



CLOVINE LESLIE—PRESIDENT



SANDRA HINDS—PRESIDENT-ELECT



SHERROL GASKIN—RECORDING SECRETARY



MARCUSA FARRELL—TREASURER



VERONICA HARRIS—CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



KAREN CARTER—ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER



ELMA REECE—IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



INDEPENDENCE MESSAGE FROM THE 2016-17 BOARD OF DIRECTORS BARBADOS ASSOCIATION OF OFFICE PROFESSIONALS

We are humbled yet extremely elated to wish all office professionals, citizens and residents of Barbados a Happy 50th Anniversary of Independence. We are equally elated to be serving as the Board of Directors of the Barbados Association of Office Professionals during this momentous time in the history of our nation.

Fifty years ago, this small under-developed island raised its flag as it was led into independence by the late Errol Walton Barrow. Fifty years later, the country has demonstrated that it was not a premature ideology but a step in the right direction; one that would see its loyal sons and daughters charting the way for a developed nation that can easily be classified as a world class destination.

We must not, however, become complacent and believe that our forefathers and former leaders have done sufficient to carry us forward. We have our work cut out for us as well. In this globally competitive environment our nation has seen many activities that have impacted and threatened our culture, our morals, beliefs and our general way of life.

We all have a role to play in contributing to the progress of our beautiful home Barbados, whether we are Barbadians by birth or whether we have come to adopt it as our place of abode - we can only do so by contributing positively. We, therefore, encourage you to embrace a part of the BAOP's theme for 2016-17 and "Ignite Positive Change". Let us be the change we want to see in our island—our homes, communities and organisations as we celebrate fifty years of independence.

We proclaim in our National Anthem that the Lord has been our guide for past 300 years. Let us ensure that He continues to be our guide in the next 50 years and beyond.

Happy Independence Barbados.

