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The Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce was established in 1965 and is a non-profit organisation that exists to Support, Promote and Protect Cayman business and the wider community. We proudly represent more than 700 businesses and associations from every major industry sector and have recently expanded our operations to include a Visitors Centre.

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: April 10, 2014

Leadership Cayman Examines Immigration Concerns

Sponsored by Walkers, the fifth seminar of the Leadership Cayman (LC) 2014 programme was held on March 25, 2014 at the facilities of Walkers on Elgin Avenue.

The Cayman Islands Department of Immigration has two central functions: to protect the country's borders and to manage migration to the Islands. In performing these functions the Department and its officers (acting under the authority of the Islands' immigration legislation) are responsible for controlling entry and stay in the Islands, and for the processing of applications for work permits, permanent residence and many other categories of residence. The seminar objective was to learn about the challenges of balancing, and delivering on, the demands of key stakeholders to the immigration process: the Caymanian public, elected officials, expatriate residents, and the private sector. Panellists and participants chatted very candidly on many pressing issues inclusive of the latest 2013 Immigration law revision and pending decisions on Permanent Residency.

Panellists attending the session were Mr. Nicolas Joseph – Partner, HSM Chambers; Dr. Tasha Ebanks-Garcia – Deputy Chief Officer, Ministry of Education, Employment and Gender Affairs; Mr. Wesley Howell – Deputy Chief Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs; and Mr. Bruce Smith – Deputy Chief Officer, Border Control.

Ms. Lindsey Gordon, LC Graduate, was the mentor responsible for this seminar and she worked along with current class members Ms. Olivia Scott-Ramirez and Mr. Kagabo Ngiruwonsanga. Ms. Gordon highlighted *“Having gone through the Leadership Programme last year I was keen to be involved again this year as a mentor. I was very fortunate to be paired with Olivia and Kagabo to facilitate the Immigration Seminar. We were extremely impressed with the tour and presentations given by the team of senior managers at the Immigration Department. This was followed by an evening of lively debate with four highly knowledgeable and engaging speakers who are all clearly experts in their field. We would like to extend our thanks to all involved.”*

Kagabo Ngiruwonsanga relayed *“Immigration policy is probably the most important issue in the Cayman Islands. As such, it was imperative that we have the most*



knowledgeable speakers on the subject who could tackle it from all different angles. I'm sure that the Leadership Cayman participants will agree that is in fact what happened and our speakers led us through a very engaging discussion. We thank Leadership Cayman and the Chamber of Commerce for helping us put such a great seminar together."

To become involved in the Leadership Cayman programme either as a sponsor or future candidate, persons may contact tiffany.ebanks@caymanchamber.ky

