



NATIONAL CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Report on Activities of the National Conservation Commission

April 2006 – March 2007



BOARD MATTERS

The previous Board of Directors served until July 01, 2006 when Ms. Ruan Martinez replaced Ms. Michelle Headley and Mr. Arleigh Thorpe was appointed. Its composition was therefore as follows:-

Mrs. Jennifer Applewhaite	-Chairman
Mr. Mark Odle	-Deputy Chairman
Mrs. Allison Saunders-Franklyn	-Member
Ms. Ruann Martinez	-Member
Mr. Wayne Greaves	-Member
Mr. Paul Collymore	-Member
Mrs. Denise Mongerie-Rogers	-Member
Mr. Arleigh Thorpe	-Member
The Chief Town Planner or his nominee	-Member
The nominee of the Barbados Workers' Union	-Member
The nominee of the Barbados National Trust	-Member

There were seven (07) Board Meetings during the period.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION

STAFF MATTERS

The following staff changes were effected during the period:-

New Employees

Nineteen (19) persons were employed in the following categories:-

One (1) Lawnmower Operator

One (1) Driver

Four (4) General Workers

One (1) Relief Watchman

Twelve (12) lifeguards were employed on contract for the period November 01, 2006-April 30, 2007 to provide additional manpower during the period of World Cup 2007.

Separations

Six (6) members of staff retired at age limit. This number comprised one (1) Ranger/Warden, two (2) General Workers, one (1) Foreman, one (1) Artisan Foreman and one (1) Lawnmower Operator while one (1) Driver voluntarily retired.

Five (5) members of staff were retired on medical grounds. This number comprised one (1) Foreman, one (1) Caretaker, one (1) Lifeguard and two (2) General Workers.

Two (2) members of staff resigned from the organization. This number comprised one (1) General Worker and one (1) Relief Watchman

Two (2) members of staff abandoned their posts-One (1) Superintendent of Works and one (1) General Worker

One (1) member of staff, a General Worker, died in service.

Appointments/promotions

One employee was appointed to the position of Field Superintendent while other promotions were effected as follows:-

One Receptionist to the post of Clerical Officer

One Stores Assistant to the post of Assistant Storekeeper

One General Worker to the post of Foreman

Three General Workers to the Post of Driver

STAFF COMPLEMENT

At March 31, 2007, the staff complement totaled nine hundred and sixteen (916) employees of which seven hundred and twenty-seven (727) were weekly paid employees and one hundred and eighty-nine (189) were monthly paid employees.

TRAINING

- In-house training programmes in Horticulture and landscaping were conducted for selected staff assigned to the Commercial Department by resource personnel from the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic
- Basic First Aid and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation for staff of the Ranger/Warden Service was conducted by the Lifeguard Instructor and support staff.
- Nursery Production for staff of the Commercial Department was delivered by Dr. John Griffi of the University of Hawaii
- Sensitization on Security Operations for World Cup Cricket 2007 for selected staff of the Ranger/Warden Service was conducted by the Venue Security Operations Team for World Cup 2007.

Selected members of staff also participated in seminars and workshops sponsored by agencies and organizations which are affiliated with the Commission. These included:

- Effective Communication ,Service Excellence, HIV/AIDS Workplace Education, Law and the Worker sponsored by the Barbados Workers' Union
- Public Service Excellence for all categories of staff, Customer Service, Improving Labour/ Management Relations and the role of the Management as it relates to Customer Service and Team Building delivered by the Office of Public Sector Reform
- Time Management and Business English delivered by the Erdiston Teacher's Training College
- Stenographer/Typist Development, Introduction to Computer Applications, Advanced Microsoft Word, Customer Service Skills, and Counselling and Coaching sponsored by the Training Administration Division
- Greenhouse Management Operations delivered by the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic
- Retirement Planning sponsored by the National Union of Public Workers.

REGRADING/UPGRADING OF STAFF

Proposals for the upgrading of the Ranger/Warden and Lifeguard Services and the regrading of staff assigned to these operations were prepared for review by the Board of Directors and subsequent submission to the Ministry of the Environment for consideration.

STAFFING

A document outlining staffing requirements for the Commission's operations and the recruitment of temporary staff for the upcoming World Cup 2007 was prepared. The staffing requirements were intended to address the existing shortage of staff, the absence of trained personnel in selected disciplines and to compensate for those members of staff with medical conditions who were unable to perform the duties related to their post. The temporary staff were required to ensure that the Commission fulfilled its role to maintain a clean and sanitary environment, have adequate and functional facilities for use by the public and maintain a safe and secure environment in parks, beaches and open areas.

STAFF-HARRISON'S CAVE

Subsequent to the approval of the creation of supernumerary positions by the Ministry of the Civil Service to enable former member of staff of the Commission employed by Caves of Barbados Ltd to be appointed retroactively, thirty-six (36) persons were appointed to pensionable positions in which they were employed while fifteen (15) persons who were appointed to non-pensionable positions were confirmed in their positions with effect from December 01, 1998.

Twenty-one members of staff employed at Harrison's Cave were on attachment to the Commission with effect from August 28, 2006 for the duration of the re-development project which was undertaken at the site.

AWARDS CEREMONY

An awards Ceremony for staff was held at the Dove Convention Centre on December 09, 2006. Awards were presented to retirees for the calendar year 2006, newly recruited lifeguards and finalists in the Non-cash Incentive Programme. The Chairman's Award was presented to Mr. Davidson Bascombe, Lifeguard Instructor while the inaugural General Manager's Award was presented to Mr. Frederick Alexander, Artisan.

FOLKESTONE PARK AND MARINE MUSEUM

Marine Museum Day was celebrated with the hosting of an Open Day at Folkstone on May 18, 2006.

NEW DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS

HASTINGS ROCKS RESTAURANT

Work commenced on the refurbishment of the restaurant at Hastings Rocks and progressed by the end of the period to the casting of footing for the steps, ramps, sitting area and planters, the painting of the ceiling eaves, interior wall and facial boards, preparation of standards to accommodate the kitchen cupboards and the hanging of interior doors and installation of locks in the storerooms, toilets and passageway.

BATH BEACH FACILITY

During the latter part of the period, the Bath Beach facility was demolished and debris cleared from the site in preparation for the construction of a new complex.

CARLISLE BAY /BROWNES BEACH REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

This project which comprised the construction of a beach facility, the upgrading of the car park west of the Coastal Zone Management Unit, improved drainage and reparative work to the Bay Street Esplanade commenced in March, 2007 and was funded by the Barbados Tourism Investment Incorporated. During the period, hoarding was erected at this site to facilitate the start of construction. Excavation for the foundation of the facility and the southern car park was completed.

CONSTRUCTION OF LIFEGUARD TOWERS

Construction Company, Alves Construction Ltd. was contracted to construct a lifeguard tower at Brownes Beach (North) in accordance with the new design. A new tower was also constructed at Bath, St. John during the period.

FIELD SERVICES

General maintenance was carried out at parks and beaches around the island. Intermittent inclement conditions during the second quarter of the period and persistent rain during a period of the third quarter as well as equipment failure and staff absenteeism on account of illness affected the progress of work. Despite these challenges, sustained efforts resulted in the successful completion of most of the work programmes planned and the maintenance of areas under the management of the Commission.

At Ilaro Court, the interior gardens and lawns were refurbished, plants installed adjacent to the driveway and house plants repotted. Work also commenced on the restoration of the map of Barbados. Additional work was done on the rock garden to the front of the property. Pruning was also done at this site with the assistance of the Ministry of Public Works. Some maintenance work was done at Errol Barrow Park where lawns were cut, gardens refurbished and the main sign repainted in the national colours in preparation for Heroes Day celebrations.

The refurbishment of the interior gardens and lawns continued and gardens were replanted along the upper centre drive at Government House. Repaired plant pots were resoiled and new plants installed. Some pruning was also done at this site with the assistance of the Ministry of Public Works. Replanting was done during the month of November, 2006 in preparation for Independence celebrations. At Farley Hill Park new garden beds were developed to the north of the ruins and along the driveway leading to the ruins while restoration of the lawns east of the ruins commenced. Work was also carried out on the lawns at Folkstone Park.

The grounds at Codrington received a general face lift as preparations were made for Open Day activities. The lawn to the front of the main building was replanted with savannah grass, gardens were refurbished and the north of the property debused. At Three Houses Park, twenty-five (25) trees were planted as part of the tree replacement programme. Trees were also planted at King George V Memorial Park and Silver Sands. The area opposite the Steel Shed at Queen's Park was re-developed and this work included the replacement of old bougainvillea plants and the installation of other varieties of plants.

Re-landscaping was done at Pebbles in the environs of the newly constructed beach facility. The area along the wall adjacent to the Grand Barbados Hotel was also landscaped and the site of the

former Pebbles Restaurant was cleared and debris removed. Some restorative work was done at Rockley and included pruning, the placing of signs and potted plants.

The site at Pom Marine was redeveloped where the old bougainvillea hedge was replaced with new gardens. Some pruning was done at the site and trees planted as part of Arbor Day activities. Pruning was done at the Speightstown Esplanade, Brandons, Drill Hall, and Dover and at Bath where staff continued to remove debris and moss deposited by the heavy surf. The area adjacent to the play park at Salisbury was landscaped and plants and trees installed. A Rock Garden was developed at the Airport Road site while debushing was done at Gun Hill and a Cactus Garden developed. A project to restore Delamere Land commenced with the removal of debris which was deposited by the Ministry of Public Works during the period of construction of the roadway and the re-establishment of the grassed areas.

Work continued on a new nature trail and the upgrading of the waterfall at Bath while the restoration of the Cemetery Square at Batts Rock was completed. Work was done at Lazaretto Gardens to restore the area which was affected by work done by the Barbados Water Authority and Arthur Construction. Trees overhanging the waterfall were pruned, new gardens developed and plants installed. At Bathsheba, a programme was initiated to control soil erosion. The work included the placing of boulders and the backfilling of the area with soil. Gardens at Husbands Play Park, Wanstead Gardens and Crane Park were refurbished while depressed areas at Sandy Lane were restored with the removal of old concrete slabs and the deposit of sand. Palms and shade trees were also planted at Wanstead Gardens and garden bed refurbished at Fitts Village.

The South Coast continued to suffer the effects of rough seas and heavy surf which impacted negatively on the beaches at Dover where ten (10) coconut trees were undermined and at Worthing where approximately six trees were uprooted. Some corrective action was taken during the period by the Coastal Zone Management Unit through the construction of a groyne on the western side of the beach to reduce the wave action and resultant impact on the beach.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

HASTINGS ROCKS

A changing/tool room for staff which was relocated from Pebbles Beach was erected and painted.

ROCKLEY BEACH PARK AND VENDORS' COMPLEX

Repairs were done to selected kiosks and the lifeguard tower at this location. The former work included repairs to the flooring and deck, concrete slabshandrills and window exteriors. A drain was installed to the front of the showers to eliminate the stagnation of water. The gutters to the facility and kiosks were also cleared.

CODRINGTON

The Accounts Department (Payroll Section) and Reception area was painted while cupboards and a sink were installed in the lunch room. A hut for security staff was constructed and humps were installed along the entrance to the Head Office.

QUEEN'S PARK

The Ministry of Energy and the Environment constructed a model house outfitted with energy saving devices at Queen's Park.

PEBBLES BEACH FACILITY

Work continued during the period on the construction of this facility. Electrical work was completed and plastering of the external walls and tiling and painting were done. Toilets, sinks, urinals and grab rails to accommodate the physically challenged were installed while footpaths around the building and along the roadside were prepared. Guttering and bollards were installed and fencing and debris was removed from around the building.

The Commission's decision not to host an official opening of the facility resulted from concerns about beach erosion and the replacement of the retaining sea wall. The general public was therefore allowed access to the facility during the latter half of the period.

FOLKESTONE PARK AND MARINE MUSEUM

Repairs were carried out on the roof of the patio to the main building at Folkstone, the bathroom and passageway. Maintenance work was carried out on the Office of the Superintendent and included the painting of the ceiling, and the building interior. The Manager's office was also refurbished and the roof of the changing/tool room changed, doors and windows fitted. Support columns were placed at the entrance to the shop and cupboards and handrails were installed at the front of the Snorkel Shop. A door was fitted on the new storeroom, the staff room plastered and painted and the ceiling of the Marine Museum repaired. A proposal was prepared and forwarded to the Barbados Museum for the expansion of the Folkstone Museum.

FARLEY HILL PARK

Reparative work was carried out at Farley Hill Park and included repairs to the lunch room for staff, painting of the office of the Superintendent, as well as bench tables, curb walls, the flag pole and retaining wall. Maintenance was also done on the security hut and repairs effected to the restaurant and souvenir shop.

SPEIGHTSTOWN ESPLANADE

The changing /tool hut for staff was relocated and repaired while the side walls and floor of the Esplanade were repainted and signs and garbage receptacles installed. This refurbished facility was re-opened on June 16, 2006.

GENERAL

Work undertaken at other sites included the upgrading of the sewerage systems at Bathsheba and Batts Rock, the installation of bollards at Enterprise beach and Golden Square, repairs to the Bathsheba snackette and routine maintenance at Rockley. Work was also done on the self-catering facility at Batts Rock. Asbestos material was removed from the shed which house gas and diesel at Codrington and the Bath beach facility. General plumbing and electrical repairs were also undertaken during the period.

General maintenance was also done on various lifeguard stations and at sites including King George V Memorial Park, Golden Mile Park, Three Houses Park, Errol Barrow Park, the Airport Road, Batts Rock and the Fitts Village facility where preparatory work was done to facilitate the installation of plumbing fixtures and the facility painted. Reparative work was also done at the River Bay and the Barclays Park facilities and painting effected at the Rockley facility.

Electrical and plumbing maintenance was done and signs installed at various sites around the island. Some of this electrical maintenance work was undertaken in the conference room, the Nursery and Garden Centre, the Storeroom, the Welders Workshop and the Public Relations Department at Codrington as well as at Folkstone Park and Museum and King V Memorial Park.

There was also relocation and temporary installation of supplies to accommodate the rebuilding of the restaurant at Hastings Rocks. The lights in the Bandstand were relocated and temporarily connected to the existing electrical supply at this site and conduits buried and overhead cables installed. Plumbing work was done at Farley Hill Park, Brandons, Half Moon Fort and River Bay.

Staff was also engaged in the construction of work huts for staff at Bath and commercial staff assigned to the BIDC estates as well as the construction of paving stones, benches and bench tables for sale and to replace those damaged or in disrepair at sites. Paving stones were installed at Fitts Village, the Forensic Laboratory, Salt Pond and the Pelican Bus Terminal Food Court. Signs and play park equipment were installed at sites maintained by the Commission as well as at the Joan Arundell Day Nursery. Seventeen "No dumping" signs were erected in various gullies around the island for the Ministry of the Environment.

LIFEGUARD SERVICE

TRAINING

A new training protocol for Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation was introduced and during the period seventy-one (71) lifeguards attended training at the Heart and Stroke Foundation while In-service training was also conducted for lifeguards.

Thirteen recruits commenced training on June 13, 2006 with a view to being employed as lifeguards.

Lifeguard Supervisor, Rawle Eversley and Lifeguards Adelle Price, Edmund Wiltshire, Gregory Sylvester and Steve Hutson commenced training for certification in the Rescue Diver Specialist with Underwater Barbados.

RESCUES

Thirty-nine (39) rescues and two (2) drownings were recorded during the period. In addition, attempts to resuscitate a male who experienced difficulty on the unsupervised beach near the Yacht Club were unsuccessful.

LIFEGUARD SERVICE-CRANE

A meeting was convened with representatives of the Coastal Zone Management Unit, the Ministry of Housing and Lands and the Lands and Surveys Department to discuss the acquisition of land.

OTHER

Lifeguard Service and Boat Operators assigned to Folkstone Marine Reserve participated in a Marine Rescue Simulation to commemorate World Oceans Day on June 08, 2006. The Commission's Ranger/Warden Service as well as personnel from the Emergency Ambulance Service, the Barbados Defence Force, and nursing and security staff from Sandy Lane Hotel also participated in the exercise.

RANGER/WARDEN SERVICE

Rangers/Wardens continued to maintain law and order in parks and on beaches around the island foiling instances of illegal and criminal activities at some of the more popular sites.

The security hut for Rangers/Wardens at Codrington became operational in October 2006. The responsibility of staff assigned duties at this station would include monitoring of traffic in and out of the compound and the operation of the electronic gate.

Members of the Ranger/Warden Service participated in the annual Independence Day Parade on November 30, 2006.

TRANSPORTATION, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT / MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES

Two trucks were purchased to replace ML 617 and ML445, however some challenges with transportation continued into the period as a result of vehicles being out of service due to mechanical and structural problems. All vehicles were checked and serviced as necessary while others were sent to the Ministry of Public Works for inspection prior to the annual renewal of road tax permits.

Small equipment-Drive mowers, lawn mowers, edgers, hedge trimmers, blowers and saws- were repaired and/or serviced as necessary and returned to sites.

Play park equipment was constructed for and installed at Lamming's Park, Silver Hill Park, Errol Barrow Park, the St. Lukes /Brighton Primary School. General maintenance and servicing was done at various sites including Bath, Three Houses Park, and play parks at Deacons, Golden Mile, Sayes Court, Crane, Valerie, Bush Hall, Eden Lodge and Grazettes. Work was completed on the Greenhouse at Ilaro Court and the handrails at Gun Hill. Sixteen waste receptacles were fabricated for Rockley Beach Park and the fence at Dover was replaced.

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

BEACH MANAGEMENT PLAN/PROJECT

The following reports on activities for the Beach Management Project were prepared by Coastal and Environmental Engineering Solutions Inc and presented in June 2006:

- Summary of Physical and Ecological Resource Inventory for 50 Beaches: Atlantic Coast
- Summary of Physical and Ecological Resource Inventory for 50 Beaches: Caribbean Coast
- Beach Management Project: Social Survey of Beach Users

The Company also began initial work on the beach resource database to present a model of how it should be structured and operated. The training of technical personnel on the use and management of the database was therefore an important component of the programme.

The survey which was undertaken of users of the various beaches across the island and the results informed that beaches form an important part of the cultural lives of Barbadians and

visitors to the island. Those interviewed placed high value on clean beaches, serenity, spaciousness and the provision of shade trees. The survey also highlighted some negative aspects such as garbage pollution, harassment, overcrowding, lack of facilities and beach erosion.

The Draft Best Practices Guidelines for 50 Beaches along the Coastline of Barbados was presented in October, 2006. The report drew on the results presented in the four (4) previous reports in order to develop a classification of the fifty (50) inventoried beaches based on physical characteristics and management issues. A classification system of beaches for management purposes was therefore developed to assist the Commission in undertaking its functions.

The assigned project field supervisor was required to ensure data quality and compile data and information gathered into a consolidated report. This report would utilise data gathered from the field report and the initial assessment report to develop final best practices guidelines for the beaches surveyed and would form the basis for the draft beach management plan document as well as facilitate meaningful discussion at the community level with stakeholders.

Work continued during the period on the data collection of flora and fauna.

BEACH RE-VEGETATION PROJECT

The collection of plant species namely sea grape, white wood and fat pork, for planting at Bath and Carlisle Bay/Bay Street was suspended during last quarter of the period pending the completion of construction work in these areas.

A TREE FOR EVERY CHILD PROJECT

This project proposal was reformatted and submitted to the Organisation of American States for funding consideration.

BROWNES BEACH/OLD FISH MARKET AT BAY STREET

The upgrading of this site was undertaken during the period. Signage was erected, boulders placed, benches and bench tables installed and the area landscaped. Bollards and a chain barrier were also installed to restrict access to the landscaped area.

ENTERPRISE BEACH

Benches were installed and bollards placed to delineate the service and emergency access area of the beach from the recreation area. The delineated area would also serve the physically challenged and elderly beach patrons as well as facilitate access by emergency and service vehicles. This project was completed in June, 2006.

BEACH EROSION

Significant erosion occurred along the south and west coasts of Barbados and was attributed to unusually strong winds and turbulent sea conditions which had extended long within the usual beach rebuilding period from March to August.

COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPING AND PLANT NURSERY

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTS/LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

The project at the Barbados National Oil Terminal commenced with the construction of additional berms and the planting of trees.

In addition, a new landscape contract was awarded to the Commission by the Barbados Tourism Investment Incorporated for the refurbishment of Independence Square. Some difficulty was experienced initially in sourcing the required plants for the project however the project was successfully completed and opened to the public on Errol Barrow Day, January 21, 2007, when a statue of the former Prime Minister and National Hero was unveiled. A maintenance contract for the property was awarded to the Commission for a period of six (6) months with effect from February 02, 2007.

A two(2) year maintenance contract was also awarded for the maintenance of the Government Office Complex at Warrens while contracts were also awarded for the Turtle Beach Hotel and Salt Pond, St. Peter.

Plants were installed in the foyer, deck and in the house at Ilaro Court and a shade house was erected. Refurbishment of the Trevor's Way Park in Bridgetown continued where mulching of beds was done and a large quantity of plants installed in areas which were sparse.

Maintenance of the BIDC estates, Almond Beach Village and Club, Crystal Cove Hotel, Sherbourne Conference Centre, the Ministry of Education, the Forensic Sciences Laboratory, Jubilee Gardens, the Speightstown Esplanade, Dover Beach and the General Post Office continued during the period.

The Commission was also invited to tour the grounds of Kensington Oval with a view to submitting an estimate for landscaping and remedial work at this site.

PLANT NURSERY AND GARDEN CENTRE

The practice of fertilizing at regular intervals, identifying and treating insects and applying a good soil mix resulted in further improvement in the quality of plants offered for sale to the public.

The sod field progressed with fertilization, mowing and rolling to eliminate existing bumps and the sale of grass commenced in September 2006. The area to the right at the front of the building was replanted with Tifway Bermuda grass as a promotional effort for showcasing the product at the Open Day scheduled for November 22, 2006.

Electrical and other finishing work was completed and the greenhouse was handed over to the Commission on July 14, 2006 by electrical contractors, TMR Company. At the end of October 2006, over thirteen thousand (13,000) plants were stocked in the Greenhouse and approximately ten thousand (10,000) of these were made available for sale during the month of November, 2006. The Garden Centre was given a make-over with the installation of display benches and the display of a wider variety of pots and planters and other gardening items for sale.

CONTRACTS FOR SERVICE/OPERATION OF RESTAURANTS/SNACKETTES

BATHSHEBA SNACKETTE

The concession to operate the Bathsheba snackette was awarded to Ms. Prenella Fields for a period of two (2) years with effect from April 1, 2006.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING/SPECIAL PROJECTS

DEVELOPMENT OF A MARKETING STRATEGY

Three companies responded to an invitation from the Commission to submit proposals for the development of a marketing strategy. Following the review of these submissions G & A Communications Inc was requested to present its proposed marketing and communications plan to management of the Commission.

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY ACTIVITIES

A number of activities were hosted in celebration of Arbor Day 2006 which had as its theme **T**ogether we **R**eforest to **I**nsure **E**arth's **S**urvival. These activities commenced on September 22, 2006 with a ceremony at the Coleridge & Parry School which was attended by the school's Environmental and 4-H Clubs as well as Environmental Clubs from Queen's College and Ellerslie Secondary Schools. The Timothy Hoyte Environmental Award was presented to the Lion's Club of Barbados North. The Commission's Adopt-a- Park and Trees for Every Child Project were also launched at the ceremony. Other activities hosted were as follows:-

- A clean-up of the Sterling Children's Home with the assistance of the Barbados Defence Force

- Tree planting in various communities and at various schools in collaboration with the Adopt-a- Beach Committee, the St. John Parish Independence Committee, the Haynesville Children's Home and the Lion's Club of Barbados East.
- Workshops at the Speightstown Esplanade, the King George V Memorial Park, Queen's Park and Codrington.
- The Greening of Government Offices through the circulation of information on the benefits of having plants in the office to assist in promoting a cleaner environment and encouraging the departments to purchase plants from the Commission.
- The initiation of a Best Beach/Best Park Competition for staff of the Field Services Department where staff would be invited to develop their respective areas into more aesthetically pleasing sites.

THE MORE WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE

An electronic Beach Management System was developed to facilitate a more comprehensive approach to managing signage at sites which fall under the aegis of the Commission. A radio interview on the Commission's signage programme was done and a short infomercial on the Role and Responsibility of the Lifeguard Service was also produced with the assistance of the Government Information Service.

The Commission continued its More Welcoming Environment Initiative through the installation of signs and benches at various sites including Enterprise, Three Houses Park, Folkstone Park, Pebbles, Gun Hill, Martin's Bay and Rockley as well as at schools and along roadways across the island.

Signs outlining playground rules, opening hours of Beach facilities, and gender symbol signs were also installed at sites including the Salisbury and Welchman Hall Parks, and Silver Sands. Signs were also installed on thirteen (13) lifeguard towers in an effort to promote a safer environment at beaches. The signs explained the meaning of the flags used by lifeguards and provided emergency numbers. Small "No Swimming" signs were also erected to complement the red flags used by the lifeguards.

Ten (10) signs promoting healthy lifestyles were donated by the Soroptomist International of Jamestown and installed at Codrington House, and the Pebbles, Rockley, Folkstone, Worthing and Dover facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMER CAMP

The Commission's Environmental Summer Camp was held during the period July 17-August 25, 2006. The activities focused mainly on horticultural and environmental programmes but also included some craft.

NCC OPEN DAY

The Commission hosted its fifth annual Open Day at its Codrington House Headquarters on November 22, 2006. Displays were set up by various departments while representatives from the Ministry of the Environment, the Entomology Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Council on Substance Abuse delivered presentations.

The activity was attended by students from selected secondary and primary schools and members of the public.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Financial statements
For the year ended March 31st, 2007**

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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J. RICHARD A. LYNCH & CO.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

J. Richard A. Lynch F.C.C.A.

**Tel: (246) 424-0920
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Auditors' report

To the Government and members of the Commission

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the National Conservation Commission, which comprise the balance sheet as of March 31st, 2007 and the income statement, statement of deficit and cash flow statement for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards of Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risk of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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Lynart House, Cnr 3rd Avenue, Green Hill, St. Michael, Barbados, W.I.

Auditors' report

To the Government and members of the Commission

Auditors' Responsibility cont'd

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the National Conservation Commission as of March 31st, 2007 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. H. Y.', enclosed within a circular scribble.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Barbados


July 18, 2008

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Balance Sheet
As at March 31, 2007


	NOTES	2007 \$	2006 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash on hand and at bank		2,454,634	2,917,499
Accounts receivable-net		1,187,136	1,002,821
Due by Caves of B'dos		199,745	199,745
Inventory		67,500	67,500
		<u>3,909,015</u>	<u>4,187,565</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accruals	(3)	<u>435,153</u>	<u>663,058</u>
		<u>435,153</u>	<u>663,058</u>
Working capital		3,473,862	3,524,507
Fixed Assets	(2b, 4)	<u>534,484</u>	<u>590,482</u>
		<u>4,008,346</u>	<u>4,114,989</u>
Financed by:			
Accumulated deficit		<u>(476,649)</u>	<u>(370,006)</u>
Capital grants deferred		<u>(476,649)</u> 4,484,995	<u>(370,006)</u> 4,484,995
		<u>4,008,346</u>	<u>4,114,989</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these Financial Statements.

Approved by:



 Chairman



 General Manager

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Statement of deficit and accumulated deficit
For the year ended March 31, 2007

	NOTES	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income			
Government grant - recurrent	(5)	25,118,182	25,846,759
Other income		<u>3,247,867</u>	<u>2,184,897</u>
		<u>28,366,049</u>	<u>28,031,656</u>
Expenditure			
Administrative		4,447,321	4,597,198
Operating expenses:-			
General		689,066	460,602
Facilities		5,304,095	5,046,330
Marine Museum		250,229	211,948
Parks, beaches and open areas		19,667,233	18,134,645
Nursery		432,384	379,616
		<u>30,790,328</u>	<u>28,830,339</u>
(Deficit) from operations		(2,424,279)	(798,683)
Government grant - capital	(6)	<u>1,403,917</u>	<u>2,191,334</u>
(Deficit)/ surplus for the year		(1,020,362)	1,392,651
Accumulated deficit – b/fwd		<u>(370,006)</u>	<u>(1,237,167)</u>
		(1,390,368)	155,484
Prior year adjustment		<u>913,719</u>	<u>(525,490)</u>
Accumulated deficit - c/fwd		<u><u>(476,649)</u></u>	<u><u>(370,006)</u></u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Statement of cash flows For the year ended 31st March, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
(Deficit)/ surplus for the year	(1,020,362)	1,392,651
Less: Government grants	<u>(25,118,182)</u>	<u>(25,846,759)</u>
	<u>(26,138,544)</u>	<u>(24,545,108)</u>
Adjustment for items not affecting cash:		
Depreciation	414,127	409,873
Amortization	(1,403,917)	(2,191,334)
Prior year adjustment	913,719	(525,490)
	<u>(26,214,615)</u>	<u>(26,761,059)</u>
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	(412,219)	428,077
Cash used by operating activities	<u>(26,626,834)</u>	<u>(26,332,982)</u>
 Cash flows investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	(375,035)	(205,568)
Disposals/ adjustments of fixed assets	16,906	(54,172)
Cash used by investing activities	<u>(358,129)</u>	<u>(259,737)</u>
 Financing activities		
Government grants received	26,522,099	27,039,962
Cash provided by financing activities	<u>26,522,099</u>	<u>27,039,962</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(462,864)	447,243
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year	<u>2,917,498</u>	<u>2,470,255</u>
Cash and cash equivalents - end of year	<u><u>\$ 2,454,634</u></u>	<u><u>2,917,498</u></u>

Cash comprises cash on hand and at bank, less bank overdrafts.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NOTE 1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Commission was incorporated on April 1, 1982, under the National Conservation Commission Act, 1982-8, taking over the combined activities of the Parks and Beaches Commission and Caves Authority. Its principal activity is the management, maintenance and development of the public parks, beaches and open areas of Barbados.

NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards (IAS) applicable in Barbados. No adjustments are made in the financial statements to reflect the impact of inflation.

(b) Fixed assets

Depreciation is provided for on a straight-line basis at rates which are calculated to write off the assets' cost or valuation over their expected useful lives. The principal rates used for this purpose are:-

Plant and machinery	-	25%
Furniture & equipment	-	20%
Motor vehicles	-	20%

(c) Inventory Valuation

Inventory represents the value of plants at Codrington Nursery, which is accounted for on the base stock method.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements (cont'd)
For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(d) Government Grants

- i) Grants to cover recurrent expenditure are taken into income in the year in which the related expenditure is incurred.
- ii) Capital grants are for the purchase of fixed assets and for non-recurrent expenditure.

Grants for the purchase of the fixed assets are deferred and amortized at the same rate as the depreciation on the fixed assets to which they relate.

Grants relating to non-recurrent expenditure are taken into income in the year in which the related expenditure is incurred.

NOTE 3. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

These consist of the following:-

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Trade payables and accruals	316,003	439,701
Director of National Insurance	117,498	214,566
Commissioner of Inland Revenue	1,652	8,791
	<u>\$ 435,153</u>	<u>\$ 663,058</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements (cont'd)
For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NOTE 4. FIXED ASSETS

	BALANCE 01.04.06 \$	ADDITIONS \$	DISPOSALS ADJUSTMENTS \$	BALANCE 31.3.07 \$
Cost or Valuation				
Plant and machinery	1,793,228	15,456	631,443	1,177,241
Furniture and equipment	1,955,442	100,778	693,749	1,362,471
Motor vehicles	2,237,610	258,801	1,724	2,494,687
Building - Other	211,607	-	211,607	-
	<u>6,197,887</u>	<u>375,035</u>	<u>1,538,523</u>	<u>5,034,399</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation				
Plant and machinery	1,725,686	47,109	631,635	1,141,160
Furniture and equipment	1,679,473	181,218	679,491	1,181,200
Motor vehicles	1,991,755	185,800	-	2,177,555
Building - Other	210,491	-	210,491	-
	<u>5,607,405</u>	<u>414,127</u>	<u>1,521,617</u>	<u>4,499,915</u>
Net book value				
Plant and machinery	67,542			36,081
Furniture and equipment	275,969			181,271
Motor vehicles	245,855			317,132
Building - Other	1,116			1
	<u>\$ 590,482</u>			<u>\$ 534,484</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements (cont'd)
For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NOTE 5. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

The following grants were received from Government during the year:-

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Grant for recurrent expenditure	25,118,182	25,846,759
Grant for non-recurrent expenditure	<u>1,403,917</u>	<u>1,193,203</u>
Per statement of surplus Note 6 and 2 (d)	<u>26,522,099</u>	<u>27,039,962</u>
	<u>\$ 26,522,099</u>	<u>\$ 27,039,962</u>

NOTE 6. CAPITAL GRANTS

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
<u>Grants received</u>		
Grants received during the year Note 2 (d) (ii)	<u>1,403,917</u>	<u>1,193,203</u>
Grants for the purchase of fixed assets Note 2 (d) (ii) & 7	1,403,917	1,193,203
Balance - beginning of year	<u>16,516,566</u>	<u>15,323,363</u>
Balance - end of year	<u>17,920,483</u>	<u>16,516,566</u>
<u>Amortisation</u>		
Balance - beginning of year	12,031,571	9,840,237
Amortisation for the year	1,403,917	2,191,334
Balance - end of year	<u>13,435,488</u>	<u>12,031,571</u>
<u>Net balance deferred</u>		
Beginning of year	<u>4,484,995</u>	<u>5,483,126</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 4,484,995</u>	<u>\$ 4,484,995</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements (cont'd)
For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NOTE 7. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Commission was involved in legal claims at the balance sheet date. The ultimate outcome of these claims was not determinable at the time of issue of these financial statements. No provision for these claims has been recorded in the financial statements. The final costs will be charged to income in the period in which they are finally determined.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st March, 2007

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Index to additional information For the year ended 31st March, 2007

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Details of other income	4
Statement of administrative expenses	5
Statement of operating expenses - general	6
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Additional comments of auditors

To the Government and members of the National Conservation Commission

The accompanying pages 2 - 10 are presented as additional information only. In this respect, they do not form part of the financial statements of the National Conservation Commission for the year ended March 31, 2007, and hence are excluded from the opinion expressed in our report to the Government and Members of the Commission on such financial statements. The information in these pages has been subject to audit procedures only to the extent necessary to express an opinion on the Commission.

In our opinion, the information in these pages is fairly presented in all respects material to those financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "A. J. ...", written over a circular stamp or mark.

July 18, 2008

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Detailed statement of operations
For the year ended 31st March, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Income		
Government Grant - Recurrent	25,118,182	25,846,759
Other income (Page 4)	3,247,867	2,184,897
	<u>28,366,049</u>	<u>28,031,656</u>
Expenditure		
Administrative expenses (Page 5)	4,447,321	4,597,198
Operating expenses		
- General (Page 6)	689,066	460,602
- Facilities (Page 7)	5,304,095	5,046,330
	<u>10,440,482</u>	<u>10,104,130</u>
Surplus before commercial activities	17,925,567	17,927,526
Less Commercial activities		
Marine Museum (Page 8)	250,229	211,948
Parks, beaches and open areas (Page 9)	19,667,233	18,134,645
Nursery (Page 10)	432,384	351,477
Amortisation of capital grants	1,403,917	2,191,334
(Deficit)/ surplus for the year	<u><u>(1,020,362)</u></u>	<u><u>1,392,651</u></u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Details of Other Income

For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Facilities		
Bath snackette	-	500
Bathsheba	6,000	1,200
Entrance fees	120	15
Errol Barrow library	1,200	1,200
Farley Hill restaurant	1,381	1,304
Farley Hill	42,610	41,618
Holetown restaurant	48,000	48,000
Marine Museum	29,844	37,063
	<u>129,155</u>	<u>130,900</u>
Other		
Commercial projects	2,415,255	1,551,019
Donations	5,288	2,440
Licenses fees	5,973	4,899
Miscellaneous	21,042	24,419
Rental of beach space	54,166	54,608
Rental of equipment	16,464	36,573
Rental of park	99,272	97,559
Sale of landscape items	14,559	12,602
Sale of plants	354,027	202,140
Sale of sod grass	61,769	-
Souvenirs	67,626	64,507
Transportation fees	3,271	3,231
	<u>3,118,712</u>	<u>2,053,997</u>
	<u>3,247,867</u>	<u>2,184,897</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Statement of administrative expenses

For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Recurrent		
Advertising	48,582	39,494
Audit and accounting fees	15,000	15,000
Bad debts	119,608	122,690
Bank charges and interest	4,534	3,431
Board expenses	39,598	37,550
Contingencies	17,110	18,673
Ceremonial/special events	39,623	67,307
Conferences/seminars	5,307	17,901
Depreciation - furniture and equipment	61,983	59,424
Depreciation - motor vehicle	185,800	178,720
Electricity	885	1,167
Entertainment	28,920	29,815
Fuel	871	420
Insurance	181,366	164,667
Medicals	20,100	19,885
National insurance	131,944	125,671
Pensions and gratuity	1,394,792	1,579,402
Printing	3,065	13,725
Rental - equipment	1,623	1,470
Repair and maintenance - vehicles	886	3,639
Repairs and maintenance- equipment	40,704	23,676
Repairs and maintenance-building	-	126
Salaries and wages	1,733,317	1,779,388
Stationery and office supplies	13,094	13,853
Subscriptions and donations	3,833	4,509
Supplies and materials	1,300	2,850
Telephone	74,711	80,669
Training	20,864	16,112
Travelling	115,900	101,714
Uniforms	96,317	37,936
Water	3,469	1,527
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,405,106	4,562,411
Non-recurrent		
Professional fees	29,654	22,176
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Capital expenditure	4,434,760	4,584,587
	12,561	12,611
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure	<u>4,447,321</u>	<u>4,597,198</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Statement of operating expenses - General
For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Advertising	8,626	900
Ceremonial/special events	(149)	-
Depreciation-furniture and equip	4,123	4,123
Depreciation-plant and machinery	4,055	11,031
Discounts	3,849	2,564
Equipment rental	(7,355)	11,088
Maintenance	714	2,810
National insurance	262,136	238,747
Plants and fertilizers	162,686	50,908
Printing	30	10
Rental - chemical toilet	14,980	18,078
Repairs and maintenance	6,199	1,177
Salaries and wages	38,629	-
Shorts/ overs	(37)	(24)
Supplies and materials	160,391	87,202
Telephone	372	246
Tools	3,144	5,384
Travel	25,109	23,677
Uniforms	1,090	2,681
Water	474	-
Total expenditure	689,066	460,602

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Statement of operations - facilities
For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Depreciation	16,433	20,583
Electricity	64,034	51,247
National insurance	198,296	187,445
Repairs and maintenance - building	30,479	16,695
Repairs and maintenance - vehicle	200	-
Salaries and wages	4,973,569	4,747,896
Telephone	576	435
Training	298	705
Water	20,210	21,324
Total expenditure	<u><u>5,304,095</u></u>	<u><u>5,046,330</u></u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Statement of expenditure - Marine Museum

For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Advertising	25,629	21,441
Ceremonial/special events	5,166	761
Conferences/seminars	-	551
Depreciation	6,813	8,442
Discounts	90	19
Electricity	3,912	3,833
First aid supplies	542	-
Fuel	35,526	20,557
Insurance	4,178	4,177
National insurance	37,530	33,767
Printing	-	1,584
Repairs and maintenance	54,951	43,379
Souvenirs	36,316	29,178
Stationery and office supplies	1,676	1,930
Supplies and materials	16,427	18,514
Telephone	13,474	15,294
Toilet requisites	338	-
Training	600	-
Travel	5,978	8,521
Water	1,083	-
Total expenditure	250,229	211,948

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Statement of Expenditure-Parks, beaches and open areas
For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Advertising	1,197	1,625
Burial of dead animal - beaches	279	289
Ceremonial/special events	2,136	4,652
Conferences/seminars	8,882	300
Contingencies	9,910	8,064
Depreciation – furniture and equipment	96,731	83,254
Depreciation - plant and machinery	27,826	27,111
Electricity	152,033	145,692
First aid supplies	6,322	5,240
Fuel	175,886	116,578
Maintenance - building	408,232	267,113
Medicals	-	4,570
National insurance	1,308,868	1,211,590
Plants and garden supplies	3,189	10,546
Printing	28,737	25,836
Professional fees	9,142	2,792
Rental - chemical toilet	77,345	72,888
Rental - equipment	203,642	65,214
Repairs and maintenance - equipment	199,681	241,303
Repairs and maintenance - vehicles	190,255	109,146
Salaries and wages	14,494,242	14,124,081
Souvenirs	20,620	17,134
Stationery and office supplies	78,199	67,950
Supplies and materials	231,124	215,822
Telephone	29,504	21,267
Toilet requisites	43,282	28,817
Tools	31,880	30,197
Training	28,134	941
Travel	242,097	247,613
Uniforms	56,535	36,921
Water	111,763	76,837
Total expenditure	18,277,673	17,271,383
Capital expenditure	1,389,560	863,262
	<u>19,667,233</u>	<u>18,134,645</u>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Statement of Expenditure-Nursery
For the year ended March 31st, 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Advertising	-	2,640
Depreciation-furniture and equipment	10,363	10,574
Discount	38,446	17,250
Electricity	10,859	10,551
Maintenance - building	6,804	24,037
Medicals	-	190
National insurance	61,046	42,697
Plants and garden supplies	107,864	67,904
Rental - equipment	1,950	3,068
Repair and maintenance - equipment	4,196	1,064
Salaries and wages	63,846	76,653
Stationery and office supplies	354	402
Subscriptions and donations	-	110
Supplies and materials	77,423	80,669
Telephone	372	589
Tools	643	-
Training	1,750	1,656
Travel	36,524	24,410
Travel	8,793	11,915
Uniforms	1,151	3,237
Total expenditure	<u>432,384</u>	<u>379,616</u>

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