



MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

By

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DEPUTY PREMIER & MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

JUNIOR LEADERS ANNUAL CAMP 19TH JULY 2013

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to advise this Honourable House and the public of a positive life experience presently being enjoyed by 43 young people in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members will recall that the Junior Leaders programme under the Bermuda Regiment was renewed in 2012. This organization provides challenging, fun and interesting tasks for young people in an atmosphere of military discipline and structured activity.

This year, **Mr. Speaker,** the 43 Junior Leaders are supported by 7 staff of the Bermuda Regiment. I had the opportunity to visit them in Warwick Camp last week and with Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Foster-Brown we found young people engaged in a variety of activities and enjoying every minute.

Mr. Speaker, when asked how the Camp was progressing the young people were positive in their answers and indicated that they had learned:

- The value of teamwork
- Self-discipline
- Respect
- Leadership skills, and
- How to work effectively with others.

Mr. Speaker, this year's budget allocation for the Junior Leaders is \$130,000. I would submit to this Honourable House that it is money well spent and a true investment in our young people. However, **Mr. Speaker**, there is a larger success story to be told.

Together with their parents, these young people raised an impressive \$23,000 towards the cost of their trip to Toronto, Canada. **Mr. Speaker**, they raised the money through hard work and a genuine team effort.

Their week in Canada is a combination of culture, adventure training and maybe a little shopping too. **Mr. Speaker**, this is an excellent initiative and under the leadership of Major Henry Campbell, the Junior

Leaders have increased their numbers significantly.

I am certain that parents see the value in the experience for their children and I am sure that the young people themselves recognize that the exposure and hard work is paying dividends in every aspect of their lives.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker