



BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA GUYANA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Scotiabank collaborates with Girl Guides Association

- **GY\$4,678,900 donated to help provide opportunities for girls.**

Progress for girls has not kept pace with the realities they face today, and factors in their environments continue to reinforce many gaps. Through a collaboration with the Guyana Girl Guides Association (GGGA), Scotiabank hopes to help provide opportunities for girls to realise their full potential.

Seventy (70) girls and young women, ages 16 – 25 from under resourced Regions, will be equipped with skills needed to support their transition from high school to tertiary education and the world of work. This initiative provides them with socio-emotional, life and living skills necessary for navigating higher education and the employment. Key activities of the programme include empowerment, debunking gender biases, developing confidence and self esteem, providing access to jobs and institutions, and pairing girls with mentors.

This collaboration aligns with [ScotiaRISE](#), the Bank's global community investment initiative designed to promote economic resilience among disadvantaged groups. "Through associations such as this one with GGGA, we're helping these girls improve their education and employment prospects, adapt to changing circumstances and enhance their life opportunities and full participation in the economy" commented Nafeeza Gaffoor, Country Manager Scotiabank Guyana.

"We commend GGGA on its dedication to helping disadvantaged girls in Guyana thrive and succeed in today's world and we're pleased to work with them as we create better opportunities for our girls who are on the cusp of adulthood" Gaffoor concluded.

Schemel Patrick, Chief Commissioner, GGGA indicated the organisation's delight in working with Scotiabank. "The GGGA is extremely elated to be partnering with Scotiabank on this project. Research and reality have shown that there are many values and structures in the physical and human environment that inhibit girls and young women from transitioning successfully from high school to tertiary or vocational studies. With this project, we intend to provide a catalyst for progression. Girls and young women must feel empowered to control their future, they need role models, training, and resources so that their education translates to good jobs and better decisions. By investing in their education and fostering their self-belief, we are sowing the seeds of future leaders, innovators, and change-makers. Together with Scotiabank, we are committed to providing them with the guidance, resources, and support they need to navigate this crucial transition and thrive in their chosen paths."



Nafeeza Gaffoor - Country Manager, Scotiabank Guyana discusses the Scotiabank funded programme with Patricia Gray - President of the Guyana Girl Guides Association, and Shonetta Lowe - District Commissioner, East Coast.



(L-R): Shonetta Lowe - District Commissioner, East Coast, Guyana Girl Guides; Nafeeza Gaffoor - Country Manager, Scotiabank Guyana and Patricia Gray - President of the Guyana Girl Guides Association.

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