



SCOTIABANK TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

MEDIA RELEASE

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Scotiabank Foundation and the CEBM help students enhance their financial literacy skills through a Virtual Stock Market Game Platform.

Financial literacy is an important life skill for young people. Increased financial literacy leads to greater resilience during predictable and unpredictable life events. Learning how to earn, spend, save and invest wisely contributes to overall well-being and stability.

Recognizing the need to enhance the financial literacy skills of students, the Catholic Education Board of Management (CEBM) partnered with Wizdom CRM Caribbean to introduce the Virtual Stock Market Game (VSMG) Platform to Secondary School students. Approved by the Ministry of Education for use in all Secondary Schools, the VSMG is a 14-week financial education competition, designed to expose students to financial planning and future planning through gamification on stock markets. The Scotiabank Foundation has contributed to the programme, enabling 500 students to benefit from savings, investing and budgeting skills taught by the programme.

Sharon Mangroo, CEO of the Catholic Education Board of Management (CEBM) indicated "The Wizdom CRM VSMG has successfully engaged and appealed to our students by using gamification in our financial literacy programme. Through practical lessons on legitimate wealth creation, students realize that they can establish goals to attain financial well-being and stability. The Scotiabank Foundation's sponsorship of students who cannot afford to participate in the programme is a critical step towards reducing the socioeconomic wealth gap in our society."

Katrina Geetooah, Director of WizdomCRM Caribbean commented "Transforming financial education at an early age with cutting-edge AI, our VSMG empowers students to participate in Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, and US stock markets via a single integrated platform. Students are enabled to directly own local stocks while experiencing the significance of cross-border ownership in US Dollars, perfectly aligned with UNSDG4. Scotiabank's sponsorship of 500 students for the virtual stock market game platform represents an invaluable investment in the financial education and future success of these young individuals. This support will empower them with essential financial knowledge and skills, creating a positive impact that will resonate throughout their lives."

Gayle Pazos, Senior VP and Managing Director, Scotiabank Trinidad and Tobago re-iterated Scotiabank's focus on financial education and literacy. "Financial education is a long-term process. Building it into learning from an early age allows our young people to acquire the knowledge and skills that shape responsible financial behaviour throughout their lives. Their participation in this Virtual Stock Market Game teaches them important financial knowledge; and saving and investing habits. It can also help improve their academic performance, helping them, particularly those from under resourced backgrounds, to overcome challenges and achieve future success.



Representatives of Scotiabank Foundation, the Catholic Education Board and Wizdom CRM Caribbean during a meet and greet session. L-R: Cheryl Hernandez -Scotiabank Foundation Officer; Chloé Joseph, AI Manager, WizdomCRM; Katrina Geetoah, Director, WizdomCRM; Cindy Mohammed - GM, Scotiabank Foundation; Sharon Mangroo, CEO, CEBM; Charielle Plowden, Interim CEO, WizdomCRM and Raysha Purcell, Project Manager, CEBM



Wizdom CRM Caribbean members during a school tour at St. Anthony's College where students were enlightened about the Virtual Stock Market Game Platform.

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