

LOCAL NEWS



Minister Browne welcomes 'monumental achievement'

Dr. George C. Brathwaite

Speaking in his important role as the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, yesterday, the Honourable Michael Browne encouragingly embraced the Money Laundering and Financial Crimes (MLFC) Institute in Antigua and Barbuda. The occasion was the official launch of the innovative initiative that will see further progress being made in the realm of combining training and tertiary education with national development objectives.

Giving his support and endorsement, Minister Browne addressed an audience that included the Governor General of Antigua and Barbuda, His Excellency Sir Dr. Rodney Williams; Founder and President of the MLFC Institute in Antigua, Ms. Michelle Martin; Head of Campus, Ms. Danelle Martin; and Director of the Office of National Drug and Money Laundering (ONDCP), Lieutenant Colonel Edward Croft among several others with interest in the field. Minister Browne declared that the partnerships that the Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT) at Coolidge weaved to produce the MLFC programme are vital, locally and regionally.

Michelle Martin having revealed that the Minister will chair an internationally comprised advisory board, would arguably have prompted him



to provocatively ask "what are our needs?" That, in the context as Browne alluding to the initiative being "one of the many steps towards the goal" of brining a university to the country which can address the societal needs and fulfil the national development objectives as prioritized by the current administration.

Moreover, and given the nexus of having the combination of the Florida-based institutions of St. Thomas University and MLFC working alongside the ABIIT in developing a certified programme of practical training on the topic of anti-money laundering and other related areas of study, Browne easily lauded the enterprising venture of those driving the initiative, and the fact that they are the "key persons in place ... to implement a vision" of expanding tertiary education. As Browne quickly suggested, the certified programme will serve Antigua and Barbuda, together with Barbados and the OECS countries.

More particularly, Min-

ister Browne asserted the importance of educating persons in the local sphere on the topical issues of money laundering and anti-terrorism wherein they can become practitioners in their own

right.

Reflecting that "money laundering and financial crimes" have the nebulous, yet vast effect "that lives are lost, lives are decimated, and livelihoods are destroyed," he welcomed the efforts and the benefits to be derived from the course offered to Antigua and Barbuda, and to the region by extension.

Stating that the MLFC certified programme is but "one of the many projects that ABIIT will be rolling out," the Minister proceeded to emphasise that it will be "one of the pillars and bastions of *cont'd on pg 10*

TENDER NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

**Computer Maintenance Contract
Computers in Schools Programme/EMIS Project
Board of Education - 1994**

The Tenders Board of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda would like to invite prospective bidders to tender for **Computer Maintenance Contract - Computers in Schools Programme/EMIS Project** on behalf of the Board of Education - 1994.

The **Scope of Work** for the Computer Maintenance Contract - Computers in Schools Programme/EMIS Project should be collected at the Tenders Board Office, Ministry of Finance & Corporate Governance, Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua.

Two (2) original bids of all Tenders must be submitted in sealed envelopes marked "**Tender for Computer Maintenance Contract - Computers in Schools Programme/EMIS Project - Board of Education - 1994**", by **12 noon on Thursday 28 January, 2016** and addressed to The Chairman - Tenders Board Office, Ministry of Finance & Corporate Governance, Government Office Complex, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua.

The Tenders Board of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any other Tender and will not accept liability for any cost incurred by the Tenderer.