

MEDIA RELEASE



**Trinidad and Tobago
Securities and Exchange Commission
57-59 Dundonald Street
Port of Spain**

September 14, 2016

TTSEC Focuses on Investor Education Among Youth

The Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) hosted an investor education (IE) session for over 140 secondary school students and teachers in North Trinidad on September 14, 2016. The IE session, was held in the Central Bank Auditorium, and attended by the following six secondary schools: Corpus Christi College, Diego Martin Central Government Secondary, San Juan Government Secondary, South East Port-of-Spain Secondary, St. Francois Girls' College, and St. George's College.

This regional session was aimed at raising awareness of the roles and responsibilities of the Commission and the Stock Exchange within our financial sector. Some of the core topic areas discussed were:

- The importance of budgeting, planning, saving and investing
- The basics of the securities industry
- Key players in the securities industry
- The types of securities and investment schemes
- Rights and responsibilities of investors
- Investment scams and fraud

Mr. C. Wainwright Iton, CEO, the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission, welcomed the students and encouraged them to absorb all the financial knowledge they can get particularly during this challenging economic climate. He also stressed the concepts of inflation, the value of interest and compounded interest, and risk diversification. He continued saying that, "Wise financial thinking starts from now, before you have a steady salary, so you become better equipped to make smart investments when required," said Mr. Iton.

The Commission, in tandem with, the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange, delivered engaging presentations to these students who were excited to learn about saving and investing for their life's stages.

The Commission recognises that many persons in Trinidad and Tobago, pay insufficient attention to financial planning due to an absence of appropriate knowledge. As such, sessions such as these will be both timely and beneficial as we aim to equip our youth with relevant insights about the securities industry, so that we can have a more knowledgeable citizenry, capable of making more informed financial decisions.

This regional approach is only one way by which the Commission is seeking to inform various audiences of the securities industry. The Commission also engages the public via Facebook and LinkedIn; its corporate and investor education websites, ttsec.org.tt and investucatett.com respectively; its mobile App, national competitions and exhibitions. The Commission also facilitates free outreach sessions for secondary schools and corporate entities upon request which can be submitted to ccei@ttsec.org.tt.

“Understanding your financial capability, saving and subsequently investing in securities, are steps you can take toward tackling the vagaries of our economic climate,” said Mr. Iton.

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About the Commission:

The Commission is governed by the Securities Act 2012 and is responsible for maintaining oversight of the securities market and for ensuring that fairness, equity and transparency remain common values in the market place. Our vision is to be an effective regulator of the capital market in which stakeholders have confidence.

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