



## Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute

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### Launch of the School Integrity Club Project

Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI) in collaboration with the the Integrity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago and the National Parent Teacher Association (NPTA) launched integrity clubs in the six secondary schools involved in the project and conducted a series of trainings and meetings with the principals, teachers and the Integrity Ambassadors (students). We held two training sessions with the Integrity Ambassadors, one with the Integrity Champion teachers as well as a breakfast meeting with principals. The students received training on interview techniques, strategies for implementing Integrity Clubs, understanding integrity and corruption, public speaking, communication skills as well as an understanding the global picture of corruption and its impact on the nation.

All these activities led to the official launch the School Integrity Club Project which was held on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Yara Auditorium, Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business, Mt. Hope. In delivering the keynote address, the Honourable Anthony Garcia, Minister of Education noted that the launch of the Integrity Clubs in schools not only puts another dimension to the Ministry's offerings of inclusion, quality and access to our education system but also to the essential ingredients of integrity, honour and how we interact with each other.

In congratulating the teachers and students of the six schools as well as those with the vision and foresight to establish Integrity Clubs in schools, the Minister emphasised the need "to have foremost in everyone's mind issues of integrity...be the exemplars, be the drivers of change by inculcating values of integrity among parents, teachers and friends." Minister Garcia also stated that the Ministry of Education fully endorses and supports the School Integrity Club Project.

Mr. Nikoli Edwards, member of the Procurement Board of Trinidad and Tobago also delivered an outstanding and motivating address and explained that through the Integrity Clubs project, Trinidad and Tobago is provided with an opportunity to change the national landscape. Also addressing the launch was Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute's (TTTI) Chair, Mr. Dion Abdool; the Chairman of the Integrity Commission Justice Melville Baird (Ret); and the President of the National Parent Teacher-Association, Mrs. Raffiena Ali-Boodoosingh.

Mr. Abdool highlighted that TTTI understood that if we are to influence cultural change, change in behaviour, change in what is accepted as a norm we must start with our young and influential minds. Justice Baird stated that "when these values have been thoroughly ingrained in the mind of young students; when they grow up with these values uppermost in their mind; when 'integrity' becomes a word freighted with positive meaning and significance; when the word 'corruption' conjures up in their mind revulsion, disgust and contempt, then we would be well on our way to establishing that elusive society that is free from corruption and rich in morals and ethics."

Mrs. Ali-Boodoosingh in her address expressed hope that in the very near future Integrity Clubs will be implemented in all schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago. TTTI acknowledges that all these activities would not have been possible without our sponsors Dr. Marchelle Farrell-Watkinson, First Citizens and United Way Trinidad and Tobago.

Do you have a corruption complaint?

Contact our Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) T: 626-3797 ■ E: [info@ttalac.org](mailto:info@ttalac.org)



The Honourable Anthony Garcia, Minister of Education congratulating Integrity Ambassador Dylan Kowlessar.



First Citizens, One Woodbrook Place Branch Manager - Rachael Juman congratulating Romayne Ebanks from Speyside High School, Tobago



United Way Trinidad and Tobago, Chief Executive Officer - Dr. Jennifer Sancho congratulating an Integrity Ambassador from St. George's College, Barataria.



The Honourable Anthony Garcia, Minister of Education (centre) with some of the Integrity Ambassadors



Her Excellency Carla Hogan Rufelds (centre) with some of the Integrity Ambassadors



Left – right: Integrity Ambassadors with the Chairman of the Integrity Commission Justice Melville Baird (Ret); President of the National Parent Teacher-Council Mrs. Raffiena Ali-Boodoosingh; Chief Executive Officer of United Way Trinidad and Tobago - Dr. Jennifer Sancho and Chair of Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute, Mr. Dion Abdool.



Left – right: Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute, Vice-Chair - Martin Farrell with the Integrity Club Champion Teachers.



Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute, Chair – Dion Abdool (centre) with some of Integrity Ambassadors.