



Scotiabank CEO Challenges Doctors on World Doctors Day



Jacqueline Sharp (r), Scotiabank President and CEO, is greeted by Dr. Arna Brown-Morgan(l), at the World Family Doctors Day Health Fair, at Mandela Park on May 19, 2015. Ms. Sharp who, was guest speaker at the event, challenged doctors to lobby for policy change specifically as it surrounds the protection of our children.

[Tuesday, May 19, 2015] Scotiabank President and CEO, Jacqueline Sharp, today issued a challenge to doctors to lobby for policy change specifically as it surrounds the protection of our children. Ms Sharp was main guest speaker at the opening ceremony of the World Family Doctors Day Health Fair at Mandela Park on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

Using child month as a backdrop, Ms. Sharp made particular reference to the issue of teenage pregnancy plaguing Jamaica. According to the United Nations Population Fund, Jamaica has one of the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in the Caribbean, with 18% of all births in Jamaica occurring to teenagers.

“You are best placed to identify children at risk” she said. “As health care providers, you play a critical role in supporting appropriate sexuality among teens and reducing teen pregnancy rates, through the care you provide to your adolescent patients. Teens need access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health counselling about the importance of delaying sexual activity, and about their contraceptive options” she added.

“You have the responsibility to influence the public discourse of Jamaica, with your unique insight into the lives and needs of a vast cross-section of the Jamaican population. Part of your calling must be to promote prevention, and to lobby for policy change, she continued.

She tempered her challenging by acknowledging that ‘the job is not yours alone’ and highlighted the efforts of the bank through the Scotia Foundation conference titled Girls Empowered for Motherhood and Success or “GEMS”, that encouraged conversations on parenting as a choice, and raising personal standards.

Presentations were brought by Dr. Marion Bullock Ducasse, on behalf of the Ministry of Health, who

Contact: Hope McMillan-Canaan | Public and Corporate Affairs Manager | Scotiabank
hope.mcmillan-canaan@scotiabank.com | T. 932-0366 M. 321-0003

PRESS RELEASE

spoke to the need to re-design the health sector to address the population shift as people live longer and encouraged doctors 'not to be daunted by the work left to be done'. Dr Kam Mung of the Pan-American Health Organisation shared some interesting points including the fact that 'obesity has doubled worldwide since the 1980's', and that in the next five years the population in the over sixty group will be larger than the youth.

Remarks were also brought Dr. Steve Foo, representing the Medical Association of Jamaica and Professor Horace Fisher, Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences. Professor Fisher used the opportunity to thank Scotiabank for their contributions and support to the health sector, and mentioned the recently launched Scotiabank Professional Student Plan, that targets medical students who require funding to complete their studies.

World Family Doctor Day – 19th May, has become a day to highlight the role and contribution of family doctors in health care systems around the world. This year marks the inaugural staging of the event in Jamaica. A number of medical stalwarts were on hand, and were honoured as part of the ceremony, including Dr Winsome Segree, Dr Owen James, Dr Alva Redwood Kiddoe, Dr Blossom Anglin- Brown, Dr Carmen Owen Wright and Dr Brendon Bain.

Ms Sharp closed her presentation by commending the doctors for all the stellar services they have provided, and challenged them to continue to make a difference to the health care system.



Scotia Group President and CEO, Jacqueline Sharp has a discussion with Dr Kam Mung, Pan American Health Organisation representative at the opening of the World Family Doctors Day Health Fair, at Mandela Park on May 19, 2015. Ms. Sharp who, was guest speaker at the event, challenged doctors to lobby for policy change specifically as it surrounds the protection of our children.

About Scotia Group Jamaica Limited (SGJL)

Scotiabank has been in Jamaica since 1889 and is the premier financial institution in the country with just over 2,000 employees and 36 Branches Island wide. SGJL is a subsidiary of Scotiabank (Canada) and offers a diverse range of products and services including personal, commercial, and small business banking, wealth management, insurance, and mortgages. SGJL is an award winning institution having been named on numerous occasions as the Bank of the Year and Best Bank in Jamaica by international financial publications – the Banker, Latin Finance, Euromoney, and Global Finance magazines. SGJL has JMD\$ 414 billion in assets (as at January 31, 2015). For more information please visit www.scotiabank.com/jm.

--End--

Contact: Hope McMillan-Canaan | Public and Corporate Affairs Manager | [Scotiabank](http://Scotiabank.com)
hope.mcmillan-canaan@scotiabank.com | T. 932-0366 M. 321-0003