



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

EMPLOYEES OF CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN ADOPTED THE CAUSE OF CURAÇAO ZOO

Willemstad April 2019 - Volunteerism is alive and well at CIBC FirstCaribbean as evidenced by the support shown by three employees who led a number of activities at the Curaçao zoo.

Over two days, CIBC FirstCaribbean employees led by Dounya Bakhuis, Pamedy Martis and Jennifer Virginia undertook a clean-up of parts of the zoo, as part of the CIBC FirstCaribbean Adopt-A-Cause program.

Bakhuis, Martis and Virginia who are doing their BBA at the Inter-Continental University of the Caribbean (ICUC) were tasked with undertaking a Community Service project as part of the studies.

The employees of CIBC FirstCaribbean enthusiastically assisted with reorganizing the Botanical Garden and cleaning the entrance of the Curaçao Zoo. Also as part of the project, the volunteers helped the Horticulture Department with the prepwork for the new tropical garden which is facing the future entrance of the National Zoo. The goal of the Zoo is to convert the Botanical Garden into an exhibition area for the island's flora, where the community can come and learn about the country's beautiful indigenous plants and purchase those that are available. This is all part of their ongoing effort to create a **#FoodForest** structure all around the Zoo.

Through its program Adopt-A-Cause, CIBC FirstCaribbean all around the region invests and engages with its employees in developing meaningful projects in the communities where the bank operates. The opportunity to add value to the Curaçao Zoo was very well received by the bank and its employees and the result speaks for itself.

"Our Bank through our Adopt-A-Cause program invests in the community while our employees "donate" their valuable time and efforts to contribute to causes that enrich our community. We truly enjoyed two days of collaborative work towards a cause that will bring joy to many people in Curacao, young and old. Many of us spent many hours enjoying joyous moments and learning a lot about the plants and animals in our zoo when we were kids. For us this was a chance to give back towards a cause we all hold dear " Lysaira Ortela, Marketing Manager of CIBC FirstCaribbean in Curaçao said.



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About CIBC FirstCaribbean

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Retail and Business Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in sixteen (16) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services that fit our customers' lives through approximately 3,000 employees in 68 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 \$2 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.cibcfib.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#).

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