



RBC Royal Bank

# NEWS

## OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR RBC YOUNG LEADERS

### WORKSHOP

*Port of Spain, Trinidad, Tuesday, January 22, 2013:* RBC recently treated educators from 68 secondary schools across the country to a tutorial workshop on the guidelines to succeeding in the bank's flagship youth empowerment initiative, the RBC Young Leaders Programme, at the Courtyard Marriott.

Among the Workshop's highlights, was a presentation by last year's project champions, Parvati Girls' Hindu School, entitled, "View from the Top - Teachers Speak About Their Winning Project".

Teachers Kavita Samaroo and Susan Maharaj shared their best practices with the audience.

"In terms of rewards, you cannot count them. There is no fixed recipe for winning. We allowed students to run their meetings, to make their mistakes. We did not apply pressure to the Young Leaders; we told them it is not about winning, but about having fun and giving their best," Samaroo said.

"We tried to motivate them all the time." Samaroo added.

The well-received orientation session provided invaluable information to the participants, some of whom had travelled from as far as Cedros, Moruga and Point Fortin, to gain further insight into preparing for the community-based project phase of the RBC Young Leaders competition.

Roger Swan, a teacher at the Arima North Secondary School, said, "It was informative. Things were very clear and I am going with a sense of enthusiasm and vigor to win."

Similarly, Nadia Mitchell, a teacher at the Carapachaima West Secondary School, added that it was "extremely helpful" as the workshop was "very clear, very well laid-out and I enjoyed hearing the testimonials from past winners."

The half-day workshop also included information from Young Leader judges Maurice Chevalier, June Nathaniel, and Margaret Walcott on effectively "Managing the RBC Young Leaders Projects".

Sharing the bank's vision behind the RBC Young Leaders Programme, Anna-Maria Kurbanali, Regional Manager, Corporate Social Responsibility, RBC Financial (Caribbean) said, "RBC



takes its responsibility as a corporate citizen in the communities in which we operate very seriously.”

“When we started the Young Leaders programme in 1981, we wanted to educate students on topical issues while assisting with developing life-skills, building team spirit, improving self-esteem and helping them to show care for their community,” Kurbanali said.

She added that many of the initiatives developed by RBC Young Leaders have become sustainable programmes that continue to thrive today, including school cafeterias and libraries, among many others. There are more than 150,000 RBC Young Leader Ambassadors throughout the region who have taken part in the annual leadership programme.

The RBC Young Leaders competition is open to secondary school students in forms three and four. Winning schools, teachers and students are presented with cash awards and certificates. This year, projects must be submitted by April 12, 2013 and the RBC Young Leaders awards ceremony will be held on June 5, 2013. For more information, visit the RBC Young Leaders website at [rbc.com/caribbean](http://rbc.com/caribbean)

*(End)*



**Allison Ramsingh, a teacher at St. Joseph’s Convent, St. Joseph raises a question at the RBC Young Leaders Teachers Workshop**



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**Group Shot - a cross section of the RBC Young Leaders Programme Workshop participants**



**Kavita Samaroo, Young Leaders Coordinating Teacher, Parvati Girls' Hindu School presents on her team's winning project.**



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