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5. Recent pay slip
6. Loan evidence
7. Demonstrate ability to repay loan within 15 months and repayment must be done by payroll deductions, standing order or salary assignment
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	AMOUNT	SAVINGS	TOTAL	AMOUNT	SAVINGS	TOTAL
\$ 500.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 56.00
\$ 1,000.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 72.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 92.00
\$ 1,500.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 155.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 130.00
\$ 2,000.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 145.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 165.00
\$ 2,500.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 245.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 200.00
\$ 3,000.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 285.00	\$ 215.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 235.00
\$ 3,500.00	\$ 310.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 330.00	\$ 252.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 272.00
\$ 4,000.00	\$ 355.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 288.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 308.00
\$ 4,500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 345.00
\$ 5,000.00	\$ 445.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 465.00	\$ 360.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 380.00

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# LET'S TALK ABOUT WAGES, PRICES AND PRODUCTIVITY

## We are all in this together: De Allie

**There must be a sincere collaboration among employees, employers and workers representatives in order to maximize production and ensure the long term development of the country.**

Newly appointed senator who will represent the private sector in the Upper House Mr. Christopher De Allie has long advocated a closer working relationship and understanding among these groups rather than constant conflict and disagreement which wastes a lot of production time.

De Allie has openly called for drastic change in the attitude of many employees who feel they can do the bare minimum of work and have the labor unions to protect them when the employer de-

cides to take action.

He sees this attitude as not only unfair to the employer but to the country as a whole as it is production and dedication both in the private sector and the public sector that will ensure the development of our economy.

At the same time he respects and supports workers' right to fairness and security on the job hence his call for more collaboration and dialogue.

As a senator De Allie continues to call for the re-establishment and reactivation of the Council for Wages Prices and Productivity.

He said it is necessary to have a protocol established among labor, government and the private sector on how we intend to proceed when it comes

to productivity, prices and wages.

He said this is even more critical in this new environment with rising cost of living, and increases in almost every aspect of our economy. He said we must get that understanding among those entities on where we want to see things go, how we intend to adjust our style of living in relation to cutting back as well as increasing productivity.

De Allie, the Manager of Sisson Paints, Grenada Ltd. said if we don't do that we may end up in a scenario where every time a negotiation comes up between a company in the private sector or government on the one hand and workers' representatives on the other it will end up in dispute.

He said workers are go-



MR. CHRISTOPHER DE ALLIE

ing to claim that things are hard which the case is indeed and therefore

they want 15 and 20% increases to cope with the situation and the

private sector will say it is unreasonable because that kind of increase will kill the business.

He described it as a vicious cycle where if the private sector is to give those increases they will have to pass it on to ensure the profitability of the business and the same people who are paid the increases will find their cost of living also increased. So where will the cycle end, he asks.

We therefore must get a protocol established, De Allie affirms and with the recent change of government he thinks as a country we are poised in a good position that gives the opportunity for all the parties to sit and engage each other and understand that it is required of all of us to make a certain degree of sacrifice for this country to stabilize economically and move on.

## THRONE SPEECH- A FIRM COMMITMENT WE HOPE

**My government's programs will ensure that every citizen develops a sense of commitment and a spirit of sacrifice towards making Grenada better.**

A short but powerfully profound sentence contained in the Throne Speech 2008 to the first session of the Eighth Parliament because if Grenada needs anything now it is a cadre of determined citizens committed to its development.

We hope though as Grenadians that the time has come when the Throne Speech is no longer just a collection of fancy sounding words and phrases but a true commitment to the people.

The Throne Speech correctly states that the first session of the Eighth Parliament was taking place in challenging circum-



SIR. DANIEL WILLIAMS, GOVERNOR GENERAL

stances but hastened to add optimistic which is how we should all feel as we gaze to the future.

Another pungent statement made in the Throne Speech that all members of parliament will do well to remember is that

"the people of this country have spoken". In fact the people have voted for change and change is what they expect.

A paragraph worth repeating here: The benefits which the institution of parliament promises to the people will best be delivered if members of parliament are mindful that the sovereignty of parliament and its immense power derive from one source, the legitimate will of the people.

It is to the people that the duty to uphold the honor and dignity of the nation is owed.

A pledge contained therein; my government having been recently elected into office with a strong mandate to govern Grenada is determined through this Parliament, to transform the social and economic landscape of our beloved

country.

A commitment to build "strong and meaningful partnerships between Government, the private sector, the trade unions and other representatives of civil society must be adhered to if we are to transform the society as we are aiming to.

The Throne Speech to the Eighth Parliament laid out as the government's priorities, good governance, reducing cost of living, stronger economic management, improving the business climate, better health care, stimulating agriculture and food security; better education and human resource development, stronger environmental management, youth empowerment and development of our culture.

To ensure good governance the establishment

of the following institutions has been promised; The Integrity Commission to ensure integrity in public life; the Public Procurement Authority to regulate and harmonize procurement practices in the public service; An Investment Policy Review Committee to review all major investment proposals before they are considered by parliament; The national Economic Council to consider and advise government on macro-economic policies and other major issues that are impacting or may impact the Grenadian economy; and The Ombudsman, who shall have the power to investigate administrative actions taken on behalf of government and other public authorities including statutory bodies.

After the Throne Speech

went into details about the development of each sector mentioned earlier it described as very ambitious the program it outlined.

A program consisting of a legislative agenda and specific sectoral policies the success of which it said will be realized by a sense of duty to serve all the people of Grenada.

My Government is satisfied that standing on a strong platform of good governance and respect for the democratic institutions our country will root our society in the traditional values of patriotism, sharing, equality and fairness.

My Government's program of national development is set to guarantee personal prosperity, social harmony, reduced poverty and peace and security.

# G'DA DEEP IN THE TRENCHES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCING

# Bankrupting the terrorist

The Government of Grenada is committed to the full implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. V. Nazim Burke was at pains to impress upon a gathering of financial service providers that if the government in office does not have the political will to ensure a sound financial system it will not happen.

Min. Burke was addressing a conference organized by the Grenada Authority for the Regulation of Financial Services (GARFIN) to deal with Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing.

The minister was firm in his conviction that political will on the part of those who run the country is an important ingredient of a sound financial system and to ensure integrity in that sector.

Speaking to representatives of practically every player in the financial services sector in Grenada—banks, insurance companies, credit unions, money transfer companies and others involved in the field.

Burke said of the first tasks undertaken by the government toward a “strong and clean” financial sector will be to ensure a comprehensive and coherent legal framework. To this end legislation will soon be enacted



HON. V. NAZIM BURKE, MIN. OF FINANCE

to improve and further rationalize the Proceeds of Crime Act and revised and upgraded guidelines with respect to anti-money laundering and combating terrorist financing will also be out within a short period of time the finance minister assured the participants.

He added that a key task of the government will be to support the development of strong regulatory institutions and government will therefore identify and allocate more resources including technical assistance in strengthening the office of the Attorney General, the Ministry of Finance, GARFIN and the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) of the Royal Grenada Police Force, among other institutions in which capacity building will be a top priority of the government. Burke identified the prob-

lem of money laundering and terrorist financing as one of the major challenges facing the international financial sector adding “it is a global problem”.

He said everyone in authority and every institution has a duty to uphold the law and since our laws prohibit money laundering government must do what is necessary to stop it. Government as part of the pursuit toward this is committed to implementing the international conventions and treaties to which Grenada is a signatory.

The newly sworn in government minister said the peace and stability of the nation is essential to the happiness of the people, attracting investments that create jobs and generate revenue for government, attracting tourists and the preservation of Grenada’s good name.



CEO OF GARFIN MR. ANGUS SMITH

Touching on another issue that concerns the government Burke said money laundering facilitates corruption. He said the accumulation of economic and financial power by corrupt politicians, public officials, private officials and criminal syndicates undermines national economies and democratic systems.

Burke said “our government was elected on a platform of good governance we are committed to restoring integrity in public life. In this regard he promised the Integrity Commission will soon be established as well as the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Act.

Chief Executive Officer of GARFIN Mr. Angus Smith explained the importance of the workshop organized by his institution which covered two main areas; the 40 recom-

mendations against money laundering and the 9 recommendations against terrorist financing from the Financial Action Task Force, (FATF) which all countries must comply with and the local legislations and guidelines which give force of law to the recommendations.

He said the fight against money laundering is a never ending one and financial institutions and regulators must ensure that they keep abreast of new money laundering methods and trends.

He said those involved with financial institutions must be familiar with all relevant legislation including the Proceeds of Crime Act, the Money Laundering Prevention Act and the guidelines issued by the Supervisory Authority.

The GARFIN CEO informed the management

of financial institutions that their organizations have a duty to ensure that their staffs are properly trained and the workshop being held was one way of achieving this.

Smith said because we live in a region considered a major transshipment route for narcotics to North America; if our financial systems are weak then the opportunity for laundering funds from this trade will be attractive.

He pointed out that the options and opportunities for the movement of funds are growing and legitimate businesses can unwittingly become conduits for money laundering and terrorist financing due to

weak internal systems, poor supervision, lack of staff training and in the case of small companies like those in Grenada, a total lack of understanding of the potential risks to which they are exposed.

Because we are not immune to the scourge of money laundering Smith said we must ensure that the relevant people are properly trained, that we strengthen our systems and keep abreast with international developments both in money laundering methods and trends and the methods to fight it.

Grenada is presently in the process of preparing for a review of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force, of Grenada’s anti-money laundering laws and systems throughout the whole financial system.

**A**lways the  
**B**est  
**C**are with



## Nutritional Information

Serving size: 3 tablespoons (32g) Servings per pack: 24

Composition	Unit	per 100g	per glass	% RDA*
Energy	Kcal	458	165	13
Protein	g	19.0	6.8	42
Sugars	g	51	18.4	-
Butterfat	g	20	7.2	-
Rapeseed/ Sunflower Oil	g	4.0	1.44	-
Fibre	g	3.0	1	-
Vit A	IU	1200	430	32
Vit D	IU	185	66	16
Vit E	IU	7.5	2.7	30
Vit K1	mcg	19	6.8	45
Vit C	mg	40	14	36
Vit B1	mg	0.45	0.16	23
Vit B2	mg	0.8	0.30	37
Vit B6	mg	0.5	0.18	18
Niacin	mg	6.5	2.34	26
Folic Acid	mcg	150	54	100
Vit B12	mcg	1.2	0.43	61
Pantothenic Acid	mg	1.75	0.6	20
Biotin	mcg	15.0	5.4	27
Phosphorus	mg	530	191	24
Calcium	mg	830	300	37
Magnesium	mg	60	22	27
Potassium	mg	860	310	-
Iron	mg	7.0	2.5	25
Zinc	mg	6.0	2.0	21
Iodine	mcg	50	18	26
Selenium	mcg	12	4.3	21
Sodium	mg	260	94	-



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  - Vitamin C** - Boosts immune system
  - Vitamin D** - Assists in the absorption of minerals like calcium
- Plus, it's got that great taste they'll love!

### How to make

#### Dairy Dairy ABC

Add 3 heaped tablespoons to 1 glass (250ml) of previously boiled water and stir until powder is completely dissolved.



### To make more

#### Dairy Dairy ABC

Add 1 part powder to 3 parts previously boiled water and stir until completely dissolved.

- ! Serve immediately or cover and refrigerate prepared milk. Use within 48 hours.
- ! Discard left over milk.

\*RDA: Recommended Daily Allowance for children from 1 to 3 years old, USA RDA '89



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# New Marketing Manager at Huggins Automotive Division EXCITED AND REARING TO GO

## - ALLECIA IS ONE LADY THAT INTENDS TO DELIVER!

Challenges are the spice of life and some people perform best when the pressure is on to deliver.

We are all familiar with those persons who live for a good challenge.

New marketing Manager of the Motor Division of Geo. F. Huggins G'da. Ltd. Mrs. Allecia Andrew-Edwards understands that the demands on her will be great but she will have it no other way and looks forward to embracing the task of selling the goods and services offered by the Motor Division of the prominent Grenadian company.

Mrs. Andrew-Edwards, a fifteen year veteran of the Motor Division of the Company has been exposed to different areas of its operation and felt herself ready to take on the mantle of Marketing Manager when the position became vacant with the resignation of the last person who filled the spot.

When the post became empty, she confidently made a proposal to the Director of the Motor Division, Mr. Royston La Hee, which he eventually accepted and a new chapter opened in the career of the ambitious professional, wife to Tarig Edwards and mother of Alexa.

The firm of Geo. F. Huggins, prides itself on making every effort to consistently offer the highest quality of goods and maintain an exceptional level of service to its customers.



MRS. ALLECIA ANDREW-EDWARDS, NEW MARKETING MANAGER OF THE MOTOR DIVISION OF GEO. F. HUGGINS G'DA. LTD.

The Motor Division in particular, which markets Nissan and Hyundai vehicles and spares, Goodyear Tyres, Energex Batteries, a full Service & Car Care Department, has over the past several years distinguished itself internationally for the quality of its performance, winning the Nissan Best Services Award on more than one occasion.

Mrs. Andrew-Edwards brings a lot of confidence to her new position but no

pompousness. She said even before she got into the position she thought it was something she could have done and is quite pleased to be given an opportunity to further utilize her skills after having served at various times in inventory, as Secretary and office Administrator.

When asked by Barnacle "what do you like about being responsible for marketing in the Motor Division?" Mrs. Edwards

replied that she especially appreciated the diversity the new position offers as nothing stays the same and you are exposed to different things all the time.

She welcomes the challenge of bringing out her creativity and when meeting customers, ensuring that a win/win situation is achieved.

Having been with Huggins for a number of years and especially with

the Motor Division, those years have helped to prepare the new Marketing Manager for her role. She also admits having learned quite a lot from other members of staff whom she has been interacting with over the years.

She is enhancing her ability in the field by pursuing a degree in marketing having switched her major from Liberal Studies to marketing to make her more effective

at her job.

The ambitious lady is under no illusion about what will be expected of her in this new dispensation and is prepared to do everything in her power to justify the confidence of her Divisional Director Mr. La Hee and CEO of the company, Mr. George A. Menezes.

She intends to take a firm grip on things, revisit the areas of the Division that have suffered from the two-year void in the

area of marketing manager, ensure that every department carries its weight and ensure excellent service throughout the Division.

The new marketing boss has her plans well laid out. She will raise the standard of her Division and preside over greater brand awareness. She will set out to increase and maintain the confidence of the motoring public and find the balance between satisfying the requirements of the company and pleasing customers and potential customers. After all, the goal of the company is to please those who do business with it.

Mrs. Andrew-Edwards will accentuate the message that what she is marketing are good quality products and an exceptional service.

"I will continue to prove to the Grenadian people that Huggins offers excellent products and has the service to back it up."

Having worked in the Division for a long time she has the advantage of product knowledge, understanding of the complexity of the staff and customers that someone coming into the company for the first time would not have had. In her words she has the ability and just needs a chance to let it out.

With her outgoing personality, her air of confidence and belief in herself, one can certainly expect Allecia to introduce a different trend in marketing in Huggins Automotive Division.

A past student of the St. Joseph Convent, St. George's and a people's



THE SALES STAFF AT HUGGINS MOTOR ARE REARING AND READY TO GO



person since in school, the affable lady has not changed. She still maintains her school days out regularly with her

girlfriends.

She describes herself as a straightforward person who does not let things get to her and holds no

grudges.

Mrs. Andrew-Edwards thoroughly enjoys her job and loves the company she works for and has no

intention of leaving even for a much larger salary. According to her peace of mind is much more important than money.

She confesses to being quite at peace with the boss she answers to and the other members of staff whom she works alongside.

As a general principle, she said, Huggins sees people as the most important factor in everything the company undertakes and she will maintain that trend in her end of things.

Huggins Automotive Division has been introducing some exciting new products lately that have captured the hearts and imagination of customers and prospective customers; now an exciting new face has been introduced into the marketing department which will, from all appearances do the same.

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The 14-litre glove box, with a built-in cooling function, offers loads of space. The centre console holds up to eight of your favourite CDs, plus two bottle holders. Both the Acenta and Tekna models boast an under-seat drawer to hide electronics and other personal items.

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With high-density padding, the Nissan Qashqai's seats are plush and supportive. Passengers travel first class with their own armrests\* and cup holders, along with ample leg room.

**CLASS**

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# Up From Slavery A Long Time Now

Booker T. Washington was born a slave in America and rose up from slavery to become one of the most recognized names in the annals of Negro achievement in the history of the United States.

He started and nurtured to success in Tuskegee, Alabama what would eventually become one of the greatest institutions of normal and industrial learning for black people in the nation in addition to being the most prolific and sought after black speaker on race relations and the progress of his race.

All this he did in the face of fierce opposition both from prejudiced white people and bitter and jealous members of his own race.

This did not happen by chance. From the time he was liberated as a small boy after the American civil war, Booker T. Washington was determined to lift himself to the highest levels of achievement and this he did through extremes of faith, sacrifice and determination.

Right here at home we have had our fair share of achievements as a people and as individuals having to surmount more than our share of obstacles and challenges by our own people and those foreigners who would have us remain in an abject state of subservience and cap in hand, groveling boot licking.

These foreigners aided and abetted by the most dastardly of our own people some of them in high authority who were willing

to sacrifice their own people and country for personal gain were given the impression that Grenada was theirs and the citizens were mere incidentals.

Grenadian history has recorded a number of uprisings against this state of affairs by various means and with varying degrees of success but the clear message has always been this is our land and we demand to be treated as if we are here.

Don't treat is as if we are still in the plantation house when the slave owner would refer to us as if we were but a pet or not there at all even if we were right there cleaning his shoes or fanning flies from his food.

Historically too those of us who dared resist or challenge the status quo were severely punished, branded as trouble makers or threatened as the period allowed.

The modern weapon of choice is the lawsuit and recently it has been freely brandished about both by the would be oppressor/re-colonizer and his Uncle Tom collaborators.

For those of us who would fight an insidious and encircling evil the most readily available weapon is the media. To people with less than honorable intentions the media is an enemy. Control or silence the media and they have secured a certain degree of safety.

Oppressors and evil doers throughout time have sought to raise a curtain between themselves and those who would seem when they are

about their dark and devious pursuits.

If the situation or the situation would allow it they would persecute and brutally suppress those who would spread the word. This is not possible in Grenada today so the preferred method is to threaten and attempt to intimidate.

If the criminal is the only one that observes the crime then no crime is committed as far as everyone else is concerned.

When the hunter brings home a lion skin he does not relate if he set poisoned meat for the lion and hid in a tree. He will rather relate how the lion was mortally wounded in a fight with another lion and it was a mercy killing despite a gargantuan struggle between man and beast.

When entire societies and civilizations have been disseminated to the point of extinction by foreign invaders it was always explained to the world how it was done for their own good; to save them from barbarism and give them a chance at a better life-the few that survived the encounter.

In the case of certain investors in Grenada if they can hide the truth of what is happening here from the rest of the world then they can claim that it is all in the best interest and advancement of the poor ignorant natives.

Anyone who exposes the truth and asks difficult but very pertinent questions is therefore a threat to be neutralized.

To the latest Sir Wal-

ter Raleigh or whatever your name is you are not in luck. This medium will not be intimidated and will not be silenced.

We can point to several foreign companies that have invested in Grenada including in the tourism sector that have respected the sovereignty of the country and the rights of the people and live in peaceful and friendly harmony with the people and the environment.

Those of you who would deny and disrespect the rights, the heritage and the ownership of the people to the natural assets of this country

will be rejected without hesitation even if you were encouraged and supported by a decadent, degenerate, heartless, despotic, corrupt, greedy, mouth-on-the-ground administration.

Furthermore we pooh pooh your worthless threats at legal action and label it for what it really is; a steaming pile of digested food that has just excited the rear end of a horse.

We just admire the elasticity of your imagination that you would concoct some vaporous illusion of libel and we would begin shaking in teeth chattering fear and run screaming from the ghastly specter of your terrifying lawsuit.

But we won't leave you entirely empty handed. We will give you a quick lesson in local Grenadian dialect an its directly related to your laughable and pathetic

threat that comes over more like a plea that we should promise never to print anything similar in the future.

You say "what is the matter with you? we say "what do you?" you say "you're pompous and presumptuous," we say "you dam fas"; you say "we will ignore you" we say "who takin' you on?" You say "be very careful" we say "watch yuhself eh".

It was only through sustained effort and steadfastness in the face of all threats and obstacles that Booker T. Washington was able to achieve his goals and claim what was rightfully his.

We have the assurance of our contributing columnist that she will never stop this campaign on behalf of Grenadians for respect for our national treasures and heritage until the heart of this evil invasion is Bru-tally pierced.

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*Don't be caught saying "if i had known"*



# Dealing with Sustainability in the Tourism Sector- A Suggestion



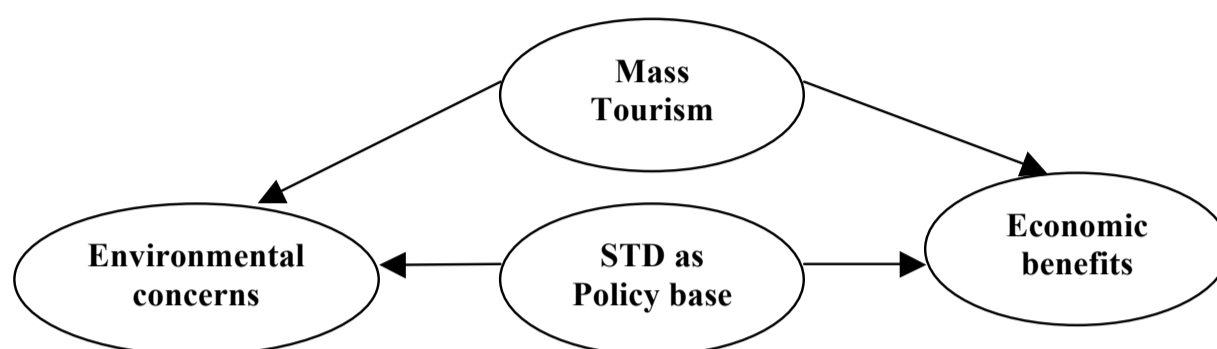
JOHN N TELESFORD

The economic benefits derived from tourism, especially for Islands in the Caribbean are well documented. The development (hotels, air ports, sporting facilities, etc) required to accommodate tourism has led to environmental degradation and change in the limited lands and fragile environments that are characteristic of Islands. But despite the positive economic benefits the advent of large numbers of tourists have had negative impacts on the quality of Island environments or the natural heritage, threatening the destruction of the attributes that have attracted the tourists to the destination in the first place. Wilkinson (2004: 84 citing Jenkins and Henry 1982: 506) summarizes this progression to destruction thus:

‘Unspoiled place with unique character attracts tourists; new buildings and amenities necessary to house tourists bring about change; more tourists produce more change; loss of initial attractive character becomes an element responsible for departure of tourists; and final result is economic, social and financial disaster.’

Mass tourism therefore has presented Island territories with what I describe in this paper as a ‘conflict’ between

**FIGURE 1: STD AS A ‘MEDIATOR’ IN THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT CONCERNS FROM MASS TOURISM AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS**



having to deal with the negative environmental concerns associated with development for tourism and the economic benefits derived from it, figure 1 above. Duval and Wilkinson (2004) describe the need to conserve and preserve the natural heritage, while maintaining the economic sustainability of tourism, as a paradox. While Apostolopoulos

dealing with this ‘conflict’, thus finding the optimum development choice between the two extremes proposed above. Dodds (2007) citing various authors supports “... the need to move towards more sustainable forms of development and policies to manage and control tourism growth (p: 48).

Twining-Ward and

sustainable tourism development “... as a situation where the uniqueness of destinations in terms of their environments, economies and socio-cultural structures is considered in developmental processes.” STD then can be described as the ‘mediator’ in this conflict and the model in figure 1 is expanded to demonstrate (Christensen and Bekmann,

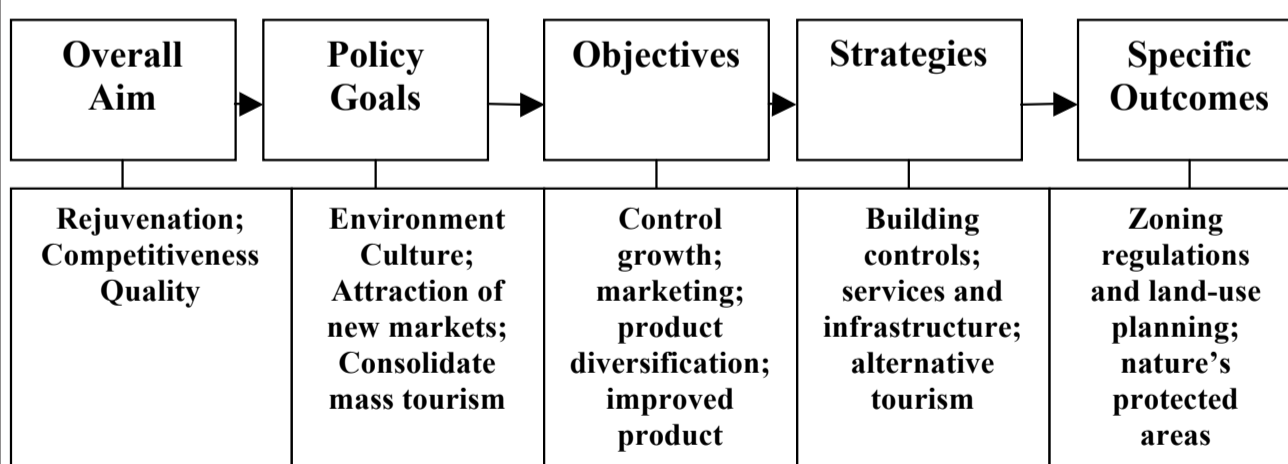
(1997: 7) and Acerenza (1985: 60). For the purpose of this paper the definition of Ritchie and Crouch (2000:2) is adopted: “

A set of regulations, rules, guidelines, directives, and developmental/promotion objectives and strategies within which the collective and individual decisions directly affecting tourism de-

evaluation, which seeks to optimize the potential contribution of tourism to human welfare and environmental quality.” Tourism policies then provide the framework within which planning occurs. Farsari and Prastacos (2001), have evaluated the policies and plans of various mass destinations in the Mediterranean with the view of developing a ‘framework’ for conceptualizing tourism policies as they move towards sustainable tourism development, see figure 2. The framework then provides the crucial elements that should be present and how these elements should interact if STD policies are to play their role as ‘mediator’ in this ‘conflict’.

Grenada developed a Tourism Master Plan since 1997, and a simple observation of actual tourism development over the last 10 years shows that in many instances the development that has taken place contradicts the contents of the policy and plan. There are creeping signs that our tourism sector is progressing to destruction; which ultimately ends with economic, social and financial disaster. It appears then that the time is now due to revisit this policy and plan with a view of ensuring its currency and that it will be effective in actually mediating the conflict between environment and economic developments. The framework thus provided here is suggested as a good place to begin this review. Policies and plans though are ONLY as good as their effective implementation.

**FIGURE 2: FRAMEWORK FOR CONCEPTUALIZING STD WITHIN TOURISM POLICIES**



**SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM FARSARI AND PRASTACOS (2001:94)**

and Gayle (2002) argues that Islands can choose development choices along a continuum ranging from ‘... those having no anthropogenic adverse environmental effects to those bringing about radical changes in the environment (p: 7). The concept of sustainable tourism development (STD) is proposed as one possible solution for

Butler (2002:364- cited in A Transition towards Sustainability, 1999: 22), have defined sustainable development as “the reconciling of society’s development goals with its environmental limits over the long term.” While Gosling and Wall (2007: 436) in putting sustainable development into the context of tourism have described

1998). But how can STD lead to the ‘win-win’ outcome that is necessary for the amicable solution of this conflict? I suggest that this can be reached by ensuring that STD be the bedrock of tourism policies and plans.

Wilkinson (2004) has provided various definitions of tourism policy, for example Clancy

development and daily activities within a destination are taken.”

While tourism planning was defined by Getz (1987:3) as “A process, based on research and

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## Commentary

## While Building A Cadre Of Dedicated Patriots

# PETERS' "PEACE"



# CLOSE THE DOOR TO CARPETBAGGERS AND CORRUPTION

One of the greatest contributors to the downfall of the Keith Mitchell administration was the unmitigated and unchecked corruption as perceived by the citizenry.

Keith Mitchell will never be one of my candidates for halo wearing sainthood and has never been in my book a glaring example of pure hearted piety but it is obvious he was not directly responsible for every aspect of the free for all corruption orgy taking place around him.

One can argue and justifiably so that as the head he should have had systems in place to check and control any inclination to corruption that his satellites might harbor. One might also point out and also justifiably so that Satan cannot correct sin and that if the chief is doing what can you expect of the braves.

Could be the former Prime Minister really didn't know of all the devious practices that were like so many cancerous growths retarding the very life force of the society, preferring to operate on the principle of do as I say and not as I do.

I say this to say that the new administration must constantly be on the lookout for any acts of corruption or the mere appearance of corruption lest it causes a blemish on their reputation and lead to the disgust and disapproval of the people.

I have no doubt that corruption will never be the culture of the NDC administration especially its leader Prime Minister Tillman Thomas but a less than scrupulous person imprudently placed in a position receptive to corruption can with some imagination find a way to indulge in this slimy practice.

Corruption is not necessarily accepting a bribe of siphoning public funds. Whenever someone uses his office or

position to secure benefits for himself or an associate in a way that is not stipulated in the terms of his employment, it is corruption.

And because of the diverse nature of this scourge and the difficulty with listing with finality the individual acts that constitute corruption the discerning crook can always find a loophole if the system is not closely monitored.

I have long advocated that when an administration changes, certain things change. It happens all over the world and is expected.

In the case of the present administration is has inherited an economic and socio-political system that on the surface may appear unsalvageable but can be resuscitated through some strict and bold measures.

The new government is no doubt aware that it has to work by way of a prudent and definable plan notwithstanding that the unpredicted will inevitably pop up from time to time and the necessary adjustment will have to be made to accommodate it.

In order for its planned program of national development to succeed the work must be supported by people who share the same dreams and are willing to work honestly and diligently toward their realization.

While loyalty may not be the be all and end all of one's qualification to fill a sensitive position it is an important commodity and I say so with no hesitation or timidity. The leadership has to be aware of the difference between victimization and strategic restructuring; between removing people and tactical placement all with the efficient execution of your programs in mind. Do not be intimidated

Of course one should not just be placed in a position

because of loyalty but must be qualified and capably of competently executing the required duties. However sharing the same dreams and goals is also important. You cannot take a goalkeeper who is a member of and continues to be loyal and patriotic to your main rival team and put him to keep goal in a match with that team.

However if he is of the personality and temperament that convinces you that his main interest lies in the playing of a fair and competitive game that is a different matter.

That being said the administration must be aware of the possible lure for carpetbaggers and hangers on who will suddenly crawl out of the woodwork and proclaim their loyalty and dedication to the party and government. Gullibility can be detrimental at this stage.

For years I have been saying that one of the strengths of the NDC is the impressive pool of expertise that it can draw its human resource needs from and this remains true. With prudence and careful placement the best results can be gotten.

I must make another point I have made before. The people must be involved and informed every step of the way.

Some of the decisions the government will have to make may not be very palatable but if it is explained to the population why this is necessary and how it will benefit them in the long run it will more acceptable very much like taking a vile tasting, vile smelling medicine that one is convinced will take care of the ailment.

To Keith Mitchell and his minions I can only ask, you people still at it with that same old sickening garbage? You lost an election on that strategy what makes you think you can win again on

it? Gunshots and threats of bloodshed if people didn't vote for the NDC. This is so ridiculous that if it were not so disgustingly wicked it would be laughable.

Is Keith a ballistic expert to know the similarity in gunshots from the days of the Revolution and those he claims were heard during the election campaign?

Is he forgetting that every Tom, Dick and Harry who claimed friendship to a minister or senior government official were issued licensed firearms after Ivan and this was never reviewed? Some of these weapons have since been used to kill people. Perhaps the Opposition Leader should revisit and update his ballistic expertise.

What Keith and his satellites

did not achieve in 13 years they expect the new government to do in 7 weeks. But then the new administration should be aware that this is the nature of the man.

He is a sneaky and cunning operator who will use every devious, unscrupulous and dastardly means to achieve his designs. Look out for him and don't play into his hands.

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## AN ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE?

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Attorneys-at-Law  
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Ernest C. Wilkinson, LL.B. (HONS.) LL.M.  
Margaret V. L. A. Wilkinson, LL.B. (HONS.) LL. W. I.  
Rosalyn E. Wilkinson, LL.B. (HONS.) LL. W. I., LL.M. (AMERICAN)  
Sharon J. Wilkinson M.A., LL.B. (HONS.) LL. W. I., LL.M. (TORONTO)

OUR REF: REW/wh

August 8, 2008.

Ms. Sandra C.A. Ferguson,  
Richmond Hill,  
**ST. GEORGE'S.**

BY BAILIFF

Dear Madam,

We act for Brian (Bru) Pearce of True Blue, St. George's.

2. Our client's attention has been drawn to a letter dated 31st May 2008 written by you to our client and published in the following newspapers: (a) Grenada Informer for the week ending Friday 6th June 2008; (b) Grenada Today for the week ending Friday June 13, 2008; and (c) Barnacle Vol 18 No. 05 June 2008.

3. In addition the letter is now on the Barnacle Newspaper's website.

4. Further, we are instructed that whenever (a) a web search for Bru Pearce on Goggle.com is carried out, the letter referred is the second item to appear; and (b) on searching "Willie the Milkman" the letter referred is now associated with him and connecting our client.

5. In this letter you stated:

"We note that the address of Poole Capital S.A. as given on its planning application is Lichenstein. We natives know that Lichenstein is renowned for crooks and conmen. We are even more disconcerted as we speculate whether Poole-Capital S.A.'s interest in Grenada is one of the outcomes of that infamous investment trip undertaken by our Rt. Hon. Prime Minister when he defouted to St. Moritz in Switzerland to collect his "damn money" from Eric Resteiner - then a Grenada trade counselor, now a convicted fraudster languishing in a US prison."

"We also note that you, Mr. Bru Pearce, were the agent, acting on behalf of Poole Capital S.A., as stated in the planning application"

CHAMBERS, LUCAS STREET, ST. GEORGE'S GRENADA, W.I. TEL: 473-440-3078 FAX: 473-440-4172  
Email: wilkinson@spiceisland.com Web: http://www.spiceisland.com/wilkinson

Ms. Sandra C.A. Ferguson,  
August 8, 2008,  
Page 2.

"And to add further intrigue and consternation to this matter, some blogger on the popular Spiceislander Talk Shop of July 25th, 2007 has alleged that somewhere on the continuum of ownership between "The Pirate of Prague" and "Peter De Saviour", someone called Brian Brendon Wright a.k.a. Willy the Milkman had ownership of the property and that this "Willy the Milkman" was convicted in 2007 as the U.K.'s biggest drug lord!!?? Whoever the "players" on this ownership continuum, we natives have begun to speculate that "the Pirate of Prague" to "Peter De Saviour" was just one big set-up all along."

6. The plain meaning of what you have caused to be published and stated was that our client was associated with criminal activities or knew persons connected or associated with criminal activities.

7. These allegations are completely untrue and constitute a grave libel upon our client who is a businessman and director of Camper & Nicholson's Grenada Limited and Camper & Nicholson's Grenada Services Limited which are associated with Camper & Nicholson's Marinas, a major international marina developer.

8. We are, therefore, writing to demand that you:

- Write a further letter containing a suitable withdrawal and apology in terms to be approved by us on our client's behalf.
- Give us your assurance and undertaking in writing that you will not repeat the publication of these or similar allegations concerning our client; and
- Indemnify our client in respect of the costs to which he has been put in the matter.

9. We also are instructed to inform you that our client claims damages and to seek your immediate proposals for a sum by way of damages for the injury to our client's reputation.

10. We must ask you to let us have a reply within the next 7 days. In the meantime it must be clearly understood that our client reserves all his rights in the matter.

Yours sincerely,  
WILKINSON, WILKINSON & WILKINSON

*Rosalyn E. Wilkinson*  
for ROSALYN E. WILKINSON

cc: Mr. Brian (Bru) Pearce



## WE THE PEOPLE

BY SANDRA C. A. FERGUSON

## CIBONEY CHAMBERS

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, PATENTS &amp; TRADE MARK AGENTS &amp; NOTARIES PUBLIC

August 28th, 2008

Ms. Rosalyn Wilkinson  
Wilkinson, Wilkinson & Wilkinson  
Chambers  
Lucas Street  
ST. GEORGE'S

Dear Madam,

Re: Brian (Bru) Pearce – Allegations of Libel

We act for Ms. Sandra Ferguson of Richmond Hill, St. George's.

Your letter dated August 8th, 2008 and received by our client approximately two weeks thereafter has been passed to us for reply.

Based on our instructions, the contents of our client's May 31st, 2008 letter do not in any way constitute a libel - 'grave' or otherwise - upon your client. We wholly reject your interpretation of the 'plain meaning' (Para.6) ascribed to the relevant portions of the said letter.

We invite you to once again re-visit the contents of the entire letter, which clearly point to the substance of our client's well-founded concerns regarding the Lagoon project. These concerns assume special significance in the context of the peculiar history of the project, and more so the secrecy surrounding the wholesale disposal of prime peoples' property by the previous Government (which they held in trust on behalf of the people of Grenada) - without due regard to the peoples' interest, relevant environmental concerns and our laws regarding heritage preservation.

Our client sees this latest action by your client as an attempt to intimidate both herself and those who publish her several letters regarding the Lagoon Project and other matters of public interest. Let it be clearly understood that she will neither be intimidated nor silenced in the exercise of her constitutional right to free expression, within the limits defined by law.

In the premises, our client cannot accede to the demands of your letter (Para.8).

Be assured that our client will continue to seek answers to the many unanswered issues regarding the Lagoon Project.

Please be guided accordingly.

Yours sincerely,  
CIBONEY CHAMBERS

Ruggles Ferguson

No. 7 H. A. Blaize Street, St George's, Phone: 473-440-2707 Fax: 473-435-2525

Gladstone Road, Grenville, St Andrew's Phone: 473-435-3440

Lower Depradine Street, Gouyave, St. John's Phone: 473-437-1126/1127

Email: ciboneychambers@spiceisland.com

From: Reynold Benjamin <recobenj@hotmail.com>  
Subject: RE: IS THIS AN ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE?  
To: fergca2001@yahoo.com  
Date: Monday, August 25, 2008, 8:43 AM

Sandra  
These brass-faced people! I see no libel, none whatsoever. Stand firm! This transaction should be placed under the microscope asap. In the meantime, the development should be halted.  
Best regards

Reynold c Benjamin

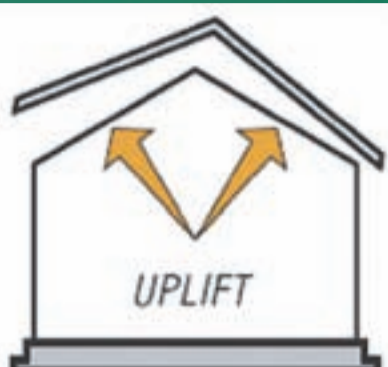
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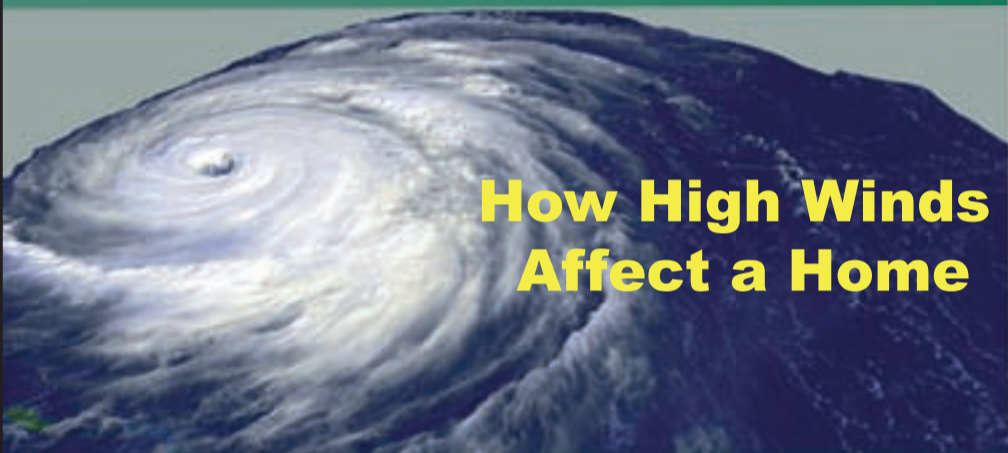


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For Caribbean Enquiries contact: m.kaloo@scl-group.com

These drawings are for illustrative purposes only and should not be considered engineered systems. Consult a qualified Designer to ensure that the correct connector quantities and installation methods are used to achieve the full design load values.



## How High Winds Affect a Home

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1. Read these tips and get a copy of your local hurricane guide.
2. Review the emergency procedures with family, friends and employees.
3. Examine the condition of your home or business place ( roof covering, shutter hooks etc ) and carry out necessary repairs.
4. Make sure you have enough plywood or hurricane shutters to cover the windows and doors.
5. Trim tress limbs near your house or business. Have those near utility lines trimmed as well.
6. Make a list of personal property, including furnishings and valuables.
7. Review your insurance policy with you agent, or consider getting insurance.
8. Wrap all important documents in a plastic and store in a waterproof container.
9. Check or purchase emergency supplies early e.g. flashlights, battery-operated radio, matches, extra batteries, first aid kit, maybe an oil stove, hurricane lanterns, kerosene and large plastic bags.
10. Make arrangements for help should a hurricane strike.

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## Building a Legacy of Proud Achievements



**KENRICK GABRIEL**  
CIVIL / STRUCTURAL ENGINEER & MANAGER

**The phrase building a country can mean different things to different people because everyone contributes in their own way.**

The highly trained surgeon performing a complicated life saving operation is contributing to the building of his country and so too is the illiterate but patriotic rural villager de-bushing the feeder road and pausing to shoo away a potential praedial larcenist from the farmer's crops. Some people do their nation building by

literally building, enhancing the physical infrastructure of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

When the young Kenrick Gabriel graduated with his master of Science-Civil Engineering from Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Polytechnic Institute in Cuba in 1986 his aim was already established; to come back and make his contribution to the built environment in Grenada. He is also a qualified Property Appraiser holding a Diploma in real Estate Appraisal from



**SHELDON JOSEPH**  
ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

Ashford University. With his training and expertise Kenrick Gabriel attended several courses and workshops in Project Implementation and Management, Project preparation, Standards, Build, Operate and Transfer Contracts and more.

A number of years have passed but the vision has not dimmed. If anything it is glowing more brightly now because with the successes he has already achieved comes the inspiration and the motivation to go on to bigger and better things.

Fifteen years after the establishment of Kenrick Gabriel & Associates Ltd. the company is staffed by a team of professional Engineers, Engineering Technicians, Draughtsman and Administrative supportive team who are trained too and routinely use computers in their work to maintain efficiency and a competitive edge. The company's offices are arrayed with Dell compatible com-



**KIMON ANDREWS**  
DRAUGHTSMAN

puters equipped with many software tools including the recent versions of Auto CADD, Structural Analysis and Spreadsheet packages and TEDDS to facilitate change and enhance services to the public.

Kenrick Gabriel has performed his way through an incredibly impressive list of built structures in Grenada as Designer, Structural Engineer, Project Manager and Consultant. Many come and go, the exceptional few stay put year after year but Manager of Kenrick Gabriel and Associates Ltd. (KGA) is one of those rare individuals who will never quit and had therefore weathered many a storm, literally and figuratively and is now strategically poised to take Civil Engineering and other related fields into the future. From its Calivigny headquarters KGA, Civil/Structural Engineers and Project Managers executes projects skillfully and efficiently. It is a company that has over the years prepared and adjusted



**SUZETTE HALL**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

itself to new trends in the industry and new client demands.

The main focus of the company is Consultancy Engineering which maintains an effective and professional approach with a view to satisfying the demands of the customers. KGA offers other services ranging from Project Planning and Management, Civil / Structural Engineering, Construction Management and property Appraisal. The company also offers consultancy services in many areas of the field including Project Management, Conceptual Design, Soil and Site Investigations, Detailed Engineering Designs, Construction Supervision, Quality & Cost Control, Drawing & Specifications and many more.

Kenrick Gabriel & Associates Ltd works in conjunction with these local Architectural firms in Grenada including Atlantic Partnership Ltd, COCOA Architects, T. M. Williamson Consult-

ing Architects and recently we have developed a working relationship with Grenada Homes Ltd.

Mr. Gabriel has seen many changes in the local Engineering market with regards to higher demands in terms of quality and size of projects therefore his company has adjusted to those changes by implementing the necessary software designs and engineering tools designed to improve efficiency and productivity.

Kenrick Gabriel & Associates Ltd accepts that the field of engineering is more competitive now than before because there are more local firms therefore the Industry needs to understand and recognize the fact that in Grenada most of the qualified Engineers are prepared for the market and are in a better situation to make good judgment in the interest of the development of their businesses. The prospective homeowner or developer too he said, should ensure that the professional he or she hires is qualified and experienced in the said discipline.

The versatile professional said his company has been involved with Commercial, Industrial and high end Residential dwelling houses and is therefore ready and prepared to handle more mega projects.

Kenrick Gabriel has his eyes set on the regional market and to achieve this breakthrough intends to affiliate KGA with other local firms. This will also aid in developing more cost effective designs without compromising the structural integrity of buildings.

## Local News

## Government forced to defend unity initiative

Faced with some amount of public pressure, The new administration has to come out and defend its decision to sign a memorandum of understanding with three other Caribbean countries to form an economic and political union by 2013.

Foreign Affairs Minister Peter David, who travelled to Trinidad with Prime Minister Tillman Thomas for the recent signing, is promising that his government would not proceed to a final decision without widespread public consultation.

There have been public concerns including many callers to local talk shows who have been arguing that the two month old Tillman Thomas Government should instead turn its attention to pressing matters at home.

"It is a process that will only move forward only when the people of this country have determined that it should be. So I want to dispel any notion that this process would be done behind the backs of



**PRIME MINISTER TILLMAN THOMAS**

the people" declared David.

"It would only be done with the consent of the people and after extensive discussions. Not only in parliament but in our communities".

Among those in opposition to the government's decision to sign a regional unity agreement three weeks after winning the election is social activist Sandra Ferguson, who heads the local Non-Government Organization (NGO)

Agency for Rural Transformation (ART).

"I really do not understand it, in the context of a government that has been in opposition for 13 years and has come into a situation where we know there is a massive clean-up job to do" Ferguson said.

"I would think that as a government going into office the first thing they are going to address themselves to is a getting a grip on the state of things" said Ferguson.

She has been a harsh critic of the former Keith Mitchell Government.

Prime Minister Tillman Thomas of Grenada and Patrick Manning of Trinidad and Tobago have been travelling around the region seeking to drum-up support for the unity initiative that also includes St.Lucia and St.Vincent and the Grenadines.

While some countries like St.Kitts and Nevis have expressed support for the idea

others like Belize and Jamaica have expressed concerns.

"What we have done is agree to discussion a particular process. But we also say that there is going to be a massive public education programme. There is going to be discussion in the communities tabling in parliament" David explained.

"What ever we decide will be based on the outcome from among our people. We cannot go into an integration process or any new process without the consent of the people".

Former St.Lucia Prime Minister Professor Vaughn Lewis and Dr. Cuthbert Joseph of the University of the West Indies (UWI) are currently preparing a document on the unity initiative to be completed by year end and circulated for public discussion".

Meantime, A special summit of OECS leaders is to be held in early September to discuss the new initiative to forge an economic and political union between Trinidad and Tobago and states in the sub-region.

Chairman of the OECS authority and Prime Minister of Grenada Tillman Thomas made the announcement in St.George's Thursday following his return from trips to the Leeward Islands to promote the idea.

Either St.Vincent and the Grenadines or Grenada will host the Special Summit of OECS leaders but a date is yet to be agreed.

"We are planning to hold a meeting of the heads of OECS to discuss the matter in further details .The date is not set as yet. It looks like early September". Said Prime Minister Thomas, who together with Prime Minister Patrick Manning of Trinidad and Tobago visited Dominica, Antigua and St. Kitts to further discuss the new initiative.

Leaders of Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines who signed the joint declaration continue to stress that the new initiative is not aimed at undermining the push towards an OECS economic union by 2009 as well as Caricom.

The leaders have expressed confidence that other OECS countries will sign on to an agreement seeking to establish a framework for closer cooperation to a single economy by 2011 and a political union two years later.

"The reception we received in the three countries we visited yesterday was extremely positive. In Dominica, we had very positive discussions with the entire cabinet, barring one or two members" declared Grenada's Foreign Affairs Minister Peter David who was also part of the delegation.

"In Antigua, Prime Minister Spencer and senior members of his cabinet were also expressing support for the initiative and St .Kitts similarly". David told reporters. Prime Minister Manning himself, in an effort to update other Caribbean leaders on the unity initiative, will embark on trips to Jamaica, Bahamas and Suriname next week.

Meantime, the Grenada Government says it intends to create a debate and raise awareness about the new unity initiative through a series of public discussions.

"The process cannot happen without the people becoming involved. We do plan a series of discussions on the issue" said David.

"We plan to meet with community leaders with NGOs with the people themselves in the communities to discuss the furtherance of political union because we also have to outline to the people the mechanics the modalities of the process".

## Opposition leader warns against leaving out people in unity talks

Former Grenada Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell has issued a strong warning to leaders in the Caribbean not to leave people out of new efforts to forge an economic and political union in the region.

Dr.Mitchell was responding to the signing of a memorandum, by the leaders of Trinidad and Tobago, St.Lucia, Grenada and St.Vincent and the Grenadines, agreeing to establish an economic union by 2011 and a political union two years later.

The agreement in Port of Spain represents the latest in a series of efforts at regional unity dating back to the collapse of the West Indian Federation in 1962 triggered by the pull-out of Jamaica.

"The people must be involved. This is a far reaching activity. The people don't know the details of such an arrangement. The philosophical approach is not a bad one" said Dr.Mitchell in an interview with the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC).

"But the question of the details and what is involved clearly must get the endorsement of the people before we move forward. The consultative process will certainly yield the specific approaches that ought to be taken" said Dr.Mitchell, himself a strong advocate of regional integration.

The new Tillman Thomas administration has announced plans to create a debate and raise awareness about the new unity initiative through a series of public discussions.

In an effort to update other Caribbean leaders on the unity initiative, the Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Patrick Manning is this week embarking on trips to Jamaica, Bahamas and Suriname.

"I think the signing it's just based on some initial ideas but clearly there is a lot more that has to be indicated to the public. I have always consistently supported the integration process in the region because small states can't survive in this global environment by themselves" the former Prime Minister told CMC.

"Of course we have to find out the details of the arrangements and a lot of discussions and consultations would have to be held with the people".

Last week, Prime Minister Manning and Prime Minister Thomas completed a swing through the islands of Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat and St. Kitts-Nevis in support of the new unity initiative.

OECS leaders have scheduled a special summit for early September in St.George's or Kingstown, to discuss closer regional cooperation.

The Suriname government

said it would study the proposal but gave early notice that it is not ready to be part of such an alliance.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lygia Kraag-Keteldijk said that while the government did not know the full extent of the initiative being proposed "at this point in time I am not ready to support the initiative for a political integration with other nations".

"Currently, we are involved in the economic integration within CARICOM and with a political integration you will lose some of your sovereignty and I'm of the opinion that we should study this very carefully, while a strong and wide popular support should be necessary, since this issue doesn't concern only the government," she said.

Manning presented Suriname's President Ronald Venetiaan with a copy of the agreement he signed with the leaders of the three Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) countries to establish a political union by 2013.

President Venetiaan said he would let his advisers and experts look at the document before responding to Manning's request for Suriname to join the initiative.

The leaders of Jamaica and Belize have said that they were not interested in the attempt to forge a political union.

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# Cash crunch blamed on abuse of resources

The Grenada Government has said that it believes abuse of state resources is the reason its operations are now being hindered by a huge cash crunch.

Prime Minister Tillman Thomas has announced that there was reckless spending in the weeks leading up to the July 8th elections.

Finance Minister Nazim Burke said earlier that it has inherited an empty treasury and that monthly expenses were becoming increasingly difficult to meet.

The Prime Minister has attributed the empty treasury to overspending on Government's debushing programme and vote 340.

"Our review has also shown that vote 340 was severely abused.

In fact that vote, which was established to pay for specific services, is now paying in excess of 22 million dollars annually" the Prime Minister stated.

"It was used to pay service providers, temporary staff, party consultants, and a group called outreach, which undertook all the political work of the New National Party in the various constituencies".

The Grenadian leader said that the Government debushing pro-



**FINANCE MINISTER NAZIM BURKE**

gramme, budgeted to spend seven million dollars, was over spent by an additional 12 million.

"This ladies and gentlemen means, that while budgeting to spend seven million

dollars, the NNP government actually spent 19 million dollars on debushing alone prior to the elections" said the Grenadian leader.

"This is a colossal abuse of government resources. Much of this reckless spending was done in the last two weeks prior to the general elections".

Government's monthly expenditure is currently 56 million EC dollars but its revenue every month is 39 million, creating a shortfall of about 17 million.

The Government has said that it is currently operating on overdraft facility from local banks and that unpaid claims in the treasury have soared to 54 million dollars.

A package of measures has been approved to combat the cash crunch including review of some major state projects.

The Finance Minister Burke had said that he does not want to create panic in the country but admits that his administration is even struggling to pay wages to the state's 3000 Public Servants.

"It's in absolute mess" Burke said in response to a question on the state coffers.

"I do not wish to scare people but I can tell you that we simply do not have monies. It's going to be a struggle even to meet the monthly salaries even at this moment. That is how bad it is".

Burke has described the financial situation as challenging.

"We are 5 to 6 million dollars above the overdraft limit offered by the bank. We are in a situation where our outstanding claims are in excess of 52 million dollars. These are monies for which we are owing to local people"

said Burke.

"The cheques have been cut but we cannot give them to people because there is no money in the bank. This is how bad it is. So we are facing some serious challenges as far as financing is concerned".

Mr. Burke told local journalists that he was unable to provide a timeline on when the revenue shortfall will be wiped out but says he is also depending on friendly governments for assistance.

In a bid to reduce cost and maximize revenues, the Government says it's on the verge of introducing a programme of tighter financial measures.

A new Department responsible for economic management and planning is about to be created within the Ministry of Finance.

Critical components of this new department are expected to be a debt management unit and a waste reduction unit headed by an internal auditor whose primary responsibility will be to locate and reduce Government waste.

"So the idea is to start by taking on a focused discipline committed attempt first of all to reduce waste where there is" Burke explained.

"The programme is essentially to cut out the waste and maximize the revenues".

# Doctors shocked over unqualified consultant

**A number of doctors in Grenada have expressed their disgust and disbelief over the decision by the former Keith Mitchell administration to allow a regional doctor to offer his services on the island without the approval of the Medical Board.**

Minister for Health Hon Karl Hood has revealed that his Ministry has asked Guyanese Dr Carl Niamatali to proceed on leave after it was discovered that he was not qualified as an Oncologist to spearhead the island National Cancer Programme.

Hood said that Niamatali who came to the island in the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan with the charity organization Relief International was only qualified as a general practitioner and was not locally registered according to local law.

"It's unbelievable," said Doctor Terrance Marryshow who was trained in Cuba in the 80's and had difficulties obtaining approval from the Medical Board - body responsible for investigating the qualification of applicants before a license is granted for a doctor to offer his/her services.

"I am disgusted, very dis-

gusted," said Dr Michael Radix who is of the belief that there are other doctors operating as specialists in other areas but are only qualified as general practitioners. "That is why I will like to see a medical council establish, so that complaints will be fully investigated," he added.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Dilip Mukejee said that the Ministry carried out an investigation in June and found discrepancies in the appointment of the Dr Niamatali. "From time to time I would have received unofficial complaints from patients, then the complaints become so great that I became concern and in June along the Medical Board we carried out an investigation and is discovered that the gentleman only worked with oncologists, his qualifications did not show him receiving post graduate education in the field," he said.

One of the discrepancies in his appointment was provision for him to order the drugs for the programme. Terron Gilchrist, Director of Hospital Services said that normally drugs used at the hospital are procured by the Procurement Unit at the General Hospital. "After we raised concern about the breach in

normal procedures, we started receiving invoices from two companies and up to now we are yet to confirm whether they truly exist," Gilchrist said.

"And now we are not certain whether or not the drugs used on patients were substandard or of quality," said Dr Trevor Layne, a Grenadian -American Oncologist who studied at St George's University and is presently based in the USA but is offering some volunteer consultancy service to the Minister for Health.

Dr Layne said that he has conducted a preliminary analysis of the national cancer programme launched in December 2007 and is shocked at some of his discoveries regarding patient care and treatment. "Everyone was given the same treatment regardless of the stage of the cancer and I also identified persons who were wrongly diagnosed and wrongly treated," he said.

"Niamatali was qualified as a doctor in Ireland and is qualified as a General Practitioner but not as a cancer specialist. "He has worked with specialists in that field but he himself is not qualified," said Chief Medical Officer Dr Dilip Mukejee.

## Dr. Mitchell launches campaign to remove DPP Nelson

Former Prime Minister Dr.Keith Mitchell has launched a campaign to have Christopher Nelson removed as Director of Public Prosecution.

Mitchell is angry at Nelson's public remarks in connection with the detention of former legal advisor to Government Hugh Wildman.

The new opposition leader is writing to the Chief Justice of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Supreme Court and the head of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission to complain.

"His uttering's are seriously unacceptable for someone occupying that particular job and therefore we call for his resignation" said Dr.Mitchell in his first official news conference since his New National Party lost the July 8th General Elections after 13 consecutive years in office.

"We call for his resignation and if he refuses, I believe the Judicial and Legal Services Commission should take steps to do what it has to do to cause him to be removed

from office". Wildman, who served as Legal Advisor to Dr.Mitchell's cabinet, was detained on Saturday, on suspicion that he blocked a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) probe into the collapse of First International Bank of Grenada (FIBG) in 1999.

Nelson told Journalists that if the FBI had been allowed into Grenada then 6000 retirees in North American would not have been defrauded over 170 million dollars.

"There was solid evidence that Mr. Wildman had a part to play in the FBI not coming to assist the Grenadian authorities in investigating FIBG" said Nelson.

The DPP was referring in part to an email in 2000 from one FIBG executive to another which described Wildman as 'expensive' and praised his efforts in blocking the FBI.

Nelson's comments have angered the ex-prime Minister who was among several high ranking government officials named in a court hearing in

Oregon USA, as having collected money from FIBG, but who have denied the charge. "I have no confidence in him. I believe that the country has no confidence in him" declared Dr.Mitchell whose NNP now controls 4 of the 15 seats in the House of Representatives.

"I believe that if he understands what the Director of Public Prosecution job is all about he would know that his uttering's publicly on television and radio are unacceptable to the position".

Four former Executives of FIBG are serving jail time in Oregon in connection with the fraud which triggered a crash in Grenada's then thriving offshore industry.

Dr.Mitchell did not zero in on the specific comment from the DPP that he objected to but repeated allegations made by Wildman's attorney Dwight Horsford that Nelson was playing politics.

"Mr. Horsford rushes in where angels fear to tread. He knows not of what he speaks" said Nelson. "I am a bit disappointed at

such a young professional is allowing himself to be used as political fodder to be chewed up spit out and then reused. This matter has absolutely nothing to do with politics". However, former Attorney General (AG) Elvin Nimrod says he is disappointed with the manner in which the DPP is going public with the issue of Wildman.

"And we heard the DPP who supposed to be mutual and objective gone on air last night demeaning Mr. Horsford and saying Mr. Horsford is being used as a political tool" Nimrod complained.

"I think the reverse is true. He has to show that he is representing the interest of all the people of Grenada Carriacou and Petit Martinique". Wildman return to his homeland Jamaica on Monday following his release late Sunday.

DPP Nelson told Reporters Wildman's arrest was prompted by new informa-

tion which triggered a fresh probe into FIBG, one of 17 whose licenses were revoked.

Former Police Commissioner Nester Ogilvie and former chief offshore regulator Michael Creft were also called into to a St.George's, police station for questioning.

More persons are expected to be questioned as the investigation continues, DPP Nelson has disclosed.

Meantime, Nelson says the detention of Wildman was prompted by new information which has triggered a fresh probe into the collapse of first International Bank of Grenada.(FIBG).

Nelson faced the local media Monday afternoon six hours after Wildman flew out of Grenada enroute to his homeland Jamaica, following his release from Police custody late Sunday.

Wildman, himself a former Director of Public Prosecution in Grenada was picked-up on Saturday as he boarded an air Jamaica flight bound for Kingston. The flight was originally due

to leave Point Salines International on Thursday but was delayed by two days because of the passage of Hurricane Gustav over Jamaica. "Myself and the police were in receipt of certain information touching the first bank matter, days before Mr. Wildman was detained.

I reviewed it with them and based on what we saw it warranted investigation. As a consequence of that Mr. Wildman was detained at the time he was detained" Nelson told local journalists Monday afternoon.

"New information came in only a matter of days. It had to be considered. It had to be reviewed. As you are aware this is a delicate and sensitive matter. One does not rush into these matters and indeed it so happens that Mr. Wildman was leaving". Wildman was first taken to the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) in St.George's and later to the St. Pauls Police station on the outskirts of the capital where he was held for less than 48 hours.

# Building A Highway To The Future



THE OLD

The developments taking place at Grenada Distillers are not only designed to enhance the physical appearance but also to ensure the maintenance of the excellent line of products.

Owner/Executive Chairman of Grenada Distillers Mr. Leroy Neckles, since acquiring the former Grenada Sugar Factory has not stood still for a moment in terms of aspiring to new levels of development and quality.

The just completed refurbishment and development program, though profound and far reaching is really the base for a longer term endeavor that will cement the entity's place as truly a world class manufacturer of top quality spirits and other products.

Chronicling the recent physical expansion that has taken place the Owner, Executive Chairman said three new buildings have been constructed resulting in an additional 35,000 square feet of space.

There is a new warehouse, new offices, new hospitality center, the bottling operation is being moved into the new building and space has been created for an agro-processing operation in the future.

What can be considered remarkable is that despite the diversion of the work that was undertaken and the changes that were being made Grenada Distillers was still able to hold the quality of its products.

Grenada Distillers continued to participate in international competitions and continued to win several gold, silver and bronze awards for its products. The newly introduced Rum-Sorrel won a silver medal recently.

Mr. Neckles takes in stride the inevitable local and international competition that



THE NEW



OWNER/EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF GRENADA DISTILLERS MR. LEROY NECKLES

his entity faces. He said this has not daunted his spirit and he continues along the path that he has planned out for his company.

However some of the changes

one of them being the cost of energy and raw materials and freight which "keep going up every day". In spite of this Grenada Distillers has been able to avoid increases

when they were forced to make some adjustments to prices.

There is indeed cheap rum coming in from Trinidad which is being marketed by



HIGH STANDARD PRODUCTS AND GOOD QUALITY SERVICE ARE THE HALLMARKS OF GRENADA DISTILLERS

es taking place in the marketplace do concern him,

ing the price of its products for a long time until recently

some local entities in addition to the illegally produced

"babash" which is proving to be a thorn in the sides of local distillers the latter having been largely ignored by the authorities despite complaints.

Neckles thinks the Government needs to look at the whole issue of the importation of rum since everybody can freely bring in rum from Trinidad in drums and "sell all over the place".

This does affect the sale of local products because it is cheaper and as the economy gets tight people are less concerned with quality and flavor than with where they can get more for their money.

The superior quality of the products put out by Grenada Distillers however, enables it to maintain its own.

Enquiries continue to come in from all over the world and many visitors to Grenada visit the compound because of articles they had seen in magazines in their country. In fact Grenada Distillers was classified as a world class distillery in both 2007 and 2008 based on the number of its products winning international awards.

The Grenada Distillers owner can be justified in feeling proud of what he has been able to achieve with the entity he bought and reorganized.

In fact he was able to take something that nobody wanted—the government of the day which owned the majority shares in Grenada Sugar Factory gave up on it and was only too anxious to sell—and he was able to improve its image to the extent that it now at the forefront of its field not only in Grenada but regionally and internationally.

Neckles can now stand back and appraise where he is at and get some joy from what he has achieved.

Grenada Distillers has gone

through fire, hurricane, and pressures of the market and many other types of adversities and survived without sacrificing the quality of its products and in fact continues to improve.

The optimistic Chairman looks forward to the day when several containers of locally manufactured products will be moving out of his business place destined to countries all over the world. Already shipments have been made to Canada, the United States, United Kingdom and several inquiries from many other parts of the world.

Neckles is convinced there is a lot of potential for his company out there and it is just to find the equipment to produce the volumes that will be demanded by the international market and ensure that it can be maintained on a consistent basis.

Like every good leader, Neckles appreciates and respects the contribution of his staff, describing them as a very good team and he is quite pleased with the performance of most of them.

He is very grateful for the support they have given him and the commitment they have shown to the company.

Not to be left out in terms of importance is the continued support of the Grenadian public which has continued to buy the products of Grenada Distillers.

There is indeed a lot to be done to reach to that place where the chairman and his team will like to see the company but they have gotten this far and have absolutely no intention of giving up. That is not an option in their book.

There are many challenges still ahead for the company but the Chairman and his team remain confident that the goals of the company are achievable with hard work, dedication and support.

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# History Made And In The Making At Grenada Distillers



**GRENADA DISTILLERS, GENERAL MANAGER MR. HOWARD MC EACHRANE**

Everything we do is premised on the importance of having consistency in the quality of the product.

A bold and daring declaration indeed but Grenada Distillers, formerly the Grenada Sugar Factory is nothing if not bold and daring.

And why not? With a list of international awards and accomplishments that read like a litany of excellence and achievement it is difficult for a company to be timid. In fact that boldness and adherence to quality is no doubt responsible for those outstanding accolades.

At the helm of a company that has stood up to the most demanding tests and proven itself in the most challenging of arenas General Manager Mr. Howard Mc Eachrane is accustomed to steering through stormy waters and is not about to wince at the inevitable challenges of the future.

Then again, when one's products have already proven themselves emphatically on the international market for quality and standard this tends to instill a generous measure of confidence in one.

In the words of the general manager, you can have a fantastic place and nice equipment but if your product is not up to mark it is not going to sell so emphasis has been on improving and maintaining that standard and quality of the product and diversifying the range.

Indeed there was a much humbler beginning to the modern and efficient looking facility that stands on its Woodlands site looking out at Clarke's Court Bay.

## THE PAST

Those of us old enough and familiar with the Woodlands

area will recall the sea of sugar cane in every direction around the old "sugar facto-



**MR. ROHN FRANCOIS, SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER**

ry" stretching almost as far as the eye could see. Those were the days of sugar and molasses production-when that was the primary undertaking of the operation.

Those were the days also of lines of trucks waiting to discharge their cargo of cane hauled in from all other cane producing parts of the island and the sugar factory was a great bustle of activity especially on a Friday afternoon when people came to collect their pay.

One can almost still see the mountains of sugar cane stalks waiting to be fed into to grinding machine and another mountain of more limp looking stalks that had already made the journey through the machinery and would now help to feed the furnace.

The furnace which at that

moment was belching clouds of black smoke amidst the terrific wheeze and clatter

of ancient machinery and the din of truck engines and human voices and the heady sweet smell of boiling cane juice.

But those were also the days of the flagship product of Grenada Distillers- the original Pure White Clarke's Court Rum which just as the cane chaff and wood fueled the furnaces fueled the men working at the factory and men all over the island for that matter who had a taste for a little rum from time to time.

It was this same Pure White that would go on to win award after award in international beverage testing competitions and would serve as a basis for the introduction of a whole series of new Clarke's Court products which would hold their own too in the international

field.

The products of Grenada Sugar Factory and later Grenada Distillers Ltd. have consistently grabbed gold silver and bronze medals at these events over several years and according to Mr. Mc Eachrane this has been a major benchmark that is of fundamental importance in the company's quest to maintain a consistently high quality.

## THE PRESENT

The environment and the facilities must be in keeping with the standard of the product that it put out and one would notice a lot of development taking place at Grenada Distillers in terms of environment infrastructure.

The general manager said, armed with confidence in the quality of the product the company can now go about aggressively marketing it and doing things to complement that foundation like

the working environment and working facilities for employees and giving them the necessary equipment to do the job.

Now that the renovation of the buildings has been completed attention is being turned to the equipment some of which are also in for an overhaul and some key pieces for replacement for added efficiency.

The bottling line of example, Mr. Mc Eachrane said is very good but not very versatile so a new one will be added to the existing one; the fermentary is being replaced since the vats are becoming somewhat aged and some of the control systems are being modernized; the still has been reconditioned and tank capacity will be increased as soon as it becomes necessary

Having the right persons to do the job is also a key consideration of Grenada Distillers Ltd. and the company is therefore staffed with

persons bringing an exciting combination of talent, experience and drive, manning the various departments and ensuring that quality and efficiency are maintained now and into the future.

Mc Eachrane said he has some very fine persons on his staff and with such a team he is confident of continued success.

The owner and Executive Chairman of the company Mr. Leroy Neckles he said is also a very involved and a hand on type of person who takes a very keen and direct interest in the operation and this is key in helping to ensure that standards are maintained and quality does not slip.

## THE FUTURE

Marketing is certainly the main consideration here and while the focus now is on maximizing domestic market share this will be used as a platform to attack the international market.

The company has been negotiating with several distributors and potential distributors in the Caribbean, North America and Europe and they also have inquiries from China.

However, Mc Eachrane said these are not opportunities one can capitalize on without putting in the necessary hard work to ensure that one has the right distributor and that one can get a fair price for the product.

He also understands the importance of packaging which plays a very important role in marketing.

In terms of local competition he welcomes it saying that it adds to the dynamism of the alcoholic beverage market so that it doesn't become boring and monotonous. This dynamism he said sparks more interest in the overall sector.

The general manager has full confidence in the company's ability to stand up to international competition and the demands of foreign potential customers for world class products.

Diversification of the products is also a factor that will take the brand forward which includes taking advantage of the growing movement toward flavored rum.

Grenada Distillers and the Clarke's Court brand seem to have always been with us and from all appearance will always be there and what's more it will now be with more customers outside of Grenada.

The longevity and continuing excellence of this company really makes it a stalwart in local manufacturing and has set a trend that truly makes Grenada proud.



**MR. MICHEAL KIRTON, DISTILLERY MANAGER**



**MR. DEVON DATE, PRODUCTION MANAGER**

## Hurricane Preparedness

# KNOW THESE TERMS

**TROPICAL WEATHER OUT-LOOK:**

Discusses weather conditions throughout the tropical North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico with emphasis on disturbed or suspicious areas which have the potential to develop into a storm in the next day or two.

**TROPICAL WAVE:**

An elongated area of low pressure which develops in the tropics and moves in an east to west direction, often characterized by disturbed weather.

**TROPICAL DISTURBANCE:**

An area of showers and thunderstorms in the tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more.

**TROPICAL STORM:**

A non-frontal low pressure system usually originating in the tropics and rotating which maximum sustained counter-clockwise winds of 39 to 73 mph (34-63 knots.)

**TROPICAL STORM WATCH:**

An announcement for specific areas that a tropical storm or an incipient tropical storm condition poses a possible threat to those areas generally within 36 hours.

**TROPICAL STORM WARNING:**

A warning that tropical-storm conditions including possible sustained winds within the range of

39 to 73 mph are expected in a specific area in 24 hours or less.

**HURRICANE WARNING:**

Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a designated area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include sustained winds of at least 74 mph (64 knots) and/or dangerously high tides and waves. Actions to protect life and property should be rushed to completion after the warning is issued.

**HURRICANE EYE:**

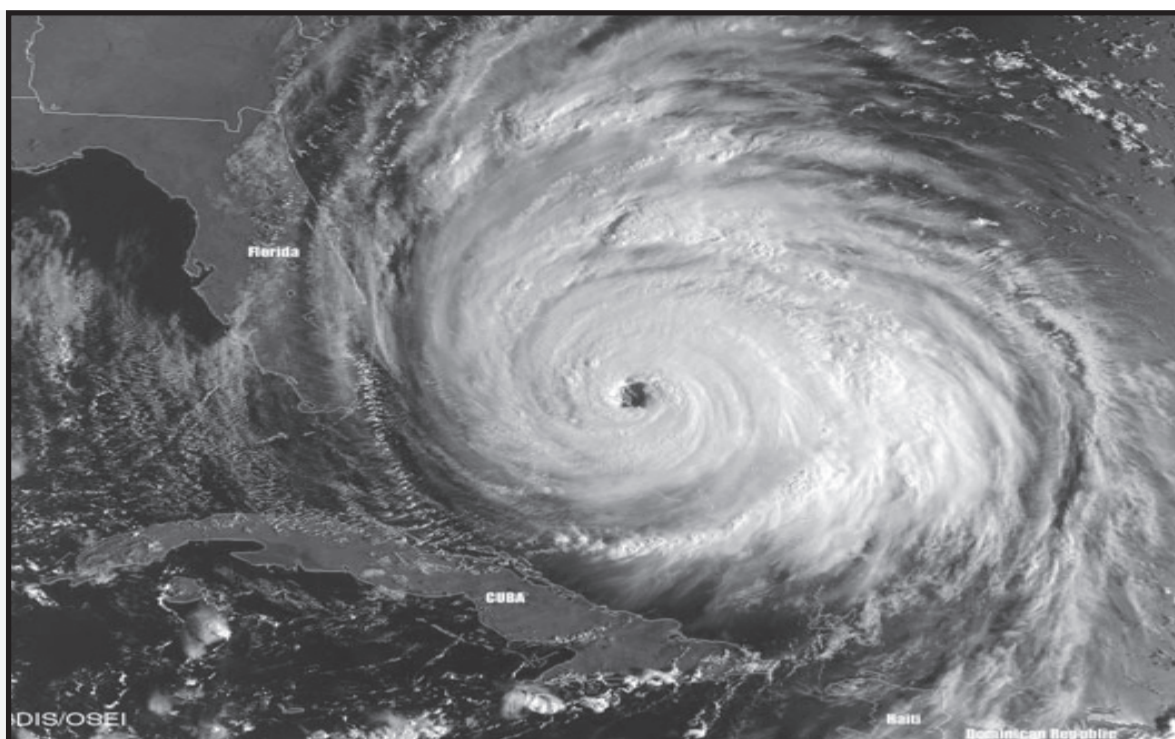
The relatively calm area near the center of the storm that can last, from several minutes to over an hour, depending on the hurricane's size and speed, which ends suddenly as the winds return from the opposite direction, possibly with even greater force.

**STORM SURGE:**

A dome-like rise in ocean level associated with a hurricane. The difference between this abnormal rise in sea level and the level that would occur otherwise is called the storm surge. It is highest along and to the immediate right of where the eye of a hurricane strikes land.

**ADVISORY:**

A formal message usually from Meteorological Office issued every six hours and giving warning information along with details on tropical cyclone location, intensi-



ty and movement. The advisory contains a resume of all watches and warning in effect with precautions that should be taken.

**INTERMEDIATE ADVISORIES:**

Advisories issued at two or three hours intervals between regularly scheduled advisories,,

whenever a storm nears an area.

**SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY:**

An alert issued to small boats in coastal waters for winds of 23 to 38 mph (20-33 knots.) However, when a tropical storm or hurricane threatens a coastal area, small craft are advised to remain in port or not to venture

into open seas.

**PROBABILITY OF TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE CONDITIONS:**

Is the probability, in percent of the storm center passing within approximately 65 miles of a designated location within specified forecast period.

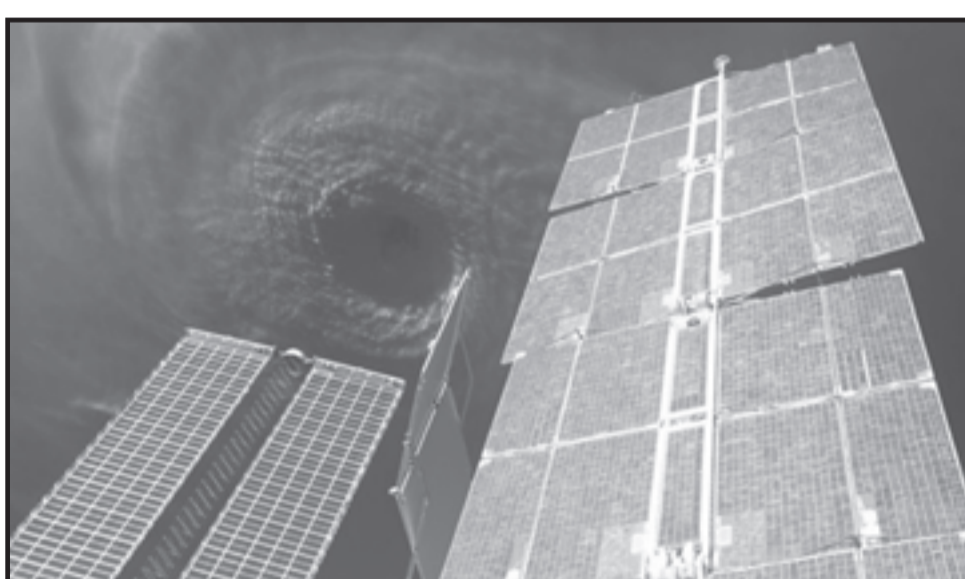
## Hurricane Before it Strikes

Those of you who have experienced a hurricane might find a definition of it superfluous even irritating. However for the benefit of younger ones among us who are currently "innocent" of this kind of event let me give some specifics.

**HURRICANE:**
**MEANING:**

According to a 1990 booklet, entitled "Be Prepared" and written by the National Disaster coordinator, "A hurricane is by definition a tropical cyclone (storm) in which the winds reach constant speeds of 74 miles per hour or more; and blow in large spiral around a relatively clam center: the eye of the hurricane. HOW HURRICANE START. The booklet stated "in order to develop 'a hurricane must have a warm sea and calm air (over hanging the warm sea)." Now, (in my interpretation of further statements), the warm sea emits heat which warms the air about it. And the warmed air in turn sucks up (plenty) of water vapour and rises. With this rising occurring (and given that according to even ancient philosophers "nature abhors a vacuum") the pace of the vapour laden rising air is taken by air in from the side of the formation. And given the pre-existent and constant rotation of the earth, the entire system begins to revolve.(in our Caribbean case, the system, with its Genesis of the coast of West Africa, starts moving towards the Caribbean)

Now the warm and rising air (with it's water-vapour passenger)" meets cool air (over land masses?); and then, cooled



accordingly, it release it's water vapor in the form of rain, And, by the way, seeing that it makes a great amount of heat energy for air to leave water vapour, when the water vapour is released as rain there is also released the adjoining heat energy.

"And, when this heat energy is released "a cycle begins to develop. More water is released and also more heat; and the more water and heat released, the faster the cycle goes."

**Thrust from inside to outside**

Another aspect of a hurricane is "centrifugal" force. Explain; (according to the booklet) since the wind systems are revolving the force moving outwards from the center tends to throw their air outwards so

that the pressure in the center becomes very low.

The result is the formation of the "eye" of the storm. Within its ambit, winds are light skies are clear or partly cloudy but this is deceptive. You see on the border of the eye are lurking maximum force winds and to torrential rains according to the booklet, Many persons have been killed or injured when lured out of the shelter by the calm eye. They are subsequently caught in the maximum winds at the far side of the eye where the winds blow from the direction opposite to that of the leading half of the storm.

**The action outside**

Further given that the pressure on the

outside of the eye is very high. The wind and water involved are correspondingly quickly dissipated the result that "new" wind moves in faster in attempt to fill that pressured area. However the faster these winds move, the more (strangely) the force in the center throw them outwards. The net result is very fast (circular) winds; and these reach 74 Miles or 120 Kilometres an hour or more convention accepts these systems as a hurricane.

Whence the word Grenadian structural engineer, Tony Gibbs gave us an insight into the origin of the word "belt hurricane." Writing in The Grenadian Voice, 1993 July 17, he said "the very name is derived from the Mayan storm god "hunraken" and the Arakawa word hurricane which meant "Devil wind."

Some slammers according to Gibbs too, the worst of all recorded storms was the "great hurricane" of 1780 October 10th - 18th. This storm struck virtually every island, from Tobago to the windward to the Leeward to Hispanola to Cuba, Killing some 20,000 persons.

He added that in the sixty-year period (i.e. about 1930 -1990) another 20,000 persons in the Caribbean were killed by hurricanes. In Grenada's case hurricane Janet took at least 1000 lives.

And of course there was hurricane David in Dominica 1979; Gilbert in Jamaica, 1989. Hugo in Montserrat and St.croix, 1989; and Andrew in cat Bay Bahamas, 1992.

**"ONLY AN EVENT"!!**

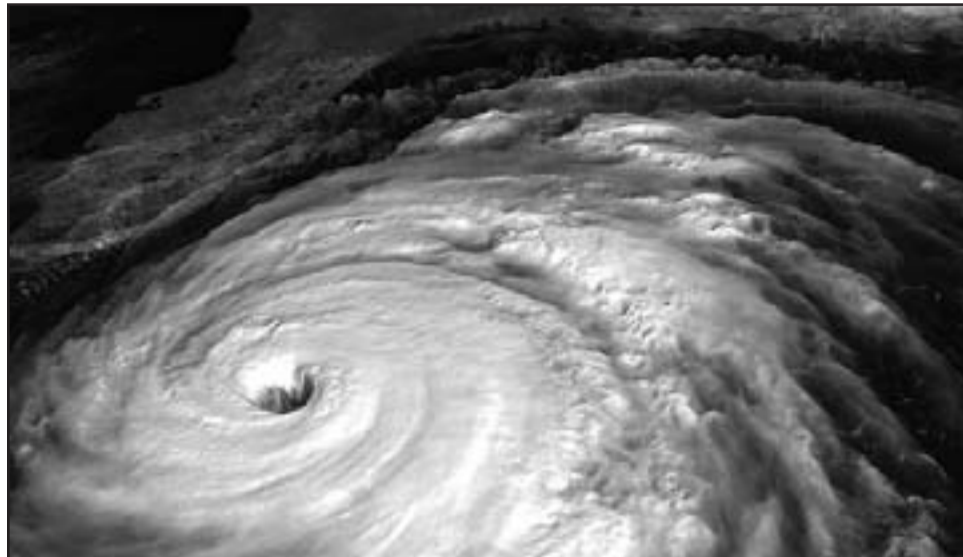
# Hurricane Awareness

In case of an emergency, all important papers and documents should be kept together in a safe place, up – to date and readily available to include at least the following:

- Passport, with extra photos
- ID Cards
- Medical and Health records
- Birth Certificates
- Powers of Attorney
- Check books
- Wills
- Marriage certificate
- Bank book and bond receipts
- Stock certificates
- Auto registration and titles
- Insurance policies
- Personal poverty inventory
- U.S currency and local currency

## Precaution Measures to be taken during the warning period

- Check dry food supplies.
- Cook as much of your perishables foods as possible.
- Try not to open refrigerator or freezers unnecessarily. These units can maintain cold temperature for hours it left closed.
- Fill clean water containers and cover tightly. Fill all available receptacles with water – including bathtubs.
- Place containers of water near the toilets for flushing.
- Check tires, battery and fuel for your car.
- Secure all outdoor items such as lawn furniture swing, garbage cans; barbecues, etc. take down hanging plants.



- Move furnishings away from the doors and windows, remove hanging items from the walls.
- Be sure you know the hurricane shelter nearest to your home, but do not leave your home unless it is necessary. The national Disaster Management Agency Shelters list will be available shortly.
- Secure all doors and windows, taping the large windows.
- Check that fire extinguishers are working.
- Trim trees that may pull down wires or damage your house.
- Have adequate clean laundry for your family.
- Have a large hot meal before the hurricane strikes. A storm is likely to last up to 24 hours.

- If your house is on or near the beach, move to higher ground.
- Turn off your electricity main switch as winds approach.

## Emergency Supplies

- Water – a gallon of water per person per day A 3- day supply is suggested.
- Dry and canned goods, including staples and high energy food. Remember baby food and supplies for pets.
- Buckets and sealable containers for storing water and foodstuffs. Avoid containers that decompose or break.
- First aid kit, including special medication.
- Sanitation supplies (paper, soap, garbage bags, feminine hygiene)

- Manual can opener and bottle opener
- Flashlights, and battery operated lanterns/torches (these are recommended instead of candles and lamps for emergency lighting) and spare batteries and bulbs.
- Battery –powered portable radio and spare batteries.
- Tools and equipment (hammer, saw, ladder extra nails, etc.) for makeshift repairs after the storm
- Duct tape
- Car with a tank full of gasoline.

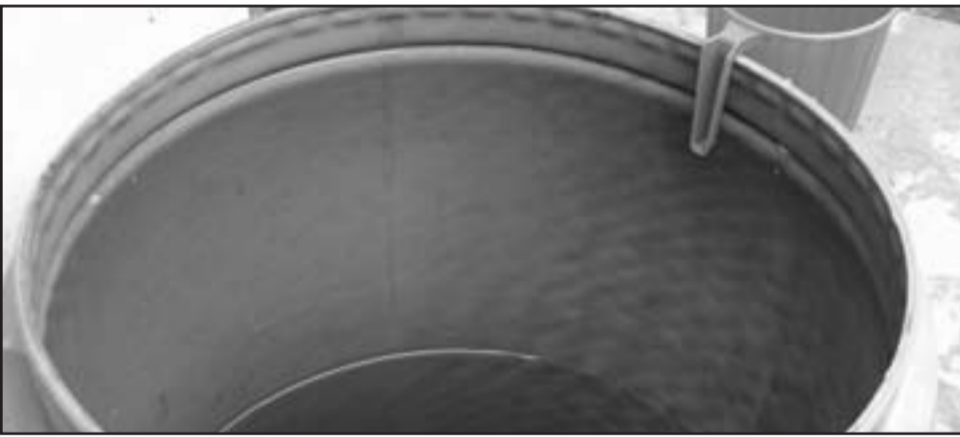
## During the Storm

- Stay indoors in an interior room if possible. Don not go outside, even during the relatives calm while the eye of the storm is passing over.
- Keep children in your sight.
- Turn off main electric circuit breakers.
- If you are at the office when the storm hits, do not attempt to go home.
- Conversely, if you are told your office is closing and you should go home – go home immediately!
- Secure classified materials in their usual depositories.
- The local government will also announce the location of this season's hurricane shelters soon. Every parish has several shelters.
- DO NOT PANIC!

## After the storm

Do not go out unless absolutely necessary. If you must go out, avoid costal area as much as possible. Beware of downed power lines and debris.

## Taking care of your stored water



The water in our taps has chlorine in it why?

Chlorine kills harmful germs and makes the water safe for you to drink. But this free, residual chlorine in the water reduces with time and will become less effective if water is stored for an extended period and if by chance contamination should occur.

So, do I need to look after any water that I store? YES

The chlorine does not stay fully effective in the water and germs can grow if you are not careful. For this reason it is important that tanks, buckets and other containers used for storing water should always be kept safe and properly covered to prevent germs from getting in and growing. Any tank which is connected to the water mains or has a pump attached must also have a ventilation pipe which is properly screened to prevent insects from entering.

What can I do to keep the water drinkable?

Make sure that your tank is kept clean.

Over time all storage tanks will accumulate sediments made up of mineral particles from water itself, from the water service pipe and from microscopic dust in the environment. These particles are not are not harmful in themselves but as they accumulate they further reduce the effective life span of chlorine and provide a home for germs to thrive. Furthermore tiny plants called algae can grow in the water if it is not completely dark inside the tank. These plants add to the sediment when they die and will further reduce the available chlorine. So, it is necessary to periodically inspect and clean the inside of tanks and all other water storage containers to remove the sediment from the bottom and any 'film' from top and sides. Inspection should be done monthly and cleaning at least once per year even if the tanks and containers are properly closed at all times.

Here are a few helpful hints on how to clean and disinfect your tank.

- Refer to the manufacturer for what types of detergents can be safely used on your tanks.
- Drain the tank, removing any sediment that may have accumulated.
- Mix the detergent solution and thoroughly clean the entire inside surface. Remember to pay attention to creases, corners and lips and the cover must also be cleaned.
- Thoroughly rinse the tank and drain it again, using the table in the next section, dilute the appropriate amount of chlorine and put it in the tank. Fill the storage tank with tap water and let it stand for at least half an hour before using it.

What to do if I think the water is not safe to drink?

If you are concerned about the chance of contamination, then you should boil any water used for drinking or food preparation, it you need to, you can always disinfect the stored water yourself using household bleach. Be sure to only use bleach which has been approved by the Grenada Bureau of Standards (GBS) be sure not to use too much.

The amounts of bleach to be used for various quantities of stored water are shown below. After adding the bleach, stir up the water for a few minutes so that the bleach mixes evenly, then allow the water to stand for 30 minutes.

Amount of water (gallons)  
Approximate amount of bleach to add

1200 1 ½ cups

800 1 cup

400 ½ cup

200	¼ cup
45	3 teaspoons
5	½ teaspoon
1	10 drops

After adding the bleach, stir up water for a few minutes so that the bleach mixes in evenly, and then allow the water to stand for 30 minutes.

If you are still in doubt give us a call at NAWASA (473) 4402155/4403468

How do I know I've got the right sort of tank?

The size of the tank depends on how much water you use. Your tank must be made from inert material, which does not allow any light to get into the tank. It must have a secure cover to avoid accidental shifting and have a valve system, which stops the flow of water from the main into the tank when it is full. An overflow to a safe discharge point is necessary, but must be one which can be seen so that you can be warned of overflow and carry out repairs. It should have a vent, which is screened to prevent insects, and designed to prevent rainwater ingress.

Our production and quality Department can, for a fee, perform bacterial and chlorine residual measurement tests on a sample of your water supply. If you wish to use these services call, 440 2155/3467/7264

## CAUTION:

Chlorine is a harmful substance. Care must always be taken when handling it.

Before doing so, read the manufacturer's warning instructions on the package label.

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## United Nations Info.

THE UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTRE FOR THE CARIBBEAN AREA (UNIC) IS THE UNITED NATIONS' PUBLIC INFORMATION FIELD OFFICE FOR THE ENGLISH AND DUTCH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN. THOUGH BASED IN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WE ARE MANDATED TO PROMOTE THE WORK OF THE UN AMONG 14 CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. THE FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE (IDP) – WHICH IS COMMEMORATED ON 21 SEPTEMBER - AND THE UNITED NATIONS' PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES. IDP IS A MAJOR COMMEMORATION IN THE UN CALENDAR AS IT HIGHLIGHTS THE FIRST PURPOSE OF THE UN, AS IDENTIFIED IN THE CHARTER: "TO MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY..." THESE ARTICLES GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF UN ACTIVITIES AT BOTH THE INTERNATIONAL AND CARIBBEAN LEVEL IN SUPPORT OF GLOBAL PEACE.

# Policing for peace:

## The law-and-order role played by blue berets



A FORENSIC TEAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS POLICE (UNPOL) AND THE TIMOR-LESTE NATIONAL POLICE (PNTL) USE PANOSCAN PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT TO CARRY OUT AN INVESTIGATION OF THE 11 FEBRUARY 2008 ATTACK AND AMBUSH ON PRIME MINISTER KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO.

UN PHOTO/MARTINE PERRET  
WHEN THE WORDS 'UN PEACEKEEPING' ARE MENTIONED, FOR MANY THEY TEND TO CONJURE UP AN IMAGE OF A BLUE-HELMETED MILITARY FORCE DISPATCHED TO A CONFLICT-TORN AREA TO HELP BRING ABOUT PEACE AND STABILITY. UNKNOWN TO SOME, A VITAL PART IN SUCH PEACE OPERATIONS IS PLAYED BY GROWING NUMBERS OF UN POLICEMEN AND WOMEN WHO HELP TO ESTABLISH LAW AND ORDER – NOT TEMPORARILY, BUT FOR THE LONG HAUL.

In January 2007, a widely published picture of a UN policewoman in a Darfur refugee camp alongside women and children highlighted the dangerous and sensitive role that the UN Police, known as UNPOL, is increasingly being called upon to play. The joint UN-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) will field more than 6,000 UNPOL officers, the largest ever deployment of United Nations Police. As the UN Police take up their responsibilities to protect civilians in camps and carry out regular patrols, their presence is

beginning to bring a sense of security and hope. But expectations of the UN may be unrealistically high – and without adequate and qualified numbers and proper equipment, the mission will be one of the most challenging – and riskiest – in UN history. Every day some 11,000 UN police officers worldwide go on patrol, provide training, and advise on national police, penal and human rights procedures as part of the expanded role UNPOL now plays to re-establish the rule of law for millions of people

affected by conflict. These numbers represent a historic high and an increase of around 65 per cent in the past two years alone. Managing such rapid expansion is a major challenge that involves balancing the Three Q's – "Quantity, Quality and Quickness". Strategic initiatives to deal with these challenges include establishing a Standing Police Capacity (SPC), the first unit of which was sent to Chad in November 2007 to begin training recruits for a specialized national police unit; and providing increas-

ing numbers of Formed Police Units (FPUs). These are highly trained, specialized units capable of responding to a variety of difficult situations – such as civilian unrest – with force both proportionate and sufficient to resolve potentially destabilizing localized conflicts. In cases where local security institutions are unable to respond effectively, these FPUs provide an invaluable "interim capacity" for the UN between a peace operation's military component and the more traditional unarmed UN police monitors. The first all-female FPU was deployed from India in January 2007 to the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and has just been replaced with a new all-female Indian FPU. UNPOL has a presence in 18 peace missions, the largest units being in Haiti, Timor Leste and Kosovo. UN Police may be mandated to build capacity and eventually hand over to national police forces at the appropriate time – and they are sometimes assigned the task of interim law enforcement as part of transition arrangements, such as in Timor Leste and Kosovo. They also have an important role to play in security sector reform and strengthening rule of law organizations, key to

rebuilding the trust in state institutions in fragile post conflict situations.  
The Context  
• Since the early 1990s, the role of UN Police officers in peacekeeping operations has evolved from their traditional role of monitoring activities established when UN Civilian Police were first introduced in the UN Operation in the Congo (ONUC) in 1960 to a more complex set of functions currently undertaken by UNPOL that include reforming, restructuring and rebuilding.  
• In 2000, a blue-ribbon Panel on UN Peace Operations – led by Lakhdar Brahimi – concluded that the goal of the UN Police should be "to focus primarily on the reform and restructuring of local police forces in addition to traditional advisory, training and monitoring tasks."  
• Highlighting the growing role and importance of policing in UN peacekeeping operations, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in February 2007 recognized DPKO's Police Division as being the "lead support entity" in policing and law enforcement, meaning that it performs this function on behalf of the whole UN system.

Building further on recommendations made in the Brahimi report, the restructuring of DPKO in 2007 brought the Police Division within the new Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions, which also includes the judicial, legal and correctional unit; mine action; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, as well as security sector reform functions.  
• Lessons learnt from past missions showed that a gap existed between the deployment of unarmed UN police and the military units. In situations of serious threats to peace or public order, the unarmed UN Police was ineffective while the heavily armed military units were not appropriately trained or equipped. The proposed solution: Formed Police Units armed with non-lethal weapons (but capable of using lethal weaponry, if required) and a robust law enforcement capacity. These Units consist of approximately 120-140 police officers who have been trained together and work as a cohesive, specialized unit. They act as a back-up support to the UN Police component and also provide high visibility crime deterrence capability to the unarmed UN Police.

## International Day of Peace 2008



The International Day of Peace (IDP) was established in 1981 by the General Assembly in UN Resolution 36/67 as an observance devoted to "commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace". In 2001, the General Assembly agreed that this occasion should be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, and the cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day.  
There are many places where, after extended periods of conflict, peace has been restored, often with the help of the United Nations, which establishes operations to alleviate human suffering, and create conditions and build institutions for self-sustaining peace.  
For example, the people of Sierra Leone and Nepal have voted in democratic elections following years of conflict, and societies are rebuilding in Burundi, Liberia and Timor-

Leste.  
"These experiences show us that real peace is possible, if we work collectively to make it happen...[and] take this day of ceasefire and non-violence very seriously..." Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General  
The Charter of the United Nations gives the UN Security Council the power and responsibility to take collective action to maintain international peace and security. For this reason, the international community usually looks to the Security Council to authorize peacekeeping operations. Most of these operations are established and implemented by the United Nations itself with troops serving under UN operational command. In other cases, where direct UN involvement is not considered appropriate or feasible, the Council authorizes regional and other international organizations such as the European Union (EU), the African Union (AU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) or "coalitions of willing countries" to implement certain peacekeeping or peace enforcement functions.  
This year is the second anniversary of the United Nations Information Centre for the Caribbean Area's 'white ribbon campaign', which aims to mobilise support for the UN's call to cease hostilities in regions of conflict. We ask that you wear a white ribbon (or piece of clothing) on 21 September and observe a minute of silence and reflection at midday on 21 September.

Peacekeeping in the Caribbean: <http://www0.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/index.html>  
Frequently asked questions about peacekeeping: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/faq/>

## UNITED NATIONS MESSENGERS OF PEACE

The United Nations Messengers of Peace are distinguished individuals, carefully selected from the fields of art, literature, music and sports, who have agreed to help focus worldwide attention on the work of the United Nations. Backed by the highest honour bestowed by the Secretary-General on a global citizen for an initial period of three years, these prominent personalities volunteer their time, talent and passion to raise awareness of United Nations' efforts to improve the lives of billions of people everywhere.  
The Messengers of Peace, through their public appearances, contacts with the international media and humanitarian work, help expand understanding of how the ideals and objectives of the Organization demand everyone's attention.  
Since the programme's inception nearly a decade ago, more than 10 individuals have gracefully lent their names, reputations and energy to motivate people to press for a more peaceful world.

### George Clooney

A committed human rights advocate, the United States



actor George Clooney was designated as a United Nations Messenger of Peace in January 2008. Using his global appeal and wide ranging talents as an actor, producer, screen writer and director, Mr. Clooney has focused public attention on crucial international political and social issues while diligently working to mobilize political action against the violence in Darfur.  
The actor's efforts toward ending the Darfur crisis have included a private trip with his father in 2006 to the war-torn region, as well as trips to China and Egypt, and serving as executive producer and narrator of a 2007 documentary, "Sand and Sorrow". This documentary follows human rights activists as they

visit refugee camps along the Chad-Sudan border and includes interviews with experts from Khartoum to London to New York that chronicle the ongoing tragedy.  
In September 2006, Mr. Clooney spoke to members of the Security Council at an "Arria formula" meeting along with Messenger of Peace Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor.  
The "Arria formula" is a vehicle by which non-governmental actors can address the United Nations Security Council outside the official sessions.  
In April 2007, Mr. Clooney and several other leaders in the United States film industry co-founded "Not On Our Watch," a non-profit organization using influential people in the arts to capture global attention and resources as a way to combat mass atrocities around the world. Helping bring about a resolution to the Darfur crisis is the organization's first official mission.  
As a Messenger of Peace, he will help raise public awareness and support for United Nations peacekeeping efforts around the world.

MINDFUL OF THE INCREASED CONCERNS REGARDING HEALTH AND FITNESS, AND ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO ADDRESS THE CONCERNS OF ITS READERSHIP THE BARNACLE HAS DECIDED TO INTRODUCE A COLUMN TO DEAL WITH THESE ISSUES. THIS ISSUE'S INSTALLMENT IS BASICALLY AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC BUT AS TIME GOES ON WE WILL BRING TO YOU A WEALTH OF WELL RESEARCHED AND RELEVANT INFORMATION CONCERNING THAT MOST IMPORTANT COMMODITY-YOU HEALTH AND FITNESS.

# LET'S GET STARTED

Ever noticed how the single thing that is most important to us we sometimes pay the least attention to?

Strange but true most people pay more attention to the welfare of their car, house or business than to their own health. They will purchase a needed part for their car before they go to the doctor for their annual checkup.

Most people put off going to the doctor until they are sure that something is wrong, waiting for as long as possible with the hope that the pain or discomfort will go away on its own.

However the slightest clink under the hood or a little flake of the paint on a bedroom wall is cause for panic and a frantic call to the relevant professional.

Our health is something we should preserve and protect at all costs because everything else hinges on it. A car or a house can always be replaced but if we let our health deteriorate to the point where it cannot be salvaged there is no way the replace the life that will be lost or reverse the terminal condition we may incur.

Health professionals and fitness experts all stress the importance of maintaining health rather

than regaining health. It is much better and quite a bit less expensive to do all we can to maintain good health and an acceptable level of fitness than to struggle to repair a neglected body.

Sure there are the health conditions that appear regardless but most of what we suffer from we can avoid and those that we cannot avoid we can detect early by regular visits to the health care provider.

It is a guaranteed and proven fact that optimum health can best be maintained through a combination of a sensible diet and consistent exercise.

In other words one can exercise vigorously for two hours every single day and engaged in sloppy eating habits and still not be healthy or fit.

Since one of the main concerns in today's society and also the most immediate consequence of an unhealthy lifestyle is weight gain this first installment of Health Corner will deal with this in a general way and go into more details in future issues.

A person gains weight once they put in more calories than they burn so a combination of large helping of fatty and sugary food together with a sedentary life style can be



disastrous.

Certainly not many people have the time or inclination to lead the life of the competitive athlete or the fitness fanatic but this is not necessary. All the average person needs is 30-60 minutes 3

or 4 time a week spent in moderate but sustained exercise and a fair degree of attention to what he/she eats.

In other words break a sweat regularly, maintain an increased heart rate over a period of several minutes and watch the carbohydrates, the sugary foods and the extra fatty foods.

For those who are already overweight I am sure we are familiar with the possible consequences of this condition like heart disease, hypertension, diabetes and the resulting increased risk of strokes and heart attacks.

Luckily overweight is a reversible condition. All it takes to lose some weight is a bit of discipline to change your lifestyle and the willingness to sustain that change. Increase your physical activity and manage your diet.

It has been established that the main culprit in weight gain is simple carbohydrates the main sources of which is white flour, white rice, pasta and some refined grains and cereals.

Cut down on the intake of these foods along with much of the chocolate, ice-cream, cakes, candies and the fat laden fast foods. Throw in some exercise and you are well on your way to a new life.

As I mentioned earlier we will go into more details and specific information in future issues with regard to dieting, exercise, fat loss/avoiding fat gain and health preservation.

However in this issue we will give you some essential foods that you can increase in your everyday diet which actually help to fight fat. You should add at least six of these foods to your diet each

day in exchange for what you will be cutting out:

Almonds (and other nuts); beans (and other legumes); spinach (and other green vegetables); dairy; instant oatmeal; eggs; turkey (and other lean meats); peanut butter; olive oil; whole grains (breads and cereals); extra protein powder (whey); raspberries (and other berries).

Word of advice-do not starve yourself in the hope of losing weight. If anything this causes more weight gain, I will explain next issue. Rather you should eat more often just smaller amount and carefully selected foods. This keeps the metabolic process on an increased level and leads to the burning of more calories.

Until next issue let us embark of the path to optimum health and fitness together.



# FIRST MONTH IN GOVERNMENT EARNS A C-Minus

On August 19th, 2008 the Eighth Session of Grenada's Parliament Opened and it appears the New Government is sparing no time to lock battle horns with the former Government. The new Government, elected amid consistent, but not proven allegations of corruption, has boxed itself into a corner to prove that the people's choice was the more righteous path for Grenada. The pressure the NDC Administration has put upon themselves is already visible as they have initiated a number of ringside blows towards the outgoing administration, even before Parliament re-opened.

While press coverage has overwhelmingly been in favour of the New Administration, the public's extensive exposure to the one-sided coverage of issues that have been raised by the NDC Government are already showing signs of reducing the public's confidence in the Government, rather than raising it, as is undoubtedly the goal. A little time on a bus, at a rum shop, or observing chatter on internet forums shows that the people know the 1818 vote margin isn't the landslide win the 11-4 balance of power in Parliament would

suggest.

In the first month of office, the only Ministry that appears ready to deliver on the election promises made by the NDC is the Ministry of Education, under the leadership of the Honourable Franca Bernadine, who is a formidable leader in her own right: Chosen for those very qualities by Prime Minister Tillman Thomas when he appointed her as Senator, and Minister of Education and Human Resources.

There have been some successes for the Government since taking office; such as the peaceful Carnival, and the new Government's warm acceptance by neighbouring nations. However, the weaknesses that have emerged paint a discouraging picture for the new Administration.

Emancipation Day activities suffered poor attendance, which did not bode well for the NDC given their party emphasis on what was apparently an emerging heritage movement. The low attendance and lack of response to the call for Grenadians to wear their heritage clothes on Emancipation day,

may indicate that while there may have been an attempt to lead people into a heritage movement, similar to the black power movement of the 1970's - the people do not appear to have taken it up.

Additionally, there has been the matter of the Prime Minister, the Tourism Minister and the Minister of Finance travelling in three's and sometimes more than three's. This too, not given much attention by the press, has significance in the minds of Grenadians as there is lingering doubt about whether the public and indeed the new Prime Minister has trust in the old hard-liner members of the People's Revolutionary Government. Sniggers and comments on the street by people show they're watching closely, as comments such as "Tilly's keeping dem boys close cause he don't trust 'em." Whether or not there is trust among the Minister's of Government, there is a perception of a lack of trust among the people.

Then there is the Public Service - which was unquestionably a hobbed of NDC supporters during the latter days of the NNP Administration.

This is powder-keg waiting to blow for the new Administration and it is indeed an area where they cannot afford to drag their feet. Since the new Government has assumed office, Public Officers have been complaining that they are no longer working, they lack direction and that the new Administration continues to function as a political party working with their party activists rather than working with the public service. These idle minds are increasingly frustrated, disillusioned, and losing confidence in the leadership skills of their Ministers.

They have also been on the inside observing the widespread dismissal of contract and Imani workers, the forensic auditing of Government programmes which has been perceived to be an attempt to dig up dirt on the NNP. This, instead of focusing on Governing the country, all while the NDC deny that the working conditions in Government have deteriorated since the change in Government, will see disillusionment continue to grow until it boils over in a catastrophic sense for the Government in power. The

'Service' is a force to be reckoned with.

The people are also observing the number of high profile personalities who consistently attacked the former Administration now being rewarded with Senior Government appointments. While this is to be expected to some extent, the credibility of the arguments these people raised against the former Administration are now falling into a grey area where the legitimacy of the allegations, particularly since most are unproven becomes increasingly questionable.

The other area the new Government needs to be careful about is the faith they are placing on the people to accept that claiming the 'Treasury' is empty will be sufficient to explain non-performance on their promises to the people. Managing finances when you have a lot of money is a relatively easy task. Managing finances when you don't have money is far more difficult, and it does not bode well for the public to see the Finance Minister panicking in his first month in Government.

The former government man-

aged to cope, however imperfectly for 13 years. Salaries for the service were always paid even after Hurricane Ivan, and the people are not likely to swallow excuses from the new Minister and Government if their creativity and financial management skills can't keep the boat afloat. The people expect the Government to make it work - period.

In the end, the people are already keeping a watchful eye on the new Administration, and by choosing to forgo the holiday period new Governments usually enjoy by taking out the boxing gloves and swinging at the former Administration - they are putting their faith in the people's willingness to swallow excuses for non-performance merely weeks after they voted a Prime Minister out of power who delivered jobs, infrastructure, training programmes, youth employment programmes and a strong economy to guide the nation forward.

The election results if anything should show the new Government that Grenadians are not so forgiving.

The professor

## Soroptimist International of Grenada Celebrates Thirty-Seven Years of Service

Thirty-seven years ago on 23rd August, 1971 SI Grenada, a new service club was chartered in Grenada.

The formation of the newest member of Soroptimist International, a world wide women's organization, was spearheaded by one of Grenada's illustrious daughters, Louise Rowley, the first woman in the Caribbean to have been appointed to the officer of Permanent Secretary. Together with other outstanding professional women, like Gert Protain, Marcella David, Evelyn Cox and Florence A I Rapien, the Club became part of the largest women's organization in the world.

Soroptimist International is an organization for women in management and the professions, working through service projects to advance human rights and the status of women.

The word "Soroptimist" comes from the Latin word "soror" meaning "sister" and "optima" mean "best" and loosely translates as "best for women".

The Organization seeks to actively influence positive change in society through Awareness, Advocacy and Action.

Soroptimist International was founded in 1921 in Oakland, California, USA. Since then, membership has grown to 95,000 women across the world in some 155 countries making SI the world's largest classified service organisation for women. Soroptimist International is divided into four groupings called Federations. Grenada is a member of SIGBI (Soroptimist In-



ternational of Great Britain and Ireland). The Federation holds its annual Conference in October this year in Barbados. It is expected to that at least twelve hundred (1200) delegates and observers will attend the Barbados Conference. Grenada is also a member of a regional network called Soroptimist International Caribbean Network. (SICN) which includes Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos. Soroptimist International "recognizes that globalization, free trade and trade liberalisation have created economic, social and political challenges, especially for women. Whilst Soroptimist International accepts the concept of free trade, it supports Trade Justice and urges all governments to operate fair trade deals". Indeed, Soroptimist International has lobbied and campaigned on Economic

Partnership Agreements (EPAs) calling on the UK Government to use its full influence to stop unfair trade deals going ahead, to listen to the serious concerns of poor countries and work with those countries to develop new agreements that will help deliver trade justice." (SI News May 2007). The issue of "Fair Trade" has affected us in the Caribbean and a Resolution on bananas was tabled and passed at an annual Conference a few years ago. Promoting peace is another major issue for SI - banning the use of Cluster Bombs is being actively pursued by our European sisters while we in Grenada, have been organizing a Peace March on September 21 - the UN Day of Peace - to discourage violence in our nation State. This year we will join with sister organizations in the Grenada National Organisation of Women (GNOW) to march for peace.

Programme Action is at the heart of the work Soroptimists do. The Club in Grenada has implemented a number of projects and programmes which highlight the level of services given over the past thirty-seven (37) years. These projects are carried out under the programme heads of Health, Education, International Goodwill and Understanding, Social and Economic Development, the Environment and Advocacy on the Status of Women among others.

Outstanding among the many projects are the School for the Hearing Impaired, the environment project and the observance of World Literacy Day, the International Day of Women, the UN Day of Peace, World Water Day, and the Day to Protest Violence Against Women and Girls. It is SI Grenada that initiated a number of health fairs with emphasis on lifestyle diseases (diabetes, hypertension, HIV/AIDS etc) and it was SI Grenada which recognized the work of all voluntary organizations in Grenada during the UN Year of the Volunteer in 2001 under the theme "CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERISM, APPLAUDING VOLUNTEERS."

The record of achievements of SI Grenada include:-

- Contribution of \$57,000 towards the development of the complex housing the School for Hearing Impaired at Perdmontemps;
- Donated an AC Unit to the Children's Ward and furniture for the general use of the General Hospital.
- Donated Custom made

beds to the Dorothy Hopkin Home for the Handicapped.

- Donated books, bags and art supplies to the children of the residents of Cedars Home in St. Patricks.
- Tree planting in collaboration with the Forestry Department.
- Environmental project at the Westerhall Secondary School.

But it is not all work and no play for this group of active women. They found time on the occasion of the thirty-seventh anniversary to have fun with the children of the Queen Elizabeth Home in a beach picnic on BBC beach on Saturday 23rd August, 2008.

Last year's anniversary celebration the elderly were honoured and a tea was organised at the Grand Anse Home for the Aged now located in Calliste and the year before a visit was made to the Cedars Home for battered women. We thank our regional and international sisters who have supported our fund raising efforts, our friendship links and the many Grenadian businesses and individuals who have sponsored and supported the publication of a Cook Book and the raffle associated with its production. SI Grenada is affiliated to the Grenada National Organisation of Women. It also is affiliated with the Pink Ribbon Society and a number of other health related organisations. For further information about the SI International please contact the President, Mary John or the Secretary, Hillary McNeilly. Our Website is www.soroptimist-gbi.org

# Open Letter To The Leader Of The Opposition

**Dr. Mitchell you have once again found yourself in the seat of the leader of the Opposition.**

It was the doing of the people of Grenada, the ordinary regular man and woman who was called upon to cast a vote to choose who would lead the country.

You were the incumbent and therefore were in charge of the electoral system you were ousted in what we must admit was a fair and transparent General Election.

You have however revealed yourself to be a very sore and bitter loser bent on creating as much fear, resentment, bitterness and strife as you possibly can. You are intent not on using your office to assist in the building of the country and its people but in destroying and bringing down the government through devious means.

After you lost the election I was naïve enough to think that your mien would change and you would become more responsible and mature in your actions and utterance. I thought that after all the elections result would have taught you the error of your way of doing things and you would make the necessary adjustments.

I was very wrong and you are still up to your old tricks the same tricks that contributed to the people rejecting your party at the polls.

In 2003 you ran your campaign on a platform of lies, concoction and scare tactics. You ranted on and on about those boys from the revolution and guns and other such drivel. The result, you lost 7 of the 15 seats which you held.

In 2008, same thing if not worse. More scare tactics about guns and slavery and all kinds of tricks to scare

people away from the NDC. What happened? You lost 4 more of the 8 seats which you then held.

You told the nation that you know for a fact that if the NDC won the elections Tillman Thomas would never be the prime minister. In fact you said he would be thrown out of the party. Who is the Prime Minister today?

You sought to convince people that all their property would be taken away and infrastructure would be destroyed.

With no record of achievement to campaign on you and your lackeys resorted to Mark Anthony and Adolf Hitler strategies; create sympathy for yourself and inspire fear of and hatred for the opponent.

This plan failed miserably so what makes you think you can now change the mentality of the people and get them to fall for this

same old crap and return you to office.

Listen well Keith Mitchell and your minions; you left an economy and a socio-politico-cultural structure in complete shambles. You are the ones responsible for the ridiculously high national debt with nothing to show for it; you are the ones that presided over the wholesale sellout and giveaway of the nation's prime assets.

Furthermore you were the ones who hired an army of consultants, experts, (sic), advisors and advisors to the advisors at enormous salaries with nothing of importance to do.

All of a sudden as Opposition leader you start clamoring for all kinds of pampering and considerations that you had never thought of affording the opposition leader when you were prime minister for 13 years.

All of a sudden you can see all kinds of things that need doing-things you had not done in 13 years you want the new administration to do in 7 weeks.

Get your head out of your butt Keith and realize this, we have a country to rebuild here a country that you and your bunch of inept selfish, self-centered ticks have ransacked and brought to the very verge of bankruptcy.

Neither you nor any of your kind is going to ruin this, the country's best chance in many years for real development and the rebuilding of our society.

You sit in the opening of Parliament talking about responsible opposition. Is that your idea of responsible opposition, spreading the seeds of discord and seeking to disrupt the peace of the country by causing resentment and mistrust?

You should rather be answering some questions about all the questionable land grants and awarding of contract just before the elections; about the money you then minister of Finance Anthony Boatswain said was available for the rebuilding of the Carlton House Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center; the money you said had been secured for the Grenville Market project, the millions wasted on a Will O the Wisp poultry farm and many other issues that have to be promptly investigated.

You are indebted to this country in a big way and I hope the new administration understands that it is not their call to be lenient with you and your kind.

If you are guilty of injustices against the people of Grenada for that you must be made to pay according to the full extent of the law.

Richard Peters

## Recent Agreement Economic and Political Union

August 22nd, 2008

**Hon. Tillman Thomas  
Prime Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
Ministerial Complex  
Tanteen  
St. George's**

Dear Sir,

**Re Recent Agreement Economic and Political Union**

Greetings Hon. Prime Minister!

I do feel constrained to write to you to offer my comments on the recent news that the Heads of Government of Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago had entered into agreement to pursue economic union by 2009 and political union by 2013. While I do consider myself a regionalist who believes that the long term salvation

of our islands lies in genuine co-operation and integration, I must express my concerns about PROCESS.

It is less than two (2) months since the decisive July 8th elections which blew in the "wind of change" National Democratic Congress into office. We the people voted for change and a new approach to governance. I am therefore at a loss to understand how our representatives can go signing agreements of such far reaching consequences when this new Parliament had not even been convened!! I do not recall economic and political union being a platform issue. I have perused your party's manifesto and while it does state a commitment to "deepening of the OECS and CARICOM integration movement" it does not shed further light on this matter so we the people are in the dark as to your party's position on this issue. The people, have not been informed,

much less consulted!! Hon. Prime Minister, please do not permit your administration to make the same error as those who have been in office for a much longer period – they have forgotten that the integration of the region is about the PEOPLE of the region. It is this attitude towards we the people of the region, the most important stakeholders of the integration process, that has stymied progress.

As Political Leader of the Congress party, none better than you, Sir, must be aware of the great hope and expectations of the Grenadian people as they took a very deliberate decision to place the stewardship of the nation into the hands of your party. You, on behalf of your party, promised, inclusion, transparency and accountability. It is therefore of great concern to we the people that less than one month of being in office our representatives should be signing agreements

of such far reaching implications without informing, much less consulting, we the people. It is the considered opinion of we the people that a new administration which has spent 13 years in opposition and which has an enormous "clean-up job" to take on should spend its first month in office properly settling in - familiarizing itself with and assessing the situation which it has inherited and setting its short term priorities. These priorities ought to be communicated to we the people along with the proposed strategies for addressing them.

As part of the regional family, we the people do recognize that the new administration will have commitments in this regard but first things first!! Trinidad has money, something which Grenada badly needs at this time. But we the people would like to counsel "Hasten slowly!" Prime Minister Manning has been in office well over two terms. He has things "under control". The new administration needs to truly "settle in".

Your administration should also note that over the last 13 years, Port-of-Spain established itself in St. George's and since then has been expanding rapidly throughout the island and in Carriacou. Indeed, during the period of the Agency for Reconstruc-

tion and Development (ARD), Port-of-Spain even flourished in the Ministerial Complex and real estate business increased significantly.

Therefore we the people are wary of any new arrangements which can potentially further marginalize us. That is why we need to know what our leaders have signed up to and what it really means for us. Indeed, we would expect to inform any decisions to be taken by our leaders on our behalf.

It would do well for our leaders to also recognize that over the last 35 years of the integration process, the region's leaders have put the "cart before the horse". They have also reneged on their commitments to the region and narrow political expediency rather than principle have guided their decisions. How else could have so many CARICOM leaders ended up with a Petrocaribe deal which left Trinidad out in the cold? Why is it that Caribbean leaders made deals which permitted Air Jamaica, BWIA and Caribbean Star to almost destroy LIAT? Why is it that over the years LIAT'S operations seemed to have been dogged by decisions based on political expediency?

There appears to be a particular haste in respect of initiatives regarding gas and

oil. We the people are aware that members of the former administration entered into ill-advised deals with unsavoury characters in respect of our gas and oil resources and that there are legal matters surrounding some of these deals. What is the status of these matters and who/which institution is advising the new administration?

For the last 13 years, we the people have been short-changed and ravaged by the decisions of those we put in charge of our affairs. For the moment, we do not doubt the noble intent of you and your team but we wish to remind you of the commitment to inclusion, transparency and accountability and a change in the approach to governance.

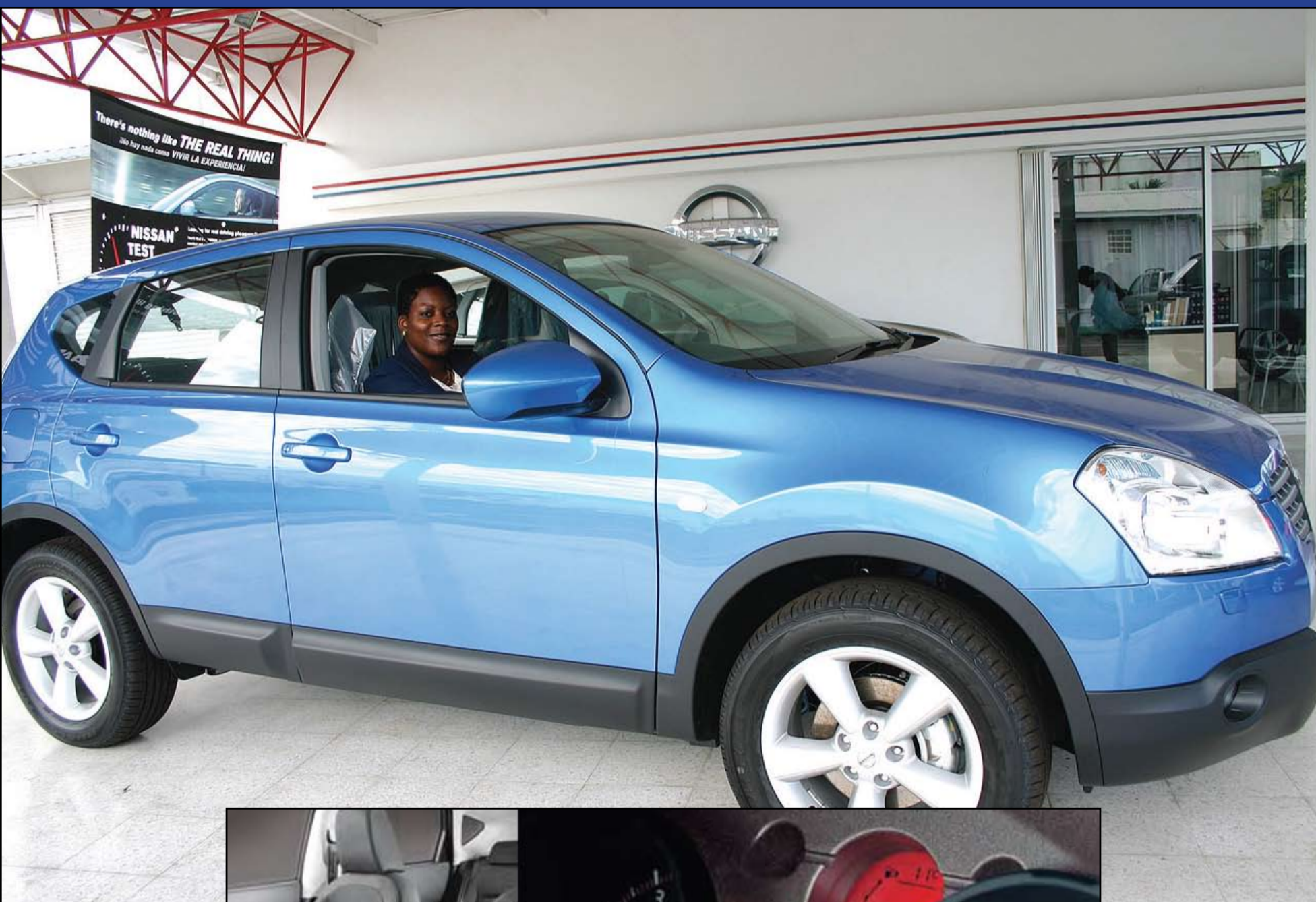
As you yourself stated at your swearing-in ceremony at the Grenada Trade Centre on July 9th, the people's prayers played a significant role in your party getting into office. Now that it is there, Sir, we the people trust that Ministers will continue to implore the people's prayers for wisdom in the conduct of the nation's affairs.

Kind regards!

Yours respectfully,

**Sandra C.A. Ferguson**

# QASHQAI: COMPACT CROSSOVER



Just when it seemed that they had outdone themselves, George F. Huggins & Co. Grenada Ltd. Automotive Division goes and does it again. Another eye-popping machine, the Nissan Qashqai has rolled into its showroom.

Lately, it seems like the display area at Huggins Motor Division is constantly adorned with some latest design, latest technology, futuristic looking vehicle that draws ecstatic ooh's and ahhh's from enraptured auto lovers and the Qashqai is the latest in this impressive parade.

Last year the Nissan



in Grenada.

The Qashqai is a compact crossover SUV that has been rated as the safest car in Britain after it scored the highest rank in the Euro NCAP crash test assessment.

Word from the Automotive Division is that since driving is no longer considered ordinary then what one drives should not be considered ordinary.

The introduction of the Qashqai then, is an illustration of Nissan's continued commitment to providing vehicles that are unique in design and superior in quality and workmanship.

Tiida sedan and hatchback took the local roadways by storm and earlier this year the rugged Nissan Navara pickup powered its way onto the scene bringing new dimensions to its class

Every vehicle designer and dealer sing the praises of their vehicles and point out how unique and superior it is but only one look at the Qashqai is required to see how different this model is when compared to other brands within its class.

As the Nissan dealers in Grenada point out, the Qashqai is not intended to compete against authentic SUVs but to attract those customers who consider themselves to be modern and distinct in their own environment.

Nissan's Chief Product Designer for the model Mr. Stephane Schwarz says "the Qashqai is a passenger car with SUV attributes" and we ask, what better way to get the best out of both worlds; the feeling of strength and versatility within the confines of luxury.

The launch of the Qashqai started in Europe and because it was such an instant hit with the urban customers it became available to Nissan overseas markets.

This attractive vehicle offers a choice between a 1600 and 2.0L size gasoline engine, comes equipped with front ventilated disc & rear brakes and front strut & rear independent multi-link suspension with stabilizers.

It sports large sized tires(216/60R17) with alloy wheels and a full size spare and within the package are xenon head lamps with auto levelizer for clearer visibility especially for dimly lit areas with electric adjustable outside door mirrors.

The Qashqai comes with leather wrapped steering wheel, power steering with EPS, tilt and telescopic and satin chrome button on the parking brake lever and a full functioning four wheel drive system.

A sleek dynamic shape with a prominent shoulder line that rises at the rear portion, a lower portion that has a good resemblance of SUV due to its gigantic wheel arches and an elevated ground clearance polishes off the appeal of this vehicle.

George F. Huggins & Co. is no doubt proud to put another high quality product on the Grenadian market, which is in keeping with its history of always being the leader at what it does.

Its Automotive Division in particular keeps scoring victory after victory and now the modern, yet sporty person who is looking for a distinct and personalized design with the strength of an SUV needs look no further since the Nissan Qashqai is their first and last stop.





# Southern Waste Management Services Limited

River Road, St. George's Tel: (473) 435-3478/420-2041



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## Appropriate Sanitation To Sustain Growth of a Nation...



# Cleaning Enhances Healthy Living!

Made In Grenada

# SOUTHERN WASTE: BRINGING OUT THE CLEANER SIDE OF WASTE DISPOSAL

Our communities have surely come a long way from the days of roadside bins with garbage spilling halfway across the road being scavenged by stray animals, to scheduled curb side pick-ups and compactor trucks.

Manager of Southern Waste Ltd. Mr. Victor Scott is taking it even further in ensuring better security of privately collected waste before it is removed and greater sanitation in the surroundings.

He is now about to introduce skips that can be emptied on the spot as part of the private waste collection aspect of his operations.

Mr. said he decided to start manufacturing the unique skips in order to make a difference.

He said there are other companies that provide skip service but he has noticed that trucks are being used to lift the skips when to contents of the skips can instead be emptied into compactor trucks.

He conceived the idea of making the skips with a small door so that they can be cleaned on site, disinfected if necessary and left for further use.

The objective of manufacturing those skips the Southern Waste manager said is to provide a



MANAGER OF SOUTHERN WASTE LTD. MR. VICTOR SCOTT

service which is different to that offered by other contractors.

He said the private sector is used to getting garbage collected via the contractor taking garbage and go but the service he pro-

vides means that bins are cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis. The bins are regularly maintained and painted to ensure that they do not become an eyesore.

The skips have been de-

signed by Mr. Scott himself and are being manufactured right here in Victoria, St. Mark's.

Mr. Scott relates that sometimes when he would approach a private sector entity for busi-

ness they would respond that they already have a contractor and that that contractor uses a skip. He then figured to himself that he could also provide a skip service but have the receptacle cleaned on a daily basis. This is quite different to the arrangement with other contractors who are not called until the skip is filled to capacity and in some cases overflowing and by then you have the problem of dogs sniffing around and flies seeking a meal from the garbage.

This is not the first innovation in waste collection that Southern waste has been credited with. Before this the company began to manufacture and introduce covered bins for persons and entities which did not require a skip service.

These covered bins with two doors at the top and one at the front were made specifically to keep away stray domestic animals in addition to rats, cockroaches, flies and other vermin. The waste is instead secured until the bin is cleaned and disinfected.

Southern Waste is also contracted by the Grenada Solid Waste Management Authority to collect and dispose of domestic waste in some parts of St. George's and brings the

same degree of consideration and professionalism to this as he gives to his private clients.

Since Mr. Scott got into the business over two years ago he was determined to make some changes that he thought were necessary and has begun to do so by reducing the degree of exposure of the garbage and the leaking of garbage water prior to collection.

He has had no complaints from GSWMA about the service that he is providing and his adherence to the terms of his contract and is satisfied that he maintains a very high standard and that his service meets the approval of the Authority.

The Southern Waste manager is a man that takes pride in what he is doing and whether his team is collecting waste as contracted by GSWMA or serving his private clients he thrives to operate with the least possible complaints from those he serves.

He maintains that people want value for the money and he will not take people's money under false pretence.

Because of the difference in the quality of service his company is providing Scott is confident of the future and looks forward to the possibilities it has to offer.





# A Call To Serve

INTERVIEW WITH CHRISTOPHER DE ALLIE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SENATE



CHRISTOPHER DE ALLIE

*Veteran business and private sector administrator Mr. Christopher De Allie has recently taken the oath to represent the private sector in the senate.*

*De Allie is the Deputy General Manager responsible for Sissons Paint Grenada Ltd. and has served as President of the Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce, President of the Grenada Employers' Federation as well as holding many other administrative positions related to the private sector, statutory bodies and sports.*

*When interviewed by the Barnacle Newspaper De Allie was clearly determined to make a meaningful contribution in the Upper House as it relates to the interest of the private sector in particular and the country in general with regard to the debating and passing of legislation in the interest of all concerned.*

Were you aspiring to become a senator, have you ever had the thought?

No. I wasn't aspiring to a senator. My primary focus in Grenada is to help wherever I can. I put the country first. However getting this senate appointment is one of the ways that I can help and part take in the development of this country. So although I wasn't aspiring when the opportunity presented itself I accepted it all in an effort to see my country develop and move along the lines that I will like to see it move.

Where would you like to see the country go?

From a private sector standpoint I would like to see a number of things. We have always been very open and focused on the fact that we need to see an even playing field as it relates to the business environment.

The private sector has always been touted as the engine of growth for the economy, a phrase that has been touted around a lot but sometimes you see no meaningful tangible evidence of that happening. So we would like to see certain types of legislation passed that would affect the environment and give the private sector the enabling environment to become the engine of growth.

It is our belief that there are a lot of things that can be done better and it is our belief that the private sector's contribution to the national economy can be facilitated through better productivity and attitude towards work.

We always believe that we are open to different types of mechanisms and guidelines that will achieve that.

Over the years we've heard of private sector being the engine of growth but I don't think successive governments have really released the private sector sufficiently so that it can truly be the sector that would lead. In other words we have not really had private sector led growth and development in this country. Would you be advocating

strongly for the private sector to become the leader in terms of the growth of the economy?

I may disagree with you that we have not had private sector led growth. If you look at the lead sectors in the economy which is tourism and to a lesser extent construction it is all primarily led by private sector entities. The former government had and this new one has indicated that tourism is the lead sector and if you put that in context it means that all the hotel plants are privately run companies.

Yes the private sector has been leading the growth but the officials have not openly confessed that the growth we have seen is private sector led. What I am asking is would you be seeking a pronouncement that the growth we seek must be private sector led and as such the legislation would back it up.

We want to see tangible things done to the phrase that we are the engine of growth, tangible in the sense that you want to have tax reforms, tax administration, and investment code. You would want to create opportunities within that investment climate that facilitate that in a serious tangible way and gives all participants, foreign or local an even playing field to so invest and create the opportunities through initiatives from financial institutions that can facilitate small businesses for example to develop and grow.

We encourage people in agro processing, what are the real incentives that we will offer to the man who wants to do a cottage industry and create some employment in the rural communities. How would you facilitate that and to what extent would you want to do that? All of that is private sector as far as we are concerned.

The IMF (International Monetary Fund) said the other day that Grenada's concession policy is generous but that generosity has not filtered down to the local business com-

munity in a serious way. More foreign investors have benefited from the concessions.

Is there a case for concessions for the local private sector so that we can really enhance this private sector led growth?

One of the things the new proposed investment code legislation is seeking to do is to have a kind of standardization of that incentive regime. Based on my last look at the draft I recognized that not all projects are to go to cabinet as used to be the case in the past. What is intended is to create an atmosphere where government indicates which are its priority sectors then have the GIDC set up a committee of people to look at all the different criterion needed incentive wise and otherwise then bring a list to the Minister of Finance and say that these companies qualify. This removes the political interference and whether you are local or foreign everyone operates on an even keel as to what they get and how they get it. Hopefully that will come into legislation and help with the investment climate.

I know that the bigger private sector organizations have been a little disturbed by the way taxes are collected. They seem to be the ones who are being targeted for revenue collection.

On the question of tax reform would you in your position as senator advocate that the scope be broadened to encompass more people and that the machinery for collection function so that persons could be made to pay their taxes and thereby remove the burden on the bigger companies?

We in the private sector have always articulated that there is a lot that can be improved with regard to the administration of tax. I have advocated personally on a number of occasions different mechanisms by which I think we can improve.

The private sector has supported the introduction of VAT which is intended to widen the net and also improve government's revenue. It is also supposed to improve the administration of tax; Administration from the point of view that every tax payer under the VAT scheme will be given a Personal Identification Number that could track them from registration to when the duty is paid on the docks.

All that said and done though I believe you are right in your assessment that the business community now feel very aggrieved in terms of their tax filing and compliance and all of us believe that we are targeted because we follow the rules.

For example if you are a person that files on time you give the Inland Revenue Department ammunition so to speak. Because you file on time and you obey the laws of the country they always come at you. They always come to see what they can get from you and get more and so on. So it gives you the impression that being compliant has no advantages. That is the perception and that has to be reversed in my view. There is a trust element too at the Inland Revenue in terms of the accuracy of information being sent out to the private sector and that is again something that has to be dealt with.

All of us in the private sector feel that a lot of information that comes from that department leaves a lot to be desired and has to improve. When those things happen there will be a greater effort by the Private Sector to comply because has always articulated that we need to follow the rules, the laws are the laws and you must follow the laws.

This is something in the Private Sector that we are very serious about. The chamber has always articulated that companies within its membership must follow all the rules and laws as laid down by the government.

The Minister of Finance in his political campaigning said that there would be no new taxes. Do you think this can last?

I am of the view that it can. I believe that the compliance issue is one of the things that can be improved significantly. There are a lot of nuisance taxes which I think we could streamline and do differently and if we do these things the collection aspect of taxation will improve significantly. If the VAT is introduced properly and that is adhered to there should be no deterioration in revenue, as a matter of fact we should see some gains especially in excise tax. So I believe that they may not be any need to introduce new taxes. What there may be a need to do is collect appropriately and administer appropriately and if that is done I believe we shall see no problems as it relates to that.

What is the expectation of this government in the view of the private sector?

I believe one of the primary concerns has to do with getting economic activity back up to a level that facilitates both government and the private sector.

With greater economic activity the government has greater revenue inflows because of activity generated and fees collected etc. one of the key things in my view is that the Minister of Finance through his ministry has to work very

quickly on re-establishing confidence within our economy and internationally that Grenada is still a destination that has a predictable economic and political climate and is therefore a place to invest thereby stimulating economic activity both locally and internationally. That confidence factor is critical. Campaigning is over and a new government is in place. We now need to find ways to stimulate things and get them to work.

You mentioned putting some more responsibility in the hands of the GIDC via the overall concession review plan. Is there a need for the GIDC to be revamped in your view for it to operate with more efficiency and flexibility?

I cannot speak to the operation of the IDC in terms of efficiency and so on. IDC has always been responsible for analyzing projects and recommending to government which ones should get concessions and so on. I believe there can be an argument made for realigning of the IDC in terms of where the focus should be, whether it should be in investment and being a one stop shop for the potential investor, as well as handling policing the Investment Code and all that is involved in it.

So you may have an argument for realigning of the IDC and its focus. If that is the case I have no issue with that.

If the business community asks you to make a choice for the IDC would you say realignment?

Yes, with the new investment code that is being proposed and supported by the chamber I believe there would be need for such realignment.

What are the benefits?

It gives the potential investor one organization to deal with. You come in there and you know exactly what is required of you. It also will help in the reduction of red tape hopefully in setting up new businesses. From the onset you know exactly all the requirements that have to be met, what is on offer and the priority sectors that you can invest in also.

So it makes it easier for the potential investor to come in and it also makes the whole process more transparent.

Being a past President of the Chamber of Commerce, being a president of the Manufacturers Association and having served in other capacities is this your most important appointment as far as you are concerned?

I don't know. In the Upper House your primary responsibility is to deal with legislative matters and bring to bear

private sector concerns as it relates to legislation that will probably affect or not affect them.

From that standpoint yes it is one of the most important appointments however from the standpoint of advocacy on issues you are limited as it relates to that in the Upper House.

You will not be able to advocate as widely as if you were a president of the chamber on issues concerning the private sector.

So the positions differ in terms of what your primary importance is and what you want to do for the private sector.

In one sentence tell me what your mission is now as a senator.

I am charged with the responsibility of ensuring that all private sector matters as it relates to legislation and other things are debated fairly and the concerns of the private sector are raised in a forum that could help influence the direction in which these things are going.

How would you achieve success?

That is a difficult question because success in the Upper House really isn't dependant on whether your performance is good if you are looking at it from a performance standpoint.

No I am looking at it from a personal standpoint how are you going to ensure that you represent and function effectively?

My remit is to the private sector as you are aware so I have regular interactions with my private sector colleagues so that they could direct me as to what needs to be articulated and what should take priority, when it needs to and so on so I am basically their servant in that respect and I am taking the initiatives from them. Whatever I am instructed in terms of relevance and priority I will so perform.

When your time has passed in the Upper House what legacy would you like to leave?

Primarily that my intervention on matters that relate to that were well handled and debated properly and that whatever gains we could have gotten through my being in the senate would have been achieved.

Why do you think the private sector elected you to represent it?

I suspect it has a lot to do with my involvement in the private sector over the years at differently levels and probably my understanding of issues on the wide front, my ability to so articulate on their behalf.

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