

# THE HADCO TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF HADCO GROUP OF COMPANIES

ISSUE 42: JANUARY-JUNE 2023

## THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF HADCO EXPERIENCES AT ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTRE



HADCO  
GROUP

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# FEATURES



## HADCO GROUP OF COMPANIES



### OUR VISION

A diverse and innovative company, empowered employees, integrated processes, and a brand image that makes us the preferred choice of customers

### OUR MISSION

Enriching our stakeholders' quality of life, setting trends and providing superior brands and services

### OUR CORE VALUES

- Accountability
- Customer Satisfaction
- Honesty and Integrity
- Employee Wellbeing and Growth
- Collaborative Culture
- Respect and Tolerance for All

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# THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF HADCO EXPERIENCES AT ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTRE

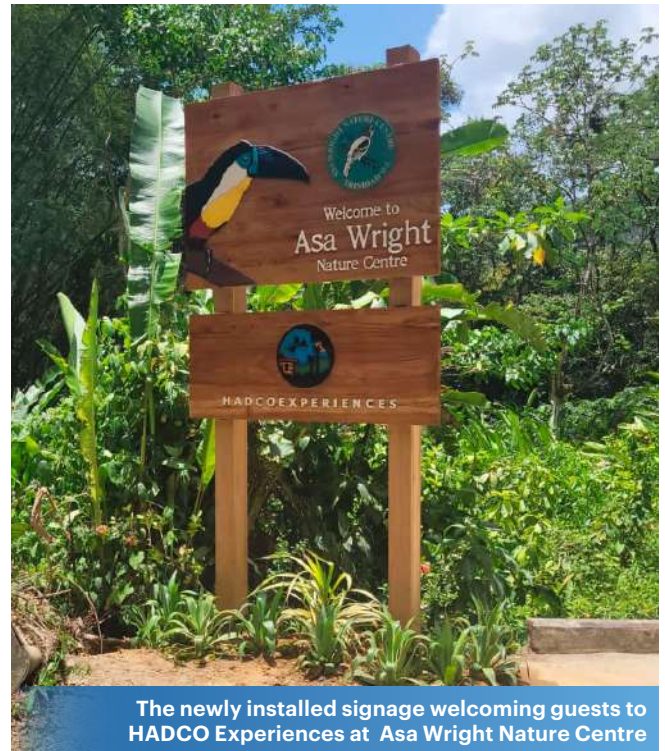
**HADCO Experiences is the latest Division in HADCO Group's portfolio, offering bespoke experiential vacation packages and accommodation at HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre and coming soon at Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel.**

Guests of these eco-resorts can have their entire trip customised according to their interests and desired activities. Add-ons such as hiking, birding, turtle watching and cultural tours are planned and executed by their dynamic team of professionals.

HADCO Experiences officially commenced operations on Thursday April 6, 2023, with the re-opening of the ecolodge at Asa Wright Nature Centre, following the company's winning bid to manage the operations of the ecolodge. The extensive renovations undertaken were completed in the first quarter of 2023; allowing the re-opening of the ecolodge to the public for the first time since its closure in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Heralded as "a major milestone for our tourism machinery," by Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre was launched to an intimate crowd. Guests included the Honourable Pernelle Beckles-Robinson, Minister of Planning and Development, other State Officials, HADCO's Group co-Chief Executive Officers, representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, Tourism Trinidad Limited, the Asa Wright Nature Centre Trust and members of the media.

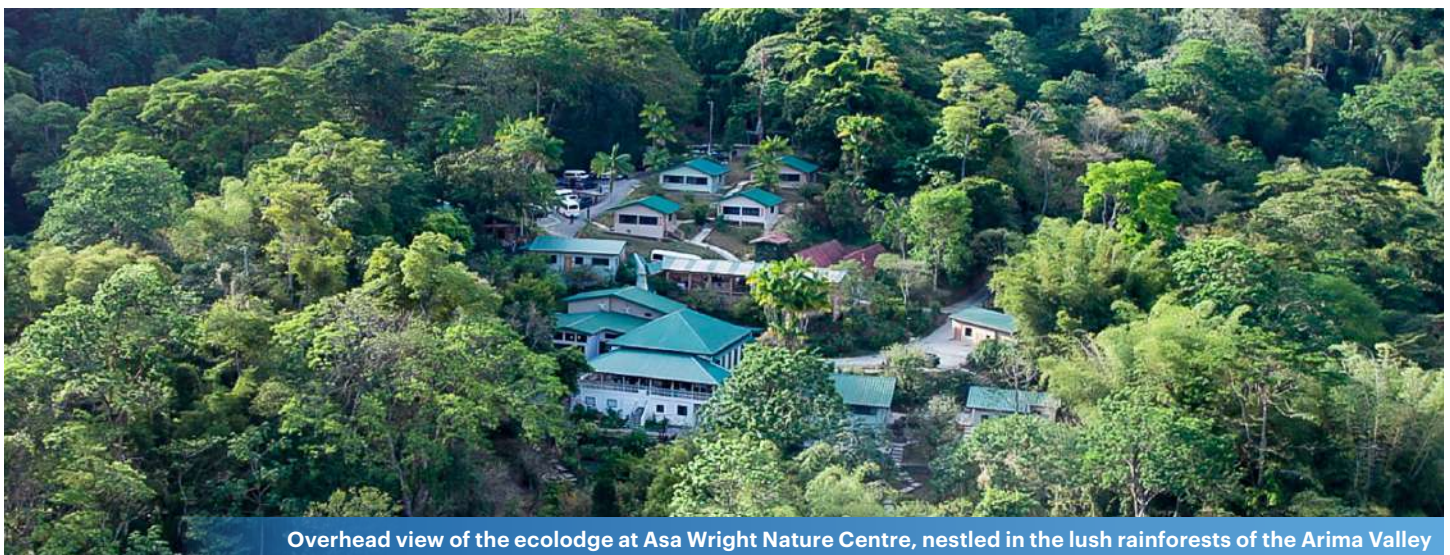
The event took place at the newly refurbished Mango Room from 2:00 p.m.



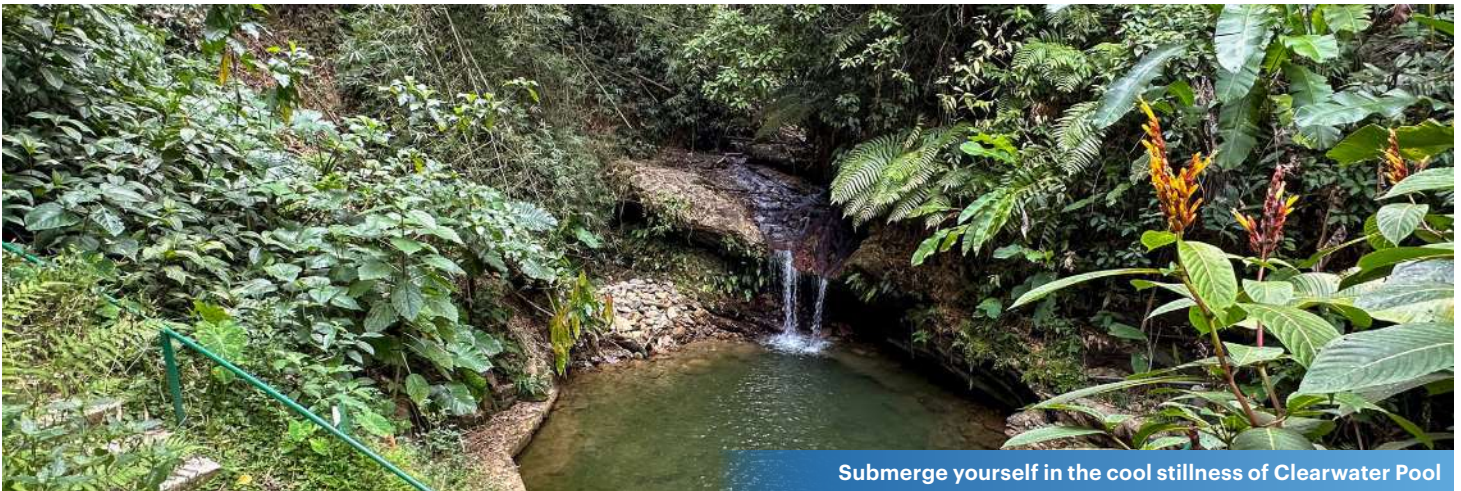
The newly installed signage welcoming guests to HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre



The lovely Mango Room Conferencing Space which can accommodate 80-100 persons



Overhead view of the ecolodge at Asa Wright Nature Centre, nestled in the lush rainforests of the Arima Valley



Submerge yourself in the cool stillness of Clearwater Pool

**Following the completion of refurbishment works, HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre now offers:**

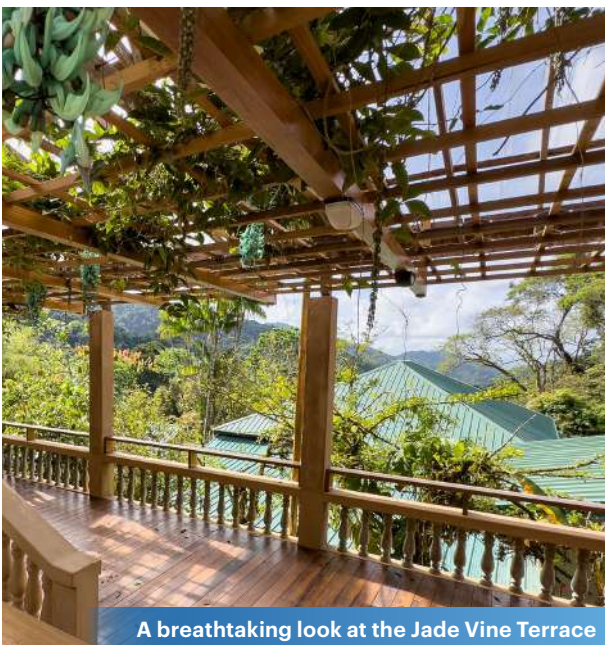
- 29 spacious guest rooms that are outfitted with energy-efficient air-conditioning units, eco-friendly furniture and bedding and access to private washroom facilities. This includes one room that has been customised for guests with disabilities who may require assistance to use the facilities.
- Various indoor and open-air facilities to host corporate workshops, retreats, brunches and small to medium weddings and private family gatherings.
- An exclusive restaurant for guests of the resort that specialises in homegrown local cuisine and uses ingredients which are grown at the resort or supplied by cottage industries and small agro-processors within the community.
- Complimentary Wi-Fi in the main areas within the resort.
- Day Passes that include access to the hiking trails, natural pools, lunch and afternoon tea.

The Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel is currently undergoing renovations and is expected to re-open in the final quarter of 2023.

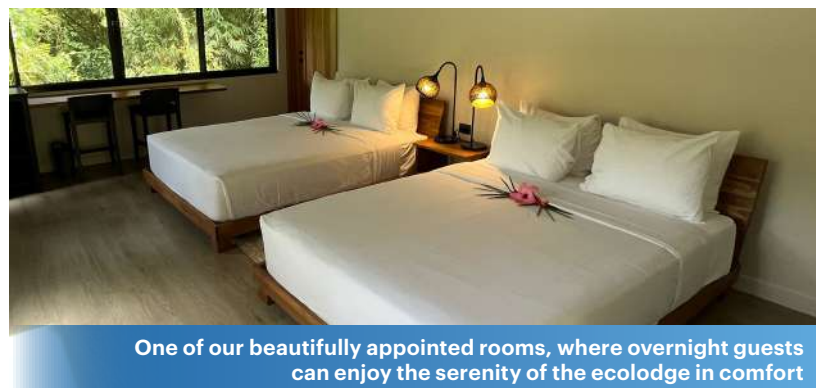
For enquiries into bookings and rates, please email [info@hadcoexperiences.com](mailto:info@hadcoexperiences.com) or call our Reservations team at 1 (868) 675-5364.



The iconic Verandah, perfect for relaxing and birdwatching



A breathtaking look at the Jade Vine Terrace



One of our beautifully appointed rooms, where overnight guests can enjoy the serenity of the ecolodge in comfort



John Hadad, Group co-Chief Executive Officer, HADCO Group addresses guests at the official opening ceremony



The distinguished guests make their way along the corridor of the Main House during a tour of the premises



Professor Judith Gobin, Chair of the Board of Management of the Asa Wright Nature Centre's Trust brought Welcome Remarks



Members of the Board of Asa Wright Nature Centre's Trust are all smiles as they enjoy the ambience of the mesmerising Jade Vine Terrace



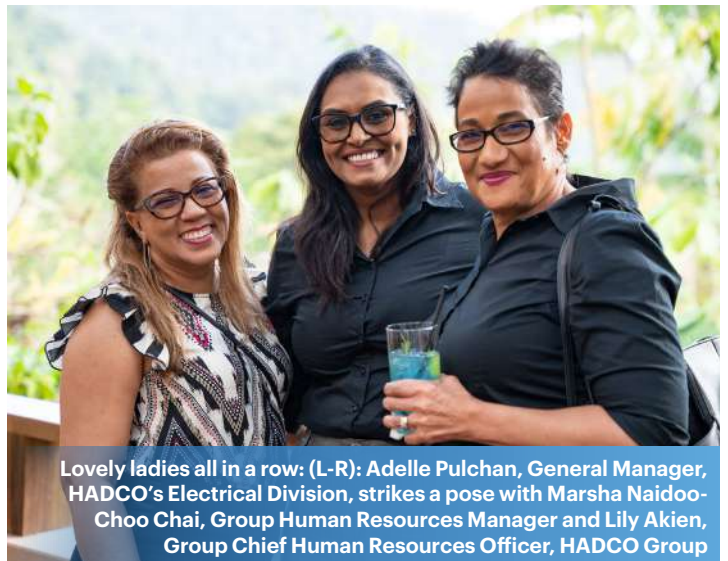
Juliette Hadad, Concept & Design Director, HADCO Experiences, shares a moment with Andrew Hadad during the cocktail segment of the afternoon



Matthew Hadad, Group Project Manager, HADCO Group (middle), with Lisa Hadad (left) and Tyla Hadad (right)



The awesome team responsible for the transformation of the ecolodge



Lovely ladies all in a row: (L-R): Adelle Pulchan, General Manager, HADCO's Electrical Division, strikes a pose with Marsha Naidoo-Choo Chai, Group Human Resources Manager and Lily Akien, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, HADCO Group



The ribbon cutting tradition is dutifully observed as the re-opening of the ecolodge is celebrated

# MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH WITH HADCO EXPERIENCES

**HADCO Experiences hosted its first Mother's Day Brunch at Asa Wright Nature Centre on the weekend of Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 May, 2023.**

The Brunch consisted of scrumptious local and continental breakfast and lunch spreads prepared by Head Chef, Patrick Sambrano and his dedicated kitchen staff.

The Brunch also included access to the ecolodge, nature trails and natural pools with a short trail tour, and afternoon tea on the Verandah to end off the activities. The weekend was a success, and the team looks forward to hosting more special events that provide the true HADCO Experience!



All smiles from this family as they celebrate mom



A delectable array of mouth-watering cheeses prepared for Brunch

# HADCO EXPERIENCES HOSTS FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH

**HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre hosted its inaugural Father's Day Brunch on Sunday June 18, 2023 and from all accounts it was a tremendous success.**

The tables were beautifully set with crisp linens, while the buffet was filled with an array of delicious dishes. Guests were treated to an assortment of fluffy pancakes, coconut bake, and sada roti alongside local favourites such as saltfish buljol, tomato choka and pumpkin choka. To top it all off, there was a decadent tea service featuring banana bread, sweet bread, and pastries.

Throughout the brunch, guests enjoyed the soothing sounds of nature that added to the relaxing atmosphere. It was clear that everyone had a wonderful time celebrating Father's Day with HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre!



HADCO Experiences' team members await guests with warm smiles



Breakfast buffet of Champs for Father's Day



# LABOUR DAY GRILLING IN THE COURTYARD AT ASA WRIGHT

**Labour Day 2023 provided the perfect opportunity for an outdoor lunch on the grill courtesy HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre.**

Burgers, grilled meats, crispy french fries, pasta salad and fresh salad were served in the Courtyard allowing guests to enjoy the refreshing air and beautiful scenery around the ecolodge.



Cheers to lunch in the Courtyard



Perfect burger patties on the grill



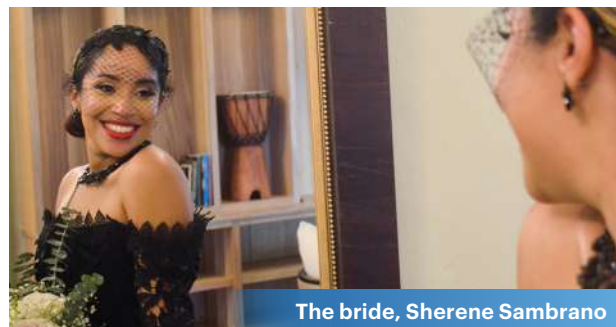
The delicious spread of grilled meats ready for serving

# CELEBRATING LOVE WITH HADCO EXPERIENCES

**HADCO Experiences officially hosted their first wedding in June 2023, since beginning their journey as Operator of the Asa Wright Nature Centre's ecolodge.**

It was indeed a special occasion as the bride, Sherene Sambrano is the daughter of HADCO's very own Karyn Sambrano, Senior Inventory and Warehouse Supervisor in the Electrical & Lighting Division.

The newlyweds chose to celebrate their special day with an intimate set-up on the Jade Vine Terrace, surrounded by lush greenery and the sweet sounds of nature. Congratulations to the happy couple, we wish them a prosperous married life.



The bride, Sherene Sambrano



Sherene and Karyn Sambrano are all smiles on the joyous occasion



The newlyweds cut their wedding cake on the Jade Vine Terrace

## CREAMERY CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS OF SWEETNESS

The number five signifies freedom, adventure, and change. This is perhaps the most ideal description about the way forward for the Creamery Novelties brand following the commemoration of its fifth anniversary on Sunday May 14, 2023.

According to Marc Clarke, Marketing Manager of HADCO Limited's Food & Beverage Division, the Creamery Novelties team is newly invigorated, and that boisterous energy will be encapsulated into a huge wave of rebranding initiatives with a focus on real-time data. Consumer engagement and trade market relations will also be more informed by developing trends in digital technologies and environmental sustainability.

He added that the brand has already begun to build momentum for its new catch phrase, *For All Life's Moments*, which is reflective of the region's affinity for social and cultural engagements, and mindful of the many reasons that ice cream remains one of the most popular frozen desserts.



One of several rebranded billboards that are being installed across Trinidad and Tobago

## CREAMERY NOVELTIES ON THE MOVE FOR EASTER

The month of April was a busy one for Creamery Novelties as individuals and families across the country found reasons to celebrate their good health, fortune and achievements.

According to Kefentse Holder, Promotions Supervisor, HADCO Limited, as many as 25 activations took place during April 2023, which included new communities and events such as the Buccoo Goat Race Festival, Store Bay Beach, the Tunapuna Youth League's Easter Bonnet Parade and Five Islands Water and Amusement Park.

Below are some of the images that were captured:



Creamery Novelties celebrates with a sub-set of this year's cohort of SEA students at C3 Shopping Centre



Our Grape Lollie added the perfect pop of colour to enhance this ensemble at the Tunapuna Youth League Annual Easter Fun Day



Sun, Sea and Creamery at Store Bay Beach Facility, Tobago

# GRACE FESTIVE FEASTING SWEEPSTAKES WINNER

## Grace Foods spiced up the Christmas season in 2022 with their Festive Feasting Sweepstakes!

Customers were provided with the opportunity to win a trip to Jamaica by simply purchasing forty dollars (\$40.00) and more in Grace products, including Grace Jerk Seasoning and uploading a picture of their bill through the respective channel.

On January 7, 2023, Sherryann Sinanan was selected as the winner of our Grace Festive Feasting Sweepstakes, copping the grand prize of a trip to Jamaica for herself and her daughter.

We would also like to congratulate our second-place winner Lianne Barclay, who won a gas grill; as well as all the other winners, including Jean Highly, Cristal McIntosh, Savionne Bholai, Wendy Texeira, Sean Lookchin, and Omela Yankarran-Dwarika, who received shopping vouchers and hampers.



Sherryann Sinanan (second from right) and her daughter (second from left) are all smiles as they collect their prizes from two Grace Foods' Representatives



The other prize winners

# GRACE FOODS SIZZLES AT THE 2023 TOBAGO JAZZ EXPERIENCE

It was an exhilarating return for the Tobago Jazz Festival, which was held from Thursday April 20 to Sunday April 23, 2023 as jazz enthusiasts flocked to the sister island for an unforgettable weekend.

With headline acts such as Vaughnette Bigford, Tony Paul, Ju-ne, Katzenjammers Steel Orchestra, Koffee and Boyz II Men, the festival was an array of colour, food and sound.

Not to be outdone was Grace Foods, which soon became the belle of the ball on International Night of the three-

day festival, where over 500 patrons in the VIP zone were treated to sumptuous Grace Foods' jerk chicken and pork. The samples were very well-received, with many returning for additional servings.



Jazz Essentials - Good food, chic outfits, and great company



This jazz-goer was all smiles with his Grace Foods jerk samples in hand

# SANDRA WINS GRILLIN' WITH GRACE

**Celebrated as one of the region’s oldest and most versatile Caribbean food brands, Grace Foods hosted its inaugural National Cook-off in June 2023.**

Promoted as ‘Grillin’ with Grace’, it was the first time that the brand collaborated with its local distributor HADCO Limited and JTA Supermarkets for an event of this nature.

According to Nicole Austin, Senior Brand Manager at HADCO Limited, 1,700 entries were collected between Saturday April 22 and Tuesday May 30, 2023 from which six semi-finalists and subsequently, two finalists were selected to compete in the live open-air challenge at JTA Supermarket in C3 Centre.

In the end, it was Sandra Mohammed who took first place and won a JTA Shopping Voucher which was valued at TTD 1,000.00, a Gas Grill and a Grace Hamper which was also valued at TTD 1,000.00.



The lovely Grace Brand Ambassadors are ready to serve some delicious jerk samples



First place winner Sandra Mohammed gleefully received her prizes from Nicole Austin, Senior Brand Manager, HADCO Limited



Members of the judging panel strike a pose ahead of the tasting part of the competition

# GRACE FOOD FAIR – THE TASTE THAT MOVES YOU!

**As part of Grace Food’s reinvigorated brand strategy, its promotional team began a new wave of roving Food Fairs in June 2023.**

The caravan, which is hosted by media personality Daniel Loveless, has already visited several supermarket food chains in Grand Bazaar, Maraval, O’Meara, San Juan, Trincity, St. Augustine and Westmoorings.

In addition to shoppers sampling a wide range of ‘pure and prepared’ Grace Food products, which serve to promote the premium quality and versatility of the brand, another highlight of the food fairs has been the display of dance moves by members of the public, in exchange for prizes.



Daniel with some of his younger fans



Grace Foods’ impressive display of products

## HÄAGEN-DAZS LAUNCHES ITS LATEST INNOVATION

Häagen-Dazs officially launched its latest ice cream innovation, **Häagen-Dazs Macaron** on Monday May 22, 2023 - the result of an exciting collaboration with world-renowned French Pastry Chef and Chocolatier, Pierre Hermé.

The local leg of promotions has seen our team visiting supermarkets across the country, offering shoppers an exclusive taste of the new *Double Chocolate Ganache Macaron* and *Raspberry Strawberry Macaron* flavours. A third flavour, *Yuzu and Lemon Macaron* is already available at all Häagen-Dazs shops.



A patron at Massy Stores, Maraval receives a sample of the new Macaron innovation

## HADCO'S BRANDS DOMINATE THE FETING SCENE FOR CARNIVAL 2023

The Marketing Team at HADCO left no fete unbranded throughout the Carnival season in 2023. From Wet Fetes to Sunset parties and All-Inclusives, our brands Creamery Novelties, Häagen Dazs, Grace Foods, Rich's, Juici Patties, and Yellow Tail to name a few, provided patrons with delicious treats to tantalise their tastebuds in the midst of the music and vibes.

The various executions throughout the season surely made Carnival 2023 sweeter, dominating fetes across the country with signature creations such as thirst-quenching, colourful Creamery Lollee Cocktails, rum-spiked, decadent Häagen-Dazs ice cream and spicy Grace jerk bites! The season kicked off with *Soaka till Sunrise*, after which our brands remained consistently present at many parties such as *Fete with the Saints*, *QRC Fete Royal*, *Fatima All Inclusive*, *Iz We Festival* and *Hyatt Lime*.



BRUNCHIN'





CIC - FETE WITH THE SAINTS



FATIMA ALL INCLUSIVE



HYATT LIME



KES - IZ WE FESTIVAL



QRC'S FETE ROYAL





SOAKA TILL SUNRISE

Not forgetting the kids, on Saturday February 4, 2022, Five Islands Play Park was transformed into the land of dreams for *Kid's So Amazing Carnival*, and Mousie's was present at the event to provide sweet treats amid the entertainment.

HADCO's brands certainly added their unique touches to the water, powder, paint, and sweet melodies that set the stage for our blissful T&T Carnival.



## BRAND AMBASSADOR TRAINING

**HADCO's Marketing Department kicked off 2023 with a new group of Brand Ambassadors. Following a social media recruitment drive in December 2022, a Brand Ambassador training was held on January 14, 2023.**

The training was targeted at both new and existing Brand Ambassadors, as it is essential that our brands are properly and adequately represented at every event.

In this regard, we applaud our hardworking Marketing team for ensuring that both theoretical and practical training were completed to fully prepare the faces that represent us and our extended task force - our Brand Ambassadors!



All smiles from the attentive Brand Ambassadors during the training

## EXPORT MANUFACTURING DIVISION

## CREAMERY GAINS NEW DISTRIBUTORS IN THE CARIBBEAN

**Vashish Sieurajsingh, Export Manager, Creamery Novelties visited Jamaica during the week of October 16, 2022, to negotiate a prospective relationship with Glastonbury Purveyors Company (GPC).**

Following an assessment of the company's infrastructure and operations, as well as one-on-one business discussions with Matthew Gentles, Product Manager at GPC, a contract was inked with Creamery Novelties to become an official Distributor in Jamaica. On February 27, 2023, the first order to GPC was shipped.

The Export team also finalised an agreement with Coreas Distribution Limited (CDL) as our new Distributor for St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the week of February 8, 2023. The first official order from Creamery was dispatched on March 17, 2023, after CDL proved throughout the trip that they have the necessary infrastructure, distribution knowledge, and customer base to match Creamery's expectations.

Further to this, Kortijn Ice Company was selected as the brand's exclusive Distributor for Curaçao. Kortijn is the leading Distributor for ice and ice products in Curaçao where they have been successfully distributing Nestlé Ice Cream. They will now add Creamery Novelties to their ice cream portfolio.

Vashish and his team are thrilled to be expanding our Caribbean presence and look forward to the continued success of the Creamery Novelties brand in the export markets.



Vashish Sieurajsingh, Export Manager at Creamery Novelties shakes hands with Mr. Jimme Forde, CEO/Managing Director of Coreas Distribution Limited in St. Vincent & the Grenadines to seal the deal



Celebration Dinner with the Kortijn Team. (L-R): Ron Van Spengen, Manager, Kortijn, Vashish Sieurajsingh, Export Manager, Creamery Novelties, Christina Rozier, Director, Kortijn, and Kimberly Mohammed, Export Analyst, Creamery Novelties

# CREAMERY NOVELTIES' MINI CONVENTION 2023

On May 11 & 12, 2023, Creamery hosted a mini-convention for four of their Distributors – Coreas Distribution Limited (CDL), St. Vincent; Glastonbury Purveyors Limited (GPL), Jamaica; Massy Distribution, Barbados and Kortijn Ice Company, Curaçao. The aim of the convention was to provide exposure to HADCO's operations and culture to the team.

The convention began with a tour of the facilities at Creamery Novelities and Imanex, where the team was privy to the detailed processes necessary to manufacture our prized products. The schedule also included detailed sessions to discuss future initiatives and a visit to HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre for some much-needed time in nature!



The convention team tackled the trail to Clearwater Pool during their visit to HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre



(L-R): Matthew Gentles, Product Manager, GPL, Lily Akien, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, HADCO Group, Joseph Charlebois, Sales Manager, GPL, Vashish Sieurajsingh, Export Manager, Creamery Novelities, Kimberly Mohammed, Export Market Analyst, Creamery Novelities, Dean Rozier, CEO, Kortijn Ice Company, Tristan Grant, Brand Manager, Massy Distribution Barbados, Latoya George, Divisional Manager, CDL, Ronnie Van Spengen, Brand Manager, Kortijn Ice Company, Noel Browne, Sales & Marketing Manager, CDL, John Hadad, Group co-Chief Executive Officer, HADCO Group, Mark Doherty, Vice President, Massy Distribution Barbados

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE’S FISHERIES DIVISION WORKSHOP

From January 17 - 19, 2023, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Ministry of Agriculture’s Fisheries Division held a workshop in Trinidad and Tobago.

On Wednesday January 18, workshop participants visited HADCO’s Land Ice & Fish Limited’s facility and were given a tour of the company’s operations. This was well received by attendees as “Fisheries Subsidies” was one of the many interesting topics discussed at the workshop.



Group of workshop attendees at Land Ice & Fish’s Facility during the World Trade Organization and the Ministry of Agriculture’s Fisheries Division workshop

## MANUFACTURING

### MANUFACTURING DIVISION

# MACHEL MONTANO AND AKINOLA SENNON VISIT MITTCO

Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) had the honour of hosting Machel Montano and Akinola Sennon of Siparia Deltones Steel Orchestra at their manufacturing facility in Diego Martin to kick off 2023.

The creators were impressed with the state-of-the-art facility and engaged in discussions about how our national instrument - the steelpan - can be utilised to drive our country’s culture, education and youth development.



Simeon Superville, Production Assistant, MITTCO, Kareem Codrington, Builder, MITTCO, Machel Montano and Khajiah Codrington, Builder, MITTCO



Cindy Rosemin, Production Assistant at MITTCO helps Machel to gain a full grip on this new tenor pan

# MITTCO ON BOARD FOR THE VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL PANFEST 2023

**In April 2023, The Musical Instruments of Trinidad and Tobago Company Limited (MITTCO) became an official sponsor of the Virginia International PANFest.**

The festival is an annual musical extravaganza that brings world-class performers together for a celebration of Caribbean music. Representatives from the event visited MITTCO's facility in Diego Martin, where they met the talented team behind the state-of-the-art steelpan. The visiting team consisted of Audrey Holden - Operations Manager, Daron Roberts and Dave Longfellow.

The festival's relaxed atmosphere appeals to people of all ages who are fascinated by the various musical sounds of the Caribbean and style of arrangements that can be showcased on the steelpan. This year's event was held on Saturday May 13, 2023. MITTCO is proud to be a sponsor of the Virginia International PANFest, introducing themselves to the world, one pan at a time!



(L-R): Daron Roberts, Virginia International PANFest, Audrey Holden, Operations Manager, Virginia International PANFest, Akua Leith, Director - Sales and Business Development, MITTCO, Dave Longfellow, Virginia International PANFest, and Mario Joseph, Director, MITTCO

## ELECTRICAL & LIGHTING ELECTRICAL & LIGHTING DIVISION

# HADCO PT. LISAS GETS A VISIT FROM PHILIPS

**On March 15, 2023, Jesus Cruz, Key Account Manager at Philips visited HADCO Limited's Electrical & Lighting Division in Pt. Lisas. He was here to facilitate a trade visit and assess the presence of the brand in the local market.**

Mr. Cruz indicated his pleasure with the work being done to promote the brand to hardwares and electrical retail outlets locally. Philips is one of the main brands in our Electrical & Lighting portfolio; and the team is committed to fostering its growth in Trinidad and Tobago.



(L-R): Darrel Bachan, Business Development Officer, HADCO Limited, Jesus Cruz, Key Account Manager Caribe - Philips Lighting, Michael Shah, Technical Sales Consultant, HADCO Limited and Anil Singh, Manager - Industrial Sales and Inventory Control, HADCO Limited

# HADCO DONATES TURTLE-FRIENDLY LIGHTS TO GRANDE RIVIERE COMMUNITY

On Tuesday June 6, 2023, HADCO, together with the Grande Riviere Nature Tour Guide Association (GRNTGA), and the Environmental Management Authority (EMA) of Trinidad and Tobago replaced the existing streetlights at Hosang Street in the vicinity of Mt. Plaisir Estate Hotel in Grande Riviere with turtle-friendly lights.

HADCO was happy to donate 20 **NXT Lite LED Turtle Friendly Lights** – streetlights that emit a red glow to the human eye, at a wavelength invisible to turtles - 17 of which were installed in the immediate vicinity of the turtle nesting site.

The initiative is part of ongoing efforts, by the National Sea Turtle Task Force (NSTTF) and the GRNTGA to ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of the quality of life experienced by the Leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) which visit our shores annually. Discussions by the NSTTF, regarding the deleterious effect of streetlights on nesting sea turtles at the Grande Riviere beach began in April 2022. Specifically, their nesting patterns were being disturbed by the light pollution from the light waves of regular streetlight units, causing the turtles to become



The first of seventeen OSRAM LED Roadway Lighting Units illuminate Hosang Street at sunset

disoriented or lost inland, when seeking darker areas to lay their eggs.

Grande Riviere is known as the largest Leatherback nesting site in the Caribbean. During the peak of the annual turtle nesting season (March 1 – August 31), five of the seven sea turtle species found globally return to Trinidad’s shores. These amazing sea creatures honour their timeless “family tradition” of returning to the place where they were born to lay their eggs.

The resulting “red zone” is the first of its kind for Trinidad and Tobago and it is hoped that other key stakeholders will adopt a similar approach to wildlife conservation and the promotion of Trinidad and Tobago as a true sustainable travel destination.



The true impact of the lights are most visible after dusk



A Leatherback Turtle during the process of laying her eggs at Mt. Plaisir. She was subsequently tagged with a microchip which will help researchers to capture data on her migration patterns and overall health

# THE UNDP SUPPORTS HADCO EXPERIENCES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

On Thursday April 6, 2023, the Executive and staff of HADCO Experiences celebrated more than just the launch of the Division at Asa Wright Nature Centre, as they also officially commissioned fourteen low-carbon emission air-conditioning units in the fight against climate change.

Also known as hydrocarbon (R290) air-conditioning units, the donation was awarded to HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through its Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Project. One of the GEF’s main objectives is to partner with stakeholders in the preservation and enhancement of our natural environment.

According to Gerardo Noto, Resident Representative – United Nations Development Programme Trinidad and Tobago, Asa Wright Nature Centre was selected as one of the demonstration sites under the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Project, to install the units with the aim of reducing carbon emissions and consequently, the depletion of the ozone layer.



Leading Lady - The Honourable Pernelle Beckles, Minister of Planning and Development prepares to cut the ribbon to commission the Hydrocarbon R290 air-conditioning units with support from the UNDP, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts and HADCO



UNDP Resident Representative to Trinidad and Tobago, Gerardo Noto speaks with the media about the organisation’s contribution to HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre

# HADCO AWARDED GRANT FUNDING FOR SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE TOURISM PROJECT

On Monday June 12, 2023, the Ministry of Planning and Development, in partnership with the European Union (EU), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB Lab) and the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) hosted an awards ceremony for the recipients of the second call for grant funding, under the *Shaping the Future of Innovation* project.

The event was held at the Hyatt Regency, Port of Spain and guests included the Commonwealth Secretary-General, the Right Honourable Patricia Scotland, KC, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Her Excellency Ute König, Minister of Planning and Development the Honourable Penelope Beckles-Robinson, and the Chief of Operations – IDB Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Sergio Rios.

The *Shaping the Future of Innovation* Project is described as an initiative of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the EU and IDB LAB in collaboration with CARIRI as the executing agency. The programme targets registered local businesses and organisations from the small and medium enterprises sector that can demonstrate a commercial track record and have the potential to deliver innovative goods and services which support socio-economic development.

HADCO was therefore recognised for its use of photovoltaic solar panels as part of restorative works at the ecolodge and trails of Asa Wright Nature Centre. As a sector, tourism stakeholders consume massive amounts of energy and as such, the use of an alternative lighting system that does not produce waste or release greenhouse gases, will aid in the preservation of the natural environment and improve the health of guests and staff.

Mrs. Varisha Rambaran, Group Corporate Communications Manager at HADCO Group received the award certificate on behalf of HADCO Holdings Limited for its project which was titled *Sustainable Wildlife Tourism*.



Mrs. Varisha Rambaran, Group Corporate Communications Manager, receives the award on behalf of HADCO from Mr. Sanjin Soldatic, Charge d’Affaires, Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago



Group photo of the Partners and Grant Recipients of the second call for proposals



# HADCO RECYCLING JOINS THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Kevin Whiteman, Managing Director, Recycling at HADCO Group announced in May 2023 that New Age Recycling is now a part of a multi-stakeholder committee that is charged with the responsibility of tackling this country’s waste management issues.**

The National Campaign Advisory Committee is an initiative of The Cropper Foundation. The team is comprised of representatives from the public and private sectors inclusive of the Environmental Management Authority, the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited, Every Bottle Back – Container Recycling Services Ltd, Cashew Gardens Community Council, Hello Green/Close the Loop, and Lonsdale Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising. The Inter-American Development Bank Innovation Laboratory has also committed to partially funding the project.



(Fifth from left) Kevin Whiteman, Managing Director, HADCO Recycling stands with the other members of the newly formed National Campaign Advisory Committee

# HADCO GROUP FOUNDATION CELEBRATES FAMILY, EMPLOYEE WELL-BEING AND GROWTH

For some, it was an opportunity to adorn themselves in colourful socks and ribbons. For others, it was about satisfying their competitive nature. A few families chose to bond with their loved ones, while there were also those for whom the walk was a much more sentimental affair. Whatever their reason, HADCO Group's Executive and employees came out 500-plus strong to participate in this year's HADCO Group Foundation's Annual 5K Walk/Run on Sunday March 26, 2023.

The walk which is held annually in memory of the late Maria Hadad, sister of our Group co-Chief Executive Officers, began on St. Mary's Grounds at 7:45 a.m. From there, participants made their way around Queen's Park Savannah and back to the grounds, where every registrant received a medal and was treated to a hearty variety of refreshments.

Sponsors of this year's 5K included Beacon Insurance, Caribbean Prodigy Investments Limited, Cardea Benefits Limited, Sunshine Snacks, Vemco, Micon, Nestlé Trinidad & Tobago, Massy, Creamery Novelties, Fresh Start, Grace Foods, Term Finance, Three Star Sports Wear Limited, Grace Foods and Yoplait Yogurt.



Runners surge forward at the sound of the horn



Winners all in a row. (L-R): Manasseha Mc David, Sales Representative, Food Retail Sales Department, Tyrell Sandiford, Dispatcher, Food & Beverage Division, and Robert Garcia, Business Development Manager, Food Service Department, Food & Beverage Division, pose with Aunty Fifi Hadad, Matriarch of the Hadad family



These winning ladies gleefully displayed their prizes



The Luczoade team was on site to provide runners with a refreshing jolt of energy



Cooling down with the Electric Slide

# YOPLAIT SUPPORTS UDECOTT'S DRIVE FOR HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES

In support of the World Health Organisation's annual observance of *World Health Day 2023*, the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (UDeCOTT) hosted a Health and Wellness Fair for its employees on Thursday April 6, 2023 at Government Campus Plaza in Port of Spain.

The main thrust of the event was the promotion of healthier lifestyles for workforce productivity.

Our Yoplait team provided over 300 employees with yummy treats and were amongst several other exhibitors including North-West Regional Health Authority, the Family Planning Association of Trinidad and Tobago, SAGICOR and Value Optical.



(L-R): Yoplait Brand Ambassadors Renelle Blackman-Bishop and Charlotte Wingham providing service with a smile

# HADCO GROUP DONATES LAPTOPS TO ARIMA POLICE STATION

As part of our commitment to make a difference in the communities in which we operate, HADCO Group presented two Lenovo ThinkCentre laptops to the Arima Police Station to help enhance their overall efficiency.

Sgt. Joseph was happy to receive the laptops from Shazaad Mohammed, General Manager- Manufacturing Division and expressed that they were happy for the support and excited to add to their resources to help serve the community of Arima more effectively.



Shazaad Mohammed, General Manager- Manufacturing, HADCO Group, presents two laptops to Sgt. Joseph of the Arima Police Station

# HADCO PHASE II HOSTS COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES DELEGATES

**On Friday April 29, 2023 Tourism Trinidad Limited partnered with HADCO Phase II Pan Groove to host a contingent from the Planning Committee of the 2023 Commonwealth Youth Games.**

Representatives from as many as 44 territories visited Trinidad from Wednesday April 26 to Friday April 28, 2023, where they engaged in a series of meetings regarding the hosting of the games across Trinidad and Tobago between Friday August 4 to Friday August 11, 2023.

For many, it was their first time visiting this country and by far, their first tour to a pan yard. In fact, much of the evening was spent talking about the history and production of the steelpan, and of course, the growth of HADCO Phase II Pan Groove.



Dame Louise Martin DBE, President of the Commonwealth Games Federation spent most of the evening dancing during HADCO Phase II's rehearsal



Guests enjoying some of our country's delicious street food

# HADCO PHASE II SCORES BIG AT J'OUVERT BOMB COMPETITION

**On Thursday April 27, 2023 the Northern Region of Pan Trinbago presented this year's trophies and prize monies to the various winners of the district's annual J'ouvert morning Bomb Competition.**

We are proud to announce that HADCO Phase II Pan Groove took first place with their renditions of The Weekend's song, *I feel it Coming* and the late Black Stalin's composition titled, *Stay Giving Praises*.



(L-R): Danica Livingston of HADCO Phase II Pan Groove receives the band's winnings from Chairwoman of the Northern Region of Pan Trinbago, Desiree Myers

# THE RETURN OF THE NATIONAL PANORAMA COMPETITION

Event promoters, food vendors, gym enthusiasts and artistes were all united in a spirit of euphoria when earlier this year, they celebrated the return of physical Carnival activities throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

Sharing similar sentiments were thousands of this country’s steelpan musicians and skilled workers, who were eager to return to the pan yards and undoubtedly, the main stage at the Queen’s Park Savannah, where the bulk of Panorama competitions are hosted annually.

For 2023, HADCO was once again pleased to give its support to the junior and senior steel orchestras under the Phase II Pan Groove brand. HADCO Phase II Pan Groove’s

Junior Steel Orchestra competed with a Triston Marcano and Kristen Murrell arrangement of “Soca City,” as sung by Nesta “Sekon Sta” Boxill, while the senior band opted to pursue an original composition by Dr. Len “Boogsie” Sharpe. Their tune of choice was called, “We Come Out to Party,” and was produced by Leston Paul. Lyrics were done by Christophe Grant with vocals by Aaron Duncan. HADCO extends its congratulations to all stakeholders in this year’s festivities.



These youngsters were serious about their preparation for the National Junior Panorama Competition



Sheer joy after a captivating performance at the finals of the Under 21 Junior Panorama



This bass player certainly came out to party on stage for finals



The iconic Dr. Len “Boogsie” Sharpe conducts the band during their performance for pan yard judging

# BRING THE LIME TO HADCO PHASE II PAN GROOVE

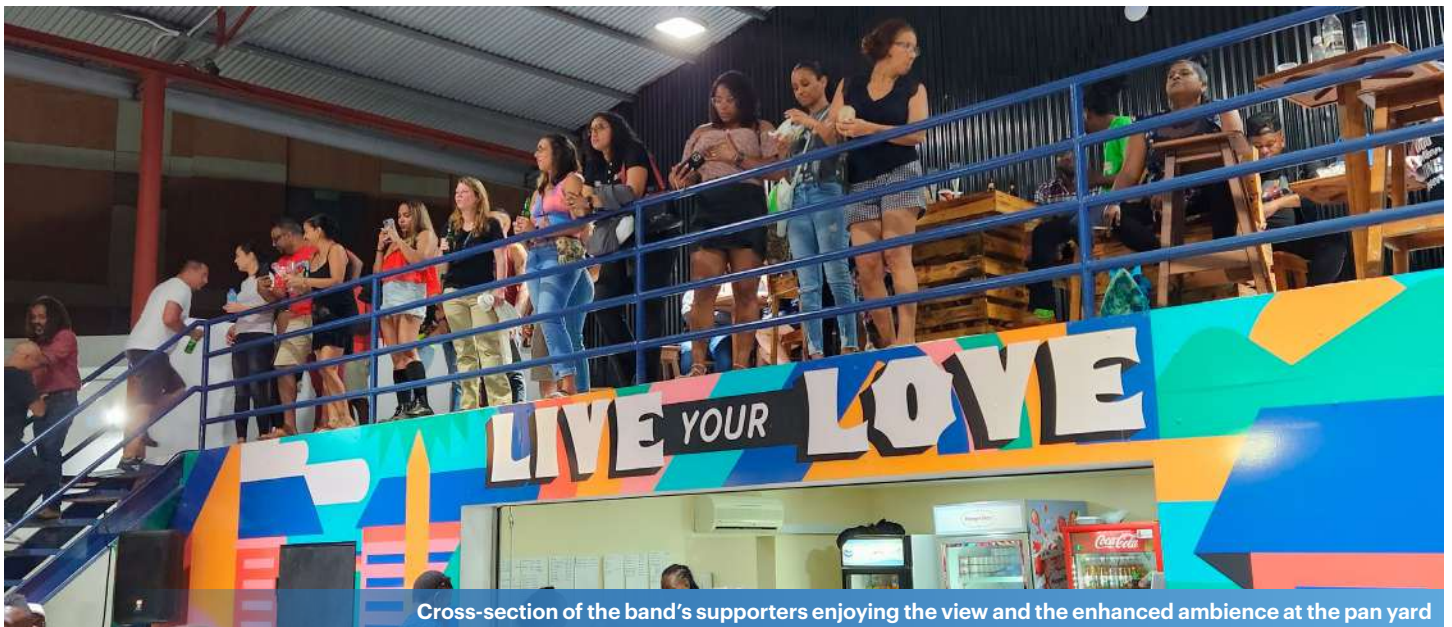
In keeping with similar trends to diversify the income streams of entrepreneurs and entities within the entertainment and tourism industries, HADCO Phase II Pan Groove has successfully revitalised its pan theatre to become one of the more attractive and preferred liming hubs within Woodbrook and environs.

Still affectionately dubbed as D’Village, the facility now boasts of an expanded bar and of course, the coldest beers to complement it! Additionally, an open-air deck was constructed above the bar, which can accommodate persons who want to work remotely or groups of persons wishing to unwind.

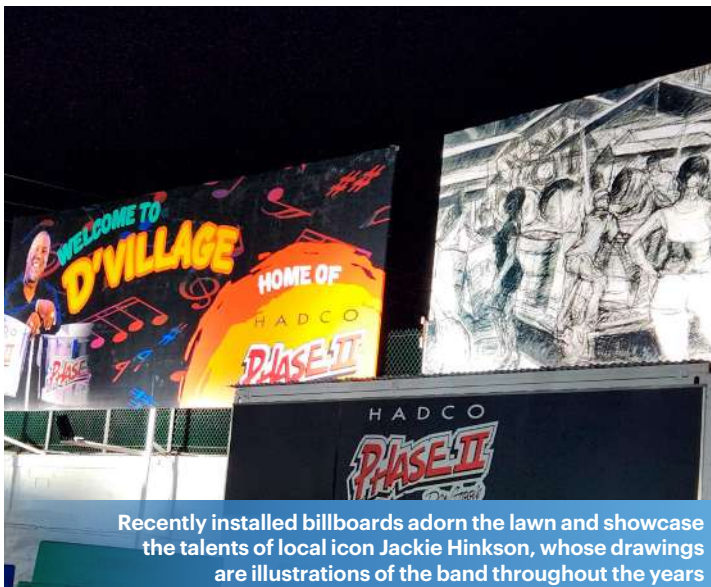
HADCO Phase II Pan Groove invites you to visit its pan yard and view firsthand its renovated washrooms, the public

display of local artwork by icons such as Jackie Hinkson and of course, enjoy the vibrant sounds of the band during its rehearsals. While there, be sure to tweet or post about your visit via our free public Wi-Fi!

For further inquiries about rehearsals or rental rates for private events, please email the band’s Liaison Officer and Corporate Communications Specialist, Amanda-Maria Barnett at [Amanda-Maria.Barnett@HadcoLtd.com](mailto:Amanda-Maria.Barnett@HadcoLtd.com).



Cross-section of the band’s supporters enjoying the view and the enhanced ambience at the pan yard



Recently installed billboards adorn the lawn and showcase the talents of local icon Jackie Hinkson, whose drawings are illustrations of the band throughout the years



Her Excellency Candace Bond, United States Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago seated comfortably on the band’s new suite of eco-friendly pallet furniture

## SENSITISATION TRAINING ON VENOMOUS BITES

**HADCO Experiences kicked off the month of March with Sensitisation training for their staff which was held at HADCO's Administrative Building in San Juan.**



The HADCO Experiences team give their full attention during their Snake Bite Sensitisation training

The sessions were completed ahead of the launch of HADCO Experiences at Asa Wright Nature Centre in April and the re-opening of the ecolodge, to further ensure that staff are comfortable and knowledgeable about the details and operations surrounding their natural work environment.

Head of the Eastern Regional Health Authority's Poison Information Centre at Sangre Grande Hospital, Anisa Mohammed, together with her colleague Jayantri Ramcharan, led a total of 42 team members through in-depth training and procedures for treating with venomous bites from snakes and other creatures.

Extensive discussions were held about the identification of snakes and other insects, as well as the effects of stings/bites from spiders, centipedes, bees, scorpions, and snakes. This included data about the various types of venomous snakes and where they can be found throughout the country.

## HADCO EXPERIENCES' FIRST AID & FIRE WARDEN TRAINING

**HADCO Experiences hosted First Aid and Fire Warden training sessions respectively, for their Managers and Supervisors. Both sessions were conducted by Jody Lee Noel from Jaric Environment, Safety and Health Services Limited at HADCO's Head Office in San Juan.**

The trainings consisted of theoretical and practical segments which were critical for the HADCO Experiences team, not just to keep them safe on the job, but also to ensure that all visitors on our properties are adequately cared for in the event of an emergency.

HADCO's Health, Safety, and Environment Department never fails to conduct its due diligence when it comes to our employees' safety, and we applaud them for it.



The HADCO Experiences team ready for action at the completion of their Fire Warden training



HADCO Experiences' Managers and Supervisors during the practical segment of the First Aid training

# FIRE WARDEN TRAINING

Fire Wardens play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of all individuals on our compounds during fire emergencies. They are responsible for implementing fire safety protocols, conducting regular inspections, and assisting with evacuations.

At HADCO, our Health, Safety and Environment Department conducts regular Fire Warden trainings to ensure that the individuals chosen are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively respond to fires, minimise risks, and protect lives.

The training sessions were conducted by Jody Lee Noel from Jaric Environment, Safety and Health Services Limited at HADCO's Head Office in San Juan, and consisted of theoretical and practical segments. By being trained as Fire Wardens, individuals can contribute significantly to maintaining a safe environment and preventing potential disasters.



Two separate groups of Fire Wardens from HADCO Group underwent training at HADCO's Head Office in San Juan



Camille Loney, Human Resources Generalist at HADCO uses a fire extinguisher during the practical segment of her Fire Warden training



# THE RETURN OF HADCO'S CORPORATE NIGHT

**HADCO's highly anticipated Corporate Night made a terrific return to the Company's social calendar on Wednesday February 8, 2023. From 6:00 p.m. to midnight, specially invited guests made their way to HADCO Phase II Pan Groove's Pan Theatre on Hamilton Street, Woodbrook, where they were able to indulge in a vast and delicious array of food and beverages.**

The evening did not disappoint as many chose to use the opportunity to dress to the nines while jumping and waving to the sounds of DJ Gonzo, Destra Garcia, Kees, Nailah Blackman and Skinny Fabulous, as well as, HADCO Phase II Pan Groove. The evening was hosted by Ancil "Blaze" Isaac Jr.

While this year's event provided a much needed release for guests, it was also hosted in recognition of the anniversaries of Grace Foods, HADCO Phase II Pan Groove and HADCO Group, which celebrated 100, 50 and 30 years of success, respectively.



The Grace Tropical Rhythms team provided an exciting blend of liquid refreshments



Nailah Blackman and Skinny Fabulous had the crowd eating out of their hands for the rendition of their soca hit single, "Come Home"



These ladies were definitely dressed to impress



This year's event boasted of some 1,200 guests

# WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY 2023

**On March 21, 2023, we joined the world in celebrating World Down Syndrome Day, where we recognised and celebrated the uniqueness of those born with an extra chromosome.**

The theme for this year was *With Us Not For Us*, as the United Nations sought a collective global voice in support of the rights, inclusion, and well-being of people with Down Syndrome. HADCO Group joined the human-rights based approach to people with disabilities as we proudly rocked our mismatched and odd socks in support of them having the right to be treated fairly and to have equal opportunities as everyone else!



Staff purchasing their colourful socks at the Corporate Communications' Pop-Up Shop in preparation for World Down Syndrome Day



The ladies at HADCO's Administrative Building proudly showing their colourful socks on World Down Syndrome Day

# HADCO CELEBRATES OUR ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS

**On Friday April 28, 2023 our Human Resources Department and the wider Executive distributed tokens of appreciation to 43 Administrative Professionals within HADCO Group, in recognition of their efficiency and dedication on the job.**

Administrative Professionals Week is a global initiative that is celebrated annually in the last week of April. The week is dedicated to honouring the invaluable contributions of Administrative Staff, who are often the first point of contact in businesses and organisations. They also play a crucial role in keeping us accountable and transparent in our daily operations.



**(L-R): Group Chief Information Officer, Sunil Persad joins in the day's activities to recognise his department's Administrative Assistant, Richalene Vernon**



**(L-R): Susan La Cairo , Administrative Assistant, Lily Akien, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, Darlene Stoute, Administrative Assistant and Cindy Sirju, Human Resources Assistant**



**(L-R): Thea Vidale-Plaza, Administrative Assistant receives her token of appreciation from Stephen Baboolal, Operations Manager, JRJ Bonded Warehouse and Little Woods Foods Company Limited**



**Ravi Sookram, Group Finance Manager, HADCO presents Radha Sookram, Finance Assistant with a token of appreciation**

# CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATIONS AT HADCO

On Friday May 5, 2023 the Marketing Department hosted staff to an afterwork lime, on the occasion of Cinco de Mayo.

The event provided the perfect opportunity to internally promote two of HADCO’s brands, Milagro Tequila, and Grace Foods. Milagro Tequila was used in the preparation of the spicy cocktails while Grace Foods sponsored the meats through their jerk line of seasonings. Also featured were El Paso Taco Shells courtesy of Massy Distribution.

Tacos and Tequila most certainly brought the work week to a relaxing close for staff!



The Mixologist was busy preparing cocktails for eager Hadconians



Tequila shots are an essential part of Cinco de Mayo festivities



Delicious tacos being served to staff

THAT’S IT FOR THIS ISSUE OF **THE HADCO TIMES** SEE YOU AGAIN FOR ISSUE 43!



📍 JRJ Warehousing Compound, Bhagoutie Trace, San Juan, Trinidad & Tobago, W.I.

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