



Global Entrepreneurship Week

Statement by:

The Hon. Paula Cox JP, MP

Deputy Premier of Bermuda

Minister of Finance

Nov. 17, 2008

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen, as Minister of Finance I am always pleased to participate and support the initiatives of the Bermuda Small Business Development Corporation.

BSBDC, once again has seized the opportunity in the entrepreneur advocacy and support role as a member of the Host Committee of Global Entrepreneurship Week and facilitator for the “**Rocket Pitch Competition**”.

We also applaud the U.S based Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the U.K. based Make-Your-Mark campaign for establishing this worldwide event dedicated to encouraging youth all over the world to participate in entrepreneurship.

As proponents of entrepreneurship, it is a natural fit for BSBDC to be a part of this week and I also wish to acknowledge the work of the Ministry of Energy, Telecommunications and E-Commerce as the lead Ministry in supporting the local participation in this first Global Entrepreneurship Week.

It is important that new ideas are nurtured in today's increasingly interconnected world.

Global Entrepreneurship Week is a way to get young people to see how they too can contribute to economic development on a local and international level.

I look forward to hearing of all the plans and ideas that are launched from the Rocket Pitch Competition.

I understand that our BSBDC, Business Development Officer, Mrs. Jamillah Lodge will be available to assist in the further development of all those plans even beyond this week, to ensure that the launch this week is not in vain.

During the times of economic uncertainty it is innovation, creativity and capital that provide the stimulus required for stability and progressive community life thus this timely event and the support provided by the BSBDC is a formula for success.

Congratulations to those who will be participating!

Thank you.