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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: March 17, 2011

Leadership Cayman looks into Education and Workforce Development

Leadership Cayman held the third seminar of the programme on Wednesday February 23, this time targeted at informing participants about the challenges that are facing educational and workforce development institutions today and to discuss strategies that will ensure that the Cayman Islands continues to attract the required talent in order to compete in today's global community. This seminar was sponsored by SteppingStones Recruitment Ltd. & Autohaus Ltd. and held at Cayman Preparatory Elementary School.

Speakers for the Seminar were Mr. Roy Boddan, President, University of the College of the Cayman Islands; Mrs. Shirley Wahler, Head of the Education Department; Mr. Brent Holt, Senior Policy Advisor, Special Educational Needs within the Ministry of Education, Training & Employment and advocate for all persons with disabilities living in the Cayman Islands; Ms. Pat bell, Co-Chair of Development Talent driver group, Future of Cayman Forum. Class moderators were Sheena Thompson and Jane van der Bol. Planning Committee representative was Sandy Cram.

"Preparing for the Education seminar was a tremendous learning experience. It was a pleasure to work with Sandy Cram, our mentor, and Sheena Thompson in preparing for the seminar and delivering the final product to our fellow Leadership Cayman members. But the most value I got out of this experience, was from the incredible speakers we had. Because of Leadership Cayman, I have a grasp on how education plays such an important role in Cayman from our youth to Caymanians in trade school. The Education seminar followed the Judicial seminar and it was quite amazing how crime and illiteracy are very closely interlinked." **Jane van der Bol, Class of 2011**

"The entire process of preparing and delivering the Education and Workforce Development seminar was a rewarding and educational experience in and of itself. Being able to work with mentor and guide, Sandy Cram, and terrific partner Jane van der Bol added to the richness of the experience. The knowledge, experience, dedication and genuine passion of the guest speakers challenged and encouraged us to take an active role in continuing to foster an attitude towards lifelong learning both personally and in the wider community. Being able to have the opportunity to access and receive an education is a privilege that we should never take for granted." **Sheena Thompson, Class of 2011**



The next seminar will focus on Small Business & Entrepreneurship on Wednesday, March 23.

The Chamber's Leadership Cayman programme (LC) was developed in answer to a need to ensure men and women of all types of backgrounds could access the information and experience to help them develop as leaders within our community. The six-month programme is designed to allow participants a deeper understanding of social, economic, business and political issues affecting us all, whilst they develop their own personal leadership styles and nourish their community spirit.

Class members interact with diverse, high-level community leaders and decision makers by organising and attending a series of seminars and retreats in areas ranging from business, government, education, media, social services, criminal justice, diversity, the arts and more. Meeting typically every other Wednesday of the month (5:00 – 9:00 p.m.), the LC group forges strong friendships as they take this inspiring journey together. Each graduating class will be invited to join the LC Alumni Association and use it to network both here in the Cayman Islands and also with similar overseas programmes.

