



BSBDC

Bermuda Small Business
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Hamilton, Bermuda 25th August 2009 - BERMUDA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (BSBDC) CELEBRATES THE GRADUATION OF IT'S 5th SMALL BUSINESS CONSTRUCTION INCUBATOR (SBCI) CLASS

Members of the community, the Acting Minister of Finance, The Hon. Michael J. Scott, BSBDC staff and board members were on hand at the Fairmont Hamilton Princess on 20th August to congratulate the graduates of the 5th SBCI programme. Attendees were welcomed to the 3 ½ hour event by BSBDC Chairman of the Board, Mr. Larry Mussenden and listened as course facilitator Mr. Richard James summarized the 16 week programme.

One of the graduates, Mr. Robin Monroe presented and acknowledged that he was initially sceptical of what benefits the program would provide him, but after completing the course he indicated that he has gained much from the programme, citing his increased exposure to more networking opportunities and Mr. James ability to relay the information into real life practical terms as the best parts of the programme. Another graduate, Mr. Larry Packwood encouraged his fellow graduates to continue to strive for greatness utilising the resources that the SBCI has given them. Other graduates include Messrs. Judson Williams, James Tyrrell, Durward Cann, Earlston Tucker, Mark Roberts, Jermaine Caines, Naeem Holdipp, Gladwin Harvey, Andre Smith, Mandel Outerbridge, Richard Brangman and Karim Fareed.

Program Director, Lucrecia Ming stated "as a result of the SBCI programme, smaller construction companies will have increased business skills which will make a better more competitive and cooperative industry, with larger companies confidently subcontracting business to graduates of the SBCI as a result of their additional training." Ms. Ming also noted that the SBCI utilises an international curriculum from the NCCER which is used by the National Training Board and the Bermuda College and encouraged graduates to get their colleagues to register for the last class scheduled to start later this year with the goal of having the 16 seat class fully subscribed.

After the presentation of the certificates, attendees enjoyed a 4 course plated dinner while listening to music provided by DJ Bubbles. BSBDC GM, Michelle Khaldun gave the closing remarks thanking the participants, partners, Board members, and the organisers of the event. Ms. Khaldun stated "that all those present were contributors to making the SBCI programme a success. The support from the Ministry, Board and the various partners were all integral to ensuring that the participants in the SBCI programme succeeded."

The Small Business Construction Incubator is a BSBDC initiative created to strengthen the leadership and business acumen of Bermuda's small construction related businesses. For more information contact Lucrecia Ming at lming@gov.bm or visit www.bsbdc.bm. BSBDC is Bermuda's premier source of free confidential small business advice. Our mission is to serve Bermuda's small business community with the highest degree of professionalism providing, business advice; counsel and loan guarantee support - **END** -