

# ENERGY FOCUS

December 2015

Adieu

Regards

Cheerio

Farewell

Au revoir

Toodle-oo

Bye-bye

Arrivederci

Goodbye

Ciao

Coda

Adios

Godspeed

Sayonara

NEWSLETTER OF THE

Independent  
Regulatory  
Commission



## I Feel Like a Dominican- Lancelot McCaskey



After seven and a half years, establishing and then managing the Independent Regulatory Commission (IRC) Lancelot McCaskey is moving on. We sat down with Mr. Mc as we affectionately call him to find out more of his experience here in Dominica. He explained that he arrived in 2008 and looking back he said it was a bit of a challenge as no one knew of regulation. He was not only required to set up the commission but also had to do teaching about regulation as well. He said despite all the challenges faced he is proud of accomplishing the task of establishing the IRC. All staff at the IRC except for the Administrative officer were hired by Mr. McCaskey. He said he is satisfied and would not do anything differently. “The vision of IRC is to be numbered as one of the top regulators in the English speaking Caribbean, that needs to change as we have already achieved that... I am leaving the IRC in body but not in spirit. I regard IRC as my baby, just want to see it grow from strength to strength. I hope it will and I hope the Government will have the good sense in the future to also bring the water company under the regulatory authority of the IRC instead of as a single sector regulator”.

Mr. McCaskey continues to implore that the term limits of the commissioners who serve on the board be extended. He explained that it is very costly to train the commissioners and soon after they are trained their term is up and a new group of commissioners have to be trained.

“I retired a long time ago and I will be going back into retirement. but if anyone wants to employ my skill in regulation I will make myself available” Says regarded as one of top regulators in the region in going forward anyone wishing to employ his skills but for now retirement.

His words of advice to the incoming Executive Director are that he must be a people’s person, must be firm on regulation and be in a position not only to guide staff but guide the Utility and the Minister.

Having lived in Dominica for seven and a half years Mr. Mc said he was shocked upon his arrival as never before has he driven through ‘jungle’ to get to capital city. He said he was impressed with Dominica. He recalled being taken to the supermarket and the then chairman who accompanied him left the vehicle open and when they returned nothing was stolen.

“I have lived in Belize, Dominica, Trinidad and Barbados, and the two places I want to visit or be associated with are Belize and Dominica. The people do not remind you on a daily basis that you are an outsider either by words or actions, I feel like a Dominican”. He lamented that Dominica is also peaceful as the first murder was reported four months after his arrival. That’s one of my lasting impressions Dominica is peaceful and the true meaning of Caribbean people”.

## To Sir

I could not ask for a better person to have as a boss. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with you; it was truly a great and memorable experience. You have taught me a lot, kept me on the move and put a smile on my face every day. It is so hard to bid farewell but I wish you the very best as you continue on your journey. You will be missed. God Bless... With Love...  
Denise Pemberton Shillingford

All the best to you Mr. Mac..... As you move on, it will do you well, to remember to carry with you, the collection of cherished memories of your stay in Dominica , and of your role at the IRC in particular  
Corine Pinard  
Complaints Clerk

It's time to say Farewell, Good luck and Best wishes for your future ventures. You will surely be missed. The days were wonderful and the memories will be cherished. It was a pleasure working with you Boss!!! Hope you never forget the IRC staff (fun loving group of people)!!!  
Nickez Bannis  
Office Assistant

I've worked with you for only 2 years but it was a rather interesting experience. Your efforts will not go unnoticed in establishing the IRC. I wish you all the best as you continue life's journey . I Will certainly miss the whistling.  
Nichole Christian Durand  
Public & Consumer Relations Officer

I have been associated with Mr. McCaskey from his very first day in Dominica in 2008. What initially started as a one year stint resulted in him becoming almost a permanent fixture at the IRC. It is with certainty it can be said that in as much as the IRC leaves an indelible mark on him, he has left an indelible mark on the IRC. I wish to thank Mr. McCaskey for his work at the Commission as well as his contribution to the body of regulatory knowledge on the island. He has become Dominican in many ways. I wish him a happy retirement from this 8 to 5 job. Best wishes  
Francis Paul  
Regulations Manager

"It was a pleasure and great learning experience working with you for the past 7 + years. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors". You will be missed"  
Keitha Peters  
Accounting Officer

Mr. Lancelot McCaskey in my opinion, was the best choice for Executive Director at the time of his appointment on July 1, 2008. Professionally, he steered the IRC as a fledgling organization successfully to what it has become; able to disburse its mandate effectively. Thus, I wish him well in his future endeavors in whatever he decides to undertake in the service of his country and know that I have the confidence in his ability to effectively contribute. He will be sorely missed. G-d speed with best wishes for peace profound.  
Justinn Kase  
Utility Engineer

"You are leaving this office, But you legacy in the establishment of the IRC will always be remembered. May you be blessed always! As we say Goodbye we ask you to keep in touch and you will be greatly missed."  
Connie Joseph Louis  
Financial Analyst



## ***Farewell Lance (Lancelot McCaskey)***

### ***JRC's Executive Director: June 2008 to December 2015***

I remember Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008, your first day in Dominica and my anticipation of your arrival from the airport with our Chairman, Mr. Carl Duncan. I was anxious to put a face to the voice of the 'young-old' man from Guyana, whom I had been communicating with even before he was interviewed for the position of Executive Director of the IRC.

That anxiety was quickly laid to rest, as Mr. Lancelot A. McCaskey briskly walked up the steps to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Guye's building on 42 Kennedy Avenue. Some thought that you would have had a hard time climbing those stairs and you proved them wrong. Unlike many, you could run up at times.

I now had a boss - a boss, who, I was very thankful for. I was no longer the 'interim mini-boss'. You brought a sense of ease and peace to me personally at the Commission; and I am sure the five board members as well. I could finally lay my burdens down, especially my lovely five (5) Commissioners then, with some high doses of 'old-men' syndrome. I think you had a significantly lower dose.

Mr. Mac...as you were affectionately called, we had our 'down' days, but we certainly had our 'up' and 'upper' ones. I remember days when both of our stubbornness, like the horns of two male rams, collided and I would hear this "*I am the boss here you know*". Indeed, I knew that, but I just needed to make my point, because in my opinion and taking into consideration the many factors, my point/idea made more sense (to me). The many times you would go home and think about it and come back and either you agreed with me or you came very close to doing so.

The distractions you got whenever you visited my office, as you paused to stare at the streets through the windows and the comments or even suggestions for me to come have a look...oh boy...though I refused sometimes, but there were moments when I just had to give in. I will not disclose through this medium the 'views' out there.JJ I wish I could place a voice recording of you calling through the closed windows, knowing full well that this was futile. I hope that I did not open the window on any occasion as I refused to be part of the conspiracy.

In the mornings, you would whistle as you came up the stairs, or at any given time of the day throughout the office. This I supposed has been recorded in the atmosphere so we will still hear its echo when you are not there.

The respect and love you demonstrated to all over the years (Chairmen, Commissioners, Staff and all you came across) surpassed many. You got affection from all, and there is a void that your departure will leave in our hearts and work at the IRC. We will definitely miss your presence at the staff social events and the extra glee on your face, as you truly demonstrated your enjoyment during those times. Your infectious laughter would cause smiles on other faces, although we may not have been aware of the joke at the time.

There is so much more that I can write, however this Newsletter will not afford me the additional space.

It is now 7 ½ years and we have come to this momentous juncture. A really bitter-sweet one for myself and others I am certain, but my concern is with your wife. I have placed myself in Marj's position, and I have also considered your **golden youthful** age... your company (wife) needs you and you need your company. It is time to stop the selfishness and allow you and your wife the liberty and luxury of growing old TOGETHER.

Farewell Lance...I will hide the tears...and I will avoid hearing you giving me the reminders of your leaving ... "*Paaaam, I only have 14 days here you know*"

*Go in peace Lance....You have been an extra-ordinary boss...You can now have some extra stewed pork in place of the curried goat.*

***By Florestine (Pam) Felix-Laurent***  
***Administrative Officer***

## Consumer Advisory Committee

The Consumer Advisory Committee supported by the Independent Regulatory Commission is making strides to maintain itself. The Committee facilitated by the IRC was created following the collapse of Consumer Against High Utility Rates (CAHUR) and the need was seen to represent consumers interests. The CAC is not that of the IRC and so can at some point take on concerns of consumers of other utility services. Executive Director Lancelot McCaskey met with members of the CAC for the final time before his departure explaining the transition to be self sufficient. The members were receptive to the information and are geared up and excited to take on the challenge of operating on their own. Members will in the new



year set up their own constitution, and organize fund raising activities in order to carry out their objective and reach their fullest potential as a committee.

If you feel you are able to make a contribution to on the Committee vacancies presently exist in Capuchin, Calibishie, Pond Case , Pointe Michel and Vieille Case.



Questions regarding your electricity provider.

Visit us at 42 Cork Street.

Or call us 440-6634/

440-7247.





## End of year Dinner/ Farewell

I want to thank you for your service and dedication to the organization ... you have worked exceedingly well, with distinction.. We want to commend you.

Bernadette Lambert  
Chairman IRC



It was a pleasure working with you. As you go back to Guyana., I am sure you will remember you seven years in Dominica

Eliud Williams  
Former Chairman IRC



It was a wonderful productive period and I believe that you have made an invaluable contribution to Dominica which will be etched in the memories of the country's history.

J. Paul Morgan  
Regulatory Consultant

You have done a wonderful job, you have set the pace. You have developed a group of highly professional people. Great job done.

Curtis Tonge  
First Chairman IRC



Mr McCaskey as always impressed me. He is an Act guru he knows the Electricity Act very well.... Mr McCaskey I wish you all the best as you go off to Guyana..

David Cassel  
Former Commissioner

I have learnt a lot from Mr McCaskey. He has exhibited his ability to get the job done.. I want to wish him well, long life and continued happiness.

Marilyn Cuffy Morris  
Commissioner

Your service provider **MUST** respond to your billing or payment query within 15 working days? Failure to do so will result in an automatic credit to your account of \$12.00 for a Domestic connection and \$33.00 for a Commercial connection. To find out more about your rights to quality service from your electricity provider, call the IRC at 440-6634 or 07247, email us at [complaints@ircdominica.org](mailto:complaints@ircdominica.org) or visit the IRC office at 40 Cork Street in Roseau (upstairs Perky's Pizza).



*The IRC  
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*A research centre on electricity with books ranging  
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both the novice and professional individuals in regards to electricity.*

**In addition to the library, also available are:**

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**Open  
Monday – Friday 9:00am – 3:30pm**

**IRC Documentation Centre**  
42 Cork Street  
**(Upstairs Perky's Pizza)**





*Wishing you a joyous  
holiday season Merry  
Christmas and Happy  
New Year.*



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