

Around the HRC

TCI HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

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Smart Supermarket - Providenciales

PUFYR Breaks Records and Builds Momentum in October & November

The Pop Up For Your Rights (PUFYR) campaign continued to gain traction as one of the Commission's most impactful outreach initiatives, engaging a total of 130 individuals across three sessions. On October 9th, 2025, officers connected with 33 patrons at IGA Supermarket, Leeward Highway.

In November, the team returned to IGA on the 11th and introduced the campaign to Smart Supermarket, Downtown Providenciales, on the 13th, where a record-breaking 82 individuals were engaged, marking the highest turnout for any PUFYR session to date. Officers facilitated interactive conversations, distributed educational materials, and promoted continued engagement with the Commission's services. Targeted outreach strategies, particularly pre-prepared materials at Smart, significantly boosted visibility and effectiveness. With its reach expanding and momentum building, the Commission looks ahead to continuing its mission to make human rights education accessible to all through PUFYR campaign.



Teach + Tour Wraps Up in North Caicos

On October 14th, 2025, the Commission proudly wrapped up its Teach + Tour campaign with a vibrant outreach visit to North Caicos. The team engaged students and educators at Charles Hubert James Primary (CHJPS) and Adelaide Oemler Primary (AOPS). A heartwarming moment unfolded at CHJPS, where Investigations Officer Mrs. Gardiner, a former student, reunited with Principal Mrs. Comoseta Campbell, recalling that Mrs. Gardiner was the last student to receive an award from the school's patron, Mr. Charles Hubert James. The visit also included a facility review at the North Caicos Police Station, a meeting with District Commissioner Mr. Walkin, and meaningful door-to-door engagement with residents. With resources shared and connections made, the campaign concluded on a high note, with a final report in progress to share key findings and recommendations.



Empowering Youth Through Human Rights Education

In October 2025, the Human Rights Commission continued its mission to inspire and educate the next generation through a series of interactive Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) sessions across multiple schools. Education & Outreach Officer Samuel Lightbourn, alongside team members Ms. Rochelle Bassett, Ms. Enjaleek Dickenson, and Mrs. Jabrinia Gardiner, led engaging workshops for Grade 3 and 4 students at Richmond Hill Preparatory School, Provo Christian School, and Community Christian Academy. Through hands-on activities and lively discussions, students explored their rights and responsibilities as young citizens of the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Commission extends heartfelt thanks to all participating schools for their warm hospitality and enthusiastic participation.

New Leadership, Continued Commitment: HRC Welcomes Incoming Board

On November 5th, 2025, the Turks and Caicos Islands Human Rights Commission proudly announced the appointment of its new Board, ushering in a new era of leadership in the ongoing mission to protect and promote human rights across the Islands. Mr. Marc Rawlins, a long-serving Commissioner with over six years of experience, was named Chairman, joined by newly appointed Commissioners Dr. Francois Bourne, Ms. Llana Ewing, and Rev. Frednor Toussaint. Continuing in her role is Commissioner Mrs. Grescelle Missick, bringing valuable continuity to the team. The Commission also extended its heartfelt thanks to outgoing members Ms. Roxann Wake-Forbes (Chair), Mrs. Melanie Smith, and Ms. Renée Lewis for their dedicated service and contributions. Chairman Rawlins affirmed the Board’s commitment to fairness, equality, and dignity for all, as the Commission continues to strengthen partnerships and champion human rights at every level.



Voices for Rights 2025: Celebrating Expression and Advocacy

In celebration of International Human Rights Day, the Commission hosted its second annual Voices for Rights: A Community Dialogue on December 10th, 2025, at Beaches Resort. Under the theme “Justice Over Violence, Freedom Over Fear,” the event united youth, educators, creatives, civil society, and government representatives for a powerful dialogue on gun violence, justice reform, and safer communities. The event featured a dynamic panel discussion, as well as poetry, essay, and graphic design competitions that highlighted the advocacy talents of young people. Winners included Marc Smith (Poetry), Paris Bassett (Essay – Thelma Lightbourne Primary), and Kavya Mirwani (Graphic Design & Theme – BWIC). With generous support from sponsors and community partners, the Commission reaffirmed its commitment to amplifying voices and advancing human rights through creativity and collaboration.

Poetry with Purpose: Celebrating Human Rights Through Art

On November 8th, 2025, the Commission, in partnership with Bring Your Own Creativity (BYOC) and BAL4 Lounge, hosted its first-ever Live Poetry Competition in celebration of International Human Rights Day. Poets and performers captivated the audience with powerful pieces addressing themes such as gun violence and remand reform. Judges Ms. Bianca Garland, Mr. Denver Abuan, and Commissioner Dr. Francois Bourne lent their expertise to this inspiring evening of artistic advocacy. The event reinforced the role of creative expression in raising awareness and sparking meaningful change.



Left to right: Mr. Smith, Poetry Competition winner, Director Smith, and Commissioner Dr. Bourne.

Historic Legal Milestone: Mr. Mark Fulford’s Landmark Publication

The Commission congratulated Attorney-at-Law Mr. Mark A. Fulford on the November 8th, 2025 launch of his groundbreaking book, Law and Constitution – Navigating the Legal Landscape of the Turks and Caicos Islands. As the first comprehensive legal text of its kind authored by a Turks and Caicos Islander, the publication strengthens public understanding of constitutional rights and advances legal literacy across the nation.

Honouring Sacrifice and Reaffirming Peace: Remembrance Day 2025

On November 9th, 2025, Chairman Marc Rawlins represented the Commission at the National Remembrance Day Church Service at St. Monica’s Anglican Church, joining community leaders, veterans, and uniformed services to honour those who lost their lives in global conflicts. The observance served as a powerful reminder of the enduring importance of peace, unity, and human dignity.

  Turks and Caicos Islands Human Rights Commission

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Voices For Rights: A Community Dialogue 2026

