



**Caribbean American Chamber  
Of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (CACCI)**

## **CACCI NEWS**

***NYC Economic Development Corporation President Report on  
Gains made in New York City Economy despite the economic downturn  
Reaffirms EDC's commitment to see CACCI's Caribbean Trade Center Project  
completed***

***CACCI Unveiled 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Small Business Activities***

**CACCI's Economic Development Leadership Breakfast Meeting at  
Medgar Evers College, CUNY-Wednesday, October 19, 2009**



**Left to right: Winston Thompson, CPA; Rev. Dennis Dillon, Publisher, Christian Times Publications; CACCI President Roy A. Hastick, Sr.; NYS Assemblywoman Annette Robinson; NYC EDC President Seth Pinsky; and William "Bill" Howard, Business Consultant. Photo by Seitu Orande**

**BROOKLYN, NY.** The Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) held a Special Economic Development Leadership Power Breakfast Meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at Medgar Evers College, CUNY. The keynote speaker was **Seth Pinsky**, president of the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYC EDC) who delivered his address to a packed hall of small business leaders, legislators and academicians.

In his remarks, **Mr. Pinsky** cited examples of different neighborhoods throughout the five boroughs where progress has been made. For example: the rezoning in Coney Island in order to create a 27 acre amusement district, new retail space and new affordable housing; the High Line Project which was launched this summer to generate hundreds of millions of dollars in private investment; the Queens Plaza Streetscape improvements broke ground in August to transform the gateway to Long Island City.

**Mr. Pinsky** also noted that supporting important neighborhood organizations, such as CACCI, is an essential part of improving the quality of life in our city. To this end, he said that the City is taking steps to invest several millions of dollars to the development of CACCI's Caribbean Trade Center/Business Incubator Project in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn. There was noticeable applause as EDC's commitment to CACCI's CTC was reaffirmed. He ended his talk by highlighting the City's plan to create more jobs for New Yorkers through the utilization of local and federal funds to finance infrastructural development projects, and the initiation of projects that will diversify the local economy, emphasizing manufacturing and distribution, the promotion of entrepreneurship activities by providing training, space and financial aid, and the expansion of interest in media, new green industrial activities, higher education and the arts.

According to CACCI President **Dr. Roy A. Hastick, Sr.** who served as convener: "Today's *Power Breakfast Meeting* is very special for CACCI because it marks the beginning of an important milestone in the life of our organization." **Hastick** stated that the address by the EDC President is "a fitting start to our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year because its sets the tone for our year-long focus on small business development and emphasizes CACCI's continued role in partnering with the City of New York to showcase the resources that are available for our members and the wider small business community in the Caribbean Diaspora." In response to participants' questions about the City's efforts to aid small businesses, it was recommended that a small task force be convened to re-examine disparity issues and low percentage of minority participation in City contracts, and to make specific recommendations to the City.

Participants included numerous CACCI members and dignitaries such as: NYC EDC executives; NYS Assemblywoman **Annette Robinson**; Kerri Edwards who represented the NYS Democratic Conference Leader **Senator John Sampson, Esq.**; NYC Councilmember **Mathieu Eugene**; **Dr. John L. Graham**, Dean of the School of Business at Medgar Evers College; former NYS Assemblyman **Roger Greene**, now head of the Ralph Bunche Dubois Center at Medgar Evers College; former NYS Senator **Dr. Waldaba Stewart** an Economist; **Rev. Dennis Dillon**, Publisher, New York Christian Times Publications; **Bishop Cecil Riley**, Pastor, Freedom Hall Church of God; **William "Bill" Howard**, former NYC Deputy Commissioner of Finance; **Winston Thompson, CPA**, Owner of Thompson and Co.; **Rick Miranda**, President, Brooklyn Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; **Alex Garcia**, U S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; **Edmond Sadio**, Owner/Broker, Century 21 Achievers; **Colette Burnett**, Owner, Super Wings Restaurant; **Ken Nero**, IKON Business Group; **Gerry Hopkins, JD**, Owner, The Hopkins Communications Group; Aiden Pursoo who represented **Jumane Williams**, Democratic Nominee for the NYC Council; representatives from **JP Morgan Chase** and **City National Bank (CNB)**; **Angela Price**, Owner, Caribbean Cake Connoisseurs; **Alfredo Thiebaud**, Owner Deliocioso Ices; and **Akilah Rosado McQueen**, Bank Street College.

Following a period of discussion and responses to questions raised by the business leaders, **Dr. Hastick, Sr.** who served as convener, unveiled the *Plan for CACCI's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year* which includes continuation of existing small business programs which include Promoting Trade and Investment Opportunities in the Caribbean, projects such as the Caribbean Trade Center/Business Incubator and the Flatbush Caton Market, small business services, proposed *NEW* initiatives, and a calendar of small business activities as follows:

***October 2009 CACCI's Economic Development in New York City Power Breakfast Meeting***

***November 2009 CACCI's Workforce Development Conference for Would-Be Entrepreneurs***

***November 2009 Doing Business in the US and the Caribbean: A Small Business Symposium***

***December 2009 CACCI's Annual Salute to Small Business Visionaries Networking Reception***

***December 2009 Annual Gift Giving - Toys - School Supplies Collection and Distribution Drive***

***January 2010 Annual Economic Development Breakfast Mtg. Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute***

***January 2010 CACCI's Workforce Development Conference for Would-Be Entrepreneurs***

***February 2010 NYS African American, Puerto Rican - Asian Legislative Conf., Albany, NY***

***February 2010 African American History Month Small Business Reception***

***March 2010 M/WBE Certification Networking Reception Women's History Month***

***April 2010 CACCI's Small Business Membership Development - Road Map for Success***

***May 2010 CACCI's Annual Financial Literacy Business Development Networking Seminar***

***June 2010 CACCI's Caribbean American National Heritage Month Kick-Off Celebration***

***June 2010 CACCI's 25<sup>th</sup> Entrepreneur of the Year Awards Luncheon-Trade/Investment Expo***

***June 2010 CACCI's Historic Groundbreaking of the Caribbean Trade Center***

***July 2010 CACCI's Small Business and Micro-enterprise Membership Appreciation Celebration***

***August 2010 CACCI's Official 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Business Networking Reception***

For further information on CACCI membership, vending opportunities at the ***Flatbush Caton Market***, and/or

To request an appointment for free small business confidential counseling services through ***CACCI/SCORE***

Contact CACCI: Tel.: (718) 834-4544 -- [info@caccitradecenter.com](mailto:info@caccitradecenter.com)--  
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