

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
December 3, 2019



CHRISTOPHER ANAND

JACK RYAN: I would like to introduce Christopher Anand, managing partner of Nexus, who is here to talk about the One Bahamas Fund.

CHRISTOPHER ANAND: Thank you, everybody, for coming to The Bahamas this week. I know it's a busy time of the year between Thanksgiving and Christmas, and it's a pleasure to welcome you every year and it's really appreciated this year maybe more than ever.

As pretty much all of you would know, early in September there was a pretty horrendous hurricane that hit The Bahamas, Hurricane Dorian. What not everybody understands is The Bahamas is actually 700 islands, only about 35 of which are inhabited. This is the most populated island. You know it as Nassau, but it's actually called New Providence.

In the northern part of the country, there are two islands, one called Abaco and one called Grand Bahama and hurricanes basically form off the coast of Africa and they pretty much travel across the Atlantic and they basically heat up and develop, so on.

Unfortunately for the northern part of The Bahamas where these two islands are located, there's pretty much no land mass between here and Africa. So with a hurricane you would love someone else to take the first punch, the first hit kind of draws the energy and the sting out of the hurricane, but those two islands sit there exposed and on a very unlucky day they will get it. And they got a horrific storm this year. Did a lot of damage and stuff.

And, you know, this tournament and you being here is a platform, and if I can ask one thing of you all, that is the biggest gift you can give this country is to tell people that The Bahamas is open today. It's here, it is not destroyed. The best thing that can happen for this country is to get the tourists back. So if I can ask all of you one gift you could give this country and we'll be forever grateful in your support and everything you do for us, but that is a big message. If you could get that out, that would be fantastic because some people are not coming to The Bahamas because they feel like Bahamians are upset or their lives have been destroyed, but the reality is, it's a small part of the country and the way this country will rebound is by having tourists keep coming back. So if you could do that we would be eternally grateful.

One thing I feel like I wanted to give you an update on, about two days after the storm I happened to be out of the country and I got a phone call from Justin Timberlake, who is one of the partners of Nexus. He was in Europe and he said we've got to do something. So the parent company of Nexus is owned by Joe Lewis and Tavistock Group, Tiger, Justin Timberlake, Ernie Els, and I'm the managing partner. So we're the main shareholders of the Nexus Collection which owns Albany. So the significance of Justin making that phone call

was important. He said we've got to do something.

Now, we are mere mortals in the ordinary world and for us to stand up and do something will have one level of impact but for Justin and Tiger stand up and get involved in something, it has a whole other level of impact, and that's kind of what happened. Justin made the phone call.

We then called Tiger and his team and said Justin would like to do something more and get public with this, which we never really do any of that stuff. At the Nexus level, we kind of do things as friends and so on. So this was the first time commercially we asked Justin and Tiger to do something together, and Tiger couldn't have been more gracious in saying I'm one hundred percent in, come up with a plan.

So basically we came up over a weekend with the idea to create a fund called the One Bahamas Fund. Nexus anchored it with a million dollar gift and we asked RBC if they would match it. They're a big part of this community and to their credit they said yes. We then went out to our homeowners here at Albany and raised another several million dollars. So today this fund stands at around \$8 million.

There are different phases of recovery that an organization like ours can play in, so the immediate disaster is often handled by people like the Red Cross and stuff like that, and they did an amazing job, but they leave. We are long-term stakeholders in this country. We've been investors here for 15 years. We know how to get things done, we know the areas to avoid and so on. So we're taking a slightly more medium to longer term approach.

So I wanted to give you an update on the first three projects that we funded. Because Justin and Tiger got behind this, we were able to raise \$8 million and hopefully we'll raise more. But what's also been equally interesting is when the One Bahamas Fund is set, it will put some money into something. It has attracted a multiplier effect. So the multiplier effect of them being out there for us, which is fabulous, has been not only the profound amount of money we've raised, but it's had additional impact on other projects.

So I am going to tell you something today that's news, that is we've just agreed to fund the rebuild of an orphanage in Grand Bahama. Interestingly enough, we're putting in an amount of money, it's about \$300,000 out of our \$8 million, but the Kate and Justin Rose Foundation are also contributing a significant amount of money to this orphanage. And a fantastic charitable organization called SBP that was born out of Hurricane Katrina, they have also agreed to put in a significant amount of money.

So our \$300,000 is helping anchor an over one and a half million dollar rebuild of an orphanage. So that is not an uncommon story. We have two other projects like that. We're just doing something in Abaco with an air burner and we've put in a certain amount of money and we've raised four times that.

So what I wanted to do is just really two key points here. One is if you could let the world

know The Bahamas is open for business. You're seeing it, the place is not destroyed, that would be fantastic. That's the best gift you can give this country.

And the second is the One Bahamas Fund, I think all of us are very grateful to Justin and Tiger for getting behind it and our homeowners here at Albany and now it's taken on a life of its own and we hope to do good with that money. So thank you for your time, I hope you have a great week.

JACK RYAN: Thank you, Christopher.