

Jamaican Tourism Minister to speak at the Caribbean Council Annual Reception

21 April, House of Lords, London

Edmund Bartlett, the Minister of Tourism in Jamaica, is to be a guest speaker at the annual reception of the Caribbean Council at the House of Lords.

Minister Bartlett has been invited to speak about the challenges that Jamaica faces in tourism as a result of the global recession and the manner in which it is identifying new opportunities for development.

Minister Bartlett will join Gillian Merron MP, the British Minister with responsibility for the Caribbean at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, who is the event's other guest speaker.

This year the event's now famous prize-draw boasts two star prizes of a holiday for two to the Caribbean. The reception is for members and guests of the Caribbean Council. A limited number of tickets are available for sale to non members at a cost of £100 each, however membership is available to those non-members who would like to take advantage of the other benefits that membership offers, such as subscription to Caribbean Insight and invitations to other events throughout the year.

For more information please contact Stephanie Whittle stephanie.whittle@caribbean-council.org.

Reacting to the Global Downturn: The Economic and Financial Situation in Cuba

Cuba Initiative Seminar
23rd March 2008

William White, Representative at the Havana Office of Republic Bank, will lead a Cuba Initiative seminar looking at the current economic and financial situation in Cuba and provide a detailed insight into the way the Cuban economy is reacting to the global economic downturn and the challenges which lie ahead.

The Seminar will be chaired by David Ridgway, former British Ambassador to Cuba.

Following the seminar there will be an informal drinks reception which has been kindly sponsored by Republic Bank with rum generously provided by Havana Club.



The event is for members of the Cuba Initiative only who will receive a formal invitation shortly.

For further information about the event or the Cuba Initiative, please contact Chris Bennett Chris.bennett@caribbean-council.org

Scholarships Available from the CHTAEF

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association Education Foundation (CHTAEF) is a charity dedicated to improving education and skills in the Caribbean tourism industry. The application period for CHTAEF Scholarships for the academic year 2009 is now open. Applicants are invited to complete the relevant Application Form and return fully completed no later than March 16, 2009. All forms and full details of scholarships are available from the CHTAEF web site www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com/CHTAEF

The Foundation currently provides awards to applicants who demonstrate a strong commitment to the Caribbean tourism industry and the potential for future success.

Amongst the criteria for applicants are: You are a Caribbean National wishing to pursue a career in any area relating to the Tourism and Hospitality Industry within the Caribbean.

2 Belgrave Square London SW1X 8PJ Tel: 0207 235 9484 Fax: 0207 823 1370 Email: admin@caribbean-council.org Web: www.caribbean-council.org

Copyright 2006 © The Caribbean Council

Events Diary

18 March, 2009
Business Roundtable on Global Economic Crisis, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

18-29 March, 2009
UKTI London Trade Visit to the Caribbean

24-26 March, 2009
Round Table Meeting on Sustainable Cocoa, Trinidad and Tobago

14-16 April, 2009
Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Investment Conference, Bermuda

17-18 April, 2009
Fifth Summit of the Americas

21 April, 2009
Reception, House of Lords, London

19 June, 2009
Canada and the Cuban Revolution, London

For information on any of the above events please contact admin@caribbean-council.org

This newsletter is sponsored by:



In 2008, Virgin Atlantic celebrates 10 years of flying to the Caribbean. In this time it has become the largest scheduled airline between Europe and the Caribbean, carrying 735,000 passengers on its ten Caribbean routes last year. Virgin Atlantic's initial services to Barbados, St Lucia and Antigua have been supplemented by Grenada, Tobago, Havana, Montego Bay and Kingston flights from London Gatwick, and by Barbados and St Lucia flights from Manchester.

For more details and to make bookings, please visit www.virgin-

Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 with the addition of the Virgin Holidays Scholarship at a value of \$10,000. The other Corporate Scholarships range from \$5,000 to \$7000. There is no special application for corporate scholarships, awards are made on the merit of the application and required criteria. Individuals may only apply for one type of award per year (multiple applications will not be considered).

The Caribbean Foundation, the parent charity of the Caribbean Council, will be jointly organising a fundraiser with the CHTAEF in 2010. More details about this high profile event will be available later in the year.

Commonwealth Antarctic Expedition attracts Jamaican Participants

6.15pm, 10 March, Commonwealth Club, London

Eight women from around the Commonwealth - Cyprus, Ghana, India, Singapore, Brunei, New Zealand, Jamaica and the UK - are going to ski to the South Pole. Their journey will take them across more than 500 miles of the most hostile environment on Earth. Many have no previous expedition or cold weather experience. Several have never seen snow.

The team members from Cyprus, Ghana, Brunei and Jamaica will become the first people from their country (male or female) to ski to the South Pole. Those from India, Singapore and New Zealand will become the first women. But this expedition is about more than national records. All the women taking part will act as role models upon their return. They will undertake a programme of lectures and school talks to inspire others – particularly women and girls – in their home countries.

One of the Jamaican participants is Kim Marie Spence from the Caribbean Policy and Research Institute and has worked closely with the Caribbean Council in the recent Social Partnership study in Jamaica.

As the final team fly back from a training camp in Norway at the beginning of March, they will hold their official expedition launch at the RCS. Join them and celebrity ambassadors including Miss Dynamite, Baroness Betty Boothroyd, Bashy, Kate Hoey, MP and Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson for this exciting media launch.

For more information about the launch please visit www.commonwealthexpedition.com. To book a place at the free launch, please contact Claire Anholt Claire.Anholt@rcsint.org

29th Cuban International Tourism Fair

4-8th May

Havana

The Fair will focus on Cuba's historical cities (Havana, Cienfuegos, Remedios, Trinidad, Camaguey, Bayamo, Santiago de Cuba and Baracoa) and the cultural patrimony they represent. The fair will also promote Cuba's new range of E-Hotels. The event will be held at Havana's fortress, the Parque Morro-Cabana from 4-8th May.

For more information about the Tourism Fair please contact Aleida Castellanos Abdala on email: dircomunicacion@mintur.tur.cu or see www.cubatrazel.cu