



# Scotiabank in the Community

**Scotiabank®**



**We believe that the long-term success of our Bank and the world around us are fundamentally intertwined.**

By paying careful attention to the areas where we feel we can have the biggest impact, we create economic, social and environmental value for our customers, employees,

communities and our environment, while also delivering returns for our shareholders. During 2020 - 2021, we invested in projects that supported community and youth development, impacting the lives of approximately 93,537 individuals, 59,247 young people in 575 schools, organisations and communities.

# COVID-19 Community Support.



The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted lives, livelihoods and communities worldwide. We know that we are an important part of the economic and social fabric of the communities in which we operate and, at times such as this, when so many households and communities have been struggling, we want to do more to support those in need in tangible ways.

Through our partnership with local charities, from the onset of the

virus, we helped provide protective masks, food, medical and other essential supplies to over 26,000 persons

throughout the country who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Donations were also made to charities that provide counselling services to victims of domestic violence as there has been a rise in this form of violence during the pandemic.



In support of our frontline healthcare workers who have been helping the country fight the pandemic, we provided daily meals to healthcare workers at the designated COVID-19 hospitals and other health facilities during the “lockdown” period and on two occasions since, when there were periods of a substantial increase in community spread. Overall, our contributions have provided 10,000 meals.

# Employee Giving Initiatives.



As Scotiabankers, we believe we have a responsibility to give back and make a positive difference in our communities, and we're proud that during the pandemic, our employees continued to volunteer their time and resources:

- They helped manage the hotline for the Government's assistance programme after working hours and on weekends. Members of the public accessing the hotline indicated that they were pleasantly surprised that the service was available after hours and they were able to speak with someone to answer their questions and help guide them during their time of need.
- They helped charities package and distribute food and essential items to those negatively impacted by the pandemic.
- They assisted United Way TT in the packaging of masks for distribution to schools as part of its programme to help schools prepare for the new norm.
- An employee donation drive was embarked upon and the funds contributed by our employees were matched by the Bank. The funds were donated to charities on the frontlines, helping families and communities manage the effects of the pandemic.



## UNICEF COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout Programmes.



Throughout a few territories in the Caribbean, including Trinidad and Tobago, we have collaborated with UNICEF on its COVID-19 vaccination rollout and preparedness programmes. It's critical we do our part to help mitigate the health and economic impacts across the Caribbean so we can get beyond this pandemic safely.

# Youth Development and Education.



## No Student Left Behind

Another major change brought about by the pandemic is online schooling. To help ensure that no student is left behind with the shift to online, we have partnered with various institutions and schools to provide computers, laptops and other devices to students throughout Trinidad and Tobago who are in need. Thus far, our contributions to 14 NGOs and 60 schools have helped 1,148 students benefit from online learning.

With more of our employees working remotely, we have also reduced our inventory of stand-alone printers across the Bank. These devices have also been donated to schools and a few charities to assist with their increased printing requirements for students who do not have access to online schooling.





## Helping Schools Prepare for the New Norm

We are working with United Way, along with other corporate partners, to help schools prepare for reopening, through improving and expanding washroom facilities, infrastructure for handwashing stations and providing masks to students and teachers. The aim of this project is to improve school readiness for 15 primary schools in vulnerable communities and prepare nearly 5,000 students to return safely to in-person school. We are pleased that our contributions of 40% of project costs for this initiative will keep our young students safe when they return to school.

## Empowering Youth

Since 2011, we have collaborated with local NGO, Families in Action (FIA), out of a desire to equip young adults, 16-19 years, with the tools and skills to harness their potential for success. The programme focuses on critical life skills: goal setting, entrepreneurship, social responsibility and money management. For the past two years, the programme has been conducted virtually as a result of the social restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of our Finance team also volunteered their time to conduct the workshop on Financial Planning and Management.

Scotiabank recognises the important role we play in building a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable world. Our contribution to Pride TT's Generation GAP programme is aimed at providing structured character and professional development to youth 17 to 25 years. Over a 10-month period, workshops equip participants with emotional and development skills aimed at helping them to be empowered by their true identity. Sessions cover a range of topics including: Self Confidence and Awareness, Mental Health, Professional Development, Financial Management, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and Sustainable Community Engagement.





# UWI Scholarships

Our support for students of the University of the West Indies is carried out in two tranches – regionally and locally. Regionally, for the past 12 years, Scotiabank has contributed to the UWI Scholarships across the three campuses in the Caribbean to help provide equal access to education for students in dire financial need.

Nineteen scholarships are distributed annually.

The Bank is also the lead sponsor of the UWI Toronto Benefit Gala, which, since its inception, has raised over \$2.3 million CAD and over 600 scholarships have been awarded.

Locally, for over two decades, Scotiabank has been an annual sponsor of scholarships to students of the UWI St. Augustine, Trinidad campus.

Contributions to this initiative are provided each academic year to 10 First Year, Second Year and Final Year students who meet the benefit criteria, which includes their GPA score and financial need. Students receive assistance with their studies in: Banking and Finance, Accounting, Computer Science and Information Technology, and Economics.



# Write Away! Young Adult Literature Project



The Write Away! Young Adult Literature Project, produced by the Bocas Lit Fest and sponsored by Scotiabank, is designed to keep students, and teachers, motivated and engaged in online learning. It also gives students access to exciting, culturally-relevant books of all genres that can foster a lifelong love of reading. All participating schools were provided with access to virtual creative writing workshops, and received books for their school libraries to facilitate book clubs

and reading groups, and guided writing support from renowned authors. **The best writing from students will be published in an e-book sponsored by Scotiabank, launching the next generation of writers-to-watch from Trinidad and Tobago. Over the next year, our continued partnership with the Bocas Lit Fest will expose 600 students to poetry writing and creative writing skills.**



## Support for Children with Disabilities

Our donation to Caribbean Kids and Family Therapy Organisation (CKFTO) supported a 10-week therapy programme for children with disabilities. The pandemic has led to challenges with continued support for NGOs that provide therapy for families with children with disabilities and as such, we found it important



to continue to support in this way during this time.

Our donation helped provide a programme for both children and caregivers that will assist with learning and improving motor skills.

# Environmental and Food Sustainability.

We have embarked upon two initiatives aimed at providing sustainable solutions to food security, encouraging home gardening and encouraging young persons to develop interest in the agriculture sector as viable means for providing for themselves and their communities. They also have significant environmental impacts in terms of protection, repair, preservation and restoration.

Through a partnership with the SURE Foundation in 2021, 10,000 households in the southern communities received seedlings for their household kitchen gardens.

We are proud that our association with the SURE Foundation will help reduce the national food bill and support a farm to table food culture. This year, we have committed a further contribution to support an expanded seedling distribution drive nationwide of **200,000 seedlings, which will benefit 37 children's homes and 2,000 households and farmers in under resourced communities.** Additionally, through a community hydroponics initiative, 2,000 families in San Fernando will receive produce.

In 2021, we partnered with Nature Seekers to provide support for their Climate Change Adaptation Project for Species Recovery (CCAPS Recovery). Our donation will specifically aid their efforts to remove the influx of sargassum seaweed, which poses a serious conservation challenge to the nesting activity of marine turtles, particularly, leatherbacks.



# Cancer Awareness, Education and Screening.

During the period of the pandemic, we also maintained our 23-year focus on breast cancer awareness through adjusting our hallmark event – the Scotiabank Women Against Breast Cancer 5K, to suit the present realities. In 2020, the event was transitioned into a virtual one, with additional exercise segments, including one for persons with disabilities, appealing to a wider cross section of participants. We were able to reach 25,000 persons, raising \$250,000 for breast cancer. Last year, our focus was to expand awareness of breast cancer and the importance of early detection, through a multi-media advertising campaign. This campaign featured stories from influencers and patients undergoing breast cancer treatment, designed to promote the importance of screening in the fight against the disease.

Proceeds from our breast cancer campaigns enabled our long-standing beneficiary, the Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society (TTCS), to continue its breast cancer screening initiatives, helping persons gain access to discounted screening services. In recent years, a youth-focused project was incorporated into the TTCS' programme – a No Smoking, No Vaping virtual campaign to educate the youth on the harmful effects of smoking and vaping.





We are committed to the economic and social fabric of our customers and stakeholders and to the meaningful impact of the communities we serve.

During the pandemic, it has become even more important to contribute to recovery to provide a gateway to economic resilience. In the coming years, we will focus our social

investments on supporting youth, to provide opportunities to increase high school graduation and post-secondary enrollment, as well as removing barriers to career advancement for under-represented groups. Through these goals, we aim to make a positive and sustainable impact among disadvantaged persons, thereby contributing to life opportunities and full participation in the economy.