

PRESS RELEASE

**CARIBBEAN ARCHIVES ASSOCIATION (CARBICA)
CONSERVATOR TO ASSIST DOMINICA'S ARCHIVAL
COMMUNITY WITH POST-HURRICANE
REHABILITATION EFFORTS**

April 9, 2018

On Monday 9th April, Mrs. Valerie Martens-Monier, Head of Conservation at the Curacao National Archives is expected in Dominica for a five-day visit. In collaboration with Mrs. Vernanda Raymond, Chief Librarian and a team of officers of the Dominica Library and Information Service she is expected to assist with on-going recovery of archival, library and museum collections following the hurricanes of 2017.

Representing the Caribbean Archives Association (CARBICA), Mrs. Martens-Monier will carry out a survey of damage to buildings and collections; meet with collection caretakers and make recommendations about the on-going stabilization of damaged collections. She will hold a roundtable for staff in Government registries to field questions about salvage and recovery of Government records.

While on Island, Mrs. Martens-Monier will pay a call on the Permanent Secretary, Education and other officials. It is also planned that she will meet with members of the National Emergency Organisation to discuss ways that cultural assets may be included in national and indeed regional disaster plans going forward.

Mrs. Martens-Monier's visit is funded by grants from the Caribbean Archives Association (CARBICA) and supports its region-wide objectives to enhance member abilities to recover the loss of cultural heritage and to encourage consideration for cultural assets by disaster management authorities. The current visit is part of CARBICA's larger "Archives at Risk" project, a three-year initiative funded by the International Council on Archives (ICA).

Mrs. Martens-Monier leaves on April 14, 2018 for a similar visit to the British Virgin Islands (BVI).

For more information contact

Vernanda Raymond
Chief Librarian
Dominica Library and Information service
266 3409/3341
documentationcentre@dominica.gov.dm or dlistdominica@gmail.com