



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CHIPPIES GOES SOLAR WITH CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN LOAN

Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 17, 2023 - Native Food Packers Limited, trading under the “Chippies” brand, has been in operation for more than half a century and is well known for its various snacks including banana, plantain and potato chips. Over the years, the company adjusted its business model to suit the environment and is again making a move in another direction which will see it contribute to the environment by going solar.

Adrian Grant Jr., Managing Director of Native Food Packers Ltd advised that the initiative to go “solar” was geared towards cutting costs, gaining a more competitive edge in the local global market and promoting an eco-friendly environment. He further advised that CIBC FirstCaribbean has been their bank of choice which started with his father. Over the years CIBC FirstCaribbean has supported the company, providing financial support including the recent solar project with panels provided by Solar Buzz Jamaica (SBJ).

He said that since the installation of the solar panels, energy cost has been decreased by more than fifty percent and is expected to be reduced even more which undoubtedly will improve the financial performance of the company and position it for further growth in the future.

CIBC FirstCaribbean is known for its financial strength, prudent management and the structuring and execution of various deals regionally including clean energy across the Caribbean and Latin America.

Annique Dawkins, Head of Corporate Banking, Jamaica said the bank is focused on supporting lending in diverse segments to facilitate savings and business transformation and was happy to support Native Food Packers Limited with this initiative. “The Bank will continue to support its customers who are keen on responding to climate change by adopting green energy sources such as solar and wind-generated power, which do not emit greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming”, she expanded.

Celebrating the achievements of “Chippies” Jason Robinson, CEO of Solar Buzz said, “we are an energy conservation and renewable energy company with a focus on education and making clients properties energy efficient. We also create plans for renewable and energy solution projects for presentation to financial institutions who are willing to lend for the purpose of Going Green”.

Ends

Captions



(l-r) Annique Dawkins, Head of Corporate Banking CIBC FirstCaribbean; Adrian Grant Jr., Managing Director of Native Food Packers Ltd and Jason Robinson, CEO of Solar Buzz during a tour of the solar facilities at Native Food Packers Limited which was financed by CIBC FirstCaribbean



Annique Dawkins (right), Head of Corporate Banking CIBC FirstCaribbean looks on as Adrian Grant Jr., Managing Director of Native Food Packers Ltd signs documents for a solar loan financed by the bank.



Some of the snacks produced by Native Food Packers Limited

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 fourteen (14) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services through approximately 2,700 employees in 54 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with US\$13 billion in assets and market capitalization of US\$1 billion. We also have a representative office in Hong Kong that provides business development and relationship management for our fund administration. 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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