



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

MEDIA RELEASE

NGC endorses vocational programmes through PYC/YTEPP collaboration

August 23rd, 2019

The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC), in collaboration with Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP) Limited and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), hosted a graduation ceremony on August 23rd 2019, celebrating 138 members of five Police Youth Clubs (PYCs), who participated in special vacation vocational training over the holidays. Delivered by YTEPP and sponsored by NGC, the programmes included hair-braiding and weaving, barbering, electrical installation and introductory electronics. Participants of the programmes were attached to NGC-sponsored PYCs in Couva, Penal, La Brea, Laventille Road and Mayaro.

The programme ran for the July-August vacation period, and saw approximately 138 young nationals, ranging from ages 12 to 25 years, registered for the various YTEPP vocational skills training programmes. It placed focus on the possible future career opportunities for the young persons who are the members of these PYCs. It also provided an opportunity for young people to become part of a skilled workforce in a society where there is a lack of professional tradesmen/women. It is envisioned that this programme can provide these young persons with the skills required to explore entrepreneurial opportunities as a means toward generating income sustainably.

NGC has fostered a special relationship with the TTPS since its adoption of PYCs in 2013. With youth empowerment and development being a major focal point of NGC's Corporate Social Responsibility portfolio, the Company determined that the PYCs were a perfect fit for support, on account of the important work being done by the clubs to expose our youth, especially in disadvantaged communities, to positive influences and avenues for growth. The indisputable link between youth advancement and national development makes this partnership a solid investment in the country's future.

From a standout Michael George - the star of the weaving and hair-braiding course, to a nine year-old learning to build an LED light, the atmosphere at the graduation was nothing short of amazing as all the youths gathered supported one another as they crossed the stage. A special feature of the graduation was the airing of an eight-minute video that captured the feelings of the graduates themselves, from a nine-year old to a 23-year old.

According to nine-year old Meera Rampersad of the Penal PYC, who participated in the electronics programme, "...I learnt to build LED lighting cards...it was special because it means now my family does not have to spend money on LED cards and lighting!"

According to Ms. Lisa Burkett, Manager, Corporate Communications at NGC, *"We believe these courses can enrich the lives of the young people in the PYC communities, and ultimately redound to the benefit of our country...the country needs to look at alternative industries to continue to drive economic activity. By helping to outfit our young people with skills aligned to niches in the job market, we are playing a part in the process of diversification. Making these vocational programmes available will encourage more people to take up other professions or convert existing skillsets into income-generating assets."*

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