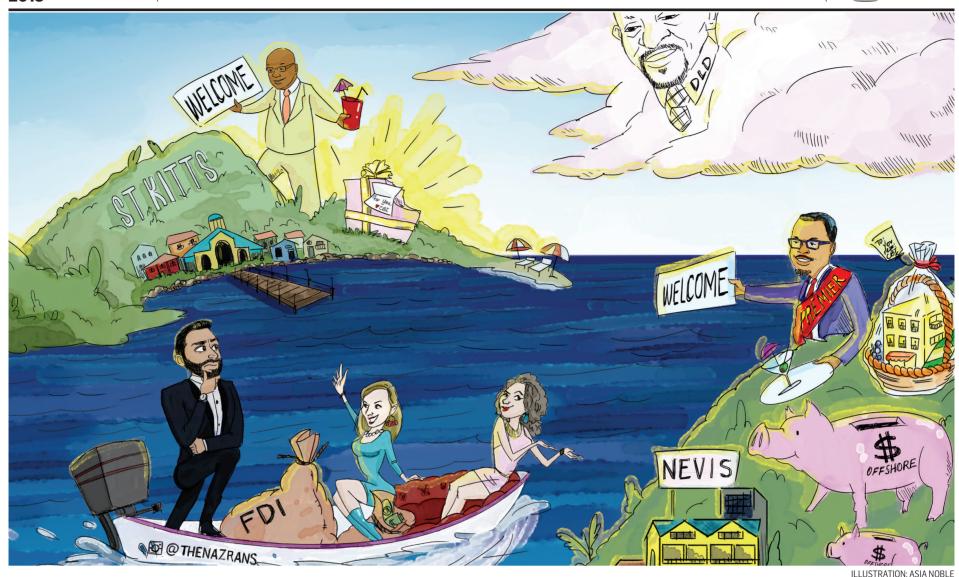
This supplement is printed and distributed by Miami Herald. It does not involve the editorial staff of the Miami Herald.

# SAINT KITS







THE INSIDER

FROM CBI TO OFFSHORE - THE WHO'S WHO AND WHAT TO AVOID



Rajan Nazran

WELCOME TO OUR AUTHENTIC GUIDE TO ST KITTS AND NEVIS (SKN) AS PART OF OUR CBI/OFFSHORE SEASON

where we discover the best value for money propositions worldwide. It is a deep honor to be producing this series and, as requested by our core readership of investors, HNWI and leaders in the travel market worldwide, we took our team to SKN to understand the real potential behind the market. From exploring the opportunities in its Citizenship by Investment program (one of the oldest in the world) and understanding the key people that you need to know and what

Hurricanes and corruption- The short term decision by the current administration to introduce the Hurricane fund was highly controversial with many regional and local opposing voices including that of the former PM, Hon Denzil Douglas. However the federation has made strategic choices to increase investors and regional confidence and amongst recent calls for the resignation of the current PM Dr Timothy Harris over allegations of corruption, the country is now heading back on course to bridge the investment flows and with the emerging talent from the likes of Premier Mark Brandley, the future seems secure. Although the CBI sector is highly competitive worldwide, there are still viable options in the federation.

Contact the team for a full list of preferred in-country contacts and to get a deeper understanding of who and what to avoid.

As always, happy reading, travelling and investing  $\bullet$ 



Charles Wilkin

CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (CBI) IS THE OLDEST OF ITS KIND. The CBI began in 1984 with qualifying investments limited to development in approved real estate projects. In 2006 there was an added feature of a donation to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation established to assist in the further diversification of the economy away from the sugar industry which was closed in 2005. That programme kept the country afloat in the recent worldwide recession but has been engulfed in scandal, suggesting its abuse for political purposes and wastage of its huge cash resources. However the

investment climate is enhanced by the independence of the judiciary comprising the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court which is regional in structure and not subject to local influences. The final court is currently the Privy Council in London. Other Caribbean countries have replaced the Privy Council with the Caribbean Court of Justice which is also independent of local influences. Likewise the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank which controls the currency, keeping it outside the direct control of any of the individual governments comprising the grouping. The Constitution protects fundamental rights including the right to property. The Courts have a strong record of enforcing such rights. But the country has a way to go in achieving its goal of being a favored tourism and investment destination  $\bullet$ 

Find out more at oneworldmediacorp.com

## IBC and real estate development

JONEL F.H. POWELL. MANAGING PARTNER

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS IS THE FINANCIAL HUB of the Eastern Caribbean, being home to the region's major financial institutions and enjoys full membership in the OECS, CARICOM, the OAS, the British Commonwealth and the United Nations. It is here that law firm Grant, Powell & Co. has evolved through a succession of firms dating back to 1990. Establishing itself as one of the leading general practice law firms in the country, with a client base of local, regional, international and multinational individuals and entities.

Providing the services of both Barristers and Solicitors. These services are not limited to but primarily focused in the practice areas of commercial, company formation and management, estate planning and probate, immigration and citizenship, conveyance, banking, debt collection, insurance and trusts.

With particular emphasis placed on the specialty areas of economic citizenship (citizenship by investment), with wealthy investors increasingly gaining a second passport and basing their buying decisions on which country offers the most attractive residency or citizenship package for investing in a property, or by making a one-off donation to a national development fund such as the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF). With a growing number of countries now vying to attract international property investors, with Caribbean islands such as St Kitts – who were the initiator of the original citizenship investment programme (CIP) in 1984.

St Kitts & Nevis has been a test-case in showing you can make a success of such schemes, in its case finding a new source of income after its 400-year-old sugar industry, which was at the heart of its economy, closed down. The creation of such citizenship by investment (CBI) programmes having been mainly driven by the Caribbean governments' concerted need to find new ways to raise revenue because of an otherwise limited capacity to compete globally.

However, IMF division of the Caribbean figures suggests that taken together, the contribution made to GDP by Caribbean CBI programmes peaked in 2014. When, for example, St Kitts earned 14% of its GDP from citizenship, enabling it to substantially offset what otherwise would have been negative growth. However, since then its programme earnings has gone into a slow decline.

In a probable reflection of this and the need to stimulate renewed interest, its government recently announced a new route to citizenship at a basic rate of US\$150,000, 'a proportion of which', it said, would be paid into a hurricane relief fund. The decision appears to make redundant a part of its existing programme, which offers citizenship for a minimum contribution of US\$250,000 to the country's National Development Fund. In sum, Caribbean CBI programmes may not have as bright a revenue earning future as they have had in the past.

While many high net worth people continue to seek second or third citizenships, it appears likely that the numbers of applicants per Caribbean country may decrease as global competition grows, at worst accelerating the sector's decline. However, the citizenship by investment process remains straightforward and there is strict due diligence on applicants, which reassures people that it's a legitimate programme.

Grant, Powell & Co also offer their expertise for real estate and property development, corporate services, intellectual property and investment and wealth management. Spearheaded by the Managing Partner Jonel Powell who in May 2015 was also appointed by Prime Minister Timothy Harris as Ambassador at Large of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis and is a Special Envoy to the Ministries of Sport and Culture. Ambassador Powell also represents and advises the Government on matters specific to Citizenship by Investment.

The firm also offers international business companies (IBCs), limited liability companies (LLCs) and international trusts through its wholly owned subsidiary, Gibraltar Trust Company based on Nevis and offering an array of offshore facilities that are excellent tools for asset protection and estate planning.

Grant, Powell & Co is a registered service provider who can take care of the registration of your Nevis Company or international trust and are expert in making the maintenance of your Nevis entity hassle free. Besides providing registered agent services which include a local address for service, they are also available should you require any legal support for any transactions involving your Nevis entity • www.grantpowellandco.com

#### STAFF

Pablo Martinez Matosas

Rajan Nazran
Director, Writer, Editor

Country Director **Alena Hakansson**Country Director

**Selene Miramontes** 

**Divya Nazran**International Strategy Director, Accounts
Copy Editor

**Laura Ocampo**Designer

Paul Roberts
Economic Researcher
David Roth
Lead Analyst
Ada Olymprah

Lead Analyst **Ada Olumerah**Production Manager **Jay Hayashi** 

Powered by





#### FAST TRAVEL FACTS

**Best time to go:** November through June is peak season. December may require bookings up to 6 months in advance. Hurricane season is June through November and visitors

should be cautious but not deterred from visiting. **Transportation:** There are many rental car companies on the island, there are also vans/buses which travel around the entire island for 1EC. Hotels may also provide shuttles too and from larger centres. **Weather:** consistant all year between 79 F and 85 F.





COSTS TO APPLY:

\$250,000 VIA GOVERNMENT **FUND DONATION** 

\$400,000 MINIMUM INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE OPTION

\$7500 **DUE DILIGENCE FEES** 

(SOLE APPLICANT)

**AGENCY FEES** 

\$15,000 APPROX

# Asset protection, LLCs and CBI

**CONSTANCE MITCHAM. FOUNDER** 

management services for

corporations, including the use of

registered agent services"

THE CHAMBERS OF MITCHAM & BENJAMIN has provided Legal Services to clients worldwide for over 35 years. The Firm, established in 1972, provides corporate services for private individuals and corporations, worldwide. Whether that be, legal, corporate, or real estate or management services in St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla, Antigua or the British Virgin Islands (BVI). Founder and senior partner Constance V Mitcham LLB (Hons) LEC JP born in St Kitts and has been a British-trained lawyer for over 40 years. She is a former trial judge (magistrate) and former Acting Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis. The first woman elected to the Parliament of St Kitts and Nevis, and served as a cabinet minister for 11 years, including as Minister of Labour and Social Security.

For those clients who wish to have visa-free travel to many parts of the world, Mitcham & Benjamin are also authorized to process applications to the government for Citizenship by Investment programme. Having established a network of overseas offices where citizens of various countries can be accommodated. with associate partners operating in Dubai (UAE) in St. Kitts or Nevis there are no restrictions on doing so. and encompassing Canada, Iran, Kuwait, The United States and "With the firm also providing

St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Options: There are three main ways to achieve St. Kitts and Nevis citizenship and a second passport:

1) A minimum contribution of US\$250,000.00 and upwards, to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF), depending on the number of family members applying.

2) The Real Estate Option. Both programs allow acquisition of citizenship by a direct contribution to development projects in the nation.

3) Hurricane Relief Fund (HRF) although please note that this option will only extend to

Via option two a family or individual qualifies to apply for citizenship through an investment in designated real estate. Through option three, a family or individual qualifies to apply for citizenship through a financial contribution made to the HRF. Providing assistance to the Management Department is operated by their subsidiary company, Cambridge Management Government and local citizens to recover after the devastation created by the Hurricane Irma

Anyone who selects the Real Estate citizenship option must invest a minimum of \$400,000 USD in a government approved real estate development project made up of either land only, or

Whilst due diligence fees are broken down as follows: Main applicant \$7500 USD. With a spouse and dependent children over 16 at \$4000 USD. And Agency Fees (covering agent, administrative, legal, and processing) are US \$15,000 for a single applicant \$20,000 USD for a couple applications or \$25,000 USD for a family. Additional fees would also include fees for the cost of property transfer of ownership for the memorandum of transfer and Government Stamp Duty and are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Some benefits of The St. Kitts Citizenship by Investment program include a second passport and Citizenship for life for the main applicant, applicant's spouse and their qualifying dependents.

Dual citizenship is permitted and there is no residence requirement. Nor, is it necessary to visit St. Kitts or Nevis to process the second citizenship application, plus if you want to reside

> Visa-free travel to over one hundred thirty-seven (137) countries and territories including Great Britain, Hong Kong, Liechtenstein, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland and Schengen States of the European Union. Tax-Free Status, as there are no capital gains, gift, wealth, inheritance and income taxes.

registered offices, and nominee and Protection of bank accounts, real estate and businesses, both abroad and within your own country, whilst the Government of St Kitts will not inform the country of your current citizenship or residency about your second or even third citizenship.

> Mitcham & Benjamin's other offshore services also include the formation of Tax-Free Corporations designed for efficient asset protection and management, Trusts, Limited Liability Companies (LLCs), Re-Insurance Companies and Captive Insurance Companies. With the firm also providing management services for corporations, including the use of registered offices, and nominee and registered agent services. Whilst the Nevis Insurance

> The firm is also aware and protective of clients' desire for, discretion, privacy, reliability, and speed, and pride themselves on their ceaseless efforts to provide appropriate legal advice •

# Executed memorandum of transfer

MAURISHA A. ROBINSON. CO FOUNDER



ST. KITTS AND NEVIS ARE ATTRACTING **MANY INVESTORS** into the islands due to the great potential and the multiplicity of investment incentives in place. The Citizenship by Investment Program is one such program geared toward attracting investors

and residents to the islands. As apart from its natural beauty, charm and wonderful climate it offers investors varying options to play with ranging from

As the sister isle which makes up the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis, it boasts of offering the prestigious Citizenship by Investment Programme (also known as the Economic Citizenship Program) being the longest running economic citizenship program in the world having been  $established since 1984. \ Through its legitimacy and strong regulation, the citizenship by investment$ programme enjoys international recognition, approval and acceptance. The Citizenship Act and its attendant regulations govern the program.

Citizenship by Investment to setting up International companies, trusts and foundations.

An interested party may apply for citizenship via investment in real estate for a minimum of US\$400,000 or a charitable donation to the Sugar Investment Diversification Foundation of at least US\$250,000 for a single applicant. The application process is straightforward and involves the completion of an application form to be submitted along with required supporting

The Government will then undertake due diligence (background checks on you and all members of the family over the age of 16 years seeking citizenship).

Following the completion of all due diligence checks, the "Having been at Citizenship by Investment Unit will provide notification the forefront of the as to the outcome of the application. If approval has been international financial granted in principle, as in the case of the SIDF option, the main applicant must within 90 days after the notification of approval in principle show that full contribution to

industry."

the SIDF has been deposited into a designated escrow account before the grant of Citizenship by

In the case of the real estate option, the applicant must provide proof of investment in the real estate by means of an executed Memorandum of Transfer and or Certificate of Title. Provided that everything is in order, approval is granted then relevant steps are taken for the applicants to be registered as citizens of St Kitts & Nevis within an average 90-day period.

Nevis has also sought to maintain its international presence and competitive edge by improving its legislation to offer unique products to investors while combatting money laundering and terrorist financing. Nevis has been a long-standing provider of international "offshore" services for over 30 years. Having been at the forefront of the international financial industry. These rules implemented to keep pace with the most progressive legislation to showcase the island's serious intent to cooperate on a global level in combatting money laundering and terrorist financing.

It is often said that jurisdictions such as Nevis are a haven for money launderers and tax avoiders, but Nevis is dedicated to set itself apart by maintaining its status as a transparent jurisdiction and by cooperating on a global level in facilitating the exchange of information for tax purposes • mortonrobinson.com

# Prosecution and defending claims

**DENNIS MERCHANT. FOUNDER** 

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR THE FIRM IS "EVERY **CLIENT MATTERS"** which is used to show this firm's commitment to satisfying the needs of every one of

Merchant & Associates founded in 2010 is spearheaded by the former Director of Public Prosecutions and Attorney General (2006-2010) Dr Dennis Merchant who has advocated at every level of the legal ladder including Privy Counsel and with a guiding ethos of "Every Client Matters."

Dr Merchant is therefore placed to advance your case in court firmly, fearlessly, effectively. Possessing a wealth of experience in a wide range of litigation matters such as commercial disputes, breach of contract, torts, personal injury cases, criminal law, civil litigation,

trademarks and intellectual property, family law, citizenship by investment and "The firm is experienced immigration issues.

3

SPECIAL REPORT

The firm is experienced and skilled at prosecuting and defending claims, to achieve prosecuting and the most favourable results for their clients. The firm is also well versed in probate to achieve the most and estate planning and will assist you by favourable results for drafting your will, establishing a trust or their clients." taking whatever steps are best to achieve the results you desire while minimising the tax implications for your loved ones.

Merchant & Associates are also a registered service provider who can take founded in 2010 is care of registration of your Nevis Company or spearheaded by the international trust. Making the maintenance former Director of of your Nevis entity hassle free.

Besides providing registered agent services, which include a local address for service, the firm, are also available should you require any (2006-2010) Dr Dennis legal support for any transactions involving **Merchant who has** your Nevis corporate entity The firm provides legal services locally, regionally and internationally in the areas of Corporate Law, Civil Litigation, Real Estate, Trademarks and Intellectual Property, Probate, Citizenship and with a guiding by Investment, Immigration Matters, Family Law, Criminal Law and trusts • www.merchantlawoffice.com

and skilled at defending claims,

"Merchant & Associates **Public Prosecutions** and Attorney General advocated at every level of the legal ladder including Privy Counsel ethos of "Every Client Matters."

# Assessing your options

STACEY ABERDEEN. FOUNDER

ABERDEEN LAW PROVIDES WORLD-CLASS LEGAL **SERVICES** to their clients. With a mantra of imagination, determination, hard work and a client focus result-driven approach. Providing legal services both locally, regionally in the Caribbean and internationally in areas of Real Estate, Corporate Law, Family, Civil Litigation and Investments. They will listen to your concerns, issues, and seek to understand your needs, assess your options and help to

develop an appropriate plan or solution to meet your goal. With

the firm's "virtual office" capabilities, they can also serve you whenever and wherever you need them. The firm seeks to provide legal advice and help for your personal and business decisions where required. Be that in citizenship and immigration, foreign real estate property transactions, legal research, case preparation, document preparation or document submission.

Ms Stacey Ann Aberdeen - Principal of Aberdeen Law - has many years of experience and a wealth of knowledge garnered over many years in business and immigration fields. She will ensure that all your needs will be taken care of. Well placed to advise on investment and citizenship needs in St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda and the Commonwealth of Dominica. She holds a Lawyer's PC (Practising Certificate) from St Kitts and Nevis Bar Association, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Bar Association and the Antigua and

Having professional skills and experience in those fields across the CARICOM region gives Stacey Ann an unparalleled advantage in being able to understand, assess, discuss and recognise your immigration issues and difficulties within a social and business context and therefore a great potential and capacity to deal and resolve them within those fields and the general business environment.

She has extensive St Kitts and Nevis immigration experience, having served a great number of clients from the People's Republic of China, the Middle East territories inclusive of the United Arab Emirates and Iran, the Russian Federation, United States of America, United Kingdom and Africa.

Having once been a migrant herself, she also understands from personal experience the anxieties of new immigrants and is able to empathise with the invaluable "actual first hand-been there-done that" experience. As with all AICLA Global (AG) Professionals, she provides full/comprehensive management of immigration cases that come from clients

Areas of practice: - Real Estate & Development- Employment and Labour- Corporate-Convincing-Family/Matrimonial-Advocacy, Litigation, ADR-Immigration, Citizenship By www.aberdeenlaw.org

# Benefit of residential permits

JOSEPH ROWE. HEAD OF CHAMBERS



JOSEPH ROWE IS A LEADING LAW FIRM IN ST. KITTS **AND NEVIS** with Attorneys-at-Law also qualified to practice in the islands of Anguilla and Grenada. The firm pride themselves on having a client-focused law practice offering quality legal services to achieve the best results possible for their clients. Providing a Caribbean law firm that is responsive and accessible to clients, whether in St. Kitts and Nevis, in other islands of the

St. Kitts and Nevis boast a Citizenship by the oldest economic citizenship program in the Caribbean. Whereby there is no residency requirement to qualify for citizenship and the St. Kitts and Nevis. A St. Kitts and Nevis passport afford the holder visa-free travel to over one hundred thirty-seven (137) countries and territories including Great Britain, Hong Kong, Liechtenstein, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland and Schengen States of the European Union.

Some advantages include a second passport and St. Kitts and Nevis. Citizenship for you and your dependents for life, no residency requirement, it is not even necessary to visit St. Kitts & Nevis to process the 2nd citizenship application. Or if you want to reside in St. Kitts or Nevis, there are no restrictions on doing so. With a certificate of naturalisation and passport typically granted within 90 days. Whilst a second passport and St Kitts citizenship through investment is also key to preserving wealth with no capital gains, gift, wealth, inheritance and income taxes.

And protection of bank accounts, real estate and businesses, both abroad and within your own country. The Government of St Kitts does not inform the country of your current citizenship or residency about your second or third citizenship. A residential permit also makes it easier for St Kitts and Nevis citizens wishing to live in Monaco, Switzerland, Andorra, United Kingdom, and Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Bahamas and other Caribbean countries. Joseph Rowe may submit citizenship applications to the relevant authorities and is well

practised in walking their client through the process. St Kitts and Nevis have a legal system based on the English Common Law. With Nevis having its own resident judge. Presiding over both civil and criminal matters in the Nevis Circuit of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. Decisions of the High Court may be appealed to the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal. Whilst the final appeal court in St. Kitts and Nevis are the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London, England.

Their legal expertise and professional services in St. Kitts and Nevis include Citizenship by Investment (Immigration), real estate purchase and sale and development, Maritime / Admiralty law, Civil and Commercial Litigation.

Legal Services offered: Real Estate Purchase & Sale & Development, Citizenship by Investment Program, Offshore Company & Trust Formation, Ship Registration & Ship Mortgages, Probate and Estate Planning • www.josephrowelaw.com

#### Deon Daniels

**GOVERNMENT APPROVED CBI REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITY** 



THE HAMILTON BEACH VILLAS & SPA IS A LUXURY, FULLY **OPERATIONAL BEACHFRONT CONDOMINIUM RESORT,** LOCATED ON THE WORLD FAMOUS PINNEY'S BEACH, **NEVIS AND OUTFITTED WITH THE FINEST FEATURES AND AMENITIES.** 

Belmont Gardens Residences and Duty Free Shopping is a 33 Unit turnkey, boutique development, steps away from Pinney's

The ultra-modern condominium development is a fusion of Japanese Zen and Caribbean flair - a unique architectural

The combination of luxurious features and high end decor create elegant interiors, fit for both visitor and discerning investor.



PPC Broadbrand



LEADING THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN ST. KITTS KAJOLA-KRISTADA LIMITED, a division of PPC Broadband, Inc. is part of the Belden Brand family, a company that has evolved alongside the cable television industry since its founding.

\$155 M

TOTAL WORTH OF EXPORTS

2016

**USA** 

MAIN TRADING PARTNER

The parent company Production Products Company (PPC) having been founded with an emphasis on innovation and perpetuates the same philosophy focusing on research and design, yielding more patents in the marketplace than any other company in St Kitts and Nevis manufacturing sector.

Founded in 1998 as a subsidiary of PPC Broadband, Inc. on the beautiful island of St. Kitts. They now produce numerous patented products created by PPC, which include, Tier Traps, AK Cable Assemblies, Super Traps, Surface Mount Filters, MoCA Filters, and AquaTightTM EX11 Connectors.

Whilst Kajola-Kristada Ltd is also the number one provider of Cable TV traps to some of the biggest players in the cable and communications industry in the United States, Canada, Central and South America, Europe and other parts of the world, with clients like Time Warner Cable, Comcast, Videotron, Rogers Communications and Cable Vision.

Kajola-Kristada Ltd. has been ISO 9001 certified since 2007 maintaining high productivity and meeting the highest standards of safety and quality and is committed to Lean Manufacturing practices using tools like kaizen, kanbans, 5S, visual workstation signs and lean daily management boards throughout the entire manufacturing process. With a strong commitment to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), quality,

employee development, training and continuous improvement, Kajola-Kristada Ltd.

prides itself on being an ethical corporate citizen and a leading player in the St. Kitts

Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Kajola-Kristada Ltd. was also instrumental in the National Manufacturing Strategy and is part of the Government-Private Sector Committee working on the Partial Scope Trade Agreement with Brazil •

## Manufacturing a resilient economy

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IS NO DIFFERENT TO PERSONAL RESILIENCE; ultimately it is about the support network, whether it be family, friends, labour workforce, government intention or personal ethics. Keeping good relationships and having meaningful investments including good-will, financial and regulatory will help create an economic resilience so desperately needed in the Caribbean. However, commonsense is often less common as we would hope and the notions of diversification have been a perfect sound-bite for many governments in the past. But when facts are studied, the evidence unfortunately in most cases is clear.

With ongoing uncertainty within the tourism industry and global warnings such as Zika, hurricanes and safety fears, the industry that has long been the Caribbean cashcow is becoming highly competitive whilst equally fickle. St Kitts and Nevis are facing a potential resurgence in its manufacturing sector - if the Government provides the enabling environment it could be ahead of the curve compared to its neighbors and capitalize on the need for regionally produced goods. The reality is that traditional industries such as sugar refining, rum distilling and tobacco processing are established in St. Kitts to a degree. The island has also witnessed the steady growth of newer manufacturing interests in recent years, with the previous administration growing the sector to 23.8% nearly a decade ago. Industrial sites have been developed, specializing in heavy machinery, electronic components and other manufactured goods destined for

the North American market with medium scale Garment manufacturing having expanded. Logistics have been an issue in the past and the expansion, and more recently a promised further expansion of the Port Zante harbor complex in Basseterre, would enable large container ships to call, further hopefully enhancing St. Kitts' attractiveness as an offshore manufacturing base.

However for the industry to grow to the stature it deserves, the current administration would need to take active measure to provide further incentives and to combat the two remain obstacles, namely being - high energy costs- (which in theory could be significantly reduced if more renewable energy were to be utilized in its national energy mix) and to promote the industry further internationally, making its own made in SKN brand.

With unemployment being a national issues, the manufacturing sector has the ability to absorb many. however the true test to the will of the current administration should be in the form of the meaningful job creation and i firmly believe the manufacturing sector can offer hat. Companies such as Kajola Kristada ltd, Carib Brewery and St Kitts Bottling Company have started the trend and it is upto the others to follow suit •





Courtesy





#### SPECIAL THANK YOU TO COURTESY CAR RENTAL

**COURTESY RENT-A-CAR ST. KITTS NEVIS** is an internationally recognised brand in Bird Rock across from Warner's One Stop and within two miles of RLB International Airport St. Kitts and within one mile of downtown Basseterre, St. Kitts.

They offer a wide variety of car leasing, carpooling, car sharing, and hourly rental program, with local car rental customers, picked up at no extra cost. They are committed to doing things the right way, by taking care of their customers, their employees and the communities they serve. Above all, they are committed to providing 100 percent customer satisfaction. They differentiate themselves in three ways, quality service, quality cars and competitive pricing and are leaders in the local market.

Their fleet numbers 120 cars, but they are continually updating and upgrading their fleet. Offering everything from Suzuki to BMW's, Audis up to and including Range Rovers. So they cater to all budgets and are now focused on building a business to serve the local hotel

The business is also now moving horizontally into real estate project development via a project development company, Montebello Residences and Development Company. Developing condominiums, homes and even an 80-room hotel. Approved under the Citizenship by Investment Program, which is under construction and scheduled for completion within a five to a seven-year time frame

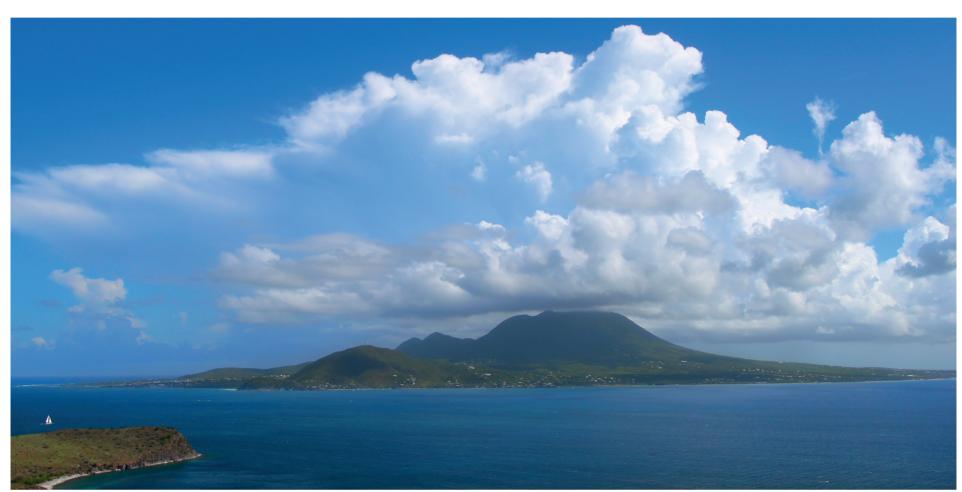
Quality Vehicles, Lowest Rates, Dependable Service, 100% Customer Satisfaction.

CONTACT: (869) 465 - 0072 or 0073

SPECIAL REPORT

# SKN - NEVIS ISLAND CARIBBEAN CAPITAL OF FINANCE

THE FEDERATION OF ST KITTS AND NEVIS IS THE SMALLEST SOVEREIGN STATE IN THE AMERICAS, WITH A JOINT TOTAL OF ONLY 100 SQUARE MILES AND 50,000 INHABITANTS.



 $The \ banking \ capital \ of the \ Caribbean \ - \ Nevis \ is land$ 

DR MARK BRANTLEY ADDRESSES THE UN ON KEY ISSUES.

The Premier has taken active measures to discuss the rising prominence of Nevis Island.

he two islands having been among the earliest British colonies – from the 17th century to independence in 1983 – filling Britain's coffers through the production of sugar. There, however the similarities end, the rivalry between the islands, united since 1882, reflected in the divergent policies of their parallel administrations with a unique constitutional arrangement of Nevis being part of the Federal Parliament whilst also having a separate parliament and its own Nevis Island Administration headed by a Premier.

Since 1983 the Federal Government has made strident efforts to promote both St. Kitts and Nevis as a regional and international financial services centre by encouraging

financial services activities and continually striving to enhance their attractiveness to overseas investors. With financial operations in particular viewed as a principal economic sector, the government is constantly reviewing new ideas and improving its financial legislation.

Today, Nevis the smaller and more glamorous sibling in the Federation is now home to more international financial companies than human beings and promotes themselves as the "gateway to peak returns" with strategic market access, and as the Caribbean island of investment opportunities.

With over 31 years as an international financial centre, they have a strong claim to this. Nevis specifically is now recognised worldwide for its professionalism, efficiency, commitment to meeting international regulatory standards, and prolific wealth management and asset protection tools.

The sector now boasting an impressive collection of over 50 qualified trust and asset

management companies and registered agents with ability in law, accounting, banking, taxation and finance. The Nevis international financial services sector has thus developed into a viable and highly regarded

Sector offering an array of business attractions that has seen its financial sector flourish

Anchored on the islands' stability, financial integrity, well-planned modern and protective legislation, serviced by more than 20 corporate providers. Nevis has become renowned for its efficient incorporations of IBCs, Trusts, LLCs, foundations and captives.

Offering a Citizenship by Investment program, the jurisdiction is fast becoming the island of choice for high net worth individuals from around the world seeking to expand their investment portfolio.

Nevis, a circular island dominated by a verdant, mist-shrouded volcano, the almost 1000 metre high Nevis Peak the island has a rich cultural history stemming from their success as the most profitable sugar producer in the 18th and 19th centuries, because of the its fertile volcanic soil. Today the popularity of Nevis is rooted in its low-key, unspoilt charm, so different from socialite Barbados, or glitzy St Barts 40 miles away. The island, encircled as it is by miles of breath-taking, pristine beaches and dotted with ruins of the sugar plantation era is graced with a lush tropical rainforest that only complements the natural splendour of the coastline.

Investors were principally from the UK, North America and Canada, with a sprinkling of Europeans, but they are now seeing enhanced interest from Russia, China and the

Middle East. Which can be mostly attributed to the country's Citizenship by Investment Programme, whereby those investing \$400,000-plus in a qualifying development, may simultaneously apply for citizenship. The accompanying passport also grants visafree travel to 127 countries, including all EU members. Introduced in 1984, the scheme has been more aggressively promoted in recent years, giving rise to a series of luxury fractional ownership developments on the island.

Nevis is also fast becoming a magnet for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in key sectors such as tourism-related real estate, financial services and international education.

Nevis is host to a highly successful, fully accredited offshore medical

university. Nevis has opened its doors to sound business prospects in the areas of International Financial Services, Tourism, Sports Tourism, Geothermal and Renewable Energy Sources, Agriculture and Agro-processing, Light Manufacturing, and Information Technology.

Revenues from the Citizenship by Investment Program, construction, manufacturing and tourism sectors have helped the economy to reduce its indebtedness and recover after several years of stagnant economic growth. St. Kitts and Nevis have been the leading exporters of manufactured goods to the United States in the Eastern Caribbean for the past several years. Nevis also enjoys the many benefits of the U.S. Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), which grants duty-free entry into the United States for many goods.

With incentives that can be in the form of exemption from import duty on materials for approved projects, tax holidays of up to 15 years

and export incentives, companies registered in St. Kitts and Nevis may also repatriate all capital, royalties, dividends and profits free of charges on foreign exchange transactions. Besides which there are no exchange controls in St. Kitts and Nevis and the invoicing of foreign trade transactions may be made in any curren

Prestigiously Nevis was awarded the best International Financial Centre Caribbean destination by Global Banking and Finance Magazine in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Nevis also has a favourable time zone with the U.S. and is easy to access from North America. Several major commercial airlines fly directly to St Kitts from London, New York, Miami and Toronto and several charter airlines operate connections throughout the Caribbean. Connections to Nevis by ferry or water taxis offer a short scenic journey that makes the transfer an enjoyable experience.

With an economic outlook that is bright, coming out of the global recession creditably, with growth expected to continue into the medium term, Nevis therefore offers more than just a paradisiacal tropical isle but has become an investor-friendly jurisdiction, ripe for investment and eager for additional growth  $\bullet$ 

Nevis Investment Promotion Agency

P.O. Box 1063 | Suite 1 Horsfords Business Complex 2nd Floor | Farms Estate | Nevis, W.I. T. (869) 469-0038 | (869) 469-5521 ext. 2172 | F. (869) 469-0039 | E:kmoving@nevisipa.org

NIPA Social Media Feeds:

https://www.facebook.com/InvestNevis/ https://twitter.com/investnevis

https://www.linkedin.com/in/nevis-investment-promotion-agency-0a595586



Rajan Nazran
Director and Editor,
48 countries,
bewildering karaok,
skills, amateur
chef and free-diver.
Follow the journey!



Selene Miramontes
Country Director. A proud
Mexican, whose singing
can ring church bells.
A lover of fine food and
Salsa dancing with a
highly infectious laugh.



Alena Hakansson Country Director and Editor. Music-aholic, Modern-gypsy on a world tour, after will try anything once.

Instagram: alenahakansson



Pablo Martinez Matosas CEO. Ask him about his beat boxing skills, Spanish captain, wine



Divya Nazran International Strategy Director-Voice of an angel and reason - Will win in a staring contest and amateur dramatics!

pmm@oneworldmediacorp.com

d.nazran@internationalmediajobs.com

Instagram: @Selmiramont