



The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

**DIGITAL EDUCATION AND DISTANCE LEARNING PEDAGOGIES
IN THE CARIBBEAN GRADUATION CEREMONY CLOSING
WORKSHOP**

(VIRTUAL ADDRESS)

Message By

The Honourable Lisa Morris-Julian

Wednesday 25th May, 2022

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

SALUTATIONS:

- H.E. Pertti Ikonen- Ambassador of Finland to the Caribbean at Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.
- The Hon. Kay McConney, M.P., Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training, Barbados.
- Mrs. Mercedes Mateo-Berganza, Chief of Education at the Inter-American Development Bank.
- Mrs. Sanna Ruhahti- Principal Lecturer, Tampere University of Applied Sciences and participants' spokesperson (Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago).
- Mrs. Amia Kimoy Conrad Christopher- Head of Teacher Education, Performance and Development Division, Ministry of Education, Trinidad and Tobago.
- Our honoured guests – the 78 members of the graduating class
- Family, friends, and well-wishers looking on today
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning ladies and gentlemen,

Congratulations to the graduates of the Teacher Training on Digital Education and Distance Learning Pedagogies in the Caribbean programme!

I am delighted to bring you greetings at your graduation ceremony and closing workshop today. Every teacher here has successfully completed this programme of study and qualified yourself to better serve the needs of your students in a rapidly evolving digital environment. Every teacher here represents at least one school that will benefit from gaining current knowledge on digital pedagogy.

What you were able to accomplish over the past nine (9) months is so much more than earning a diploma. What you have actually done was acquire additional skills that equips your students with the tools that they need to enjoy a significantly improved quality of life. The knowledge that you have gained prepares your students to take advantage of opportunities for personal growth and development, securing higher income, developing problem-solving skills, building stronger communities and improving the economy.

At the Ministry of Education, my role and the role of the executive and staff, is to facilitate you acquiring world class training that will enable you to expand your digital and pedagogical competencies. Every

teacher needs to master ways of delivering content using different modalities, whether online, hybrid or in-person. As such, you are urged to go back to your respective schools and share what you have learned during this programme. Being teachers, you are well aware of the instrumental role that you play in positively shaping the lives of everyone student that sits in your classroom.

I must thank the Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK) Finland, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Dr. Amia Kimoy Conrad Christopher, Head of the Teacher Education, Performance and Professional Development Division of the Ministry of Education. Your commitment to excellence has made this training programme a success.

At the Ministry of Education, we greatly value our educators and the contributions that these phenomenal professionals make to the delivery of quality education throughout Trinidad and Tobago's education sector. I am proud of you and your efforts have by no means gone unnoticed. Thank you for your honourable service. Congratulations to the graduates on your achievements and may God continue to bless you.