



**CONSULATE GENERAL OF SAINT LUCIA**  
**CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE SAINTE LUCIE**

60 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 909  
Toronto, ON M4T 1N5

TEL: (416) 203-8400 FAX: (416) 203-8486  
info@stluciaconsulate.ca www.stluciaconsulate.ca

**MEDIA RELEASE - 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

**Saint Lucia Consulate Hosts Inaugural Independence Cocktail Reception**

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026, the Consulate General of Saint Lucia hosted its Inaugural Independence Cocktail Reception at The Vue, Royal Woodbine Golf Club. The event was headlined with a Ministerial Guest of Honour from Saint Lucia, Honourable Danny Butcher, the dynamic Minister with Responsibility for Early Childhood, Special, Continuing, and Technical Education, and Digital Transformation, who was accompanied by his wife Ellen.

In attendance were Consuls General from the Caribbean and the wider world, Ontario Provincial Officials, Toronto and Saint Lucian VIPs, Donors, and Saint Lucian Students, Entrepreneurs and Professionals. The ambience was elegant and unmistakably Saint Lucian from the Welcome Easel and Photo Wall to the pulsating Saint Lucian and Caribbean Rhythms played so smoothly with the professional pan sticks of Leona “Pan Sunshine” Ramsay uniting in perfect harmony with her shining stainless-steel pan.

Mr. Ernie George, Saint Lucia’s Tourism Sales Manager for USA and Canada, was the Master of Ceremonies, and he handled this responsibility with absolute mastery, promoting Saint Lucia beautifully and overseeing the draw of 2 door prizes which were won by Jean Francois Sonson and Justice Gregory Regis. One of those prizes is a 3-nights stay at Secrets St. Lucia Resort & Spa. Consul General, Henry Mangal officially welcomed guests and Minister Danny Butcher whom he introduced. He also indicated that the impetus to host the Inaugural Reception had emerged from a desire to ensure that the Consulate had its own elegant event to celebrate Saint Lucia’s Independence with its special friends and guests.

Minister Danny Butcher brought warm greetings from Prime Minister Philip J. Pierre, Minister Alva R. Baptiste and the entire Cabinet of Saint Lucia. He also assured guests that the Prime Minister and Cabinet were working with unity and purpose to address the needs of the Saint Lucian people and he urged Saint Lucians and donors in the Diaspora to continue contributing towards the development of Saint Lucia. Minister Butcher appealed especially for improved education of the children of Saint Lucia, and this resonated very positively among the invited guests.

A special feature of the event was the Consulate’s Independence 47 branded onsite photos by Teisha Gentles of Hidden Smirk Photo Booth. Our guests profited the opportunity to pose for individual, couples, and group photos to preserve the memory of an elevating evening, fittingly observed under the unifying theme of working and moving forward together for the betterment of our nation.

We thank all our nationals and invited guests who attended the event, each of whom made it special. We also thank the other entertainers, DJ Toxic who gave our guests a great mix of Saint Lucian and Caribbean groovy music; and composer, musician and former Calypso, King Nintus, who excited our guests with his originals - Happy Birthday Mother, and Iona – the attractive woman.

With the overwhelmingly positive response received, the Consulate looks forward to again welcoming our guests at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Independence Cocktail Reception next February.

~ End ~

— **Tout Sent Lisyen Sé Yonn** —