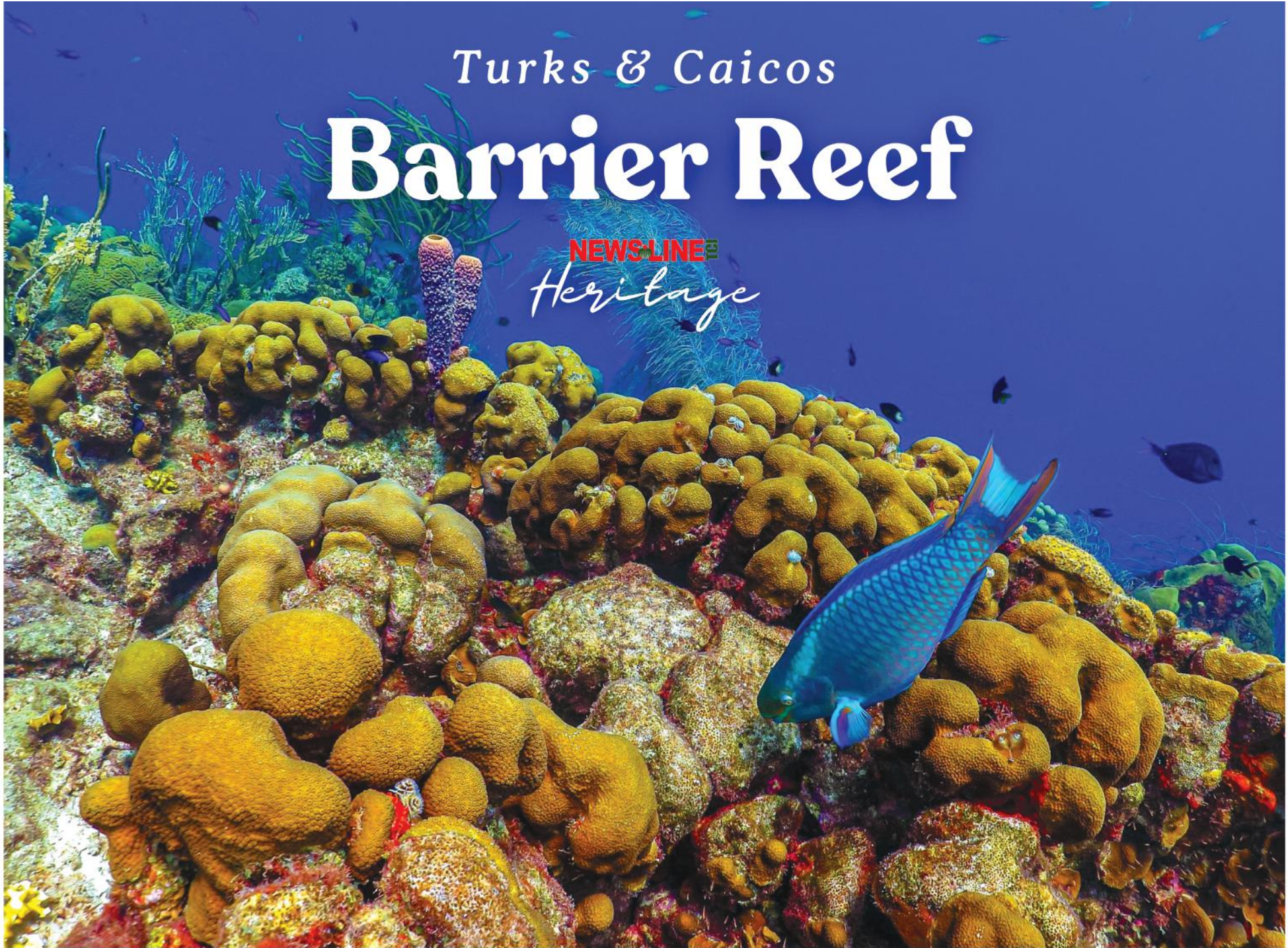
I'M EATING ALL THE ICE CREAM!

YAAAAHHH!

Drop and give me twenty!

The Exercisist





*The Turks and Caicos Barrier Reef: A Living Legacy Beneath the Sea*

*Spanning over 340 miles, the Turks and Caicos Barrier Reef is the third-largest coral reef system in the world and the most significant continuous barrier reef in the Atlantic region. This sprawling underwater ecosystem is more than just a diver’s paradise — it’s a vital part of our national heritage, shaping our environment, culture, and economy for generations.*

*A Natural Fortress and Cradle of Biodiversity*

The reef acts as a natural fortress, shielding the low-lying islands from strong ocean currents, storm surges, and coastal erosion. It creates the calm, shallow waters that have become iconic to the TCI experience.

But its beauty lies deeper. The Turks and Caicos Barrier Reef is home to an astonishing diversity of marine life. Over 60 species of hard and soft coral thrive here, including staghorn, elkhorn, and brain coral. These form complex habitats for a wide range of species — from schools of blue tang and angelfish to nurse sharks, eagle rays, spiny lobsters, and sea turtles. In these waters, reef fish and invertebrates carry out an age-old dance of survival, reproduction, and balance.

*Economic Lifeline and Cultural Symbol*

For generations, the people of Turks and Caicos have relied on the reef for their livelihoods. In earlier centuries, it supported local fisheries that fed families and fueled trade. Today, it powers a modern economy centered on eco-tourism. Tourists flock to the islands for world-renowned snorkeling and diving experiences in Grace Bay, Smith’s Reef, and the dramatic wall drop-offs of Grand Turk and West Caicos. The reef not only draws visitors — it also draws admiration, awe, and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

The reef is also part of our cultural consciousness. Fishermen, boat captains, artisans, and tour operators all draw from its rhythms. Its bounty has inspired local music, folklore, and the culinary heritage passed down through generations. Protecting the reef, then, is not only an environmental responsibility — it is a cultural one.

*Fragile Wonder, Shared Responsibility*

Despite its resilience, the Turks and Caicos Barrier Reef faces numerous threats. Rising sea temperatures, ocean acidification, overfishing, and pollution have taken their toll. The loss of coral not only threatens biodiversity but undermines the very fabric of island life.

Thankfully, efforts are underway to protect this irreplaceable heritage. Organizations like the Turks and Caicos Reef Fund and the Department of Environment & Coastal Resources (DECR) work to raise awareness, enforce marine protection laws, and support reef restoration initiatives. Community-based conservation, sustainable tourism practices, and education are key to ensuring the reef’s survival for future generations.

References:  
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Smithsonian Ocean Portal (2022). Coral Reefs: Biodiversity and Conservation.  
TC Reef Fund (2023). Turks & Caicos Reef Facts and Preservation Initiatives. <https://www.tcreef.org>  
Visit TCI (2024). Turks and Caicos Barrier Reef Overview. <https://www.visitci.com>



# ‘Troubling Government Economic Management’ – Opposition

By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief

Opposition Leader Hon. Edwin Astwood has sharply criticised the Turks and Caicos Islands Government’s financial performance, labelling the administration’s economic management “troubling” and warning that its lack of decisive action is contributing to hardship across the country.

Astwood made the biting criticism via news release on Thursday, 6 November 2025, following the premier’s parliamentary presentation.

His comments follow Premier Hon. Washington Misick’s presentation of the Half-Year Financial Report for April 1 to September 30, 2025. Despite a notable operating surplus, Astwood says the numbers tell “a sobering reality” that exposes weak revenue performance, stalled national priorities, and underspending in critical sectors.

### Revenue Underperformance and Budget Concerns

The Government reported an operating surplus of \$78 million, significantly above its projected \$23.7 million. However, Astwood argued this surplus does not reflect strong economic stewardship. Instead, he says it results from under-allocation in critical services rather than real growth.

Government revenue during the six-month period was 4 percent below budget, affected largely by lower-than-expected Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Taxes and Stamp Duties from land transactions. Officials attributed this decline to fewer stayover arrivals, though Import Duties, while higher than last year’s midpoint, remained 2 percent below projection.

According to Astwood, the disparity between expectations and performance indicates not prudent fiscal discipline but a lack of investment where it is most urgently needed.

“The fiscal position is being sustained not by robust revenue growth or prudent investment, but by underfunding essential public services and keeping a tight lid on meaningful, people-centred policy delivery,” he said.

### Nine Key Failures Highlighted

In his statement, Astwood outlined nine major areas where he said the Government has failed to act:

- Airport Reconstruction and Con-

nectivity – He said virtually no progress has been made on modernising the country’s aviation infrastructure, particularly at Providenciales’ Howard Hamilton International Airport, which he warned is strained and jeopardising the nation’s tourism advantage.

- Housing Crisis – With sky-high real estate costs and dwindling affordable options, Astwood said the Government has offered no targeted housing schemes or large-scale efforts to increase supply.

- Roads and Transportation – He described worsening congestion, unsafe driving conditions and a lack of repairs, without any funded plan to overhaul the road network.

- Internet Connectivity – Reliable digital access remains uneven, Astwood said, and the report provided no clear pathway to ensure internet availability for homes, schools, healthcare and businesses.

- Sports Development – He criticised the Government for failing to invest in facilities, training and programmes to support youth, athletic development and community participation.

- Education – He cited no measurable improvements to classrooms, teacher support, curriculum development or learning outcomes, calling education “the passport to the future” requiring urgent attention.

- Healthcare Resilience – Astwood said the Government remains reactive, offering limited action on NHIP reform, primary care services, hospital capacity, and access to affordable treatment and medicines.

- Cost of Living – Despite favourable fiscal numbers, he said households continue to struggle under rising costs with no government measures, such as subsidies or price-control systems, to ease the pressure.

- Grand Turk Enhancement and Sustainability Fund – With over \$9 million reportedly at its disposal, Astwood said the fund has yet to deliver any visible improvements to the island.

### “A Government Doing Nothing”

Astwood charged that the Government’s slow pace of implementation has discouraged confidence, deterred private investment in key support industries, and stalled

This is not progress; it is silent displacement.

I now respectfully call upon Her Excellency the Governor, the Turks and Caicos Islands Integrity Commission, and all relevant oversight authorities to investigate this matter fully. This appeal is not about bitterness; it is about fairness.

If processes are being manipulated, if intellectual property is being used without permission, if foreign entities are being granted preferential treatment outside of domestic procurement and licensing standards, and where foreign

workers are given opportunities over interested, qualified and competent Turks and Caicos Islanders, then these actions must be addressed.

Accountability is not hostility; it is the foundation of justice.

“Fear cannot build a nation. What builds a nation is transparency, fairness, and the courage to confront uncomfortable truths.”

Again, I really did not want to write about this unfortunate incident. Like many others, I have considered the consequences of speaking openly and hon-



Leader of the Opposition Hon. Edwin Astwood displaying a copy of the government’s Half Year Report, inside the halls of Parliament on Thursday, 6 November 2025.

progress for working families. He noted that while the private sector is investing heavily in new hotels and condos, complementary development in healthcare, local business support, transport systems, housing, and skilled labour has not kept pace.

“We see private investments moving at an accelerated rate, but we do not see this Government keeping pace,” he stated.

He insisted that a healthy economy requires more than positive figures; it needs investments in education, healthcare, infrastructure and digital access to strengthen the nation’s future.

Call for Transparency, Timelines and Accountability

Astwood urged the Premier and his Cabinet to “recalibrate their priorities” and present a revised national plan with clear timelines, measurable outcomes and transparency. Among his recommendations were:

- Accelerated airport reconstruction with local job participation
- Aggressive housing expansion

- Major road rehabilitation and traffic system upgrades

- Broader affordable internet access
- Sports infrastructure investment
- Classroom resources and curriculum reform

- Stronger primary and emergency healthcare

- Direct cost-of-living relief

He warned that if the Government fails to deliver a credible plan, the opposition will continue to press for alternative solutions.

“This six-month snapshot must catalyse urgent action,” Astwood said. “Our people deserve a government that acts decisively to grow our economy while stabilising living costs.”

He pledged to hold the administration accountable, particularly on behalf of residents of Grand Turk and Salt Cay, stating that the needs of families must be placed at the centre of national development.

“They must make the Government work for all our people in all our islands,” he concluded.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

estly in a small community where personal relationships often blur the line between duty and discretion. But truth must be spoken and there is no better time than now.

I have spent my life helping this country communicate across language barriers. Today, I am communicating something far more urgent: that the dignity and rights of Turks and Caicos Islanders must be defended.

If this letter brings awareness, sparks reform, or simply reminds those in power that fairness must never be selective,

then it will have served its purpose.

We, the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands, are not asking for charity; we are asking for fairness. We are not asking for privilege; we are asking for equality. And we are not asking for silence; we are asking for justice.

If someone does not stand up to the atrocities happening around us, they will continue to happen. So, why not now? Why not me?

**Sabrina Elizabeth Green is the Translator & Founder, ProLingo Solutions Ltd., Turks and Caicos Islands**



Life Line

FEATURED CHURCH

Church of Christ,  
Blue Hills

This week on Newsline Featured Church, we highlight the Church of Christ, located in Blue Hills, Providenciales. The Church of Christ offers several opportunities for weekly worship. On Sunday at 9a.m. is Devine Worship. At 6:30p.m. is evening service. On Wednesday starting at 6:30pm is Bible Study and prayer meeting. The church is founded on Romans 16:16 – “Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.” Its bedrock is also built on 2Corinthians 9:1-15. The Church of Christ is pastored by Jack Phanor and Patrick Forbes.



Life line Church Directory

Looking for a worshipping house to praise God and fellowship with members of the body of Christ, here is a list of some of the available sanctuaries you can attend throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

<div><b>Firm Foundation Ministries International</b> Lee Street, South Caicos. Telephone: 649-348-3581</div> <div><b>Christ is the Answer Ministry,</b> George Alley Off Aviation Drive, Providenciales Tel: 241-8030</div> <div><b>One Nation Empowerment Center</b> Church Ministry, Suite #12 Alliance Business Center, Princess Drive, Grace Bay, Providenciales. Tel: (649) 244-6194. Email: apostleyoung1952@yahoo.com.</div> <div><b>Touch of Love Ministries International Center</b> Industrial Park, Five Cays, Providenciales Tel: 941-4903 Fax: 941-7731</div> <div><b>Abundant Life Ministries International</b> P.O. Box 696 Christian City, Leeward Highway, Providenciales Tel:941-941-4750 Fax: 941-4755</div> <div><b>Anglican Church Rectory Grant Turk,</b> Front Street, Grand Turk. Tel:946-2289</div> <div><b>Bethany Baptist Church,</b> Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel:941-4803 / 941-5632 / 941-5118</div> <div><b>Church of God of Prophecy,</b> Lower Bight, Providenciales Tel: 941-8854</div> <div><b>Bible Study Ministries, Grand Turk</b> Tel:946-1866</div> <div><b>Calvary Baptist Church,</b> South Caicos. Tel:946-3212</div> <div><b>Harvest Bible Chapel TCI,</b> Leeward Highway, Long Bay, Providenciales. Tel: 1649 333-2009 Email: hbctciinfo@gmail.com. https://www.harvesttci.tc.</div>	<div><b>Firm Foundation Ministries International</b> 19 Honour Lane, Behind Smart Supermarket , Providenciales. Telephone: 649-332-6240</div> <div><b>Church of God of Prophecy,</b> Providenciales Tel:941-3438</div> <div><b>Roman Catholic Church,</b> Providenciales, Tel: 941-5136</div> <div><b>Faith Tabernacle Church of God,</b> Providenciales, Tel:946-4073</div> <div><b>New Testament Church of God,</b> Orea Alley, Grand Turk Tel:946-2175</div> <div><b>New Testament Church of God,</b> South Caicos Tel:946-3631</div> <div><b>Methodist Church,</b> Grand Turk Tel:946-2352</div> <div><b>Healing Waters Ministries,</b> Blue Hills Providenciales Tel: 941-5867</div> <div><b>House of Prayer Church of God,</b> Long Bay Road Providenciales Tel: 941-8309</div> <div><b>Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses,</b> Darrell Road, Grand Turk Tel:946-2727</div> <div><b>Mount Mariah Baptist Church,</b> Conch Bar Middle Caicos Tel:946-6205</div> <div><b>New Beginning Harvest Ministry,</b> Pond Street, Grand Turk Tel:946-1759</div> <div><b>New Testament Church of God</b> Orea Alley P.O. Box 495 Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel: 946-1255 Airport Road, South Caicos Tel:231-2402</div>	<div><b>Firm Foundation Ministries International</b> Waterloo Road, Grand Turk. Telephone: 649-332-624</div> <div><b>Paradise Baptist Church,</b> Five Cays, Providenciale Tel:941-4349</div> <div><b>Revival Faith Center,</b> North Backsalina, Grand Turk Tel:946-2349</div> <div><b>Salem Baptist Church,</b> Mission Folly, Grand Turk Tel:946-2565</div> <div><b>Solid Rock Apostolic Ministries</b> International, Discovery Bay Providenciales Tel: 946-5181</div> <div><b>St. Monica’s Anglican Church</b> P.O. Box 866 Cheshire Hall Providenciales Tel: 946-4046 Fax:946-4046;941-8499</div> <div><b>Turks and Caicos Mission of Seventh</b> Day Adventists, P.O. Box 803, Providenciales</div> <div><b>United Pentecostal Church,</b> Brown’s Plaza, Leeward Highway, Providenciales Tel: 956-5852</div> <div><b>Wesleyan Methodist Church,</b> Blue Hills, Providenciales Tel: 946-4075; 941-4223; 941-3596</div> <div><i>Editor’s Note: If your Ministry is not listed and/or you would like for it to be part of the NEWSLINETCI Church Diary, contact us at:contact@newslinetci.com</i></div>
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# BORDER FORCE STAGES FIRST GRADUATION

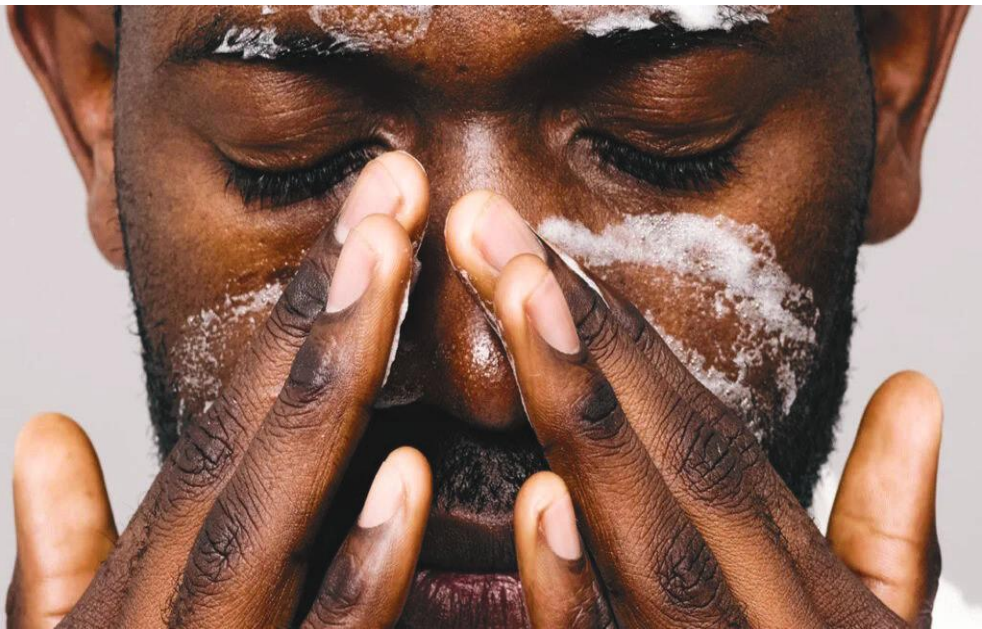
One year after the amalgamation of the Immigration Department with the Customs Department to form the Turks and Caicos Islands Border Force, the entity had its first graduation exercise of new recruits. The event was held at the Salvation Army's Brighter Futures Building along the Leeward Highway in Providenciales on Tuesday, October 4. The event was attended by the political directorate, including, Her Excellency Governor Dileeni Daniel Selvaratnam, Her Excellency Deputy Governor Anya Williams, Premier Hon. Washington Misick, Deputy Premier and Minister of Immigration and Border Services Hon. Jamell Robinson, Minister E. Jay Saunders, Minister Hon. Shaun Malcolm, and Opposition Leader Hon. Edwin Astwood. The following are photo highlights of the event.











# YOUR SKIN ISN'T JUST SKIN-DEEP

## *Understanding the gut-skin connection in holistic health*

By Monica Uttamchandani  
Holistic Health Coach - Turks and Caicos

If you're struggling with acne, eczema, or dull skin, the solution might not lie in your skincare cabinet, but in your gut. As a health coach, I've seen time and time again that skin issues often reflect internal imbalances, especially within the digestive system. Your skin is your largest detox organ. When the liver or gut is overloaded, your skin often picks up the slack. The result? Breakouts, rash-

es, irritation, or premature aging. Common internal causes of skin issues include:

- Gut dysbiosis (an imbalance in good vs. bad bacteria)
- Poor liver detoxification
- Hormonal imbalances
- Food intolerances or nutrient deficiencies
- Chronic stress and inflammation

Instead of just treating the symptom, we want to support the system. Try this:

- Focus on whole, anti-inflammatory foods

- Add bitters and cruciferous veggies for liver support
- Include prebiotics (like garlic, onions, asparagus) and probiotics
- Reduce sugar, alcohol, and dairy if reactive
- Stay hydrated and support bowel movements daily

Skin healing takes time, but when you work from the inside out, the results last longer.

**Glow Starts From Within**

When your gut and liver feel supported, your skin reflects that balance. Radiance isn't just about

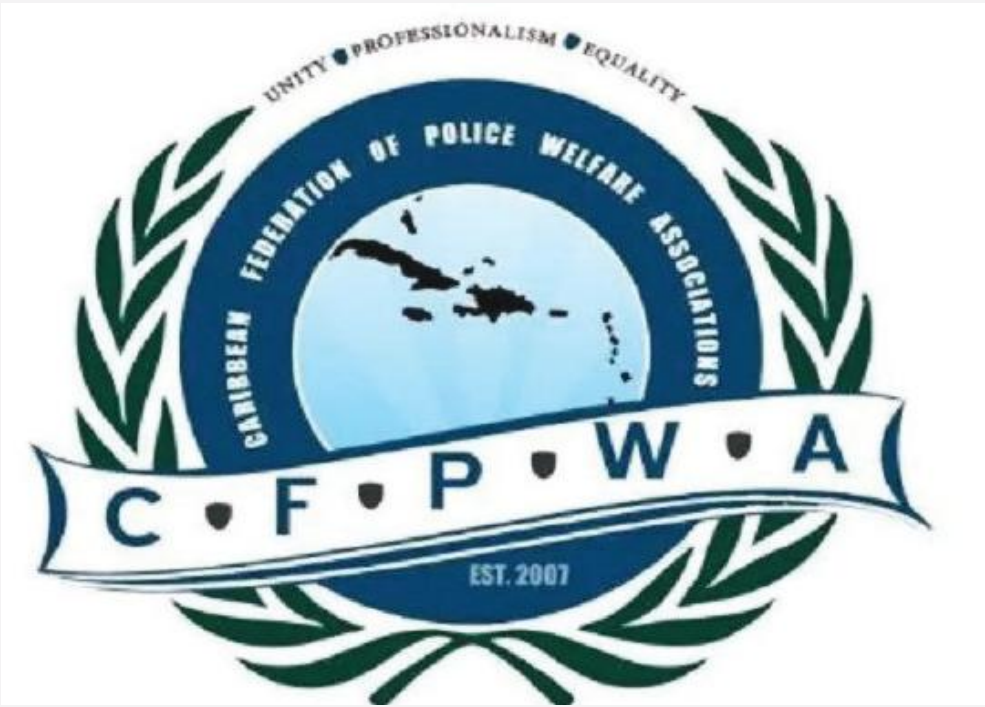
appearance... it's about internal harmony.

For skin-supportive meal ideas, supplement tips, and root-cause wellness, find me on @balanced-bymonica on Instagram.

**Monica Uttamchandani is a certified Holistic Health Coach based in the Turks and Caicos Islands, supporting men and women in creating grounded, nourishing lives, one breath at a time. She also consults in person at The Elephant Rooms in Salt Mills, Providenciales.**

# CFPWA to Host 12th Intersessional Meeting in Turks and Caicos, November 2025

The Caribbean Federation of Police Welfare Associations (CFPWA) will convene its 12th Intersessional Meeting in the Turks and Caicos Islands from 13–14 November 2025. The upcoming forum will be held at Beaches Turks and Caicos Resort, Villages and Spa, located in Lower Bight, Providenciales. Guided by the theme “One Voice, One Vision: Elevating Police Welfare Through Unity and Regional Solidarity,” the two-day event will bring together police welfare representatives from across the Caribbean to strengthen collaboration, discuss challenges facing law-enforcement personnel, and explore strategies for improving working conditions within the sector. Flags featured in promotional ma-



terial indicate participation from several regional territories, including Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and others. The event is supported by national police welfare bodies and the wider CFPWA network.

The CFPWA continues to advocate for the well-being, development, and rights of police officers across the Caribbean, emphasizing improved welfare standards, professional advancement, and regional solidarity.

Further details on agenda items and delegates are expected to be released in the lead-up to the November meeting.





# Grace Bay Club Celebrates Excellence at Third-Quarter Staff Awards

Grace Bay Club Resort hosted its Third Quarter Staff Awards on Friday, October 31, recognising employees who exceeded expectations in their roles, supported team operations, and helped deliver memorable guest experiences.

The ceremony was held at the Grace Bay Club property.

In the Front of House category, three individuals were named Employee of the Quarter: Withberlime Almonor of Food and Beverage, Fredna Louis of Guest Experiences, and Royalton Harvey Jr. of Pool and Beach.

The Heart of House honours were awarded to Shania Elliott of Reservations and Nelson Joseph of Stewarding.

From four nominees, Ruben Altidor of Housekeeping was selected as Supervisor of the Quarter. Six nominees competed for Leader of the Quar-



ter, with Hakeem Lloyd, Sommelier, and Danyelle Higgs, VIP Relations Manager, taking home the recognition.

In acknowledgement of strong performance in the September 2025 Mystery Shopper audit, several team members were highlighted for special mention. From this group, Shilove Isidor, Guest Service Manager, earned the

LQA Winner title.

For Forbes service performance, numerous staff members received special recognition, while Berg Zirin, Guest Service Manager, was named Forbes Featured Star.

The "Race for the Gold" segment celebrated staff members most frequently praised by guests on TripAdvisor. Fredna Louis, Personal Concierge, se-

cured first place with 16 mentions. Patrick Smith, Personal Concierge, was second with 12 mentions, and Austin Heath, Personal Concierge, placed third with 10 mentions.

The resort applauded all honourees, noting that their dedication and commitment continue to elevate Grace Bay Club's reputation for excellent hospitality.





# TCIAA Showcases the Turks and Caicos Islands at World Routes Conference 2025

The Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority (TCIAA) is pleased to announce its successful participation in the World Routes Conference 2025, held in Hong Kong from September 23–26, 2025.

The prestigious global event brought together leading stakeholders from across the aviation industry — including airlines, airports, tourism authorities, and government representatives — to explore emerging trends and new opportunities in

route development and air service growth.

During the conference, the TCIAA delegation engaged in a series of strategic meetings with airline partners and industry leaders to promote the Turks and Caicos Islands as a premier destination in the Caribbean. Discussions focused on strengthening existing routes, exploring new air service opportunities, and enhancing the country's overall connectivity to support sustainable tourism and eco-

nommic development.

“The World Routes Conference provided an invaluable platform to position the Turks and Caicos Islands as a growing and competitive destination for global air travel,” said Mr. Selvyn Hawkins, CEO of TCIAA.

“Through our engagements, we continue to build relationships that will expand access to our islands and advance the sustainable development of our aviation and tourism sectors.” The insights and partnerships

gained at World Routes 2025 will inform TCIAA's ongoing efforts to strengthen the Turks and Caicos Islands' position within the international aviation network and support the continued modernization of its six airports. The Authority extends its appreciation to all stakeholders and partners for their ongoing collaboration and commitment to TCIAA's mission of providing world-class airport infrastructure and services across the Turks and Caicos Islands.







# Could your gut health be why you are tired, moody and struggling to lose weight?



GUT HEALTH is crucial for overall well-being because it impacts digestion, immunity, mental health, and even heart health. A healthy gut ensures efficient nutrient absorption, strengthens the immune system, and may even influence mood and cognitive function. However, poor gut health can lead to digestive issues, increased susceptibility to illness, and potentially contribute to mental health disorders. Your gut microbiome is the foundation of your health. Good gut health occurs when you have a balance between the good (helpful) and bad (potentially harmful) bacteria and yeast in your digestive system. In fact, 80 per cent of your immune system is in the gut, and the majority of your body’s serotonin is, too. According to Dr Rivane ChybarVirgo, medical doctor and health and wellness coach, speaking at a weekly ‘Health Talk Sunday Series’ this means if your gut is not healthy, then your immune system and hormones will not function, and you will get sick. “There are trillions of bacteria that play an important role in digestion. However, our gut health goes beyond just digestion, as

the gut communicates directly with our brain, sending signals that influence our mood, our alertness, our behaviour, and what we call gut connection,” Dr Chybar Virgo said. The gut and brain are in constant communication through a system called the gut-brain axis, impacting our emotions, thoughts, and behaviours. This connection means that gut health can significantly influence mental well-being, and vice versa. Imbalances in the gut microbiome can lead to or worsen conditions like anxiety and depression. “Gut health has an impact on our emotions. One of the key things in this connection is serotonin (feel good hormone). Ninety-five per cent of that feel-good hormone is produced in the gut, and produced by healthy beneficial bacteria. Having a healthy nutritious diet helps you keep serotonin balanced,” Dr Chybar Virgo said. Poor gut health, characterised by an imbalance in the gut microbiome, can manifest in various symptoms like digestive issues, fatigue, skin problems, and even impact mood and sleep. Addressing gut

health involves dietary changes, stress management, and sometimes, professional guidance. “If your gut health is poor from improper nutrition, low serotonin levels can affect your sleep and cause gut issues, such as sugar cravings, anxiety, and persons may recognise that they feel depressed. One of the medications used to treat depression targets serotonin receptors,” Dr Chybar Virgo said. Studies have shown that people who have certain digestive issues, such as irritable bowel syndrome, are more likely to experience depression and anxiety. Foods that positively impact gut health include fibre-rich foods like fruits, vegetables, legumes, and whole grains. However, foods like processed foods, refined sugar, fried foods, and excessive amounts of red meat can negatively affect gut health. “Foods that are ultra-processed, sugary, artificial sweeteners and fried foods have been linked to mental health struggles. Having too much carbohydrates can result in short bursts of energy, followed by low energy. The food you eat, the amount of food you eat, and how you balance it play

a crucial role in your gut health as well,” Dr Chybar Virgo said. Gut microbiome, she said, is crucial for gut absorption. Even vitamins and minerals, as small an amount as we need, they play a role in our energy levels. “Having a good gut health can help to absorb nutrients properly and affect how our bodies produce good energy levels. If our digestive system is healthy, it can determine how well we are going to fight off illnesses. If you are tired a lot; gut health is something that you need to take a look at,” Dr Chybar Virgo said. She also indicated that if you find it difficult to lose weight, you may have poor gut health, especially if you have excess fat in the midsection. There are some hormones that can stimulate inflammation and weaken the immune response, and can be a correlation with gut imbalance,” Dr Chybar Virgo said.



Genesis PII TCI Ltd As Chargee pursuant to its charge and the registered land ordinance hereby gives notice that it will cause to be sold the property listed below by public auction, to be held at the Office of Stanbrook Prudhoe , address: 3rd Floor Graceway House,Graceway plaza Providenciales Turks and Caicos Island at 10 AM on November 21st 2025	
Location	Unit 1033 - 38 Marlin Street Providenciales, TCI
Description	The subject property located in phase one of the One on Marlin development which comprises a total of 35 self-contained apartments situated in 10 detached villas.
Title	60717-107K11
Proprietor	Tamika Thompson
A reserved price will be fixed on the parcel and a deposit of 10% is due immediately upon accepted bid. Conditions of Sale available upon request or at the Auction.Terms And conditions of sale by public Auction are available by request form	





**DATE OPEN:** October 28, 2025  
**POSITION:** Pool and Beach Attendant

**START DATE:** ASAP  
**PROPERTY:** West Bay Club

**Job Overview:** The Pool & Beach Attendant will be responsible for assisting all guests at the Pool and Beach facilities with towels, seating, equipment loans and requests courteously and efficiently, according to hotel standards. Maintain the cleanliness and organization of all supplies, equipment and work areas and ensure guest safety and enjoyment.

**Main duties:**

- Oversee safety of guests and assist swimmers from water when in danger.
- Greet all guests upon arrival to both the pool and beach guest areas, distribute towels, help with seating, taking orders, and delivering consistently excellent guest service according to West Bay Club’s standard operating procedures.
- Must be knowledgeable of the pool facilities, restaurant and bar hours of operation, and rescue emergency procedures
- Willing to take ownership of all guest requests and complaints, to resolve issues immediately
- Identify and report defects throughout the pool and beach area, notifying Manager/Engineering immediately of hazards, injuries, equipment, or processes that negatively affect the operations.
- Must have knowledge of the principles and practices of resuscitation, First aid, and CPR techniques. Must have adequate knowledge of safety hazards and precautions to be able to maintain a safe work environment for self and others.
- Responsible for maintaining cleanliness of the pool deck and other facilities including straightening and stacking chairs, collecting used towels and trash, moving chairs and other furniture.

**Requirements & Qualifications**

- Previous experience working in Pool & Beach or similar position is preferred.
- Must have a high school diploma.
- Ability to multitask and deliver food and drink requests in a timely and efficient manner.
- Must have strong people and English communication skills.
- Must be reliable and able to adhere to a flexible schedule is preferred.
- CPR certification preferred but not required.
- Ability to understand guests & service needs while paying attention to details.
- Ability to exert physical effort in transporting/ handling equipment and supplies.

**This position is currently held by an expatriate worker. Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2.**

**Qualified Belongers need only to apply**

**Salary Range:** \$8.50 per hour

**DATE OPEN:** October 28, 2025  
**POSITION:** Steward

**START DATE:** ASAP  
**PROPERTY:** West Bay Club

**Job Overview:** We are looking for a professional Steward able of attending to our facilities with integrity and attention to detail. The goal is to create a clean and orderly environment for our guests that will become a critical factor in maintaining and strengthening our reputation.

**Main Duties:**

- Perform a variety of cleaning activities such as sweeping, mopping, dusting and polishing
- Responsible for cleaning of all kitchen silver, glass, and china wares along with pots and pans
- Responsible for cleaning walk-in fridges and freezers and storage areas
- Ensure all food service areas are cared for and inspected according to standards
- Protect equipment and make sure there are no inadequacies
- Notify superiors on any damages, deficits and disturbances
- Check stocking levels of all consumables and replace when appropriate
- Adhere strictly to rules regarding health and safety and be aware of any company-related practices Ability to work flexible shifts and stand for long periods of time

**This position is currently held by an expatriate worker. Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2.**

**Salary Range:** \$8.00 per hour

Interested persons can contact our Human Resources Department no later than November 10, 2025  
@ (649) 946-8550 Ext. 7500, Email: [humanresources@thewestbayclub.com](mailto:humanresources@thewestbayclub.com)  
Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies





Enid Capron Primary School band share the entertainment and cultural stage with the Bowen's at the Beaches Turks and Caicos resort Heritage Day celebrations



Beaches Turks and Caicos resort was active with entertainment as the staff and students traveled throughout the resort as they share the cultural experience with staff and guests in the Heritage Day celebration

# Beaches Turks and Caicos Celebrates TCI National Heritage Day with investment in youth and culture

As the country celebrated National Heritage Day 2025, Beaches Turks & Caicos resort joined with the Turks & Caicos Islands National Heritage Trust, Department of Tourism Regulations, Enid Capron Primary and Shining Stars Primary schools to showcase the history and rich legacy of the region. Through partnerships with the local team from the TCI Beautiful by Nature Island Books, Ministry of Tourism, Environment, Fisheries, Marine Affairs, Culture and Heritage, Religious Affairs and Gaming, TCI Historian David Bowen, along with the resort's dedicated staff had the area decorated with displays of traditional artifacts and illustrations depicting the islands' history. Included in the day's events were team member heritage quizzes, live entertainment, heritage oratorical presentation, mixology competition and culinary delights, all organised by the human resources and learning and development departments, that took the team members on a cultural journey down memory lane. Human Resources Manager, Owenta Coleby was ecstatic as she led a group of students through offices and the resort, performing cultural items. "The primary objective of this initiative is to share often-forgotten or overlooked information about the TCI's national heritage. We are made in the Caribbean. While we enjoy a dynamic cultural blend of team members, with more than 25 different nationalities, we support and enjoy diversity and inclusion." "The TCI's culture continues to be the dominant theme on the resort especially during our heritage celebrations. As we planned and executed the full day of activities, we ensured that the country's heritage remained at the forefront of the minds of our team – shared in fun ways of historical talks, gastronomic treats and traditional entertainment. The activities were well received and supported by all in attendance," Coleby added.

Managing Director James McAnally noted, "as a loving family, our core values are built on being one team by tapping into our collective knowledge. We thrive on helping to build the best foundation for growth especially within the hospitality industry. It is always great for us to celebrate the TCI heritage among our team members and this year we partnered with students from schools to share the heritage with our international guests." "Each year our management team goes all out to make the day a memorable one and these activities create memories and moments that inspire us all. We are always pleased to make it even more special through partnerships with the local government agencies. Our unique culture is on display each week for our guests with our cultural night of entertainment and the involvement of our local vendors on resort," McAnally shared. Resort Nurse Eleanor Clare, veteran administrator and South Caicos native, who was eager to share her knowledge of the islands, remarked that this was not just a regular celebration for her, but a teaching and learning moment. Said Clare: "As a nation, my fellow TCI nationals, we were able to celebrate this milestone with the entire resort team including those who may not have grown up experiencing these past events, including our students from nearby schools." Clare added, "to see the different nationalities at our resort learning more about our history, was truly rewarding, engaging and fun. With this kind of celebration, we were able to share even with our own team members and guests, the country's historical values and accomplishments, and what each of us can contribute going forward." Cultural icon and local historian, David Bowen was filled with excitement as he shared musical and oratorical heritage of the TCI. "Being able to see our heritage on display at the resort means a lot and brought back a lot of nostalgia.

Also, we have a melting pot of nationalities amongst us, who were able to learn even more about the TCI as the day unfolded," shared Bowen. Led by the resort's entertainment team,

entertainment for the day featured music by the renowned local performer Renise Peters and the vibrant and energetic rhythms of the traditional rake and scrape music.

SARAH KNIGHT  
of Providenciales

is seeking to employ a

DOMESTIC WORKER

A work permit holder holds this position, interested Belongers are encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities of this position include: cleaning areas of the home as indicated by the homeowner. Making beds, doing laundry, cooking and ironing. The SALARY for this position is \$8.00 per hour Monday- Friday.

Please send resume/CV to

Email: [kornell@misickstanbrook.tc](mailto:kornell@misickstanbrook.tc)

Tel: 339-2010.





*Photo 1: (L-R) The Honourable Dr. Lackram Bodoë, Minister of Health Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Lisa Indar, Executive Director, CARPHA and Her Excellency Cécile Tassin, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the EU-funded CARPHA Insectary Mobile Facility stationed at CARPHA headquarters in Trinidad.*

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. October 29, 2025: The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) successfully launched the CARPHA Mobile Insectary Facility, a first-of-its-kind regional resource funded by the European Union (EU), which will strengthen regional capacity for vector surveillance and control in the prevention of vector-borne diseases. The launch was facilitated as part of the 11th EDF Programme of Support for Zika and Other Mosquito-Borne Diseases Project Closeout Meeting on October 29, 2025 at the CARPHA Headquarters in Port of Spain, Trinidad. CARPHA and the European Union (EU)

# CARPHA Launches EU-Funded Mobile Insectary Facility to Strengthen Vector Control and Outbreak Readiness Across the Region

this week commemorated the end of a five-year project valued at €4,195,701.00 that helped revolutionise vector control and its related functions in the Caribbean.

The CARPHA Mobile Insectary Facility will assist member states to bolster their capacity to prevent and control mosquito-borne diseases such as Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika. The Insectary will enable the study of vectors to see how well insecticides work, and track changes in mosquito behaviour. The data collected will help countries to improve ways to control mosquitoes and prevent outbreaks.

During his welcome remarks at the opening ceremony for the project closeout meeting, Dr. Mark Sami, CARPHA Director, Corporate Services noted, “The past Zika outbreak was a stark reminder of the vulnerabilities of our Region. But it also catalysed unprecedented regional collaboration. Through the support of the European Union and the EDF Programme, with the blessing of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), this project has contributed significantly to building laboratory capacity, strengthening surveillance systems, enhancing vector control, and advancing communication and community engagement strategies across our member states”.

CARPHA’s Executive Director, Dr. Lisa Indar highlighted how CARPHA has implemented informed decision-making to improve vector control operations in the Region: “Through this Project, valued at Euro 4,195,701.00, CARPHA has strengthened the health systems of CARPHA Member States to prevent, control, and respond

to outbreaks of mosquito-borne diseases. More specifically, CARPHA has supported the surveillance of mosquito-borne diseases by conducting 15,879 arboviral tests for countries over the six-year life of the Project. CARPHA has trained countries in a wide range of areas which include diagnostic testing for mosquito-borne diseases, integrated vector management, insecticide resistance testing, use of geographic information systems (GIS), machine calibration and maintenance for vector control”.

Minister of Health, Trinidad and Tobago, The Honourable Dr. Lackram Bodoë during his keynote address added, “Despite representing diverse nations and partners, we are united by a common purpose: to safeguard and enhance the health and well-being of our people by reducing the burden of these diseases. Looking ahead, the Ministry of Health remains steadfast in its commitment to building a resilient and responsive health system capable of preventing and controlling mosquito-borne disease outbreaks. Our vision is to foster a system that is not only reactive in times of crisis but proactive, anchored in innovation, research and community empowerment. To achieve this, we will continue to invest in innovative vector control technologies, enhanced regional collaboration and sustained public education to encourage preventive health behaviours”.

Speaking on the importance of partnerships, Her Excellency Cecile Tassin, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago remarked: “I am happy to report that the collaboration between the European Union and CARPHA

has been both longstanding and fruitful – strengthening the capabilities of this organisation from even before 2016 to the present. A particularly notable achievement during this programme has been the re-launch of the Caribbean Vector Borne Disease Network (CariVecNet). This initiative goes beyond mere technical aspects, establishing solid and potentially sustainable mechanisms for inter-country collaboration among the CARPHA Member States. The value of these networks cannot be overstated. With changes in climate and the increasing incidence of mosquito-borne diseases, Europe will undoubtedly look to the Caribbean’s experience for guidance”.

Representing His Excellency Moussa Saleh Batraki, Secretary-General of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), Mrs. Doreen Walsweer-Sore stated, “As we celebrate the success of this initiative, our collective task is to ensure that the achievements of this programme go beyond its closure. At the heart of this partnership was our shared commitment to building resilient health systems and protecting communities from the threat of mosquito-borne diseases. This programme stands as a testament to the power of co-operation and the tangible results that emerge when we act together”.

Mrs. Walsweer-Sore added, “The OACPS Secretariat stands ready to continue to work closely with CARPHA, the European Union, and our Member States to integrate these lessons into future health, climate, and development programming particularly as we confront the intersection between climate change and public health”.

# Sapodilla Bay Vendors Kicked Off Beach; Fear Livelihoods Will Be “Destroyed”

*By Vivian Tyson NEWSLINE Editor-In-Chief*

Small business operators at the popular Sapodilla Bay Beach have been ordered to remove all structures, equipment and operations by 8:00 PM on Thursday, November 6, 2025, under an official compliance and relocation notice issued by the Department of Environment & Coastal Resources (DECR). The notice, signed by DECR Director Luc Clerveaux and dated November 4, 2025, directed all beach vendors to immediately dismantle and relocate their businesses from the current vending zone along Sapodilla Bay. It requires the complete removal of “all structures, items, and components” associated with operations, including temporary shelters, chairs, vendor equipment, and personal items.

Authorities warn that any structure or equipment left after the deadline will be removed by force and is subject to immediate disposal. Offenders may also face fines and additional penalties.

The order cites the Turks and Caicos Islands Beach and Coastal Ordinance and Regulations 2021, along with the Beach & Coastal Vending Regulations 2021, requiring full compliance regarding use of public beach areas.

**Vendors Say Order Will Kill Their Businesses**

The relocation order escalates growing tension between vendors and homeowners in the Sapodilla Bay area, who have been em-

broiled in a dispute over beach vending for years.

Earlier this month, several operators told NEWSLINE TCI that they fear the loss of their livelihoods if they are pushed off the beachfront, calling the forced removal a direct threat to local entrepreneurship.

Jerome Rigby, 39, who has operated at Sapodilla Bay for nearly a decade, said he and other licensed vendors have built the once-quiet cove into a vibrant tourist attraction.

“We’ve made this a destination,” he said. “People come for Grace Bay, yes, but they also want something authentic and local. This beach offers that.”

Rigby said the vendors, who provide food, drinks, water sports, and beach chairs, have faced constant pressure from nearby property owners allegedly seeking to have them removed.

“They’re saying we disturb their guests,” Rigby said. “They’re saying we deal drugs. That was years ago, and those people are long gone. Everyone here now is legitimate and licensed.”

Rigby and others said past legal efforts have pushed the government toward classifying the beachfront as a non-vending zone, making removal more likely. They fear they will be relocated “across the street,” a move they insist would destroy their income.

“If they move us across the road, it’s over,” he warned. “No one’s going to cross to buy a drink or rent a chair.”

Rigby also raised safety concerns, saying tourists carrying drinks or equipment across the main roadway would be placed in harm’s way.

“You’re putting people’s lives at risk,” he warned. “Where is the empowerment in that?”

The group says they are fully licensed and regulated, paying business, liquor, and park fees to the TCI Government.

Vendors say they receive overwhelmingly positive feedback online and through repeat visitation.

“We get 95 percent positive feedback,” he said. “People love the authenticity. Many come back two or three times a year just to see us.”

**Beach is Public Property, Vendors Argue**

Despite legal challenges and pressure from homeowners, vendors maintain that they are entitled to operate on the public shoreline.

“The beach doesn’t belong to the homeowners, it’s for the people,” Rigby said. “We’re asking the government to stand with us and recognize this area as a proper vending zone.”

**Government Warns of Enforcement**

In the meantime, the DECR notice states that failure to comply will result in forced removal of all remaining structures and possible disposal without notice or recourse. Violators may face fines and penalties.

The department says the action is necessary to ensure compliance with existing coastal



*In this file photo, Jerome Rigby, one of the Sapodilla Bay Beach Vendors, at his establishment at Sapodilla Bay Beach near Chalk Sound*

regulations and preserve the public beach area.

Vendors, meanwhile, say they are willing to work with the government on regulation, but are begging officials to reverse course. “We’re young entrepreneurs providing for our families,” Rigby said. “Don’t destroy our livelihoods.”



# Direct Relief provides post-hurricane assistance to Jamaica

Direct Relief, a 77-year-old charity organisation, has begun to provide post-Hurricane Melissa relief assistance to Jamaicans. One of the largest charities in America, Direct Relief has worked to help people who confront enormous hardship to recover from disasters and improve the quality of their lives. The tradition of direct and targeted assistance, provided in a manner that respects and involves the people served, has been a hallmark of the organisation since its founding. On the weekend, pallets of critical medical supplies, valued at roughly US\$1 million, were being prepared for shipment to the Ministry of Health and Wellness from Direct Relief's Santa Barbara warehouse. Included among the shipment are antibiotics, insulin, vaccines, and protective equipment, among other requested aid. Genevieve Bitter, the vice president of programme operations at Direct Relief, told Observer Online on Sunday that her organisation has had a



Direct Relief warehouse staff prepare requested emergency medical aid for shipment to Jamaica after Hurricane Melissa.

long-standing relationship with Jamaica. "Direct Relief has been working in Jamaica for 20 years and we have sent more than 160 shipments of humanitarian medical aid valued at over US\$75 million," said Bitter, who also added, "We work closely with the Ministry of Health and Wellness

to address certain gaps in healthcare with prescription drugs and hospital supplies. We have sent items in Jamaica within the last month and on Sunday, we shipped items for hygiene to Jamaica." "We have supplies coming into Jamaica by airplane on November 8 which will include among other



Genevieve Bitter Vice President of Program Operations – Direct Relief

items, diabetes medicines and supplies, mental health related supplies, oral hydration solutions, insect repellants, cough and cold medicines and tents," Bitter disclosed. Direct Relief staff are now on the ground in Jamaica to assess needs and coordinate response activities with the Ministry of Health, PAHO, and local partners.

# Former Prince Andrew to lose his last military rank

The United Kingdom (UK) government said Sunday it would move to strip the former prince Andrew of his honorary title of vice-admiral, his last remaining military rank. Andrew was stripped of his honorary military titles by his mother, the late Queen Elizabeth II, in 2022 after he was sued by Virginia Giuffre, United States (US) sex offender Jeffrey Epstein's main accuser. The latest move comes after King Charles III on Thursday removed all his younger brother's remaining royal titles and honours amid growing UK anger over Andrew's ties to Epstein. "We've seen Andrew surrender the honorary positions he's had throughout the military... Guided again by the king, we are working

now to remove that last remaining title of vice-admiral that he has," Defence minister John Healey told the BBC. He told the Laura Kuenssberg programme that the government would also be guided by the king on whether Andrew should lose his military medals. The king's younger brother was once feted for his role as a Royal Navy helicopter pilot in the 1982 Falklands War. He retired in 2001 after 22 years of service. The UK government said Sunday it would move to strip the former prince Andrew of his honorary title of vice-admiral, his last remaining military rank. Andrew was stripped of his honorary military titles by his mother, the late Queen Elizabeth II, in 2022 after he was sued by Virgin-



Former Prince Andrew

ia Giuffre, US sex offender Jeffrey Epstein's main accuser. The latest move comes after King Charles III on Thursday removed all his younger brother's remaining royal titles and honours amid growing UK anger over Andrew's ties to Epstein.

"We've seen Andrew surrender the honorary positions he's had throughout the military... Guided again by the king, we are working now to remove that last remaining title of vice-admiral that he has," Defence minister John Healey told the BBC.





**DATE OPEN: October 28, 2025**

**POSITION: Accounts Manager**

**START DATE: ASAP**

**PROPERTY: West Bay Club**

**Job Overview:** The Accounts Manager is responsible for overseeing and managing the financial operations of the resort, ensuring accuracy, transparency, and compliance with all financial policies and regulations. This role supports Financial Controller in maintaining effective financial controls, preparing reports, managing budgets, and ensuring timely and accurate processing of all financial transactions. The Accounts Manager also supervises accounting staff, assists with audits, and provides financial insights to support management decision-making and overall business performance.

**Main duties:**

- Oversee the daily accounting operations of the resort, including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll.
- Prepare and analyze financial statements, management reports, and forecasts.
- Assist in developing and monitoring departmental budgets, ensuring cost control and adherence to financial targets.
- Ensure compliance with local financial regulations, internal controls, and company accounting policies.
- Supervise and support the accounting team, providing training, guidance, and performance evaluations.
- Reconcile bank accounts, review journal entries, and verify the accuracy of financial data.
- Collaborate with department heads to provide financial insights that support operational efficiency.
- Assist with internal and external audits, ensuring timely and accurate documentation and responses.
- Maintain proper records of all financial transactions and ensure data confidentiality.
- Support the Director of Finance in improving financial systems, policies, and procedures to enhance efficiency and accuracy.

**Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field.
- Minimum of 3–5 years of accounting experience, preferably within the hospitality industry (hotel or resort experience is an asset).
- Proficiency in accounting software (e.g., QuickBooks, Opera PMS, or similar) and advanced knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and meet tight deadlines.
- Strong leadership and communication skills with the ability to work collaboratively across departments.
- High level of integrity and confidentiality when handling financial information.

**This position is currently held by an expatriate worker. Qualified Islanders need only to apply copying applications to the Commissioner of Labour & Work Permit Board Zone 2.**

**Qualified Belongers need only to apply**

**Salary Range: \$48,000 per annum**

Interested persons can contact our Human Resources Department no later than November 10, 2025

@ (649) 946-8550 Ext. 7500, Email: [humanresources@thewestbayclub.com](mailto:humanresources@thewestbayclub.com)

Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies



# PRIMARY SCHOOL FOOTBALL KICKS OFF NOV.8



See Story on Page 32



# 'Just the beginning' as India lift maiden Women's World Cup

India Captain Harmanpreet Kaur said her team's breakthrough Women's World Cup triumph on Sunday was "just the beginning" as they beat South Africa by 52 runs to win the tournament for the first time.

Shafali Verma and Deepti Sharma starred with both bat and ball to propel India to the title in front of a jubilant home crowd at Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium.

Hosts India posted 298-7 and then bowled South Africa out for 246 in 45.3 overs with spinner Sharma taking five wickets after earlier contributing a vital run-a-ball 58 in the middle order.

Opener Verma top-scored with 87 as India posted a challenging total after they were put in to bat in a final delayed two hours by rain.

South Africa skipper Laura Wolvaardt hit a valiant 101 but her departure off Sharma raised the noise at the 45,000-capacity stadium, which had turned into a sea of blue.

Sharma took down Nadine de Klerk, for 18, for the final wicket as India celebrated with the thousands of supporters inside the ground and millions outside in the cricket-mad nation.

"We wanted to break this barrier," Kaur said.

"And our next plan is to make this a habit. We were waiting for it, now this moment has come. So many big occasions are coming, and we want to keep improving. This is not the end, just the beginning."



*India's players celebrate with the trophy after winning the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup final match against South Africa at DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, India, on Sunday.*

The Indian women triumphed at the third attempt after finishing runners-up in 2005 and 2017.

India toiled in the league phase and suffered three successive defeats but clinched the last semi-final spot, before knocking out record seven-time champions and heavy favourites Australia.

For South Africa, it was a third-straight loss in a World Cup final after they finished runners-up in back-to-back editions of the T20 showpiece in 2023 and 2024.

South Africa made their first ODI World Cup final despite starting the competi-

tion with a 10-wicket thrashing by England after being bundled out for 69.

The Proteas had their revenge when they beat England in the semi-final with Wolvaardt scoring 169.

"I could not be prouder of this team for the campaign we had," said Wolvaardt, who led the tournament batting charts with 571 runs at an average of over 71. "Brilliant cricket throughout but outplayed today [by India]. Unfortunate to be on the losing side but we will definitely grow from this."

Sharma struck key blows with her off-spin in the final, including the wicket of

Annerie Dercksen, who hit 35 in a 61-run partnership with Wolvaardt that gave South Africa hope.

But it was Sharma's double-wicket over to dismiss Wolvaardt and then Chloe Tryon, for nine, that took India to the brink of victory.

Kaur's ploy of giving the ball to Verma, a part-time off-spinner, in the 20th over proved key as the youngster removed Sune Luus.

Verma dislodged Marizanne Kapp in the next over to plunge South Africa into deeper trouble but Wolvaardt kept South Africa in the game until her departure in the 42nd over.

Kaur said the decision to hand Verma, who was named player of the match, the ball proved to be the "turning point" of the game.

Verma, who was brought into the team for the semi-final after fellow opener Pratika Rawal went down injured, gave India a fast start with the bat.

She put on 104 runs with Smriti Mandhana (45) to lay solid foundations at a venue that has produced big runs, including India's record chase of 339 in the semi-final against Australia.

Sharma then added valuable runs with her 18th ODI fifty to crank up the pressure on South Africa despite three wickets for Ayabonga Khaka.

Sharma took a tournament-best 22 wickets, also chipping in with 215 runs as a batter, and was named the best player of the World Cup.



*Real Madrid's Vinicius Junior (right) gesticulates while walking past Real Madrid head coach Xabi Alonso after he was substituted during the Spanish League football match at Santiago Bernabeu Stadium in Madrid on October 26, 2025.*

Vinicius Junior will face no disciplinary action for his Clasico substitution outburst, Real Madrid Coach Xabi Alonso revealed on Friday.

The Brazilian remonstrated with Alonso and marched off down the tunnel after he was hauled off in the 72nd minute in

last weekend's tense 2-1 win over Madrid's arch-rivals Barcelona.

The 25-year-old player issued an apology to Real fans, his teammates, the club and president Florentino Perez — but pointedly not to Alonso — in midweek. But the Real manager assured Vinicius

## Vinicius Junior in the clear over Clasico outburst

the affair was "over".

He told a press conference on the eve of Valencia's visit in La Liga: "On Wednesday, we had a meeting with all the staff, players, and Vinicius gave an impeccable speech.

"He spoke sincerely, from the heart. For me, this matter has been closed since Wednesday."

Alonso said there would be no "reprisals" against the Brazilian forward.

He added: "We are all in the same boat and rowing in the same direction.

"I think the whole team is focused on the field, which is the most important thing.

"We are competitors, all players want to be on the pitch, and that's a good

thing. Now, we want to keep moving forward towards our goals, one match at a time."

The Vinicius flashpoint comes with negotiations ongoing over a new contract, although his current deal does not expire until 2027.

He has weighed in with five goals this season in La Liga, although he has been replaced as the main man in the Real squad by Kylian Mbappe with the Frenchman on 16 goals in 13 appearances in all competitions so far — after scoring 44 in all competitions in his first season at the club.

Real sit top of La Liga on 27 points, five clear of Barca, and host struggling Valencia on Saturday.





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# Athletes Shine at Salt Rakers Aquatic Mini-Triathlon 2025

The Salt Rakers Aquatic Mini-Triathlon returned to The Bight Park on October 25, where athletes splashed, pedaled, and sprinted their way to top honours.

From the opening whistle, competitors showed tremendous grit, with the day's winners leading the charge in a spirited community sporting showcase.

In the Ages 9–10 category, Asha claimed first place, Soren finished second, and Saylor secured third, all demonstrating fearless swimming, confident cycling, and determined running throughout the course.

The Ages 11–15 division featured thrilling relay action. Samuel, Michael, and Daniel captured first place, with Samuel opening strong in the swim, Michael maintaining pace on the bike, and Daniel sealing the win on the run. Gabrielle and Ezekiel teamed up for second place, with Gabrielle excelling in the water and Ezekiel powering through both bike and run legs to claim silver.

Among the 18 & Over competitors, Nicola and Kevern took the overall win, as Nicola led with a composed swim before Kevern surged through the bike and run to secure victory. Tim Dangerfield earned second place, showcasing impressive solo endurance across all three disciplines. Kevin, Levon, and Rick rounded out the podium in third, delivering a steady and united performance.

The Bight Park buzzed with cheers as adults and youth pushed through the three-stage course. With calm seas, a swift riding loop, and an energetic run, conditions were ideal for both newcomers and seasoned racers.

Williams, representing the Salt Rakers Aquatic group, praised athletes and supporters alike.

“We are proud of every athlete who completed the swim, bike, and run — you were fantastic! Your energy and sportsmanship made the day a success,” he said.

The event received invaluable support from timers, Mrs. Martin, safety crew, the Turks and Caicos Red Cross, Police Department, Ben, Dan, Brianna, Rosalie, Shiann, Deikie, and the many parents whose dedication ensured a safe and seamless competition.

As medals were awarded and celebrations wrapped, excitement began building for 2026. Salt Rakers Aquatic thanked everyone who participated, volunteered, or cheered from the sidelines, promising an even bigger and better Mini-Triathlon next year.





# 2025 Inter-Primary School Co-Ed Football Competition Kicks Off

The 2025 Inter-Primary School Co-Ed Football Competition burst into action on Saturday, November 8, bringing young football talent from across the Turks and Caicos Islands to center stage. Hosted at the TCIFA Academy Field and Turks and Caicos National Stadium in Providenciales, the tournament opened with a colourful parade of teams before the first ball was kicked.

The opening day in Providenciales featured early Group A action, where Mills Institute set the tournament tone with a strong performance against Enid Capron Primary. That match was followed by Thelma Lightbourne Primary taking on Alpha Christian Academy. BEST Institute and Oseta Jolly Primary then met in another lively contest, while later in the day, OJPS played International School Turks and Caicos in a Group B clash.

Enid Capron returned for a second match, this time taking on BEST Institute, while Community Christian Academy faced Provo Primary in a well-matched meeting to close the day's schedule.

The competition continued the following week on Friday, November 14, again at the TCIFA Academy Field. Enid Capron opened the day against ISTC before Community Christian Academy squared off against BEST Institute. OJPS then faced Provo Primary in a tense matchup, while Thelma Lightbourne Primary battled Alpha Christian Academy to finish the slate. As the standings tightened, teams began to show more rhythm, and group positions grew increasingly competitive.

On Saturday, November 15, the third match day in Providenciales opened with ACA meeting EPS in Group A. TLPS and Provo Primary followed, before ISTC sought to improve their Group C standing against CCA. The day continued with OJPS taking on ECPS, and in a key match, Provo Primary challenged ACA in a late-day test. Each contest now carried increased weight, especially with semifinal qualification beginning to take shape.

Grand Turk will host the two Group D schools, Eliza Simons Primary, and Ona Glington Primary. Both teams will square-



File photo shows action from the Inter-Primary School Football Competition.

off on November 8, playing each other on three occasions.

With preliminary group play setting the stage, the final playoffs are scheduled for Saturday, November 22 at TCIFA Academy Field. The final day will begin with position matchups, including contests between the third and fourth biggest losers, followed by the first and second biggest losers. This will determine fifth through eighth place before the semifinals begin.

The winners of Match 21 and Match 22 move on to the tournament semifinals, while losing teams on the day will play for placement. The semifinal winners earn spots in the championship final, with the semifinal losers facing each other to determine third place. Every playoff match must produce a winner, and ties after full-time will be settled through penalty shootouts, beginning with three attempts per team, followed by sudden death if needed.

This year's competition follows a clear instructional and regulatory framework.

Matches are played on a half-sized field measuring 65 by 45 meters, with nine players per side, and each team must keep at least two girls on the field at all times. Every school submits a squad of no more than fourteen players, including at least five girls, all aged between ten and twelve and officially enrolled in a primary school. Player lists are due no later than October 29, 2025, and changes may be requested until November 7. Only players named on the sheet may take part in a match.

Each match is twenty-five minutes long, divided into two fifteen-minute halves with a five-minute break at halftime. Size-four footballs are used, and unlimited substitutions are permitted, though only during stoppages and with referee notification. Players may return after being substituted. Teams must have at least six players to start or continue a match. Should team numbers fall below six due to dismissals, the game is stopped and awarded to the opponents by a 3-0 scoreline, or the current score if

already higher.

Disciplinary measures apply equally to players, coaches and match officials. Yellow cards reset after the preliminary round unless a player has earned three, in which case they are suspended for the next match. Red card suspensions carry over regardless of stage. If a match is abandoned, depending on the stage and circumstances, it may be resumed from the minute of stoppage with the same players and scoreline.

League points are awarded on the standard system of three for a win, one for a draw and none for a loss. Forfeits result in a 3-0 award. Teams that fail to honour two fixtures may be removed from the competition. Group standings are decided first by points, then goal difference, goals scored, head-to-head results and goal difference in head-to-head contests if necessary. The top two teams from each Providenciales group advance to the final playoff round, while the top team from each outer island earns passage to Providenciales. If only one team enters on an island, that team automatically qualifies.

Grand Turk, North Caicos and South Caicos entrants will receive travel assistance to attend the final rounds. All schools are issued uniforms to be reused for two years and are responsible for care and maintenance. Schools must also provide their teams with food and refreshments on match days.

At the conclusion of the tournament, prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place, including medals for sixteen players. Additional honours include the Golden Glove for the goalkeeper with the most clean sheets, the Golden Boot for the top scorer, and the Most Valuable Player Award, based on MVP votes submitted after every match.

The 2025 Inter-Primary School Co-Ed Football Competition promises an exciting showcase of youthful ability, sportsmanship and island pride. With spirited support pouring in from families, schools and communities, the young athletes continue to develop their skills on the pathway to future national representation, ensuring that football remains a unifying force throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands.

## TCIFA Technical Director Dane Ritchie Named to CFU Football Development Committee

The Turks and Caicos Islands Football Association (TCIFA) is celebrating a major milestone as its Technical Director, Dane Ritchie, has been appointed to the Caribbean Football Union's (CFU) Football Development Committee.

The prestigious committee plays a central role in shaping the future of the sport in the region. Tasked with assessing the current condition of football across CFU member nations, the group will craft strategic recommendations to improve development pathways while strengthening the sport's overall pro-

file, image, and identity. Beyond technical direction, the committee aims to bolster football culture by deepening engagement with regional media and building productive relationships with government bodies, civil society, and private-sector partners throughout the Caribbean.

Ritchie's appointment comes as a nod to his extensive experience and unwavering passion for the game. His leadership within the TCIFA has already contributed to talent development and grassroots expansion in Turks and Cai-

cos, positioning him as a strong advocate for regional growth.

In a statement, the TCIFA expressed pride in Ritchie's new role and confidence in the positive impact he is expected to make. The Association said it "looks forward to supporting Dane Ritchie in his new role and anticipates the positive impact his contributions will bring to football development within the Caribbean."

His appointment signals a promising step forward, not only for football in Turks and Caicos Islands, but for the wider Caribbean football landscape.



TCIFA Technical Director Dane Ritchie