Our ref: POWC/H/18/02
From: Organising Secretary, Public Officers’ Welfare Council
To: Supervising Officers i/c Ministries/Departments

Hiking Trail at Bras D’eau National Park, stopover at Roches Noires Cave &
Half Day at Bras D’eau Public Beach

"Take a quiet walk with Mother Nature; it will nurture your mind, body and soul"

The Public Officers’ Welfare Council (POWC) is organising a Hiking Trail at Bras D’eau National Park on Sunday 29 July 2018 for the benefit of public officers and their families.

2. Bras D’eau National Park was proclaimed as the second terrestrial National Park of Mauritius on 25th October 2011 and it stands mainly under Mahogany, Araucaria, Tecoma and Eucalyptus plantations. The Park consists of an important thriving population of mangroves, native plant species and also supports a few species of birds amongst which figures “The Coq des Bois” and a habitat of 10 species of butterfly.

3. Bras D’eau National Park - The Coq de Bois Trail description

Distance 2.7 km
Duration 1.5 to 2 Hours
Type Easy
Equipment Hiking shoes (compulsory), caps, raincoat, mosquito repellent, sunscreen

4. Programme of the day:

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>0930 hrs</td>
<td>Visit at Roches Noires Cave</td>
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<td>Near Health Track (Approx. 200 m)</td>
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<td>1000 hrs</td>
<td>Arrival at Bras D’eau Visitors Centre</td>
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<td>Scenery viewing &amp; Photo-shoot</td>
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<td>1030 hrs</td>
<td>Hiking Trail and Sightseeing</td>
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<td>1230 hrs</td>
<td>Lunch at Bras D’eau Public Beach</td>
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<td>1300 hrs</td>
<td>Free time for Leisure</td>
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<td>1530 hrs</td>
<td>Departure from Bras D’eau Public Beach</td>
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5. It is mandatory that participants be physically fit for the hiking trail. The activity is not recommended for children under 05 years. For the visit of the cave, participants should be equipped with lighting equipment/torch or mobile phones. Participants can bring along their swimsuits and enjoy their free time at Bras D’eau Public Beach. Kindly note that part of the Bras D’eau Public Beach is proclaimed as ‘Dangerous Bathing’ and participants are advised not to venture within such restricted area. The Council has taken all safety measures for the excursion. However, participants will have to bear responsibility of any mishap caused by themselves or accompanying members of their family during the excursion.

6. A photography competition will be organised amongst the participants on the day of the event. While enjoying the different aspects of the park among the dwarf trees as well as tall trees along the track, participants can catch memorable moments on their camera and if chance favors to have the photo of the bird “The Coq des Bois’ as well as very rarely seen butterflies.
The guidelines of the photography competition are at Annex 1 and the photographs should reach the Council by Wednesday 01 August 2018.

The three best eye catching photographs will be awarded a shield and a cash prize as follows:

1st Prize – Rs. 2,000
2nd Prize – Rs. 1,500
3rd Prize – Rs. 1,000

7. A nominal fee of Rs. 300 will be charged per participant, which is inclusive of transport and lunch.

8. As a token of courtesy, the POWC will provide free of charge to each participant bottled water (1 litre) and one soft drink.

9. Departure from pick-up points will be as follows:

(a) Curepipe (Near Municipality of Curepipe & SBM) 0730 hrs
(b) Trianon (Near Shoprite) 0750 hrs
(c) Réduit, University of Mauritius (Bus Parking) 0800 hrs
(d) Port Louis (Government Centre – Near Queen Victoria Statue) 0815 hrs
(e) Pamplemous (Parking – SSR Botanical Garden) 0830 hrs

Please note that the buses will leave their respective pick-up points exactly at the time indicated above and will leave Bras D’eau Public Beach at 1500 hrs. Participants not availing of transport facilities provided by the Council and latecomers will have to make their own transport arrangements.

10. Public officers interested to join the excursion are requested to fill in the enclosed form at Annex 2 and submit same together with the exact amount to the POWC on the scheduled payment date. Applicants should produce a photocopy of recent pay slip/top part of pay slip indicating the name, pay site code and NIC number or any written evidence/document attesting that the applicant is a serving public officer.

11. Payment will be received on a “first come first served basis” on Saturday 23 June 2018 from 0900 to 1300 hours at the seat of the Public Officers’ Welfare Council, 6th Floor, ATOM House, 16, Royal Street, Port Louis. In case seats are still available, payment will be extended on weekdays as from Monday 25 June 2018 from 0930 to 1400 hours.

12. A cancellation fee of Rs. 200 per participant will be charged in case of non-participation in the excursion. Please note that refund will only be considered in exceptional cases such as illness, death of close relative or any other acceptable reason, supported by documentary evidence.

13. The POWC reserves the right to cancel the excursion in case of bad weather or any other unforeseen circumstances. Participants will be refunded accordingly.

14. It would be appreciated if the contents of this letter could be brought to the attention of all the staff of your Ministry/Department. A copy of this circular letter is also reproduced on the Council’s Website: http://powc.govmu.org

S. Bundhoo
Organising Secretary

Copy to: Presidents of Staff Welfare Associations
Name of Participant

Model of Camera/Mobile Phone

Guidelines:

- The Photography Competition is open only to public officers participating in the Hiking Trail.
- Participants should submit only 02 best eye-catching photographs taken from either a camera or a mobile phone during the Hiking Trail.
- The photographs should be submitted on:
  - soft copy in jpeg format on a CD
  - hard copy of size 18 cm x 24 cm.
- Participants should use a pen name and it should be written on the back of the photographs and on the CD.
- Participants should submit, in a sealed envelope, the following information: name, designation, phone number and Ministry/Department/Division. The sealed envelope, together with copies of the photographs, should be sent to the Organising Secretary, Public Officers’ Welfare Council, 6th floor, Atom House, 16 Royal Street, Port Louis to reach him not later than Wednesday 01 August 2018. The winners of the competition will be notified in due course.
- The photographs submitted will become the property of the POWC which will have all rights thereon, including their publication.
Annex 2

Hiking Trail to Bras D’eau National Park, stopover at Roches Noires Cave & Half Day at Bras D’eau Public Beach

Sunday 29 July 2018

APPLICATION FORM

Applicant’s Name:*Mr./Mrs./Miss.................................
(*) State as appropriate and SURNAME IN BLOCK LETTERS

Designation:............................................................Tel Off:........................................Fax:............................................................

Ministry/Department:...........................................................................................................

Office Address:......................................................................................................................

Tel (Res):...................................(Cell):....................................Email Address:..............................................................

Residential Address:..............................................................................................................

Pick-up Point (✓) tick as appropriate:

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<th>Date of Birth</th>
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S/N | Name | Relationship | Date of Birth | Age | Meal Preference – (✓) tick as appropriate | Amount (Rs) |
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Total

*Every participant will be provided with bottled water (1 Litre) and one soft drink.

Note:
(i) Photocopy of recent payslip/top part of payslip indicating the name, pay site code and NIC number or any written evidence/document attesting that the applicant is a public officer in service should be produced when effecting payment.
(ii) All safety measures for the excursion have been taken by the organisers.
(iii) Participants should be physically fit for the hiking. The hiking trail is not recommended under the age of 05 years.
(iv) A cancellation fee of Rs. 200 per participant will be charged in case of non-participation to the excursion. Refund will be considered only in exceptional cases e.g. illness or death of close relative supported with documentary evidence.
(v) Participants should abide by instructions provided on the programme of the day.
(vi) Be assured that all information furnished in the form will be kept confidential.

I and my family members confirm that we are participating in the excursion at our own risk. I understand by signing this participation form that my family and I cannot enter any representation, or statement, or legal action against the Public Officers’ Welfare Council.

Date: ............................................................. Signature: .............................................................

For office use only

Amount Paid ___________________________ Receipt No. ___________________________