

COMMUNITY SUPPORT 2004

The Barbados Shipping and Trading (BS&T) Group has continued its outreach efforts through the support of initiatives related to education, arts and culture, sports and tourism, as well as to charitable and community projects.

Education

Through the Charitable Foundation, the Group disbursed the second part of a \$300,000 pledge to the University of the West Indies (Cave Hill Campus). The funds, which are to be issued in equal instalments over a three-year period, will assist the institution with its infrastructural development programme.

BS&T Scholarship awards were provided again this year to Barbadian students pursuing Management and/or Computer Studies at the University of the West Indies (Cave Hill Campus). The scholarships, which are tenable over two years, are valued at \$20,000.

Arts & Culture

Affirming its commitment to local arts and culture, the Group was a major supporter of the island's premier festival, Crop Over. This year, BS&T renewed its partnership with the National Cultural Foundation through the sponsorship of the steel pan events – Pan Yard limes and Pan Pun de Sand.

Roberts Manufacturing also supported the Fore-day Morning Jam and Pan Pun de Sand. Roberts also sponsored a Kadooment truck as well as calypsonian, Carolyn "Tassa" Forde. In addition, Dacosta Mannings Inc. provided in-kind sponsorship to the National Cultural Foundation, as well as sponsored The Experience Calypso Tent.

Sports

In sports, Super Centre and United Insurance continued their backing of Spartan Cricket Club and Carlton Cricket Club respectively; and during the year, Dacosta Mannings Inc. commenced sponsorship of the Police Cricket team.

In 2003 and 2004, BS&T provided gear and equipment for the BS&T Combined (Group employees) team and the Ellerton Premiere League team, which participated in the Commercial and Premiere football competition respectively. BS&T was also the official sponsor of the three Maple Hockey teams over the same period.

In addition, United Insurance continued its long-standing relationship with the Barbados Chess Federation Inter-School competition and the Under 19 Basketball competition, while Roberts Manufacturing assisted the Barbados Cycling Federation Inc.

The Group supported horse racing through United Insurance's sponsorship of the United Insurance Derby as well as the Barbados Triple Crown; while Pinnacle Feeds, a subsidiary of Roberts Manufacturing, was the title sponsor of the Mid-Summer Classic.

Tourism

BS&T continues to be a major contributor to the Tourism Development Corporation (TDC), which finances on-going initiatives aimed at developing and enhancing the island's tourism product.

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Community Initiatives

BS&T provided a major contribution to the Jubilee Gardens Re-development Project in Bridgetown; the Holetown Beach Park project also received funds to commence this initiative.

In September, the Group made a substantial in-kind donation to Grenada following the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan. DaCosta Mannings Inc, SBI Distribution Inc., Roberts Manufacturing donated lumber and building supplies as well as food-stuff to assist Grenadians as well as Regional Security Systems troops deployed there.

During the year, PAREDOS benefited from Super Centre's support for a number of the parenting workshops which were held. This support is additional to the financial assistance which BS&T has provided to PAREDOS for several years.

Other Charitable Donations

During the year, various charities organised golf tournaments to benefit their respective programmes. The Rotary Club of Barbados, the Barbados Community Foundation, The Substance Abuse Foundation, The Future Centre Trust, The Barbados Golf Association (Junior Team), and The Barbados Children's Trust were among the organisations which benefited from BS&T's participation in these events.

Overall, the Group honoured financial commitments to several community-based organisations and charities from its Charitable Foundation in the form of annual subventions. In addition miscellaneous donations, both of an in-kind and financial nature, contributed meaningfully to various community outreach efforts.