



## **TYRELL BAY MARINA READY TO SAIL**

**ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA, JUNE 24, 2014 - GIS:** The much anticipated Multi-million dollar Tyrell Bay Marina Project in the sister isle of Carriacou, is about to take off, after more than a decade in the making.

A re-designed and impressive looking project was presented to the public last week Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>, at its location in Harvey Vale Carriacou.

If all goes to plan, the project costing in excess of US\$ 20 million will be completed in 18 months. Hundreds were on site for the project, which will be a shot in the arm for Yachting in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

The venture, which was approved in 2001, is now ready for takeoff following major challenges including hurricanes Ivan and Emily in 2004 some 10 months apart and strong objection by the National Democratic Government (NDC) government, which halted the project after taking office in 2008.

However with the firm support of the Keith Mitchell led New National Party (NNP) Government, the project in excess of EC\$ 50 million dollars is ready to sail.

Project Developer Grenadian Jerome Mc Quilkin says that the core of the development will happen up to the north. "We will have a jetty going out to the west with fingers coming off of it; the travel lift will be relocated to the northern side.

We will have shops, workshops, all the supply industries, support industries, chandlery, electrical shops, carpenters shops- all the range of activities that you need to support a marina of this size."

The project aims to develop a world class full service marina resort, establish a year-round alternative destination, attract charter companies, create local investment in charter business and maintain commercial vessels.

Mc Quilkin assures the nation that they are working to deliver a top class facility. "It will be a year round facility, year round destination; you will be able to store your boats here during the hurricane season. Our design will make it far less weather sensitive than other marinas."

Mc Quilkin says that they are hoping to attract charter companies, create a good environment for investment and maintain more local vessels.

He indicates that the Marina will be able to accommodate more than 400 boats and will be equipped to ensure that the country gets a bigger piece of the lucrative Yachting Industry, noting that the statistics for Grenada are startling when compared to other regional countries.

According to the latest statistics between 5,000 and 10, 000 visitors using yachts passed through Grenada between 2009 and 2012, as against between 5,000 and 40,000 who visited St Vincent and the Grenadines.

There is also big difference of visitors going to Bequia than Grenada during the period. The Tyrell Bay Marina Project when completed will provide 125 direct jobs and 300 additional jobs. It is expected to be completed early in 2016.

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