

Association of Bi-National Chambers of Commerce in Florida announces and congratulates

> **LAURENT S. LAMOTHE** Former Prime Minister of Haiti

as the Winner of the 2016 ABICC AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN GLOBAL TRADE



for his outstanding work as an entrepreneur in assisting the governments of developing countries in the deregulation and globalization of their telecommunications and IT sectors which helped improve these countries' competitiveness and economic sustainability. Furthermore, as Prime Minister of Haiti, Mr. Lamothe implemented reforms that made Haiti safer and more business-friendly, which led to the highest level of foreign investment since the fall of the Duvalier dictatorship in the 1980s.

Mr. Lamothe successfully served as Prime Minister of Haiti between May 2012 and December 2014, the longest tenure of any Prime Minister in the last three decades. During his time in office, Lamothe presided over the design and implementation of an important social policy agenda targeting the poorest sectors of the Haitian population. Lamothe also presided over the largest infrastructure development in recent memory, including schools, bridges, roads, that is now clearly visible throughout Haiti. Under his leadership, Haiti pursued reforms that made it a safer and more business-friendly country.

Lamothe brought to the office of Prime Minister an entrepreneurial spirit and dynamism that earned him the title of "Entrepreneur of the Year" by Ernst and Young in May 2008. More recently in November 2014, Latin Trade magazine recognised his innovative skills naming him the year's Innovative Leader of the Americas.

Lamothe developed a deep sense of social responsibility throughout his life and a strong tendency to assist those in need. He is a pragmatist who throughout his role in the public sector emphasised practical solutions over partisan politics to address the urgent needs of Haiti.

Lamothe obtained a BA in political science from Barry University in Miami and in 1996 earned his MBA with honours from University of St. Thomas. In 1998 Lamothe founded Global Voice Group SA (GVG), today considered a world-leading provider of ICT solutions for telecoms and fiscal authorities.

In July 2015, Lamothe established LSL World Initiative (LSL), a global organization specialising in innovative financing for development and dedicated to the socio-economic empowerment of developing and emerging countries. LSL focuses on a specific kind of transformational financing which is totally controlled by the respective government, can be applied as a direct response to its national priority development needs, and does not rely on donor funding or incur any additional debt.

In December 2015, Lamothe founded the Louis G Lamothe Foundation in honour and memory of his father Louis G Lamothe. The Foundation focuses on inclusive social entrepreneurship. Two recent sustainable development projects which will be implemented through the Foundation are the Smart Villages initiative: to provide off-grid communities with sustainable energy and the Nan Pangnol sustainable agriculture project.

ABICC ANNUAL GALA DINNER IN HONOR OF Hon. Laurent S. Lamothe

Winner of the 2016 ABiCC Award for Leadership in Global Trade Thursday, November 17, 6.30PM The Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, Florida For your reservation, please send an email and payment to: news@abicc.org latest Friday, November 11.