

CURRICULUM VITAE for JOHN H.H. BELL

EXPERIENCE

Islands Resorts International Ltd
Vice Chairman

to present

Ministry of Tourism, Port of Spain, Trinidad
Advisor to the Minister

March 2005 to November 2007

- Provided advice on the development of a tourism strategic plan for Trinidad & Tobago
- Assisted in the presentation of TOURISM PARK as an educational exercise describing the benefits of tourism to the country, with a particular focus on students
- Assisted in the development and presentation of TASTE T&T as a culinary showcase for Trinidad's fast developing restaurant and catering industry
- Participated in regular coordinating meetings with the Tobago House of Assembly
- Participated in the planning and delivery of overseas promotional activities for Trinidad & Tobago
- Represented the Minister, in an advisory capacity, on the Board of Directors of the TDC

International Hotel and Restaurant Association (IH&RA)

1982 to 2006

The Paris based Global Association of National Associations and Hotel and Restaurant Chains

- Represented the Caribbean on the National Chief Executives Council 1982 to 2006
- Chaired the National Chief Executives Council from 1988 to 1992
- Elected to the Board of Directors from 1996 to 2006
- Elected Vice President in 2003
- Elected President for the 2004/2006 biennium
- Chaired the Istanbul congress in 2004
- Chaired the Beijing congress in 2005

Caribbean Hotel Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico

June 1974 to December 2002

Director General & CEO

Expanded the association's footprint to include all the countries and territories in the region, from Bermuda in the north to Guyana and Surinam in the south, and from Barbados in the Atlantic to Cancún and Cozumel in Mexico, and Belize and Honduras in Central America

- Quadrupled the number of hotels in membership
- Increased the number of allied member companies by more than 500%
- In 1980 created the Caribbean Hotel Training Institute (CHTI) as a wholly owned subsidiary of CHA through which to deliver a broad range of training programs throughout the region
- In 1981 created the CHA General Agency, also as a CHA subsidiary, to advise on the delivery of property and liability insurance for member hotels
- In 1982 established the CHA Foundation as a US 501 C3 corporation, registered in the state of Delaware, through which to raise funds for educational scholarships, which succeeded in raising an average of \$75,000 a year by the late 1990s, delivering numerous scholarships to Caribbean Nationals working in the industry.
- In 1994, on instruction from the Board of Directors, successfully raised \$25m in equity funding to create a CHA Captive Insurance Co, backed by \$100m in reinsurance
- In 1995 established the Caribbean Action for Sustainable Tourism (CAST) as another CHA subsidiary through which to promote and deliver environmental sustainability for Caribbean Hotels
- Established the Caribbean Society of Hotel Association Executives as an internal CHA committee to better connect the membership through the offices of their national hotel associations

- In 1996 established the Caribbean Culinary Foundation (CCF) as a professional body to further the skills of the culinary profession in the Caribbean, and further enhance the tourist product
- Through CCF, launched the annual Taste of the Caribbean culinary competition for national teams consisting of 4 chefs, a pastry chef and bartender to compete against each other under international standards. An average of 15 national teams participated annually
- Developed a wide reaching advocacy program to work with CARICOM and CARIFORUM in the Caribbean, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London, the US Government in Washington, and the European Commission in Brussels
- After overcoming numerous bureaucratic obstructions, succeeded in having CHA participate in the delivery of a major tourism development project under the 8th EDF of the 4th LOME convention
- In conjunction with CTO, convened Caribbean Heads of Government conferences on tourism in Kingston in 1992, in Nassau in October 2001 and again in December 2001
- Established the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Trust in 2000 as a funding vehicle to bring together the corporate offices of the major chain hotels and airlines serving the Caribbean, and to raise funds for promoting the Caribbean brand. Through auctioning off hotel stays on the internet, the Trust raised more than \$5m which was subsequently matched by the governments for the promotion “Life needs the Caribbean”

Bel Air International Airport Hotel, Piarco, Trinidad

1967 to 1974

General Manager

- Operated this airport convenience hotel for 6 years, during which time was successful in developing the airline catering side of the business to include every carrier serving Trinidad and Tobago, with the exception of Pan Am, which had its own in house facility.

Blue Lagoon Hotel, Ratho Mill, St Vincent

1965 to 1967

Assistant Manager

- Supervised the operations of this upscale boutique resort, including purchasing, food and beverage operations, accounting, and marketing, reporting to the resident owners

EDUCATION

Exeter University, Exeter, Devon

1956 to 1957

- B Sc. in Geology, incomplete

Bryanston College, Blandford, Dorset

1951 to 1955

- Attained 3 ‘A’ levels in Math., Physics, and Chemistry, and 8 ‘O’ levels

MILITARY

Royal Artillery – National Service

1958 to 1960

- Commissioned out of Mons in 1959

SPORTS

- Golf
- Tennis
- Rugby
- Hockey
- Rowing