



INCLUSIVITY

Historic Disabilities Bill Passes



"The Disabilities Bill is a testament to our commitment to building a society where everyone, regardless of their abilities, can thrive equally," - Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño

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Anti-Social Justice: UDP Boycotts Disabilities and Anti-Sexual Harassment Bills

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BERYL TROPICAL STORM WATCH
NEMO on heightened alert

PM: "Do not listen to rumors or social media posts that are not from official sources"



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Official Nomination
OSMOND MARTINEZ
Rising Together



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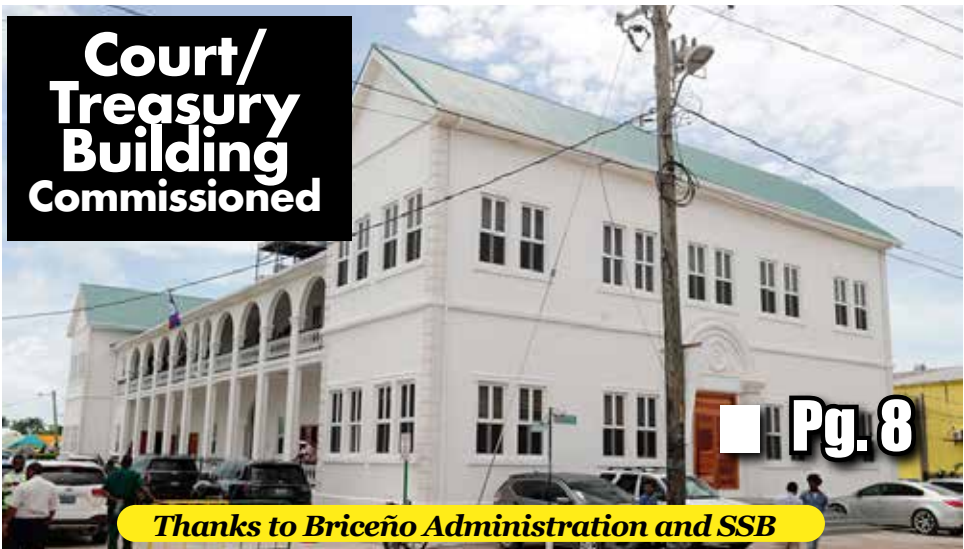
Oscar Mira Endorsement

"Belmopan: Embrace Progress, Empower Unity"



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**Court/
Treasury
Building
Commissioned**



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Thanks to Briceño Administration and SSB

Vote Osmond Martinez for Toledo East

INCLUSIVITY

Historic Disabilities Bill Passes

The People's United Party and the Briceño administration were joined at the House of Representatives June 28 sitting by a cadre of Belizeans who were a part of the impetus for the passage of this bill. The monumental occurrence that epitomizes the essence of the social justice agenda of the George Price party and of planBelize is being lionized and savoured by everyone who calls themselves Belizean. Every Belize knows or is a relative of someone that lives with a disability. These heroes live full lives as they are also full taxpayers and consumers. It is therefore just that there is automatic freedom of access to spaces in the jewel—to a sporting event, an educational institution, a health institution, a restaurant, any government building, and more. Hopefully, all Belizeans have access to our hearts and homes.

At the House the Hon. Francis Fonseca was on point: "I want to of course join with the Honourable Member of Belize Rural Central in recognizing and acknowledging the tremendous advocacy and work of the special envoy, Mrs. Briceño. I have had the privilege and honor of working with her. So I know how passionately she feels about this issue. And she's been a very strong and effective advocate, quietly for many, many years, quietly for many years now she's, of course, in a more leadership, more visible role but she's been doing a lot of good work for many, many decades. So I want to acknowledge her. I've learned a lot about this issue from her and observing her. So I thank her. And I want to acknowledge as well my friend up there, Marshall Nunez. The great Marshall Nunez, who now is the head of the disabilities desk. Marshall as well has been a champion and advocate for people with disabilities for many, many years. He's an inspiration despite his own disability being visually impaired. He has not missed a step. He has kept moving forward, kept working, maintained a very positive outlook on life, and he's been an inspiration to so many other people. So I'm very, very proud that he's a part of our team and he gets to work on the front line of this important issue. So thank you, Marshall, for your work and your advocacy."

The proposed legislation, championed by Minister Dolores Balderamos Garcia, Minister of Human Development, Families and Indigenous People's Affairs, reflects a collaborative effort involving various stakeholders, including advocacy groups, disability organizations, and individuals with disabilities themselves. The Disability Desk under its director Mr. Marshall Nuñez has played a crucial role in shaping the legislation, ensuring that it aligns with international standards and best practices

Key Provisions of the Belize Disabilities Legislation:

1. Accessibility and Accommodations:

-The legislation mandates accessibility standards for public buildings, transportation, and information technology.

-It emphasizes reasonable accommodations in education, employment, and public services to eliminate barriers faced by persons with disabilities.

2. Rights and Protections:

-The bill enshrines the rights of persons with disabilities, including the right to education, healthcare, and social participation

-It prohibits discrimination based on disability and establishes mechanisms for reporting and addressing violations.

3. Inclusive Education:

-The legislation promotes inclusive education by ensuring that students with disabilities have equal access to quality education.

-Schools will receive support to implement individualized education plans and provide necessary accommodations.

4. Employment Opportunities:

-Employers are encouraged to create an inclusive workforce by hiring and retaining persons with disabilities.

-The bill encourages vocational training and job placement programs.

5. Healthcare and Rehabilitation:

-It emphasizes accessible healthcare services, rehabilitation, and assistive devices.

-The bill recognizes the unique healthcare needs of persons with disabilities.

6. Community Participation:

-Persons with disabilities will actively participate in decision-making processes at local and national levels.

-The legislation will establish the Belize Disabilities Commission.

Historically the Speaker Valerie Woods thanked for the interpreters Nathaniel Davis, Kristin Hernandez, Robert Garbutt. For these interpreters and for members of the disability community to be present she thanked Special Envoy Rossana Briceño, Councillor Doreth Pascascio, and Special Unit Officer Christy Almeida. The Belize Disabilities Legislation will now proceed to the Senate where further deliberations and amendments could take place. The government remains committed to ensuring that the final version reflects the aspirations and needs of the disability community.

Anti-Social Justice: UDP Boycotts Disabilities and Anti-Sexual Harassment Bills

The most distasteful of acts by the UDP Members of the House of Representatives: they boycotted the Sitting of the House on June 28 and thus boycotted the vote

Continued on page 5

A Milestone for PlanBelize: Legislative Actions Bolster PlanBelize's Vision

Belmopan - Today, Friday, 28th June 2024, the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives gathered in the National Assembly Building in Belmopan to pass a few bills but to mention three significant bills: the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill, 2024; the Disabilities Bill, 2024; and the Southern Deep Port Development Facility Bill, 2024. These legislative measures are pivotal to advancing PlanBelize, the government's comprehensive strategy aimed at fostering sustainable development, social equity, and economic growth.

Promoting Equality and Protection: The Disabilities Bill, 2024

The Disabilities Bill, of 2024, represents a landmark achievement in ensuring the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. This bill seeks to promote, protect, and guarantee equal enjoyment of rights and privileges for individuals with disabilities, putting Belize on a progressive path toward inclusivity.

"The Disabilities Bill is a testament to our commitment to building a society where everyone, regardless of their abilities, can thrive equally," stated Hon. John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize.

The establishment of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities and the Disabilities and Equal Opportunities Rights Tribunal will be crucial in overseeing and implementing national policies. Section 11 of the bill outlines extensive functions of the Commission, including coordinating efforts with various ministries and the private sector, monitoring compliance with international conventions, and recommending legal reforms to enhance the protection and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

"This legislation will ensure that persons with disabilities have equal opportunities in employment, education, and all aspects of social life," stated Hon. Dolores Balderamos Garcia, Minister of Human Development, Families, and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs.

By fostering an inclusive society, the Disabilities Bill directly aligns with PlanBelize's goals of social equity and human development, promoting a more just and equitable nation.

Ensuring Safety and Dignity: The Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill, 2024

The passage of the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill, of 2024, marks a significant step forward in protecting individuals from sexual harassment and providing robust mechanisms for redress. This new legislation repeals the outdated Protection Against Sexual Harassment Act and introduces stronger provisions to prevent harassment and safeguard victims.

"This bill is a crucial advancement in our fight against sexual harassment, ensuring that everyone can feel safe and respected in their workplaces and communities," emphasized Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries.

The bill's comprehensive framework not only protects individuals but also reinforces Belize's commitment to upholding human rights and fostering a safe environment for all citizens. It underscores PlanBelize's dedication to creating a secure and supportive society, free from harassment and discrimination.

Driving Economic Growth: The Southern Deep Port Development Facility Bill, 2024

Economic development is another

cornerstone of PlanBelize, and the Southern Deep Port Development Facility Bill, 2024, is a significant stride in this direction. This bill facilitates the development of the Southern Deep Port, providing necessary tax and duty exemptions to Southern Deep Port Development Ltd. to promote investment and infrastructure growth.

Located near Dangriga Town, the Commerce Bight Port will undergo major development, transforming it into a pivotal hub for maritime and commercial activities. This project is anticipated to drive regional economic growth, facilitate smoother trade routes, and contribute to Belize's overall economic resilience.

The development of this port is not just an infrastructure project; it is a critical component of our economic strategy to increase connectivity and stimulate growth in the southern region.

This Southern Deep Port Development aligns with PlanBelize's economic objectives by enhancing Belize's capacity to engage in international trade, attracting foreign investment, and fostering sustainable economic development.

Integrating the Vision of PlanBelize

The passage of these three bills is a clear demonstration of the government's commitment to the pillars of PlanBelize. Each piece of legislation addresses crucial areas: social equity, human rights, and economic growth. By ensuring equal rights and protection for persons with disabilities, safeguarding individuals from sexual harassment, and promoting strategic economic projects, the government is making significant strides toward achieving the vision of PlanBelize.

As Hon. John Briceño aptly put it, "These legislative actions are vital steps in our journey to build a Belize that is inclusive, just, and prosperous for all."

In conclusion, the enactment of the Disabilities Bill, the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill, and the Southern Deep Port Development Facility Bill signify a comprehensive approach to governance that prioritizes the well-being of all citizens while laying the foundation for sustainable development. These measures collectively enhance PlanBelize's vision of a brighter, more equitable future for Belize.

The Belize Times
The Truth Shall Make You Free

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 EDITORIAL

Plan Belize Promoting Inclusivity: The Importance of Passing the Disabilities Bill in Belize

O

n Friday, June 28, 2024, the government took a significant step towards promoting inclusivity and equality for persons with disabilities in Belize by tabling and passing the Disabilities Bill at the House of Representatives. Now, it goes to the Senate on July 11, 2024, for approval, where we believe it will get unanimous support. This landmark legislation has the potential to bring about positive change and ensure that individuals with disabilities are afforded the rights and opportunities they deserve.

The Disabilities Bill represents a crucial milestone in recognizing and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities in Belize. By providing a legal framework that guarantees equal access to education, employment, healthcare, and other essential services, this bill can transform the lives of countless individuals who have long been marginalized and excluded from society.

One of the key provisions of the Disabilities Bill is the establishment of a National Council for Persons with Disabilities, which will serve as a platform for advocacy, policy development, and coordination of services for individuals with disabilities. This council will play a vital role in ensuring that the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities are given the attention they deserve at the national level.

Furthermore, the Disabilities Bill includes measures to promote accessibility and eliminate barriers that prevent persons with disabilities from fully participating in society. By requiring public buildings, transportation, and communication services to be made accessible to individuals with disabilities, this legislation will help create a more inclusive and equitable society for all Belizeans.

Passing the Disabilities Bill is not just a matter of legal compliance but a **moral imperative**. Regardless of their abilities, every individual deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. By enacting this legislation, Belize will send a powerful message that it values the rights and contributions of all its citizens, regardless of their physical or cognitive differences.

As we move forward, lawmakers must prioritize the swift passage of the Disabilities Bill and ensure that its provisions are effectively implemented. By doing so, Belize can take a significant step towards building a more inclusive and compassionate society that upholds the rights and dignity of all its citizens.

The groundbreaking Disabilities Bill tabled at the House of Representatives in Belize represents a historic opportunity to advance the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. Let us seize this moment to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all Belizeans by passing this crucial legislation without delay. With this significant move, Belize will again be hailed as a leader in the region in the quest for inclusiveness and progressiveness.

EDITORIAL*en Español*

Plan Belice promueve la inclusión: La importancia de aprobar el proyecto de ley sobre las discapacidades en Belice

El viernes 28 de junio de 2024, el gobierno dio un paso importante hacia la promoción de la inclusión y la igualdad de las personas con discapacidad en Belice al presentar y aprobar el proyecto de ley sobre discapacidad en la Cámara de Representantes. Ahora, pasa al Senado el 11 de julio de 2024 para su aprobación, donde creemos que obtendrá un apoyo unánime. Esta legislación histórica puede generar cambios positivos y garantizar que las personas con discapacidad disfruten de los derechos y oportunidades que merecen.

El proyecto de ley sobre discapacidad representa un hito crucial en el reconocimiento y la protección de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad en Belice. Al proporcionar un marco jurídico que garantiza la igualdad de acceso a la educación, el empleo, la atención sanitaria y otros servicios esenciales, este proyecto de ley puede transformar la vida de innumerables personas que durante mucho tiempo han estado marginadas y excluidas de la sociedad.

Una de las disposiciones clave de la Ley de Discapacidad es la creación de un Consejo Nacional para las Personas con Discapacidad, que servirá de plataforma para la defensa, el desarrollo de políticas y la coordinación de servicios para las personas con discapacidad. Este consejo desempeñará un papel vital a la hora de garantizar que las necesidades y preocupaciones de las personas con discapacidad reciban la atención que merecen a nivel nacional.

Además, la Ley de Discapacidad incluye medidas para promover la accesibilidad y eliminar las barreras que impiden a las personas con discapacidad participar plenamente en la sociedad. Al exigir que los edificios públicos, el transporte y los servicios de comunicación sean accesibles para las personas con discapacidad, esta legislación contribuirá a crear una sociedad más integradora y equitativa para todos los beliceños.

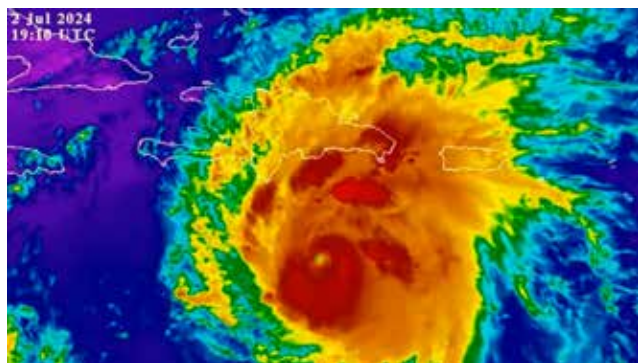
La aprobación de la Ley de Discapacidad no es sólo una cuestión de cumplimiento legal, sino un imperativo moral. Independientemente de sus capacidades, toda persona merece ser tratada con dignidad y respeto. Al promulgar esta legislación, Belice enviará un poderoso mensaje de que valora los derechos y las contribuciones de todos sus ciudadanos, independientemente de sus diferencias físicas o cognitivas.

A medida que avanzamos, los legisladores deben dar prioridad a la rápida aprobación del proyecto de ley sobre discapacidad y garantizar que sus disposiciones se apliquen de forma efectiva. De este modo, Belice puede dar un paso importante hacia la construcción de una sociedad más integradora y compasiva que defienda los derechos y la dignidad de todos sus ciudadanos.

El innovador proyecto de ley sobre discapacidad presentado en la Cámara de Representantes de Belice representa una oportunidad histórica para promover los derechos y el bienestar de las personas con discapacidad. Aprovechemos este momento para crear una sociedad más inclusiva y equitativa para todos los beliceños aprobando sin demora esta legislación crucial. Con esta importante medida, Belice volverá a ser aclamado como líder de la región en la búsqueda de la inclusión y el progreso.

NEMO: “ON ELEVATED LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS AND PROFESSIONALISM”

Belize northern part from Belize City to Corozal in TROPICAL STORM WATCH as we publish as our once Category Five Beryl that has already run roughshod over our sister Eastern Caribbean nations of Grenada, Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, Jamaica and Cayman Islands. In addition to Beryl being the first Cat 5 in June each country has surprise records being broken by this monster from nature. Jamaica, skirted but devastatingly by Beryl, for example, has not received a direct impact since 1988's 'wild' Gilbert and 2012's Sandy which later devastated New York City. Beryl will definitely bring losses to sum up to Billions and much more in incalculable trauma. Belize is watching and praying for the best



even as the forecasts are relatively positive. Belizeans know to be prepared. Belizeans have Lisa fresh in our collective minds.

The Prime Minister John Briceño issued his official statement and placed the final cap on the heightened alert by

the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO). Belize is hurricane ready yet we rather that it steers away and dissipate before it makes landfall anywhere else. Nature will take its course and we ought to be prepared and ready.

PM Briceño: “Do not listen to rumors or social media posts that are not from official sources. Rest assured that Government will ensure that all efforts are made for the safety and well-being of our communities. Hurricane Beryl is just the beginning of what is expected to be a highly active hurricane season. We may have to go through this again in the coming months, so, it is essential that we remain informed and prepared.”

As a part of preparedness the Foreign Minister, Hon. Francis Fonseca represented Belize at the 19th Special Emergency Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM. The virtual meeting received updates on the impact of Hurricane Beryl and identified areas needing urgent assistance.

FM Fonseca expressed solidarity with the affected countries and shared information about Belize's own preparations.

Punta Gorda Community Hospital – 722-2145 / 722-2161 Punta Gorda Polyclinic Emergency line – 722-2145

San Antonio, Isabel Palma Polyclinic II – 611-3225

Ministry of Health and Wellness Hurricane Beryl Advisory No. 1

Belmopan, July 3, 2024. The

Ministry of Health & Wellness continues to closely monitor the development and official reports of Hurricane Beryl through the National Emergency Management Organization. We are taking precautionary steps in all our health regions at this time to reduce any negative impacts we may experience if or when the hurricane makes landfall and passes over our territory. We urge everyone to continue to monitor the progress of Beryl through the official NEMO reports and advisories.

In cases where there is need for medical assistance you can reach the Ministry of Health & Wellness at our toll-free number 0-800-MOH-CARE (664-2273) or at one of the following numbers for health support in your area.

Emergency Operating Cen-

ter Numbers:

Corozal district Emergency Operating Center, Corozal Community Hospital – 670-9468 / 670-9469

Orange Walk District Emergency Operating Center, Northern Health Region– 671-6467

Belize District Emergency Operating Center (Belize City) - 613-0787 / 223-2722 San Pedro Polyclinic – 671-0911

Caye Caulker health center – 600-9539

Cayo District Emergency Operating Center

Western Regional Hospital (Belmopan) – 828-4511 / 672-8003 San Ignacio Community Hospital – 824-2066 / 824-3192

Drs. Kevin & Kenneth Guerra Polyclinic II (Benque Viejo Town)– 823-2079

Stann Creek District Emer-

gency Operating Center,

Southern Region Hospital (Dangriga Town) – 522-3836

Dangriga Polyclinic – 522-0865 Independence Polyclinic – 780-0819

Toledo District Emergency Operating Center

SAN PEDRO HIGH SCHOOL



Vacancies exists at San Pedro High School for the following full-time posts:

- Tourism/Business
- Information Technology
- Physics/Integrated Science
- 2 English Language
- Spanish
- Spanish – Temporary
- Physical Education
- Life Skills/Religious Studies
- Belizean Studies

Applicants must have excellent communication, interpersonal skills and be willing to work with students. Prior teaching experience would be an asset.

Applications should be submitted along with a Curriculum Vitae, 2 Recommendations, Medical Certificate, Valid Police Record, Copies of Certificates/Diploma, Transcript, and Teacher's License (must).

Salary will be in accordance with Government's pay scale, which is based on qualifications.

Applications must be addressed to:

Principal
P.O. Box 23
San Pedro High School
San Pedro Town A.C.

Deadline for Applications: July 11, 2024

Anti-Social Justice: UDP Boycotts Disabilities and Anti-Sexual Harassment Bills

Continued from page 2

to pass the Disabilities and Anti-Sexual Harassment Bills.

The UDP corrupts everything. The UDP has corrupted in so many way being an Opposition that looks out for the people of Belize that are most disadvantaged.

To be fair, the UDP has no leader qualified to lead that ex-mass Party who could engage the Government by providing credible alternatives in their check and balance role.

To be fair to their hapless by-default leader, there is no UDP member that wants to be seen with the Member from Mesopotamia as he is unhinged most of the time.

Leader of the Opposition Barrow is in that position more by default than for any merit. Shyne Barrow was not qualified to be Musical Ambassador since for that he ought to have known music.

Shyne Barrow is not qualified to lead a party as for that he needs people and he needs to know people.

Shyne Barrow's udp made a 'monumental mistake' by not knowing the people and skipping a priceless opportunity in the disabilities vote.

In the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill, the most recent of LOOs for the UDP have no moral compass to debate such.

The UDP in no more and is just a figment of the imagination of some; this is what was meant for Belize that the best is to come—a UDPless Belize.

Esta mañana con Karina y Niko



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PUP NOTICE
COROZAL BAY STANDARD BEARER CONVENTION

The People's United Party informs that a POLL will be taken in the Corozal Bay Constituency to elect a Standard Bearer to represent the Party in the 2025 General Elections.

The Convention will take place on **Sunday July 14, 2024** at the **St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Primary School**. Polls will open at **9 a.m.** and close promptly at **4 p.m.**

PUP NOTICE
COROZAL NORTH STANDARD BEARER CONVENTION

The People's United Party informs that a POLL will be taken in the Corozal North Constituency to elect a Standard Bearer to represent the Party in the 2025 General Elections.

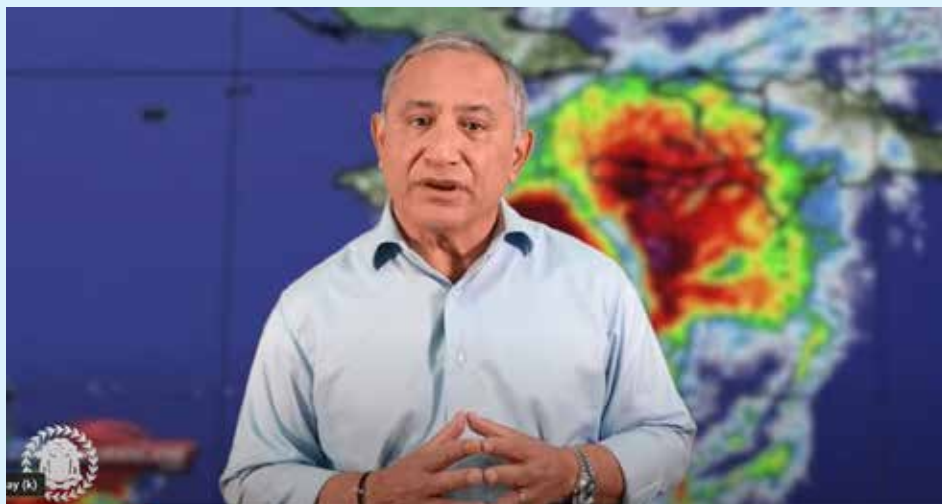
The Convention will take place on **Sunday July 14th, 2024** at **Mary Hill Catholic Primary School**. Polls will open at **9 a.m.** and close promptly at **4 p.m.**

CARTOON

LOOser LOSE RING AND TOLEDO EAST



PRIME MINISTER
John Briceño
Address to the Nation
Beryl Tropical Storm Watch



My fellow Belizeans,

I begin extending our solidarity with our CARICOM brothers and sisters in Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines who were or are being hit by a ferocious Hurricane Beryl. We understand the challenges they are facing, and Belize will do its part to aid in the recovery efforts in our sister Caribbean nations. At present, Hurricane Beryl, the first major hurricane in this month-old hurricane season, is currently weakening considerably. It is next forecast to make landfall on the Yucatan Peninsula late Thursday night or early Friday morning as a category one hurricane. This means it will have sustained winds between 74 and 95 miles per hour when it makes landfall. At 12pm it was located 751 miles east of Belize City. Tropical storm force winds currently extend up to 80 miles from the centre of the storm.

Although the eye of the storm is not expected to pass over Belize, this is such a big storm that damaging effects could possibly be felt from Belize City to the northern districts of Corozal and Orange Walk, as well as Ambergris Caye and Caye Caulker. Residents, especially in the north, should brace for strong winds gusting to tropical storm strength and heavy rainfall due to the hurricane's proximity to the northern half of our country. As of now, from Belize City to Corozal, as well as residents in the cayes, are under a **tropical storm warning** and should prepare for flooding, especially those in low-lying, flood-prone areas. Strong winds may cause some structural damage to homes and could also result in losses in the agricultural sector.

Since we face potential damaging impacts from this storm, it's crucial for everyone to be prepared. Please look after your family and friends by ensuring that all necessary precautions are taken for the safety of your loved ones.

As you have seen NEMO, the MET Service, our national and district committees have all put their operations in place and are now operating in a state of heightened readiness. We thank the public officers, uniformed forces and volunteers for their continued elevated level of preparedness and professionalism. They need your cooperation and understanding as they go about their duties. These officials are carefully preparing us and, as we always say, should be our only source of official information.

Do not listen to rumors or social media posts that are not from official sources.

Rest assured that Government will ensure that all efforts are made for the safety and well-being of our communities. Hurricane Beryl is just the beginning of what is expected to be a highly active hurricane season. We may have to go through this again in the coming months, so, it is essential that we remain informed and prepared.

Together, and by the grace of our Creator, we will get through this and no lives will be lost.

God bless Belize.

I thank you.



Hon. John Briceño

2024

SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

OWC
Orange Walk Central

KIDS AGES 7-12 YEARS

SAN ESTEVAN FOOTBALL FIELD
JULY 8 - 11, 2024
8:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

CONTACT ORANGE WALK CENTRAL OFFICE #670-5057

COURT REFURBISHMENT COMPLETE

Some 13 months ago, a headline on the SSB donation of \$500,000 for then Supreme Court refurbishment erroneously added that the "public lashed out". That newspaper was being mischievous at best and is still left to apologize along with the UDP who then jumped onto the bitter bandwagon while trying to squeeze out some sensationalism. That paper was complaining as they obviously did not understand that Justice is public and that the SSB does have funds a Disaster Relief Fund. The public are ecstatic now.

The nation's court had been devastated by Hurricane Lisa in 2022 and rebuilding was obvious. The court had to move to other premises in a temporary fashion but the feel of this is not the same. It is like Zoom trials just that this was for real. Now, with the refurbishment, the full dignity of Justice is exactly where it should be within the aura of a traditional courtroom.

We would hope that this media houses that launched ire for no good reason will apologize on a job well done with the people's money. So along with the Leader of the Opposition who should call out Patrick Faber and Tracy Panton...oh wait...no one knows where they are and definitely the LOO will do no such thing as his apology is pending as well. At the last House meeting, the Opposition in Belize all did a Sista B.

Such is the ample success of planBelize that it is difficult to have opposing talking points. The Opposition is there to balance by providing well-thought out alternatives but this is beyond the LOO and his couple of Ghost reps. The LOO seems to rather alternative facts vis-à-vis lies.

But I digress, with the Attorney General Anthony Sylvestre and Chief Justice, Hon. Madam Louise Esther Blenman, and Minister Julius Epat from the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, the new offices of Justice and Treasury Building were commissioned in ceremony this week and Belize's dignity in once more raised to a higher level.



EMERGENCY OPERATING NUMBERS

For **medical assistance** call the **Ministry of Health & Wellness** at our toll-free number **0-800-MOH-CARE (664-2273)** or:

Para **asistencia médica**, llame al **Ministerio de Salud & Bienestar** a nuestro número gratuito **0-800-MOH-CARE (664-2273)** o:

BELIZE CITY
613-0787 / 223-2722

SAN PEDRO
671-0911

CAYE CAULKER
600-9539

CENTRAL HEALTH REGION

MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

0-800-MOH-CARE (664-2273)

Oscar Mira Endorsed for a 2nd Term

"Belmopan: Embrace Progress, Empower Unity"

While rain stopped the Endorsement of a couple candidates, Oscar Mira team moved forward with his. Belmopan was been blessed with the first time representative who history has recorded to have ousted probably the most hated poster boy of corruption in the Barrow administration. Today Oscar Mira was to be anointed for a second time to contest the Belmopan constituency seat in the city sporting a brand new mayor and new direction. Oscar Mira is all about progress and he accepted the endorsement on this June 29th night. It was an amazing night, warm, full of good vibes and wonderful Belmopan people and the cadre of PUP Area Representatives that were present in full support. These included Chairman Usher, Port's Usher, Corozal Southeast's Marin, Pickstock's Mahler, OW North's Monchi, Cayo West's Milin and Cayo Central's Alex Balona. Councilor Kaya Cattouse represented the city well and she also is poised to pedal into Albert seemingly uncontested as UDPs are an extinct species in the city.

Oscar Mira: "I am honored to be your standard bearer for the next upcoming General Elections. The day dawned fresh and sunny, blessed by the creator with a sunny day after days of rain. I want to give special thanks to my Colleagues who made me feel honored by their presence, for their words of encouragement and solidarity! I appreciate you. To the entire Team who pulled off a great night on short notice, thank you. To the councilors who were present, to the mayor that sent his regards, to my family, to the UWG, to the BYM, to Giov at the popcorn machine, but especially to the residents that came out, my heart is full of love and gratitude!

We move forward in unity!"



BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTY

Belize City, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. Sale currently running until 30th September 2024. Public Auction Sale will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until the property is sold.

1. PARCEL NO. 236 GOLDSON AVENUE, KING'S PARK, BELIZE CITY:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
King's Park	45	236

The freehold property of Mr. Steven Reichert.

(Being an incomplete two storey concrete building and lot situate on Goldson Avenue, King's Park, Belize City, held with freehold title.)

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction



A DECADE GONE BY: HONORING THE LEGACY OF RAMON CERVANTES

In loving memory of Ramon Cervantes Senior, a pillar of our community whose legacy continues to inspire us ten years after he was taken away from us. Ramon was a man of many roles and remarkable accomplishments—a respected mayor, senator, dedicated teacher, and esteemed cane farmer. His leadership and wisdom left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Ramon's favorite quote, "A man of God fears no evil," encapsulates his unwavering faith and courage in facing life's challenges with grace and conviction. His devotion to his beliefs guided him through both triumphs and trials, setting an example of steadfastness and moral strength for generations to come. Beyond his public roles, Ramon found joy in simple pleasures: his love for football reflected his passion for camaraderie and sportsmanship, while his cherished moments at the farm allowed him to connect with nature and recharge his spirit.

As we reflect on his life, we remember Ramon Cervantes Senior not only for his achievements but for the kindness, humility, and warmth he extended to all. His legacy lives on in his loving family—his wife, his children, grandchildren, and all who continue to be inspired by his enduring spirit and profound impact on our community.

Sunrise: July 18, 1942 Sunset: July 2, 2014

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BELIZE A.D. 2024

ACTION NO. 302 OF 2024

	(TROY GENZER	CLAIMANT
BETWEEN	(
	(AND	
	(
	(BUENA VISTA POINT ENTERPRISES LTD.	1 ST DEFENDANT
	(ATTORNEY GENERAL OF BELIZE	2 ND DEFENDANT
	(MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES	3 RD DEFENDANT

TO: BUENA VISTA POINT ENTERPRISES LIMITED
San Pedro Town
Ambergris Caye
Belize District, Belize


TAKE NOTICE that Fixed Date Claim No. 302 of 2024 has been commenced against you in the High Court of Belize by **TROY GENZER** of 5610 West Bellfort, Houston, TX 77035, United States of America in which the Claimant seeks certain declarations and orders in respect of the title to Parcel 4338, Block 7, San Pedro Registration Section ("Parcel 4338"), *inter alia*, a declaration that the current land certificate for Parcel 4338 vested in **BUENA VISTA POINT ENTERPRISES LIMITED** is null and void, an order rectifying the land register to delete/remove **BUENA VISTA POINT ENTERPRISES LIMITED** as the legal proprietor, and an order that the current land certificate for Parcel 4338 be cancelled, plus costs and such other reliefs as the Court deems fit.

The First Hearing of the Fixed Date Claim will take place on the **22nd day of July 2024 at 8:30 a.m. before the Honourable Justice Rajiv Goonetilleke.**

AND it has been ordered that service of the Fixed Date Claim Form in the said claim be effected on you by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said claim, you may file an Acknowledgement of Service at the High Court stating your position in regards to the said Claim or attend Court on the date set for the hearing.

TAKE NOTICE that in default of your so doing, the said Claimant may proceed, and judgement may be entered in your absence.

Dated this 1st day of July 2024.



BALDERAMOS ARTHURS LLP
Attorneys-at-Law for the Claimant
TROY GENZER

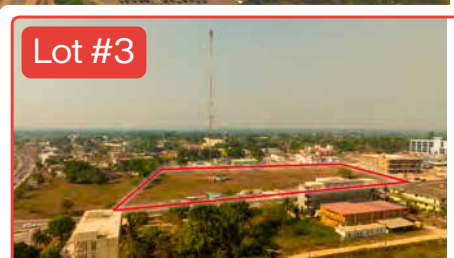
Expressions of Interest to Purchase Properties in Belmopan City, Belize

Lot #2

1991.768 square meters of land bordered to the North by Bliss Parade and to the West by Lot 4970 and to the East by Lot 972. Lot #2 is being marketed as a combined sale of both the CDMA building as well as the adjoining Lot 972 as described.

Lot #3

5.589 acres of land formerly described as Lot Number 972 and bounded to the West by Lot 6109 and Lot 6108 and to the East by Lots 5625, and 5626, to the South Lots 6095 and 6094.



Bidders are invited to make an offer for one or both lots. Single and combined lot sales will be considered.

Interested? Email lcleverly@livedigi.com to request a copy of the Bidding Pack as well as to arrange for site visits.

BIG SUCCESS National MSME Roadshow's Buy Belizean Expo, Punta Gorda!



The Road Show hit Punta Gorda on June 28 and 29. There a variety of products and services from local talented Belizean entrepreneurs including cultural crafts, jewelry, hair and skin care products, and other innovative services were out and there was something for everyone! There were FREE GIVEAWAYS and other promotions from Belize Bank, Digi, Smart and more!

The Buy Expo was the highlight as residents from Punta Gorda and surrounding villages came together to show love for Belize by buying unique, buying local, and buying quality. The support made a big difference!

At the intensive bootcamp valuable trainings were held. At the TwoCan Talk, special guests Waluco Maheia, Copalli Rum and Kyle Zuniga, BK Creative were heard. All in all Toledo residents could be heard even on the media that there was a lot to take home and put into their businesses.

The MSME Road Show moves next to Corozal on the 11th and Benque the 23rd of July.

New President for Panama: José Raúl Mulino

Democracy is alive in our region!

Prime Minister Briceño: "On behalf of the nation of Belize, I congratulate President José Raúl Mulino on his victory in recent elections in Panama."

Prime Minister Briceño visited our Central American partner nation to attend the official inauguration for its President. Belize continues to fortify our relations with Panama and all our Central American partners seeking collaboration for mutual benefit and service to our people.



The Supply and Delivery of Vehicle - Belize Tourism Board

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Institution: Ministry of Finance, **Economic Development** and Investment
Country: Belize
Project: Sustainable and Inclusive Belize Program (SAIB)
Sector: Agriculture and Tourism
Abstract: The project's implementation includes the procurement of several contracts that falls in the following categories: goods, consulting (individual & firms) and non-consulting services for environmentally sustainable and climate resilient farming systems, sustainable and inclusive agri-food markets and sustainable and inclusive tourism.

Loan No.: 5583/0C-BL
Process ID: BL-L1041-P00040
Deadline: **July 19, 2024; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize (the "Borrower") has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) (the "Bank") toward the cost of Sustainable and Inclusive Belize Program. The Central Executing Unit to the Ministry of Economic Development, an executing agency of the Borrower, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to perform the consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): Consultancy Services for the **Supply and Delivery of Vehicle.**

The Central Executing Unit now invites eligible bidders to submit sealed quotation for the Supply, Delivery and Installation for the following lots of items:

No.	Item	Brief Description	Quantity	Lot #
1	Pickup truck	4 x 4 Crew Cab	1	1

For further information and to obtain the bidding documents, free of cost, interested bidders can send their request to the email address below no later than July 16, 2024.

All bids must be delivered to the address below no later than **10:00 a.m. (Belize local time)** on **July 19, 2024. Late bids will be rejected.**

Karon Hamilton
 Procurement Specialist Assistant
 Central Executing Unit
 Tel: 501-822-4106
khamilton.ceu@med.gov.bz

Official Nomination

OSMOND MARTINEZ

Rising Together

The sudden passing of a PUP icon of Toledo East, the Honorable Mike Espat six-time Area Representative, paved the road for Toledo East to choose earlier than election cycles provide. This road is one that was destined to be politically full of challenges for the People's United Party and the people of the area. Constitutional deadlines and law require the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister to issue a writ of election which includes a Nomination Day after which a poll shall be held. That Nomination came after a gut-wrenching PUP party convention to elect a Standard Bearer as the seat is highly coveted. Osmond Martinez was elected by the followers in Punta Gorda Town and surrounding villages—Toledo East. Melhelm Espat and Nicanor Requena, the two worthy opponents, provided the political substrate for a real demonstration of democratic PUP party politics in which they 'Serve the People' even in election mode.

The July 2 Nomination Day will forever be remembered for the tropical monster Beryl that simultaneously spun just a thousand miles east of Belize. The Watch ignored the tropical and focussed on the future of Toledo East and the inking of the obvious People's choice of Dr. Osmond Martinez into the July 17 by-election.

The eye-tests that Nomination Days provide was unscientific yet easy and resounding. Ten to one was the official and unofficial consensus for head count. Of course, the election and people are never taken for granted by the PUP. It is nevertheless inspiring to see and feel the support of a cultural cross-section of a thousand Toledo Easterners spontaneously rise to the occasion. PUP hearts swell in a tempered feeling of an increased desire to work for Belize.

A by-election victory has thus been signalled for a PUP that has been collecting mandate after mandate since 2018. The PUP is blessed with leaders under the wing of John Briceño who himself is guided by planBelize's sensational success which has been harnessed for the greater good of Belize. Osmond Martinez will add his own skillset to that planBelize team.

A Vote for Osmond Martinez is a vote for Belize and all she has worked for these last four years. There is much more winning as we stay pan track with Dr. Osmond Martinez as he has Toledo East RISING TOGETHER.

Note: For even more of the good Doc, read the article for the column **REALITY CHECK** on page 13.



GET READY

BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN

JULY 25-27, 2024

DAY 1 BOOTCAMP
8:30 AM - 4 PM - CANCHA MARSHALLECK
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING AND B2B PANEL DISCUSSION

DAY 2 FORMALIZATION CLINIC
9 AM - 4 PM - CANCHA MARSHALLECK
FEATURING KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

DAY 3 #BUYBELIZEAN EXPO
9 AM - 4 PM - CENTRAL PARK
OPPORTUNITIES FOR MSME SALES AND SHOWCASING

NATIONAL MSME ROADSHOW 2024

SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER FOR **FREE!**

CHANCE TO WIN:
\$500 FOR ATTENDING ALL 3 DAYS
\$2,500 IN THE PITCH COMPETITION
A BRANDED TENT
A VIDEO COMMERCIAL

Reality Check

By: CP Mathers

Dr. Osmond Martinez: A Visionary Leader Shaping Toledo East's Economic Future!

In the dynamic political landscape of Belize, the People's United Party has always attracted impactful leaders and Dr Osmond Martinez, the former CEO in the Ministry of Economic Development and Investment, a newcomer to the political arena, known for his dedication, vision, and strategic leadership is no exception. Dr. Martinez has been one of the driving forces behind significant economic and social advancements in Belize during his tenure as CEO.

Toledo East: A Region Soon to Be Transformed

Dr. Osmond Martinez's roots in Toledo East run deep. His intimate understanding of the region's challenges and potential has fuelled his relentless efforts to bring about transformative change. As a member of the People's United Party (PUP), Martinez will champion policies that prioritize the well-being and prosperity of his constituents.

Championing Economic Development

During his tenure as CEO, Dr. Martinez spearheaded numerous initiatives. Recognizing the region's untapped potential, he will implement policies aimed at stimulating local economic growth. A key accomplishment among these was the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). By facilitating easier access to financing and reducing bureaucratic barriers, Martinez empowered local entrepreneurs to thrive, thereby boosting the regional economy.

Enhancing Agricultural and Tourism Sectors

Toledo East, with its rich natural resources and cultural heritage, has immense potential in the agricultural and tourism sectors. Martinez's strategic focus on these areas will lead to significant developments. He advocates for sustainable agricultural practices, providing farmers with the necessary tools and knowledge to increase productivity while preserving the environment. This will not only improve the livelihoods of many farmers but also ensure the long-term sustainability of the agricultural sector.

In tourism, Martinez recognizes the unique allure of Toledo East's natural beauty and cultural richness. He will continue to work tirelessly to promote eco-tourism initiatives that attract visitors while respecting the local environment and culture. These efforts will position Toledo East as a prime destination for eco-conscious travellers, creating jobs and generating income for local communities.

Infrastructure and Community Development

Under Dr. Martinez's leadership as CEO, the Ministry of Economic Development and Investment also prioritized infrastructure development in many parts of the country. From improving road networks to enhancing public utilities, these projects have significantly improved the quality of life for residents. Better infrastructure has facilitated easier access to markets, healthcare, and education, contributing to the overall development of the region.

Advocating for Social Equity

Dr. Osmond Martinez's vision for Toledo East goes beyond economic development. He has been a steadfast advocate for social equity, ensuring that the benefits of growth are shared by all. His initiatives in education, healthcare, and social services will be instrumental in uplifting the most vulnerable segments of society. By addressing issues such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to essential services, Martinez will work to create a more inclusive and equitable society for Toledo East.

A Legacy of Leadership and Vision

As Dr. Osmond Martinez steps back from his role as CEO, his legacy of leadership and vision continues to inspire. His contributions to Toledo East and Belize will lead to a solid foundation for future progress. Martinez's tenure is a testament to what can be achieved with strategic thinking, dedicated leadership, and a genuine commitment to the people.

The Path Forward

The People's United Party, with its unwavering commitment to the development and welfare of Belize, continues to build on the foundation laid by the Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price. As Toledo East navigates the challenges and opportunities of the future, the vision and dedication exemplified by Dr. Martinez will undoubtedly remain a guiding force.



Our National Telecom Business Opportunity

Belize Telemedia Limited (BTL) is inviting qualified businesses to supply BTL with its uniform order for fiscal year 2024/2025.

These qualified Suppliers will be expected to fulfill the order for both male and female uniform attire.

Interested parties are invited to request a copy of the full Terms of Reference (TOR) package from Tifara Nicholson, Procurement Manager at tnicholson@livedigi.com by 5:00 PM on 9 July 2024.

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PUP & #planBelize

THE WORK CONTINUES

**Preparedness and Readiness for Hurricane Beryl
Ministry of Disaster Risk Management**



National Emergency Management Organization and Ministry Staff on Task



Dr. Osmond Martinez and Melhelm Espat



Joining forces for a better Toledo East

Benque Town Council and Mayor Rosales w/ MIDH



Flood mitigation steps

Belmopan, Hon. Oscar Mira



Formal Endorsement as Standard Bearer

Dangriga, Dr. Louis Zabaneh



Ahead of Endorsement(TBA), meeting with the people

OW Town Council and Mayor Sheppard



Handling flooded areas

**NOMINATION DAY
OSMOND Martinez for Toledo East**



BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES & VEHICLE
Consejo Village, Corozal District; Hattievillage, Potts Creek/Salt Creek, Belize District; Georgeville Village, San Ignacio, Cayo District; Dangriga, Stann Creek District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running until 30th September 2024. Public Auction Sales will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties and vehicle are sold.

A: COROZAL DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 418 Consejo Village, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Consejo	1	418
Freehold property of Mr. Antonio Gutierrez.		

2. Lot No. 193 Georgeville Village, Cayo District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of vacant land being Lot No. 193 Minister Fiat 606 of 2013 of Georgeville Village, Cayo District, comprising of 1026.481 Square Meters, TOGETHER with all buildings and erection standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Ms. Tanesha Salazar)

B. BELIZE DISTRICT:

1. 995 Acres situate at Intersection Potts Creek Road & Western Boundary of Salt Creek Work, Belize District:



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land containing 995 acres situated on the intersection of Potts Creek Road and the western boundary of Salt Creek Work TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Messrs. Smuggler's Run Holdings Limited)

D: STANN CREEK DISTRICT

1. Parcel Nos. 440 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	44
Freehold property of Messrs. Dangriga Cable Vision.		

2. Lot No. 307 Hattievillage, Belize District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 307 situated at Belizean American Site near Mile 17 1/2 South of George Price Highway, Hattievillage, Belize District comprising 613.44 square meters TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Mr. Sean Delroy Nicholas)

2. Parcel Nos. 618 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Dangriga South	31	61
Freehold property of Messrs. Dangriga Cable Vision.		

C: CAYO DISTRICT:

1. PARCEL NO. 752 BLANCANUEUX STREET- SAN IGNACIO, CAYO DISTRICT:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Ignacio North	21	752
Freehold property of Mr. Antonio Novelo.		

Vehicle - VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT



2010 Nissan Altima

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

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E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
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VOICE OF THE COMMON MAN GDP GROWTH, CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX, INDICES OF A HEALTHY ECONOMY

By Hilly Bennett

As Belize braces for the potential threat of Hurricane Beryl, there is a sense of comfort that the country is in good stead with a responsible government and a leadership that is dedicated to the wellbeing of all its citizens. Belizeans, are a resilient people and have prevailed in the past from major crises. This is especially with a government that has engineered recovery efforts to resuscitate the economy and country in the post-pandemic, post-incompetent UDP, Barrow administration. Belize is back on track and the PUP dih "Stay Pan Track."

The Statistical Institute of Belize's (SIB) published report on June 26, 2024 on its labor force survey for April 2024 is evidence enough, which shows indexes that acts as a barometer of a country's economic health. It includes first-quarter gross domestic product, tourism satellite account, consumer price index, external trade and consumer confidence index for May 2024. This report is indicative of a Belizean economy on sound financial footing.

Critics, cynics, the Opposition mouthpieces, and some media pundits have the tendency to draw on the indices that lean toward a negative outlook for the economy. The Consumer Price Index reflected in the SIB report for the month of May 2024 shows that Consumer Price Index on all categories of consumer goods and services stood at 118.5 an increase from 114.0 in May 2023, indicating a national inflation rate of 4 percent. Inflation is interchangeably used to critique the government's economic performance regarding the cost of living and is the "gotcha" that all is not well with the economic environment. Actors of criticism must be cognizant that global factors contribute to inflation and rising prices of goods and by extension services.

Incidentally, as the country prepares for the approach of Hurricane Beryl some unscrupulous business owners are "price gouging" amidst the storm arrival, which is considered an illegal act. The egregious act must be reported to the Supplies Control Unit. Consequently, this adds to the effect of cost of living and rising prices in the stores. **Insofar as inflation is used as a fulcrum, a crutch to justify the criticism that all is not well with the economic performance of the People's United Party Government under the leadership of Prime Minister, John Briceño, the SIB report suggests otherwise.**

Economic growth is the main driver of the economy. The economy grew by 10 percent in the first quarter of 2024. According to the preliminary estimates by SIB showed that, for the first quarter months of January to March 2024, the total value of goods and services produced within the country was \$1.49 billion. Which represents a 10 percent increase or \$136.2 million increase from the \$1.36 billion produced in the first quarter of 2023. The economy has been growing for three consecutive years since 2021 (IMF), albeit facing global challenges. The Briceño government has stabilized the financial sector and has realized the restoration of confidence in the administration and steady economic growth.

That confidence is associated with the Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) detailed in the SIB report. According to the Statistical Institute of Belize the CCI is an indicator that measures consumers' sentiments concerning general economic conditions within the country - their household's economic situation, and making major household purchases. It provides an early indication of future household spending, investment and savings. With household spending being a major contributor to the overall economy, this in turn is an early indicator of future economic growth. The CCI act as a barometer of economic health by tracking how pessimistic or optimistic consumers are regarding the economy, the labor market and their spending/financial position. This is done through monthly surveys. For the month of May 2024, the national Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) stood at 44.4, representing a 20 percent increase from 37.0 in April 2024. All sub-categories of **consumer confidence increased during the one-month period**, driven primarily by the rise in the 'Durable goods' sub-index, which was up by 26.5 in April 2024 to 38.1 in May 2024, indicating that consumers were, on average, less pessimistic about making major purchases of durable goods.

Another great indicator that the PUP has the economy on track is the unemployment rate tagged at 3 percent, which is a slight increase from the 2.8 in 2023. However, opportunities for work continues to exist as the government invests in creating new job opportunities. Undeniably, Hurricane Beryl will cause some setbacks for the economy and the country, but this government have a proven track record of accomplishing miracles in the face of disasters. This PUP government and John Briceño at the helm will continue to guide the nation into safe harbor, ensuring that the health of the economy and the development of its people is not compromised.

NOTICE

Executive Director

About MCA

The Government of Belize (GoB), together with the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC"), is in the process of establishing an independent executing agency called the Millennium Challenge Account – Belize (MCA-B). MCC is a U.S. government agency focused on assisting countries and is dedicated to good governance, economic freedom, and investing in people. The MCA-B, located in Belize City, will be created by an act of Parliament to undertake the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of the Government of Belize under the Compact.

Executive Director position objective

The Government of Belize (GoB) is looking for an **Executive Director** to lead the operations unit of MCA-Belize (MCA-B). The Executive Director is responsible for starting up the MCA-B, the direct management of the MCA-B's project and operational support functions and serving as the primary representative of the MCA-B in the country to stakeholders and MCC. The Executive Director will be responsible for the overall implementation of the Compact Program in Belize and will provide high level executive leadership and management for the MCA-B office. The Executive Director is accountable to the MCA-B Board of Directors and will report to the board regularly.

Required Competencies

- Must hold a Master's degree or equivalent advanced degree in economics, development, business administration, engineering, education, public administration, or other relevant area
- Fifteen (15) or more years' experience in a senior management position in a reputable organization, private sector company, or government.
- Demonstrated experience and proven skills in managing a large organization or program with a multi-million USD budget and permanent staff of at least fifteen (15) personnel.
- Demonstrated capacity to build and maintain productive relationships with various stakeholders from government, civil society, NGOs, private sector, and international donors
- Outstanding organizational skills and the ability to work in large, multi-cultural teams
- Familiarity with project management systems
- Familiarity with the education and/or electricity sector
- Experience in managing annual budgets of USD 10 million or higher
- Fluency and excellent written and verbal communication skills in English

How to apply

To access positions' profile requirements and submit applications, please visit <https://belize-jobs.tenderwell.app/>. The following documents should accompany applications:

1. Curriculum vitae containing detailed work experience;
2. Cover letter confirming interest and availability;
3. Soft copies of higher education and professional certificates (if available).

If you encounter challenges when applying online, please contact belize@developmentaid.org for assistance.

The closing date for receiving applications is **19 July 2024**. Only **applications received through the online portal (Tenderwell) will be considered**. Any applications received through other channels will not be considered. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interviews.



Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise

ESTABLISHMENTS ISSUED VIOLATION TICKETS

The Supplies Control Unit (SCU) in the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise hereby informs the public that inspections for compliance with provisions of the Supplies Control (Prices) Regulations are presently being carried out. A total of 9

establishments were issued tickets for violations of the

regulations in the Cayo and Belize District over the past two days. The full list of the establishments issued tickets is presented in the table below.

The Supplies Control Unit will continue its inspection activities and will engage local authorities to identify and address violations

of the Supplies Control Regulations. Establishment owners are hereby reminded that they are required to ensure prices are within the allowed markup for regulated items, that prices must be displayed for these items and that invoices and receipts must be presented when requested by an inspector.

Establishment owners are further reminded that the control price for 16 oz sliced bread is \$2.10 and not \$2.25.

For further information, kindly contact the Supplies Control Unit at 828-5018, 223-2845 or via email at desiree.montes@agriculture.gov.bz. REPORT SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS TO 607-4686

LETTER TO THE Editor



Letter to the Editor

Good Day Sir,

As hurricane Beryl approaches us threatening with speeds not even our cars reach, we need to pray. Let's pray for people in Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados, Cayman, Jamaica and Mexico. At this time it seems that we will not get the full wrath of nature as the Caribbean islands.

Nevertheless, the potential is still there. Thursday Night to Friday we can have a sigh of relief or we can be picking up our country. Corozal appears to be in the cone and might experience a bit of deja vu given that they took Cat3 winds in Dean 2007. This was the strongest in the Atlantic Basin in that year. Dean infamously devastated the Mahahual area in Quintana Roo after it took a last minute hook path up after pretending to make landfall in Belize. This was good for Belize but not so for our Mexican friends.

With that knowledge we should not take landfall for granted. The chaos theory is in full effect and there is no hurricane itinerary. Beryl will go where nature allows.

Let's hope the name Beryl is not retired as 'retired' means that it did tragic damage.

Pray!

Avid Reader

BELIZE WELL REPRESENTED AT THE CARIBBEAN URBAN FORUM 2024!



June 29 - As the Councilor with the responsibility for Works, Infrastructure, and Urban Planning, Deputy Mayor Allan Pollard Jr. accompanied City Planner Ms. Carla Patnett and Director of Local Government Mr. Clifford King at this year's Caribbean Urban Forum held in the Dominican Republic.

During this four-day session on urban planning, development, and land management, the Belize delegation had the opportunity to learn from seasoned professionals in the region about how proper urban planning, infrastructural development, and resource management can contribute to creating a high-functioning, sustainable, and inclusive municipality.

This year's Caribbean Urban Forum also featured a presentation from Belize's Director of Local Government, who discussed the challenges of Belize's municipalities regarding soil erosion and flood vulnerability.



REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SINGLE INVESTMENT WINDOW ASSOCIATE

Institution: Ministry of Economic Development
Country: Belize
Project: Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP)
Sector: Trade and Investment
Abstract: This project aims to promote Belize's foreign direct investment and trade performance.
Loan No.: 5582/OC-BL
Process ID: BL-L1040-P00007
Deadline: Extended to **Wednesday, July 17, 2024**; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received eight million US Dollars (US \$8M) in loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Project – Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP). The Trade and Investment Facilitation Program is a response to the low investment flows and limited international trade competitiveness faced by Belize. The general objective of the program is to promote Belize's foreign direct investment and trade performance.

The specific objectives are to:

- (i) improve investment facilitation through simplification, standardization, and automation of key investment procedures;
- (ii) improve the investment promotion tools and MSMEs internationalization through the strengthening of the trade and investment institutional apparatus; and
- (iii) improve trade facilitation through simplifying, standardizing, and automating key trade processes.

The program is comprised of three (3) components that will support achievement of the objectives.

The consultancy/assignment is aligned to Component 1 which aims to facilitate Investments in Belize through the Implementation of a Single Investment Window - This component will contribute to simplifying and automating key investment procedures through the implementation of the Single Investment Window

In this regard, the Ministry is now launching the process to fill a contractual position for a **Single Investment Window (SIW) Associate** under the Project. The SIW Associate will be stationed at the Belize Trade and Investment Development Service (Beltraide) and will support the execution of the project "development, implementation and commissioning of the Belize Single Investment Window, transaction platform, including a regulatory and operational layer and the integration of the range of procedures, services and technological developments of the prioritized procedures and services required for its operation", under IDB Loan Contract 5582/OC-BL.

The Ministry of Economic Development now invites eligible Persons/Individual Consultants to submit applications for this contractual position to provide services as the SIW Associate. Further information, including the required template for the application and full Terms of References, can be obtained via <https://med.gov.bz/>, by emailing tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz or calling 501-672-0848 during the hours 8:00am – 4:30pm from Mondays to Fridays prior to **July 12, 2024**. Interested Persons/Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have all the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The selection for this contractual position will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the policies. The Consultants will be selected based on qualifications.

Qualified Persons/ Individual Consultants should submit one (1) pdf copy in English via e-mail to tjoseph.ceu@med.gov.bz and/or two (2) hardcopies of their application to the address below clearly indicating **Single Investment Window Associate (BL-L1040)**.

The Deadline for submission is no later than Wednesday, July 17, 2024, by 10:00 a.m. No late submissions will be accepted. Hard copies of the application should be submitted to the following address:

Trudy Joseph
 Procurement Specialist
 Central Executing Unit
 1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor
 Belmopan City
 Belize, Central America

Ref: Single Investment Window Associate (BL-L1040) - Your name

HISTORIC GAINS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

HOUSE PASSES DISABILITIES BILL



Marshall Nunez

By Gilroy Usher

On Friday the gallery of the National Assembly was filled with dozens of persons with disabilities including several teachers who communicated with the audience using sign language for the historic passage of the Disabilities Bill.

The bill seeks to ensure equal rights and opportunities for persons

with disabilities on an equal basis with persons without disabilities in education, employment, public transportation, healthcare, access to public building, and justice. It also asks members of both the private and public sector to take all possible measures to ensure persons with disabilities enjoy those rights and opportunities to the fullest.

The Bill further calls for the establishment of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and the establishment of the Disabilities and Equal Opportunities Tribunal.

Among persons in attendance were Marshall Nunez, visually impaired Desk Coordinator Belize Assembly for Persons with Disabilities (BAPDA), Kenrick Theus, double amputee President BAPDA, and Alyssa Fisher, visually impaired Valedictorian Wesley College Class of 2024.



Kenrick Theus

New Acting Clerk, National Assembly Mrs. Clarita Pech Appointed

1st July 2024 - Today, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Valerie Woods, as the Chair of the National Assembly Staff Committee, received the official instrument from the Governor General, Dame Froyla Tzalam, appointing Mrs. Clarita Pech as the Acting Clerk of the National Assembly of Belize.

In accordance with section 5(1) of the National Assembly Staff Act, No. 1 of 2000, of the Substantive Laws of Belize, "the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk shall be appointed by the Governor-General, acting in accordance with the advice of the National Assembly Staff Committee." The Committee, upon receipt from the Office of the Governor General of the acceptance of the former Clerk's resignation, discussed the need for the appointment in the interest of the continuity of the business of the National Assembly, its administration and staff services and advised that Mrs. Pech be appointed the Acting Clerk.

Mrs. Clarita Pech has worked at the National Assembly for 25 years and during this time has held the post of Deputy Clerk for just under 15 years to date. Mrs. Pech has previously been appointed to act as the Clerk prior to the appointment of the former Clerk and has held over in his absence on various instances. Mrs. Pech holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Sector Management from the University of Belize and certificate courses from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's virtual academy on parliamentary mechanisms.

Speaker Woods commented, "We extend our appreciation and thanks to Mr. Eddie Webster for the 14 years of



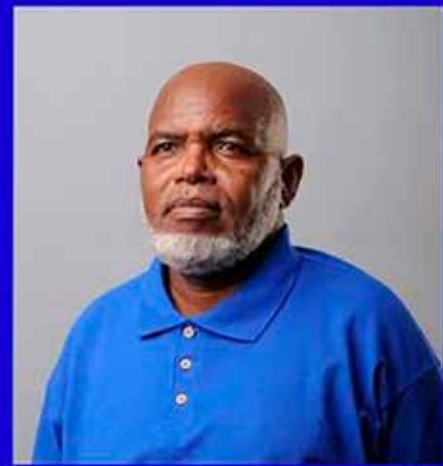
service provided to the National Assembly and wish him well in his future endeavours. The National Assembly Staff Committee upon the receipt of his resignation discussed the Acting appointment and advised the Governor General on its recommendation to appoint Mrs. Clarita Pech as the Acting Clerk until such time the post is substantively filled. The National Assembly Staff Committee is fully confident in Mrs. Pech serving in this critical role as the Clerk and Accounting Officer for the National Assembly. During her years of service and with her experience as the Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Pech is very knowledgeable of the business of the National Assembly and the Office of the Clerk. We look forward to working with her in this capacity."

The Clerk's position also serves as the Accounting Officer for the offices of the Contractor General, the Ombudsman and the Integrity Commission. The Acting Clerk's appointment takes effect as of 1st July 2024.



2025 - 2030 ENDORSEMENT Convention

Port Loyola Constituency



Endorsement of Hon. Gilroy Usher Sr. as the PUP standard bearer for Port Loyola 2025 - 2030.

Basketball court by Cumberbatch Field on Caesar Ridge Rd
Sunday July 21st, 2024
2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Music, Food, Drinks, Prizes and surprises

2025-2030 ENDORSEMENT CONVENTION

BELIZE RURAL CENTRAL



HON. DOLORES BALDERAMOS GARCIA

SUNDAY 21 JULY 2024 2 PM - 4 PM

Location: Ladyville Basketball Court

Join us in making a positive difference in our Belize Rural Central communities.

Music by Celinas Sound
Food, Drinks & Big Raffles.

Rocket Bullock in Belize



NBA Houston Rockets player Reginald Ryedell Bullock Jr. has been spotted in the jewel enjoying his offseason from his 13-year stint in the National Basketball Association. Belize welcomes the world and our people are definitely happy to have an NBA player. All goodwill can help the jewel in the tourism sector of the life-in-Belize spectrum.

Of late at Brisa Brisa's Tapas Deli-si-o-so he was hosting some guests on the Placencia Peninsula a bit away from this now world-known Bullock Island. The new restaurant posted that Reggie "had to go into the kitchen and thank the staff for feeding him and his 40+ guest last night at Brisa's Tapas Deli-si-o-so. Thank you for joining us for dinner and enjoying the experience!!"

Finally, we can say that this is a good "Bully" to have in Belize. He has been pictured with the Mayor of Belize City and Punta Rock sensation Hubee.

The Belize City Council page in June 2022: "Mayor Bernard Wagner officially welcomes NBA star Reggie Bullock to Belize City at the Summer Time Buzzer Beater Tournament sponsored by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Leadership Intervention Unit and the Ministry of Youth and Sports in collaboration with the CSSA and the BBF"

Internationally, he has been interviewed on the podcast, "Funky Friday with Cam Newton," where Bullock revealed he purchased a private island in Belize for \$2 million. Bullock said there that he stumbled upon the land on YouTube, and he felt it would be the right business move. "I found Belize off YouTube." And that is so right, Belize is a great country which puts it out that Belize is OPEN FOR BUSINESS. The Belizean people will be extremely respectful of investment and here it seems that Reggie Bullock has a respectable level of business.

Evie Blanco from the Miami Herald wrote in April 2023: Reggie Bullock, a star player for the Dallas Mavericks(now Houston Rockets), has accomplished a feat that most athletes can only dream of. After spending a cool \$2 million, he bought an island in Belize and had it named in his honor.

The five-acre piece of land is appropriately named "Bullock Island," and Sports Illustrated reports that it will soon be home to a resort where he and his loved ones can spend their vacations. Reportedly buying the island a year ago, the news of Bullock's self-named island has only recently gone viral.

Bullock explained to Andscape's Marc Spears that he viewed the purchase as an investment. "I've been looking for different things to invest my money in," Bullock said. "I found an opportunity down in Belize where I purchased an island that was about five acres that I am going to put resort villas on. It's a vacation spot for me and my family where other people will be able to attend and enjoy different vacation activities."

Bullock intends to construct an eight-villa rental property in addition to a 4,000 square foot residence for himself. A restaurant, a spa, and other facilities are also on his construction agenda.

"The water is beautiful," Bullock remarked. "That was one of the first things that I noticed. A lot of people are from Cali [California] and Texas. A lot of doctors and a lot of people going into retirement purchase homes for about \$300,000 to \$400,000 around the water. The people are dope. The food is dope. If you're down to fish, they have really good grouper."

Bullock made the announcement that he now owns an island in Placencia, Belize, via social media, and the caption sounds as amazing as the island looks.

The real estate world like those at RE/MAX have noticed. Good real estate raises the value of other properties so Bullock's Island is a welcome investment in Belize. In their POV called 'Reggie Bullock NBA Players Private Island in Belize' they take stock of the development in the best of real estate lights. ReMax: 'Star endorsements lead to publicity, especially when they are investing in an emerging vacation market like Belize. Celebrity endorsements and acquisition of property are major draws not only in the real estate market but also in tourism. This endorsement and development are signs of the Belize real estate market trajectory.'

WE'RE HIRING

Apprentice/Press Operator

We are seeking a skilled and motivated male to join our team as a Press Operator. As an Apprentice or Experienced Press Operator, you will be responsible for operating and maintaining our printing presses to ensure high-quality production and meet tight deadlines. This is a great opportunity to develop your skills and work with a dynamic team.

- Responsibilities:**
- Operate and maintain various presses.
 - Perform routine maintenance tasks, such as cleaning, lubricating, and adjusting equipment.
 - Monitor and troubleshoot printing press performance to ensure quality, efficiency and minimize downtime.
 - Collaborate with the production team to meet production deadlines and quality standards
 - Maintain a clean and safe working environment

- Requirements:**
- Would like to become a press operator and is motivated
 - Knowledge of press operation would be an asset
 - Knowledge of maintenance and troubleshooting techniques would be an asset
 - Ability to work independently as part of a team.
 - Strong mechanical aptitude and problem-solving skills

If you are a motivated and skilled individual looking for a new challenge, please submit your application and resume to normansprint@yahoo.com or whatsapp 606-5960

TENDER



REPLACEMENT OF HIGH-PRESSURE SODIUM STREETLIGHT TO LED – COUNTRYWIDE

Interested bidders are invited to a **virtual pre-bid meeting at 9:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday July 16, 2024.** The bidding Documents for the services required and the terms of reference and scope of work for the services will be discussed at this meeting.

Access to the link for the meeting can be obtained by sending an email to bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz using the email subject **"Expression of Interest BID #2024-2408 Replacement of HPS Streetlight to LED – Countrywide"** no later than **Wednesday July 10, 2024.**

Bidders will be required to submit a proposal and fixed price quotation no later than **3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, July 31, 2024** via email.

Email address: bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz
 Email subject: **BID #2024-2408 Replacement of HPS Streetlight to LED – Countrywide**

Proposals will be accepted by email only and should include the

For more information or queries, send email to bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz

Cost incurred for preparation of the tender document is the sole responsibility of the bidder. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.



**Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security
and Enterprise**

Ph: # (501) 822-2241/42 Fax: (501) 822-0258/802-4022

Email: info@agriculture.gov.bz Website: www.agriculture.gov.bz

Press Release

**Safety Measures Advisory for Farmers
Ahead of Hurricane Beryl**

1st July 2024: Belmopan:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise is closely monitoring the development of Hurricane Beryl, which may pose significant risks to the Belize agriculture sector. Due to the current uncertainty of its path, the Ministry urges all farmers in low-lying and flood-prone areas to take immediate steps to protect their families and livelihoods.

Recommended Safety Measures for Farmers:

Crop Producers:

- Harvest any available and mature crops.
- Record details of all crops planted and their production amounts.
- Store harvested crops in cool, dry areas to prevent spoilage or loss.
- Ensure drainage systems are clear to avoid waterlogging.

Producers with Tropical Greenhouses or Cover Structures:

- Remove covering materials such as UV Plastic and Anti-Viral netting.
- Store equipment and supplies securely.
- Document all crops planted and their production amounts; take photographs of the structures.
- Reinforce greenhouse structures to withstand potential high winds.

Livestock Producers:

- Relocate animals to safer areas temporarily.
- Ensure an adequate supply of animal feed and water.
- Conduct a thorough count of all livestock.
- Prepare animal shelters to endure severe weather conditions.

Farm Inputs:

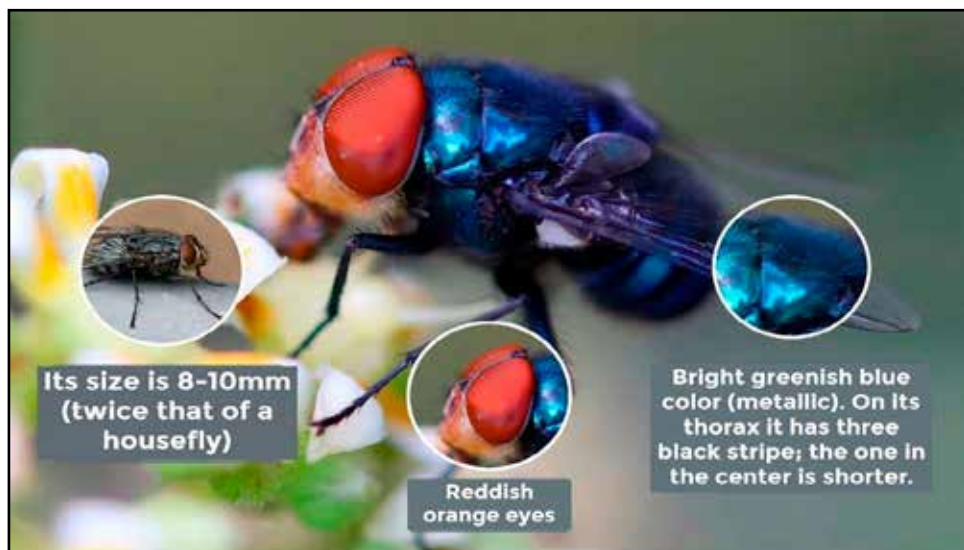
- Secure all farm machinery and inputs.
- Relocate pesticides and containers to prevent spillage and contamination, particularly in flood-prone areas.

For emergency assistance, contact the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise. Contact information can be found below:

- Cayo - 804-2129
- Belize - 205-5088
- Orange Walk - 343-2019
- Corozal - 402-2297
- Stann Creek - 502 – 2514
- Toledo - 702 – 2689

The Ministry emphasizes the importance of remaining vigilant and prepared during this period of uncertainty. Please stay updated with the latest information and follow the advisories issued by local authorities. Stay safe and prepared.

Ends



**Let's Identify the
New World Screwworm**
(*Cochliomyia hominivorax*)

Infestation begins in any open lesion including lacerations, castration wounds, navels of newborn animals, or tick bites.

To report suspicious cases, contact BAHA



Belize Water Services

#7 Central American Blvd
Belize City, Belize
+501-222-4757 Ext. 1408
pr@bws.com.bz
www.bws.bz

NOTICE TO MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS

No.: 202406-27-1

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Notice is hereby given that the 23rd Annual General Meeting of Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) will be held at the SCA Mercy Center Auditorium on Friday, August 30, 2024 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Shareholders who wish to appoint a proxy, may submit written questions to shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2024.

DIVIDENDS:

The Board of Directors of BWS is pleased to announce dividends of 7.5 cents (\$0.075) per share (equivalent to 5%) for the year ending March 31, 2024.

Shareholders are reminded that this year's dividend payments are being paid via direct deposit to your bank or credit union account. If you have not yet provided BWS with your banking information, please email, call or WhatsApp message us to obtain the banking update form. The completed form must be returned to BWS no later than Friday, July 12, 2024. Direct Deposit payments will be processed by August 4, 2024.

For shareholder information, kindly contact us at:
Email: shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz; Telephone: +501-222-5155; or send a WhatsApp message to 613-5382.

BWS: Delivering Water and More...



Invitation for Bids

Belize Water Services Limited

**Third Water Project
International Competitive Bidding (ICB)
BWSL/BIF-26-1868-02**

1. The **Government of Belize** will be receiving financing from the **Caribbean Development Bank** toward the cost of the project "Third Water Project" and intends to apply the proceeds of this financing to payments under the Contract for "Supply of Genset and Associated Materials for San Pedro RO Plant".
2. **Belize Water Services Limited** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the:

"Supply of Genset and Associated Materials for San Pedro RO Plant"
3. Bidding will be conducted through the **International Competitive Bidding (ICB)** procedures specified in the Caribbean Development Bank's *Policies* and is open to all eligible bidders.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain an e-copy of the bidding document by making a request to the address found at the bottom of this advertisement.
5. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **2:00 pm, 26th July 2024**. Electronic bidding **shall not** be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at **2:15 pm on 26th July 2024**.
6. All bids to be accompanied by a Bid Security, as specified in the bidding document and must be delivered to the address below by **2:00 pm local time on 26th July 2024**.
7. The address referred to above is:

Email: rce@bws.com.bz
Attention: Ms. Jahnina Reyes,
Procurement Specialist
Belize Water Services Limited
7 Central American Blvd.
Belize City
Belize

*****END*****

Belmopan City Council Getting Ready for the Rainy Season

Proactive Measures for Community Safety

As the rainy season approaches, the Belmopan City Council is taking proactive steps to protect our community from potential flooding and ensure our drainage systems are performing at their best!

Engineering in Action: Our diligent Engineering Department is leading a thorough campaign to clean and maintain drains and waterways across the city. This includes not just removing debris but also conducting detailed inspections and making essential repairs to strengthen our drainage infrastructure.

Building Resilience: These efforts aim to enhance the efficiency of our drainage systems, reducing the risk of flooding and water accumulation during heavy rains. Our proactive approach highlights our commitment to sustainable urban management and the well-being of our residents and businesses.

Community Commitment: By prioritizing these critical infrastructure preparations, the Belmopan City Council reaffirms its dedication to creating a safe, resilient, and thriving community for everyone.

Stay safe and dry this rainy season!



GET READY

COROZAL

JULY 11-13, 2024

DAY 1 BOOTCAMP 8:30 AM - 4 PM - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING AND B2B PANEL DISCUSSION

DAY 2 FORMALIZATION CLINIC 9 AM - 4 PM - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
FEATURING KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

DAY 3 #BUYBELIZEAN EXPO 9 AM - 4 PM - CENTRAL PARK
OPPORTUNITIES FOR MSME SALES AND SHOWCASING

NATIONAL MSME ROADSHOW 2024

SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER FOR **FREE!**

CHANCE TO WIN:

- \$500** FOR ATTENDING ALL 3 DAYS
- \$2,500** IN THE PITCH COMPETITION
- A BRANDED TENT**
- A VIDEO COMMERCIAL**



JOB VACANCY

Consultancy Services for the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) and Communications Assistant

Country: **Belize**

Name of Project: **Belize Renewable Integration and Resilient Energy System Project**

Grant No.: **TFC2805-BZ**

Assignment Title: **Consultancy Services for the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) and Communications Assistant**

Reference No: (as per Procurement Plan): **BZ-CEU-381681-CS-INDV**

Deadline: **July 15th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Belize Renewable Integration and Resilient Energy System Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The Central Executing Unit to the Ministry of Economic Development, an executing agency of the Borrower, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this grant to perform the consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): Consultancy Services for the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) and Communication Assistant.

The objective of the position of **Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) and Communications Assistant** is to undertake activities related to but not limited to battery energy storage services and grid resilience infrastructure with the support of the Monitoring and Evaluation Project Officer under the CEU, and in accordance with the provisions of the Project and the World Bank's rules and procedures, Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and GOB environmental and social policies, when applicable. In particular, the MEAL and Communications Assistant shall engage in the overall and day to day activities for the monitoring, evaluation, knowledge management, public consultation and communications related, subject to World Bank policies and requirements and in accordance with the Project Operational Manual (POM) and GOB procedures, as it relates to the Belize Renewable Integration and Resilient Energy System Project and if needed for the other projects that fall under the CEU. The duration of the consultancy is a period of six (6) months. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained at the email address given below.

The Ministry of Economic Development now invites eligible individual ("Consultant") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Selection method set out in the Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers July 2016, revised date: September 2023

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by July 15th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Address for requesting documents, information and submitting CV:

Therese Johnston
Procurement Specialist Assistant
Central Executing Unit (CEU) to the Ministry of Economic Development
#1904 Constitution Drive
Belmopan City
Tel: 501-822-4106
Email: tjohnston.ceu@med.gov.bz cc rpascascio.ceu@med.gov.bz

MAFSE - Taiwan ICDF in Corozal

Lamb Culinary Workshop & Field Day

Belmopan, 27 June 2024:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE), in collaboration with the Taiwan ICDF Breeding Sheep and Goat Production and Guidance System Enhancement Project (Sheep Project Phase II), held a "Lamb Culinary Workshop & Field Day" at Orchid Bay Resort in the Corozal District on June 27, 2024.

The aim of the workshop was to train sheep farmers, butchers, and restaurateurs in the culinary skills of lamb and mutton to increase consumers' acceptance of lamb and mutton products in Belize. The training includes sessions on ingredients preparation, cooking process of stew lamb, lamb chop kebab, and barbecue lamb.

Twenty-two sheep and goat farmers, butchers, and restaurateurs from around the Corozal District and five Extension Officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise participated in the workshop.

The workshop is another commitment of the Sheep Project Phase II to help local farmers, butchers and restaurateurs in Belize. The governments of Belize and the Republic of China (Taiwan) are committed to working together to support the Belizean farmers in strengthening the sheep and goat industry within the country. (release)



Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the

observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (Individual Consultants)

Belize

Resilient Rural Belize Programme

Assignment title: Recruitment for RRB Finance Officer

Reference no. (as per procurement plan): RRB.CS.96

The Government of Belize through the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of Resilient Rural Belize Programme (RRB) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the recruitment of consulting services provided by an individual consultant as part of the post of Finance Officer.

The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with *Resilient Rural Belize Programme*.

The consulting services ("the services") include:

- To coordinate, supervise and evaluate the functioning and operability of the RRB administrative and financial systems in accordance with the standards issued by the national governing bodies and adjusted to the information demands of the multilateral contracting entities;
- To implement and update the financial management guidelines and procedures that apply to programme receipts and payments, establishing control mechanisms for financial funds, bank accounts and deposits while ensuring that the funds are administered and executed for the purposes intended in an open and transparent manner, and ensuring that the Programme Manager (PM) and the PMU are aware of risks arising from any weaknesses in the internal control system, and take steps to minimize these risks.

The duration of the assignment is for a period of one (1) year and may be extended based on performance.

This request for expressions of interest (REOI) follows the general procurement notice that appeared on the IFAD website on August 17, 2023, on UNDB on August 17, 2023 and on Amandala and Belize Times newspapers on August 11, 2023 and August 18, 2023.

The Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment/Resilient Rural Belize Programme now invites eligible Individual consultants ("consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services in the form of a curriculum vitae (CV). A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual consultant selection (ICS) method set out in IFAD's Project Procurement Handbook that can be accessed via the IFAD website at www.ifad.org/project-procurement. Interviews will be conducted as part of the selection process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

Item	Criteria
A.	Qualification:
i	At least a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Finance
	Above a Bachelor's Degree but below a Master's Degree in Accounting or Finance
	Master or superior studies in accounting, finance, business administration or related studies is preferred
B.	General Experience:
i	At least 3 years' working experience in the donor-funded project accounting field including using Quickbooks or other accounting software
ii	Proven experience in project accounting and financial reporting, including the preparation of project's Financial Statements (minimum 1 year experience)
iii	Proven experience in understanding of external financing procedures of government and donor agencies (minimum 1 year experience)
C.	Specific experience:
i	Having completed at least one similar assignment within the past five (5) years in an IFI-funded project environment
D.	Other Desirable Skills and Personal Qualities:
i	Proficiency in Excel and other Microsoft Office tools such as Word and Power Point
ii	Excellent command of the English language, spoken and written

Applicants interested in receiving the complete **Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)** document should send an e-mail (with subject: **Request for REOI CS.96 Recruitment of Finance Officer**) to the e-mail addresses below.

Any request for clarification on this REOI should be sent via e-mail to the address below no later than July 12, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. local time. The client will provide responses to all clarification requests by July 19, 2024.

Expressions of interest consisting of submission form (EOI-1) and curriculum vitae (CV) (EOI-2) must be delivered via email, in pdf format as a single document, to the address below, by **July 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. local time**. **Consultants** are reminded to sign EOI-1 (Submission Form) and EOI-2 (CV) to ensure administrative compliance of their submission.

Resilient Rural Belize Programme
Attn: Lemuel Palacio, Senior Procurement Officer

Resilient Rural Belize Programme
National Agriculture Showgrounds
Belmopan City, Cayo, Belize

Email: lpalacio.rrb@med.gov.bz

CC: nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz

Belize Continues to Make Waves and Takes a Remarkable Step for Ocean Protection!



BBNJ Agreement is a groundbreaking treaty that aims to protect marine life in international waters. It allows countries to establish marine reserves on the high seas, regulate harmful activities, and promote deep-sea exploration and ocean technology advancements.

Recently, the Organizational session of the Preparatory Commission convened at the UN Headquarters in New York to appoint Co-Chairs and Bureau members, endorse its work

program, and plan forthcoming meetings in anticipation of the Agreement's Entry into Force and the inaugural Conference of the Parties to the BBNJ Agreement.

Belize's accomplishment in BBNJ stands out, notably due to the exceptional

leadership of Belizean women. At the BBNJ Organization Meeting, Ambassador Janine Coye-Felson was unanimously endorsed as Co-chair, and the Ministry's Director of Blue Economy, Felicia Cruz, joined as Belize's Delegate, alongside Ms. Nellie Catzim, Technical Expert and BBNJ Advisor.

Belize's commitment to ocean conservation and sustainable use sets a powerful example for other nations worldwide. The instrumental role played by Belizean women, not only showcases the nation's dedication but also underscores the vital contribution of women in shaping environmental policies and initiatives on a global scale. With their expertise and passion driving initiatives like the BBNJ Agreement, Belize is paving the pathway for a more sustainable and thriving ocean ecosystem for generations to come.

Belize is the first Caribbean and Central American nation to ratify the UNCLOS Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement. The



Closure of the Florida Stone Crab Fishing Season



July 02, 2024

The Fisheries Department takes this opportunity to inform all fishers and the public that in accordance with the Fisheries Resources Act and Statutory Instrument No.108 of 2022 the Florida Stone Crab (*Menippe mercenaria*) fishing season has **closed from July 1 to September 30, 2024.**

Any person or establishment found in possession of the stone crab during the closed season will be prosecuted in accordance with the Fisheries Resources Act No.7 of 2020.

The Fisheries Department advises the Public to report any illegal fisheries activity by calling the telephone number: 224-4552 or by emailing: Fisheries_department@fisheries.gov.bz

On the same note, the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) fishing season opens from on Monday, July 1, 2024, to February 28, 2025. (Public Notice)

CALL
280-8385 or
EMAIL:
belizetimesadvertisement@
yahoo.com

To place
advertisement in
the Belize Times
Newspaper



INVITATION TO BID

Institution: MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE.

Tender: INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY FOR THE UPDATE OF WEALTH UNTOLD – A GLIMPSE OF BELIZE'S NATURAL RESOURCES

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Department of the Environment (DOE) within the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, invites suitable candidates to apply for the **individual consultancy** of updating the documents "Wealth Untold: A Glimpse of Belize's Natural Resources," first published by the DOE in January 2012. The duration of this consultancy is **10 weeks** (50 working days) over a period of 3 months from the start date/date of signing the contract.

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY:

1. To review the Wealth Untold Book and pinpoint areas for improvement, utilizing Belize's latest environmental and natural resource management data, policies, legislation, strategic plans, and management plans.;
2. Identify opportunities for improvement concerning user experience, visual appeal, and graphics;
3. Revise the Wealth Untold Book based on feedback and reviews;
4. Provide both a physical and digital version of the final product upon approval by the DOE;
5. Conduct a workshop with key stakeholders to showcase the content and diverse applications of the publication.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor's degree in Environmental Education, Communications, Public Relations, Natural Resources Management, or Environmental Science.
2. Experience in environmental awareness and education.
3. Fluent in the English language (spoken and written) is required.
4. Minimum five (5) years working experience in an environmental communication-related field.
5. Experience in communicating developing concepts, and messaging, as part of public awareness campaigns.
6. Experience in designing environmental educational material or related fields.

For Terms of Reference which list objectives, Scope of Work, Deliverables, Payment Schedule, Reporting Mechanisms, and Submission Procedures, kindly request via email at outreach@environment.gov.bz with a carbon copy to procurement.officer@environment.gov.bz

Deadline for submission: Wednesday, July 17, 2024, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time.

ELECTION AND BOUNDARIES

TOLEDO EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION BY-ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 17TH JULY 2024

NOTICES

E. R. 9 (2)

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE ACT CHAPTER 9 Form No. 22

NOTICE THAT A POLL WILL BE TAKEN

The Electoral Division of **TOLEDO EAST**

NOTICE is hereby given to the Voters of the electoral division aforesaid that a Poll will be taken for the election now pending for the said electoral division and that such Poll will be opened on Wednesday, 17th July 2024 at the hour of seven in the forenoon and kept open till the hour of six in the afternoon in the following polling stations established in the various polling areas comprised in the said electoral division:

POLLING STATIONS:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Polling area no. 109 (All areas except Indianville)
St. Peter Claver R. C. School | 6. Polling area no. 115
Monkey River Community Center |
| 2. Polling area no. 109 (Indianville Only)
St. Benedict R. C. School | 7. Polling area no. 116
St. Joseph R. C. School, Barranco Village |
| 3. Polling area nos. 109A, 110 & 112
Cattle Landing Community Center | 8. Polling area no. 117
Sacred Heart R. C. School, Crique Sarco Village |
| 4. Polling area nos. 111 & 112A
Punta Gorda Methodist School | 9. Polling area no. 118
St. Mark R. C. School, Otoxha Village |
| 5. Polling area no. 113
Our Lady of Bella Vista R. C. School | 10. Polling area no. 119
Little Flower R. C. School, Forest Home Village |

And that the candidates in the above electoral division are as follows:

CANDIDATES

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. MARTINEZ, OSMOND REYNALDO | PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY (PUP) |
| 2. WILLIAMS, DENNIS "DESHO" | UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY (UDP) |
| 3. MAHEIA, WILLIAM "WIL" | PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) |

of which all persons are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

The counting of votes will take place at the **Toledo Community College**, Punta Gorda Town on WEDNESDAY, 17th July 2024 at the hour of 8:00p.m. GIVEN under my hand at this 3rd day of July 2024.

(THERESE MARTINEZ)
Returning Officer for Toledo East
Electoral Division

Elections and Boundaries Commission
Old Lands Building, Market Square, City of Belmopan

3rd July 2024

ALLOCATION OF COLOURS TO POLITICAL PARTIES CONTESTING THE TOLEDO EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION BY-ELECTION

In accordance with Rule 15 (4) of the Representation of the People Election Rules, the Elections and Boundaries Commission has allocated the following colours to the political parties contesting the Toledo East Electoral Division By-Election: -

<u>POLITICAL PARTIES</u>	<u>COLOURS</u>
People's United Party (PUP)	BLUE
United Democratic Party (UDP)	RED
People's National Party (PNP)	GREEN

JOSEPHINE TAMAI (MRS.)
Chief Elections Officer

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ELECTION AND BOUNDARIES

TOLEDO EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION BY-ELECTION

WEDNESDAY, 17TH JULY 2024

NOTICES

ELECTION OFFENCES

Continued on page 25

The Elections and Boundaries Department hereby reminds the general public that the following are election offences in connection with the upcoming election scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 17th July 2024.

The Representation of the People Act states as follows:

RESTRICTION ON SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR ON ELECTION DAY

Section 28:

- (1.) Subject to sub-section (2), every person who is the holder of any liquor licence granted under the provisions of any Act authorizing the sale of intoxicating liquor in any premises maintained solely for that purpose shall take all necessary steps to cause such premises to be closed to the public upon election day until twelve midnight.
- (2.) Every person who is the holder of any hotel licence, special hotel licence, restaurant licence or licence to sell liquor in any premises not solely maintained for that purpose, granted under the provisions of any Act authorizing the sale of intoxicating liquor at any time upon election day until twelve midnight.
- (3.) Any person who contravenes this section commits an offence punishable on summary conviction with a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

EMPLOYERS TO ALLOW EMPLOYEE PRESCRIBED PERIOD FOR VOTING

Section 29:

- (1.) Every employer shall, on polling day, allow to every voter in his employ a reasonable time during the prescribed period for voting, and no employer shall make any deduction from the pay or other remuneration of any such voter or impose upon or exact from him any penalty by reason of his absence during such period.
- (2.) Any employer who, directly or indirectly refuses to grant, or by intimidation, undue influence or in any other way, interferes with the granting of reasonable time to any voter in his employ during the prescribed period of voting as in this section provided, shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year.

BAN ON LOUDSPEAKERS ETC. ON POLLING DAY

Section 31:

- (1.) No person shall furnish or supply any loudspeaker, bunting, ensign, banner, standard, or set of colours, or any flag, other than the national flag, to any person with intent that it shall be carried, worn or used, as political propaganda, on polling day, and no person shall with any such intent, carry, wear or use, any such loudspeaker, bunting, ensign, banner, standard or set of colours, or any other than the national flag, on polling day.

- (2.) No person shall furnish or supply any flag, ribbons, label or like favour to or for any person with intent that it be worn or used by any person within any division on polling day, as a party badge to distinguish the wearer as the supporter of any candidate, or of the political or other opinions entertained or supposed to be entertained by such candidate, and no person shall use or wear any flag, ribbon, label, or other favour, as such badge, within any division or divisions on polling day.

- (3.) Nothing contained in either sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), shall be deemed to extend to the furnishing or supplying of any banner bearing only the name of any candidate or any political party or only such name preceded by the words "Vote for" or similar words or of any rosette or to the use of any such banner on any vehicle or of any such rosette.

- (4.) No person shall on polling day do any of the following acts within any division in which a poll is being taken-

a) organize, hold or participate in any meeting, or organize, lead or participate in any procession, of five or more persons;

b) accost, or solicit or canvass his vote from any elector who had already joined the line of voters waiting to vote at any polling station.

- (5.) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months.

INFRINGEMENT OF SECRECY

Section 39:

- (1.) Every officer and clerk in attendance at a polling station shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting in that station, and shall not communicate to any person, except for some purpose authorized by this Act before the poll is closed, any information as to the name or number on the register of electors of any voter who has or has not applied for a ballot paper or voted at that station, and no person whosoever shall interfere or attempt to interfere with a voter when marking his vote or otherwise obtain in the polling station any information as to the candidate for whom any voter there is about to vote or has voted, or as to the number on the back of the ballot paper given to any voter there.
- (2.) Every clerk and agent in attendance at the counting of the votes shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting and shall not attempt to ascertain at the counting the number on the back of any ballot paper or communicate any information obtained at the counting as to the candidate for whom any vote is given in any particular ballot paper.
- (3.) No person shall directly or indirectly induce any voter to display his ballot paper after he has marked it, so as to make known to any person the name of the candidate for or against whom he has so marked his vote.
- (4.) Any person acting in contravention of the provisions of this sec-

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ELECTION AND BOUNDARIES

TOLEDO EAST ELECTORAL DIVISION BY-ELECTION

WEDNESDAY, 17TH JULY 2024

NOTICES

ELECTION OFFENCES

Continued on page 26

tion is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars and in default of payment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year.

MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AT POLLING STATIONS

Section 40:

- (1.) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (2), during the hours when the poll is open upon election days no person shall assemble or congregate within one hundred yards of any building in which is situate any polling station.
- (2.) This section shall not apply—
 - a) to any voters who are waiting to poll their votes at such polling station and who obey any instructions which may be given by the presiding officer or any constable for the purpose of forming a queue with other electors also so waiting; or
 - b) to any person who may under the provisions of this Act lawfully enter or remain in such polling station.
- (3.) Every person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section commits an offence against this section and is liable on summary conviction thereof to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for six months, or to both such fine and period of imprisonment.

Statutory Instrument No. 44 of 2008 which provides that no person shall on polling day within a polling station, without the express permission of the Presiding Officer, use a mobile telephone, paging machine or any other device for electronic communications; or film or take photographs or make any audio or video recording of any matter or thing on election day, that is, Wednesday, 17th July 2024.

A breach of this section by any person is an offence under the law.

PROHIBITION AGAINST CARRYING OF FIREARMS ON ELECTION DAY



Statutory Instrument No. 22 of 2008 which provides that no person shall carry, discharge or use any firearm or ammunition in any public place within one hundred yards of any polling station or counting station between the hours of opening of the poll on the polling day that is, 7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 17th July 2024, until the completion of counting of ballot papers.

This provision does not apply to members of the Belize Police Department or the Belize Defence Force on duty, or to any other public officer on official duty who has been authorized by the Commissioner of Police in writing to carry any firearm or ammunition.

A contravention of this provision is an offence under the Firearms Act.

~End~

PROHIBITION AGAINST USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES AND TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS INSIDE POLLING STATION

 ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT TOLEDO EAST BY-ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 17TH JULY 2024 Nomination, Polling and Counting Stations 							
ELECTORAL DIVISION	POLLING AREA NOS.	ALPHABETICAL BREAKDOWN	NO. OF REGISTERED ELECTORS	NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF POLLING STATIONS	NO. OF POLLING STATIONS	NOMINATION STATION	NAME AND ADDRESS OF COUNTING STATION
TOLEDO EAST	109	A - E (406), F - O (407), P - Z (432)	1245	St. Peter Claver R.C. School, George Price Street, Punta Gorda Town	3	Punta Gorda Magistrate Court Front Street, Punta Gorda Town	Toledo Community College New City Area Punta Gorda Town
	109 (Indianville)	A - C (511), D - N (302), O - Z (330)	1143	St. Benedict R. C. School, Indianville, Punta Gorda Town	3		
	109A, 110 & 112	A - Z (432)	432	Cattle Landing Community Center, Cattle Landing Village, Toledo District	1		
	111 & 112A	A - J (340), K - Z (357)	697	Punta Gorda Methodist School, Front Street, Punta Gorda Town	2		
	113	A - CA (507), CE - CU (381), D - K (450), L - O (371), P - R (458), S - Z (470)	2637	Our Lady of Bella Vista R.C. School, Bella Vista Village, Stann Creek District	6		
	115	A - Z (145)	145	Monkey River Community Center, Monkey River Village, Stann Creek District	1		
	116	A - Z (365)	365	St. Joseph R.C. School, Barranco Village, Toledo District	1		
	117	A - Z (179)	179	Sacred Heart R.C. School, Crique Sarco Village, Toledo District	1		
	118	A - Z (422)	422	St. Mark R.C. School, Otoxa Village, Toledo District	1		
	119	A - Z (460)	460	Little Flower R.C. School, Forest Home Village, Toledo District	1		
TOTAL NO. OF REGISTERED ELECTORS			7725		20		

VOTE



OSMOND MARTINEZ

FOR TOLEDO EAST - JULY 17, 2024

RISING TOGETHER!

