

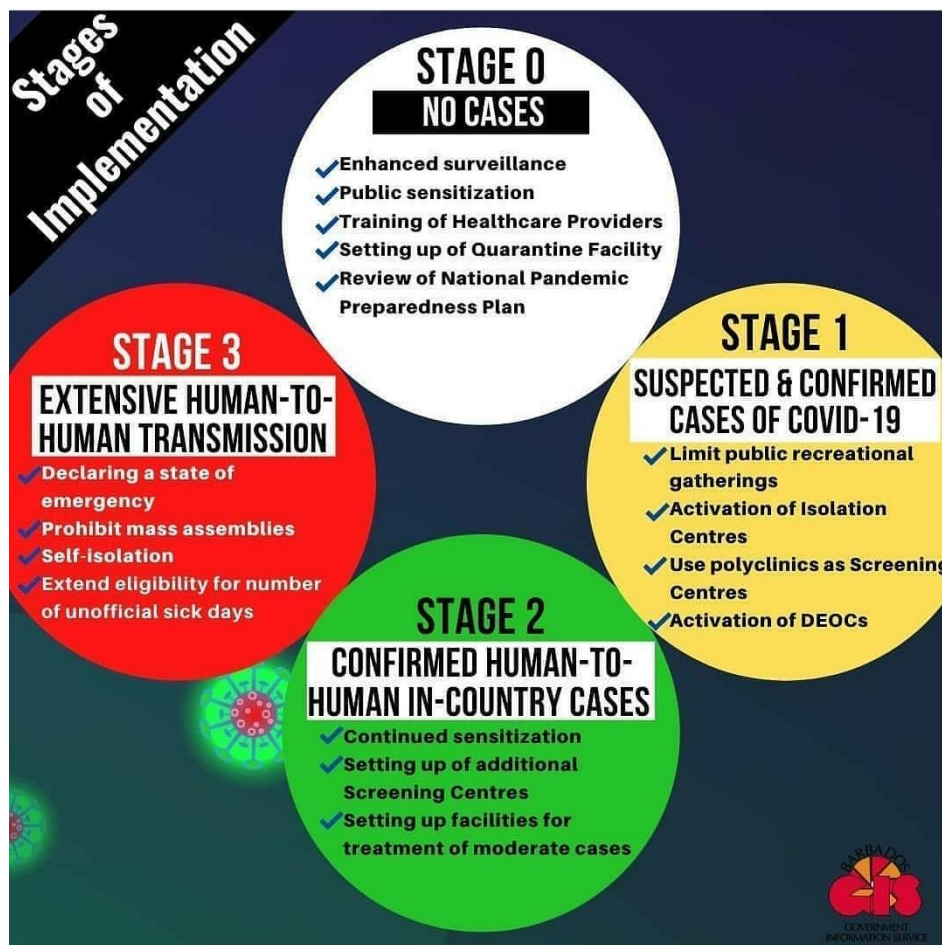
March 26<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Countrymen and Friends,

Please permit to update you on the status of Barbados as was just announced in a press conference with the Prime Minister the Hon. Mia Amor Mottley Q.C, M.P

As of tonight 8:00 p.m. March 26<sup>th</sup> 2020, Barbados has recorded 24 cases of COVID 19.

Barbados is now at **Stage 3** of the COVID 19 protocols.



The following measures will be implemented.

- 8:00 p.m – 6 a.m (*enforced*) curfew as of Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2020 until Wednesday April 15 2020.
- Persons are being asked to continue to carry out the widely circulated hygiene practices of thorough hand washing, physical distancing and keeping the most vulnerable safe. The vulnerable group has been identified as persons over 70, along with persons with chronic non-communicable diseases and other underlying serious health issues.
- Persons have also been advised to **STAY at HOME** where possible even outside of the curfew hours.

You are very aware of the confirmed cases in your provinces and cities. Canada is at Stage 2 of its COVID 19 protocol and as you know has imposed a travel ban on all persons except Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents, diplomats and flight crew. Canada's borders also remain open for trade and commerce. In keeping with the requirements of the Canadian government and in an effort to slow the spread of COVID 19 the **Consulate General of Barbados at Toronto (and the High Commission in Ottawa) are now closed to the public until further notice**

- With immediate effect, the Consulate has suspended all events on their calendar which fall within the next 3 months.
- All face to face meetings have been suspended until further notice and will instead be replaced by virtual meetings where possible.
- All applications and services related to passports have been suspended in Barbados and therefore consular services will resume after the COVID-19 threat has diminished and Barbados' Immigration is again functioning in this capacity.

We encourage you to share this information widely with the Barbadian diaspora. Please also see below contact information for the Consulate during this crisis.

**Call 416-214-9805 and follow the prompts**

Email us at [toronto.reception@foreign.gov.bb](mailto:toronto.reception@foreign.gov.bb) to make enquiries or [toronto@foreign.gov.bb](mailto:toronto@foreign.gov.bb)

We have noted that associations have cancelled or postponed their events.

We thank you for having taken that initiative and encourage you to keep yourselves, your families, friends, colleagues and everyone safe by following and encouraging others to follow the hygiene protocols of handwashing, other good hygiene practices as it relates to coughing or sneezing. Practice social distancing if you must leave home, otherwise please **STAY at HOME**, and keep abreast of the latest developments by tuning in to reliable government media sources.

If you are aware of any Barbadians including students, needing assistance, please email us at the above email addresses and we will try to assist as best we can under the circumstances.

Stay safe.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven L. Costa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Consul General