

## Press Release

## St. Kitts & Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce Hosts Prestigious 2025 Business Excellence Awards & Soirée

## Basseterre, St. Kitts — December 4th, 2025:

The St. Kitts & Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce (SKNCIC) successfully hosted its annual Business Excellence Awards & Soirée on Saturday, 29th November 2025, at the picturesque Spice Mill Restaurant. The event brought together leaders from across the private sector, diplomatic corps, and development partners to celebrate outstanding achievements in business innovation, community impact, sustainability, and good governance within the Federation.

This year's Awards & Soirée shone a spotlight on nominees in emerging industries, and companies that have demonstrated agility in a rapidly evolving business landscape. Awards were presented across multiple categories, recognizing individuals and organizations, that exemplify leadership, resilience, creativity, and service. Recognition was also extended to enterprises demonstrating exceptional commitment to sustainable practices, inclusive workspaces, and community engagement.



Figure 1 Winners from L-R: Mr. Merja Phipps- Carib Brewery Ltd., Mrs. Myrtrice Stedam- Sugarown Organics, Mr. Steve Tyson-Nelson's Spring Water, Niketa Evelyn- First Federal Cooperative Credit Union, Ms. Carol Curtis- Native Radiance, Ms. Patricia Walters- The Cable, Mr. Maurice Widdowson- Caribelle Batik, Mr. Elmond Sharry- Carib Brewery Ltd., Mr. Desroy Tate- Carib Brewery Ltd., Mr. Kevin Wilkinson- Carib Brewery Ltd. and Mr. Lester Mangroo- Carib Brewery Ltd..

## Among the evening's top honourees were:

- UN Disability Inclusion Champion Award Carib Brewery Ltd.
- Best Community Impact Award Carib Brewery Ltd.



- Good Governance Award First Federal Cooperative Credit Union.
- Excellence in STOW Award Carib Brewery Ltd.
- Sustainability Award The Native Radiance.
- Exporter of the Year Award Carib Brewery Ltd.
- Employee Engagement Award The Cable Telecommunications.
- Service Excellence Award Nelson's Spring Water.
- Outstanding Micro/Small Business of the Year Award Sugar Town Organics.
- Outstanding Medium Business of the Year Award Caribelle Batik.
- Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award Carib Brewery Ltd.
- Chamber Champion Award Nelson's Spring Water.

Each award was presented by distinguished partners, and industry leaders, underscoring the strong collaboration between businesses in the community. Carib Brewery Ltd. emerged as the night's recurring winner, securing multiple honours and demonstrating its consistent leadership, innovation, and commitment to excellence within the Federation.



 $Figure\ 2\ Carib\ Brewery\ Ltd.\ 's\ Clean\ Sweep.\ The\ picture\ captures\ the\ joy\ of\ the\ Carib\ Brewery\ Ltd.\ team.$ 

The company earned awards across four major categories, including:

- UN Disability Inclusion Champion Award.
- Best Community Impact Award.
- Excellence in STOW Award.
- Exporter of the Year Award.

• Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award.

Carib Brewery Ltd.'s sweep signified that it is one of the dynamic and forward-moving companies in the Federation.

Nelson's Spring Water and the Nevis Division made their Mark- The impressive performance of the SKNCIC Nevis Division was recognized, which achieved the highest number of nominations across categories, and is a testament to the dynamism and of Nevis' business community. Two major awards went to Nevis' Nelson's Spring Water, which received the Service Excellence Award and Chamber Champion Award. The Nevis Division's strong showing reflects its transformative year including the relocation to a new office at the JJB Annex in Charlestown, and expansion of its the Secretariat team.



Figure 3 From L-R: Mr. Trevor E. Blake- President, Mr. Steve Tyson-Nelson's Spring Water and Mrs. Dahlia Joseph-Rowe- Managing Partner of Joseph Rowe Attorney-at-Law.



Figure 4 From L-R: Mr. Trevor E. Blake, President, Mr. Elmond Sharry- Carib Brewery and Mr. Cosbert Woods-UN National Coordination Officer for St. Kitts and Nevis.

UN Disability Inclusion Champion Award - A major highlight of the evening was the presentation of the UN Disability Inclusion Champion Award, sponsored by the Office of the United Nations Country Coordination Office for St. Kitts and Nevis which is a unit of the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean. This award, won by Carib Brewery Ltd. celebrates outstanding leadership in advancing disability-inclusive employment, accessibility, and corporate social responsibility.

Mr. Cosbert Woods, United Nations Country Coordination Officer for St. Kitts and Nevis, delivered moving remarks on the importance of disability inclusion as a driver of equity, business competitiveness, and social progress. The Chamber acknowledged the deepening partnership with the UN, which continues to support advocacy for inclusive growth and sustainable development in the private sector.

**President's Remarks: A Year of Growth, Partnerships, and Progress-** "The awards presented tonight symbolize impact," stated Mr. Trevor Blake, President of the SKNCIC. He continued by emphasizing that "They

celebrate businesses that innovate, uplift communities, empower employees, and create value for the future of the Federation." He highlighted that the process for the awards centered on a robust evaluation process and reminded attendees that every Chamber member plays a vital role in the nation's economic landscape. The Chamber expressed deep gratitude to partners, sponsors, and members whose support continues to advance the mission of private sector development within the Federation.

In his address, the President highlighted the Chamber's significant achievements over the past year, emphasizing strong external partnerships, institutional strengthening, and increased engagement membership engagement. He informed participants that the Strategic Plan for 2026-2029 will be unveiled at the upcoming Annual General Meeting which is scheduled to occur in February 2026.

Appreciation to Sponsors & Partners- Director Patricia Walters extended gratitude to the many sponsors

and partners whose support made the 2025 edition of the event possible. Major sponsors included Republic Bank (EC) Ltd., Ram's Trading Ltd., Carib Brewery Ltd. Mac Pennies/Modern Printers, TDC Group of Companies, Island Flavours Inc., Islanders Water Sports, Harper's, St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank, MASA Assist, Koscab Distributors, Gonsalves Parry, CIBC, Hobson Enterprises, Eastern Caribbean Securities Exchange, Joseph Rowe and Associates, C&C Trading, Mr. Kevin Thompson and valued partners such as The United Nations, particularly the UN Resident Coordinator's Office.

Vendors such as AudVid Solutions, Spice Mill Restaurant, ASAP Creative Group, Islander Water Sports, TDC Group Ltd., ProVideo Productions, Warner's One Stop, and Sunlinc contributed significantly to the seamless execution and ambiance of the soirée.



Figure 5: Ms. Patricia Walters- Director of the SKNCIC moving the Vote of Thanks.

A Night of Celebration and Forward Momentum- The awardees, nominees and guests concluded the night with celebration as the ASAP Creative Band performed a lively set with music from various genres. The Business Excellence Awards & Soirée served as a key platform for recognizing the achievements and impact of the private sector in St. Kitts & Nevis in advancing innovation, governance, and community engagement. The SKNCIC looks forward to deepening engagement with its membership in the coming year, strengthening partnerships, and promoting a business ecosystem that supports growth, resilience, and national development.