GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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VIPSLI Development Committee Now in Place

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The seven (7) member Development Committee for the Virgin Islands Public Service Learning Institute (VIPSLI) is now in place, following appointments made by His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Daniel Pruce. The appointments are made in accordance with sections 24 and 25 of the Public Service Management Act, 2024

The VIPSLI Development Committee is tasked with reviewing applications submitted by public officers seeking scholarship opportunities and establishing the relevant criterion and guidelines for the issuance of scholarships.

Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Sharleen DaBreo Lettsome, MBE said that the establishment of the VIPSLI Development Committee is another advancement on the path to building the Learning Institute into a global model for institutional learning and development. The Permanent Secretary also commended the work that has been done and noted that she looks forward to the future.

Director of VISPLI, Dr. Connie E. George said, “Since its launch, VIPSLI has steadily risen to the task of creating and managing a complex framework for learning and development within the Public Service. With the committee now in place and fulfilling the legislative mandate, we are better positioned to support public officers who are seeking opportunities to further their studies.”

President of the Civil Service Association, Ms. Sasha Flax, who sits as a member of the committee said, “The Civil Service Association is grateful not only to see the Development Committee established, but to sit as a voting member. The committee serves a vital purpose, serving as a catalyst in ensuring public officers receive valuable opportunities to pursue further education in their fields.”

The committee will select scholarship recipients based on academic performance, job performance, financial need, Public Service priority needs (as approved by Cabinet) and alignment with the opportunities offered. Additionally, the committee will be responsible for approving placements for attachments.

The members of the VIPSLI Development Committee are:

Chair – Permanent Secretary, Office of the Deputy Governor, Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome, MBE

Deputy Chair – Director, Virgin Islands Public Service Learning Institute, Dr. Connie E. George

Secretary – Human Resources Manager, Ms. Ziina Hanley

Member – Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports' Nominee – Mrs. Carol McCollin

Financial Secretary's Nominee – Ms. Camille Merry

Public Officer with Technical and Vocational Skills – Mr. Charles Forbes

President of the Civil Service Association – Ms. Sasha Flax

The Government of the Virgin Islands remains committed to the advancement of learning and development within the Public Service.