



MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Minister Cox extends congratulations to 2024 Chevening scholars Reyad Mohammed and Nestor Garcia

“Make use of every opportunity to learn and network. Commit to making a difference when you return. May you succeed academically and as Chevening professionals in your field of study,” said Minister of Social Development and Family Services, Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, during the Chevening Reception for two of the country’s latest recipients, Mr. Reyad Mohammed and Mr. Nestor Garcia.

The event was held on Thursday, 12th September 2024, by the British High Commission and also celebrated the return of the 2023 scholarship recipients, Ms. Sache Alexander-George, who pursued an MSc in Digital Entrepreneurship at Loughborough University, and Mr. Jessel Crispin Brizian, who studied Fashion Business Management at the University of Westminster.

During her remarks, Minister Cox noted that as a Chevening scholar herself, she deeply valued the knowledge and experience gained from the opportunity.

“As a proud Chevening scholar, I highly value the depth of knowledge I received in my field of study, the opportunity to make lifetime connections with persons who live in different parts of the world, and the opportunity to study in the United Kingdom. I am equally proud of the Chevening scholars who have returned to Trinidad and Tobago, and I celebrate Mr. Reyad Mohammed and Mr. Nestor Garcia. You are both handpicked to join a group of prestigious leaders and decision-makers who create significant impact, helping and empowering people in the countries they reside in. You will be exposed to some of the most experienced scholars in your field. Make use of every opportunity to learn and network. Commit to making a difference when you return. May you succeed academically and as Chevening professionals in your field of study.”

She further expressed her anticipation for the contributions both recipients will bring to Trinidad and Tobago.

According to the Minister: “Mr. Reyad Mohammed, I am told you will pursue an MSc in Climate Change at UCL, University College London. Climate change continues to be high on every government’s agenda. Both the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the World Meteorological Organization have reported that 2023 was the hottest year on record. We’ve all felt it and continue to experience the tangible effects of climate change. Your postgraduate studies in climate change, therefore, present you with a unique opportunity to contribute to the overall implementation of climate change policies and actions in our country. Mr. Nestor Garcia, you too have a crucial role to play in our country’s development. Taxes are one of the main sources of any country’s revenue, funding critical resources such as the grants and services offered to the poor and vulnerable under the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services. Your pursuit will also prove fruitful for, including but not limited to, a favourable tax environment for cross-border trade.”

Minister Cox further extended gratitude to British High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, Her Excellency Harriet Cross, for the invaluable opportunities the continued diplomatic relations provide for the advancement of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

Funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and various partner organisations, Chevening provides fully funded scholarships for one-year master’s degrees in the United Kingdom. Since its inception, Trinidad and Tobago has received over 167 Chevening scholarships.

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(L-R) Deputy British High Commissioner Victoria White, Reyad Mohammed, Nestor Garcia (2024 Chevening Scholars) and Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development and Family Services.



2024 Chevening Scholar Reyad Mohammed collects a token from Minister Donna Cox



(L-R) Deputy High Commissioner Victoria White, Jessel Crispin Brizian (2023 Chevening Scholar) Reyad Mohammed, Nestor Garcia (2024 Cheveing Scholars) Senator the Honourabe Donna Cox and Sache Alexander – George (2023 Chevening Scholar)



2024 Chevening Scholar Nestor Garcia collects a token from Minister Donna Cox