

Pioneers Of Prosperity Extends Deadline



■ Pictured from left to right at a Pioneers of Prosperity information and Recruitment Session held at The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce on Friday, March 6, 2009 is Andrew Stanford, Assistant Manager of the Business Advisory Services Unit of The Bahamas Development Bank, Anne Marie Bain, Economic Commercial Specialist with the United States Department of State Economic Commercial Section, Abigail Noble, Country Representative for Pioneers of Prosperity for The Bahamas, Philip Simon, Executive Director of The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce, Dale McHardy, Manager of Business Advisory Services Unit at The Bahamas Development Bank, Katherine Mackey of the Ink Center and Office Supplies and Allington Hunter, President of Palencia Manufacturing Co Ltd. Photo by Eric Rose.

The official deadline for applications to the Pioneers of Prosperity Caribbean Awards Program has been extended to March 23, 2009. Eligible business owners are encouraged to visit the Pioneers of Prosperity website and apply immediately.

"In speaking with several people here last week, we heard that many prospective applicants had wanted to apply but had not had the chance yet, and mentioned they would benefit from an two extra weeks," said Abby Noble, country representative for the Bahamas.

"We are pleased with the number of applications we have received from business owners throughout the Caribbean but remain convinced that many more 'winners' are out there," stated Julie Kennedy, Director of Pioneers of Prosperity Caribbean.

The Bahamas Development Bank, The Inter-American Development Bank, The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce, The Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce, The Abaco Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas have come out in show of support for the Pioneers of Prosperity program, which launched on February 18 with an event at The Bahamas Development Bank on Cable Beach.

A similar launch was held in Freeport, Grand Bahama. Also information and recruitment sessions were staged in both Abaco and Nassau.

Pioneers of Prosperity is a global awards program that seeks to inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs in emerging economies by identifying, rewarding, and promoting truly outstanding businesses who

can serve as role models to their peers.

In addition to being eligible for grants of up to \$100,000 USD to invest in technical infrastructure and training for their companies, winners of the Pioneers of Prosperity Award will be connected to networks of technical expertise, potential investors, and other cutting-edge entrepreneurs on the local, regional, and global level.

Pioneers of Prosperity's partners include The Inter-American Development Bank, John Templeton Foundation, 7 (Seven) and OTF Group.

Applications for the Pioneers of Prosperity Award must be submitted online and can be found at <http://pioneer-sofprosperity.org/Application/Application.html>. The application period for the award will close on March 23rd.