BPL Pays Out $56 Million

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Dr. Minnis made this assertion yesterday in an address to the United Nations High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

He addressed, specifically, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with respect to Transformation Agenda: Sustainable and Resilient Societies at the UN headquarters in New York City.

He said in his presentation: “The Bahamas reiterates its commitment to localizing the Sustainable Development Goals into its National Planning.

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According to Mr. Bannister, at the end of the exercise, that figure would have soared to $37.4 million.

Payouts included $2.5 million for accrued vacation; $174 plus thousand for Christmas bonuses; over $228,000 for incentive bonus; $187,000 for retirement assistance; $599,000 for medical contributions; and $31.7 million for severance pay, giving a total of $35.4 million.

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Welcome Minister Desmond Bannister (Journal file photo)

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The Prime Minister highlighted that The Bahamas has been made more resilient over a period of time, "through having had to rebound after repeated thrashing by hurricanes. Independence 45 years ago, the SEP exercise was funded from the stable political climate and The Bahamas has enjoyed a significant economic success: life expectancy; attained widespread literacy; ensured greater access to preventative and curative healthcare; and opportunities for all."

Nevertheless, "the challenges remain. Approximately 12.5% of our population resides in poverty." He explained that economic opportunities and sound infrastructure are unevenly distributed, and that youth unemployment rates are concerning. Too many people without income residents moving out into newly-built suburbs. In a country surrounded by water and basked in sunlight, we have made considerable more energy efficient and coastally resilient."

This money is to be paid out in two tranches, less bank fees, legal costs and stamp tax. Hence, many senior employees decided to accept the SEP. Among these positions will be replaced as contracted and delayed for two years. BPL made a determination that everyone who wanted to leave should have the opportunity to do so. Hence, many senior employees decided to accept the SEP. It is, therefore, expected that 60 of the positions will need to be replaced as contracted and delayed applicants exit the organization over the next two years. Among these positions will be posts for senior leadership in many departments. "A Bahamian, Patrick Rollins has now been appointed to fill the post of Executive Director, a position that was previously held by Mr. Bhutanaputra," Mr. Bannister said. Mr. Blumagain resigned from the company last year, along with a former Chief Financial Officer, Cecile Green and Human Resources Director, Mariana Mason Smith.
Less than two months after releasing enhancements to its Mobile App and Online Banking platform, CIBC FirstCaribbean has been named the Most Innovative Bank in the region at the prestigious World Finance Banking Awards, awarded by UK-based World Finance magazine.

The bank is the only Caribbean-based Bank that has been recognized at this year’s event. “We are delighted to have won this prestigious award,” said Trevor Torzsas, the bank’s Managing Director, Cards and Customer Relationship Management. “The award is a testament to our commitment and relentless efforts at leveraging emerging technologies to make banking easier for our clients.”

Earlier this year, CIBC FirstCaribbean revamped its mobile banking app to include services that are built on Visa technology – namely, mobile location confirmation and “Freeze My card” service. These features were the first of their kind to be introduced within the Caribbean by a bank. Through the app, clients can also easily check their account balances, transfer funds between accounts or to other CIBC FirstCaribbean clients and pay bills, all from their mobile device.

Most recently, the bank launched an upgraded Online Banking system that allows its clients to bank online with the highest level of reliability and security. For example, clients can now schedule domestic and international payments online with stronger security through 2-step verification and real-time alert features. According to Torzsas, new technologies play a vital role in allowing the bank to pursue its digital strategy. “Our success could not have been possible without our investment in technology. Technology remains one of our top priorities as a bank and it has allowed us to deliver on our promise of ‘banking that fits your life’ by responding to client feedback and creating solutions that allow them to bank when and how they want.”

The World Finance Banking Award is one of the most respected accolades in the banking and financial services sector globally. World Finance magazine has been celebrating achievement, innovation and brilliance in banking and finance since 2007.

ABOUT CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN

CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank is a relationship bank offering a full range of products and services through its Corporate and Investment Banking, Retail, Business & International Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in seventeen (17) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking needs of our customers’ lives through approximately 3,000 employees, in 80 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally-listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, with over US$11 billion in assets and market capitalization of US$3.1 billion. We also have an office in Hong Kong. The face of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC FirstCaribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836. CIBC FirstCaribbean is a member of the CIBC Group.

CIBC is a leading Canadian-based global financial institution with 11 million personal banking and business clients. Through our three major business units – Retail and Business Banking, Wealth Management and Capital Markets – CIBC offers a full range of products and services through its comprehensive electronic banking network, branches and offices across Canada with offices in the United States and around the world. For more information about CIBC FirstCaribbean, visit www.cibfc.com, Facebook: CIBCFCIB, Twitter: CIBC_FCIB, LinkedIn: CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank, Instagram: CIBCFirstCaribbean, YouTube: CIBC FirstCaribbean.

Fidelity Bank Apprenticeship Program

Across The Fidelity Group, we are driven by a clear purpose – making a positive difference in the lives of our colleagues so they can make a positive difference in the lives of customers and in the communities we serve. Therefore, in keeping with our guiding principles, and in support of our continued growth, we are looking to attract and train future leaders. We are seeking to attract highly motivated and successful applicants who are Passionate, Highly Motivated & Driven to Succeed and wish to become Banking and Finance Apprentices. You should apply today.

What can participants in our Apprenticeship Program expect and what will they be doing?

We have a regime for being a banking trainee. So naturally, we will be providing great personal and professional development opportunities to enhance your skills, and provide you with the tools needed to progress in your career.

What is the Fidelity Bank Apprenticeship Program

Our Apprenticeship Program is comprised as follows: • One year in Deposit Administration, Business Development, and Customer Service • One year in Loan Administration and Lending • One year in Operations, Compliance, and Special Projects

To service our customers while being trained, coach and mentored and required is that you are a high potential leadership candidate. We are seeking a Apprentice Leadership Candidate to join our team in New Providence, Freeport or Marsh Harbour, and are available to work on Saturdays as required. We offer Saturday Banking at most of its branches.

We hire for attitude and potential, then train for skills. What skills and qualifications will participants need?

Because our training is extensive, participants will not need any previous experience in Banking or Finance. However, to succeed in this program requires that you already possess the following abilities:

- Ability to perform well and commit to a three year program
- Ability to learn quickly in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to revise constructive feedback
- A strong ability to think “outside of the box” with a passion for providing exceptional customer service
- Professional in demeanor, deportment, and dress
- High ethical standards in your work and personal life
- A passion for sales and solicitation in a strong sales culture

Additionally participants will need to possess either of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor’s Degree with a GPA of 3.0 or above or
- An Associate’s Degree with a GPA of 3.0 or above, and four (4) BCGS’s with a “C” grade or above or
- A High School Diploma with a GPA of 3.0 or above and four (4) BCGS’s with a “C” grade or above and Five (5) years working experience in any capacity

Participants will be assessed on a quarterly basis and must meet all the requirements of the program to be retained in the Apprenticeship Program. Come Grow With Us! Because at Fidelity We’re Good For You!”

PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME AND TRANSCRIPT BEFORE: April 20th, 2018

HUMAN RESOURCES
Re: Apprenticeship Program
1 Federal Street (P.O. Box N-803) Nassau, P.O. 138, N.A.
careers@fidelitybahamas.com
PINTARD TO TOUR BAMSI AND MEET LOCAL FARMERS

According to the Minister, once the contractors have passed the prequalification process, they will have the opportunity to bid on various projects for various scopes of work. However, he added that contractors must not apply for work in a category which they do not have the necessary experience.

"Once contractors have prequalified in particular categories, they will have the opportunity to be invited to bid on rotational basis," he said.

Ministers also gave an update on the process.

"There are well over 600 and close to 1,000 prequalification documents submissions by different contractors and these are currently being evaluated by Ministry of Public Works," he said.

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Mandela, but at times try to get some perspective," maybe it would be useful to day’s news cycle bringing in — and they are strange and “Given the strange and doing business.” Barack H. failures of governments and — Trump insists: ---"…We got along well..."
Junkanoo Summer Festival Showcases New and Innovative Cuisine

The experience of an authentic taste of The Islands Of The Bahamas is a major highlight of Junkanoo Summer Festival 2018, which takes place every Saturday this month and on August 4 at Arawak Cay.

The array of culinary delights on offer at the festival include mouthwatering dishes such as conch fritters, groom and tamarind wings, seafood stuff, stuffed crabs and lobster, fried snapper, gyros, sweet treats and icy cool drinks.

According to Culinary Manager at the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation (BMTOTA) Deanne Gibson, there are over 40 vendors participating in this year’s festival.

Every week you can come and you may not see the same vendors because they are on different rotations. We have some very different food this year. We have the favorites like the Batter Girls and Andrew Crab-A-GoGo. It is crab season as we have crab in many different ways. The creativity is really being seen in the food and beverage industry and so I am really excited about what we have to offer this year, she said.

Among the vendors at the festival site are Gussie Mae Restaurant, Batter Girls, Dancing Cooks, Lil Laura’s Fresh Fruit Smoothies, Party All The Time, Talk of The Town, Island Flavor, Cotton Ice, Pigran, Mokomo Culinary Services, Sea Duffs and Ocean Foam by Rock Oven, and Andros Crab-A-Ganza, just to name a few.

Ms. Gibson said that prior to the festival, a seminar was held to ensure that only the most creative dishes are presented. We are looking for Bahamian fusion. That real out-of-the-box item so that you can see the difference in the culture, she noted.

Many of the vendors are happy to be a part of Junkanoo Summer Festival because they get exposure locally and internationally.

Antoinette Glinton of the Batter Girls said the company’s following has grown tremendously because of Junkanoo Summer Festival. It is very beneficial for us and we have both local and international customers and we have returning international customers who come looking for the Batter Girls, she said.

Some of the things that they like are our conchy conch fritters, our shrimp fritters, cinnamon ice tea and our Cajun lobster and shrimp baskets. This is one of our main events and we intend to keep coming.

Joan Lockhart-Culmer of Sea Duff and Ocean Foam by Rock Oven from Ragged Island agreed. She said her savory seafood duffs have been getting a lot of attention. We never do things in a normal way. I decided that everyone else was doing a duff as a dessert and we are surviving by a sea of wonderful things to eat like lobster, crab, conch and fish. Tourists and Bahamians are very interested and we have been bombarded with people wanting to share the entire loaves with their families, Ms. Lockhart-Culmer said.

I’m hoping that it will take off and the loaves will get to the hotels, to visitors so that they can experience real, authentic Bahamian cuisine.

Areminta Carry of Island Flavor is a first time vendor, but she said the experience will keep her coming back to the festival. We wanted to be a part of the experience that would give people an opportunity to sample The Bahamas by the means of the items on the menu. We have things like grilled fish straight out of waters in Exumas and the reception for that has been good. We will definitely be back, she said.

In addition to the vendors, renowned chefs are also participating in culinary demonstrations. Over the last two weeks chefs Kevyn Pratt and Seannect Brice-Cooper have shown patrons how to make crab and coconut crusted conch cakes, respectively.

Chef Mildred Evans has also demonstrated how to make potato and coconut breads. Junkanoo Summer Festival is an explosion of Bahamian culture that features music, food, games, crafts, a kiddie corner and the exhilarating sounds of Junkanoo.

The festival begins at 1:00 p.m. to until.

For more information on Junkanoo Summer Festival visit www.Bahamas.com/summerfestivals.