

THE HADCO TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF HADCO

ISSUE 55 | JUNE 2026

WELLNESS TAKES CENTRE STAGE: THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF HADCO'S WELLNESS & RECOGNITION COMMITTEE



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MITTCO BRINGS THEIR CRAFTSMANSHIP TO BARBADOS

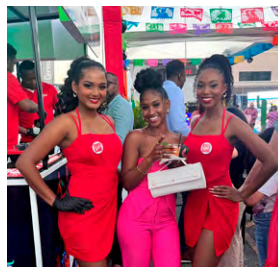
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Travellers' Choice
Best of the Best 2026

TripAdvisor



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KELEC



HADCO EXPERIENCES

HD Café
Häagen-Dazs



OUR VISION

A diverse and innovative company, empowered employees, integrated processes, and a brand image that makes us the preferred choice of customers

OUR MISSION

Enriching our stakeholders' quality of life, setting trends and providing superior brands and services

OUR CORE VALUES

- Accountability
- Customer Satisfaction
- Honesty and Integrity
- Employee Wellbeing and Growth
- Collaborative Culture
- Respect and Tolerance for All

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WELLNESS TAKES CENTRE STAGE: THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF HADCO'S WELLNESS & RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Employees of HADCO came together on Thursday June 25, 2026, for a day dedicated to health, wellbeing and connection as the company hosted its inaugural HADCO Wellness Village at the Head Office.

The event marked the official launch of HADCO's Wellness & Recognition Committee, reinforcing the company's dedication to fostering a healthy, supportive and engaging workplace.

The day commenced with an opening ceremony in the Administrative Courtyard, with welcome remarks from Lily Akien, Chief Human Resources Officer, the introduction of the Committee members, remarks by John Hadad, Co-Chief Executive Officer and the official ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Throughout the event, employees visited a range of interactive wellness booths designed to promote preventative healthcare and personal wellbeing. Participants had access to vision screenings provided by Optometrist Today, 3D dental scans courtesy of Iconic Dentistry and blood pressure, blood sugar and BMI screenings.

Employees also engaged with representatives from Families in Action, Canning's Employees' Credit Union (CECU), Unit Trust Corporation (UTC) and Ecoimpact, each offering valuable information and resources to support financial, mental and environmental wellbeing.

HADCO Distribution's brands, along with the kind support of brands from other companies, also played an integral role in enhancing the day's activities. From Creamery Yogurt and Amare during the morning session, followed by Reboot beverages, Chobani parfaits and wellness shots later in the day, staff were treated to a host of healthy and delicious treats.

The afternoon programme featured several engaging presentations and demonstrations. A live kickboxing demonstration encouraged participants to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines, while a nutrition discussion led by Dr. Asante Le Blanc provided practical advice on healthy eating habits. Team-building activities and jumbo games rounded off the programme, creating opportunities for colleagues from across the organisation to interact, collaborate and enjoy the day's activities together.

Employees were also treated to giveaways throughout the event, including complimentary water bottles for the first 100 participants, seedlings for the first 200 attendees courtesy of HADCO Experiences and the opportunity to win wellness hampers and Häagen-Dazs vouchers.

The success of HADCO's Wellness Village is a welcome indication that the company's ongoing investment in employee initiatives is bearing positive results. By bringing together health professionals, wellness partners, engaging activities and educational sessions, the event encouraged employees to prioritise their physical, mental and financial wellbeing while strengthening the sense of community.

Congratulations to the Wellness and Recognition Committee for their hard work organising this event. It was truly a day of welcome activities.

Thank you to all the sponsors and participating companies who took the time to contribute to the day's success. We look forward to future events with great excitement.



HADCO's Co-CEO John Hadad (right) along with Chief Human Resource Officer Lily Akien (middle) cut the ribbon at the official launch of the Wellness & Recognition Committee



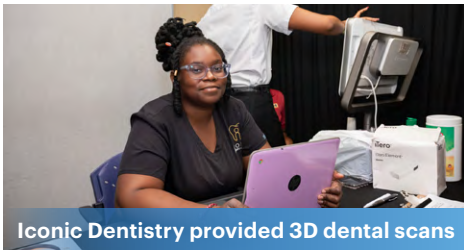
Learning and Development Strategist Keris Braxton hosted the team building activities



Enjoying a game of bowling



Dr. Asante Le Blanc gave nutrition tips



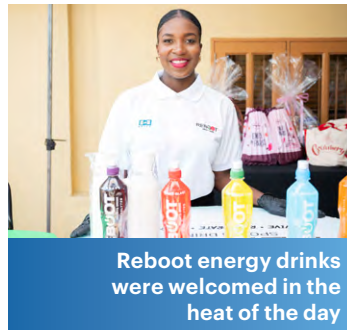
Iconic Dentistry provided 3D dental scans



Optometrists Today at the Wellness Village



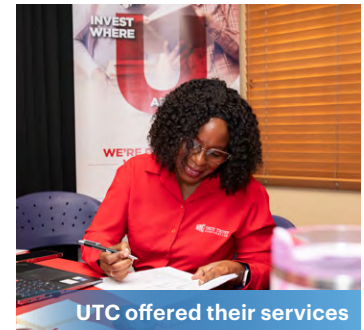
Marc Clarke, Marketing Manager, showed his skills during the kick-boxing demonstration



Reboot energy drinks were welcomed in the heat of the day



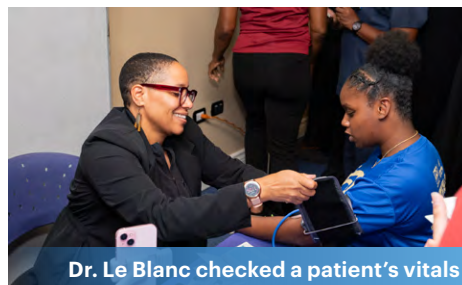
Chobani's delicious parfait with granola and chocolate drizzle was a hit



UTC offered their services



CECU facilitated new and existing clients



Dr. Le Blanc checked a patient's vitals



EAP Specialist Daniel Sookdeo at the Wellness Village



Amare shared their probiotic kefir and sauerkraut for gut health



Staff were happy to receive their seedlings



A wide array of plants were available for distribution



Creamery Yogurt provided refreshing treats



Members of the Wellness & Recognition Committee

HÄAGEN-DAZS ICE CREAM AT THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA PREMIERE

On May 2, 2026, Häagen-Dazs added a special touch to the premiere of *The Devil Wears Prada* at MovieTowne Port of Spain and C3, San Fernando.

Excited moviegoers were treated to a selection of Häagen-Dazs ice cream, complementing an evening centered around film, fashion and an elevated viewing experience. It was the perfect opportunity for moviegoers to enjoy the brand's exceptional offerings while engaging with the sophisticated atmosphere of the premiere.

Häagen-Dazs continues to strengthen its connection with consumers while reinforcing its position as a premium brand associated with indulgence and memorable experiences.



Häagen-Dazs Belles in Prada Red at the Devil Wears Prada 2 Premiere



This fashionista poses with our Häagen-Dazs Belles at MovieTowne C3

YELLOW TAIL AT JAZZ N' WINE 2026

On Sunday May 3, 2026, Yellow Tail was part of *Jazz N' Wine 2026*, an evening that celebrated a unique blend of wine, music and culture at the Queen's Hall Outdoor Garden Theatre.

The event featured performances by several artistes, creating an enjoyable atmosphere for patrons who gathered to experience an evening centered around live entertainment and overall good vibes.

Patrons enjoyed Yellow Tail's globally recognised wines while engaging in an evening dedicated to entertainment and culture.

Being a part of events such as *Jazz N' Wine* strengthens the brand's presence, by delivering unforgettable taste experiences.



Jazz N' Wine patrons stopped by the Yellow Tail booth to enjoy some crisp and refreshing wines

SAY CHEESE PIZZA EXPANDS BRAND PRESENCE

Say Cheese pizza strengthened its connection with consumers through a series of retail activations held across several major supermarkets nationwide.

The brand engaged shoppers at multiple supermarket locations, including Xtra Foods in Aranguez, Arima, Endeavour and Grand Bazaar, Tru Valu supermarkets in San Juan and Trincity, as well as JTA Supermarket at C3 Centre, San Fernando.

These activations allowed customers to sample the varieties

of pizza, while learning more about the convenience and quality of the brand.

Shoppers were able to interact directly with Brand Representatives, creating meaningful touchpoints that promoted brand awareness and consumer engagement across key locations.



Say Cheese pizza sampling at Tru Valu San Juan, Xtra Foods Arima and JTA C3

FRESH START SHOWCASES ITS JUICE CONCENTRATES

Fresh Start Juices hosted retail sampling activations to promote its juice concentrate range at key retail locations including Massy Stores St. Augustine and Brentwood, Chaguanas.

Shoppers enjoyed samples while learning about the versatility and convenience of Fresh Start's concentrate. The range is sold as an easy and refreshing option for creating flavourful beverages at home, while maintaining the quality and taste for which the brand is known.

Brand Representatives engaged directly with shoppers, strengthening consumer awareness and encouraging customers to explore new ways of using Fresh Start's products.

Through continued in-store activations and sampling opportunities, Fresh Start remains focused on connecting with consumers, expanding product awareness and reinforcing its presence across retail spaces throughout Trinidad and Tobago.



Shoppers at Massy Stores St. Augustine and Brentwood branches were treated to Fresh Start's juice concentrate samples

HÄAGEN-DAZS AND CREAMERY BRING SWEET INDULGENCE TO YOU, ME & RNB

Häagen-Dazs and Creamery Ice Cream were part of the experience at You, Me & RnB which took place on Saturday May 9, 2026.

The brands added a refreshing touch to the event which featured great music, lively entertainment and a good time.

The black and gold-themed event drew R&B enthusiasts into an evening of rhythm and fun, in an atmosphere where guests could unwind and have a fantastic time alongside premium food and beverage offerings.

Throughout the event, attendees were treated to frozen delights from both brands, complementing the elegant and enjoyable ambience of the occasion.



Häagen-Dazs served indulgent ice creams to patrons



These lovely ladies enjoyed smooth and delicious Creamery ice cream

HÄAGEN-DAZS, CREAMERY AND STOLI AT HYATT REGENCY'S MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

On Sunday May 10, 2026, Häagen-Dazs, Creamery Ice Cream and Stoli were part of the celebrations at the annual Mother's Day Brunch hosted by Hyatt Regency Trinidad.

Families gathered for a special afternoon dedicated to celebrating mothers and mother figures, while enjoying an elevated dining experience, entertainment and a warm atmosphere centered around appreciation and togetherness.

Häagen-Dazs and Creamery Ice Cream treated attendees to a selection of premium frozen desserts, while Stoli complemented the event with popular beverage offerings.

Together, the brands contributed to a warm and jovial morning, adding an extra touch of indulgence to the celebration.



Generations of beauty: Our Häagen-Dazs beauties pose with moms and their daughters at Hyatt Regency's Mother's Day Brunch

HADCO TEAM EXPLORES INNOVATION AT RICH'S HEADQUARTERS

From Monday, May 4 to Wednesday May 6, 2026, HADCO's team members Ursula Joseph John, Trade Brand Manager, Sheryce Quash, Bakery Sales Technician and Rehanna Mohammed, Procurement Officer for Peppercorns travelled to Buffalo, New York City, to participate in an immersive customer experience at Rich's Headquarters.

They were joined by industry colleagues from JTA Supermarkets, Presto Group and Frozen Delight Distributors in Jamaica.

The programme was designed to strengthen partnerships with Rich's while showcasing its latest products, merchandising strategies and insights into evolving consumer trends. Participants explored innovations in desserts and beverages, including tropical flavour combinations, hybrid creations and modern takes on classic favourites.

They also engaged with merchandising concepts such as themed promotional months and in-store bakery development, supported by product demonstrations and sampling.

Visits to leading retail and food service outlets offered practical examples of how presentation, organisation and product variety contribute to customer engagement. These experiences provided valuable knowledge to support local market innovation and enhance bakery operations.

The visit concluded with the team returning to Trinidad inspired by new ideas and equipped with practical strategies to deliver greater value to customers. The visit reaffirmed HADCO's commitment to continuous learning, innovation and strong partnerships with international brands such as Rich's.



Rich's Headquarters in Buffalo, New York City



Team members of HADCO, JTA Supermarkets and Presto Group joined by the Rich's Team

CREAMERY ICE CREAM AND STOLI CELEBRATE CINCO DE MAYO AT FIRESTONE RESTAURANT

On Tuesday May 5, 2026, Firestone Restaurant brought vibrant Mexican flair to Brentwood, Chaguanas as it hosted a lively Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Observed annually on May 5, Cinco de Mayo commemorates Mexico's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla and has become a celebration of Mexican heritage, culture and national pride. Patrons experienced authentic cultural elements through themed cuisine, music and a festive atmosphere inspired by the occasion.

Adding to the celebration, Stoli and Creamery Ice Cream were present, contributing to the overall guest experience with refreshing beverages and frozen treats that complemented the evening's festivities.



Cinco De Mayo Celebrations: Stoli Vodka and Creamery Ice Cream were provided for attendees at the festivities

MT. PLAISIR ESTATE HOTEL RECOGNISED IN TRIPADVISOR'S BEST OF THE BEST 2026

Along the quiet northeastern coast of Trinidad, where rainforest meets the Atlantic in a continuous rhythm of tide and terrain, Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel has long existed as something of a hidden constant, defined not by spectacle, but by a deep and enduring sense of place.

That sense of place has now found global recognition. Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel has been named among Tripadvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards' Best of the Best for 2026, ranking No. 15 among Small & Boutique Hotels in the Caribbean, an honour reserved for the top 1% of listings worldwide.

Yet beyond the accolade itself lies a quieter story, one shaped by the everyday experiences of those who have passed through Grande Riviere and found something both grounding and rare.

Set within a landscape where mountains, forest and coastline exist in close proximity, Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel offers a model of hospitality that is inseparable from its environment. Days unfold not through structured itineraries, but through immersion: the movement of ocean swells, the call of wildlife, the shifting light across the beach at dusk.

It is this immediacy and closeness to the natural world that has become central to its identity. Guests encounter not just a destination, but a living system, whether through coastal walks, access to nearby hiking trails or the seasonal rhythms of marine life along the shore.

At its core, the recognition reflects something deeply human: the collective voice of travellers who have experienced the property firsthand and chosen to return, reflect and share. Drawn from a year of authentic guest reviews, the award speaks not to a single moment, but to a consistency of experience shaped by thoughtful service, environmental stewardship and connection to community.

For HADCO Experiences, the milestone represents more than global validation. It reinforces a broader philosophy that places equal value on experience, environment and authenticity. Across its properties, from the immersive natural sanctuary of Asa Wright Nature Centre to the coastal stillness of Mt. Plaisir, the approach is consistent: to create spaces where guests can engage more deeply with the landscapes and cultures that define Trinidad and Tobago.

In this way, Mt. Plaisir's recognition is not an endpoint, but an extension of what it has always been: a place shaped by its surroundings, sustained by its community and experienced most meaningfully through presence.



Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel



Winner 2026



**Travellers' Choice™
Best of the Best 2026**

Tripadvisor

Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel

Top 1%

Reviews from millions of Tripadvisor travellers place this winner in the **top 1%** worldwide.

Tripadvisor Recognition Badge

ONE NEST AT A TIME

Following days of heavy rainfall upstream, the river at Grande Riviere rose well beyond its banks, reshaping the shoreline and by morning, what had once been carefully concealed beneath the beach was exposed; several sea turtle nests, unearthed by erosion and left vulnerable to the elements.

For species that depend on the fragile consistency of sand, timing and placement are crucial. These nests, laid weeks earlier under the cover of night, had already passed a critical point in their development. But exposure, even at this stage, carries risk from temperature fluctuations to the ever-present threat of predators.

The response was immediate.

Under the guidance of Len Peters of the Grande Riviere Nature Tour Guide Association, the exposed eggs were carefully relocated, each one handled with precision, maintaining orientation, depth and spacing. Using the light-check method, the team confirmed that the embryos had developed beyond 40 days.

Even with meticulous care, success is never guaranteed.

For sea turtles, survival has always been defined by odds. From the moment eggs are laid, they face a range of pressures, including natural predators, shifting coastlines, human activity and the accelerating effects of climate change on nesting habitats. Only a small fraction will ever reach the water. Fewer still will return, years later, to the same shore.

And yet, they persist. Along the beaches of Grande Riviere, this cycle continues nightly during nesting season, shaped as much by environmental forces as by sustained human effort.

Conservation here is not an isolated act, it is a continuous and often unseen commitment. Monitoring nests, managing light pollution, guiding hatchlings toward the sea: these are daily interventions carried out quietly, long before they are observed.

The relocation of this clutch of eggs is just one moment within that larger rhythm. With an estimated 20 to 25 days remaining until hatching, outcomes remain uncertain. But uncertainty is not new to this landscape. It is part of the process, one that has always relied on persistence, both ecological and human.

What is certain, however, is the collective effort behind it. From conservation groups to local guides and from researchers to members of the community, the shoreline at Grande Riviere represents a shared responsibility. It is a place where intervention is measured, respectful and guided by the understanding that these species have endured for millions of years, navigating conditions far beyond human scale.

At HADCO Experiences, moments like these offer a deeper perspective on what it means to engage with the natural world. What may appear as an isolated incident is part of a larger story, one of resilience, adaptation and the ongoing balance between vulnerability and survival.

Because on this shoreline, even against uncertain odds, the future is still being written, one nest at a time.



Len Peters, Chairman of the Grande Riviere Nature Tour Guide Association (left), guides relocation



Excavated nest before relocation

FATHER'S DAY FUN WITH HADCO EXPERIENCES

Father's Day weekend across HADCO Experiences' properties offered guests more than a getaway. It provided an opportunity to slow down, reconnect with loved ones and celebrate every father and father figure who help shape our lives.

From the coastal charm of Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel to the tranquil surroundings of HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre, guests were treated to a weekend that balanced relaxation, recreation and meaningful moments of togetherness.

At Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel, the celebrations unfolded against the backdrop of Trinidad's breathtaking northern coastline, where guests embraced a programme designed to encourage both leisure and family engagement. Activities throughout the weekend allowed visitors to make the most of the property's natural setting, whether through kayaking, fishing or simply enjoying time with family and friends.

The highlight of the weekend, however, was undoubtedly the highly anticipated evening of Karaoke, which transformed our conference room into a vibrant hub of entertainment and camaraderie. Guests eagerly took to the microphone with each song drawing enthusiastic applause from the crowd. Families fully embraced the experience, creating an atmosphere that was both lively and inclusive. To add an extra layer of excitement, prizes were awarded to some of the night's most memorable performances, recognising participants whose talent, creativity and confidence captivated the audience. While the competition itself generated a lot of excitement, it was the sense of connection and shared enjoyment that truly defined the evening.

Complementing the festivities were signature cocktails such as the Blue Jean and complimentary servings of Glenfiddich whisky, creating the perfect opportunity to raise a glass in celebration of fathers and father figures while enjoying the relaxed coastal atmosphere.

Meanwhile, at HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre, Father's Day weekend embraced a different rhythm,

one rooted in the property's unique blend of nature, heritage and warm hospitality.

Guests spent their days exploring the estate's renowned natural beauty through orientation and guided walks before gathering for afternoon tea and a range of specially curated experiences. To mark the occasion, the property was adorned with special Father's Day décor, adding a festive touch throughout the Main House and dining spaces. Thoughtful displays celebrating fathers created a welcoming atmosphere and provided the perfect backdrop for guests to commemorate the weekend with family photographs and shared moments.

One of the weekend's standout moments came in the form of a specially curated comedy show featuring local entertainer Kevin Soyer. Held in the Drawing Room, the performance quickly became a guest favourite as Soyer delivered a captivating blend of observational humour, relatable stories and sharp wit. From the moment the show began, the room was filled with laughter. Guests responded enthusiastically to Soyer's comedic storytelling as he connected with audiences across generations through humour rooted in everyday life and shared experiences. The performance created an atmosphere of warmth and togetherness, turning a simple afternoon gathering into one of the weekend's most talked-about moments.

Across both properties, Father's Day weekend demonstrated the power of thoughtfully curated experiences to bring people together. Whether guests were singing their favourite songs at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel, enjoying a handcrafted cocktail overlooking the sea, sharing laughter during Kevin Soyer's comedy performance at Asa Wright Nature Centre, or simply spending quality time with loved ones, each moment contributed to an experience that was both meaningful and memorable.



Signature Blue Jean cocktail being prepared for a MPEH guest



Sit down comedy show at Asa Wright Nature Centre with Kevin Soyer



Special décor done by the team at AWNC



Prize distribution to impressive Karaoke performers

MITTCO BRINGS THEIR CRAFTSMANSHIP TO BARBADOS

Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) continued to showcase Trinidad and Tobago's steelpan craftsmanship with a successful tuning mission to Barbados from Monday, June 29 to Saturday July 4, 2026.

During the visit, MITTCO's Tuners, Marvrol Paul and Junior Benjamin expertly tuned the steelpans of the Barbados National Steel Orchestra and Mark Forde's Steelband, restoring the instruments to their optimal tonal quality ahead of upcoming performances. The work ensured that each steelpan delivered the rich, resonant sound expected of the instrument.

In addition to supporting the two ensembles, MITTCO also offered tuning services to individual steelpan owners across Barbados, giving new life to their instruments and improving their overall sound quality.

We are proud of the artisans that work together to create and maintain steelpans at an exceptional level; and are happy to have had the opportunity to extend these services to our Caribbean neighbour.



Marvrol Paul in action, tuning a middle pan back to fine quality



Junior Benjamin in the process of tuning one of the National Steel Orchestra's steelpan

MITTCO JOINS TTMA'S TRADE MISSION TO SURINAME AND GUYANA

Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) was honoured to showcase Trinidad and Tobago's national instrument to regional counterparts during the Suriname and Guyana trade mission facilitated by the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association (TTMA) from Monday, June 8 to Friday June 12, 2026.

While the steelpan has already established a presence in several regional territories, the mission provided a valuable opportunity to introduce its rich heritage, craftsmanship and cultural significance to an even wider audience.

Focused on fostering B2B partnerships, distribution opportunities, investment, procurement and regional expansion, the trade mission created a platform for meaningful business engagement.

Through these interactions, MITTCO sought to establish strategic relationships that will contribute to strengthening the regional steelpan ecosystem, creating new opportunities for education, performance and cultural exchange.

By expanding these connections, MITTCO hopes that the joy, artistry and legacy of the steelpan will continue to resonate with countries and communities throughout the region.



Representatives from across different sectors pause for a photo before heading to Guyana for the final leg of the Suriname and Guyana Trade Mission



Akua Leith, Managing Director for MITTCO (left) shares some playing tips with Ms. Haidy Lindveld, Director Higher Education, Suriname

HADCO EXPERIENCES' STAFF COMPLETES COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING

The HADCO Experiences staff at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel (MPEH) participated in Communication Skills Training sessions held on Wednesday, May 13 and Tuesday May 20, 2026 at the property.

The sessions were facilitated by Keris Braxton, Learning and Development Strategist and focused on strengthening workplace communication and collaboration.

It provided employees with practical guidance on effective communication in the workplace, emphasising the importance of clear, respectful and professional interactions among colleagues and guests.

Participants also explored the value of self-awareness and reflection in building stronger working relationships and delivering positive customer experiences.

By focusing on communication and interpersonal development, HADCO Experiences continues to equip its teams with the skills needed to foster collaboration, improve day-to-day operations, enhance service delivery and improve overall workplace efficiency.



Keris Braxton, Learning and Development Strategist conducts Communication Skills Training with the staff at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel



PROMOTION

We extend congratulations to the following employee upon her promotion.

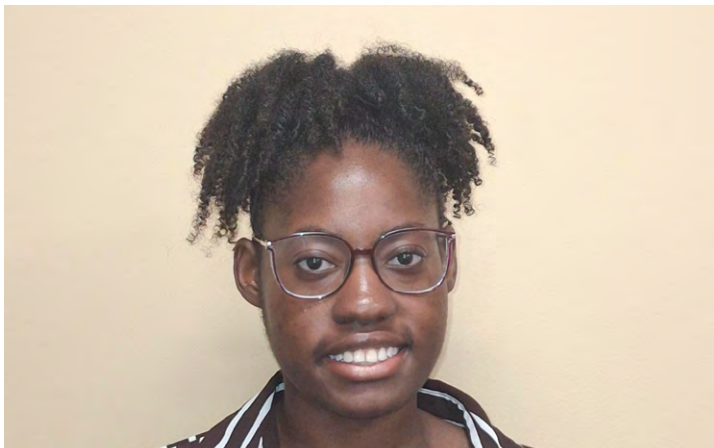


GISELLE RAGOONANAN (HADCO Experiences) was promoted from **Biodiversity Manager** to **General Manager** effective **June 1, 2026**.



NEW EMPLOYEES

We welcome the following employees who began their tenure in June, 2026.



Michal-Ashley Morrison – R&D Technician (Creamery Novelties)

Michal-Ashley Morrison joins Creamery Novelties as an R&D Technician, bringing one year of professional experience.

After completing a BSc. in Chemical and Process Engineering, she began her career in spirits manufacturing before moving into the Quality Control sector. She is excited to continue her journey in the food and beverage industry.

Outside of work, she enjoys dancing and being a part of community service. She lives by the philosophy: "You can never stop learning; there is always room for more." She is an Affiliate Member of IChemE and a member of The Hermit Foundation.



Teniesha Scipio - Administrative Assistant (Creamery Novelties)

Teniesha Scipio joins Creamery Novelties as an Administrative Assistant, bringing eight years of professional experience across a range of industries.

Her background includes work in Administration, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Customer Service and Underwriting, giving her a well-rounded skill set. Teniesha is motivated by the opportunity to learn new skills and challenge her own capabilities.

She is known for her professional, thoughtful and engaging communication style. Outside of work, she enjoys going to the gym and cooking.



THAT'S IT FOR THIS ISSUE OF

THE HADCO TIMES

SEE YOU AGAIN FOR ISSUE 56!



HADCO
WELLNESS
& RECOGNITION
COMMITTEE
INSPIRING POSITIVE CHANGES



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