



PR#044

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Prime Minister Visits the Central Medical Lab and Blood Bank**

Belmopan. December 16, 2020. 5:25 p.m.

The Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño today visited the Central Medical Laboratory and the Belize National Blood Transfusion Service (Blood Bank) in Belize City.

During his visit, the Prime Minister met with Mr. Juvencio Chan, Acting Director at the Central Medical Laboratory, to discuss new testing protocols and reducing the testing backlog. Also discussed was the training of laboratory technicians at the Belize Agricultural Health Authority and the upgrading of the laboratory at the Ministry of Agriculture to assist with COVID-19 testing.

A recovered COVID-19 patient, the Prime Minister has committed to donate blood at the Blood Bank on January 4, 2021, marking his sixth week of recovery. The plasma from recovered patients may contain COVID-19 antibodies which has been evaluated as a possible treatment for persons battling the virus.

**Ends**