



**Speech**

**by**

**Senator the Honourable Randall Mitchell**

**Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts**

**at the**

***Launch of CARPHA's Caribbean Travellers Health App and  
Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp***

**on**

**5 November 2020**

**At**

**La Boucan Room, Hilton Hotel**

Today it's indeed my pleasure to deliver remarks at what is a significant step in the fight against the spread of COVID-19 and in preparation for our post-pandemic reality. Apart from the core health sector, the travel and tourism industry was the first to be impacted, has suffered the greatest, and will also be among the last to recover.

Within that recovery process, the Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and the Caribbean Travellers Health App will be key tools to ensure that visitors to Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean find comfort in the knowledge that our destinations are safe and healthy spaces.

This means that in our new normal, we must offer assurances that visitors health and safety are paramount. Here in Trinidad and Tobago, we understand this, and the tourism, culture and arts sectors are working with the Ministry of Health, CARPHA, and other relevant agencies to develop and roll out comprehensive plans for all our stakeholders.

To date the Ministry of Health has produced several health and safety guidelines to guide the reopening of the economy, particularly for places often frequented by travellers. Moreso, our two international airports, Piarco International and ANR Robinson International, have already achieved accreditation through the Airport Council International and the Airport Health Accreditation Programme.

Stakeholders are being trained, and we are confident that they will be able to display CARPHA'S Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and be listed on the Health Assurance App.

As you're aware, Trinidad and Tobago's early response to the pandemic was lauded internationally<sup>1</sup> but this would not have been possible without the support of CARPHA, our CMO and local public health agencies, Tourism Trinidad Limited (TTL), the Tobago Tourism Agency (TTA), the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago and our many stakeholders.

This health and safety intervention by CARPHA will position Trinidad and Tobago and the rest of the region, as open for business and underscores our commitment to the health and safety of our travellers.

CARPHA's persistence in the continued development of safety systems in the tourism sector, and its foresight in the development and launch of the Caribbean Travellers Health Assurance Stamp and the Caribbean Travellers Health App, must be commended.

We at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts stand ready to continue supporting these efforts as we navigate this pandemic and prepare our destinations for our post-COVID world.

I thank you.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://newsday.co.tt/2020/05/01/trinidad-and-tobago-now-tops-oxford-covid19-tracker/>  
<https://globalvoices.org/2020/05/01/trinidad-tobago-ranks-second-on-a-covid-19-lockdown-rollback-checklist-but-caution-remains/>