



Public Statement of Tourism Trinidad Limited

as at December, 2021

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTIONS 7, 8 and 9
OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT. CHAP 22:02

In accordance with Sections 7, 8 and 9 of the Freedom of Information Act, Chap 22:02 (FOIA) Tourism Trinidad Limited (hereinafter referred to as "TTL") is required by law to publish the following statements, which list the documents and information generally available to the public.

The FOIA gives members of the public a legal right:

- (a) For each person to access information held by TTL;
- (b) For each person to have official information relating to himself/ herself amended where it is incomplete, incorrect or misleading;
- (c) To obtain reasons for adverse decisions made by TTL regarding an applicant's request for information under the FOIA: and
- (d) To complain to the Ombudsman and to apply to the High Court for judicial review to challenge adverse decisions made under the FOIA.

SECTION 7 STATEMENTS

SECTION 7 (1) (a) (i)

Functions and Structure of TTL

Vision Statement

We lead and facilitate the transformation of the Trinidad tourism industry to be a key contributor to the national economy and to become a model for sustainable tourism development.

Mission Statement

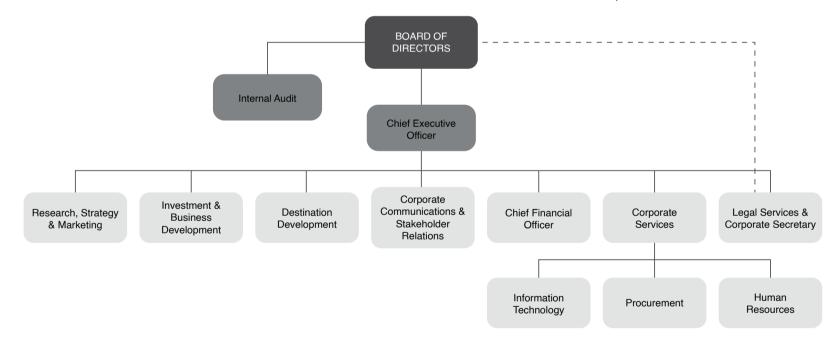
To harness and shape the authentic and distinctive Trinidad tourism product and experience through research-based creative and cutting-edge marketing, leveraging technology and innovation, to unlock the destination's true tourism potential.

Function and Structure

TTL was incorporated on 29th June, 2017 as a Special Purpose State Enterprise. TTL falls under the purview of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts and its registered office is located at Level 18, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre, 1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain. TTL was established to advance Trinidad's tourism development agenda and its mandate includes:

- (a) the development and marketing of Trinidad's tourism offerings;
- (b) leading and facilitating the marketing and promotion of destination Trinidad internationally;
- (c) taking the lead in attracting tourism investment;
- (d) the promotion of tourism business development;
- (e) the promotion of education, awareness, and cooperation in advancing economic expansion through tourism; and
- (f) encouraging a tourism-friendly approach through well-defined and coordinated marketing strategies, inclusive of social media and other technology-based platforms.

Organisational Structure



TTL is headed by a Board of Directors. The composition of the TTL Board of Directors is as follows:

Howard Chin Lee Chairman (until 22nd July, 2021) Clifford Hamilton Chairman (wef 24th August, 2021) Natania K. Mack Deputy Chairman Avalaughn Huggins Director Shezrae Nesbitt Director Terrance Bhagwatsingh Director Lesley-Ann Assee Director Brian Lewis Director Devon Seale Director Shivana Inalsingh Director

The Board is supported by a Manager, Legal Services and Corporate Secretary whose responsibilities include ensuring that good corporate governance practices are adhered to. The Management Team is responsible for the management of TTL and reports to the Board via the Chief Executive Officer. TTL currently employs twentysix (26) contract employees divided into the following responsibility centers:

Research, Strategy and Marketing

This Department oversees all aspects of TTL's planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and ensures that all aspects of the company's brand's strategy (marketing, promotions, communications and destination development) resonate with current and potential visitors to Trinidad.

Investment and Business Development

The Investment and Business Development arm of TTL is responsible for increasing the contribution of Tourism to

GDP. The Department:

- Develops tourism proposals and presents opportunities to potential users of Trinidad's business and local tourism which further the strategic tourism objectives of Trinidad.
- Expands the use of Trinidad as a business, meetings, conventions and other events destination in the Caribbean.
- Maximises the use of incentives outlined in the National Tourism Policy and the Tourism Development Act, Chap 87:22.

Destination Development

This Department is accountable for identifying and seizing opportunities to make optimal use of all Trinidad's tourism offerings (e.g. cultural, historical, recreational and natural attractions), assessing gaps and developing competitive visitor experiences. The department builds

relationships with tourism and travel trade partners in developing signature experiences/niche markets that can be packaged and marketed locally, regionally and overseas. It also implements quality benchmarks for the measurement and effectiveness of all niche tourism products, services, infrastructure and amenities. Ensuring that all tourism projects are achieved within time, budget, and quality specifications.

Corporate Communications & Stakeholder Relations

This Department is responsible for strategic communications leadership by driving TTL's strategic plans and objectives in public/media relations, corporate communications, stakeholder relationship management, and overseeing TTL's reputation and image.

Corporate Services

This Department ensures the effective and efficient management of Human Resources (HR), Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), Procurement, Security, Health, Safety and Environment (HSE), Facilities Maintenance, and General Administration in accordance with the values and strategic direction of TTL.

Legal Services and Corporate Secretary

The Office of the Manager, Legal Services and Corporate Secretary provides support to the Board of Directors of TTL while safeguarding the integrity of the company's governance framework. Additionally, the office ensures that the company is in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and, implements decisions made by the Board of Directors. Specifically, the department:

- (a) Provides sound legal advice to the Board and Management on all matters related to the portfolios of the company particularly in relations to contracts, interpretation of laws and regulations.
- (b) Ensures that the company acts in a legally responsible manner to minimise the risk of litigation.
- (c) Ensures the smooth operation of the company's formal decision-making process.

Section 7 (1) (a) (ii)

Categories of Documents that are maintained by TTL

The official documents in the company relate to a diverse range of policy, administration and other matters that fall under the scope of TTL. These documents include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Minutes and other documents pertaining to meetings.
- (b) Files dealing with administrative support and general administrative documents for the operations of TTL.
- (c) Personnel files relating to staff appointments, job applications, job specifications, resignations, deaths, leave, vacation.
- (d) Internal and External Correspondence Files.
- (e) Files dealing with training.
- (f) Circulars, Memorandum, Notices and Bulletins.
- (g) Policies and Procedures (Business Travel Policy, Fixed Asset Management Policy, Mobile Phone Policy, Petty Cash Policy, Signing Authority Policy, Whistleblowing Policy, Heath Safety Security and the Environment Policy, Code of Conduct, Learning and Development Policy, Leave Policy, Performance Management Policy, Recruitment Policy, Information Communications Technology (ICT) Policy, Partnership Policy, Procurement Policy, Partnership Policy (Revised), Disciplinary and Employee Grievance Policy, Credit Card Policy and Fraud Policy).
- (h) News Releases and Speeches.
- (i) Files relating to the Strategic Intent of TTL.
- (j) Files relating to the company's Corporate Communication and Marketing initiatives.
- (k) Legal Opinions and related matters.
- (I) Consultancy/Service Agreements.

- (m) Financial and Accounting Files.
- (n) Legislation.
- (o) Files relating to procurement of supplies and services.
- (p) Fixed Asset Register.

Section 7 (1) (a) (iii)

Material prepared for publication or inspection

- (a) The Tourism Development Act, Chap 87:22
- (b) Annual Reports of TTL
- (c) National Development Strategy of Trinidad & Tobago (Vision 2030)
- (d) Brochures on Caroni Bird Sanctuary, Port of Spain Sites & Attractions and Ins and Outs
- (e) Meetings and Conventions Guides
- (f) Birding brochure
- (g) Creole Magazine

The public may inspect and/or obtain copies of the following material between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at:

Tourism Trinidad Limited Level 18, Tower D International Waterfront Centre 1A Wrightson Road Port of Spain. Tel: 1(868)612-7412 ext. 1800

Email: info@visittrinidad.co.tt
Website: https://visittrinidad.tt

Section 7 (1) (A) (Iv)

Documents available by way of subscription

TTL does not currently publish any documents that are available by way of subscription.

Section 7 (1) (A) (V)

Procedure to be followed for accessing documents from the TTL, when an FOI request is made.

How to Request Information

General procedure

- All requests for access to documents that are not readily available in the public domain are to be made on the Request for Access to Official Documents(s) Form that is available from the Designated Officer or at <u>www.foia.gov.tt</u>.
- Queries for amendments to documents containing personal information about the applicant are to be directed to the Designation Officer in the form of a letter.
- 3. To ensure prompt handling of requests, please address requests to the Designated Officer of TTL(see Section 7(1)(a)(vii)).
- Our general policy is to answer all requests for information, both oral and written. However, in order to access the rights given to the applicant under the Act, the applicant must make such requests for information in writing.
- 5. Applicants must provide sufficient information to enable ready identification by the Designated Officer of the document(s) being requested.
- 6. If insufficient information is provided, clarification will be sought from the applicant.
- 7. If the applicant is not sure how to write his/her request or what details to include therein, communication with the Designated Officer is recommended.
- A request under the Act will not be processed to the extent that it asks for information which is readily available to the public, either from TTL or from another public authority or by otherwise being in the public domain, for example, by way of brochures, reports. etc.
- Prior to the commencement of the FOIA, old records

may have been destroyed. The granting of a request for such documents may therefore be impossible. Various laws, regulations and manuals give the time periods for keeping records before they may be destroyed e.g. the *Exchequer and Audit Act Chapter* 69 01

Furnishing Documents

An applicant is entitled to copies of documents TTL has in its possession, custody or power in accordance with FOIA provisions. TTL is required, subject to the FOIA, to furnish copies of official documents only when they are in our possession or we can retrieve them from storage. TTL is required to furnish only one copy of a document. If TTL cannot make a legible copy of a document to be released, TTL may not attempt to reconstruct it. Instead, TTL will furnish the best copy possible and note its quality in our reply. Please note that TTL is not compelled to do the following:

- Create new documents. For example, we are not required to write a new program so that a computer will print information in the format you prefer.
- · Perform research for you.

Time Limits

We will determine whether to grant your request for access to official documents as soon as practicable but no later than thirty (30) days as required by Section 15 of the FOIA. If a decision is taken to grant access to the information requested, you will be provided with copies, or if you so request, permitted to inspect the document/s.

Every effort will be made by TTL to comply with the timeframe set out in the FOIA, but where the processing of a request unavoidably may take longer than the statutory limit, TTL will advise the applicant by letter and ask for an additional period of time to provide the information. If a decision is taken to grant access to the information requested, you will be provided with copies, or if you so request, permitted to inspect the document/s. Applicants' whose requests for documents are refused, will be notified by the Designated Officer in writing of the reasons for refusal. The Designated Officer will consult with the applicant about alternative recourses that are open to him/her.

Fees and refunds

Section 17(1) stipulates that no fee shall be charged by a public authority for the making of a request for access to an official document. However, where access to an official document is to be given in the form of printed copies, or copies in some form such as a tape, disk, film or other material, the applicant shall pay the prescribed fee incurred for duplication of the said material.

Section 7 (1) (a) (vi)

Officers in TTL responsible for Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Designated Officer in the company has the following responsibilities:

- (a) The initial receipt of an action upon notices under Section 10 of the FOIA;
- (b) Requests for access to documents under Section 13 FOIA;
- (c) Applications for corrections of personal information under Section 36 of the FOIA;
- (d) To register requests;
- (e) Record time spent on requests;
- (f) Ascertain appropriate action area;
- (g) Dispatch reply for requests; and
- (h) Forward quarterly returns to the Freedom of Information Unit.

The Designated Officer is:

Ms. Vanessa K. Garcia
Manager Legal Services and Corporate Secretary
Tourism Trinidad Limited
Level 18, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.
Telephone: 1-868-612-7412 ext. 1803
Email: vgarcia@visittrinidad.co.tt

The Alternate Officer [in the event that the Designated Officer is on vacation/sick leave] is:

Mrs. Gabriella Sambrano-Mendez
Legal Officer
Tourism Trinidad Limited
Level 18, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.
Telephone: (868) 612-7412 ext. 1814
Email: gsambrano-mendez@visittrinidad.co.tt

Section 7 (1) (a) (vii)

Advisory Board, Councils, Committees and other bodies (where meetings/ minutes are open to the public)

This section is not applicable at this time.

Section 7 (1) (a) (viii)

Library/ Reading Room Facilities

Information in the public domain can be accessed through our website at https://visittrinidad.tt/ General information enquiries can be made to the Manager, Corporate Communications & Stakeholder Relations at (868) 612-7412 ext. 1805. For the purposes of FOIA reference, documents within the public domain may also be viewed between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday (except public holidays), in the designated reading area located at:

Tourism Trinidad Limited Level 18, Tower D, International Waterfront Centre 1A Wrightson Road Port of Spain

All members of the public will be required to adhere to the rules and regulations outlined for the use of this facility:

- (a) No smoking, eating or drinking is allowed in the Reading Room facility.
- (b) Observance of all COVID-19 Regulations and protocols.
- (c) Provision of documents may be subject to a charge to cover administration costs.

SECTION 8 STATEMENTS

Section 8 (1) (a) (i)

Documents containing interpretations or particulars of written laws or schemes administered by the public authority, not being particulars contained in another written law:

- (a) The Tourism Development Act, Chap 87:22
- (b) Financial Regulations and Instructions
- (c) Public Health Regulations, Guidelines and Protocols
- (d) Procurement Polices and Guidelines

Section 8 (1) (a) (ii)

Manuals, rules of procedure, statements of policy, records of decisions, letters of advice to persons outside the public authority, or similar documents containing rules, policies, guidelines, practices or precedents.

- (a) Strategic Plan 2020 2023
- (b) Code of Conduct
- (c) Performance Management Policy
- (d) Whistleblowing Policy
- (e) TTL Recruitment Policy
- (f) Health Safety Security and the Environment Policy

Section (8) (1) (b)

In enforcing written laws or schemes administered by the public authority where a member of the public may be directly affected by that enforcement, being documents containing information on the procedures to be employed or the objectives to be pursued in the enforcement of the written laws or schemes.

There are no statements to be published under this section at this point in time.

SECTION 9 STATEMENTS

Section 9 (1) (a)

A report of a statement containing the advice or recommendations, of a body or entity established within Tourism Trinidad Limited.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (b)

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations, (1) of a body or entity established outside Tourism Trinidad Limited by or under a written law, (2) or by a Minister of Government or other public authority for the purpose of submitting a report or reports, providing advice or making recommendations to Tourism Trinidad Limited or to the responsible Minister of that public authority.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (c)

A report or statement containing the advice or recommendations, of an inter-departmental Committee whose membership includes an officer of the Tourism Trinidad Limited.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (d)

A report or a statement containing the advice or recommendations of a committee established within Tourism Trinidad Limited to submit a report, provide advice or make recommendations to the responsible Minister or to another officer of Tourism Trinidad Limited who is not a member of the committee.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (e)

A report (including a report concerning the results of studies, surveys or tests) prepared for the public authority by a scientific or technical expert, whether employed within the public authority or not, including a report expressing the opinion of such an expert on scientific or technical matters.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (f)

A report prepared for the public authority by a paid

consultant.

(a) Tourism Trinidad Limited Three-Year Strategic Plan (2020-2023).

Section 9 (1) (g)

A report prepared within the public authority and containing the results of studies, surveys or tests carried out for the purpose of assessing or making recommendations on the feasibility of establishing a new or proposed government policy, programme or project.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (h)

A report on the performance or efficiency of the public authority, or of an office, division or branch of the public authority, whether the report is of a general nature or concerns a particular policy, programme or project administered by the public authority.

- (a) The Tourism Trinidad Limited Administrative Reports 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.
- (b) Financial Reports.

Section 9 (1) (i)

A report containing (a) fiscal plans or proposals for the re-organisation of the functions of the public authority (b) the establishment of a new policy, programme or project to be administered by the public authority, or (c) the alteration of an existing policy programme or project administered by the public authority, whether or not the plans or proposals are subject to approval by an officer of the public authority, another public authority, the responsible Minister of the public authority or Cabinet.

- (a) Annual Draft Estimates of Expenditure
- (b) Tourism Trinidad Limited Three-Year Strategic Plan (2020-2023)

Section 9 (1) (j)

A statement prepared within the public authority and containing policy directions for the drafting of legislation.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (k)

A report of a test carried out within Tourism Trinidad Limited on a product for the purpose of purchasing equipment.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (I)

An environmental impact statement prepared within Tourism Trinidad Limited.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.

Section 9 (1) (m)

A valuation report prepared for Tourism Trinidad Limited by a valuator, whether or not the valuator is an officer of Tourism Trinidad Limited.

There are no statements to be published under this subsection at this time.