

Celebrating



*years
of Excellence*

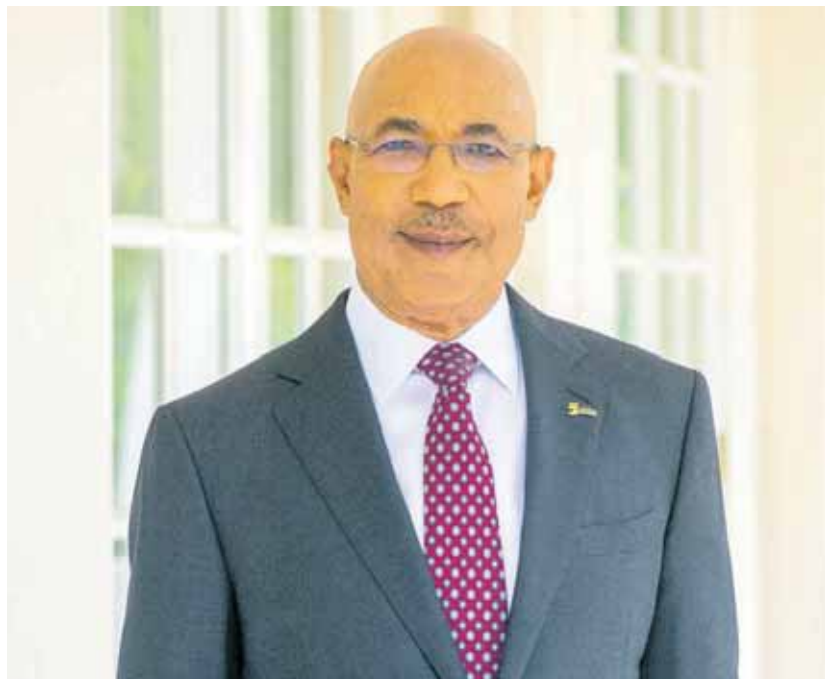


1974-2024
*The Golden
Anniversary Edition*

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A Special Advertising Supplement



Consistently excellent and innovative

AS WE celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ), it is with great pride and admiration that I reflect on the significant strides this esteemed organisation has made since its inception in 1974. The AAJ has not only been a cornerstone of Jamaica's aviation industry, but also a pivotal player in the development and modernisation of our nation's airports, contributing immensely to our tourism and economic growth.

The establishment of the AAJ marked a transformative period in Jamaica's history, introducing a dedicated body responsible for the ownership, management, and control of our international airports. From the initial management of Norman Manley International Airport and Sangster International Airport to the expansion of its portfolio to include our domestic aerodromes, the AAJ has consistently demonstrated excellence and innovation.

The journey of the AAJ is one of

vision and resilience, embracing modernisation through public-private partnerships and ensuring our airports meet global standards. The privatisation efforts in the late 1990s and subsequent upgrades have positioned Jamaica as a key aviation hub in the Caribbean and the Americas.

As we commemorate this golden milestone, we honour the dedicated employees and partners whose unwavering commitment and hard work have been instrumental in the AAJ's success. Their contributions have not only enhanced the travel experience but also fortified Jamaica's standing in the global aviation industry.

Congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica on this remarkable achievement. May the next 50 years be filled with continued growth, innovation, and success.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONOURABLE SIR PATRICK ALLEN, ON, GCMG, CD, KST, J Governor General

Continued excellence, innovation, and growth for the next 50 years and beyond

IAM pleased to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. For half a century, the AAJ has been steadfast in its mission, truly embodying the tagline, 'Modernizing and Growing Jamaica's Airports – Since 1974'.

From inception on July 26, 1974, the AAJ has grown from managing the Norman Manley International Airport and Sangster International Airport to overseeing a comprehensive airport transit system that includes domestic aerodromes

and the Ian Fleming International Airport. This remarkable and strategic journey of growth and modernisation displays a greater vision of building and sustaining a world-class air transport system that positions Jamaica as the gateway of the Caribbean and the Americas.

Indeed, I applaud the AAJ's successful plans for the privatisation of the facilities through public-private partnership (PPP) agreements, which have modernised and expanded our major international airports. The PPP has ensured our major airports meet the demands of increasing passenger traffic driven by the robust growth of our tourism sector with modern features such as duty-free shops and restaurants in the terminals. The operational transitions at Sangster International Airport and Norman Manley International Airport, under MBJ Airports Limited and PAC Kingston Airports Limited, respectively, have set exemplary standards in airport management and service delivery. The Government and air travelling public can expect more improvements and efficiencies as the port continues.

The AAJ's efforts in developing infrastructure, extending runways, and enhancing support services have facilitated tourism and the broader air transportation industry and its related sectors, providing a safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible airport systems.

As you celebrate this golden milestone, it is also a moment to acknowledge the visionary leadership and the collective efforts of all stakeholders, past and present, who have been partners on your remarkable journey. Your resilience and innovation in navigating challenges and seizing opportunities have been instrumental in positioning Jamaica's airports among the best in the region.

Looking ahead, I am confident that the AAJ will continue to spearhead initiatives that will further elevate the air transportation sector in Jamaica, fostering private investment, and partnerships that will drive sustainable growth.

Once again, congratulations to the AAJ and its partners and stakeholders, and I wish for you on this golden jubilee continued excellence, innovation, and growth for the next 50 years and beyond.

THE MOST HON ANDREW HOLNESS, ON, PC, MP Prime Minister



May the AAJ continue to soar to greater heights

IT IS with great pleasure that I join the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) in celebrating its 50th anniversary under the theme, 'Modernizing and Growing Jamaica's Airports – Since 1974!'. The AAJ has been at the forefront of Jamaica's aviation industry, playing a pivotal role in the modernisation and expansion of our airports, and contributing significantly to the growth of the nation's travel and tourism sectors for five decades.

The journey of the AAJ has been one of vision and dedication. From its establishment as a self-financed statutory body, overseeing the operations of the Norman Manley International Airport and Sangster International Airport, to its current structure which includes both international and domestic airports, the AAJ has exemplified resilience and forward thinking.

Its commitment to world-class service, environmental responsibility, and public-private partnerships has allowed Jamaica's airports to evolve into vital

gateways to the Caribbean and the Americas. Its strategic modernisation and expansion efforts have kept pace with the demands of a growing global industry. By advancing infrastructure and improving service standards, the AAJ has significantly contributed to positioning Jamaica as a premier destination for travellers.

The Airports Authority of Jamaica's impact on our economy, tourism, and infrastructure is undeniable. As Jamaica continues to position itself as a leader in the region, the role of the AAJ remains critical to our progress. I commend the leadership and staff for their continued dedication and contribution to our nation's development.

Congratulations once again on this milestone. May the AAJ continue to soar to greater heights in the years to come.

MARK J. GOLDING, MP
Leader of the Opposition

We look forward to more years of excellent service

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS to the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on the celebration of their 50th anniversary. This half a century represents a remarkable journey and a significant milestone in the history of Jamaica's aviation sector. Over the past five decades, the AAJ has been instrumental in the development and modernisation of our nation's airports, playing a crucial role in connecting Jamaica to the world. The AAJ's commitment to excellence has transformed our nation's airports into world-class facilities, fostering tourism, trade, and economic growth.

When the Airports Authority of Jamaica was established in 1974, under the Airports Authority Act, it was to manage and control Jamaica's two main international airports – Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) and Sangster International Airport (SIA). Today, that portfolio has expanded to include the domestic aerodromes in the country.

The establishment of the AAJ marked a pivotal shift separating airport management and commercial aspects from regulatory functions in enhancing airport infrastructure, improving passenger experiences and ensuring the highest standards of safety and security. The strategic initiatives that have been undertaken have not only elevated the status of our airports and aerodromes but have also contributed to the overall development and prosperity of Jamaica. As we reflect on the journey of the AAJ's 50 years, Jamaica can proudly say that the AAJ's vision has been realised, thanks to the unwavering commitment and hard work of the staff and stakeholders. We have more to look forward to as the future of aviation unfolds.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, it is important to reflect on the tremendous progress made and recognise the hard work and dedication of all those who have been part of this truly remarkable journey. Aviation is a critical sector for any modern economy and the AAJ has been at the forefront and conduit of this industry in Jamaica.

Our airports, from Norman Manley International in Kingston to Sangster International in Montego Bay, have been transformed into modern, efficient aviation hubs. These facilities have been upgraded and continue to be upgraded with state-of-the-art infrastructure, ensuring that they meet international standards and provide a seamless experience for passengers. The ongoing expansion projects and infrastructure upgrades, such as runway extensions at the NMIA, SIA and Ian Fleming International Airport, will enhance capacity and efficiency, ensuring that Jamaica can meet the growing demands of global air travel and Jamaica's

PLEASE SEE **SERVICE**, 5



Thanks for joining us on this journey from past to future

IT IS with the utmost pleasure and privilege that I chair the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) as we celebrate the agency's 50th anniversary. The achievements of this organisation in a relatively short period of time is nothing short of incredible. The AAJ's impact on nation-building affects all Jamaicans. We are an island nation that greatly relies on air travel to participate in the

global economy. Almost every Jamaican citizen, even those who have never travelled abroad, has visited our airports to meet or send off loved ones. There are millions of Jamaicans in our diaspora that dearly hold on to their beloved Jamaica and connect with their families by regularly travelling through our airports.

The business that AAJ has helped develop is the necessary infrastructure for our tourism economy, and in our 50th year, we are seeing record levels of visitor arrivals with projections for continued growth in the decades ahead. At the AAJ, we must be thinking long term. What will be the needs of our travellers in 10 or even 30 years from now?

How will travel trends, technologies and expectations be planned into our infrastructure which are essential to satisfy the carrying capacity of our airports in the future? We already know that we will continue to expand our two main existing airports at NMIA in Kingston and SIA in Montego Bay, but will the AAJ build additional airports needed to develop new destinations and provide greater access and convenience for our citizens and visitors?

These questions we find exciting, and at the AAJ, we are determined to make the best decisions for our future. I am truly honoured to be the chairman of our dedicated board of directors as we help to guide the extremely competent and motivated team of professionals who work at the AAJ. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our supportive portfolio Transport Ministry (MSETT) under whose governance we work to fulfil its policies and mandate for the people of Jamaica. Also, I would like to thank our several stakeholder partners, starting with GAP, the operating concessionaires, and the JCAA, our industries regulators, as well as the countless entities and people that make up the larger airport economy.

As we mark this 50th anniversary milestone, I would also like to recognise the passionate aviators who have contributed to our success over these years. This is an industry of romance and passion. Flying is undoubtedly one of the greatest marvels of human achievement. Air travel is the ultimate facilitator of human connection and advancement. As we celebrate, we look to the future with all of this in mind. Thank you again to all of you who have been on this journey with us at the AAJ, as we celebrate the past and welcome the future.

MARK HART
Chairman
Airports Authority of Jamaica



Together, we will build on this remarkable legacy

AS WE commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ), with the tagline, 'Modernizing and Growing Jamaica's Airports – Since 1974', I stand with immense pride and gratitude for the journey that has brought us to this historic milestone. Fifty years of vision, commitment, and progress have shaped AAJ into the world-class organisation it is today, and none of this would have been possible without the tireless dedication of our team (past and present), our greatest asset.

Beyond the visible successes of our operations, from the modernisation of our two major international airports – Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) and Sangster International Airport (SIA) – to the upgrading of Ian Fleming International Airport as our third international gateway, at the heart of our organisation is our people, who have been the driving force behind every achievement. We have cultivated

PLEASE SEE **LEGACY**, 6

MESSAGES

SERVICE

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travel and tourism needs. These developments not only benefit passengers but also create new economic opportunities for our region.

In facts and figures, Jamaica's airports have welcomed millions of passengers to our shores whether for leisure or work. The development of our domestic aerodromes – Tinson Pen, Ken Jones and Negril – has also played a vital role in connecting our communities with the world. These aerodromes have enabled easier access to remote regions, supporting local businesses and providing residents with greater mobility.

Facilities such as the Ian Fleming International Airport, which was once an aerodrome, have undergone significant improvements, facilitated regional and international travel which contributed to the socioeconomic development of rural parishes – St Ann, St Mary and Portland. The Government of Jamaica is assured that the AAJ will continue to oversee the long-term planning and development efforts across all airport assets to meet the national and international projected demands.

As we begin a new chapter of expansion and development at the airports and ongoing capital improvement projects, as minister with responsibility for transport, I am confident that the AAJ will continue to serve and lead the

way in embracing innovation and maintaining commitment to service excellence. The Authority is equipped to manage the operations of the airports as gateways to the world, enhancing the passenger travel experience for generations of travellers to come.

Looking ahead, the challenges and opportunities in the aviation sector are ever evolving. The advent of new technologies, artificial intelligence, the growing importance of sustainability and the increasing demand for connectivity will shape the future of our airports.

The Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport remains steadfast in its support of the AAJ and is firmly focused on the future. Together, we will continue to work towards enhancing the capacity and capability of our airports, ensuring that they remain competitive and continue to serve as gateways to growth and development.

Congratulations again to the Airports Authority of Jamaica on this significant milestone. We look forward to more years of providing excellent service that keeps people connected, and supporting the economy between our airports and the world.

DARYL VAZ MP
Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport

The Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport remains steadfast in its support of the AAJ and is firmly focused on the future.



**AIRPORTS AUTHORITY
OF JAMAICA**

CHEERS TO
50 years of
Excellence

The Urban Development Corporation (UDC) extends our heartfelt congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) as you celebrate your Golden Anniversary.

Our longstanding partnership on national initiatives including the UDC Fireworks Festival, has played a crucial role in the development of our nation.

Here's to your remarkable achievements, and to many more years of unwavering commitment and vision!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 31, 2024, and celebrate with us at the UDC Fireworks Festival.

**Urban
Development
Corporation**

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Congratulations



AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
on your

50th Anniversary

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MESSAGES

LEGACY

CONTINUED FROM 4

a culture that values inclusivity, teamwork, and continuous growth, and our investment in the development of our employees speaks to our unwavering commitment to their success. We also recognise and salute all our airport stakeholders who collectively represent our airports ecosystem, and whose functions collaboratively provide the safe, secure and seamless service which our travellers and the public at large deserve. Recognition also goes out to the operators of SIA and NMIA, under concession agreements with the AAJ, for the sterling role that they play in the ongoing development, expansion and modernisation of these major airports, resulting in them achieving various awards.

Driven by our corporate social responsibility mandate, we are deeply rooted in the community and are committed to making a positive impact across Jamaica. Whether it's through our community initiatives or our support for young Jamaican scholars in aviation, we believe in fostering growth, not only within our industry, but within the wider society as well.

Looking to the future, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence and innovation. As the aviation industry continues to evolve at a rapid pace, we are well-positioned to adapt and thrive. We have laid the groundwork for the next era of growth, with bold plans for expansion, new technologies, and enhanced services that will sustain our success for the next 50 years and beyond. Our vision is clear: to remain a leader in regional aviation, not just by Caribbean standards, but by global benchmarks, and to continuously push the boundaries of what is possible in airport management and service delivery.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the entire AAJ family – past and present. It is your hard work, passion, and unwavering commitment that have brought us this far, and it is you who will continue to propel us into a future filled with even greater achievements. Recognition also goes out to the leaders at both Government and corporate levels that have directed and guided the Authority's mission over its 50 years of operation.

Together, we will build on this remarkable legacy, ensuring that the Airports Authority of Jamaica soars to even greater heights in the decades to come.

Here's to the next 50 years of progress, innovation, and excellence!

With gratitude,

AUDLEY DEIDRICK
President
Airports Authority of Jamaica

**Looking to the future, we
remain steadfast in our pursuit of
excellence and innovation.**

Congratulations TO THE AAJ!

PAC Kingston Airport Limited (PACKAL), the operator of the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston, Jamaica, congratulates the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on the attainment of its 50th anniversary.



PAC Kingston Airport Limited (PACKAL), operator of Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA), warmly congratulates the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on its golden anniversary.

Since 1974, the aviation landscape has transformed dramatically. From the early days of computerized check-ins to today's cutting-edge

technologies, the AAJ has skillfully navigated Jamaica's airports through five decades of innovation and has been working to develop Jamaica's aviation infrastructure while building the professional talent of Jamaicans in the field. As a regional leader in airport privatization, the AAJ has also embraced the Public-Private Partnership model, ensuring the continued development of Jamaica's airports.

PACKAL is proud of our relationship and strong partnership with the AAJ as we work together to transform the Kingston Airport into a world-class facility. Your commitment to excellence has been instrumental in elevating Jamaica's aviation sector to new heights.

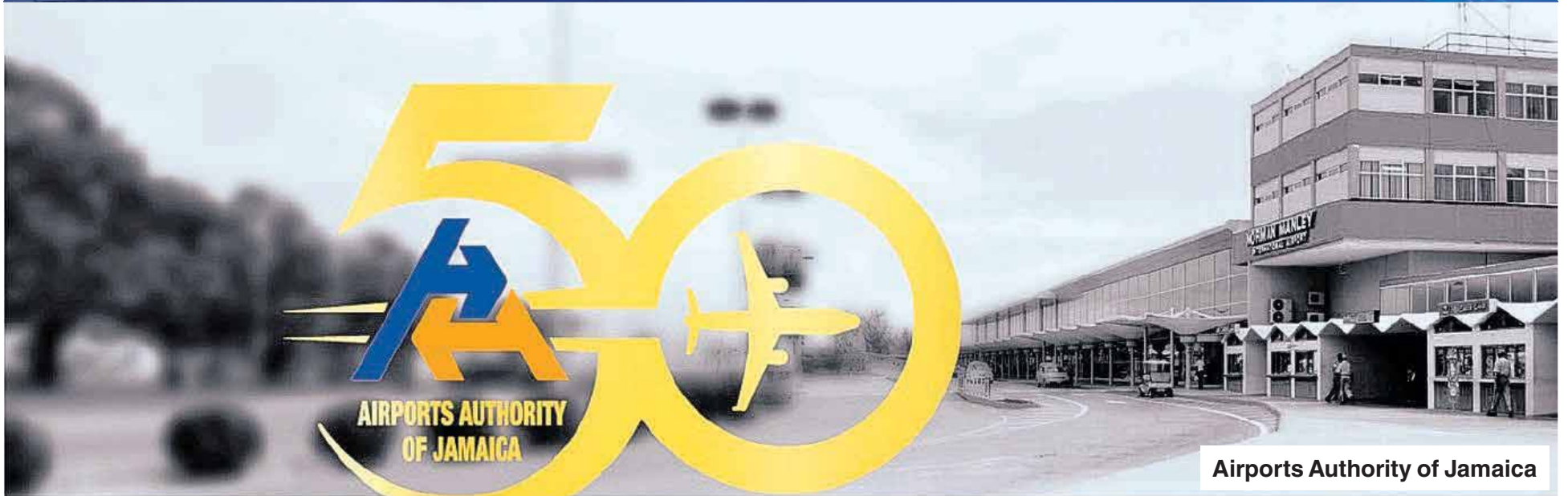
Here's to 50 years of visionary leadership and to a future of continued collaboration and success.

Congratulations, AAJ, on this remarkable milestone!

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



Celebrating **50** *years* *of Excellence*



Airports Authority of Jamaica



The formative years of Jamaica's international airports

IN THE early stages of Jamaica's development, its international airports became pivotal in establishing the island's global presence and enhancing its reputation for exceptional hospitality. The two primary gateways that shaped this legacy were Norman Manley International Airport and Sangster International Airport, each serving a unique role in the nation's aviation landscape.

NORMAN MANLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Named in honour of the Rt Hon Norman Manley, a prominent Jamaican political leader and advocate for the island's development, this airport has been a cornerstone of Jamaica's connectivity with the world. Situated in Kingston, the capital city, Norman Manley International Airport was designed to handle a growing number of international flights, facilitating Jamaica's integration into the global economy and fostering business and cultural exchanges. The airport's strategic location and its role in supporting Kingston's status as a cultural and economic hub were critical during Jamaica's formative years in international aviation.

SANGSTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Located in Montego Bay, Sangster International Airport, named after Sir Donald Sangster, has become synonymous with Jamaica's tourism industry. Serving as a major gateway for visitors arriving to experience the island's renowned resorts and natural beauty, the airport reflects Jamaica's vibrant hospitality and allure. Its expansion and development over the years have been closely tied to the growth of the tourism sector, making it a vital component of the island's economic infrastructure.

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.



Together, Norman Manley International Airport and Sangster International Airport not only highlight Jamaica's commitment to maintaining high standards of international excellence but also underscore the island's strategic importance in global travel and commerce. Their histories are a testament to Jamaica's enduring role as a vibrant, welcoming gateway to the world.

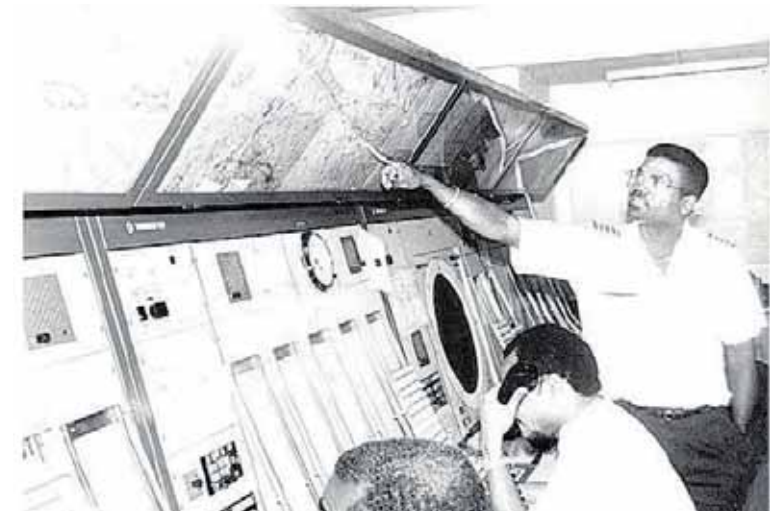
In 1974, Jamaica embarked on a visionary journey to transform its air transportation infrastructure, setting the stage for the growth and modernisation of its airports. This bold move gave rise to the establishment of the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ), a self-financed statutory body that would shape the future of aviation in the country. Now, as the AAJ celebrates its 50th anniversary, it stands as a testament to resilience, innovation, and progress – having evolved from its humble beginnings into a cornerstone of Jamaica's thriving tourism industry.



TRAILBLAZERS: THE EARLY YEARS

The AAJ began operations on September 1, 1974, with the mandate to manage, own, and control Jamaica's two major international airports – Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) and Sangster International Airport (SIA).

As we celebrate five decades of excellence, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our trailblazers – ministers, presidents, and chairpersons – whose leadership and dedication have steered the AAJ to remarkable success. Your vision and commitment have been instrumental in our achievements. Thank you for your invaluable contributions.



A CULTURAL TOUCHSTONE

A notable feature of the formative years of these airports was the 'waving gallery', an area where departing and arriving passengers could be seen off or welcomed by their loved ones. This space was more than just a physical location; it was a cultural touchstone, embodying the warmth and personal connection that characterised Jamaican hospitality. For many, the waving gallery was a place of joyful reunions and heartfelt farewells, symbolising the emotional and personal significance of international travel.



50 YEARS OF TRAVEL SUSTAINABILITY



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.



FIFTY YEARS in business is no easy feat. So to be an integral part of the travel industry that keeps locals and visitors of this island alike secure, safe and satisfied is truly a testament to the commitment and creativity of the management and staff of the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ). The man at its helm for nearly a decade is Audley Deidrick who is no stranger to hard work and being in charge of multiple operations in the airports ecosystem which must be fused seamlessly to ensure that all the airports in Jamaica run smoothly. Mr Deidrick was gracious enough to answer a few questions about the AAJ's monumental 50th anniversary milestone and its journey towards the next 50 years.

The AAJ is celebrating its 50th anniversary. What are your thoughts on this significant milestone, and how does it feel to be part of this celebration?

I am extremely proud to be a part of this celebration at this time. I say it from time to time that developments across the globe seem to take place or be moving in geometrical proportion. They move more aggressively in a shorter period of time, and I'm convinced that the period when I joined the AAJ in 2005 and even more so when I became President in 2015 have seen geometrical growth and steps in the development of our facilities and the role that we play in Jamaica travel and tourism industry and Jamaica's economy. That in particular fills me with great pride and joy. Those before me played their part and executed their roles, including the Immediate President before me, Mr Earl Richards, who served for 18 years. They have all laid the foundation for what you see being manifested today.

What have been some of the major challenges and rewards during your tenure?

So, I came to the AAJ in January 2005. I like to tell people

that my employment began on New Year's Day but it's not quite so, it's just the effective date. It has been a very stimulating, rewarding and fulfilling journey. I started as the Vice-President of Finance. At this time, the AAJ had just completed the privatisation of the Sangster International Airport in 2003, and we were concentrating on merging the activities at NMIA, along with the Airports Authority's Head Office, so my job was to merge two finance departments into one and also begin spearheading plans for the upgrading of Norman Manley International Airport to take it into privatisation. So, that was one of my first major duties which I took with both hands. My first big job was to get the financing to do the upgrading and expansion of NMIA and at that time I told people the story that our bank account then at AAJ had the paltry sum of US\$5 million and the project was US\$60 million. Additionally, the airport needed to start the project in 2006 as Jamaica was busily preparing for World Cup Cricket 2007 right here in Jamaica. It was one of the biggest sporting events in the world and we needed to get this airport substantially upgraded and expanded to accommodate the traffic that would be flowing through here. And so, I applied what my colleagues refer to as 'financial engineering' to utilise a term sheet from a multilateral lending agency and went to financial institutions to secure the financing needed by way of bridging loans, without the use of government guarantees.

How do AAJ strategic plans align with our national development?

Our airports are powerful vehicles for national development. It accommodates not only Jamaican travellers but our tourism traffic, and tourism represents over 80% of our traffic. Tourism is one of the most powerful domestic products of our country. It sustains our economy, and our airports are one of our main facilitators of the growth that

has been taking place in tourism.

How does Jamaica's aviation industry align with Jamaica's Vision 2030?

This speaks to prosperity, economic growth through the expansion of domestic and international air transport infrastructure and services, hence the growth of aviation in its role to drive Vision 2030. That is my interpretation of the vision and that is what we are doing. Airports don't exist in isolation, and we see ours as a huge part of the tourism growth and ultimately the thrust of economic growth of this country.

Could you outline the current route development and expansion initiatives for the airports in Jamaica?

Our tourism has two components: stopover and cruise. Stopover is the larger of the two. Historically North America represents the bulk of our aviation traffic into Jamaica with roughly 70%. Canada represents another 15% and another 10% out of the UK. From time to time, you hear guarded language that while we appreciate the economic flow from the North, there is some concern about the major dependency on one or two source markets as it can be risky. And so, they would like to 'trend down' that large US percentage, and by trending down, they do not mean reducing the numbers from the US but rather to expand and diversify the traffic into other major destinations while retaining and growing the US market. This was the talk just before COVID-19. They would involve looking at markets in Asia, some from Africa and another portion from Latin America. If we can get that spread of tourism traffic, that would represent phenomenal growth in our travel and tourism numbers generally.

50 YEARS OF TRAVEL SUSTAINABILITY



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.

As President, how do you stay abreast of industry trends and developments to make well-informed decisions?

I don't want to overstate it by saying that it is pretty easy because you are operating in an environment that is globally coordinated and supported by several major worldwide organisations. You would be choosing to bury your head in the sand and not be in that loop of information and facilitation of these powerful organisations that run the powerful aviation industry across the globe.

Can you share a successful strategic initiative led by you and your team? What were the key factors contributing to its success?

As part of the whole move to privatising the airports there was a slate of regulatory and legal instruments created, under which the airports operated, and I would have been key in implementing and delivering these regulatory structures that further help to strengthen the

operations of the airports, both financially and otherwise. We have moved from just being barely self-financing to being transformed into serious economic contributors. We are proud to know that part of our work is giving back to the people and Government of Jamaica.

I led the privatisation of NMIA. To this day, the transaction for the privatisation of the NMIA is a world standard in terms of the level of returns that it provides to the Government of Jamaica for an airport of this size. It set a record.

Can you provide details on the number of flights and passengers handled daily and can you differentiate between tourist and diaspora travellers in your data?

Norman Manley has about 30 flights a day while Sangster is about 60 flights a day. NMIA processes about 5,000 passengers per day, while Sangster averages 15,000 passengers per day. Over 80% of our national aviation traffic is driven by tourism and the proportion of that is

significantly different between the two airports as well. Over 95% of Sangster's traffic is tourism driven, while Norman Manley sees about 40% tourism and 60% business and nationals, and diaspora traffic.

How do you build and maintain relationships with key partners, donors, and other external stakeholders?

It is sort of natural and automatic but should not be taken for granted. You have to know the drivers of the business of aviation: the airlines, the passengers, the concessionaires, the border control agencies, the government departments, plus the staff at the various bodies. Airports are probably one of the best examples of an ecosystem because it is a collection of individual moving parts and organisations all doing their individual functions, yet they have to work together cohesively to deliver a safe, secure and comfortable service in the aviation industry. So, when you take them all together, it is essential to coordinate all these stakeholders' relationships as a central part of our operation.

Congratulations

50
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
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Airports Authority Of Jamaica (AAJ)

On Your 50th Anniversary

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AIRPORT EXPANSION



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THE EXPANSION of Jamaica's international airport network with the upgrade of Boscobel Aerodrome to Ian Fleming International Airport (IFIA) is indeed a significant milestone. The successful landing of American Airlines' flight 4-007 at IFIA on February 24, 2024, marks a new era for the airport and the broader Jamaican aviation sector. This new service from Miami, operating twice a week, will undoubtedly enhance connectivity and



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Congratulates



Airports Authority of Jamaica

Together we continue to fly to "new horizons"



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Congratulations to



on achieving their remarkable milestone



AIRPORT EXPANSION



bolster tourism in Jamaica's northern region.

The choice of the Embraer 175 for this route, known for its efficiency and versatility, underscores the airport's readiness to handle international traffic while catering to both commercial and private aviation needs. The service's regularity – every Wednesday and Saturday – ensures consistent access for travellers and potential for increased tourism, which is crucial for the local economy.

The inauguration of this route during the Airports Authority of Jamaica's (AAJ) 50th anniversary year highlights the organisation's long-standing commitment to advancing Jamaica's aviation infrastructure. The presence of notable figures from American Airlines and prominent Jamaican leaders emphasises the collaborative spirit driving this development.

The new route's introduction promises to strengthen Jamaica's position as a premier Caribbean destination. By linking St Mary to Miami, a key travel hub, it facilitates



smoother travel for visitors and supports Jamaica's tourism industry. The anticipated increase in visitors will benefit not only the airport but also local businesses and tourism-related services, further stimulating economic growth.

Overall, the expanded capabilities of IFIA and the new American Airlines service reflect Jamaica's proactive approach to enhancing its global connectivity and appeal. This development is a testament to the island's vibrant tourism sector and its strategic importance in the Caribbean.

The inauguration of this route during the Airports Authority of Jamaica's 50th anniversary year highlights the organisation's long-standing commitment to advancing Jamaica's aviation infrastructure.



The Fair Trading Commission

Congratulates



the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on reaching the impressive milestone of 50 years of excellence! Your unwavering commitment and dedication to managing Jamaica's airport systems and enhancing Jamaica's aviation infrastructure is truly commendable.

The Fair Trading Commission (FTC), in promoting competitive markets and ensuring fair practices, is honoured to support your efforts in fostering transparent and efficient markets. The FTC wishes you continued success and growth in the years ahead!



50 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.

The call to 'fellowship with us'

ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2024, the management and staff of Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) ushered in the

mark of its golden 50th anniversary with a grand celebration at Webster Memorial United Church. The event, themed 'Modernizing

and Growing Jamaica's Airports – Since 1974', was a testament to the AAJ's five decades of dedicated service to Jamaica's travel

and tourism sector.

The call to 'Fellowship With Us' brought together a distinguished group of industry leaders, including Collin Turner, Chief Technical Director at the Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport; Audley Deidrick, president and CEO of AAJ, and his wife, Michelle Deidrick; Nari Williams-Singh, JP, Director



PLEASE SEE **CALL**, 16



Congratulations
to Airports Authority of
Jamaica on reaching this
incredible milestone!

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On this momentous occasion, Sangster International Airport extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on reaching the remarkable milestone of 50 years of service and excellence.

Over the past five decades, the AAJ has fulfilled its mission of building and sustaining a world-class airport system that not only enhances the travel experience but also connects Jamaica to the world. This commitment has fostered private investment, driven innovation, and strengthened partnerships, paving the way for economic growth and global connectivity.

Sangster International Airport takes great pride in being part of this journey. We have witnessed first hand the transformative impact of the AAJ's leadership and vision, which have enabled us to serve millions of travelers from around the world with efficiency, safety, and the warmth of Jamaican hospitality.

As we celebrate this golden anniversary, we look forward to continuing our collaboration with the AAJ in achieving new heights and ensuring that Jamaica remains a beacon of excellence in the aviation industry.

Congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica on 50 years of outstanding service. Here's to many more years of success and growth!



SANGSTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



50 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.

CALL

CONTINUED FROM 14

General of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority, accompanied

by his wife, Trisha Williams-Singh; Linton Johnson, Chairman of NMIAL Board of Directors; Donna-Marie Howe and Dawn Smith-Fagan, Airports Authority of Jamaica board members; Richard Gibbs, Senior Director

of Commercial Development and Planning/ICT, along with wife Sharon Gibbs; and Garth Williams, CEO of the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency. The event also saw the presence of their esteemed

families, and other special guests.

The celebration began with a vibrant communion service, led by the clergy and congregation of Webster Memorial United Church. This joyful service reflected on the AAJ's significant contributions

to Jamaica's aviation sector and was a celebration of faith and fellowship.

In his address, President Audley Deidrick took the opportunity to reflect on the organisation's journey over the past 50 years. "We



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Congratulations

TO

THE AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA

on their remarkable 50th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to their enduring commitment to the growth and development of Jamaica's aviation industry. We are proud to have worked alongside them and look forward to our continued collaboration as they soar to even greater heights in the years to come. Here's to 50 years of excellence and to many more successful years ahead!


50 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE



look forward to the future with great anticipation, continuing our commitment to serving Jamaica's travel and tourism industry with excellence," Deidrick stated. He highlighted the importance of ongoing growth and innovation to ensure the sustainability of the AAJ's mission, expressing pride in the achievements realised within Jamaica's rich aviation history.

Hon Daryl Vaz, MP, Minister of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport, sent a congratulatory message, expressing deep gratitude to the AAJ team – past and present. He noted that this milestone not only marks half a century of achievement and growth but also highlights the vision, commitment, and hard work that have solidified Jamaica's

airports as key pillars of the country's transportation infrastructure and economy. Vaz commended the AAJ for positioning Jamaica as a crucial gateway to the Caribbean and the Americas.

A heart-warming highlight of the celebration was the AAJ's demonstration of corporate social responsibility through a generous donation to Webster Memorial's Eden Garden outreach programme, which supports the homeless community. Rev Astor Carlyle expressed his gratitude, stating, "Thank you, not only for your contribution, but for choosing to worship with us today. May the presence and spirit of Christ continue to bless all your efforts. Congratulations on 50 years."



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CAKE CUTTING/BRUNCH



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.

FOLLOWING THE 50th anniversary service, the celebration continued with a lively brunch in the church hall. The highlight was the blessing and cutting of a beautifully decorated 50th anniversary cake, symbolising the unity and camaraderie among AAJ staff, clergy, and stakeholders. The gathering was filled with laughter, conversation, and a shared sense of achievement, marking a significant milestone in the AAJ's history while celebrating the people and partnerships that have driven its success.

The event underscored the AAJ's remarkable journey and its unwavering commitment to enhancing Jamaica's airports and travel industry, setting the stage for continued growth and excellence in the decades to come.



Myers, Fletcher & Gordon extends its sincerest congratulations to the Airports Authority of Jamaica on its 50th anniversary.

The AAJ's remarkable contribution to Jamaica's aviation industry over the past five decades is truly commendable. The entity has significantly advanced and transformed the sector. Here's to celebrating past successes, and to many more years of continued excellence.

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The journey of the anniversary cake

THE JOURNEY of the anniversary cake truly showcased the spirit of togetherness at AAJ headquarters. Starting at Norman Manley International Airport, the cake was carefully distributed to every desk, ensuring no one missed out on this special treat. The sweet delight brought smiles and a sense of camaraderie to the workplace.

From there, the cake continued its tour across the island, travelling from Tinson Pen Aerodrome to Ian Fleming International Airport, and on to Ken Jones and Negril Aerodromes. Every staff member, regardless of their location,

PLEASE SEE **JOURNEY**, 22



THE JAMAICA HOTEL & TOURIST ASSOCIATION PROUDLY CELEBRATES
THE AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA'S

50TH ANNIVERSARY

UNDER THE THEME

MODERNIZING AND GROWING JAMAICA'S AIRPORTS SINCE 1974.

For half a century, your vision and commitment to excellence have been the driving force behind the modernization of our airports. Your stewardship of airports and aerodromes across the island has bolstered Jamaica's tourism sector, welcoming millions of visitors to our shores.

This progress has elevated Jamaica as a key player in global tourism, impacting our economy and visitor experiences. Your contribution to Jamaica's growth and connectivity deserves the highest recognition. Congratulations on reaching this historic milestone!





SOARING TO SUCCESS

Over the past 50 years you have transformed Jamaica's airports and taken the experience of Jamaican travelers and visitors to a whole new level of comfort, convenience and efficiency.

We look forward to even more modernization and growth in the years to come.





50 YEARS STRONG POSITIONING FOR NEW HORIZONS BEYOND

The Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) salutes the Airports Authority of Jamaica's (AAJ's) **Golden Legacy**

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) congratulate the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on 50 years of sterling contributions to Jamaica's aviation industry.

We applaud you on your exemplary stewardship of Jamaica's airport system, which has aligned the industry to cohesively and consistently achieve recognised levels of safety, security and efficiency for the travelling public.

As you celebrate this Golden Jubilee, we are encouraged by your continued commitment to the growth and development of Jamaica's airport infrastructure and its invaluable contribution to our transport and tourism sectors.

The JCAA looks forward to continued collaboration, and to your organization's continued success, as a pillar of excellence supporting Jamaica's aviation future.



Committed to the safe and orderly development of civil aviation in Jamaica.
THE JCAA IS AN AGENCY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

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STAFF TREAT



JOURNEY

CONTINUED FROM 20

was included in the celebration. This thoughtful gesture not only highlighted the company's dedication to inclusivity but also

reinforced the sense of unity among the teams. The excitement and joy it brought to each office were clear indicators of the positive impact these small but meaningful acts can have on building lasting memories and fostering a strong, cohesive work environment.





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JA Customs Connect is available in both the **Google Play Store** and the **Apple App Store**

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A feature that allows users to estimate the amount payable when importing items into Jamaica.

Declaration Search

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Declaration Payment

A feature that enables the payment of duties and taxes owed on imported goods.

Track & Trace

A feature that facilitates the tracking of items within the Customs clearance process.

Tariff Search

A feature that allows users to determine the commodity code, duties and taxes, applicable to a specific item.

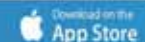
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TEAMS



From left: Roxan Reid, Lance McKenzie, Hyacinth Hutchinson, Chantelle Lindo, Nicole Burke, Lincoln McDonald, Maxine Brown, Patrick Clarke, Yashedae Lawrence, Yasheka Ellis, Kadeem Callender, Kayode Hamilton, Timoy Sterling.



From left: Giovanni Green, Carmelita Campbell, Odane Robinson, Ray DaCosta, Katreena Barker, Norman Welsh, Patrick Campbell, Perry Gilbert, Kamisha Heart.

WE CELEBRATE OUR STAFF

Our team is the heartbeat of our organisation. Without the dedication of our incredible members – past and present – we wouldn't be the esteemed organization that many aspire to join. We salute each of you for your hard work and commitment!



From left: Melanie Peddie, Astil Wilson, Romaine Williams, Orane Parkinson, Michael Manhertz, Jennifer Noble, Wesley Hanson, Adriel Harris, Mikayla Ricketts, Dwight Gaynor.



From left: Okeito Dunn, Denise Reid, Heyward Duckett, Henry Merchant.



Finance Team (from left): Shanna-Kay Esty, Natarah Lundy, Dervin Aiken, Britney Cleary, Kayon Clarke, Annalessia Nunes, and Maurice Burke.



Engineering Maintenance & Projects (EMP) Team (from left): Left to right: Wayne Mignott, Vernal Angus, Winsome Strachan, Horace Bryson, Sybil McFarlane, Kevin Gordon and David Rose.



President's Office & Legal Team (from left): Kerry Cannon, Julie Walters, Keith Byfield, Quincy Johnson, Nicola Davis, Toni-kaye Madura and Cheryl Blake.



HR Team (from left): Dorothy Peters-Sutherland, Kevin Thompson, Michelle Cadenhead, Vinette Levy, Victoria Stewart, Joan Calder and Natalya Hibbert.



Commercial and IT Team (from left): Left to right: Trudy Ann Campbell-Stewart, Marie Young, Micah-Lee Bell, Colin Williams, Neville Betty and Richard Gibbs.

AAJ PENSIONERS

Luncheon and Awards


WE HONORED our cherished pensioners with a heart-warming luncheon at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The day was filled with joy as we presented awards to our esteemed past presidents. Jennifer Lumely gave a moving speech which reflected on the profound impact the AAJ has had through scholarships, job training, and the lifelong friendships formed among colleagues. As we celebrate the AAJ's golden jubilee, we are grateful for the enduring connections and support within the AAJ family.



Pensioner Jennifer Lumely expressing thanks.



Past President, Howard Taylor and Immediate Past President Earl Richards receive their gift from Current President and CEO, Audley Deidrick.



Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence in Jamaica's Skies

The Jamaica Tourist Board congratulates the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) on its 50th anniversary!

The AAJ has been the cornerstone of Jamaica's air travel infrastructure for half a century, playing a crucial role in our tourism success. From managing international airports to overseeing gateway expansions, the AAJ's efforts have been instrumental in welcoming millions of visitors to our shores.

Over the years, the AAJ has achieved remarkable milestones that have transformed Jamaica's aviation landscape. They've pioneered innovative public-private partnerships, leading to the privatisation of both Sangster International Airport and Norman Manley International Airport. This forward-thinking approach has brought new efficiencies and improvements to our main gateways.

The AAJ didn't stop there. They saw potential in the charming Boscobel Aerodrome and transformed it into the Ian Fleming International Airport, opening up new possibilities for niche tourism. And true to their commitment to excellence, they've kept all our air entry points on the cutting edge through continuous modernisation efforts.

These achievements aren't just about infrastructure – they're about creating better experiences for every visitor who chooses Jamaica as their destination. The AAJ's dedication to expanding and enhancing our airports aligns perfectly with the JTB's mission to promote brand Jamaica. As we look to the future, we're excited to continue this partnership, ensuring Jamaica remains a premier tourist destination.

Here's to 50 more years of soaring to new heights together!

– Donovan White, Director of Tourism

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AAJ STAFF RUN FOR CHARITY



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.



MBJ/SIA Charity 5/10K Run/Walk



THE AIRPORTS Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) proudly served as the title sponsor of the MBJ Charity 5/10K Run/Walk held at Sangster International Airport (SIA) on September 8, 2024. This event was a significant highlight in AAJ's 50th anniversary celebrations and marked their fourth consecutive year as a sponsor.

President Audley Deidrick reaffirmed AAJ's commitment to the

PLEASE SEE **RUN/WALK**, 28



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Salutes

AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
on its Milestone Achievement of

50
Stella Years

The Port Authority of Jamaica [PAJ] congratulates Airports Authority of Jamaica [AAJ] on the milestone achievement of your 50th anniversary. The AAJ exemplified grit and tenacity throughout these years of operations. The growth and modernization of Jamaica's airports are truly remarkable feats which significantly contributed to enhancing the travel, tourism, port, and shipping sectors. The PAJ salutes your success and extends best wishes for your continued growth and development.

@portauthorityja



AAJ STAFF RUN FOR CHARITY



RUN/WALK

CONTINUED FROM 26

charity run, expressing the organisation's intention to continue supporting the event in the future.

The run/walk, which focuses on providing essential educational support to communities in western Jamaica, saw over 60 AAJ employees and invitees participating, contributing to its resounding

PLEASE SEE **RUN/WALK**, 30



Passport, Immigration & Citizenship Agency

The Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA) congratulates the Airport Authority of Jamaica on 50 years of outstanding service, 'Modernizing and Growing Jamaica's Airports since 1974'.

Your dedication and service in managing Jamaica's airports have significantly contributed to the nation's development and international reputation.

Here's to continued success as we move forward together to strengthen Jamaica's aviation and travel sectors.


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CONGRATULATIONS



JAMAICA VACATIONS PROUDLY CONGRATULATES
THE AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
ON 50 REMARKABLE YEARS OF EXCELLENCE!

Since 1974, the AAJ has played a pivotal role in modernizing and growing Jamaica's airports, ensuring our nation remains a top destination for travelers worldwide. Here's to five decades of outstanding service and to many more years of continued success!



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AAJ STAFF RUN FOR CHARITY



RUN/WALK

CONTINUED FROM 28

success.

Mr Deidrick, along with Mr Richard Gibbs, Senior Director of Commercial Development and Planning/ICT, were on hand to present prizes to the winners, further highlighting AAJ's dedication to the initiative.

The event was notably successful, raising J\$20 million – surpassing the J\$11 million raised the previous year. With over 2,349 registrants, the event's success highlights AAJ's strong dedication to both the aviation sector and the communities it serves, making the 2024 run/walk a particularly memorable and impactful occasion.



MARITIME AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA
Making maritime development a priority

Congratulations to the 

on this worthy milestone as you strive to position Jamaica's airports as the gateway to the Caribbean and the Americas. As one government agency and regulator to another Maritime Authority of Jamaica looks forward to our continued collaboration in the future.

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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



International Coastal Clean-up Day participation

AS PART of its 50th anniversary celebrations, the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) proudly participated in International Coastal Clean-up Day on September 21, 2024, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship. AAJ staff joined hands with volunteers across Jamaica to clean up sections of the Palisadoes shoreline, focusing on preserving the natural beauty of the island that plays a vital role in the tourism industry. This initiative aligns with AAJ's dedication to sustainability, ensuring that both land and sea are protected for future generations, reinforcing the organisation's mission of modernising and growing Jamaica's airports while caring for the environment.

AAJ's involvement in International Coastal Clean-up Day not only reflects its corporate responsibility but also its understanding of the critical role that



clean and pristine beaches play in supporting Jamaica's travel and tourism sector. By actively

participating in the clean-up, AAJ staff highlighted the importance of safeguarding Jamaica's ecosystems, ensuring that visitors

and locals alike can continue to enjoy the island's natural treasures. This effort, which was a key part of AAJ's golden anniversary,

reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to maintaining a balance between development and environmental conservation.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY

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AAJ GALA AWARDS BANQUET



Celebrating **50** years of Excellence.



Presented by: Audley Deidrick
Awardee: Nicole Hall – 25 Years



Vernal Angus and Frances Angus



Presented by: AAJ Chairman Mark Hart
Awardee: Claude Service – 34 Years



From left: Audley Deidrick, Mark Hart, Earl Richards and Everton Chin-See



Presented by: AAJ Chairman Mark Hart
Awardee: Sweadland Anderson – 39 Years



Presented by: AAJ Chairman Mark Hart
Awardee: Michelle Cadenhead – 31 Years



Presented by: President Audley Deidrick
Awardee: Winsome Strachan – 28 years



Presented by: Audley Deidrick
Awardee: Fayanne Hutchinson-Bell – 29 Years



Presented by: Donna Marie Howe
Awardee: Richard Gibbs – 23 Years

Ready for takeoff

A AJ GALA Awards Banquet was an evening that radiated sophistication and celebration. This grand occasion was a vibrant tribute to the dedication and success of the organisation and its people.

Guests arrived to a cocktail hour steeped in elegance, where the atmosphere buzzed with lively conversation and connections.

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the awards ceremony, a heartfelt tribute to the stalwarts of AAJ's success. Employees with service ranging from five to over 30 years were honoured, symbolising their integral role in the organisation's legacy. Special recognition was given to the longest-serving president and airport director, underscoring the profound respect for their leadership and commitment. Their recognition was a celebration of their relentless dedication and passion, reflecting their pivotal role in navigating AAJ through decades of challenges and triumphs.

The pride and unity in the room were palpable as colleagues and special guests witnessed this moving recognition. The event underscored the deep connection between AAJ and its team, reinforcing that the organisation's success is intertwined with the success of its people. The evening highlighted AAJ's ongoing commitment to its employees, reflecting a nurturing relationship built on mutual respect and loyalty.

Following the awards, the night transformed into a vibrant celebration



Presented by: Hon Minister Daryl Vaz
Awardee: Earl Richards Longest Serving AAJ President



Presented by: AAJ Executive Horace Bryson
Awardee: Patrick Campbell – 14 Years

with electrifying performances by Singing Melody and Lukey D. Their soulful music and dynamic energy took centre stage, filling the room with rhythm and joy, and leading guests to the dance floor. This musical finale celebrated Jamaica's rich cultural heritage and captured the essence of unity and vitality that defines AAJ.

The Gala Awards Banquet was more than just an event; it was an experience steeped in elegance, gratitude, and joy. Every element of the evening – from the music and recognition to the camaraderie and celebration – embodied the spirit of AAJ. It was a night to remember, reflecting the excellence, camaraderie, and shared journey of the AAJ family, and a testament to the organisation's belief in and bond with its people.



Sweadland Anderson and Joy Grant



Joan Calder and Nicola Davis



Richard Gibbs and Sharon Gibbs



Presented by: President Audley Deidrick
Awardee: Tarik Forbes – 27 years



Presented by: Donna Marie Howe
Awardee: Anthony Wolfe – 23 Years



Presented by: AAJ Chairman Mark Hart
Awardee: Joy Grant – 36 Years



Presented by: AAJ Chairman Mark Hart
Awardee: Steve Lawrence – 35 Years