Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago



Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

MEDIA RELEASE



February 12, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: HIGH

Ste Madeleine celebrates new centenarian as Mr Kenrick Byron

The area of Edward Circular, Ste Madeleine has a new centenarian as Mr Kenrick Byron turned 100 hundred years young today. To celebrate the significant milestone, his family hosted a small celebration at their Edward Circular, Ste Madeleine home today. Dr Hyacinth Blake, Director of the Division of Ageing was present to celebrate with the family and honour Mr Byron as part of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services' National Centenarian Programme where citizens 100 years and over are honoured and recognized for their contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago.

Noting that there were many centenarians in the area, Dr Blake asked Mr Byron what is his secret to longevity where Mr Byron heartily stated that he lived a "comfortable life." Mr Byron also said that the love and support of his late wife also played a major role.

Following the rich dialogue, Dr Blake then presented Mr Byron with his Certificate of Honour and Achievement for his contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago, a hamper courtesy of the Minister, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, a birthday cake from key sponsor, the Kiss Baking Company and other Ministry memorabilia. Blowing out his birthday cake, Mr Byron wished that God spared his life to see eight more years.

Born on Sunday 12th February 1922, Mr Byron grew up in Broomage Road, Princes Town. The second of three children to Leomi and Alexander Byron, Mr Byron attended Craignish Primary School led by Headmaster Mr Simmons and Headmistress Ms Sharington, both names of which he avidly recalls.

At 24 years old, he married the love of his life, the late Mrs Mildred Byron, with whom he spent approximately 70 years of his life, until her passing in 2014. Through their union, Mr and Mrs Byron had five children, the late Audrey Byron, Wilmead Byron, Bernadine Byron, Mora Byron-Webb and Alexander Byron, 10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren, all of whom are very proud of Mr Byron for reaching this milestone.

He worked as a carpenter for 70 years, constructing his own home and assisting with the construction of the San Fernando General Hospital, where his granddaughter Lisa and Candice currently work as medical doctors and nurses respectively.

The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services was pleased to honour Mr Byron as part of the National Centenarian Programme and invite persons to register for the programme. Persons may visit the Ministry's website at www.social.gov.tt and complete the online form or print a

Colonial Life Building, 39-43 St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I. Telephone: (868)-623-2608

www.social.gov.tt Follow us: Facebook downloadable form for completion. Completed forms may be dropped off at the nearest Social Welfare Office or emailed to the Division of Ageing at <u>opic@social.gov.tt</u>.

For more information, persons may contact the Division of Ageing at 623 - 2608; Ext 2002 to 2009 or 800-OPIC (6742).



Dr Hyacinth Blake presents *Mr* Byron with his Certificate of Honour and Achievement for his contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago.



One hundred years young - Mr Kenrick Byron celebrates his 100th Birthday today!



Mr Byron is pleased to receive his certificate from Dr Hyacinth Blake, Director of the Division of Ageing.



Mr Kendrick Byron celebrates his 100th *birthday with loved ones.*

-END-For more information: Corporate Communications and Education Unit Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (868) 623-2608; Ext 5402/5403/5400 Email: cceu@social.gov.tt Website: www.social.com