PROGRESS REPORT: POINT BLANCHE PRISON

Representatives of the Dutch Ministry of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK), Robert - Jan de Wilde and Mijke Goozen (pictured below) were accompanied by members of the Ministry of Justice to the prison in Point Blanche during the second week of March. The purpose of the visit was to have a first hand look at the ongoing progress of repairs.

While at the prison, the group was able to take a look at the areas that have been completed as well as those actively being worked on such as the construction of the outer walls, the state of some prison cells, the installation of the kitchen vents along with a brief discussion concerning the capacity of facility.

The current state of affairs as presented in Parliament on March 6, is as follows:

- Lights in border areas have been repaired
- Exterior and partition walls have been rebuilt
- Roof lights have been reinstalled
- Main roof has been repaired stopping all leakages
- All debris have been removed from the corridors
- Kitchen received new stoves and ventilation system
- English and GED classes have commenced with 10 PC's delivered to support the program
- Recruitment of 10 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) has started
- Draft function book to be submitted to GOA and COM for approval
- Introduction and training of electronic monitoring system
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

MS. EUNELDA CAIRO

Q. What is your function?
A. I'm the legal advisor at the immigration department.

Q. How long have you been working with the Ministry of Justice?
A. Not that long, four months to be precise.

Q. Who inspires you?
A. Several persons, but I'm mostly inspired by black women and of course my mom. She relocated at a young age, while simultaneously studying, working and later raising three successful young ladies with my father.

Q. What are you passionate about?
A. The fight against racism, particularly the history behind the fight for (more) equality between black and white.

Q. Who would you like to swap places with for just one day?
A. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a Nigerian novelist. I like her perspective on the world and how she explains it.

Q. If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would you go?
A. I have many places on my list, but my first choice is Cuba. I'd also like to see the northern lights in Iceland and visit Ghana.

Q. What's your secret talent that no one knows about?
A. It isn't really a talent, but I love to take naps.

Q. What do you do in your free time?
A. Sunday is my beach day, a mini break within a busy work week. I also hang out with friends and family, read and plan upcoming trips.

Q. Tell us one thing about yourself that you would love to share with your colleagues.
A. I have a lot of nicknames (Nelletje, Nelnna, Nellebel) and I like to give others nicknames. For me it is a way to let that person know I care about them.

Q. Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
A. Six months ago, I would have said working abroad in the field of human rights law and making a difference. Today I'm in Sint Maarten helping Sint Maarten reconstruct after Irma. In 5 years I hope to still be doing so in the field of human rights law, but perhaps start to set new goals and dreams.

A MOMENT IN HISTORY

Unusual Transactions Reporting Department MOT St. Maarten officially opened for business on March 4, 2010. The National Ordinance Reporting of Unusual Transactions was amended the previous year, making it mandatory for any unusual transactions to be reported for analysis by MOT. St. Maarten had never had a reporting office. A branch of the Netherlands Antilles MOT was established, to be turned over to the St. Maarten Government once country status was achieved. Responsibility at that time fell within the portfolio of the Minister of Finance.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE LAUNCHES LINKEDIN PAGE

The Ministry of Justice is pleased to announce that we have also launched a LinkedIn page. Much like the Facebook page, we will feature important news and information and pertinent updates within the Ministry. To view the LinkedIn page, visit the link listed below:

www.linkedin.com/company/ministryofjusticesxm

REPAIRS AT POLICE STATION & MISS LALIE CENTER ONGOING

The scheduled repairs at the Police Station in Philipsburg as well as Miss Lalie Center are underway. The Minister was able to inspect the progress of these repairs during a visit in late February and is pleased with the work being done.
BOOTS DONATED TO JUSTICE MINISTRY

"In the face of one of the worst disasters in the history of the island, the police force, fire department and first responders of Sint Maarten all went above and beyond the call of duty to help us through the effects of Hurricane Irma. As a visitor and friend of Sint Maarten for over twenty years, Mr. Jonathan Bobbett is happy to donate these boots to the Ministry of Justice as a sign of respect and gratitude for all their efforts."

GIVING BACK WITH SXM DOET

The Minister of Justice recently encouraged the public of St. Maarten to get involved and give back by volunteering with SXM Doet. With that encouragement, various groups of employees representing the Ministry of Justice signed up with hopes of making a difference by helping out. Pictured here are some of the volunteers that lent a hand to this great initiative.

MINISTRY CELEBRATES WOMEN’S DAY

The Ministry of Justice acknowledged and celebrated International Women’s Day on March 8th, 2019. The Council of Ministers recognizes the importance of the invaluable contribution female Civil Servants continue to offer to the Government and people of Sint Maarten. While all female Civil Servants were granted a half day in celebration, certain departments within the ministry made arrangements to celebrate the day further amongst themselves.

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