

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Centennial Bermuda Foundation Announces Management Restructure and Celebrates Managing Director**

Centennial Bermuda Foundation today announced a strategic management restructuring initiated by the decision of its highly regarded Managing Director, Allison Towlson, to step down effective 1 October 2025. During her remarkable six-year tenure, Mrs. Towlson has been the driving force behind Centennial's transformation, establishing a robust operational foundation that will support the organisation's mission for years to come. This thoughtfully planned transition reflects her leadership philosophy of building sustainable organisations that can thrive beyond any single individual's contribution.

Mrs Towlson joined Bank of Bermuda Foundation on 1 June 2019 and has led the organisation through significant operational transformations during her six-year tenure, beginning with the transition to Centennial Bermuda Foundation. Under her visionary leadership, Centennial has successfully implemented several critical initiatives, including:

- Opening opportunities for new Review Committee members and Board members through implementation of term limits - and ensuring appropriate skill sets and diversity in committees
- Implementing an innovative grants management platform for ease of grant applications, greater data gathering and more functionality for the staff
- Selecting a new Chief Investment Officer to manage the endowment to capitalise on greater growth opportunities
- Restructuring the Trust model for greater efficiency, reducing the overall costs for the Foundation
- Initiating the strategic planning process for a sustainable future



- Selecting a communications team to support more community engagement, expand social media campaigns, and developing a clear brand and voice

"It's been an incredible journey of growth for both Centennial and myself personally," said Mrs Towlson. "I've learned so much about the third sector and the fantastic work happening in our community. I am humbled by this experience and the opportunity to shape the future of Centennial. I never envisioned my second act being such an important one, but I am grateful for the experience, and trust that the Board placed in me. I'd like to encourage everyone to take time to understand the importance and depth of the work that the third sector does, ensuring important resources for those in need and providing programming that uplifts and encourages a greater sense of community for all."

As part of the restructuring, Centennial is pleased to announce the promotion of Vivien Carter to Director of Philanthropy. In this expanded role, Ms. Carter will oversee the organisation's philanthropic giving, lead the Scholarship Programme, which is one of the largest components of our giving annually, and spearhead philanthropic best practices across the organisation.

Additionally, two new part-time positions have been created:

- An Operations Officer responsible for the day-to-day fiscal, governance, compliance, and operational aspects of the Foundation
- A Programme Coordinator supporting the Director of Philanthropy, with focus on the Scholarship programme and community outreach

Terré Smith will transition to the role of Operations Administrator, reporting to the new Operations Officer and supporting the smooth operations of the Foundation.

Board Chair Annarita Marion stated: "On behalf of the Board I would like to express our profound gratitude to Allison for her exceptional leadership and dedication to Centennial over the past six years. What began as Allison's interest in joining our Board transformed into a remarkable journey as our Managing Director. Under her guidance, Centennial has successfully navigated several transformative projects that have strengthened our operational foundation, all while keeping our Theory of Change at the heart of every decision. Centennial continues to evolve and thanks to Allison's leadership is better positioned to achieve our vision of 'an equitable Bermuda where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.' While we will miss her daily presence as Managing Director, we are delighted that Allison will continue to contribute her valuable insights as a member of our Board."



Job advertisements for the new positions will be published this week. The organisation anticipates significant interest in these roles and looks forward to welcoming new team members to help coordinate over 45 committee members and coaches.

### **About Centennial Bermuda Foundation**

An independent philanthropic foundation, Centennial Bermuda Foundation ([www.centennial.bm](http://www.centennial.bm)) supports the Bermuda community by providing funding to a wide range of non-profit initiatives and scholarships. Its vision is that all people in Bermuda be healthy, independent, financially secure and connected to community, with equitable opportunities for all. To realise that vision, grants are focused in five key areas; Community Health, Cultural and Community Connections, Economic Participation, Fundamental Needs and Public Education. Centennial Bermuda Foundation is a private company limited by guarantee with assets acquired from private charitable trusts and has operated as an independent philanthropic foundation since 2004.

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