

BHTA: Barbados needs to make UK's green list

CHAIRMAN of the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association (BHTA), Geoffrey Roach, says it is vital that Barbados be included on the green list for travel to the United Kingdom.

Speaking yesterday during the BHTA's Annual General Meeting, Roach told the virtual audience that there was anticipation that Barbados would have been included on the UK's green list when the list of countries was announced last month, but it was not.

On May 7, 2021, the UK Government issued red, amber and green lists of countries, where persons who visited countries on the red list 10 days before travel to the UK would be denied entry into the UK, unless they are British or Irish nationals, or have residence rights in the UK. Those arriving from amber countries, which included Barbados, or who visited those countries 10 days before arriving in the UK, would be required to quarantine at home or in the place they are staying for 10 days, and take a COVID-19 test on or before day two, and again on or after day eight.

For persons arriving from green list countries, of which there are only a handful, the re-

quirements are for persons to take a COVID-19 test and book and pay for a day-two COVID-19 test to be taken after arrival in the UK. Persons would only be required to quarantine if their test is positive.

"The BHTA feels very strongly that Barbados needs to get on that list as quickly as possible, if we are going to see some benefits through the rest of the year. And to this end, a letter had been submitted to the Minister of Tourism, indicating the BHTA's concerns and the need to address the specific measures to increase Barbados' likelihood of getting on to the UK's green list," he stated.

Roach said in that letter they have reviewed the criteria that the UK has identified for the green list, and raised those as specific areas that the country has to address to increase our chances of actually being included on that list, sooner rather than later.

Meanwhile, he said the decline in tourist arrivals into the island has had a negative impact not only on the sector, but the BHTA's membership. He stated that because of the reduction in revenue being earned, the Board of Directors reduced the 2021 membership fees, which he said

provides some relief to the members. He made the point as he noted that as a consequence, the revenues to the Association, by extension, are also reduced.

"The minister in his address said we have to share the burden,

and the Board recognised that while the members are feeling the pain, that relief, while effective, is going to put us under some strain. But we are prepared to work to ensure that the Association and the Secretariat

would survive throughout," he said.

With that in mind, he added that the Secretariat has introduced cost saving measures wherever possible.

(JRT)

Health and safety committees a must

LABOUR from Page 1

Turning his attention to the Safety and Health at Work Act, Jordan, noting that this piece of legislation has come into sharp focus in the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, took the opportunity to advise businesses to ensure that their health and safety committees are up and running.

"I encourage you to ensure that your health and safety committees are functioning as required with section 103 of Safety and Health at Work Act. It is an obligation on your part. In workplaces where 25 or more persons are employed, there must be a joint safety and health committee – management and workers, and if there are less than 25 employees, safety delegates must be appointed," he said.

The minister spoke to this as



Minister of Labour, Colin Jordan.

he indicated that safety delegates must be appointed by the employees and not the management.

"You do not as management

say who the safety delegates are going to be," he contended.

The Labour Minister went on to speak about the National Workplace Wellness Policy, urging the members of the BHTA to engage in discussions on the policy with their team members and integrate it within the work in the safety and health committees

"This would constitute best practice. One of the pillars of the National Workplace Wellness Policy is psychological and mental wellness, and that is very, very important, particularly at a time like this. Incorporating the National Workplace Wellness Policy in your discussions and in your actions will be as a best practice, a demonstration that you recognise that workers are more than providers of labour for your establishment," he stated. (JRT)



Investment Opportunity

Craig Waterman and Lisa Taylor were appointed Joint Trustees (the "Trustees"), over the bankrupt estate of Black Bess Quarry Limited (the "Estate"). The Estate includes four (4) acres of vacant land in Black Bess, St Peter. The Trustees are seeking bids from parties interested in purchasing the vacant land, as detailed below:

Property Details	
Address	Black Bess, St. Peter
Current usage	Vacant land
Site area	3.96 acres

Property features include:

- Has easy access to the Ronald Mapp Highway and the West Coast.
- Consists of approximately 3.96 acres of vacant land.

Deadline for submitting bids is **July 30, 2021**.

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THE NATIONAL UNION OF PUBLIC WORKERS



ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A

SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021

TIME: 5.00 P.M.

VENUE: UNION HEADQUARTERS, DALKEITH ROAD, ST. MICHAEL

AGENDA

- Call to Order/Ascertainment of Quorum
1. Prayers
 2. Resolution: that in accordance with Rule 22, that Rule 12 (a) be suspended for 1 year and the President become the General Secretary (hereon referred to as Secretary General) for four years as a full-time paid officer of the Union appointed by National Conference effective immediately

**WAYNE WALROND
GENERAL SECRETARY**