

News Release:

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INTEGRITY COMMISSION PROVIDES CONSULTATIVE SEMINARS FOR DECLARANTS

Senior members of the Integrity Commission's Compliance team met with new board members of the Government Human Resource Services Company Limited (GHR) and the National Library Information System Authority (NALIS) over the last 10 days to provide guidance and information with respect to the filing of mandatory declarations of income, assets and liabilities and statements of registrable interests under the Integrity in Public Life Act.

Within the first three months of becoming a Person in Public Life one is required to file declarations for oneself, spouse and dependent children in respect of the previous year. Thereafter and in each succeeding year the Person in Public Life must file further declarations of Income, Assets and Liabilities by May 31.

On February 28, the Commission's team met with the 13 members of the GHR board at their Saddle Road, Maraval offices. Another session was held for nine members of the NALIS Board on March 6. The sessions received positive reviews from all participants.

The seminars were interactive and presenters gave an in-depth overview of the requirements of the Integrity In Public Life Act. Prior to the meetings some declarants reported difficulties completing the statutory forms. The Commission, in recognition of this, has initiated a series of seminars.

A Person in Public Life who fails to submit a completed declaration form and a Statement of Registrable Interest within the prescribed period will have his/her name published in the Gazette and in at least one daily newspaper. The Commission may make an ex-parte application to the High Court to secure compliance. Failure to comply with the directive of Court is an offence and a Person in Public Life is liable on conviction to a fine of \$150,000.

Public Education & Communications Department