



BELIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

4792 Coney Drive, 2nd Floor Withfield Tower, P.O. Box 291 , Belize City, Belize, Central America

Monday, September 16th, 2024

THE BELIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY CELEBRATES A SUCCESSFUL EXPO BELIZE MARKETPLACE 2024

-For Immediate Release –

The Belize Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BCCI), takes this opportunity to thank and congratulate all exhibitors, sponsors, patrons, and members of our Executive Council and the Secretariat, on a successful Expo Belize Marketplace 2024. As intended, this year's Expo provided exhibitors the opportunity to network, build their consumer base, and showcase their talents and services on a grand scale – all of which aligns with our Triple C Philosophy – to Connect, Capacitate, and Champion. Over the events' two days, more than 10,000 visitors made their way to the grounds and were able to enjoy the wide variety of businesses and organizations that only the Expo has been known to provide on such a grand scale.

This year's "Best Booth" Competition was scored based on creativity, professionalism, innovation, and efficiency. While we appreciate the great deal of effort all exhibitors placed on their displays, the following were the winners in their categories:

- Best Overall Booth – Smart Belize
- Most Outstanding Up & Coming Entrepreneur – Little Ceramic Painters
- Best Micro Booth – HEYABBZ

The Opening Ceremony of the Expo Belize Marketplace kicked off with the Mayor of Belize City – H.W. Bernard Wagner, providing the Welcome Address. It also featured the Keynote Address by Dr. Henry Canton – Executive Director of Silk Grass Farms, who spoke about the company, its conservation and sustainability efforts, and opportunities for other local businesses to partner and improve their products. Ms. Kim Vasquez, Director of the Institute of Creative Arts (ICA-NICH), also gave an impactful presentation on the "Culture is my Business" initiative and the powerful link between commerce and culture.

BCCI President - Katherine Meighan, also delivered an address and commented on the impact of the Expo Belize Marketplace as it relates to innovation, entrepreneurship, and opportunities: "For 28 years, the BCCI has hosted this event with one goal in mind—to serve you, our members, and the wider business community."



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“This Expo embodies the BCCI’s Triple C Philosophy: Connect, Capacitate, and Champion. With over 137 businesses participating this year, 80% of which are MSMEs, and 186 booths reserved, the Expo provides a platform for entrepreneurs to Connect—to network, share their passions and ideas, and forge lasting business relationships. The Expo also serves to Capacitate our members. The BCCI Secretariat is here to guide you throughout the planning process, offering not only support but also valuable opportunities for media promotion through our nationally broadcast show, social media platforms, and other advertising channels. Finally, this event allows us, the Executive Council and Secretariat, to better understand the evolving challenges facing our members, enabling us to more effectively Champion the interests of the private sector.”

It is an honor for the BCCI to continue to provide businesses and organizations with a platform to showcase their products and services in Belize. As we look to the future, we will continue seeking new avenues to promote sustainable economic growth and inspire the business community to pursue impactful entrepreneurial ventures.



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