



CARIF Honors Dr. Kenneth Romer for Infrastructure Leadership

Miami, Florida, 16 September 2026 – Dr. Kenneth Romer, Director of Aviation and Deputy Director General of Tourism for The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism, Investments and Aviation, has been named the 2026 Infrastructure Leadership MVP at the 4th Annual Caribbean Infrastructure Forum (CARIF) Industry Awards.

Designed to spotlight the transactions, projects, and leaders setting benchmarks for the region, the CARIF Industry Awards, sponsored by CIBC alongside KPMG, recognize innovative approaches to financing and project development, as well as individual leadership in steering the Caribbean toward more resilient and investable infrastructure.

The recognition places Dr. Romer in distinguished company. Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley received the Infrastructure Leadership MVP Award in 2025 and Dr. Nigel Clarke, Minister of Finance and Public Service for Jamaica, won the award in 2024.

Accepting the prestigious award during the CARIF Awards Ceremony and Showcase in Miami, Dr. Romer emphasized that the work being undertaken in The Bahamas is ultimately about improving the lives of Bahamians and the experience of those who visit the country.

"I am very honored to stand here...joining me on stage are the 400,000 persons who reside in The Bahamas. All that we do is designed to improve not just infrastructure, but to improve the livelihoods of Bahamian citizens and those who visit our shores," Dr. Romer said.

He also credited the wider aviation community for contributing to the progress being recognized.

"I am particularly pleased to have my wife, Crystal, my brother, and many others in the aviation ecosystem join me. Collectively, they have contributed towards this success that we honor this afternoon," he added.

Dr. Romer said, "I am particularly thankful to New Energy and CARIF for this honor. On behalf of the government and people of The Bahamas, I thank you. We look forward to again setting standards when it comes to infrastructure development across our region."

The recognition builds on nearly 30 years of senior executive leadership by Dr. Romer across the private and public sectors. His career has spanned The Bahamas, the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and the wider Caribbean, with senior roles across aviation, tourism and hospitality, as well as the corporate and civic communities.

His participation at CARIF also extended beyond the awards stage. Dr. Romer was a panelist during the Gateway Development: Airports and Airlift session. He contributed to the regional conversation around aviation infrastructure, air connectivity, and the role of gateways in supporting Caribbean development.

Now in its fourth year, the CARIF Industry Awards form part of the wider Caribbean Infrastructure Forum, which brings together government leaders, investors, financiers, development institutions, project developers, and other stakeholders focused on advancing infrastructure investment and development across the region. CIBC Caribbean has supported CARIF since its inception in 2016.

Ends



From left is Director of Aviation and Deputy Director General of Tourism at the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism, Investments and Aviation, Dr. Kenneth Romer and CIBC Caribbean Senior Director and Head of Corporate Banking and Sustainable Finance, Kemar Polius.



Dr. Kenneth Romer, 2026 Infrastructure Leadership MVP pictured in center, was a panelist during the Gateway Development: Airports and Airlift session.

CIBC Caribbean

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