



## **SCOTIABANK (BARBADOS) LIMITED**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**February 2, 2026**

### **Scotiabank and SickKids deepen regional collaboration to improve Paediatric Cancer Care.**

Scotiabank has reinforced its commitment to advancing paediatric health care across the Caribbean with a recent further CAD\$200,000 donation to the SickKids-Caribbean Initiative (SCI). This vital contribution will help sustain the programme's life-saving efforts, ensuring continued access to specialized care for children with cancer and blood disorders.

SCI was established to address the critical gaps in care for children with cancer and blood disorders across six countries in the Caribbean, including The Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. In partnership with the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health, the University of the West Indies (UWI), regional Ministries of Health, and key hospitals and institutions from the six participating Caribbean countries, SCI is transforming paediatric care through training, education, technology, and collaboration.

Between 2020 and 2022, Scotiabank contributed CAD\$2 million to SCI, enabling the creation of seven telemedicine facilities across the region. These facilities became vital hubs for connecting Caribbean health professionals with global expertise, improving diagnosis and treatment outcomes for young patients.

#### Impact Highlights:

- 41 nurses trained in paediatric haematology/oncology at UWI, Trinidad and Tobago
- 6 Caribbean fellows trained at SickKids in Toronto
- 7 local databases established to track childhood cancer incidence and outcomes
- 902 case consultations conducted via telemedicine (as of October 7, 2025)
- 835 specialist diagnostic tests completed for children diagnosed with leukemia (as of October 7, 2025)

Dr. Chantelle Browne-Farmer, Barbados Site Lead, SickKids-Caribbean Initiative (SCI) shared “The network we have developed across the region and with the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health has proven to be invaluable for me when treating children with cancer and blood disorders in my country. I am able to reach out for advice on the management of more difficult cases with experienced physicians both in Canada and in the Caribbean, source medications from my island neighbours which may be in short supply and even in some more rare instances, refer for treatments in other islands, which may be temporarily unavailable in my home country. SCI helps to make sure that even though I may be presently the only physician treating these children on my island, I am not truly alone in compiling a plan of care for these children and so many have benefited from this ongoing initiative.”

Suzette Armoogam-Shah, Country Head, Scotiabank (Barbados) Limited commented, “Our continued partnership with the SickKids-Caribbean Initiative reflects Scotiabank’s dedication to improving the health and well-being of children throughout the Caribbean. This initiative has played a transformative role in supporting earlier diagnoses, fostering collaboration among medical teams, and ensuring that families have access to the care they need close to home. We are honoured to stand alongside the professionals who drive this work forward and to contribute to a stronger, more inclusive healthcare network for generations to come.”

SCI continues to work with its Caribbean partners to elevate the diagnosis and care of children with cancer and blood disorders. Together we are working to ensure that children across the Caribbean receive timely, accurate diagnoses and compassionate care.



*A local nurse provides care to a young patient, reflecting SCI's ongoing work to strengthen the diagnosis, treatment and management of paediatric cancers and blood disorders across the Caribbean.*

### **About Scotiabank**

Scotiabank's vision is to be our clients' most trusted financial partner and deliver sustainable, profitable growth. Guided by our purpose: "for every future," we help our clients, their families and their communities achieve success through a broad range of advice, products and services, including personal and commercial banking, wealth management and private banking, corporate and investment banking, and capital markets. With assets of approximately \$1.4 trillion (as at April 30, 2025), Scotiabank is one of the largest banks in North America by assets, and trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: BNS) and New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: BNS). For more information, please visit [www.scotiabank.com](http://www.scotiabank.com) and follow us on X @Scotiabank.

**About the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health** The Centre for Global Child Health is the dedicated hub for global child health-focused activities at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids). With a rich history of innovation in global paediatric health and a reputable network of global partners, the Centre for Global Child Health is well poised to effectively address global child health issues. The Centre supports the global health agenda through collaborative research grounded in scholarship, sustainable capacity building through education, advocacy for improved maternal and child health and the active communication of results to local, national and international stakeholders. For more information, please visit the [Centre for Global Child Health's website](#) and follow us on [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#).