



## **COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**

**DIVISION OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT, TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **First Positive Case of COVID-19 in Tobago**

**23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2020:**

Councillor, Tracy Davidson-Celestine, Secretary of Health, Wellness and Family Development, hereby informs the public, that at 5.30 p.m. today, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, the first positive case of COVID-19 was recorded in Tobago.

The individual, who is a resident of Trinidad, arrived in Tobago on an international flight on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. In keeping with the Division's protocols, immediately upon disembarking, the individual was screened by the Port Health Authorities at the ANR Robinson International Airport. The individual was immediately placed in one of our secured quarantine facilities for a planned period of fourteen (14) days.

Five days later, on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, the individual developed symptoms and was admitted to the Scarborough General Hospital. A sample was taken and rushed to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) laboratory to be tested for COVID-19, which has since returned positive.

Given that the individual is unwell, the person will be transferred to Trinidad to undergo additional treatment, as per established protocols.

It is important to note that the remaining persons at the Division's quarantine facilities remain in good health and continue to be monitored twice daily.

The Division reminds the public that the implementation of simple, preventative measures will reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. These include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your flexed elbow, or with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.

- Stay at home when you are sick.
- Practice social distancing (*keep a minimum of 3 feet away from persons*).
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces (*door handles, cell phones etc.*)

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**For more information:**

Communications Unit

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