

For immediate release

International Education Award builds connections between The Bahamas and Kamloops, British Columbia.

Kamloops, B.C./Nassau, Bahamas (January 17, 2016): Vantage Airport Group, which operates both Lynden Pindling International Airport in The Bahamas and Kamloops Airport in British Columbia, Canada, today announced that its inaugural International Education Award has been granted. The annual \$7,500 tuition award is available to a student from The Bahamas who enters or continues their studies in an undergraduate program at Thompson Rivers University (TRU) in a specific area of study. This year's recipient is Bahamian Krishe Pratt who is currently studying at TRU.

The introduction of the award in late 2015 prompted college-bound Bahamian students to take an unprecedented interest in Kamloops and its university. The result has been an uptick in applications to TRU from the island nation; going from one in 2015 to seven for the fall 2016 semester, and another eight for the winter 2017 semester, marking an upward trend.

"The immediate response to our International Education Award from The Bahamas is remarkable," said Rebecca Catley, Senior Director of Communications and Marketing at Vantage Airport Group. "We're delighted to build connections between two countries in which we do business and help facilitate international education through our network of airports."

The Bahamas has a population of 370,000 and the large majority of its students seek post-secondary education in the U.S. and Canada; many of the students' families travel with them to visit and explore their new residence.

"Welcoming 15 new students from The Bahamas less than a year after the award was introduced is significant," said Christopher Seguin, Vice President, Advancement at TRU. "International students make tremendous contributions to our campus and city, culturally and economically, and we're thrilled to have a new Bahamian contingent at TRU."

"This award is another benefit from the connection that comes with being part of Vantage's global network," said Jan Knowles, Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Nassau Airport Development Company. "The award is an excellent opportunity for a local student and we're proud to be a part of their educational journey."

The Vantage Airport Group International Education Award is again available for the Fall 2017 semester at TRU. Interested applicants will find details about the award's eligibility and how to apply on TRU's website in March 2017. For more information about studying at TRU, visit TRU.ca/truworld.

#

About Vantage Airport Group

Passionate about people, performance and place, Vantage Airport Group was one of the first companies to be involved in the global trend of airport development, investment and management. Since 1994, the company has been actively involved in making 30 airports better and in taking 20 from public to private management. It develops, implements and hones best practices at airports around the world, which results in financially stronger, more sustainable, better connected airports for the communities and businesses they serve. Vantage's current network is made up of nine airports around the globe, including LaGuardia Central Terminal B in New York.

About Thompson Rivers University

At Thompson Rivers University nearly 26,000 students study on campuses in Kamloops and Williams Lake or in distance or online courses and programs through Open Learning. From traditional academics to trades, from certificates to graduate degrees, TRU offers over 140 on-campus programs and 60 Open Learning programs to choose from. TRU's main campus in the heart of Kamloops welcomes a diverse student population that is over 10 percent Aboriginal and 10 percent international, enriching an inclusive community culturally and academically. TRU's modern combination of excellent teaching, community-inspired research, flexibility and student support create an environment where research, creation and innovation thrive—and so do its students.

About Lynden Pindling International Airport

Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) is The Bahamas' premier international gateway. The country's busiest airport served more than 3.2 million visitors in 2015 and safely handled more than 80,000 aircraft takeoffs and landings. Managing partners, Nassau Airport Development (NAD) and Vantage Airport Group, completed a \$409.5 million redevelopment project, transforming LPIA into a modern and efficient facility. The new airport complex has a total square footage of 606,000 with an additional one million square feet of aircraft operating surface. LPIA can now comfortably handle 5 million passengers annually. Operating 24 hours a day, the airport is served by 23 airlines flying to 10 international, 20 U.S. and 22 domestic destinations. For more information, visit www.nassaulpia.com.

Photos and video attached.

Photo Captions:

Photo 1: Meet Krishe Pratt, the inaugural recipient of the Vantage Airport Group's International Education Award for Bahamian students entering or currently attending Thompson Rivers University (TRU) in Kamloops, British Columbia.

Photo 2: Bahamian students at Thompson Rivers University (TRU) in Kamloops, British Columbia. Vantage Airport Group's International Education Award creates an uptick in local students attending the university.

Video footage link: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/u2aqqiwteejdig7/Vantage%20Kamloops-TRU%20-%20social%20media%20edit%202-SD.mp4?dl=0>

Media Contacts:

Jan Knowles

Vice President of Marketing & Communications

Nassau Airport Development Company

Jan.knowles@nas.bs

Or

Shonalee Johnson

Windward Public Relations

sjohnson@windward-pr.com

1-242-601-3743

1-242-456-4797 (mobile)