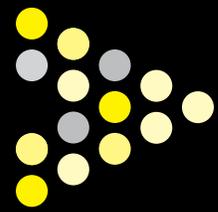


REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT



Evolution is necessary. If you are not moving forward, sometimes it appears that you are standing still. This year has been one during which we have seen great change and begun to establish a platform for growth which prompted the theme of evolution for this annual report.

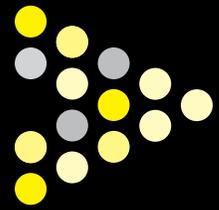
During this year, we have seen the manifestation of initiatives that were begun a few years ago and also begun new ones that will impact the future. Many of the departments in the CCJ are beginning to work on projects that will also provide meaningful change for the Court, its stakeholders and the region as a whole.

For a court, even one that is as technologically advanced as the CCJ, there is always a need to ensure that we are not complacent and that we continue to see how we can provide justice that is more efficient, more effective and that our Judges and employees have the benefit of the latest learnings and tools. We do this so that the countries, organizations, businesses and the citizens we serve receive justice that is timely, fair and accessible.

Accessibility is not only a notion of being physically close but also in ensuring that filing a matter with the Court is straight-forward, is widely available and is less expensive for the users of the Court – both the attorneys and their clients. The Court has used a useful case management system for some time and it has served us well. There is a need, however, for a software system that is more suited for the Caribbean reality. One of the projects that I am personally involved with this year, is the development of a bespoke case management system which will serve the needs of the region and allow courts to report on, and monitor, their efficiency more effectively. As many courts in the region struggle to come to terms with digitizing their records and reducing their backlog, the court management tool being developed by the CCJ, in collaboration with a technology partner, will be a useful tool in tackling these pervasive issues.

A few years ago, social media was not used by the Court in its public education thrust and now it is ubiquitous and acknowledged as an important way to connect with stakeholders and keep them informed and engaged. As the lines of communication grow and develop, the Court must be responsive to these needs. During the period, the Court established a presence on LinkedIn, a social media platform that caters to professionals, and marked a milestone of having 1,000 followers on the micro-messaging service, Twitter. We continue to be mindful of the diverse nature of our public and the need to communicate with them in a manner which is convenient and attractive to them.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT



This is an exciting time for the CCJ and there is much more to come. As I reflected in the Preface of *The Caribbean Court of Justice: The First Ten Years*, “the time has come to celebrate how far the CCJ has reached over the past decade”. Even the publication of that book, which occurred during the period under review, has marked a milestone for the Court. We are finding more ways to tell our own story so that we can share the work and worth of the CCJ with stakeholders. The book, which commemorates the CCJ’s tenth anniversary, is now available for purchase.

And while we are proud of some of the milestones that will be reflected throughout this annual report, the evolution is not over. Together with the Judges and the staff of this Court, we are beginning to build a proud legacy for the CCJ’s second decade. We are not building it for the CCJ, or for individuals who serve the organization. Ultimately our work is for this generation, and generations of Caribbean people to come, who deserve a Court of which they can be proud.



CCJ President, The Rt Hon Sir Dennis Byron signs an Agreement of Cooperation with ACP Legal Association, represented by its President, Judge Catherine Sargenti. Under the Agreement, the CCJ agreed to lend support towards the OHADAC Project’s goal of achieving the implementation of a harmonised business law framework in the Caribbean. During that meeting, there were also discussions towards collaboration with the educational arm of the CCJ, the Caribbean Academy for Law and Court Administration (CALCA), to assist with the hosting of the 4th Biennial Conference on Law to be held in October 2016.