



# Caribbean YOUTH

Highlighting the projects and programmes of the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre



ISSUE 7 SEPTEMBER, 2006



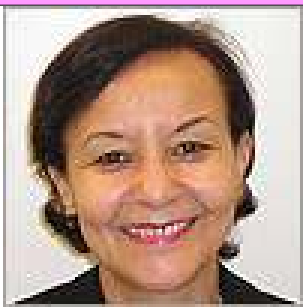
## About us

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre is located in Georgetown, Guyana and is one of four Centres established to serve the member countries of the Commonwealth, spread across the globe. The Caribbean Centre serves the Commonwealth Caribbean and Canada. These 18 countries together have a total population of 33.6 million people and a youth population of approximately 5.4 million.

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## CYPCC welcomes new Director of Youth Affairs



**Dr. Fatiha Serour**  
Director of Youth Affairs

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) family and partners welcome Dr Fatiha Serour, the new Director of Youth Affairs of the Pan-Commonwealth office in London who assumed duties on September 4, 2006. Prior to joining the Commonwealth Secretariat Dr Serour had given long and meritorious service to the United Nations. Her expertise, experience and social

development savoir- faire will be a tremendous asset to the CYP as we proceed to chart a new strategic direction. Commenting on Dr Serour's appointment CYPCC's Regional Director, Mr. Henry Charles, said that based on initial interaction with the new Director of Youth Affairs "CYP seems to be in safe hands and maybe at the beginning of a very exciting period". Dr Serour succeeds Mr. Ignatius Takawira.

## Caribbean Centre launches Regional Youth Development Lecture Series



**Dr. Ivan Henry**

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) launched its inaugural monthly Regional Youth Lecture Series on September 30, 2006 at the Sherbourne Conference Centre in Barbados. The primary objective of the Youth Lecture Series, a major youth

development initiative, is to influence the youth development policy environment in the Commonwealth, with particular emphasis on the Caribbean, through informed debate and discourse on youth development issues. The discourse, entitled "A Paradigm Shift in Youth Development Policy", was presented by Dr. Ivan Henry, a former Regional Director of CYPCC. Dr. Henry in his remarks congratulated CYPCC's Regional Director Mr. Henry Charles for reviving the tradition of rolling out at least one innovative project per year for the development of Caribbean youth. "I am delighted to be the first contributor to this series of lectures which is intended to bring about a

paradigm shift in youth development. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts with you on a subject that has been my passion all my life while working and living in several Commonwealth countries," Dr. Henry said. The lecture focused on issues which he posited are challenging young people on a daily basis in the Commonwealth Caribbean. Among them are low self-esteem deriving from the lack of an authentic ethnic identity; the suppression of culture; the erosion of the spiritual bedrock of our society; strained and conflict-ridden gender relations; inability to cope with natural disasters and poverty; the unrelenting spread of HIV/AIDS; failure to appreciate the

*Cont'd on page 7*

# Editorial New Challenges: New Paradigm



**Mr. Henry Charles,  
Regional Director, CYPCC**

For over thirty years the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) has contributed to the human resource development needs of the Caribbean youth development strategy. Today many senior public officers, throughout the Caribbean, serving in the various youth development and social service agencies are graduates of the CYP certificate and diploma training programmes. Many have also benefited from other customized training programmes and capacity building initiatives.

These CYPCC training and capacity building initiatives have served the region well and are still vital tools to expand the regional pool of trained youth development volunteers and professionals, and significantly upgrade the quality and impact of youth development interventions.

However there are new challenges, which demand new strategies.

Despite the invaluable contribution made by youth development professionals and volunteers to national development, many persons including some policy makers still treat them as persons who only engage in the social pastime of organizing "afternoon tea parties."

This diminished perception of Youth Development professionals is reflected in the relatively unfair job classification

and status within most public services.

To address this glaring anomaly and to establish Youth work as a respected profession the CYPCC is engaged in a strategic partnership with some public sector agencies and non-governmental development organizations to create an enabling environment for the professionalisation of youth work.

This professionalisation will not only have a tremendous positive impact on the youth development landscape but should contribute in a most significant manner to sustainable development of our delicate societies.

We congratulate the partners who have demonstrated faith in this process and salute those who are now invoking the self confidence to become involved.

Our youth are our most valuable resource and we must ensure that the quality of service provided to them is of internationally acceptable standard.

Play your part now!! Form your youth workers associations.

Undertake research activities on various aspects of youth development. Publish your findings.

Be guided by appropriate ethical and quality standards in the execution of your functions.

Above all, remember young people are also citizens, with requisite rights and responsibilities.

## How to contact us

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# CYPCC congratulates successful Diploma graduates

The Director of Youth Affairs of the Pan- Commonwealth Office, Regional Director and Staff of the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre extend congratulations to the youth workers who recently completed the Pan Commonwealth Diploma in Youth in Development Work through the University of Guyana and the University of the West Indies. We look forward to your continued contribution to national and regional development.

## List of Diploma Graduates from around the region

NO	COUNTRY	COMPLETED					TBC
		TTL	D	H	C	P	
1	BAHAMAS	4	1	1	1	1	0
2	BARBADOS	8	2	4	2		13
3	BELIZE	9		6	1	2	2
4	BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	10	3	4	3		2
5	CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	2	2			0
6	DOMINICA	12	7	4	1		3
7	GRENADA	5	4		1		1
8	JAMAICA	10	6		4		4
9	MONTserrat	6	2	1	3		0
10	ST LUCIA	0					15
11	ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	15	4	8	3		1
12	TRINIDAD	17	2	7	7	1	2
13	TOBAGO	5		2	3		5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>

# CYEN and CYPCC to launch £10,000 Youth Environmental Project

The sum of £10, 000 has been approved by the Pan Commonwealth Office to facilitate a collaborative environmental project on climate change between the Caribbean Youth Environmental Network (CYEN) and the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC).

The project is aimed at enhancing awareness of the causes and impact of climate change and global warming among youth leaders in the Commonwealth Caribbean.

The initiative which will serve as an educational and advocacy tool, will train young people to implement and create awareness for environmental

and climate change in the region.

It is hoped that there will be core of trained youth leaders who will be equipped to educate their peers in their respective countries on the cause of climate change and global warming. In addition, awareness exercise and campaigns on issues surrounding global warming will also be carried out.

CYEN promotes environment and development education and awareness-raising for youth of the wider Caribbean through action campaigns such as community participation, publication, video and radio programmes.

# Caribbean Centre to assist St Lucia with Youth Empowerment project

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) will be assisting the government of St Lucia with a major youth empowerment project to help socially challenged youth.

Over one hundred young men and women in St Lucia who are at risk and socially challenged will benefit from a CYPCC-sponsored innovative pilot programme that will stimulate their interest in entrepreneurial activities.

CYPCC has been approached by the Ministry of Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Industry and Tourism of St Lucia to provide support to develop a Youth Empowerment Programme to target social exclusion among young people on the island.

The Youth at Risk and Entrepreneurship Pilot is part of a collaborative effort with the CYP, the Ministry Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Industry and Tourism, the BELFund, the Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU), the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) and other national institutions collaborating with CYP on entrepreneurial development for

young people.

It dovetails with CYP's youth enterprise development programme that has been successfully operating in several countries. Youth Enterprise and Sustainable Livelihoods (YESL) Programme Manager, Ms. Dwynette Eversley revealed that CYP has evaluated many youth businesses developed under the Commonwealth Youth Credit Initiative (CYCI). "The unanimous feedback by young people is that they are happy for the opportunity to provide for themselves in a way they best determine. That I think is the crux of our success. We want to also make available to at-risk youth who traditionally feel they are not consulted about important social and economic issues."

The first phase of the project is a Training of Trainers Workshop to run from October 30 to November 3, 2006. About thirty five young people will be trained as community advocates and empowerment agents. The innovative feature of the pilot is that these persons are themselves at risks and victims of social exclusion, with its related economic, social and political impacts and pressures. Youth

at risk are among a growing cohort of young people who were singled out for special mention in a World Bank Report in 2003. The Report identified the growing trend of young men and women who are victims of social exclusion and the emerging pressing implications for them to be strategically re-integrated into societies to ensure the economic and social stability in the Caribbean community.

This pilot is in line with CYP's strategic support to Member States in the area of Youth Enterprise and Sustainable Livelihoods. CYPCC expects to gauge important lessons about empowering and mobilising young people as agents of change in their communities, and about the impact on employment generation among young people once the concept of business-ownership and credit has been de-mystified.

The training of trainers will be in the areas of Achievement Motivation, Life skills Orientation and Business Identification. Through the latter activity, participants will be able to identify marketable business ventures that can be undertaken in their

community. The trained youth will be in a position to:

(i) Access existing entrepreneurship schemes in St Lucia and receive follow-on training and financial support to be established as young entrepreneurs; and

(ii) Orient and mobilize other youth at risk in the community for entrepreneurial activity.

Commenting on the significance of this project, CYPCC's Regional Director, Mr. Henry Charles said that "This project is part of CYPCC's contribution towards ensuring that the Caribbean societies do not disintegrate into laboratories of hopelessness, despair and social instability but are instead transformed into cradles of creativity, social cohesion, economic prosperity and sustainable development."

**Young People!!!**  
**Contribute to National Development**  
**Join a youth club or group.**

## RYC Chair participates in National Consultations on Vulnerability and HIV/AIDS



**Mr Norman Gilbert,**  
**Regional Youth Caucus Chairman**

Regional Youth Caucus (RYC) Chairman, Mr. Norman Gilbert

participated in a National Consultation on Vulnerability and HIV/AIDS held by the Grenada National Aids Council in collaboration with the United Nations Development programme (UNDP).

The consultation, which targeted employers, labour movements, at risk groups and youth organisations, sought to:

- Conduct a situation and response analysis regarding HIV transmission and comments on the care and response to date.
- Discuss the issues and challenges facing young people, People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), Men who have sex with Men (MSM) and Commercial Sex

Workers (CSW).

- Conceptualize strategies for intervention on HIV/AIDS
- Discuss a protocol for approaching the work place issues of Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)

Participants were divided into small groups to discuss and brainstorm matters relating to HIV/AIDS on the island. Each group had a facilitator who guided the discussions towards the achievements of each objective.

The outcome of the forum will be discussed and addressed at another consultation to be held later this year.

The United Nation Development Programme has been assisting Grenada with the preparation of a

country-based Plan of Action for 2007 which includes a number of support intervention programmes across the island.

*If you tell me something  
 I will forget...  
 If you show me something  
 I might forget...  
 But if you involve me  
 I will remember...  
 Embrace all opportunities  
 to become involved!!!*

## BVI Country Coordinator reflects on CYPCC's Diploma Programme



**Ms Arlene Smith,  
Country Coordinator, BVI**

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) is experiencing significant growth at the moment as it relates to Youth in Development Work. In addition to the establishment of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports in 2004.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has also recently established a Technical/Vocational Programme in collaboration with the local H. Lavity Stoutt Community College to provide skills training for unattached youth ages 18-30 in communities around the BVI that would enable them to become more productive citizens. The Ministry is also in the final stages of implementing a Youth Enterprise Development Programme that would help to support and equip our young people with the skills that they will need for entrepreneurship and enterprise development. Altogether, these initiatives are part of the BVI Government's mandate for developing the talents and abilities of our territory's young people. It is in this vein that the Ministry of Education and Culture seized the opportunity to partner with UWI and CYP in delivering the Diploma in Youth in Development Work in 2004.

### Lessons Learnt from the Delivery of the Diploma Programme

As the BVI Country Coordinator for the UWI/CYP Diploma in Youth in Development Work, I quickly found that it was necessary to 'wear several hats', particularly in providing students with the level of support that they needed. To this end, a typical week could range from liaising with Ms. Karen Guscott at the Social Welfare Office at UWI in Jamaica or

Mrs. Glenyss James at CYP in Guyana over a matter; discussing the progress of the students with our local Resident Tutor, Dr. Marcia Potter; providing updates to my Ministry on the Programme; getting in touch with tutors for the delivery of modules; checking with students and even their spouses to see how they were progressing with their assignments and addressing any other concerns that they might have. To this end, I often found myself performing the role of 'motivator', for some students that were disillusioned for one reason or another. All in all, these experiences have helped to cement my beliefs about being patient and understanding even in the face of seemingly difficult situations.

Perhaps the most rewarding part of this journey for me as Country Coordinator was getting the opportunity to tutor my students in Management Skills. Not only did I get a tutor's viewpoint firsthand, I was also able to create a stronger bond with them as well as getting a better understanding of their learning needs. Another special moment was organizing a workshop on Critical Thinking and Writing Skills for the students with the financial support from my Ministry and encouragement from former Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Josephine Callwood. This workshop was an overwhelming success and one that was much appreciated from the feedback that was received.

### The Final Analysis

Today I beam with pride at the thought that the BVI would graduate its first cohort of 10 students for the Diploma in Youth in Development Work. I am excited about the collective contributions that they will make towards advancing youth issues in the BVI. Already, proposals are being considered about ways in which this wealth of knowledge could be effectively utilized. In retrospect, however, this milestone could not have been attained had it not been for the hard work of the aforementioned individuals and organizations. I commend them highly for their commitment and dedication in ensuring that our students were provided with opportunities to excel in a very supportive environment.

## More Dominican Youth graduate from DYBT

Over twenty five potential young entrepreneurs received certificates from the Dominica Youth Business Trust (DYBT) at a graduation ceremony held in on September 29, after completing a three-week Entrepreneurial Development training.

The young Dominicans underwent an intensive training programme which included problem solving sessions, elements of life skills and Achievement Motivation

Hon. Roosevelt Skerrit, Prime Minister of Dominica towards youth development in his country and the region. Five students pursuing business studies at the Dominica State College also completed one week of the Achievement Motivation Training as one of the requirements to receive assistance from the Loan Guarantee Fund (LGF).

The DYBT was introduced to Dominica in 2004 and is based on the



**A section of the graduates at the DYBT graduation ceremony**

Training.

Six of the young entrepreneurs were presented with incentives in the form of grants from CYPCC in recognition of their Innovative Business Plans under the Business Plan Innovation Awards (BPIA) which was introduced by Programme Manager responsible for Youth Enterprise Development at the Caribbean Centre, Ms Dwynette D. Eversley 2005.

Addressing the graduation ceremony Mr. Henry Charles, Regional Director, CYPCC said, "CYP is extremely proud of the progressive relationship it has forged with the Government of Dominica and in particular with the Youth Division. We are extremely grateful that the Dominica Youth Business Trust has provided us with the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution towards the empowerment of many young people in Dominica".

Mr. Charles noted that CYPCC is grateful for the level of support and commitment demonstrated by the

Commonwealth Youth Credit Initiative (CYCI) model where micro-credit and training is made available to young people to start-up new businesses or expand existing ones.

The successful graduates are: Kenny James, Josian Antoine, Okang Pinard, Carine Fevrier, Julia Loyal, Fitzgerald Daniel, Franky Phillip, Sarah Elwin, Earl Pat St. Valle, Alex Thomas, Liz Augustine, Alroy Williams, Fari Winston, Aretha Charles, Melissa Durand, Kashma Julien, Jeffers Ettiienne, Valda Charles, Cleo John, Jester Francis, Rodriguez Augustine, Clifford Paul, Gary Clarke, Margaret Langlais, Benito Shillingford, Dwight St. Valle, Samantha Challenger, Irvin John Baptiste and Ronald Letang.

The livelihood of several young Dominicans have been improved following access to micro-credit and entrepreneurial development offered by DYBT.

# International Soca Artist, CYPCC and UNICEF collaborate to help Trinidadian Community



Residents of Gonzales listen as Machel Montano makes a point. Next to Machel is CYPCC's Information Officer, Mr. Robert Bazil

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Trinidad and Tobago are collaborating to support a major sustainable livelihoods project in the depressed community of Gonzales in Eastern Port-of-Spain.

Gonzales has been plagued by gang and gun violence, unemployment and erosion of the social infrastructure. It has also experienced five murders in six weeks and community leaders have to find solutions to the problem.

A decision was taken to mobilize the residents, through Roman Catholic Priest Father Jason Gordon and the Pride of Gonzales group, to establish a Pan Theatre which will house a dance studio, drumming facilities, cafeteria, recording studio and a stage for performances and drama.

Present at the meeting organised by the Pride of Gonzales were CYPCC's Information Officer, Mr. Robert Bazil who represented Regional Director, Mr. Henry

Charles, UNICEF's Representative for Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Johannes Wedenig and Ms Christine Norton, Regional Advisor, Adolescent Development and Gender Equality.

Leading Trinidadian Soca artist and UN Ambassador Mr. Machel Montano was also at the meeting and provided guidance on how music could successfully be used as an entry point in creating sustainable livelihoods in the Gonzales community.

The residents felt that CYPCC could assist the Gonzales Pan Theatre with capacity building when the programme comes on stream. The meeting confirmed that there are a number of highly skilled musicians in the community, and recommended

that any strategy must promote a culture of entrepreneurship and enterprise development as an important element of the music industry amongst the youths in the violence plagued community.

Additionally, the Pan Theatre will provide opportunities for youths to learn to play the steel band, read music and ultimately to become teachers and band members. It was agreed that Pride of Gonzales would conduct a mapping exercise in the community and the findings will be used to inform the community enhancement strategy. CYPCC and UNICEF will again meet with stakeholders on completion of the discussions on the results of the mapping exercise at the community level.

## Barbados Minister supports Regional Youth Lecture Series



The Hon. Mr. Anthony Wood, Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports

The Honourable Mr. Anthony Wood, Barbados' Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports has welcomed the new Regional Lecture Series on youth development issues which was officially launched on September 30 at the Sherbourne Conference Centre in Barbados.

The lecture series, an initiative of the CYPCC, is aimed at addressing issues pertinent to youth development in the region in order to influence the youth development policy environment.

Addressing the inaugural lecture in Barbados, Minister Wood said his country is honoured to have been asked to host the inaugural lecture by CYPCC. "It is a real honour in hosting the first lecture among the eighteen countries served by the CYP Caribbean Centre", Minister Wood said.

"We are humbled by the confidence which the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre has placed in us and our commitment to the issue of youth development", Minister Wood noted.

The forum was attended by a cross section of stakeholders including school children and officials from the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports.

## CYPCC and Suriname President for talks on Regional Youth Development

Regional Director of the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre, Mr. Henry Charles and President of the Republic of Suriname, His Excellency Ronald Venetiaan, are scheduled to hold key talks in October, aimed at strengthening the partnership with CARICOM on youth development strategies.

President Venetiaan is CARICOM's lead spokesperson on youth.

Mr. Charles will also meet with the Honourable Mr. Edwin Wolf, Minister of Education and Community Development.

During the one-day visit the Regional Director will be seeking to deepen the level of cooperation between the two agencies.

"Suriname has developed a good reputation for youth development and youth development strategies...we will be sharing ideas and examining

areas of commonality between CYPCC and CARICOM, Mr. Charles said, adding "we want to see if we could develop an alliance in the future.

The Regional Director, in an earlier statement, had commended CARICOM Heads of Government for the decision at their 27th Regular Meeting in St Kitts and Nevis for agreeing to establish a Commission on Youth Development to among other things investigate issues and challenges confronting young people in the Caribbean.

Mr. Charles had said that as testimony to CYPCC's commitment to strengthening the current relationships with CARICOM and other development partners in youth empowerment," we reiterate our fullest support to the Commission on Youth Development and call on all progressive minded citizens to do likewise.

# Meet the face behind the voice



**Ms Elizabeth Percival,  
Administrative Assistant,  
CYP Caribbean Centre**

telephone calls, arranging appointments, preparing - correspondence, faxes, letters, handling matters of protocol, making arrangements for meetings with officials across the Region, assisting with coordinating meetings, training sessions and workshops organized by CYPCC and receiving, documenting and distributing all incoming correspondence to the Office.

“The most rewarding thing about my job is that I get the opportunity to put my skills to use daily. Each day brings new challenges and rewards for me; I must say that team work is at a high standard at the office so that has contributed positively to the completion of tasks for me”, Ms Percival said.

She pointed out that she faces many challenges especially when assisting with coordinating workshops, training sessions, Commonwealth Day activities and internship programmes for university students. “Priorities and deadlines are my biggest challenges to date. This was evident with the recently held Caribbean Youth Exchange 2006 in the British Virgin Islands when I was tasked with booking flights to get

delegates from around the region into the British Virgin Islands. Despite the many challenges I was successful.

Elizabeth is encouraging young people to look for opportunities to use their many talents and skills even if means volunteering; this she feels will help them to acquire/develop transferable skills for today's job market. Networking with other young people and participating in leadership development are also important activities for their personal development she says.

**Youth  
Empowerment:  
an asset to  
Sustainable  
Development**

Caribbean Youth Vibes' Natalie Yearwood did a CLOSE-UP with Administrative Assistant at the CYP Caribbean Centre office in Guyana and former Ranger/Guider Ms Elizabeth Percival. Ms Percival has been employed as an Administrative Assistant with the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) since November 2002 where she has been providing invaluable support to the Regional Director and Programme Managers at the Centre.

Elizabeth's day to day duties include placing and answering

## Guyana's new Minister of Youth



**The Hon. Dr. Frank Anthony**

The Honourable Dr Frank Anthony is Guyana's new Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports following Guyana's National and Regional Elections on August 28, 2006. He is also a former Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Youth Exchange delegate.

The Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre looks forward to working with Minister Anthony.

# More young entrepreneurs trained in St. Lucia

A batch of 15 young entrepreneurs in St. Lucia completed the first phase of training recently through the fourth Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF) programme, sponsored by the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre (CYPCC) and hosted by the James Belgrave Micro-Enterprise Development Fund (BELfund).

The highest number of participants attending the programme completed the first phase of training and are expected to complete further training in October.

The prospective entrepreneurs who came from various communities around the island, participated in the week long Personal Development



**BELFund beneficiaries pose with Ms Marva Bancroft at the end of the first phase of their entrepreneurial training**

Programme (PDP) which was held from September 11 to 15, 2006.

The PDP was done under the able tutelage of Consultant Trainer attached to CYPCC, Ms Marva Bancroft.

The PDP, which is of 30 hours duration, was developed to assist entrepreneurs to acquire the knowledge and skills which will aid in their growth and development. It also provided participants with the opportunity to address the challenges which confronts them daily in their businesses and

family lives.

The Small Business Management training is designed to sharpen and strengthen the business management skills of the soon to be entrepreneurs and to increase their chances of succeeding in their businesses.

At the end of the entire programme, participants are expected to produce a Business Plan for their enterprise to be submitted to the BELfund for approval on a topic which is covered in the training. The Youth Enterprise Development Fund(YEDF) is a project of the Government of St. Lucia and the Commonwealth Youth Programme Caribbean Centre.

**Young people!!  
Speak Up! Speak Out! Speak On!**

Cont'd from page 1

psychological, social, economic and health benefits of sports; the routine abuse of substances like alcohol and marijuana; and failure to prepare for inevitable Caribbean integration.

Dr. Henry noted that the problems in many cases are unique to the Caribbean and the standard approach to these challenges is fraught with danger. Doing nothing is no longer an option, he stressed.

“We therefore need programmes that are based on honest admission that we want young people to

participate fully in an effort to solve problems that really belong to them...at the same time we must release them from social bondage and empower them to take responsibility for their own salvation. We need to help them break out of the political and economic confines that have frustrated their development and that of their communities,” he noted.

Among those present at the launching were the Honourable Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Mr. Anthony Wood; Regional Director, CYPCC, Mr. Henry Charles; Permanent Secretaries of the various government ministries; Director of Youth of Barbados, Mr. Richard Carter; staff of the various ministries; school children; scouts; and a number of youth organisations and groups.

After the lecture, members of the audience were given an opportunity to pose questions to Dr Henry based on the theme of the lecture, “A Paradigm Shift in Youth Development Policy”.

Each month one Commonwealth Caribbean country will host the lecture under the auspices of CYPCC and the relevant Ministry or Youth Development Agency in their country.



A student engages Dr. Henry after the lecture. At centre is Regional Director, Mr Henry Charles.

# Up coming Events

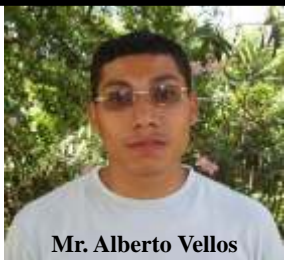
- Youth Enterprise Workshop in cooperation with Youth Challenge Guyana, October 23 to 27, 2006.
- Review Meeting for Competency Standards for Professionalisation of Youth Work, Jamaica, October 27
- Review Meeting with CSAP Consultants on YED Training Manual, October 28 to 29
- Youth at Risk and Youth Entrepreneurship Training of Trainers, St. Lucia, October 30 to November 3
- Pan-Commonwealth Forum Conference - Commonwealth of Learning, Jamaica, October 30 to November 3
- Launching of Commonwealth Youth for Positive Living (CYPL) Peer Education Manual, Guyana, November 2006
- Training of New Commonwealth Youth for Positive Living (CYPLs), Guyana November
- International Testing Day - November 14
- Regional Workshop on Enterprise Education and Enterprise Awareness Culture, Dominica, November 12 to 15
- International Student's Day - November 17
- CYP Strategic Planning Meeting, India, November 19 to 29
- Strategic Visioning Retreat, Government of the BVI, December 4 and 5, 2006.

## Did you know?



Mr Chad Blackman

Chad Blackman, Regional Youth Caucus, Barbados sits on the Board of Management for the Harrison College in Barbados, one of the most prestigious colleges on the island. He is also the President of the Barbados Youth Development Council and a CARICOM Youth Ambassador.



Mr. Alberto Vellos

Albert Vellos, Regional Youth Caucus, Belize was a member of the Commonwealth Observer Group to Guyana during Guyana's National and Regional Elections in August 2006.

### You can contribute!

CYPCC welcomes your contributions for the next and ongoing issues of our monthly newsletter, *Caribbean Youth Vibes* and quarterly e-journal, *Caribbean Youth Development*.

Please email your contributions to [nyearwood@cypcaribbean.org](mailto:nyearwood@cypcaribbean.org) for the newsletter and [rbazil@cypcaribbean.org](mailto:rbazil@cypcaribbean.org) for the e-journal.

# P o e t r y C o r n e r

## *The Story of Success*

*by Norman Gilbert,  
RYC Chairman, Grenada*

*There is something in life we long for the most  
That burning desire to have it  
Like a whole army of hungry tigers roaring  
angrily*

*The site of it, brings joy to the soul  
You eagerly want to embrace and hold*

*There it is in front of you  
Waiting and waiting and waiting what will you  
do?*

*You have to take the chance and you must do it  
right  
For this journey will take off in full flight.*

*The time has come for you to make your move  
Your real worth and value you have to prove  
So move forward, move with haste  
Stay ahead and be on top of the race.*

*At the end of the journey,  
YES! Is the sound you will hear  
Be strong be positive, be the best  
and you will make it to the place called  
SUCCESS*

## **SPEAK**

*by Dion Johnson,  
CYEX Delegate of The Bahamas*

*This is the time when we need to share,  
About crime, education and the political  
atmosphere  
Most things may be near and dear to us  
But we all must create our lives compass  
From global warming to AIDS/HIV  
Now more than ever, we need to think about  
CSME*

*So no matter the language barriers,  
complexion or our diverse weather  
Lets all build up our Caribbean together  
Just be proud mo brothers and sisters  
And ask the good God to deliver us*

**SPEAK UP!**

**SPEAK ON!**

**SPEAK OUT!**

**Any poems  
or short stories?**

**Publish them here!  
You can e-mail them to  
[nyearwood@cypcaribbean.org](mailto:nyearwood@cypcaribbean.org)**

**Give us the Vibes!  
Let us know about youth  
activities and developments  
in your country.**