



The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

Vance River Recreation Facility

*Handover Ceremony*

Venue: Vance River Recreation Facility

Date: February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Time: 1pm

Remarks by Ms. Lisa Burkett/ Manager, Corporate Communications

## SALUTATIONS

-Councillor, Siparia Regional Corporation, Mr Gerald Debesette

-Members of the Vance River Village Council

-Other specially invited guests

-Members of the Media

-Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon,

It is my pleasure to bring some brief remarks on behalf of The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC), proud partners in the refurbishment of the Vance River Recreational Facility.

The community of Vance River has waited patiently for many years for the delivery of this project. Finally begun in 2015, the project encompassed upgrades to and remedial work on the pavilion, basketball court and carpark. Today, NGC is pleased to officially hand over the upgraded facility to the care of the Siparia Regional Corporation and the Vance River Village Council.

NGC's sponsorship of this facility upgrade forms part of a broader commitment as corporate citizens to advance human and social development in Trinidad and Tobago. We are extremely proud of our impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme, through which we give support to a variety of groups and initiatives in the areas of arts and culture, sport, education, training and empowerment, youth development and environmental preservation.

Over the years, we have included the upgrade of recreational grounds and facilities in our CSR portfolio because we recognise their importance as spaces for communal pursuits, sporting activity and entrepreneurial undertakings.

These facilities do more than just accommodate events – they provide opportunities for vendors when events are staged; provide platforms for sportsmen and women to train and grow; they help facilitate fit and healthy lifestyles; and importantly, they help bring people together.

A fixture of the community, this ground served those functions for decades, but repairs became necessary to improve its standard, especially as a venue for sporting activity. Vance River may be a small community, but it has raised many accomplished sportsmen over the years including your very own, Avery John who was part of our beloved Soca Warriors. The Vance River Recreational Facility was no doubt a launching pad for their sporting careers, and now thanks to the recent

upgrades, it is amply outfitted to service many more generations. In that regard, we are happy to have helped equip this community to continue developing its home-grown talent.

Even more gratifying is the fact that this refurbishment project not only rejuvenated a landmark facility and secured a training ground for future athletes, but it also gave an economic boost to the community by generating employment for residents of Vance River and environs. That is the kind of rounded impact that makes an investment worthwhile, and which made this project particularly rewarding for us as sponsors.

Friends, it is our hope that you the residents will make full, productive use of this upgraded space – to play, to exercise, to congregate and share and most importantly, to fortify the sense of community that exists here in Vance River. Now more than ever, our nation needs strong communities like yours to teach us how to live together. Enjoy it and take good care. I thank you.