



THE AGENCY FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

P.O Box 608, Kingstown, St Vincent and The Grenadines

Tel: (784) 456-1600, Fax (784) 456-2430

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INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY 2024

The Department of Culture in collaboration with the Garifuna Heritage Foundation and the National Trust held a cultural exhibition at the Peace Memorial Hall on Friday August 9, to commemorate International Day of Indigenous Peoples.

At the same event, there was also an exhibition of indigenous related products and artefacts, facilitated by Augustine “Sardo” Sutherland.

Speaking at a short ceremony, Administrative Officer II in the Ministry of Culture, Dance Unit, Claydonna Peters said the International Day of Indigenous Peoples is a time to recognise and pay homage to the Indigenous people for their strength, resilience and perseverance over the years.

Manager of the National Trust, Laverne Bentick-Phillips said it is important for a nation to be aware of its history and of its indigenous identity because this can impact future generations, giving them a sense of identity.

Bentick-Phillips said the National Trust is dedicated to preserving our indigenous culture through young people, and this will in turn, have an impact on our cultural diversity.

President of the Garifuna Heritage Foundation, David “Darkie” Williams stressed that in the age of modern technology, the Garifuna people need to be recognised, for they were pioneers of technology.

Williams explained that many of their creations have been converted electronically but they were not given recognition or credit for their innovations.

The theme for this year is “Indigenous People, Involuntary Isolation and Initial Contact”.

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