



Contact:
Simone Hull
Public Relations Specialist
876.932.0549

Email: Simone.Hull@Scotiabank.com
Joylene Griffiths Irving
Director - Public, Corporate & Government Affairs
876.932.0565
Email: Joylene.Griffiths-Irving@Scotiabank.com

NEWS RELEASE

Scotiabank Invests Heavily in Computers for Schools

September 24, 2008/Kingston: Scotiabank today donated another 28 computers and multimedia systems and work stations at a cost of \$2.3 million to 16 institutions to enhance their information technology learning programmes. The new systems will now bring the total of computers donated to schools in the last two academic years to 82, all provided at a cost of \$9 million.

The schools which received computers for the 2008-2009 academic year are Dumfries Primary from Montego Bay, Watt Town All Age in Browns Town, Marlie Mount and Brown's Hall Primary from Old Harbour, Albert Town Primary in Christiana and Sea field All Age in Linstead. Both Maud McLeod High and George Headley Primary from Savanna – la – Mar will also benefit from new systems as well as Porus Infant and Victoria Town All Age from Manchester. In Kingston, the schools which will benefit are Golden Spring Primary, Little Einsteins, Holiness Basic, and Queens High School. The final two schools which will receive new systems are Norwich Primary in Port Antonio and Thornton Primary from Santa Cruz.

The donations will assist these institutions with administrative duties as well as enhance teaching techniques, expand curricula, facilitate research and improve information technology skills.

Director of Public, Corporate & Government Affairs, Joylene Griffiths Irving said, “This computer education programme is a corporate thrust from the Bank to act on its commitment to improve the quality of education among Jamaica’s youth, as we recognize that computer technology is a critical tool in teaching the school curriculum, exposing students to trends on the global landscape, building specialist skills and facilitating efficiency.”

Since 1996, Scotiabank and the Scotiabank Jamaica Foundation have been establishing computer laboratories and equipping schools with state-of-the-art multi-media systems. Other institutions which have benefited from the programme are: Mount Alvernia Preparatory; Browns Town Infant; Victoria All Age; Alps, Mount Moriah, Port Maria and St. Paul's Primary Schools; and Portland, Old Harbour and York Castle High schools.

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