

February 3, 2012 Guests: Jamaica50 Committee (Chairman, Planning Committee – Ian Wong; Secretariat Director – Robert Bryan)

Messrs. Wong and Bryan advised the media heads of events planned for the celebration of Jamaica's 50th anniversary. Functions were to be held throughout the year. They were interested in collaborating with the media to ensure that the events were publicized locally and abroad.

Ideas were exchanged and further discourse is expected.

February 3, 2012 Guests: Peace & Love In Society, PALS (Mr. Morin Seymour, Chairman, and Ms. Janilee Abrikian)

The media heads were updated on PALS' activities. PALS advised that they had assigned 150 School Resource Officers (specially trained Policemen) to schools around the island. They execute Anger Management and Domestic Violence workshops for students, prisons, communities where violence is prevalent and at teachers' colleges. They had also, on the request of the Prime Minister, arranged a session between schoolboys and the JDF and JCF due to reports of alleged violence by the security forces. School safety manuals are provided for schools explaining how to address violence in school and its environs. PALS also partner with Operation Friendship and YUTE.

PALS advised that they were low on funds and were in need of financial support to continue to implement workshops and other programmes. They depend on funds offered by organizations to survive. The media will have further discussions to determine how they can assist.