

## PRESS RELEASE FROM SCOTIABANK & TRUST (CAYMAN) LIMITED

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## SCOTIABANK ESTABLISHES FIRST CORPORATE TOASTMASTERS CLUB

A Communication and Leadership grooming forum established inside a local bank has successfully inscribed its name in our Island's corporate history. The **Scotiabank Pioneer Toastmasters Club** has the permanent distinction of being the first of its kind in the Cayman Islands. The club, which was chartered on August 3, 2016, is the first corporate Toastmasters Club in the Cayman Islands. The idea of establishing a Toastmasters club in the corporate arena was envisioned by Scotiabank employee Ingrid Miller, a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM). Mrs. Miller was relentless in her pursuit to form this club and for the club and its members to make history: "I never gave up on the vision to introduce Toastmasters to the corporate world in Cayman as the need for such a club is great."

The vision for this club was twofold: one was for the club to be the first corporate club chartered locally, and the second, which has no limits, is to recruit as many new members into the club as possible. To date the club has 28 members. One of the newest members to join the club is Scotiabank & Trust (Cayman) Ltd.'s Managing Director, Dwight Burrows, also a Distinguished Toastmaster and past president of 3 clubs. Mr. Burrows describes the new club as an intangible asset to Scotiabank's human capital.

"The Toastmasters International program is a workshop for leadership and communication learning. I challenge everyone to take full advantage of the program through membership and regular participation in the scheduled programs. I'm delighted that Scotiabank employees, family members and friends have embraced this excellent training tool and I'm honored to be one of the newest members of this dynamic club."

In its first year, the Scotiabank Pioneer Toastmasters Club achieved distinguished recognition from Toastmasters International for attaining 5 of the 10 goals in the Distinguished Club Programme (DCP). On 30 June 2017, the pace setting pioneers celebrated their distinguished status at their first ceremonial Gala at the Wharf Restaurant.

Having already attained one of Toastmasters International's highest recognition of Distinguished Toastmaster, the visionary concedes that the glory is not without discipline: "Club members must accurately manage their time prior to and during each meeting to ensure that they retain 100% efficacy in their obligation to their employer." According to DTM Miller, all activities engaged under the Toastmasters' curriculum are precisely timed and meticulously managed by order of tradition. She added that there are challenges that are unique to corporate clubs which she has had to hit the learning curve repeatedly before understanding how to navigate. "Not all members were as enthusiastic as they

are now, and we struggled with the numbers at the start; now a number of club members are pressing ahead." Her sentiments were echoed by the club's current President for 2017/18, Toastmaster Tara Creary, who said: "DTM Ingrid's passion has resonated throughout the club's membership. We will not entertain complacency because we have momentum. We are highly inspired to attain our personal and club goals." The club has chartered its success plan for this Toastmaster year and is poised to achieve all 10 goals to attain the highest club recognition of President's Distinguished at June 30, 2018.

What is in the future for the Scotiabank Pioneer Toastmasters Club? According to DTM Miller: "To see an influx of great communicators and leaders at the helm of the corporate world and to act as a conduit to facilitate the charter of more corporate clubs in the Cayman Islands. Cayman will not only be known as a leader in the offshore industry but they will also be known for what the Toastmasters programme is known, a country "Where Leaders are Made".

The Scotiabank Pioneer Toastmasters Club meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month at 12:30-1:30pm on the 4th Floor of Scotia Center, Cardinall Avenue, George Town. Club membership is open to Scotiabank employees, their family and friends.

If you would like your organization to get involved, please contact the Area Director, Paul Persaud at 345 323-0550 who will arrange a demonstration meeting for your organization.



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