



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

Levels 8 & 9, Tower C,
International Waterfront Complex,
1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain,
Trinidad and Tobago

Phone: 624-1403
Fax: 624-6737

2 March, 2021

Amicable Agreement reached between the NCC and the POS City Corporation on the matter of the payment of prize money for the 2020 Downtown Carnival Competition

The Port of Spain City Corporation (POS City Corporation) and the National Carnival Commission (NCC) today found mutual accord on the issue surrounding the payment of prize monies amounting to \$378,000 for the 2020 Downtown Carnival Competition following cordial discussions held at the Ministry of Tourism Culture and the Arts.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell invited the parties to a meeting at the Ministry's offices on the issue of the non-payment of prize monies. Through a meeting of the minds, the parties agreed to resolve the matter wherein the NCC will undertake to pay 60% of the prize monies due and owing with the balance to be paid by the POS City Corporation.

Moving forward, the Ministry, the NCC and the POS City Corporation have also agreed to collaborate on an exercise to clearly identify and demarcate areas of responsibility and control that involve items of revenue and expenditure that relate to the Carnival festivities such as advertising, financing, information sharing etc. It is anticipated that the outcome of this exercise will result the development of a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding between the parties which will serve as a blueprint for arrangements between the NCC and other municipalities and Carnival bodies during Carnival celebrations.

This Memorandum of Understanding should once and for all circumvent any future similar issues or misunderstandings and also fully consider matters that pertain to Carnival's unexplored potential.

"With the continued economic growth of the Trinidad and Tobago Carnival, it is now absolutely necessary to work even more collaboratively together for the Ministry, the NCC, and its stakeholders to clearly identify and demarcate the areas of control and responsibility for all aspects of Trinidad and Tobago Carnival including, and most importantly its commercial aspects with a view to improving the way we management the festival", Minister Mitchell said.

The Mayor of Port of Spain His Worship Alderman Joel Martinez, Councillor for Belmont South and the Chairman of the Downtown Carnival Committee Aba Kamau, Chairman of the NCC Winston 'Gypsy' Peters, Chief Executive Officer of the NCC Colin Lucas and the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Richard Madray were among the attendees at today's meeting.



Meeting of minds: (left to right at head table) Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts (MTCA) Richard Madray along with Councillor for Belmont South and the Chairman of the Downtown Carnival Committee Aba Kama, Mayor of Port of Spain His Worship Alderman Joel Martinez, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell, Director of Legal Services at MTCA Candice Hicks, Chairman of the NCC Winston 'Gypsy' Peters and the Chief Executive Officer of the NCC Colin Lucas (back turned) at today's meeting.



Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell makes notes during today's meeting with the Port of Spain City Corporation and the National Carnival Commission (NCC) to resolve the payment of prize monies for the 2020 Downtown Carnival competition.