

Certificate Award on “Citizenship Education and Emotional Intelligence: Self Development and Basic Responsibilities” organized by le Comité Bien Être de Camp Levieux, Stanley & Trèfles at Salle des Fêtes, Plaza on Thursday 19 October 2023 at 10:00 hrs

Hon Fazila JEEWA-DAUREEAWOO, Minister of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity

Mrs. Rajinee Devi Mootocaropen, Mayor of Beau-Bassin Rose Hill

Municipal Councillors of Beau-Bassin Rose-Hill

Mr. Waheed Nubee, President Comité Bien Être de Camp Levieux, Stanley and Trèfles

Mr. Belall Maudarbux, Project Co-ordinator

All protocol observed

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning. Thank you President and members of le Comité Bien Être de Camp Levieux, Stanley & Trèfles for this invitation.

Throughout history, education has had two great goals: to help people become smart and to help them become good. However, in today’s society, the first goal has remained the same—to provide a climate for student learning and academic achievement.

But the second goal has somewhat been altered. Public education tends to focus more on student problem behaviour instead of developing positive character traits and growing emotionally intelligent students.

Before schools and NGOs put any specific initiatives in place, they must address one question; “**what makes a person a productive or good citizen?**” One could suggest that a good citizen is a person who acts responsibly in his community, pays his taxes and is a law-abiding citizen.

Certainly, schools would want this of its students, and government of its citizens.

Citizenship education should be treated as a process in which citizens are learners, who not only receive knowledge but also produce it and sustain it for life. Such education enhances the skills and values of individuals with regard to their rights and responsibilities.

Ladies and gentlemen

Citizens should be able to play an active role in seeking to eliminate the root causes that lead to people’s need for the support of local charities. Such citizens will understand social injustice and seek to effect change.

Schools, NGOs, local authorities and actors of the civil society seek to produce citizens who are more active in their communities.

Citizens who not only participate in community efforts but also take leadership roles in them.

Citizens who understand how to plan for the success of collective tasks.

Citizens who understand how government agencies work and strive to improve their community.

These institutions and voluntary organisations should take it even one step further.

They should strive to produce citizens who are capable of critically assessing the political, economic, social, and cultural structures of not only their local communities, but also the greater community at-large.

In order to develop, societies need citizens who are active, effective, knowledgeable and willing to take responsibility for themselves and their communities and participate in political processes.

In order to produce such citizens we must equip them to cope with difficult emotional and relational issues within schools and beyond.

Emotional Intelligence is the quality that enables us to confront with patience, insight and imagination the many problems that we face in our affective relationship with ourselves and with other people.

The goal of developing a strong emotional intelligence is not to change who a person is. The purpose is to help one better understand oneself and others and to respond appropriately in a variety of circumstances, to replace negative thoughts and behaviors with positive ones, and to have a greater awareness of others and society as a whole. It is a matter of understanding our role as citizens of a community.

I must congratulate le Comité Bien Être de Camp Levieux, Stanley & Trèfles for its flagship project on “**Citizenship Education & Emotional Intelligence**” for the benefits of school head masters, representatives of NGOs, local authorities and actors of civil society.

Since 1996 this NGO has been engaged in social and educational activities especially for the welfare of the inhabitants of the suburbs of Rose-Hill.

I wish you good luck in achieving your motto, that is “**in the happiness of others lies our own**”

Ladies and gentlemen, I shall conclude by congratulating all those who have successfully completed the course on Citizenship Education and Emotional Intelligence. I wish you will put the knowledge acquired to the benefit of the citizens of your respective locality.