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## **SUPPORT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.**

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:** January 25, 2011

### **Leadership Cayman kicks off with Opening Retreat**

January 14/15 saw the Opening Retreat for the Chamber of Commerce initiative **Leadership Cayman (LC)** held at The Reef Resort in East End. This extraordinary programme is in its second year and has once again attracted an exceptional group of men and women from a variety of industries and backgrounds:

**Ms. Christina McTaggart**, Associate, Campbells Attorneys-At-Law; **Mr. Martin Ruben**, Audit Manager, C.I. Government, Office of the Auditor General; **Ms. Sheena Thompson**, Regional Head Caribbean, Operational Risk Royal Bank of Canada Trust Company (Cayman) Limited; **Mr. Michael Keesee**, General Sales Manager, WestStar TV - Cayman 27; **Ms. Elaine Whitefield**, Executive Assistant to Directors of Bank, Butterfield Bank (Cayman) Limited; **Mr. Steve McIntosh**, CEO, CML Offshore Recruitment; **Ms. Aubrey Boddin**, Freedom of Information, Policy Analyst, C.I. Government, Cabinet Office, Freedom of Information Unit; **Mrs. Jane van der Bol**, Sales and Marketing, Autohaus Ltd.; **Mrs. Ruth Myles**, Public Relations Officer, Cayman Islands Monetary Authority; **Ms. Lillian Curbelo-Bush**, Administrative & Finance Manager, C.I. Government, Judicial Department; **Ms. Michele Miller**, Financial Controller, Phoenix Ltd.; **Mr. David Kirkaldy**, President, Massive Equipment Rental and Sales Ltd.; **Mr. Collin Anglin**, Acting Director of Sports, C. I. Government, Department of Sports; **Mr. Neil Rooney**, Managing Partner, Exeter Property Development; **Mr. Dayne Brady**, General Manager, Home Gas Ltd.; **Mr. Mark Edmunds**, Senior Trust Manager, Rawlinson & Hunter Ltd.; **Mr. Christian van der Bol**, Owner/General Manager, Autohaus Ltd.; **Mr. David Chestnut**, Entrepreneur.

The Opening Retreat is designed to introduce participants to the philosophy behind the programme which has been developed to enhance leadership skills and allow graduates to assume more effective roles in meeting community needs. It is designed to be a dynamic, intensive, and interactive six-month experience that will leave participants with a deeper



understanding of social, economic, business and political issues as well as assist them in realizing their own potential and leadership skills.

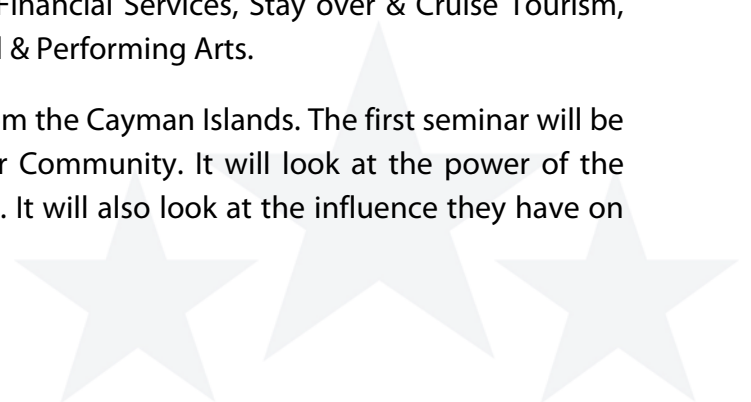
The 18 LC members were welcomed by Chamber CEO, Wil Pineau, CCE and LC Committee Chairperson, Sandy Cram. The retreat consisted of a series of presentations, problem solving and team building exercises, and individual reports. Visiting facilitator for the two day retreat was Dr. Peter K. Hammerschmidt, President of Leadership Consulting Services, Inc. who has been advising executives in leadership, innovative problem-solving, and teamwork for three decades. His practice areas include leadership development and high performance teaming. He makes frequent presentations on economics, leadership, and decision-making to business and civic groups. He conducts training in a range of leadership disciplines including the Franklin Covey "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," "Principle-Centered Leadership," and "First Things First."

Peter is also a Professor of Economics at Eckerd College and a Senior Trainer and Research Associate on the faculty of the College's Leadership Development Institute: an affiliate of The Center for Creative Leadership. He was formerly the Director-in-Residence of the Eckerd College London Study Centre and a professor at Lewis & Clark College.

*"This year's leadership class exhibited a high level of commitment to serving the diverse Cayman Islands Community as well as the considerable talent to do so. It was quite clear to me, as I observed them interact that they will apply their diverse talents, styles, and perspectives to collaboratively create a better Cayman Islands community. The Chamber and the Planning Committee (comprised of last year's class) is to be commended for their work in creating and supporting this ongoing program. Your work in identifying, valuing, and collaboratively using diversity to solve problems was among the very best I have ever seen. Well done and all the best to you and the Leadership Cayman Class of 2011!"* **Dr. Peter K. Hammerschmidt**

The LC programme typically involves two evening seminars a month (every other Wednesday) and class members must attend nine out of the eleven to graduate. Seminar topics include Media in our Community, Criminal Justice, Education & Workforce Development, Sister Islands Perspective, Small Business & Entrepreneurship, Cayman Islands Government, Human Services & Health Care, Financial Services, Stay over & Cruise Tourism, Infrastructure & The Environment, and Cultural & Performing Arts.

Seminars will include expert guest speakers from the Cayman Islands. The first seminar will be on January 26 and will focus on Media in our Community. It will look at the power of the media and their various methods of operation. It will also look at the influence they have on





our business and personal lives and how strategizing cooperation could enhance the socio-economic well-being of the community.

Upon graduation participants will be invited to join the Leadership Cayman Alumni Association which will allow them to network with other alumni from the Cayman Islands and also other Leadership programmes from North America. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in playing a more active role in our community as well as developing their own skills as a leader and influencer. More information can be obtained at [www.leadershipcayman.ky](http://www.leadershipcayman.ky)

