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UDP coup de théâtre: Shyne ousts Patrick



Hon. Shyne Barrow, new Leader of the Opposition and Hon. Patrick Faber, embattled UDP party leader

BELIZE CITY. Thurs. June 24, 2021

The United Democratic Party has been steeped in uncertainty as back-room conversations take place, various UDP members join different party factions, and internal party processes are triggered — all in an effort to determine the leadership of the party. On Monday evening there was another unexpected twist in the plot when Hon. Shyne Barrow, the recently elected area representative of the Mesopotamia division and son of former Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, was declared the new Leader of the Opposition. Hon.

Barrow will now assume that role in the House of Representatives after being officially sworn in by the Governor General today.

In a letter dated June 20, the self-proclaimed UDP “Chief Whip”, Hon. Shyne Barrow sent a letter to H.E. Froyla Tzalam, in which he invoked section 47 (5) of the Belize Constitution, which provides for members of the Opposition to oust their leader if he or she no longer enjoys the support of the majority of the Opposition members.

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Robbery turned murder in St. Margaret's



CAYO DISTRICT, Thurs. June 23, 2021

Yesterday, a man was killed near the Bird Walk community during a robbery carried out by 6 armed men. Vicente Garanza, **Please turn to** ▶ **Page 2**

Covid clusters in Orange Walk

by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

ORANGE WALK, Wed. June 23, 2021

Following a period during which it seemed that the spread of COVID-19 was slowing almost to a halt, there has been a recent upsurge of cases once again in northern

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Man drowns after falling into well

Artie Hall is believed to have suffered a seizure before falling to his death



SAN ANTONIO, Corozal District, Wed. June 23, 2021

This morning, tragedy struck the village of San Antonio, Corozal, when a resident of the village, 34-year-old Artie Hall, who has had a history of epileptic seizures, apparently toppled into the local water well, and died as a result.

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John McAfee dead at 75

(See story on page 4)

Blue Economy vs the fishing community



Hon. Andre Perez, Minister of Blue Economy and Nigel Martinez, Director of BFF

by Dayne Guy

BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021

There is a growing rift between the Ministry of the Blue Economy and many local fishermen, some of whom already felt aggrieved after their efforts to overturn a ban on gill-net fishing failed. Fishermen countrywide are now decrying a Statutory Instrument (SI) that allows permanent residents to apply for licenses to fish in Belize's waters. Many in the local fishing community are claiming that SI No. 57 of 2021, which they say was passed without their consultation, places Belizean fisherfolk at a disadvantage. **Please turn to** ▶ **Page 39**

COVID-19 vaccination campaign re-launched

(See story on page 38)

Man charged for RTA that killed ASP Neal

by Dayne Guy

COROZAL, Tues. June 22, 2021

A man has been formally charged for the road traffic accident that caused the death of Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP), Fernando Gilman Neal. After conducting an investigation, the police apprehended Eyder Radier Sanchez, a resident of San Roman Village, and charged him for eight offenses — death by careless conduct, manslaughter by negligence, failure to keep as close as possible to the right-hand side of the road, failure to report an accident, causing negligent harm, driving a motor vehicle without due care and attention and two counts of failure to stop and render aid. Sanchez was arraigned in the Corozal Magistrate's Court and has since been granted bail of \$8,000.

The accident which caused ASP Neal's death occurred between Miles 76 and 77 on the Philip Goldson Highway. It has been reported that the senior police officer, Neal, was a passenger in a vehicle being driven by a fellow police officer, 22-year-old Didier Clavel, when a passing pickup truck swerved into their lane,



Eyder Sanchez, driver of pickup truck in traffic accident

colliding into the right side of their vehicle. Police who arrived on the scene found two totaled vehicles: a Toyota Camry, which PC Clavel had been driving, and an abandoned pickup truck, which Sanchez had been driving before he fled the scene.

Neal was trapped in the vehicle following the incident and had to be freed by Fire Department personnel when they arrived on the scene. Neal and Clavel were both transported to the Corozal Community Hospital, where Neal succumbed to his injuries and Clavel is currently being treated for injuries he received in the accident.

AG gives update on Whistleblowers Bill

by Dayne Guy

BELMOPAN, Mon. June 21, 2021

The Protected Disclosures Bill has been touted as a mechanism to end corruption in the public and private sector through the provision of protection for those persons who come forward to expose wrongdoing. Those persons, under such a law, would be able to report unlawful activity in the workplace without fear of being harmed or losing their job. The law would also more closely align Belize's legal framework with the standards of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), which Belize signed onto a few years ago. While being interviewed by local media, the Attorney General of Belize, Hon. Magali Marin Young, gave an update on the progress that has been made in their efforts to enact the newly drafted bill and the next steps that must be taken.

"The unions have written to the committee, and there will be further consultations with them on that particular bill," she said. Marin Young said that her ministry (The Office of the Attorney General) has been tasked with reviewing the recommendations brought forward by the unions and advising the Cabinet based on these recommendations, after which revisions to the bill will be carried out.

"I have indicated to you that the ministry is understaffed in the legal drafting unit, but as a measure of good faith, the government wanted to show the unions that it was serious about good governance," said the Attorney General. She added, "[The government] asked us to prioritize good governance bills and the Protected Disclosures is one of them... The Crown Counsel tried to do a comparative review in the region and their draft was based on that review



Hon. Magali Marin Young

and what they felt could work within the domestic legal framework, but the unions have put forward their comments and we will study them and the Cabinet will be deciding on those."

Using data and guidelines from Transparency International, the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) had published a review of the bill and provided an analysis of its current strengths and weaknesses.

The BCCI's review notes that the drafted bill does not adequately ensure personal protection for whistleblowers and their families and it does not explicitly outline provisions that give an employee the right to "refuse participation in wrongdoing." Another key area of concern was the ability of whistleblowers to report to external parties. Of the 12 designated authorities in the drafted bill to which whistleblowers can pass on information about wrongdoing, all are public sector entities. The review called for the inclusion of external entities like the media, trade unions, and other civil society organizations so as to increase the effectiveness of the good governance legislation.

The Attorney General stated that, like the BCCI's review, the recommendations submitted by the unions were all policy-oriented.

Unions and GoB to meet in court



BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021

Today, Prime Minister John Briceño acknowledged his government's receipt of a document that officially notified his administration of the BNTU's court action against the implemented salary cuts. Following the end of the five-week strike, the Joint Unions decided to relent and end their demonstrations. While the government might have viewed the move with a sense of relief, they will now have to face the Unions in court. According to PM Briceño, however, his administration is prepared to defend the government's position in that arena.

During an interview in Orange Walk today, he said, "We are taking a look at all of that. I believe we got good legal advice as to how we are going about doing that. It's their right

if they want to go to the courts. And, if they do, we will also go and represent our part, to defend the position that we took."

While the rightfulness and legality of that position will be reviewed in the courts, PM Briceño stated that he is still grateful that the members of the Joint Union have come off the streets and returned to their respective posts. He also remarked that while he respects the position of the unions, he believes that the residents of the country must work together to either "swim or sink."

"As I tell everybody, all of us are in this thing together. We either swim together or we sink together. I am looking and doing everything possible so that we can swim together towards the shore, where we can have better opportunities for everyone," the Prime Minister said.

Robbery turned murder in St. Margaret's

Continued from Page 1

the victim, and his wife, Celfa Garanza, were reportedly on their way to purchase vegetables in the Bird Walk area when they were confronted by the armed robbers.

It appears that the robbery was well-orchestrated, as the men formed a makeshift roadblock to stop Garanza's Isuzu truck in its tracks.

The bandits then held them at gunpoint. During the hold-up, Garanza's wife reportedly handed over five thousand dollars in cash to them. While details regarding exactly

what occurred have not yet been released, initial reports are indicating that at some point during the robbery, Vicente Garanza was shot at least three times by the robbers. He passed away at the crime scene, inside his truck.

The six men, who all escaped, are being sought by police at this time. This alleged robbery-turned-murder is being investigated by police at this time. While the facts about the incident so far suggest robbery as the motive, a police investigation will determine whether this was indeed the case, or whether there were other motives for this recent murder.

PM wishes Shyne best of luck

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

As reported, the Hon. Shyne Barrow has taken the Opposition's head seat in the House of Representatives after a series of events that occurred in rapid succession this week — thus sidelining the current, embattled UDP leader, Hon. Patrick Faber. Barrow now assumes the role of Leader of the Opposition. When interviewed by local media, Prime Minister John Briceño wished Hon. Barrow the best of luck but questioned how he will “manage,” given the deep division in the Opposition.

“As to the new Leader of the Opposition, I wish him well. I do not know how you will be able to manage when you have such deep divisions,” the Prime Minister quipped.

Over the past two weeks, the leader of the United Democratic Party, Hon. Faber, has seemingly been the party's public enemy number 1 after a video of a domestic altercation

between Faber and the mother of his daughter surfaced on social media.

While being interviewed, PM Briceño additionally remarked, “It is unfortunate that the Opposition is imploding. I know everybody likes to say that it is good to have a strong opposition, and of course, an opponent would want a weak opponent. But, at the end of the day, it is quite unfortunate what is happening to them.”

The newly formed UDP Caucus for Change, represented by Tony Herrera, along with Port Loyola standard bearer, Philip Willoughby, initiated a recall petition last week to remove Faber as UDP party leader. So far, reportedly more than 290 signatures have been garnered from UDP delegates who support the petition. And, with Shyne's seizure of the Opposition Leader's role in the House, all power will be stripped from Faber if an additional handful of the party's delegates vote against him. Faber's leadership of the UDP



Hon. Shyne Barrow and Prime Minister John Briceño

hangs on a precipice as he waits for the process of the recall petition to play out.

And while Prime Minister Briceño calls the upheaval within the UDP “unfortunate”, the UDP chairman, Michael Peyrefitte, said that such occurrences are common in every

political party, and noted that the PUP had, at one point, 4 leaders in just over 2 years.

Peyrefitte said that the party is working on getting its footing after the resignation of Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, who was its maximum leader for almost 20 years.

PM on IMF



Prime Minister John Briceño

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

While being interviewed by the media yesterday, Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño said that he believes that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will agree to Belize's homegrown plan of recovery, given the government's recent actions aimed at achieving fiscal balance.

As was widely reported, the IMF has recommended that the country sign on to a standby agreement as a buffer solution for the dire economic state in which the country finds itself. The Briceño administration has been adamant that the country will instead carry out a homegrown plan of recovery, in order to avoid the dreaded measures that an IMF plan would likely require the government to put in place.

“The IMF, what they finally said publicly is what they told us privately — that, of course, the history that we have with the IMF is not a good one, so obviously there was a lot of concerns whether we would have the discipline to carry through. But they told us from early that if we can hold on to what we said we are going to do, we would be able to get out of this difficult situation,” Prime Minister Briceño disclosed.

The Prime Minister believes that the IMF has been observing how his government managed its consultations

with the unions, drafted its austerity budget, and pressed negotiations with the holders of the Superbond to get an across-the-board discount and that this has reduced the doubts they had about the country's ability to do what is necessary to achieve a fiscal rebound.

“When they saw how we managed and handled the consultations with the unions, setting up the budget, setting up the renegotiations of the Superbond, I think they saw that we are serious, that we are determined, and that we are focused in what we want to do, is to be able to fix the Belizean economy to put Belize in a sustainable path, to address the issue of the debt and address the issue of poverty and the economy and to create opportunities for everyone,” Hon. Briceño said.

Prime Minister Briceño also said that at this time his government is not planning to broaden the tax base by taxing zero-rated items, as recommended by the IMF.

“What we are looking at is trying to address what is in front of us. The whole issue of how we can get the economy going, how we can collect the taxes we should be collecting. And once we address those issues, I believe we are going to be fine. But only time will tell as to what exactly needs to be done. Right now, we have set our targets and we believe we can reach our targets if everybody does their part,” said Hon. Briceño.

Also, when he was asked to give an update on the status of the dialogue with the bondholders, the Prime Minister said that negotiations have begun in earnest.

“We will not start the actual negotiations, and we are very optimistic, we are very hopeful that we will be able to restructure the Superbond and to be able to save a large sum of money for the Belizean people,” said Hon. Briceño.

Cattle breeders trained in IVF/embryonic transfer



by Dayne Guy

BELMOPAN, Mon. June 21, 2021

On Monday, June 24, the Minister of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise, Hon. Jose Abelardo Mai, alongside a delegation of livestock officers and private livestock breeders from across the country, visited the Princess Hotel in the Corozal Free Zone to attend a session on bovine embryonic transplantation using in-vitro fertilization.

The sessions were led by Mexican experts in the field, Dr. Juan Carlos Barros, Mr. Tobias Vasquez Casalez, Mr. Carlos Ortiz Manzo, and Mr. Eli Eric Rodriguez Arevalo, and their presentations covered all aspects of embryo transfer protocol and techniques.

In-vitro fertilization is an advanced reproductive technology that allows for more selective breeding. The Ministry of Agriculture is currently exploring the use of selective cattle breeding for genetic livestock

improvement at the Central Farm Station. In-vitro fertilization and embryo transfers are two of the methods the ministry is intending to initialize to increase the quality of beef and meat exports.

In-vitro fertilization (IVF) for livestock has many advantages and may make it easier for farmers to produce higher-quality animal products in a faster, more efficient way. IVF allows breeders to improve the genetic makeup being passed on through livestock generations by selecting its most profitable animals (for example, cows that generate more, better-tasting milk; or cows with the most succulent meat) and replicating their traits.

Furthermore, it allows for livestock to produce more offspring than would normally be produced, and in a shorter period of time. Research from progressivedairy.org states that even pregnant donors may still reproduce throughout the first trimester of their pregnancy.

UN votes to end Cuba embargo; Biden refuses

BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021

Today, the United Nations General Assembly adopted for the 29th time a resolution calling for the end of the economic, commercial, and financial embargo against Cuba, which was supported by almost all member nations, but was opposed by the United States and Israel — both of whom have held on to their unwavering stance for decades.

At the end of the day's vote, 184 countries, an overwhelming majority, voted against the blockade, described by the Cuban front as “an act of genocide.” The United States had voted against the UN resolution for 24 years before abstaining for the first time in 2016 under the administration of President Barack Obama.

The relationship that was beginning to take shape between Washington and Havana disintegrated after the election of former President Donald Trump, who intensified the embargo and even placed Cuba on a list of terrorist sponsors. Interestingly, President Joe Biden, the US vice-president during the Obama administration, had vowed, during his campaign, to relax some portions of the embargo against the country. This recent US vote at the UN breaks away from those campaign promises.

In an interview with *Amandala*, the Cuban Ambassador to Belize, H.E. Lissette Perez, said that the unilateral measures that the US is imposing on Cuba are illegal and against international law.

“The majority of the international community says yes to the resolution and no to the blockade. That was the strong message that the international community sent today to the US,” H.E. Perez said.

While only the US Congress has the authority to lift the blockade, Ambassador Perez pointed out that President Biden has executive powers to relax a lot of measures currently affecting Cuba.

“The President of the United States has a lot of power to release and remove a lot of measures. It's what Obama did in his period. He started a new policy, he started a new policy and he took some executive power in terms of travel to Cuba... [With] the President that came after that, this was all set back, and let me tell you, more than 200 measures were established by that administration,” Ambassador Perez said.

The 200 measures continue to limit the livelihood of the Cuban people and prevent the country from becoming a more meaningful contributor to Latin American and Caribbean affairs.

“This is very important for the region, because Cuba is a good friend of CARICOM, we are a good friend in the region offering and promoting cooperation and solidarity. This kind of policy against Cuba is bad for the region in terms of cooperation among us,” said Ambassador Perez.

Over the years there have been overt and covert sanctions against companies and countries which have attempted to engage in trade and diplomatic relations

with Cuba. Ambassador Perez noted that this weakens the region and limits cooperation.

“[To] sanction the company that tries to invest in Cuba, the persecution of companies that tries to do business with Cuba, the persecution of the financial transactions in order that no penny go into the Cuban economy; the object is very cruel. We call it genocide, not because we want; it is a genocide,” the ambassador said.

“The blockade has caused incalculable humanitarian damages. It is a flagrant, massive and systematic violation of human rights,” Cuba's Foreign Minister, Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, said in a 2019 statement. “It qualifies as an act of genocide under Articles II (b) and (c) of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted in 1948. There is not one single Cuban family that has not suffered the consequences of this,” he had noted.

The standing embargo against the Cuban people and government has its origins in the Cold War. Revolutionary leader Fidel Castro seized power from US-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista and reformed Cuba's political and economic system alongside his band of revolutionaries.

The United States made multiple attempts to topple the Castro regime, all of which failed, making Cuba the only country in our region with a Marxist-Leninist socialist political system. The United States has been adamantly against the political and economic ideology of the country since the late 1950s.

In her comments on the the United States' stance, Ambassador Perez said, “The spirit of the US in this matter is very illegal and immoral because they want to create a very dangerous situation in Cuba affecting the people, affecting the population, with the objective to remove our political and economical system. This is the main objective that they have had for many years, for 50 years, and we are still here, we are still here. They are still applying this kind of policy that made our people suffer, and we have to denounce that at the United Nations, and we do that in all the international forums, and of course, we can count on the international community in this [matter] because the countries know that it is illegal, that it is unfair and that it is a crime against Cuba.”

She said that the resilience of the people and the understanding of the objective of the powers against them has caused them to remain steadfast and dedicated to the ideology of the revolution. However, with the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic last year, the people of Cuba have been greatly affected by the blockade.

“We feel the external pressure of the US in this regard, but you know, our people are very resilient of that, we are very resilient and we have the consciousness [of] what is happening and what this policy means for Cuba, but of course, in the Covid pandemic, in 2020 it has been more cruel because this kind of policy prevents the arrival



of supplies to Cuba,” Ambassador Perez said.

She revealed that over the first year of the pandemic, the country has been deprived of diagnostic kits, ventilators and various other supplies the country needs for its health system.

“Believe me, in 2020, in the pandemic, the blockade has been even worse. It's something that all the countries seen, and no one can say that the blockade did not affect Cuba. It is the main obstacle for the development of my country and the main obstacle to the human rights of my country. We need to lift these unilateral measures, we need to live in peace and we need to live in cooperation.”

During his remarks, the U.S

ambassador to the United Nations told the UN General Assembly that the sanction's purpose was to “advance democracy” and “promote respect for the human rights of the Cuban people.” According to Reuters, he said, “We recognize the challenges the Cuban people face. That is why the United States is a significant supplier of humanitarian goods to the Cuban people and one of Cuba's principal trading partners.”

Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez also mentioned the difficulty in acquiring medical equipment during the pandemic due to the sanctions. “Like the virus, the blockade asphyxiates and kills, it must stop,” Minister Rodriguez said.

John McAfee dead at 75

(From page 1)

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

Computer genius and antivirus software pioneer, John McAfee reportedly died in a prison cell in Barcelona, Spain, on Wednesday afternoon. An initial investigation indicated that he could have died by suicide.

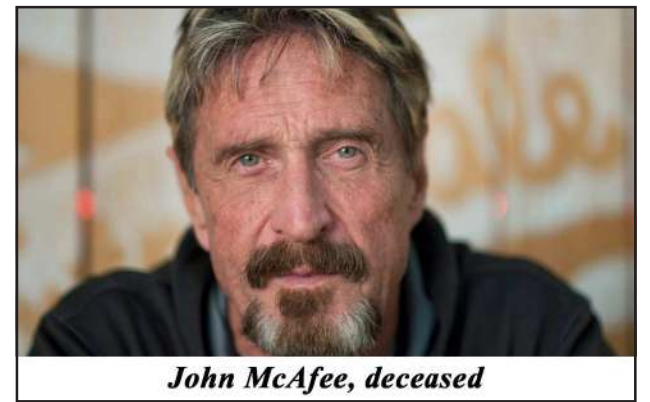
McAfee, who had resided in Belize for a number of years on the island of San Pedro, was being sought by Belize's Police Department in connection with the death of his neighbor, Gregory Faull, on the island back in 2012.

He was never questioned or charged for the crime in Belize, since he reportedly fled through the Belizean jungles and absconded to Guatemala before being detained by authorities.

McAfee later showed up back in the United States and was sued by the family of Gregory Faull and found liable in Florida.

McAfee subsequently left the US and traveled to Europe, where an order for his extradition back to the US was approved by Spain's National Court in Madrid earlier this week.

Last October he was arrested in Spain after being found guilty of tax evasion for three separate tax years,



John McAfee, deceased

2016, 2017, and 2018, and of promoting a cryptocurrency scam that yielded almost 13 million dollars. The amount of taxes he owed to the United States was not specified.

The Associated Press reported that McAfee called the charges against him “politically motivated” during a virtual hearing in a Spanish court earlier this month.

The last 20 years of McAfee's life were unusual. After fleeing Belize to avoid being implicated for the death of his neighbor, he spent some time in Guatemala before moving to Montreal. He later worked on a documentary project chronicling his life and ran for president of the United States in 2017 as a Libertarian. Hoping for a comeback on the technology front, he had announced the launch of a new security software which he had called a “f—ing game changer”.



UDP in disarray

A little over six months ago the United Democratic Party (UDP) had the majority in the House of Representatives, and everyone who knows the political realities in our country is aware that this meant the party's leaders had near unchallenged power. Belize chose to continue the Westminster System when it became an independent country in 1981, and term after term, with few exceptions, successive governments have eroded that highly respected and functional system until all the honor has been washed out of it.

No party disappointed the people of Belize more than the UDP when it came to power in 2008. The previous administration, the People's United Party (PUP), featured a few powerful individuals who were not very honest when their party had control of our finances and natural resources, and the UDP came to power on a promise to improve our governance so that no leaders would ever again be able to raid our resources with impunity.

The UDP failed to address the serious governance issues, and gradually, over its terms (3) in office, it became just like or worse than the ones whom we and they had condemned. The party was shellacked in the general elections in November 2020, 26 to 5, and again in the municipal elections in March 2021, 65 to 2, and now finds itself in major disarray.

The party's leadership problems began over a matter of succession, and it began prior to the 2020 general elections. Belize's Constitution only allows a political leader to hold the seat of prime minister for three terms, and the UDP's leader,

Dean Barrow, had sat as prime minister after leading his party to three consecutive general election victories.

Barrow, an astute and committed politician, secured his victories by taking advantage of an ideological war inside the main opposition party, PUP; spending soft loan funds derived from the Alba Petro Caribe Program and royalties/taxes from recently discovered oil wells in Spanish Lookout on glitzy projects that created the illusion that his party was growing the economy; and calling a snap election that got his party past the post in the 2015 general elections before the horrible details of the transaction to get back BTL (Belize Telemedia Ltd.) were revealed.

Replacing its most successful leader with respect to election victories has been difficult for the UDP and great theater for the people. When the selection of a new leader of the UDP became necessary, all eyes were on Hon. Patrick Faber and Hon. John Saldivar, and it was a near certainty that one of the two would emerge with the crown. Those two joined the UDP as youths; by

the 1990s they had emerged as favorites of the party, and in 2003 both of them entered and became permanent residents in the House.

Barrow, however, apparently favored a senator, Hon. Mike Peyrefitte, to become the new leader of the party. Peyrefitte, who didn't have a seat in the House of Representatives, was aiming to become the standard bearer for the UDP in Port Loyola and, realizing that success for Peyrefitte could negatively impact the aspirations both shared, Faber and Saldivar became bedfellows and threw their support behind Philip Willoughby, who was running against Peyrefitte. Willoughby won.

Barrow retired from electoral politics, but he wasn't done with holding influence over the party. He installed his sister, Denise Barrow, as standard bearer in the Queen's Square Division, which he had won in eight consecutive general elections, and he installed his son, Moses "Shyne" Barrow, as standard bearer in Mesopotamia, the stomping grounds of Moses Barrow's uncle, Michael Finnegan, who was also retiring.

Faber and Saldivar faced off at the Belize Civic Center in Belize City in February 2020 for the vacant post of leader of the UDP, and with Moses Barrow and Denise Barrow putting their support behind Saldivar, he was victorious. However, mere days after gaining the prize he had sought so feverishly, Saldivar had to step down after evidence surfaced that he had lied to the Prime Minister about his association with a US felon, Lev Dermin.

Inexplicably, Saldivar ran again when the UDP held a subsequent convention, in July 2020, to choose a new party leader, but this time the Barrows, Denise and Moses, threw their support behind Faber, who won a closely contested race. Stale, corrupt to the marrow, and divided, Faber and the UDP were trounced in the general elections in November 2020, and the municipal elections in March 2021.

As leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, Faber has been unable or unwilling to get into bed with leaders of the UDP who are perceived to have become some of the worst crooks in the country when they held office, and he has been dogged by volatile relationships with women. The people of Belize don't consider Faber to be corrupt, which is a plus, but his not compromising with the wing of the UDP who are happy to say they are not as corrupt as the PUP, has him out on a limb.

Opportunists, or his enemies, moved to remove Faber as leader of the UDP after a tape emerged which showed him in an unseemly domestic situation with the mother of one of his children. This week Hon. Moses Barrow took a letter to the Governor General to inform her that Faber no longer enjoys the support of the majority of the UDP members in the House and that he should be anointed as the new Leader of the Opposition. Faber, shortly, will also be tested at a convention after 290 delegates of the party signed a recall petition because, they say, his personal conduct, in respect to certain relationships with women, makes him unfit to serve the party as leader.

The UDP is in disarray, in an all-out war between a group that says it isn't as corrupt as the PUP which the people ousted in 2008, and a group that might not be pro-good-governance but is clearly not hell-bent on robbing the country's assets. Because of the depth of the division within the party, it is likely that a consensus leader will not emerge for some time yet.

The rumble within UDP ranks has created a vacuum, one that one or all of the third parties in the country would have been able to capitalize on, if their viability wasn't severely curtailed by our stifling first-past-the-post electoral system. So they, like the rest of us, can only stand on the sidelines gawking at the spectacle of this former monster—in total disarray.



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Aye, Wi Di Feel Di Pinch!



by Rudolph A. Neal

money in the bank. A good friend of mine usually says, “the eagle land”! But at this time, however, da nuh no eagle land — da blackbird pitch!

Teachers and public servants across this country are currently grappling with the grim statement from their accounts. Finances are in disarray, and personal economic balance is tipping one way or the other, and it doesn't look good! This is because accounts are reflecting a significant dip in their salaries, and they are utterly confounded by this sudden drop. I mean, despite the fact that it was negotiated and discussed over a protracted period of time, hearing about a 10% salary reduction and actually seeing it rear its callous wrath is a whole other story.

Well, the “blackbird pitch,” and as its name and proverbial meaning implies, it brought unadulterated grimness and grief for many. A large bulk of teachers will lose in excess of \$200 monthly, while a chunk will lose upwards of \$300, and then

others \$400 plus dollars each month! This is merely the 10% reduction, having not even taken into account the losses that will be accrued and pegged to this from the increment freeze.

So go figure how hard-hit the teachers and public servants all over this country have been with the pitching of this “blackbird”. They are literally marred by this most apathetic “Hail Mary” that has been invoked by this government as a sort of panacea to save the ailing economy. The financial shock and impact being felt among this group is most salient and profound — melancholic despair for many.

While many detractors may want to say or think it's just a cut or it is just 10%, for many of those affected, it is the proverbial loose gravel that lies menacingly on sustenance highway. It is eerily synonymous to that sharp deadly curve unbeknownst to the driver that will send their economic vehicle careening out of control and eventually cause them to

crash! More than just that, there is the trickling down effect. Many of these “economic vehicles” are carrying more than two passengers. Apart from the driver and the passenger, there are dependents sitting at the back who depend on the driver and the passenger to see them through, (financially) that is.

Therefore, the negative implications of this salary reduction are more far-reaching than not. It is not only the primary recipients who are affected, but all those in line who (too) depend on their salaries. Without a doubt, I tell you, aye, people di feel the pinch — and oh, does it hurt and leave a bruise. So, as one's body aches from the pinch of this cut and as the mind spirals aimlessly, seeking ways to cope, the soul seeks without recourse to soothe the bruise; all longing for the day when the eagle will land once more and the pain from this pinch will dissipate.

Unchained Reflections Of A Liberal Pragmatist.



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ASSISTANT MANAGER, INTERNAL AUDIT

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Internal Audit Department.

The Assistant Manager, Internal Audit, will assist the Chief Internal Auditor (CIA) in coordinating the daily operations and planning the strategic direction of the Internal Audit Department. The incumbent will assist in integrating audit services throughout the Bank, providing objective assurance to Executive Management and the Audit Committee on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal controls at the Bank. The Assistant Manager, Internal Audit, will respect the value and ownership of information; be prudent in the use and protection of information acquired in the course of duties; and will not use information received in any manner contrary to the law or detrimental to the legitimate and ethical objectives of the Bank.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate Internal Audit activities under the guidelines of the Central Bank's Internal Audit Manual and procedures, the International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF), and the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS);
- Assist in developing and managing the overall audit strategy and annual risk-based audit work plan;
- Coordinate and integrate the sub-activities and work programs of the Internal Audit Department to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Bank's operations, reliability of financial reporting, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Oversee the development of objectives for audit engagements by Internal Auditors;
- Direct and counsel audit staff during the performance of the audit process and review work for sufficiency of scope and accuracy;
- Provide consulting services to management on establishing appropriate systems and procedures and maintaining a strong and effective control environment;
- Monitor Internal Auditors' "follow-up" on management's response to audit recommendations and report on implementation of agreed corrective measures;
- Appraise the adequacy of corrective actions to improve deficient conditions;
- Assist in investigating suspected fraudulent activity and report findings to the Bank's Senior Management and Audit Committee;
- Identify and organize staff development training; and
- Ensure the effective execution of Internal Audit Department's objectives through the planning and monitoring of activities.

The applicants should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A Master's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field from a recognized university, with at least three (3) years' relevant experience. Professional certification in internal auditing and/or accounting would be an asset; **OR**
- A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or other related field with at least six (6) years' relevant experience in accounting, auditing, or Central Banking. Recognized professional qualification would be an asset.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of the Central Bank of Belize Act, the Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act, internal control processes, auditing and accounting principles; investigative and reporting skills; ability to apply relevant methodologies and tools effectively to audit engagements; computer literate and proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Flexibility, Adaptability, Results Oriented, Organizational Awareness, Communication Skills, Personal Credibility, Analytical Thinking, Leadership, Decision Making, Problem Solving.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 30 June 2021**:

- CBB Employment Application Form (Available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Three (3) current references (one must be from a previous employer)
- Certified copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Assistant Manager, Internal Audit- Internal Audit Department

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Commercial space of 2,051 sq. ft. for rent at ground level at #28 Dean Street, Belize City. Asking \$800.00 monthly. Please contact CWU at 227-2150 or cwu.belize@gmail.com

VACANCY

VACANCY: Job opportunity: Radiologist and X-Ray Technician. Please call phone number 224-5778 for more information.

NOTICE

NOTICE: Cornie Courier Service 650-6363. For quick efficient, reliable long (\$10.00) and short (\$5.00). Food pick up. \$280.00 for week.

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby that VINTAGE CORKER WINE BAR is applying for a Restaurant Liquor Licence, to be operated at Puesto Del Sol Bahia Apt., Caye Caulker, under the Intoxicating Liquor Licence Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby that Thomas Wilson is applying for a Liquor Licence, to be operated at H2O Tierra Ltd., Fadden Avenue Independence, Stann Creek, under the Intoxicating Liquor Licence Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

LIQUOR LICENCE NOTICE: Notice is hereby that Thomas Wilson is applying for a Liquor Licence, to be operated at H2O Tierra Ltd., Malacate, Independence, Stann Creek, under the Intoxicating Liquor Licence Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

TENDER NOTICE

TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING, THE OLD TREASURY BUILDING, THE COURT OF APPEAL, THE SUPREME COURT LAW LIBRARY BUILDING, AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S RESIDENCE.

Tenders are invited for the general security and surveillance of the Supreme Court Building, the Old Treasury Building, the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court Law Library Building and the Chief Justice's Residence.

1. The Tender shall be for a period of two (2) years (September 1st 2021 to August 31st 2023)
2. The successful Tender will be expected to provide the following security and surveillance to the following locations:
 - a. 24 hours security to the Supreme Court Building – 4 guards for 7 days per week
 - b. 24 hours security to the Old Treasury Building – 4 guards for 7 days per week
 - c. 24 hours security to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court Law Library Building – 2 guard for 6:00 a.m. to 6p.m. Monday to Friday.
 - d. 24 hours security service to the Chief Justice's Residence – 1 guard for 7 days per week
 - e. Daily bank deposit for General Registry Dept. – Monday to Friday

The cost incurred to visit the facilities to be guarded and the preparation of the bids is the sole responsibility of the Tenderer.

The lowest or any Tender may not necessarily be accepted.

Tenders are to be submitted in sealed envelopes marked "TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE SUPREME COURT BUILDING, THE OLD TREASURY BUILDING, THE COURT OF APPEAL, THE SUPREME COURT LAW LIBRARY BUILDING, AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE'S RESIDENCE" no later than 16th July at: 4:30p.m.

Envelopes to be delivered to: Registrar General
General Registry Department
Treasury Lane
Belize City, Belize

The General Registry Department
The Attorney General's Ministry



Sarah Viola Venueva Moses

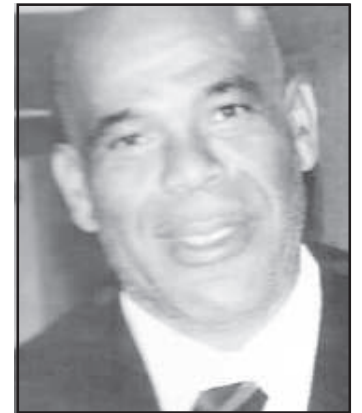
In loving and affectionate memory of a beloved mother, grandmother, Sarah Viola Venueva Moses Who departed this earthly life to eternal life on June 26, 1986, 35 sad years ago.

Jesus said, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment that you love one another.
Our beloved Sarah you impress.
In our heart and soul the gift of love.

Sadly missed by children, grandchildren and other relatives and friends.
Continue Rest in Peace in Christ Peace.



LLOYD VINCENT FAIRWEATHER,
who passed away five sad years ago – June 27, 2016.



They say time is a healer.
But as the time goes on
We seem to find it just as hard
To face the fact you're gone.
You'll never be forgotten
And every year we'll shed a tear,
But it's only because we love you
And wish you were still here.

Dearly missed by widow: Wilda Fairweather, daughters: Irma and Lloyd; brothers, sisters, and the rest of the family.

NOTICE

**GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER 7/2021**

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be \$83,200,000.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of \$200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Wednesday, 7 July 2021 and will be redeemed on Wednesday, 6 October 2021.

Each tender must be for \$200 or a multiple of \$200 and must specify to five decimal places the amount, which is offered for each one hundred dollars face value of the Bills sought.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 2 July 2021.

The Auction on the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Wednesday, 7 July 2021.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

**Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GL1CORP0402627**

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

14 June 2021



BELMOPAN BAPTIST HIGHSCHOOL

Banana Bank
PO Box 697
Belmopan Belize
Central America
Tel.: (501) 822-2437
bbhs_accts@yahoo.com

The Management Board of the Belmopan Baptist High School announces vacancies available for the following posts:

- Full Time English / Literature Teacher – Upper High School
- Temporary English/ Literature Teacher – Lower High School (September – October)
- Temporary Mathematics Teacher –Upper High School (September – November)

Qualifications:

- Applicants must have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in the subject area to be taught
- Experience in teaching at the Secondary Level
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Must be willing to work extra hours with students.
- A strong Christian background with high moral values and willing to lead by example.

Salary:

Commensurate with Government Pay Scale based upon qualification and experience.

Applicants must possess a valid Teacher's License

Applicants for this post must submit: letter of application accompanied by Curriculum Vitae, Recent Police Record, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate, Credentials signed by Justice of the Peace along with two letters of recommendation to the address below.

Board of Management
Belmopan Baptist High School
P.O. Box 697
The City of Belmopan
Cayo District

Deadline for Application is July 6th, 2021



El UDP en desorden

Hace poco más de seis meses, el Partido Demócrata Unido (UDP en inglés) tenía la mayoría en la Cámara de Representantes, y todos los que conocen la realidad política de nuestro país saben que eso significaba que los líderes del partido tenían un poder casi indiscutible. Belize optó por continuar con el Sistema de Westminster cuando se convirtió en un país independiente en 1981, y período tras período, con pocas excepciones, los gobiernos sucesivos han erosionado ese sistema altamente respetado y funcional hasta que todo el honor ha sido eliminado.

Ningún partido decepcionó más al pueblo de Belize que el UDP cuando llegó al poder en 2008. La administración anterior, el Partido Unido del Pueblo (PUP), contó con algunos individuos poderosos que no eran muy honestos cuando su partido tenía el control de nuestras finanzas y recursos naturales, y el UDP llegó al poder con la promesa de mejorar nuestra gobernanza para que ningún líder pueda volver a saquear nuestros recursos con impunidad.

El UDP no logró abordar los serios problemas de gobernanza y, gradualmente, a lo largo de sus términos (3) en el cargo, se volvió igual o peor que aquellos a quienes nosotros y ellos habíamos condenado. El partido fue apaleado en las elecciones generales de noviembre de 2020, 26 a 5, y nuevamente en las elecciones municipales de marzo de 2021, 65 a 2, y ahora se encuentra en un gran desorden.

Los problemas de liderazgo del partido comenzaron por una cuestión de sucesión y comenzaron antes de las elecciones generales de 2020. La Constitución de Belize solo permite que un líder político ocupe el puesto de primer ministro durante tres mandatos, y el líder del UDP, Dean Barrow, ocupó el cargo de primer ministro después de llevar a su partido a tres victorias consecutivas en las elecciones generales.

Barrow, un político astuto y comprometido, aseguró sus victorias aprovechando una guerra ideológica dentro del principal opositor partido, PUP; gastando fondos de préstamos blandos derivados del Programa Alba Petro Caribe y regalías/impuestos de pozos petroleros recientemente descubiertos en Spanish Lookout en proyectos ostentosos que crearon la ilusión de que su partido estaba haciendo crecer la economía; y convocar elecciones anticipadas que consiguieron que su partido pasara el cargo en las elecciones generales de 2015 antes de que se revelaran los horribles detalles de la transacción para recuperar BTL (Belize Telemedia Ltd.).

Reemplazar a su líder más exitoso con respecto a las victorias electorales ha sido difícil para el UDP y un gran teatro para el pueblo. Cuando se hizo necesaria la selección de un nuevo líder del UDP, todos los ojos estaban puestos en el Honorable Patrick Faber y el Honorable John Saldivar, y era casi seguro que uno de los dos saldría con la corona. Esos dos se unieron al UDP cuando eran jóvenes; en la década de los noventa se habían convertido en los favoritos del partido, y en 2003 ambos ingresaron y se convirtieron en residentes permanentes de la Cámara.

Barrow, sin embargo, aparentemente favoreció a un senador, el Honorable Mike Peyrefitte, para convertirse en el nuevo líder del partido. Peyrefitte, que no tenía un escaño en la Cámara de Representantes, tenía como objetivo convertirse en el abanderado del UDP en Port Loyola y, al darse cuenta de que el éxito de Peyrefitte podría afectar negativamente sus aspiraciones que ambos compartían, Faber y Saldivar se convirtieron en

compañeros de cama y apoyaron a Philip Willoughby, que competía contra Peyrefitte. Willoughby ganó.

Barrow se retiró de la política electoral, pero no dejó de tener influencia sobre el partido. Instaló a su hermana, Denise Barrow, como abanderada en la División de Queen's Square, que había ganado en ocho elecciones generales consecutivas, e instaló a su hijo, Moses "Shyne" Barrow, como abanderado en Mesopotamia, el terreno que contralaba el tío de Moses Barrow, Michael Finnegan, que también se jubilaba.

Faber y Saldivar se enfrentaron en el Centro Cívico de Belize en la Ciudad de Belize en febrero de 2020 por el puesto vacante de líder del UDP, y con Moses Barrow y Denise Barrow apoyando a Saldivar, salió victorioso. Sin embargo, pocos días después de obtener el premio que había buscado tan febrilmente, Saldivar tuvo que renunciar después de que surgieron pruebas de que le había mentado al Primer Ministro sobre su asociación con un delincuente estadounidense, Lev Dermen.

Inexplicablemente, Saldivar volvió a postularse cuando el UDP celebró una convención posterior, en julio de 2020, para elegir un nuevo líder del partido, pero esta vez los Barrows, Denise y Moses, dieron su apoyo a Faber, quien ganó una reñida contienda. Añejos, corruptos hasta la médula y divididos, Faber y el UDP fueron derrotados en las elecciones generales de noviembre de 2020 y en las municipales de marzo de 2021.

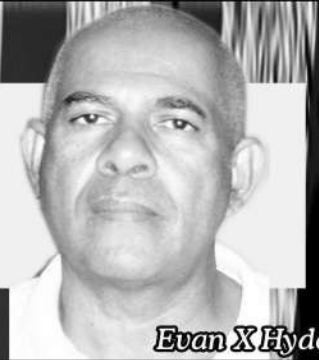
Como líder de la Oposición de Su Majestad, Faber no ha podido o no ha querido meterse en la cama con líderes del UDP que se percibe que se convirtieron en algunos de los peores delincuentes del país cuando ocupaban el cargo, y ha sido perseguido por relaciones volátiles con mujeres. El pueblo de Belize no considera que Faber sea corrupto, lo cual es una ventaja, pero el hecho de que no se comprometa con el ala del UDP, que está feliz de decir que no es tan corrupta como el PUP, lo pone en una situación complicada.

Los oportunistas, o sus enemigos, se movieron para destituir a Faber como líder del UDP luego de que surgiera una cinta que lo mostraba en una indecorosa situación doméstica con la madre de uno de sus hijos. Esta semana el Honorable Moses Barrow llevó una carta a la gobernadora general para informarle que Faber ya no cuenta con el apoyo de la mayoría de los miembros del UDP en la Cámara y que él debería ser ungido como el nuevo líder de la oposición. Faber, en breve, también será probado en una convención luego de que 290 delegados del partido firmaron una petición de destitución porque, dicen, su conducta personal, con respecto a ciertas relaciones con mujeres, lo hace incapacitado para servir al partido como líder.

El UDP está en desorden, en una guerra total entre un grupo que dice que no es tan corrupto como el PUP que la gente derrocó en 2008, y un grupo que podría no estar a favor de la buena gobernanza pero claramente no está empeñado en robar los activos del país. Debido a la profundidad de la división dentro del partido, es probable que todavía no surja un líder de consenso durante algún tiempo.

El estruendo dentro de las filas del UDP ha creado un vacío, uno que uno o todos los terceros partidos en el país habrían podido capitalizar, si su viabilidad no hubiera sido severamente restringida por nuestro sofocante sistema electoral. Así que ellos, como el resto de nosotros, solo pueden quedarse al margen, boquiabiertos ante el espectáculo de este antiguo monstruo, en total desorden.

From the Publisher



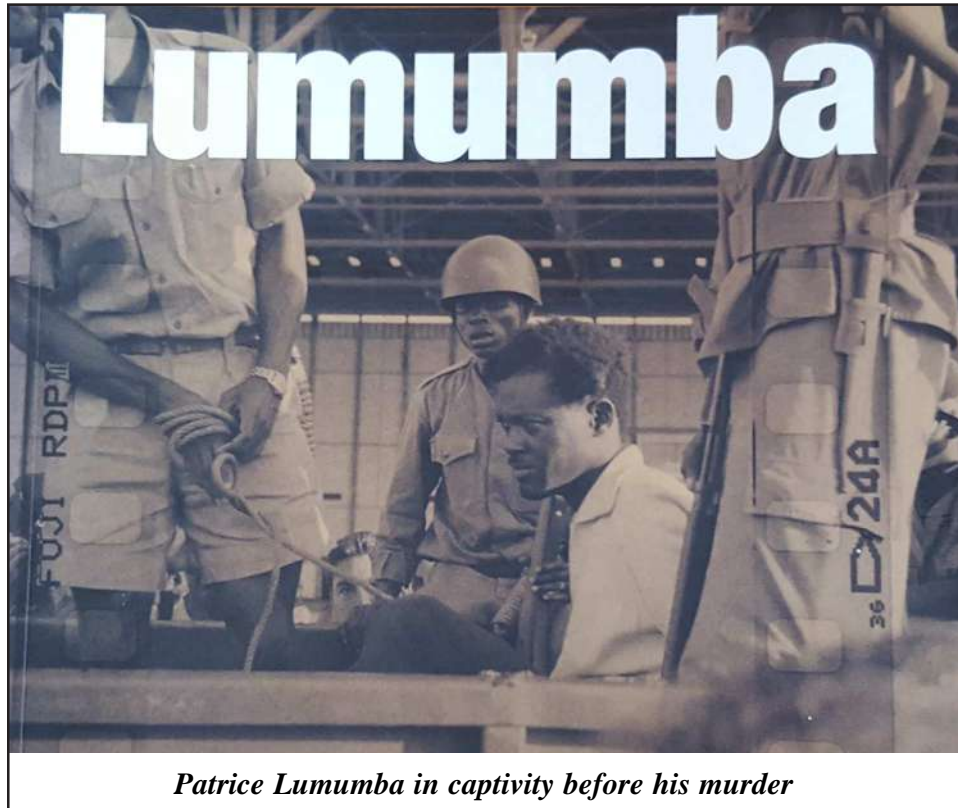
Evan X Hyde

Seven years earlier, on the death of his father (1865), Leopold II had inherited the distinctive title by which his country's monarchs were known, King of the Belgians. Belgium itself was barely older than its young monarch. After spells of Spanish, Austrian, French, and Dutch rule, it had only become independent in 1830, following a revolt against Holland. Any respectable country of course needed a king, and the infant nation had gone looking for one, finally settling on a German prince, related to the British royal family, who had taken the Belgian throne as Leopold I.

-from pg. 33, *King Leopold's Ghost*, by Adam Hochschild, Houghton Mifflin, 1999

Congolese independence was primarily an expression of the anti-colonial revolution which pitted the colonialist North against the colonized South. Since World War II, millions of people had thrown off the yoke of colonialism through strikes, civil disobedience movements and full-scale wars -- India in 1947, China in 1949, Vietnam in 1954. A war of liberation had been raging in Algeria since 1954, the second war in Indochina broke out in 1957, and the Cuban people had overthrown Batista's semi-colonial regime in 1959.

Sub-Saharan Africa was no exception. In 1953, four African states were members of the UN; by the end of 1960 there were twenty-six African member states. The UN declared 1960 the Year of Africa; no



Patrice Lumumba in captivity before his murder

less than sixteen states on the black continent gained their independence that year, and the largest and potentially richest of them was the Congo. To counter the obstacle that independence represented, the West had to change its policy of overt domination for one of indirect control, and new national leaders had to learn to respect the neo-colonial order.

-from pg. 40, the PREFACE to the English-language edition of *The Assassination of Lumumba*, by Ludo De Witte (translated by Ann Wright and Renee Fenby), Verso, 2001.

"The UN declared 1960 the Year of Africa ..."

When the (Belgian) Congo became an independent country in June of 1960, I was 13 years old and in the 2A class at St. John's College, a Roman Catholic high school for young males run by the Jesuits. There was only one radio station in the colony of British Honduras in 1960 – the British Honduras Broadcasting Service (BHBS). When the Congo began to disintegrate politically soon after independence, and the names of the Congolese principals in the drama – Lumumba, Tshombe, Mobutu, and Kasavubu — began to resound on the 12:30 and 7:00 p.m. BHBS newscasts, it became commonplace for our youth to use these names to deride our contemporaries who were

darker in skin color and supposedly more African in features.

Personally, I am what is commonly known as "mulatto" – half African and half European. I have a little Indigenous blood from Nicaragua's Mosquito Coast. But I was unlike most mixed-race people in Belize, because my late mother (Elinor Belisle Hyde) had made all her children know from an early age that our great grandmother on her side was the daughter of a "coal black" woman (Elizabeth Kingston) and her Spanish husband (Jose Escarpeta) from the village of Sittee River. So, we Hyde children had a modicum of black consciousness.

Our social situation was complicated further by the fact that we were children of a mixed marriage, religiously speaking. Our father was Roman Catholic, but our mother was a devout Methodist. Such types of marriage were very, very rare in the 1940s here: you married inside your religion.

Denominational religion was even more serious business back then than it is today, and the leading churches were the Roman Catholics, the Anglicans, and the Methodists, which controlled almost all the primary and high schools. There were a few Baptist and Nazarene schools, also Salvation Army, but the Evangelicals were not in evidence the way they are today.

I was basically an innocent in 1960 where regional and world affairs were concerned. I remember that the BHBS news, on one occasion at least, spoke about the rape of Belgian nuns (presumably white) by Congolese soldiers (black, of course.)

There are stories I have not told you over all these years, but these stories have some relevance for me as I go over the atrocities wrought by King Leopold II of Belgium in the Congo in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the outrageous murder of Patrice Lumumba in early 1961.

When you look at an African country like Ethiopia or Somalia or the Sudan, you will see some brown people. But our consciousness of the Congo even now, and of course in 1960, was that these were the blackest people one could imagine.

I remember when I entered Dartmouth College in 1965, there was an upperclassman in the school from Ghana whose name was Frank Mwine. It quickly became clear to me that he detested the very ground I walked on. It is not unusual for black people to dislike brown people, one reason being that browns are usually the product of sex between white men



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)

RFQ NUMBERS: 535-21-001/535-21-002

DATE: June 21, 2021

Peace Corps Belize has a need for 2 vehicle(s). Peace Corps is soliciting fixed-price quotations from the vendor community for the vehicle(s) detailed below.

Item	Description	Qty
001	4x4 SUV with Automatic Transmission	1
002	4x4 SUV with Manual Transmission	1

Interested vendors wishing to submit a quotation should contact the Director of Management and Operations at the address below for vehicle additional specifications and RFQ form.

Name: Director of Management and Operations
 Address: 7069 George Price Boulevard, Belmopan
 E-mail: BZ-DMO@peacecorps.gov

Quotations are due no later than 5pm on July 14th, 2021. Late quotations will not be accepted.



STAFF VACANCIES

Our Vision requires talented and skilled Professionals with a passion to serve the Caribbean Community and who are able to align with our Core Values of Professionalism, Integrity, Respect, Commitment and Teamwork.

We are inviting applications from suitable and qualified professionals who fit this profile and who are nationals of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States and Associate Members of the Caribbean Community to fill the undermentioned positions:

DUTY STATION - GUYANA

- i. Deputy Programme Manager, Education
- ii. Deputy Programme Manager, Internal Audit

Full details of these positions may be obtained by accessing the following websites - www.caricom.org; www.oecs.org and www.caribbeanjobsonline.com

Interested candidates are required to apply using the CARICOM Secretariat's Recruitment Portal which can be accessed at https://caricom.org/opportunities_category/caricom-secretariat-vacancies/

The deadline for the submission of applications is 9 July 2021.

*Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advanced to the next stage of the selection process.

From the Publisher

Continued from Page 9

and black women. I didn't pay much attention to Mwine, because amongst the foreign students in my class I had met a black African from Malawi with whom I struck up an almost instant friendship – the late Guy Mhone.

I would have been in 2A at SJC between 1960 and 1961, to repeat, during the crazy Congo crisis, how crazy I would not have known at the time. One afternoon in 2A, I saw an incident which has remained with me all these years. The teacher in a Latin or English class was a handsome, blonde Jesuit by the name of Richard Hadel. Something must have bugged him out, or perhaps he had already been angry since the lunch break at the Faculty Building. But suddenly he strolled angrily to the back row of the class, where a tall, languid, black student by the name of Richard Simon

was seated. (I can't swear for that student's name. We're talking about 1960/61 here). My recollection is that Hadel smashed the back of this student's head against the wall dividing 2A from 2B, and then took a stance as if he were ready to fight with the student, who did not respond to his aggression. (I can't remember if he had made the student stand up before smashing his head.)

In Standard VI at Holy Redeemer Boys School in 1958 or 1959, I had watched a nun brutalize some students, at least a dozen of them, who were members of the school band and had angered her in some way. The nun was a favorite of mine, Sister Francine, and became a favorite of my family, so much so that my mom named her youngest child (and second daughter) after Sister Mary Francine.

Many, many years afterwards, I called one of the students who had been brutalized on the calves with a stick to check something about the incident. Amazingly to me, his concern was that I was about to publicize something which would embarrass his Roman Catholic church. See, I told you, denominational religion is serious business.

As the child of a mixed marriage, religiously speaking, I did not have that same level of intensity, even though I served Mass at the Holy Redeemer diocese for a couple years. My mom had sworn, as part of her marriage vows, to raise all her children as Roman Catholics, and she never interfered with our religious upbringing. But, her fidelity to Methodism had an unspoken influence on us, at least on me.

Anyway, in 2A in 1960 we had a mathematics teacher who was dark-skinned and, I later learned, came from a Sittee River village family. We used to call him "Jack Slade" behind his back. Many years later, I met that teacher's older brother, and his older brother and I became good friends. But one day in 2A, the math teacher used a white Guatemalan student by the name of Carlos Remis to embarrass me in geometry. Perhaps the teacher thought too much was being made of my academic exploits in First Form, and he wanted to put me in my place. Fair enough. I always wanted to ask him about it, but when I came back from America, he had migrated to Los Angeles, and he's never returned.

I've given you a couple anecdotes from 1960 in Belize at SJC when all hell was breaking loose in the Congo, where millions of Congolese had been mutilated and murdered by King Leopold II, in his quest for riches and glory. Patrice Lumumba was a sincere Congolese leader whose murder the Belgians orchestrated, using Lumumba's fellow Congolese – Tshombe and Mobutu. The Congo is perhaps the richest country in the world, where natural resources are concerned, but the Congolese people are the most destitute in the world. This story must be told.



**NOTIFICATION OF CONTRACT AWARD
(Procurement of Works)**

Project Country: Belize
Financing Institution: Inter-American Development Bank
Sector: Environment and Natural Disasters
Project Name: Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
Title: Protective Works Package 2 – Pumping Station and Breakwater
Procurement Method: Limited International Bidding
Procurement Type: Works
Loan No.: 4426/OC-BL
Contract No.: 2 of 2021/2022

During the bidding process for the Works indicated above, the evaluated bidders, bid price at opening, the evaluated bid price and awarded bidder are as follows:

Protective Works Package 2 - Evaluated Bidders	Country	Bid Opening Price (BZD)	Evaluated Bid Price (BZD)
De'Mar's Stone Company Ltd.	Belize	\$8,629,173.96	\$8,629,173.96
Medina's Construction Ltd.	Belize	\$9,882,371.35	\$9,943,498.53
Maheia's United	Belize	\$8,352,404.30	-
International Environments Ltd.	Belize	\$11,131,924.24	\$11,081,924.42

Protective Works Package 2 - Rejected Bidders	Country	Bid Opening Price (BZD)	Evaluated Bid Price (BZD)
Maheia's United	Belize	\$8,352,404.30	-

Awarded Bidder	Medina's Construction Limited
Country of Awarded Bidder	Belize
Contract Price	BZ\$8,312,678.21
Country of Award of Bidder	Belize
Date Contract Signed	May 20 th , 2021
Duration of the contract	One year
UNDB Reference Number	IDB-C748832-05/21

Any bidder is entitled to a debriefing to ascertain the grounds on which its bid was not selected by making a formal request at the address indicated below.

Address: Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
 Attention: Mr. Rolando Chan, Program Coordinator
 1st Floor, Project Execution Unit Building,
 Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
 Power Lane, City of Belmopan
 Cayo District, Belize, Central America
 Tel: 501-822-0100 or 501-822-1942
 Email: cvrp.4426.2@gmail.com

Faber poster villain for anti-domestic violence movement

by Colin Hyde

All men who like to beat up women – according to some female Faber supporters that ilk is legion; it's culture here – yap, all guys who like Kermit the Frog “can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em”, must be plenty sore with Patrick, for the light on their disappointing activities has never been so glaring.

Poor Patrick, for he, based on what we know, never got the “whatever some men get” (some perverse, awful high) from muscling their consorts into line. He reportedly relieved the pain of their betrayal or disrespect on a windshield, and was it a door? But we really shouldn't cry for him. He was Minister of Sports, and that obtuse bohga didn't even recognize his own talent – fastest man in Belize.

Citrus looking hopeful

“And then I saw this...” — that line is from *Fiddler on the Roof*, words from the mouth of one of the few guys in the village, Anatevka, who could read. The difference between this piece and that piece is that that piece was a story of bad things happening to the Jews in Russia, and as the title says, here, hope is alive.

Our good news starts on page 11 of last Friday's *Amandala*, a little notice that the SSB had the confidence to propose to lend CPBL \$1.5million for working capital. Of course, the news could be better. Better news would have been that CPBL was lending the government \$1.5million, to help out with the pantry. Some years ago, CPBL was sitting so high, but today the citrus industry is flat on its butt. But all the signs are that in just a few

years the turnaround will be here, and the valley will be orange again.

Panama disease wiped out the banana industry in the early part of the last century, before a new variety of banana came on the scene. A little over twenty years ago, king coconut was on its knees because of lethal yellowing disease; now new varieties are showing the way. Citrus's fall came a little over a decade ago, because of a disease called citrus greening, and the past decade has been rough for citrus growers, but thanks to new varieties, there's a promising bud where there were only shriveled shoots.

Ah, resistance! I read this story in the foreign *Guardian*, about the fall of kiwi, the rise of kiwi, and the political battles between New Zealand and China over this fruit. In the *Guardian* story, “Kiwi Wars: the golden fruit fueling a war between New Zealand and China”, Tess McClure says that kiwi, an original from China, found a home in New Zealand, and it became one of the latter country's biggest exports.

You know the story of too big in agriculture. A disease came along and decimated kiwi, and the industry was in a state of collapse until plant breeders developed a kiwi with resistance to the disease. It happened that this variety, *Sungold*, also has some exceptional table qualities. Bah, a farmer in New Zealand smuggled bud wood over to mainland China, and now Chinese orchards are competing big-time with kiwi from New Zealand.

Re: the political war, I said bah, because Penguin New Zealand was the only one of the world's Penguin book publishers that read my *Whopper Snapper* and had the

kindness to wish me well with my lee book. Yes, I'm in New Zealand's corner here.

Citrus is a major foreign exchange earner, and the industry employs a lot of people, so any success is great news for Belize. There have been numerous failures in the industry since citrus greening hit, but there is hope now with a few varieties that have been developed in Florida. The story right now is that CPBL and the big farmers are planting new groves, and highly regarded CGA agronomist, Luis Tzul, says that after a year and a half out in the fields the trees look great.

Ah, this hope, it must have been so in the early days of the citrus industry. Unfortunately, though, only few small farmers are in on new planting. The constraints there are an insufficient amount of confidence at this point, and cost/availability of plants. Small growers took the hit from citrus greening hardest, and most of them just aren't sure about investing in the crop again until they see trailer loads of fruits rolling out of those new orchards to the factory.

The cost of new plants is prohibitive because of a \$2 fee Belize's nursery folk have to pay for the patented bud wood. With the cost of trees of the resistant varieties ranging from \$6.50 to \$8.50 each, small growers will continue to hold back on new plantings. And then there is the availability of plants and not being sure yet about the future.

Hmm, permanent residents eligible to fish again

This SI 57 that allows for permanent residents to apply to the Fisheries Administrator for a fishing license — I have to believe it's a Mike Espat SI,

and the Blue Economy ministry acquiesced. I say that because prior to the PUP being turned down at the polls in 2008, Mr. Espat was very much in the news on this permanent residency issue, and that's because the division he is in covers a sizable portion of the banana industry, which is very dependent on seasonal labor from Guatemala and Honduras. Also, in his division is the southern portion of our waters, and artisanal fisherfolk from the east coast of Guatemala and Honduras aren't exactly strangers.

OSPESCA, in a story at the website sica.int, expressed good thoughts about Rene Montero, then Minister responsible for Fisheries, for the bold and progressive 2010 decision “to address the growing concerns of Belizeans on a whole, and especially local fishermen that more and more nationalized Belizeans with absolutely no connection to Belize are getting fishing licenses and using these to fish in our waters and take their produce across the border into Guatemala and Honduras.”

That SI put control of the fishing permits totally in the hands of the Fisheries Administrator, and among other things, the applicant had to possess a bona fide ID — have “either a Belizean passport; or voter identification card along with proof of legal residence in Belize; or a Belize birth certificate along with a Belize identification card or a permanent residence card”.

A new SI in 2019 took away the eligibility of permanent residents to get fishing licenses to fish in our waters, because of reported overfishing. We have to expect that those who lost the franchise to fish mi very unhappy. Quite likely, some or all of those who had their license revoked, became illegal fisherfolk.

It's easy to understand why most fisherfolk would want permanent residents excluded. The less fisherfolk on the sea, the more catch for the ones who are out there.

There have been many changes in the fishing industry, new laws since I retired from the sea in 1977, and again in 2005. I have not renewed my fisherman's license, and I'm not sure that I will be welcomed if I get the opportunity to return to the world where I grew up. I hope so.

This fishing story can be resolved very quickly if the new government takes a progressive approach. Belize has to explore deeper waters. Belize also has to explore small-scale farming of marine species. This type of farming will not have much disease pressure, and it will absorb many fisherfolk who are disgruntled because the areas where they work are not rich with produce. You have to feel for the cases the Blue Economy minister mentioned, but under this present uncreative management of our fisheries, our fisherfolk have big reasons to complain.

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTIES

Camalote Village, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Corporation Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the below described property. Sales currently running and will expire Tuesday 28th June 2021 at the time shown on the website.

Parcel Nos. 2710 & 2711 Society Hall, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION
Society Hall

BLOCK
24

PARCELS
2710 & 2711

(Being a concrete bungalow dwelling house [5,324 sq. ft.] containing 7 bedrooms + 5 1/2 bathrooms + living/dining/kitchen + porch + timber deck and board walk to gazebo + 3 car garage [968 sq. ft.] and lots [3,292.185 S. M.] situate on a road on the south side of the George Price Highway near Mile 49 1/2, Camalote Village, Cayo District, the freehold properties of Mr. David Ferrier & Edith Ferrier)

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

Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Face Book: Belize Auctions

FROM THE PUBLISHER en Español

Siete años antes, a la muerte de su padre (1865), Leopoldo II había heredado el título distintivo con el que se conocía a los monarcas de su país, Rey de los Belgas. La propia Bélgica era apenas mayor que su joven monarca. Después de períodos de dominio español, austriaco, francés y holandés, solo se había independizado en 1830, luego de una revuelta contra Holanda. Cualquier país respetable, por supuesto, necesitaba un rey, y la naciente nación había ido en busca de uno, finalmente decidiéndose por un príncipe alemán, pariente de la familia real británica, que había tomado el trono belga como Leopoldo I.

- de la pág. 33, *King Leopold's Ghost*, de Adam Hochschild, Houghton Mifflin, 1999

La independencia congoleña fue principalmente una expresión de la revolución anticolonial que enfrentó al norte colonialista contra el sur colonizado. Desde la Segunda Guerra Mundial, millones de personas se habían liberado del yugo del colonialismo a través de huelgas, movimientos de desobediencia civil y guerras a gran escala - India en 1947, China en 1949, Vietnam en 1954. Una guerra de liberación se había librado en Argelia desde 1954, la segunda guerra en Indochina estalló en 1957 y el pueblo cubano había derrocado el régimen semicolonial de Batista en 1959.

El África subsahariana no fue una excepción. En 1953, cuatro estados africanos eran miembros de la ONU; a finales de 1960 había veintiséis Estados miembros africanos. La ONU declaró 1960 el Año de África; no menos de dieciséis estados del continente negro obtuvieron su independencia ese año, y el más grande y potencialmente más rico de ellos fue el Congo. Para contrarrestar el obstáculo que representaba la independencia, el Occidente tuvo que cambiar su política de dominación abierta por una de control indirecto, y los nuevos líderes nacionales tuvieron que aprender a respetar el orden

neocolonial.

- de la pág. 40, PREFACIO a la edición en inglés de *The Assassination of Lumumba*, de Ludo De Witte (traducido por Ann Wright y Renee Fenby), Verso, 2001.

“La ONU declaró 1960 el Año de África...”

Cuando el Congo (belga) se convirtió en un país independiente en junio de 1960, yo tenía 13 años y estaba en la clase 2A en el Colegio San Juan, una escuela secundaria católica romana para hombres jóvenes dirigida por los jesuitas. Solo había una estación de radio en la colonia de Honduras Británica en 1960: el Servicio de Radiodifusión de Honduras Británica (BHBS en inglés). Cuando el Congo comenzó a desintegrarse políticamente poco después de la independencia, y los nombres de los principales congoleños en el drama - Lumumba, Tshombe, Mobutu y Kasavubu - comenzaron a resonar a las 12:30 y 7:00 p.m. en los noticieros de BHBS, se convirtió en cosa común para nuestra juventud usar estos nombres para burlarse de nuestros contemporáneos que eran más oscuros en color de piel y supuestamente más africanos en rasgos.

Personalmente, soy lo que comúnmente se conoce como “mulato”, mitad africano y mitad europeo. Tengo un poco de sangre indígena de la Costa Mosquitia de Nicaragua. Pero yo era diferente a la mayoría de las personas de raza mixta en Belize, porque mi finada madre (Elinor Belisle Hyde) había hecho saber a todos sus hijos desde una edad temprana que nuestra bisabuela de su lado era la hija de una mujer “negra como el carbón” (Elizabeth Kingston) y su esposo español (José Escarpeta) del pueblo de Sittee River. Entonces, los niños Hyde teníamos un mínimo de conciencia negra.

Nuestra situación social se complicaba aún más por el hecho de que éramos hijos de un matrimonio mixto, religiosamente hablando. Nuestro padre era católico romano, pero nuestra madre era una devota metodista. Tales tipos de matrimonio

eran muy, muy raros aquí en la década de 1940: uno se casaba dentro de su religión.

La religión denominacional era un asunto aún más serio en ese entonces que en la actualidad, y las principales iglesias eran los católicos romanos, los anglicanos y los metodistas, que controlaban casi todas las escuelas primarias y secundarias. Había algunas escuelas bautistas y nazarenas, también el Ejército de Salvación, pero los evangélicos no eran tan evidentes como lo son hoy.

Yo era básicamente un inocente en 1960 en lo que respecta a los asuntos regionales y mundiales. Recuerdo que las noticias de BHBS, al menos en una ocasión, hablaban de la violación de monjas belgas (presumiblemente blancas) por soldados congoleños (negros, por supuesto).

Hay historias que no les he contado durante todos estos años, pero estas historias tienen cierta relevancia para mí mientras repaso las atrocidades perpetradas por el rey Leopoldo II de Bélgica en el Congo a fines del siglo XIX y principios del XX, y el escandaloso asesinato de Patrice Lumumba a principios de 1961.

Cuando se mira un país africano como Etiopía o Somalia o Sudán, verán gente morena. Pero nuestra conciencia del Congo incluso ahora, y por supuesto en 1960, era que estas eran las personas más negras que uno pudiera imaginar.

Recuerdo que cuando entré en el Colegio Dartmouth en 1965, había un estudiante de último año de Ghana en la escuela que se llamaba Frank Mwine. Rápidamente me di cuenta de que detestaba el suelo por el que yo caminaba. No es inusual que a los negros no les gusten los morenos, una de las razones es que los morenos suelen ser el producto del sexo entre hombres blancos y mujeres negras. No presté mucha atención a Mwine, porque entre los estudiantes extranjeros de mi clase había conocido a un africano negro de Malawi con quien entablé una amistad casi instantánea: el finado Guy Mhone.

Habría estado en 2A en el Colegio San Juan entre 1960 y 1961, para repetir, durante la loca crisis del Congo, cuán loco no habría sabido en ese momento. Una tarde en 2A, vi un incidente que se me ha quedado grabado todos estos años. El profesor de una clase de latín o inglés era un jesuita rubio y guapo llamado Richard Hadel. Algo debe haberlo molestado, o tal vez ya había estado enojado desde la hora del almuerzo en el edificio de la facultad. Pero de repente se dirigió enojado a la última fila de la clase, donde estaba sentado un estudiante negro, alto y lánguido llamado Richard Simon. (No puedo jurar por el nombre de ese estudiante. Estamos hablando de 1960/61 aquí). Mi recuerdo es que Hadel golpeó la parte posterior de la cabeza de este estudiante contra la pared que divide 2A de 2B, y luego tomó una postura como si estuviera listo para pelear con el estudiante, quien no respondió a su agresión. (No

recuerdo si había hecho que el estudiante se pusiera de pie antes de romperle la cabeza).

En el Sexto Grado en la Escuela Varonil del Santo Redentor en 1958 o 1959, había visto a una monja brutalizar a algunos estudiantes, al menos una docena de ellos, que eran miembros de la banda de la escuela y la habían enojado de alguna manera. La monja era una de mis favoritas, la hermana Francine, y se convirtió en una de las favoritas de mi familia, tanto así que mi madre le puso a su hija menor (y segunda hija) el nombre de la hermana Mary Francine.

Muchos, muchos años después, llamé a uno de los estudiantes que habían sido brutalizados en las pantorrillas con un chilillo para verificar algo sobre el incidente. Sorprendentemente para mí, su preocupación era que yo estaba a punto de publicar algo que avergonzaría a su iglesia católica romana. Ven, se los dije, la religión denominacional es un asunto serio.

Como hijo de un matrimonio mixto, religiosamente hablando, no tuve el mismo nivel de intensidad, a pesar de que serví misa en la diócesis del Santo Redentor durante un par de años. Mi madre había jurado, como parte de sus votos matrimoniales, criar a todos sus hijos como católicos romanos, y nunca interfirió con nuestra educación religiosa. Pero su fidelidad al metodismo tuvo una influencia tácita en nosotros, al menos en mí.

De todos modos, en 2A en 1960 teníamos un profesor de matemáticas que era de piel oscura y, según supe más tarde, venía de una familia de la aldea de Sittee River. Solíamos llamarlo “Jack Slade” a sus espaldas. Muchos años después, conocí al hermano mayor de ese maestro, y su hermano mayor y yo nos hicimos buenos amigos. Pero un día en 2A, el profesor de matemáticas usó a un estudiante guatemalteco blanco llamado Carlos Remis para avergonzarme en geometría. Quizás el profesor pensó que se estaba hablando demasiado de mis hazañas académicas en la Primera Forma, y quería ponerme en mi lugar. Lo suficientemente justo. Siempre quise preguntarle sobre eso, pero cuando regresé de Estados Unidos, él había emigrado a Los Ángeles y nunca regresó.

Les he contado un par de anécdotas de 1960 en Belize en el Colegio San Juan cuando se desataba el infierno en el Congo, donde millones de congoleños habían sido mutilados y asesinados por el rey Leopoldo II, en su búsqueda de riquezas y gloria. Patrice Lumumba era un líder congoleño sincero cuyo asesinato orquestaron los belgas, utilizando a los compadres congoleños de Lumumba: Tshombe y Mobutu. El Congo es quizás el país más rico del mundo, en lo que respecta a los recursos naturales, pero el pueblo congoleño es el más desamparado del mundo. Esta historia debe contarse.

YARD SALE

Yard sale on construction materials on July 2nd and 3rd starting at 9.am at mls 3.4 Phillip Goldson Hwy, Belize City. Whatsapp us at 6155022 or email @ pamelapmckoy7@hotmail.com for the complete listing of inventory. Paints, pallets of natural stone tiles pieces, ladders, scaffolds, electrical and plumbing supplies, breakers, refrigerator, water cooler, metal pipes, air conditioning supplies, white lime, swimming pool finish, hydrostop foundation coats, heavy duty tools, foundation beams, flashing, and many more items too numerous to mention.



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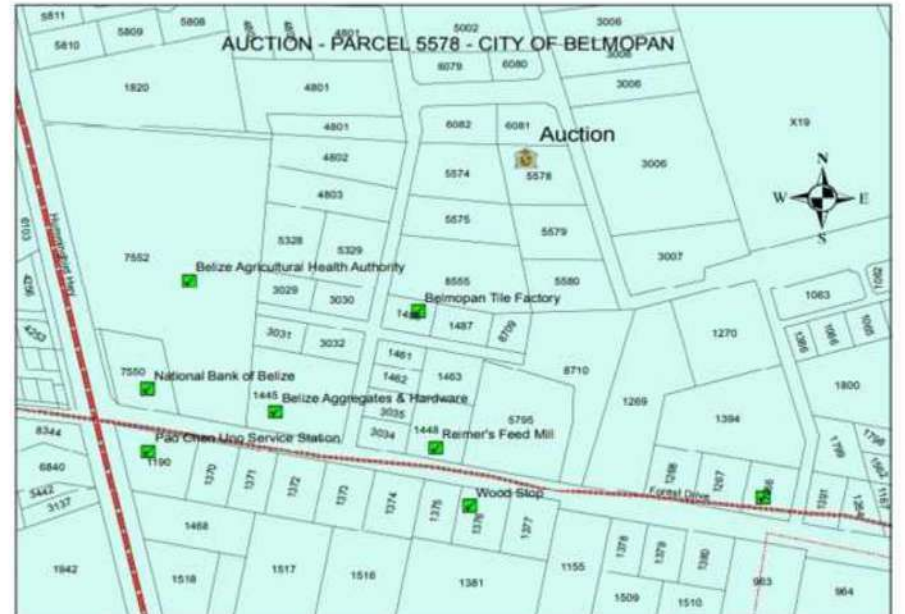


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with code
"VAC 1045"
Deadline: June 25th, 2021

By Order of the Supreme Court of Belize License Auctioneer Noel J. Codd will sell the following on Tuesday 29th June 2021 on site at 10:00 a.m.



All that piece or parcel of land being Parcels 5578 Block 20, Registration Section Belmopan City. The property is situated in the Industrial area of Belmopan City and measures 4,840 square yards. All major utilities are in the area.

NOEL J. CODD
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Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District
Tel: Office: 677-5184 cell: 624-5184
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 CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

From the Publisher

Reproduced from page 9 of the Tuesday, June 22, 2021, #3469 issue of Amandala

“During the Meiji era (1868-1912), the Empire of Japan emerged as the most developed nation in Asia and as an industrialized world power that pursued military conflict to expand its sphere of influence. After victories in the first Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905), Japan gained control of Taiwan, Korea and the southern half of Sakhalin. The Japanese population doubled from 35 million in 1873 to 70 million by 1935, with a significant shift to urbanization.”

— WIKIPEDIA

Japan is a large island off the eastern coast of Asia, but very small in land mass compared to its neighbours, China and Russia. Yet, as noted in the Wikipedia quote above, Japan had grown so powerful that it defeated both China and Russia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

One of the reasons the culture of Japan is so unique is because Japan has a huge population crammed into a relatively small land space. The Japanese culture stresses respect, restraint, cordiality, and hospitality. These are vital for the nation to function

smoothly, because it is such a crowded space.

Most of you know that Japan became so militaristic and aggressive that the Japanese invaded the mighty United States of America in December of 1941, attacking the American naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Japan, an ally of Germany and Italy in World War II (1939-1945), ended up losing the war, and the Americans exacted an exaggerated revenge by dropping atomic bombs on two large Japanese cities — Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

On Saturday I was watching some games in the current European football competition, and I was struck by the celebrations of the Hungarian young people in their Budapest stadium and outside after Hungary held France, the reigning world champions, to a 1-1 draw. It was mostly young Hungarian men, but there were many young ladies participating in the festivities (just so Ya Ya doesn't start complaining).

Japan came to my mind, because we in Belize well know that our Belizean young men are the most explosive element of our population, and it is the most difficult of assignments to control them and direct them to whatever it is that will be of most benefit, not only for the nation, but

also for themselves.

The United States became so liberal in our lifetime that the Americans began to send their young lady recruits to active combat overseas. I do not believe the Japanese ever messed with that, but I am willing to be corrected. The main point of the essay is that I know of no nation on earth which historically did such an outstanding job of training and focusing their young men as did Japan.

At the same time, that point emphasizes by contrast the terrible situation we Belizeans have in our country where our young men are concerned. Our young men do not have an enemy outside our borders: their chief activity is shooting and killing each other. How did this come to be?

If anyone passes my home walking a dog or dogs, I will know, because my neighbor's dogs will start barking at those passing by. That barking is not necessarily altogether hostile: there is probably an attempt to establish an acquaintanceship in the barking. I will grant the barking is likely also competitive in motivation, in the nature of, 'if you would like to do anything, I am here to kick your butt'.

I remember my young days, when

the competitions young men were engaged in were in cricket, football, basketball, and so on. Government workers had to do the job on Saturday mornings, so cricket games, for example, would be commenced on Saturday afternoons after lunch. Sunday mornings were reserved for church services, so the cricket games would be completed on Sunday afternoons/evenings.

My sense as a child and young boy was that there was intense competition amongst the teams from the various city neighborhoods, but I never detected malice. I suppose there may have been disrespectful words from time to time, but the men, at the end of the day, held each other in respect, no matter their color or class or ethnicity.

I would normally hesitate to write such a column, fearing that I would be accused of nostalgia. Bottom line is, nevertheless, if what is the status quo amongst our young boys/men remains the status quo, we will never be able to build any kind of credible nation in Belize. The young men of any society are the defenders and warriors of that society against external enemies. Such was the case with the great Japan. Such is not the case with our feeble Belize.

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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INDIVIDUAL CONSULTING SERVICES

Institution: Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Country: Belize
Project: Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
Sector: Environment and Natural Disasters
Abstract: Individual Consulting Services – Site Inspector for the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
Loan/Credit/Grant No.: BL-L1028 – 4426/OC-BL
Deadline: July 9th, 2021 (4 pm Belize Local Time)

The Government of Belize has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), toward the cost of the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program (CVRP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The CVRP is a four-year loan program with one year remaining in the period. The consulting services (“the Services”) include the contracting of a Site Inspector for one year who will provide services which include the supervision of construction activities under the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program. The Site Inspector will also be required to conduct field visits to all sites of works and activities to verify that the level of effort performed corresponds to that the effort contracted; ensure compliance with the drawings and technical specifications and monitor and report on progress of construction works.

The Site Inspector should have a minimum of Associate’s degree in Building, Building Technology, Building Construction, Construction Technology or Civil Engineering are preferred, and must have at least five (5) years’ experience in inspection and/or supervision of building and/or civil engineering works. Alternatively, the Site Inspector should have a High School Diploma must have at least ten (10) years’ experience in inspection and/or supervision of building and/or civil engineering works.

The Site Inspector should have a minimum of five years’ experience in providing supervision for civil works in canal dredging, canal construction, road and drain construction, bridge construction. Experience with sluice gate installation would be an asset. The Site Inspector must have professional project supervision experience with internationally funded projects valued at least three million USD dollars (USD\$3M). Candidates are required to have working knowledge of Microsoft Office. Knowledge of AutoCAD and AutoCAD Civil/Surveying software would be an asset.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites eligible individual 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. Consultants will be selected 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 consultants as defined in the policies. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the selection of Individual Consultants based on Comparison of Qualifications method set out in the Consultant Policies.

Further information and the full terms of reference can be obtained at the address below during office hours:
 Program Management Unit, First Floor, Soils Lab Building, Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, Power Lane, Belmopan, Cayo
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
 Tel: 501-822-0100/1942/ Email: mow.project4426@gmail.com

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **4:00 pm (Belize Local Time) on July 9th, 2021.**

Attn: Mr. Rolando Chan
 Program Coordinator
Program Management Unit
 First Floor, Soils Lab Building,
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane, Belmopan
Cayo District, Belize

Tel: 501-822-0100/1942

E-mail: cvrp.4426.2@gmail.com and
mow.project4426@gmail.com



Ministry of Home Affairs & New Growth Industries, Government of Belize

Invitation for Bids

The Government of Belize (GOB), acting through the Ministry of Home Affairs & New Growth Industries, has allocated public funds toward the cost of the supply, delivery and maintenance of vehicles.

The Ministry now invites sealed bids for the Supply, Delivery and Maintenance of the following items:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Pickup Trucks	26
Vans	2

Interested bidders may obtain a complete set of the Bidding Documents in English, free of cost, on the submission of a written application to the address below or by visiting <https://blz-cppnb.caricom.org>. Further information may be obtained by writing to the email address given below.

All bids must be delivered, in sealed envelopes, to the address below no later than 0900 hours (Belize local time) on Monday, July 12, 2021. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected.

Bids will be opened at 0915 hours (Belize local time) on Monday, July 12, 2021 at the Conference Room of the Ministry of Home Affairs & New Growth Industries at the below address, in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

Chief Executive Officer
 Ministry of Home Affairs & New Growth Industries
 Papi's Building
 1902 Constitution Drive, Belmopan
 Telephone number: 822-0842
 Email ceo.secretary@homeaffairs.gov.bz.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BELIZE, A.D. 2020

CLAIM NO. 480 OF 2020

BETWEEN	BEST BUY LIMITED	CLAIMANT
	AND	
	DWIGHT FLOWERS	DEFENDANT

TO: DWIGHT FLOWERS of 5 Mex Avenue, Belize City, Belize

Take Notice that an action has been commenced against you in the Supreme Court, Claim No. 480 of 2020, by Best Buy Limited of Corozal Freezone, Corozal District, Belize, in which the Claimant's claim is for legal and beneficial ownership of Parcel 23, Block 4, Fort George/Pickstock Registration Section under and by virtue of Land Certificate LRS201513215 12th November, 2015 free from any and all claims of the Defendant under and by virtue of Minister's Fiat Grant No. 1543 of 2006 dated 22nd January, 2007.

And that it has been ordered that service of the said claim in the said action on you be effected by this advertisement. If you desire to defend the said action you must within 14 days from the second publication of this advertisement, inclusive of the day of such publication, enter an acknowledgement of service at the office of the Supreme Court. In default of such judgment may be entered against you. The first hearing for this matter is set for the 15th July, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

DATED the 7th day of June, 2021.

Barrow & CO. LLP
 Attorneys-at-Law for the
 Claimant
 PER: *[Signature]*

Important projects for Cancun

According to the 2020 census of the municipality of Benito Juarez (Cancun), Quintana Roo, México, it has a population of 911,503 residents. That is more than double the number of inhabitants of the country of Belize. The municipal government is made up of seventeen persons — one president, one sindico (receivership), and fifteen regidores (councilors). On June 17, 2021, a session took place at the Ayuntamiento (City Hall), where the president, Lic. Maria Elena H. Lezama Espinosa, presented a set of projects to be implemented. Thereafter, she asked: "If any member of this council wishes to take the floor for an observation in relation to the previous agreement, please be expressed." The regidor, Lic. Alejandro Luna Lopez lifted his right arm. Permission was granted, and he stated the following:

"Thank you. First of all, I greet you all with great affection. President, welcome. I am pleased that you have returned to us and to all my fellow council members, to all those who make this session possible and to the

people who see us from social networks and listen to us through the radio of this great city council that is Radio Cultural City Hall. Greetings. Only to celebrate something so important that this is, that the people find out and know how important is the management of the city council, achieve a bipartisan investment in a federal program that comes through, of course with the management of the municipality, given the subject of services, works, etc., and all the follow-up that will be given to these great construction works that will be of benefit to thousands and thousands of people who live in this city and which are so necessary.

"Talking about the construction of the ecological park in the green navel is something important, fabulous, to have an enclosed area there, without any use and thereafter be given the use, so that the families of Cancun, Quintana Roo, even people who come from abroad enjoy an ecological park in this area. It is very important. The construction of the unit market of the

Community Development Center and the park of the unit, the renovation of the sports module park of the twins of the region 227, and something very important, the construction of the boxing gym at the market and the public park in region 59, which is a very strong area on the map that needs a space like this. It has been very intelligent to be able to command this area to work, which will represent something important to combat crime, combat the spaces of time that young people often have of not knowing what to do, and leisure — we know that it is the mother of all vices and having a space like this will be so important.

And something that the president has been mentioning for a long time is the construction of the city theater; it is something majestic to have a place where families can come, sit down and see shows, see spectacles, see events. It will be great for our city in every way. So I join, I congratulate myself, of course I am in favor and I applaud this type of works that are sought with



by Clinton Canul Luna

alchemy, because that is what it is. We do not have resources, but we are looking for a way to carry out the projects of each of the areas that the federal government has. That is all, President. Thank you."

The President then responded:

"Thanks, Alejandro. Yes, it is a matter of management to do it and to be knocking on the door there, not to let go and to be there attending to what the citizenship needs and to be able to have bridges of dialogue to take them by the hand. Thank you very much, alderman, thank you."

fincasolan@gmail.com
June 20, 2021
Finca Solana
Corozal Town

Long live Marcos Canul

My free-thinking Belizeans!!! Like myself, there are at least 80% of our people living in poverty without a good standard of academic education. Do you think that when our wives, children and ourselves don't have a thing to eat and someone who is committing a crime brings some food for us, that we won't turn our eyes elsewhere? "I saw a vehicle coming; at the same time I closed my eyes and heard a bang." Could such a statement serve as evidence of a crime in a court of justice?

On another note, our dear free, independent thinkers, in whose traumatic

complex mindset was it conceived that we, the masses, needed the Queen of England and someone to represent our slave masters in Belize? What we need is a man or woman to represent us as president, elected by the citizens to defend our interests from the rapacious hands of the greedy monarchical oligarchies. The police, military, and Coast Guard should be under the command of such a president and not under an appointed Minister. Instead of going forward, we are going back to the time of contracted slaves with meager wages that are left at the grocery shop,

and yet we have to go hustle or beg for food because what we earn is not enough to feed our families.

Have you asked yourselves how is it that these businesses are making money in a country that is in an economic crisis? Probably, they are not reporting all the taxes that are collected. But, who cares? When we go into the history of this country we will learn that corruption, contraband, trafficking of persons (slavery), selling of weapons and many other types of misbehavior were and still are a common way of living. If this is to change, we need a social-democratic

system and not that ancient anglo-monarchy model. How long will it take for you to understand that speaking the English language does not make you a British. Anyhow, my Maya sisters and brothers, it is time for us to start to demand what is ours, which is established in the 1853 treaty. Long live our martyr and hero General Marcos Canul!!!

fincasolan@gmail.com
June 20, 2021
Finca Solana
Corozal Town

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE:

Mile 5 Placencia Road, Stann Creek District, Belize

BY ORDER of the Supreme Court, Licensed Auctioneer **Fitzgerald A. Joseph** will sell the following Property ON SITE near Mile 5 Placencia Road, Stann Creek District, Belize on Saturday, **26th June, 2021** at **11:00 a.m.** Please note that **Social Distancing Protocol will be in full effect and the wearing mask will be mandatory.**

REGISTRATION SECTION
Placencia North

BLOCK
36

PARCEL
2516



Being a piece and parcel of land containing 2.37 acres situated in Seine Bight Village with lagoon frontage and just a stone throw away from the Itz'ana Belize Resort & Residencies. The parcel is situated approximately 5 Miles from Placencia Village, Stann Creek District, Belize, being the freehold property of **Erix Oswaldo Tobar.**

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
FITZGERALD JOSEPH
TELEPHONE: 601-2039
Email: palas105@yahoo.com



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INDIVIDUAL CONSULTING SERVICES

Institution: Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Country: Belize
Project: Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
Sector: Environment and Natural Disasters
Abstract: Individual Consulting Services – Project Manager for the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program
Loan/Credit/Grant No.: BL-L1028 – 4426/OC-BL
Deadline: **July 9th, 2021 (4 pm Belize Local Time)**

The Government of Belize has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), toward the cost of the Climate Vulnerability Reduction Program (CVRP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The CVRP is a four-year loan program with one year remaining in the period. The consulting services (“the Services”) include the contracting of a Project Manager for one year who will be responsible for general program management support to the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing in its role as the Executing Agency for CVRP. The Project Manager will also provide a range of engineering services require in the design (where necessary), selection of contractors and suppliers, supervision of construction and material delivery in respect of the civil works and other activities to be implemented by the Ministry.

The CVRP Project Manager should have a minimum of B.Sc. in any of the following disciplines: Civil Engineering, Highway/Transportation Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Quantity Surveying, Architecture or related technical field. A Master’s Degree in any of the required fields is considered an asset. The Consultant should have demonstrated knowledge of AutoCAD and Microsoft Project software. A working knowledge of the IDB’s procurement, environmental and social policies are considered assets. The Consultant should also have working knowledge of methods, sources and techniques of engineering design, road and drainage construction and maintenance; coastal protection infrastructure including hard, hybrid and nature based coastal protection interventions, and safety practices for personnel in construction sites.

The Consultant should have at least ten years of experience which includes but is not limited to infrastructure design, development of cost estimates and bill of quantities, contract administration, and preparation and validation of payment certificates. The Consultant should have at least three years’ experience in a civil engineering organization or equivalent technical organization with responsibility for infrastructure operations. A minimum of two (2) years of project management experience and preferably managed or supervised at least one (1) project of at least US\$3 million dollars or higher which was financed by a multilateral financial institution is also required. Specific experience in working with dredging, canal work, pavement design and/or construction, bridge design and/or construction, and sluice gates and pumping stations is preferred.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites eligible individual 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. Consultants will be selected 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 consultants as defined in the policies. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the selection of Individual Consultants based on Comparison of Qualifications method set out in the Consultant Policies.

Further information and the full terms of reference can be obtained at the address below during office hours:
 Program Management Unit, First Floor, Soils Lab Building, Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, Power Lane, Belmopan, Cayo
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Tel: 501-822-0100/1942/ Email: mow.project4426@gmail.com
 Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **4:00 pm (Belize Local Time) on July 9th, 2021.**

Attn: Mr. Rolando Chan
Program Coordinator
Program Management Unit
 First Floor, Soils Lab Building,
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane, Belmopan
 Cayo District, Belize

Tel: 501-822-0100/1942

E-mail: cvrp.4426.2@gmail.com and
mow.project4426@gmail.com



GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING PHILIP GOLDSON HIGHWAY AND REMATE BYPASS UPGRADING PROJECT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A GENDER-SENSITIVE COMMUNITY AND SCHOOLS PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND OUTREACH ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (INCLUDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING/SMUGGLING), AND TRANSMISSION OF SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STD) (INCLUDING HIV/AIDS) ALONG PHILIP GOLDSON HIGHWAY AND REMATE BYPASS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the United Kingdom Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund (UKCIF) towards the cost of the **Philip Goldson Highway and Remate Bypass Upgrading Project** and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOBZ and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreements. The Financing Agreements prohibit withdrawals from the Financing Accounts for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOBZ shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreements or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH) through its Project Execution Unit (PEU), the Executing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services to design and conduct outreach to, and sensitisation/training of, schools and communities in the Project area, about Gender-based Violence (GBV), human trafficking/smuggling and transmission of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) and HIV/AIDS.

The objective of the consultancy is to develop and implement a Community and School training and public education/awareness programme for schools and communities along the Philip Goldson Highway and the Remate Bypass. Specifically, the consultancy will:

- (a) Produce communication materials through consultation with stakeholders within the community and school via multiple media channels relating to GBV generally, human trafficking/smuggling specifically, as well as STD/HIV/AIDS prevention, including an Educational Toolkit to be used in schools; and
- (b) Conduct public gender education sessions on prevention and response to GBV including trafficking in persons/smuggling and sexual and reproductive health issues with Project-affected communities.

The assignment is expected to be implemented over a period of **15 months**.

The MIDH now invites interested eligible firms or joint ventures (JV) to submit Expressions of Interest indicating qualifications and experience required to provide these consultancy services. A Firm/JV shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or *bona fide* resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the beneficial owners are citizens or *bona fide* residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) in all cases, the firm or JV has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or *bona fide* resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Interested eligible firms/JVs are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) as published on CDB’s website.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to technical competence, qualifications and experience, local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability and existing commitments. The firm/JV:

- (a) Must have experience in communication, social marketing and public education in the traditional and new media industry, including experience in communications for promoting gender equality and social inclusion of vulnerable groups. Experience in messaging around GBV, human trafficking/smuggling and STD/HIV AIDS prevention would be an asset.
- (b) Must have a combination of experience and /or formal training in communications, public relations, digital and social media strategy, graphic design and video production.

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage

Expressions of interest must be submitted in English, electronically, by email, in pdf format, to both addresses below no later than 10:00am, local time on **Monday 19th July 2021**. The email subject line should state **“EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A GENDER-SENSITIVE COMMUNITY AND SCHOOLS PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME”** and the email body must state the name and address of the applicant. The Expression of Interest will be deemed to have been received at the time that it is received by the receiving office named in the first address below. The burden of proving receipt of the e-mail will be on the applicant and will not be met solely by a read receipt or sent items report generated by the applicant’s computer. The selection method for the award of the consultancy shall be Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS). Therefore, following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three and not more than six applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment.

The GOBZ reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not engaging the services of any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

Further information may be obtained from the first address below between 8:00am and 5:00pm local time Monday to Friday.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Attention: Mr. Evondale Moody
 Project Execution Unit
 Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
 Power Lane
 Belmopan
 Cayo District
 BELIZE C.A.
 Tel: +501-828-5220
 Fax: +501-822-0563
 Email: peu@midh.gov.bz</p> | <p>2. Procurement Officer
 Procurement Policy Unit
 Caribbean Development Bank
 P. O. Box 408
 Wildey
 St. Michael
 BARBADOS, W.I.
 Tel: +1-246-539-1600
 Fax: +1-246-426-7269
 Email: procurement@caribank.org</p> |
|--|---|

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTIES

San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District; Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo & Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the properties appearing below. Sales currently running and will expire on Friday 2nd July 2021 at the times shown on the website.

1. Strata H15 & H 16 of Parcel No. 4879, 1½ miles west San Pedro Town Centre, on the east coast of “Laguna De San Pedro”, Casa Linda Villas, Casa Corbu, Costa Del Sol, Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION
San Pedro

BLOCK
7

PARCEL
4879 (H15& H16)

(Being 2 two storey **SEA FRONT** single unit villa each 1510 sq. ft. + deck 291 sq. ft: Ground floor - living/dining/kitchen + open deck + porch; First floor - 2 bedrooms + 2 1/2 bathrooms being two units of the Casa Linda Villas situate 1½ miles west San Pedro Town Centre, on the east coast of “Laguna De San Pedro”, Costa Del Sol, Ambergris Caye, Belize District, the freehold property of Messrs. GRL Investment Ltd.)

2. Parcel No. 6100 Mahogany Bay Village, San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION
San Pedro

BLOCK
7

PARCEL
6100

(Being an incomplete concrete building and waterway lot [410.74 sq. yd.] situate within Mahogany Bay Village (formerly Grand Oasis Development), San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District, the freehold property of Messrs. Golf Victor Bravo Ltd.)

3. Parcel No. 1 - 15.21 Acres RIVER SIDE, north Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION
Hopkins Village

BLOCK
31

PARCEL
1

(Being 15.21 Acres of vacant river front land, suited for tourist development, situate approximately 300 yds. from the Caribbean Sea, north Hopkins Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Messrs. Hopkins Harbour Limited.)

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

KEVIN A. CASTILLO

CHRISTIANA R. CASTILLO

TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: www.belizepropertyauctions.com

E-mail: Belizeauctionsales@gmail.com

Face Book: Belize Auctions



GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PHILIP GOLDSON HIGHWAY AND REMATE BYPASS PGRADING
PROJECT AND SIXTH ROAD (COASTAL HIGHWAY UPGRADING)
PROJECT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the United Kingdom Caribbean Infrastructure Partnership Fund (UKCIF) towards the cost of the *Philip Goldson Highway and Remate Bypass Upgrading Project* and the *Sixth Road (Coastal Highway Upgrading) Project* (the Projects) and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOBZ and upon approval by CDB, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreements. The Financing Agreements prohibit withdrawals from the Financing Accounts for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOBZ shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreements or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH) through its Project Execution Unit (PEU), the Executing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services for an Environmental Specialist (ES).

The objective of the consultancy is to ensure that the environmental requirements are adhered to during the construction phases of the Projects. The ES will be responsible for reviewing, managing and/or monitoring the environmental measures in the Projects' Environmental, Social, Health and Safety Management Plans including facilitation of the client's responsibilities under same. The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of **28 months**.

The MIDH now invites interested, eligible **individual consultants and firms who wish to propose individuals for consideration to submit Expressions of Interest** indicating qualifications and experience required to provide these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- the persons are citizens or *bona fide* residents of an eligible country; and
- in all cases, the Consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or *bona fide* resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.

Interested eligible consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 is drawn to of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021) as published on CDB's website.

The ES is required to possess the following minimum qualifications and experience:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Sciences / Environmental Studies or related field with a minimum of five (5) years' demonstrated experience in environmental management and environmental sustainability and supervision of environmental aspects of infrastructure projects.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will only be given to qualifications and experience of the **individual** on similar assignments, and not on the corporate experience of the **firm**.

Expressions of interest must be submitted in English, electronically, by email, in pdf format, to both addresses below no later than **10:00am local time on Monday 19 July 2021**. The email subject line should state "**Expression of Interest - Consultancy Services for Environmental Specialist**" and the email body must state the name and address of the applicant. The Expression of Interest will be deemed to have been received at the time that it is received by the receiving office named in the first address below. The burden of proving receipt of the e-mail will be on the applicant and will not be met solely by a read receipt or sent items report generated by the applicant's computer.

Following the assessment of submissions, the individual with the most technically capable and appropriately experienced applicant will be invited to negotiate a contract to provide the consultancy services. The GOBZ reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not engaging the services of any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

Further information may be obtained from the first address below between 8:00am and 5:00pm local time Monday to Friday.

1. Attention: Mr. Evondale Moody
Project Execution Unit
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
Cayo District
BELIZE C.A.
Tel: +501-828-5220
Fax: +501-822-0563
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz

2. Procurement Officer
Procurement Policy Unit
Caribbean Development Bank
P. O. Box 408
Wilkey
St. Michael
BARBADOS, W.I.
Tel: +1-246-539-1600
Fax: +1-246-426-7269
Email: procurement@caribank.org

All nurses must sit licensure exam

by Dayne Guy

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 21, 2021

The Nurses and Midwives Council of Belize has issued a public statement to clarify the protocols that are in place for prospective and current nurses and highlighted the need for licenses in order to maintain high standards of competency within Belize's healthcare system.

Nurses with temporary licenses are now being urged to sit a licensure examination in order to regularize their status in accordance with the Nurses and Midwives Council Registration Act, Revised Edition 2011. The council further denied any allegations of refusing to issue nursing licenses. The release states, "At no point did the Council refuse to issue nursing licenses. The Council issued 57 temporary nursing licenses with expiration dates into 2022/2023, thus all nurses are currently licensed." This release highlights that unless nurses have successfully sat the licensure exam, they will remain as temporarily licensed until they can complete and pass the exam -- meaning those who failed in previous attempts must resit the exam.

The council had initially granted nurses with temporary licenses a grace period of two years to sit the licensure examination, but in light of the pandemic and the huge demand for nurses, the council had approved the extension of the temporary license by one year. This allowed nurses a three-year grace period with four opportunities to sit the licensure examination. While the council is not refusing to supply anyone with a

nursing license, the release states, "Note that all Belizean Nurses are required to sit this exam to obtain a license to practice in Belize."

The need for nurses has been intensified and the number of available nursing personnel has been limited during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government has been making an effort to increase the capacity of the local healthcare system by expanding the pool of available nurses through various measures, including allowing nurses to sit exams on a special basis.

It has been reported that nurses from overseas who have been hired by the Belizean government to serve within our local healthcare system have often left the country after a limited period of time to access jobs in jurisdictions where they can receive a higher salary or where they are not required to sit a licensure exam. The council asserts, however, that their role is to protect the public through properly vetting nurses and regulating the practice of nursing. This ensures that all nurses are competent and are aligned with the nursing standards, inclusive of proper licensing to practice nursing in Belize.

While the Ministry of Health and Wellness has made efforts to prevent the departure of 35 Filipino nurses from the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital, including collaborating with the Ministry of Immigration to waive the temporary employment fees that are required for Filipino nurses, the Nurses and Midwives Council of Belize stipulates that nursing licenses remain a requirement to practice in Belize, as guided by the Nurses and Midwives Council Registration Act.

World Bank Not to Assist El Salvador in Bitcoin Implementation

El Salvador. Fri. June 18, 2021 - teleSurenglish.net

This international financial institution stated it could not support any assistance on cryptocurrency.

The World Bank (WB) could not assist El Salvador in the implementation of Bitcoin due to factors related to the transparency of this cryptocurrency.

On Wednesday, Salvadoran Finance Minister Alejandro Zelaya remarked his country had sought technical assistance from the World Bank because it seeks to use Bitcoin as a parallel legal tender alongside the U.S. dollar.

This international financial institution stated that although it is committed to helping El Salvador in currency transparency and regulatory processes, it could not support any assistance on cryptocurrency.

Zelaya also mentioned that his country has been holding talks on this issue with the International

Monetary Fund (IMF), which is in favor of the adoption of Bitcoin in El Salvador.

Meanwhile, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) stated that it will support the Salvadorian government in the implementation of this cryptocurrency because Bitcoin will help facilitate the sending of remittances to this country.

El Salvador's economy relies heavily on remittances, which make up almost 20 percent of its gross domestic product (GDP). Currently, around two million Salvadoreans living abroad send over US\$4 billion in remittances each year.

In this regard, CABEI President Dante Mossi highlighted that transaction costs from sending remittances to El Salvador could considerably come down by using Bitcoins.

This article was first published by <https://www.telesurenglish.net/>

Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination in context

Authorized COVID-19 vaccines have been shown to be safe and efficacious in preventing severe disease and death, and it is clear that vaccine supply will continue to increase globally, albeit inequitably. That being said, the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and evidence on vaccine safety, efficacy, and effectiveness continue to evolve (including with respect to variants of concern). Consequently, the six considerations identified above are described generally so that they can be applied at any point in time and in any context. For illustrative purposes, we now turn our attention to the application of these ethical considerations in three settings for which mandatory vaccination is commonly discussed: for the general public, in schools, and for health workers.

The general public

Vaccination mandates for general adult populations are rare (7). In the absence of a sufficient, reliable vaccine supply that would permit every eligible member of the general public to be vaccinated, a mandate for the general public would fail to address ethical consideration 4 regarding sufficient supply. Even if there is a sufficient, reliable vaccine supply, policy-makers should consider whether mandatory vaccination of the general population is necessary and proportionate to

achieve intended public health goals (ethical consideration 1). More evidence may be required about vaccine uptake to determine whether a mandate is necessary, which will depend on local contexts and on the goals of the health system (e.g., achievement of herd immunity, protecting the most vulnerable). Similarly, the extent to which a mandate for the general public is proportional will depend to some extent on the local context given the variation in COVID-19 epidemiology in different jurisdictions. Even if there is a sufficient supply and a mandate for vaccination of the general public is considered necessary and proportionate, policy-makers should still consider whether a mandate for the general public would threaten public trust or exacerbate inequity for the most vulnerable or marginalized (ethical consideration 5).

In schools

Given the lack of data on the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines for children (ethical considerations 2 and 3), COVID-19 vaccines have not yet been authorized for this population. Consequently, vaccination is not currently ethically justified as a condition for attending school. Once such data are available and show favourable safety and efficacy in this population, policy-makers will have to consider whether mandating vaccination as a condition of attending

school is necessary and proportional to achieve the public health objectives (ethical consideration 1) and whether this could undermine public trust (ethical consideration 5). In some jurisdictions, vaccination against the viruses that cause a number of diseases (e.g., polio, measles, mumps, rubella) is a condition for attending school or receiving state-sponsored entitlements (2); however, mandates for routine paediatric vaccines are distinct from vaccines authorized for emergency use in many respects, including the relatively limited and evolving evidence for COVID-19 vaccines in addition to uncertainty regarding herd immunity and new SARS-CoV-2 variants in the context of COVID-19.

Health workers

Mandatory vaccination is perhaps most often discussed in the context of health and social care, particularly where health workers have direct contact with populations at high risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection or severe illness or death resulting from COVID-19 (e.g., congregate settings in which care is provided to older adults), because of the unique settings in which health workers work and their ethical obligation not to harm their patients. Moreover, mandatory COVID-19 vaccination might appear to be particularly plausible for health workers given that vaccination of this population might be seen as necessary to protect health system capacity (ethical consideration 1) and because health workers are commonly identified as a priority group for vaccination, meaning there is more likely to be a sufficient supply to meet the needs of this population (ethical consideration 4). Whether a mandate for health workers is necessary and proportionate (ethical consideration 1) and would not undermine trust (ethical consideration 5) might depend on the local context and should be investigated empirically before a mandate is considered for this population. COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: Ethical considerations and caveats: policy brief -4- Forms of mandatory vaccination are not uncommon in health care settings (17), including requirements that unvaccinated health workers stay at home during outbreaks, policies in which vaccination is required as a condition of employment, requirements that unvaccinated health workers be transferred to settings where the risk is lower, and so-called “vaccinate-or-mask” policies. Given current rates (and concerns) of health worker “burn-out” as a result of the pandemic and the potential consequence of an inadequately resourced health workforce (18), mandatory vaccination policies that require unvaccinated health workers to stay at home or require vaccination as a condition of employment or hospital privileges might have significant negative consequences for already overburdened health systems. Policies that require unvaccinated health workers to be transferred to settings where the risk is lower might have similar consequences, as they might remove critical health workers from

settings that badly need health human resources, such as congregate living settings where care is provided to older adults. Additionally, it may be difficult to distinguish high and low-risk settings where there is widespread community transmission of SARS-CoV-2. Finally, some health institutions might wonder whether vaccinate-or-mask policies, which have not been proposed for COVID-19 but are sometimes used as a type of vaccine mandate for seasonal influenza (19, 20), should be similarly used to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations among health workers. As masks are likely to be a requirement in health care settings for the foreseeable future, the incentive for health workers to be vaccinated under vaccinate-or-mask policies – namely, that they will not have to wear a mask in all patient care settings while the virus is circulating if they are vaccinated – will simply lack the same force. Vaccinate-or-mask policies would retain this force if vaccination against COVID-19 meant that vaccinated health workers could refrain from wearing masks, but this is not scientifically or ethically justified given the importance of personal protective equipment for institutional infection prevention and control (21), particularly where there is uncertainty surrounding a vaccine’s capacity for sterilizing immunity. In this case, vaccinate-or-mask policies risk placing too much emphasis on the protective effect of masks. Because no vaccine is 100% effective, standard infection prevention and control precautions, which includes masks but also a number of other standard precautions, should be used to minimize risk.

Conclusions

Vaccines are effective for protecting people from COVID-19. Governments and/or institutional policy-makers should use arguments to encourage voluntary vaccination against COVID-19 before contemplating mandatory vaccination. Efforts should be made to demonstrate the benefit and safety of vaccines for the greatest possible acceptance of vaccination. Stricter regulatory measures should be considered only if these means are not successful. A number of ethical considerations and caveats should be explicitly discussed and addressed through ethical analysis when considering whether mandatory COVID-19 vaccination is an ethically justifiable policy option. Similar to other public health policies, decisions about mandatory vaccination should be supported by the best available evidence and should be made by legitimate public health authorities in a manner that is transparent, fair, nondiscriminatory, and involves the input of affected parties.

-pgs. 3, 4 of COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: Ethical consideration and caveats. Policy brief, 13 April 2021. World Health Organization.

Full document can be found at : [WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy-brief-Mandatory-vaccination-2021.1-eng.pdf](#)

Cayo CET
Consultancy Jobs 2021



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San Ignacio, Cayo
Belize

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The Cayo Centre for Employment Training has published a job vacancy announcement on 15 June 2021 for qualified persons to fill in the vacant post of Project Coordinator/Consultant to be based in San Ignacio, Cayo, Belize.

Recruiter	Cayo Centre for Employment Training
Position	Project Coordinator/Consultant
Location	San Ignacio, Cayo
Country	Belize
Total Vacant Posts	01
Qualification	Advanced University degree in Pedagogy, Statistics, or related field.
Experience Required	Minimum of 5 years of experience in project management or supervision
Application Deadline	June 30th, 2021

Please see Detailed TOR for more information on the tasks and deliverables at the following link:
cayocet.bz/about-us/vacancies/project-coordinator-consultant

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and advance to the next stage of the selection process.

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Nuclear Arms Reduction: Actions Speak Louder Than Words



by Thomas L. Knapp

On June 16, US president Joe Biden and Russian president Vladimir Putin issued a Joint Statement on Strategic Stability, in which they “reaffirm the principle that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought” and “seek to lay the groundwork for future arms control and risk reduction measures.”

With the extension of the New START treaty and joint statements like that, it might seem that things aren’t looking too terribly bad with respect to reducing the threat of nuclear war. But talk and action are two very different things. Let’s roll back the calendar to the day before the rose-colored glasses went on.

“Despite calls from some Democrats and arms control advocates to slash spending on strategic forces,” National Defense magazine reported on June 15, “the Biden administration appears committed to forging ahead with previous administrations’ nuclear modernization programs.”

The Congressional Budget Office expects the US government to spend \$634 billion on operating and “modernizing” its nuclear arsenal over the next ten years, and the Biden administration has requested \$43.2 billion for such activities in its budget proposal for next year.

That doesn’t sound much like “groundwork for future arms control and risk reduction measures.”

And what good are future arms control measures when the parties obviously haven’t bothered to fulfill their obligations under past such

measures?

Per the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, both the US and Russian regimes have been committed for more than 50 years “to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament.”

But according to the Federation of American Scientists’ “Status of World Nuclear Forces” report, Russia and the US still maintain arsenals of, respectively, 6,257 and 5,550 nuclear warheads.

And, FAS says, “[t]he pace of reduction has slowed significantly compared with the 1990s and appears to continue only because of dismantlement of retired weapons; the military stockpiles (operational nuclear weapons) are increasing again.”

How many warheads constitute a “nuclear deterrent,” assuming such a thing is truly needed until we are clearly approaching the zero nuke mark?

Well, the US only has nine cities with populations in excess of one million. Russia only has 15. The ability to wipe out all those population centers, especially from platforms like submarines that aren’t likely to be taken out in a surprise first strike, seems like a heck of a deterrent to starting a nuclear fight (and an implicit terrorist threat, but one we’re already living with and then some).

Even adding in key military bases as targets, how could more than, say, 50 warheads each (less than one percent of current arsenals) be justified as a “deterrent?”

And what’s the holdup on getting down to that number?

No additional agreements are necessary. Either side can do it unilaterally, without agreement from the other, and the other side would be left just wasting money on expensive, dangerous, and effectively useless junk.

It’s time to grow up and end this silly nuclear “mine is bigger than yours” contest.



NOTICE TO MARINERS

Belize City, Belize – June 22nd, 2021 – Please be advised reference Admiralty chart # 522 Belize City and Approaches:

Dredging operations will be conducted at the mouth of the Haulover Creek in Belize City, commencing June 22nd, 2021 to September 30th, 2021.

Operations will be conducted within the marked channel and in the turning basin at the Fort Street Tourism Village.

Obstructions will be marked by yellow buoys and pillars during the day time along with flashing amber lights at night. Mariners should not attempt to navigate over the obstruction or near the dredge and its pipelines. Vessels should observe a minimum safe distance of 100 feet from working equipment.

Mariners must use extreme caution and navigate at a minimum safe operating speed while maneuvering in the area positioned:

17°2901”N, 088°1118”W

17°2920”N, 088°1054”W

17°2931”N, 088°115”W

For any concerns or additional information, please contact the Belize Port Authority at: Tel: 222-5666

Email: bzportauth@btl.net

By Order: Ports Commissioner

“Maritime Service, Security & Efficiency”



Nazarene High School

Princess Margaret Drive
P.O. Box 539 - Tel: 203-2248 - Email: nhs@btl.net
Belize City, Belize, C.A.

21st June, 2021

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the following teaching positions for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

- Spanish Teacher
- Integrated Science / Religious Knowledge Teacher

Qualifications Requirement:

Bachelor’s Degree in Subject / related subject

Flexibility in teaching two or more subjects will be considered a tremendous asset.

All completed application packages must include:

- 1) Application letter with Curriculum Vitae
- 2) Official Transcript/s
- 3) Copies of all certificates
- 4) Valid Teachers License
- 5) Three (3) reference letters, including one from last employer
- 6) Recent police record
- 7) Medical Certificate
- 8) Birth Certificate/Passport
- 9) Valid Social Security card

All copies **MUST** be certified

All applications should be hand delivered by Friday 2nd July, 2021 addressed to:

Chairperson
Nazarene High School
Princess Margaret Drive
Belize City, Belize

E. Seguro
Mrs. Elisa Seguro (Ed. D.)
Principal



“I WILL GO IN STRENGTH OF THE LORD GOD.” PS. 71:16

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTIES

San Felipe Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk 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 and will expire on Monday 28th June 2021 at 10:00 am.

No. 1290 San Felipe Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ann Gabourel	4	1290

(Being a concrete bungalow dwelling house [34 ft. X 36 ft.] containing 3 bedrooms + 1 bathroom + living/dining/kitchen + front, side & back porches and lot [447.22 sq. yds.] situate on San Felipe Street, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District, the freehold property of Ms. Lilia Constantino)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - www.belizebank.com (foreclosure listing)

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

KEVIN A. CASTILLO

TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: belizepropertyauctions.com

E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com

Face Book: Belize Auctions

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE RRB.CS.35 - PROGRAMME MANAGER

Project country:	Belize
Financing institution:	International Fund for Agricultural Development
Client:	Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment
Project name:	Resilient Rural Belize Programme
Title:	Specific Procurement Notice (SPN)
Procurement type:	Individual Consulting Services
Procurement Post:	Programme Manager
Loan/Credit/Grant Financing No.:	2000002301

Background: The Government of Belize (GOB), with financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), has embarked on a six-year Programme, Resilient Rural Belize (RRB), which aims to minimize the impacts of climatic and economic events on smallholder farmers while supporting sustainable market access for their produce. The programme will help farmers employ climate resilient agricultural practices and technologies; integrate profitable smallholder participation into the development of select vegetable, fruit, and honey value chains; and support smallholder production capacity through investments in public and private climate resilient infrastructure and in the strengthening of smallholder farmer Producers Organizations and relevant GOB Departments.

Scope of Work: The Programme Manager will provide overall leadership and management of the Programme Management Unit (PMU), will coordinate the activities to be implemented, and will have the ultimate responsibility for planning, budget preparation and management and execution to achieve the programme's objectives and targets. In addition, the PM will report to the Programme Oversight Committee on policy matters, will act on the MED's behalf in his/her contacts with public and international institutions, and provide overall supervision of service providers contracted by the programme.

Duties and Responsibilities: The Programme Manager will be responsible to:

- Prepare all strategic planning, management and related documents that is important to overall programme implementation.
- Update the Programme Implementation Manual incorporating the relevant legal and other regulations governing the implementation of the programme and present to the Programme Oversight Committee (POC) for approval.
- Establish and maintain, on behalf of the programme, excellent relations with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and all direct programme partners (Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, Department of Cooperatives, the National Climate Change Office, the Development Finance Corporation, and other relevant agencies).
- Inform the focal point of the Ministry of Economic Development (MED) on important issues and the programme's status on a regular basis.
- Represent the programme in forums in which it participates, or its results are being featured.
- Oversee all contracting of services, and delegating responsibilities where appropriate to PMU staff.
- Monitor and assess the performance of the PMU staff and service providers.
- Lead the preparation of results-oriented Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPBs) for the programme, in close collaboration with the PMU and implementing partners, and present the AWPB to the POC annually, ensuring its approval.
- Ensure that the AWPB is sent to IFAD and the GCF in a timely manner, as stated in the Programme Implementation Manual.
- Network with other agencies and stakeholders to ensure implementation of the activities as detailed in the AWPB.
- Monitor the implementation of the AWPB, adjusting as necessary, and work closely with the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Specialist on setting benchmarks and gender/age disaggregated indicators to assess programme delivery and impacts.
- Ensure that the implementation of the programme is done according to the implementation strategy as indicated in the Final Programme Design documents and ensure gender equity is included and cross-cutting in the programme monitoring and evaluation, as well as in the annual planning.
- Supervise the execution of all procurement in accordance with IFAD's Financing Agreement and Procurement Guidelines.



- Manage the programme's budget and ensure that all expenditures are in keeping with the programme objectives and activities.
- Prepare all programme reports and present these to the POC when required.
- Establish linkages with other national and regional programs involved in rural development in Belize and to ensure complementarity of efforts.
- Collaborate with private sector initiatives that are relevant to the Be-Resilient initiatives.

Core Competences:

- Excellent command of the English language, spoken and written. Spanish language and proficiency would be an asset.
- Solid managerial capabilities for managing human and financial resources, and
- Ability to negotiate and foster partnerships with stakeholders and other institutions.
- Excellent collaboration and communication skills.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving abilities.
- Superb organizational and time-management skills.
- Willingness to work outside of formal working hours.

Academic Qualifications: The Programme Manager shall possess a minimum of a master's degree in project management, business administration, finance, agriculture, rural development, or any area related to the main components of the programme.

Required Experience:

- Minimum of five (5) years' experience managing projects financed by external donors in a management position.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience working with agriculture, value chain or rural development projects.
- Minimum of five (5) years' experience liaising with public and private sector institutions at the management level.
- Minimum of five (5) years' experience in preparing project reports e.g., Annual Work Plans, Project Execution Plans, Budgets etc.
- Experience working in rural development, particularly in rural communities and with the rural poor will be considered an asset.
- Experience in negotiating and managing contracts will be considered an asset.

Reporting: The Programme Manager will report to the Programme Oversight Committee (POC). The duty station for the position will be at the PMU Office in Belmopan.

Clarifications: Any request for clarification should be sent via e-mail to the address below no later than July 5, 2021 3:00pm. The client will provide responses to all clarification requests by July 6, 2021 at 3:00pm

Application Submission:

Interested candidates are requested to submit a Letter of Interest, Curriculum Vitae, and two (2) Recommendation letters or References along with a copy of the highest degree. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, July 9, 2021, at 3:00p.m. via the following File Request Link: <https://bit.ly/2ShZ3Z1> (**Note: No application submitted via email will be accepted**)

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual consultant selection (ICS) method set out in IFAD' 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.

Resilient Rural Belize Programme

Attn: Tracey Hanson
Procurement Officer
National Agriculture Showgrounds
Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan City
Cayo, Belize, C.A.
Email: Thanson.rrb@med.gov.bz

Cuba produces first COVID-19 vaccine in our region



pandemics,” President Diaz-Canel said.

“Hit by two pandemics [Covid-19 and the US blockade] our scientists at the Finlay Institute and Center for Genetic Engineering and Biology [CIGB] have jumped over all the hurdles and given us two very effective vaccines,” President Diaz-Canel, who is also the first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, stated.

The US government currently has 240

restrictive or punitive measures in place as part of its decades-long embargo against the country. Many of the new measures were introduced at the height of the pandemic, during the Trump presidency. Despite this hindrance, the country has successfully produced five Covid-19 vaccine candidates, two of which have passed the WHO’s efficacy threshold.

The country is now awaiting emergency approval from its Center for State Control Medicines, Equipment, and Medical Devices so that it can begin to ramp up its vaccination campaign. Over 1.7 million persons on the island are expected to receive the vaccine

within the coming weeks.

Since the late 1950s, Cuba adopted the concept of Medical Internationalism, a brainchild of the late Ernesto “Che” Guevara (a medical doctor himself) and Fidel Castro. Since then, the country has trained and deployed thousands of doctors worldwide. These doctors have been the world’s frontline of defense against the Covid-19 pandemic, being sent to many countries as a buffer for their healthcare systems.

Over the years, the country has also developed several vaccines that have been sent worldwide. With its vast experience in the development of vaccines, it is no surprise that Cuba has led the charge in our region as the first to develop a homegrown inoculation.

Cuban Ambassador to Belize, H.E. Lissette Perez, has remarked that the country’s extensive background in biotechnology has afforded them the skillset to develop these vaccines. She also noted that these ideas of self-sufficiency and sharing with the international community were taught to them by the late President Fidel Castro.

“We were educated in the concept to help others, and also there is the vision of Fidel, that [educated] Cubans, that we have to share and, for example, the new development that we have of these vaccines is because of his vision to create in Cuba a very strong industry from 30 years ago, because he saw we

needed independent sovereignty in terms of technology, because imagine living with the blockade and we can’t acquire medicine. It is very difficult to access certain advanced technology. So, for 30 years, we have been working to create a very strong biotechnology industry. From 30 years ago we have been doing our own vaccine for the immunization of the population,” Ambassador Perez said.

She added, “That is why we are very proud that two days ago we announced that we have two vaccines ready for facing the Covid-19 [virus]. One is Soberana 02 and the second one is Abdala, which in the final trial shows 92% of efficacy in facing the Covid-19 [virus]. We are running with the vaccination of our population. We think that in the summer 70% of the population will be vaccinated with our own vaccine, and at the end of the year, we will have all of the population vaccinated. Despite the blockade that we are suffering, this is a very good achievement and I want to highlight that this is a vaccine not only for Cuba; it is a vaccine for Latin America and the Caribbean. We are very proud of that.”

Cuba is poised to become an important supplier of Covid-19 vaccines for Latin America and the Caribbean. To date, several countries across the region, including Venezuela, Argentina, and Mexico, have expressed interest in purchasing Cuba’s vaccine.

BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021

On Monday, the president of Cuba, Miguel Diaz-Canel, announced that, in clinical trials, one of their COVID-19 vaccine candidates, Abdala, has shown a 92.28% rate of efficacy against the virus. Another vaccine produced by the Caribbean island, Soberana 02, has also passed the World Health Organization’s (WHO) efficacy threshold of 50%, recording a 62% rate of effectiveness against the virus in late clinical trials.

The vaccine candidates are the first produced by a Latin American and Caribbean country and were produced while the country faced “two

FOR SALE

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES

THE BELIZE BANK CORPORATION LIMITED, a company duly formed and incorporated under the Laws of Belize with registered Office situate at No. 4A Albert Street, Belize City, Belize hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Mortgagee under a Deed of Mortgage dated the 6th day of May, 2003, made between **Edwardo Villafranco**

of the one part and **THE BELIZE BANK CORPORATION LIMITED** of the other part which is recorded at the Land Titles Unit in the Belmopan City in Deeds Book Volume 16 of 2003 at Folio 411-440. The said bank will at the expiration of two months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property described in the **SCHEDULE** hereto.

ALL offers to purchase the said property must be made in writing to The Belize Bank Corporation Limited from whom full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

ALL THAT **LEASEHOLD INTEREST** in ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being A Parcel of Land situate in the Mafredi Agricultural Layout, Toledo District and bounded as follow: - On the North for 908.701 metres by a road reserve; On the South for 908.561 metres by a 50.043 acres parcel; On the East for 222.669 metres by a portion of a 50.02 acres parcel and on the West for 222.812 metres by a road reserve; containing 50.03 acres of land as shown on Plan No. 2120 at the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys **TOGETHER** with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

ALL THAT **LEASEHOLD INTEREST** in ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being A Parcel of Land situate in the Mafredi Agricultural Layout, Toledo District and bounded as follow: - On the North for 454.236 metres by a road reserve; On the South for 454.233 metres by a 50.02 acres parcel; On the East for 445.572 metres by a road reserve and on the West for a total distance 445.646 metres by a 50.03 acres parcel and another 50.043 acres parcel; containing 50.02 acres of land as shown on Plan No. 2120 at the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys **TOGETHER** with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon.

Dated the 23rd day of June 2021.

The Belize Bank Corporation Limited
No. 4A Albert Street,
Belize City,
Belize



Certified AUDIT SENIOR

The successful candidate will perform a mix of Financial, Operational and Compliance Audits across the organization.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Examine business processes and controls for compliance with management plans and policies.
- Evaluate controls regarding the company’s operational, financial reporting and compliance objectives.
- Execute the full cycle of the audit process from planning through to the review process and written summary report.
- Develop and maintain a positive working relationship with management and personnel at all levels of the organization.
- Must have professional certification: CPA, CGA, ACCA or CIA.
- Candidates with an Accounting degree and are currently pursuing their certification will be considered.
- Minimum of three (3) years auditing experience.
- Being bilingual is an asset.
- Being mobile is essential.

Please send resume to:

Director of Human Capital, Unicomer (Belize) Limited
Email: human_resources_bz@unicomer.com

Closing date: June 30th, 2021

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Unicomer Group

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Public Service Awards 2021

by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

BELIZE CITY, Belize, Wed. June 23, 2021

Belize's public officers who have completed twenty-five years and more of service were honored this week at the 2021 Public Service Awards ceremony held at the Belize Biltmore Plaza. This year's program was hosted under the theme, "Belize Public Service – making heroic sacrifices, displaying extraordinary humanness, providing service before self", and was attended by our newly appointed Governor General, H.E. Froyla Tzalam, as well as the Minister of Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform, Hon. Henry Charles Usher; and mayor of Belize City, H.W. Bernard Wagner.

The fifty-odd public officers were

all commended for their hard work and their constant dedication to the Belizean people, despite the sometimes unfavorable conditions under which they have provided service to the public. Those sentiments were conveyed in a virtual address by Hon. Henry Charles Usher, who noted that the country is observing Public Service Week:

"This week is an opportunity to recognize all Public Officers across the country for their hard work, sacrifice and important contributions in their service to Belizeans. Public service is not the most glamorous of jobs nor a profitable line of work, but it is one of the most important. Public officers, you are the face of the government, you provide direct interaction with our citizens; your daily work is the fuel for the

government engine and keeps democracy alive," said Hon. Usher.

The tribute was held against the backdrop of recently ended industrial actions by members of the public service who had

vehemently opposed government's recent salary cuts and three-year increment freeze. Notably, it was Hon. Usher who invoked Section 106-3 (C) of the Constitution, which states that the Minister can fix salaries and privileges of the public service, given that the minister has consulted with the recognized representatives of the teachers and public officers —



in this case the BNTU, PSU and the APSSM.

Back in April, Hon. Usher had informed Cabinet that he would fix the salaries of public officers due to the dire state of public finances; however, this was reportedly done while negotiations with the unions were still ongoing— much to the chagrin of the public officers.



INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION (IFSC)

Request for Proposal for Consultancy Services (Firm Selection)

Selection Method: Competitive (firm) Selection

Country: Belize

Client: International Financial Services of Belize (IFSC)

Project Name: Design and Implement an E-registry system for the Business Registries

Project Purpose: Digitize and modernize the registry of International Business Companies' Processes

Consultancy

- I. Creating a web-based solution(system) that facilitates all functions and business requirements of the business registries, integrates all users, and streamlines and standardizes processes. The solution must also have a front-end interface for online registration of businesses and post-registration services.
- II. The system must allow for integration to other applications and entities via an Application Programming Interface (API) in the starting a business process.
- III. The solution must be modular and allow for future growth and expansion to other requirements or services of the business registry.
- IV. The solution can be an off the shelf solution or a custom-built solution.

The detailed terms of reference for the consultancy can be requested from inquiries@ifsc.gov.bz.

The IFSC now invites all eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. In submitting its **Proposal**, a firm should provide information demonstrating that it has the required and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria are:

1. The firm's experience in conducting similar assignments.
2. Experience (minimum of 10 years) in the successful development and deployment of Business Registry technological system solutions across multiple jurisdictions.
3. The firm's long-term technical and financial viability
4. The Lead Consultant should possess at least a master's degree in Computer Science or a related field and 10 years of experience. Junior Consultants should possess at least a bachelor's Degree in computer science or a related field and at least 5 years of experience in the field.
5. Familiarity with technological capabilities in Latin America and the Caribbean. Proven project work at international, national and/or national/ local levels is an asset.

Interested consulting firms must provide information establishing that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

Proposal must be submitted to the Deputy Registrar of the International Business Companies Registries by July 29th, 2021, at 12:00am Central Standard Time at: inquiries@ifsc.gov.bz.

The IFSC shall not be bound to defray any costs incurred by applicants in preparing and submitting statements of capability.

Government of Belize

Department: International Financial Services Commission of Belize

Attention: Santiago Gonzalez – Project Team Leader



KARL HEUSNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

VACANT POSITION

Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority invites applications from suitably qualified and motivated individuals for the following vacant position:

DIRECTOR OF NURSING SERVICES

JOB SUMMARY:

The Director of Nursing Services is a member of the Hospital's Management Team and has responsibility for directing, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the operations of the Nursing Services Directorate. This position ensures the smooth operation of the Nursing Service in the delivery of a high standard of patient care by providing guidance, management and leadership to senior nurse managers and other members of the nursing staff and healthcare team. The Director of Nursing Services ensures the maintenance of standards, timely resolution of problems, and the implementation of change within the Nursing Service in order to provide efficient and safe patient care.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Participate in the development of, and upholds, established hospital and Nursing Services policies and procedures, objectives, quality assurance programs, safety, environment and infection control standards.
2. Collaborate with members of the management team in the development of KHMHA's Strategic Plan.
3. Lead and direct the nursing service in providing organized, quality and compassionate nursing care to the hospital's patients and users.
4. Ensure the safety and welfare of patients from admission to discharge by enforcing strict implementation of hospital procedures for infection control, safety and risk-management.
5. Oversee the preparation, establishment, and implementation of nursing procedures and practice guidelines.
6. Analyze and develop nursing needs of the hospital to establish the optimum staffing pattern for the individual elements of the Nursing Service, and monitors compliance.
7. Prepare the annual budget submission for the Nursing Service.
8. Collaborate with the Department of Human Resource in the selection, recruitment and evaluation of nursing personnel and ensures timely preparation and submission of all employment actions for nursing staff.
9. Ensure nurse managers comply with KHMHA's Hand Book of Policies and Procedures and application of disciplinary measures where necessary.
10. Promote research and review of nursing practices to improve delivery of nursing services.

EDUCATION, LICENSURE and WORK EXPERIENCE:

1. Graduate of state approved school of Registered Nursing.
2. Master's Degree in Nursing, Hospital or Public/Health Care Administration Or
3. Bachelor's Degree in Nursing plus, Certificate in Nursing Administration/Health Care Management and 10 years' experience in Nursing Administration.
4. Valid Belize Registered Nursing License.
5. Basic Cardiac Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification required.
6. A minimum of ten years' experience in nursing management positions in a hospital or similar health care organization. A minimum of five of the required ten years must have been in an acute care environment.

SALARY:

- Contract

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Demonstrated management and leadership skill with the ability to create, promote and participate in a teamwork environment.
- Able to communicate clearly, concisely and accurately with all levels of staff and patients, both verbally and in writing.
- Able to work around barriers to achieve departmental and hospital goals.
- Self-directed, hardworking, creative and forward thinking.

Completed application must be submitted along with a current police record, copy of valid Belize social security card and two letters of recommendation addressed to the (Ag.) Chief Executive Officer at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority, no later than 9th July 2021.



BAA “regrets” it is “unable” to take some athletes to C.A. Senior Championships in Costa Rica

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

Following its National Senior Championships at the end of last month, the Belize Athletics Association (BAA) announced on June 16 on its Facebook page the list of athletes it had selected to represent the country in the upcoming meet in Costa Rica; but a week later, it was disappointment for a number of athletes whose names have been dropped from the contingent list due to “financial constraints.” We have tried, unsuccessfully, to contact BAA president, Deon Sutherland by phone.

In its June 16 post, the BAA said: “Attached below is the team chosen for CADICA Senior Championships. They’ll be representing us in San Jose, Costa Rica on the 26th-27th of June. Congratulation to all!”

And it proceeded to list the names of 6 female athletes and 15 male athletes. Those were: FEMALES – Hillary Gladden, Samantha Dirks, Ashontie Carr, Tricia Flores, Ashantie

Carr, Leonellie Myers; and MALES – Shaun Gill, Mark Anderson, Rahim Monsanto, Jihad Ahmad, Gary Neal, Hance Card, Brandon Adolphus, Christopher Broaster, Amir Ramos, Kerwin Palacio, Faisal Ahmad, Martin Flowers, Brandon Jones, Cojac Smith, Waylon Gordon.

But a week later, on June 23 the BAA had this Facebook post:

“The executive of the BAA regrets to inform some of its athletes that due to financial constraints, we are unable to take the team we had originally planned to represent at the Central American Senior Championship to be held in San Jose, Costa Rica on 26-27 June, 2021.

The high cost of attending these events due to the protocols instituted by the organizers and governments have made it very difficult financially, coupled with the fact that the government and business community cannot assist with donations at this time.

We therefore encourage you to

continue training and be prepared for the other events coming later this year.”

A day later, today, June 24, the BAA felt it had to reiterate:

“The Belize Athletics Association wants to make it categorically clear that it is not withdrawing from participation in the Central American Senior Championship to be hosted in Costa Rica this weekend. Due to financial constraints, the team numbers have been reduced only. The contingent presently consists of sixteen (16) athletes and three (3) officials. With assistance from the National Olympic Committee and a few funds from the BAA coffers, we have managed to put together the best competitive team for this event and our best athletes to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics.”

The BAA contingent list now includes: FEMALES – Hillary Gladden, Samantha Dirks, Tricia Flores, Leonellie Myers; MALE ATHLETES – Shaun Gill, Mark

Anderson, Rahim Monsanto, Jihad Ahmad, Gary Neal, Hance Card, Brandon Adolphus, Amir Ramos, Faisal Ahmad, Brandon Jones, Cojac Smith; and OFFICIALS – Deon Sutherland (President), Fred Evans (Coach), Shelmadine Carr (Coach).

We noted from the above that only fifteen athletes’ names are listed. Also, from the BAA Excel attachment, female athlete Leonellie Myers is participating in the discus and javelin throws; while the three other females are all track athletes, and they are entered in the 4x100m and 4x400m relays.

We tried contacting BAA president Deon Sutherland for the missing female name, since their last Facebook post had mentioned 16 athletes, and only 15 names were listed. But up to press time we were unsuccessful.

The athletes whose names were dropped and therefore not making the trip are: FEMALES – Ashontie Carr and Ashantie Carr; and MALES – Christopher Broaster, Kerwin Palacio, Martin Flowers and Waylon Gordon.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE R.C. HIGH SCHOOL

VACANCY

Temporary Vacancies exist at Our Lady of Guadalupe R.C. High School, Belmopan, for the following posts for the period September 1st – November 30, 2021:

- Teacher of Mathematics & Physics

Teaching position may include extracurricular responsibilities (supervising athletic programmes, moderating student houses and clubs, mass preparation, etc.)

QUALIFICATIONS

- First Degree in the relevant field(s) preferred
- Associate Degree may be considered
- Ability to work and communicate effectively with students, staff and administration
- Knowledge, competence and expertise in using technology in teaching
- High motivation and commitment to teaching
- Must be in possession of a **valid Teacher’s license**

SALARY

In accordance with Government Pay Scales.

The deadline for submission of applications is July 2nd, 2021. **Application letters along with a current curriculum vitae, original transcript, certified copies of degrees, certified copy of social security card, marriage/divorce certificate, release letter (where applicable) and two recent letters of reference should be sent to:**

Email: hrc@ologh.edu.bz
Principal
Our Lady of Guadalupe R.C. High School
P.O. Box 479
CITY OF BELMOPAN



We invite experience applicants to join our Consumer Finance Team!

Qualifications:

- Minimum of Associates Degree in Business Administration.
- Minimum of two (2) years experience in a credit environment is an asset.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently.
- Ability to work under pressure.
- Being bilingual is an asset.

Responsibilities:

- Monitoring of the debt portfolio.
- Implement strategies to impact collections within various status levels.
- Liaise with customers on payment options to recuperate credit rating.
- Management of external collectors.
- Preparation of daily/weekly/monthly reports.

Please send resume to:

Director of Human Capital, Unicomer (Belize) Limited
Email: human_resources_bz@unicomer.com
Closing date: June 30th, 2021

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STORE MANAGER

Unicomer is seeking a **sales expert** to join the Retail Sales Management team.

Orange Walk Store

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience in retail management.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience in people management.
- Experience with reviewing and understanding financial reports is an asset.
- Decision making skills.
- Ability to drive and motivate team.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide input in establishing sales targets and plan to deliver revenue.
- Develop and implement sales initiatives to achieve targets.
- Coordinate customer loyalty programs to retain and grow customer base.
- Responsible for day to day operations of the store.
- Monitor and Drive Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and metrics to maximize profitability.
- Motivate, lead and direct team to ensure optimum productivity.
- Liaise with Human Capital Department on manpower planning and training needs for branch team.

Please send resume to:

Director of Human Capital
Email: human_resources_bz@unicomer.com

Closing date: June 30th, 2021



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Stann Creek Ecumenical Junior College Vacancy

Applicants are invited for the **FULL-TIME** position of a **Communication Studies & Sociology teacher**.

- ✓ Applicants should have a minimum of a bachelor's degree with concentration in the subject area(s).
 - Teaching experience at the tertiary level (with experience in CAPE) will be an asset.
 - Competence in teaching online would also be an asset.
- ✓ Additional requirement
 - An attitude of love and concern for others
 - Knowledge of how to effectively interact with students at college level (andragogy)

Letters of application along with resume, transcript of grades, should be sent by Friday, July 9, 2021 to:

Chairperson
Board of Governors
S/C Ecumenical Junio College
P.O. Box 122
Dangriga Town

Lumumba was not a communist!

(from the Preface to THE ASSASSINATION OF LUMUMBA, by Ludo de Witte, Verso, 2001)

A good number of the writers examining Washington's role have analysed the Congo crisis in terms of the Cold War. Their discussions are based on the argument put forward by Washington and London at the time to justify Western intervention — that Soviet expansion needed to be checked.

But does this argument stand up to the facts? It is true that the year 1960 surely marked a climax in the East-West conflict. On 1 May 1960, a U2 spy plane was brought down in Soviet air space, although Eisenhower totally denied the existence of aerial espionage. At a summit meeting in Paris, the Soviet leader Nikita Krushchev called Eisenhower a liar. The summit was cancelled.

The Congo crisis turned into a war of words. Washington, London and Brussels accused Moscow of wanting to get its hands on central Africa. Lumumba was called a "communist," a "crypto-communist," or at the very least a politician who was willing to open the door to Soviet intervention. During the UN General Assembly in the autumn of that same year, Krushchev replied vehemently, accusing Hammarskjold of being an agent of imperialism, intent on safeguarding the UN's interests in the Congo.

On closer inspection, however, the Congo crisis was not really a war between East and West with hegemony to central Africa at stake. Moscow was certainly not opposed to extending its influence to the world nor to having more control, but Stalin's heirs were even more interested in stability and peaceful coexistence with Washington. The latter was a critical factor in their policies towards Africa, which after all was part of the Western hemisphere. The Kremlin had neither the political skill nor the means to threaten the West's supremacy in the Congo and this was clear to most observers at the time. The Kremlin certainly did not want to support Lumumba unconditionally during the Congo crisis; it was more

interested in a propaganda victory. Krushchev denounced Western intervention to reinforce his diplomatic position in the Afro-Asian world.

The destruction of Congolese nationalism was a devastating blow to those struggling for liberation throughout Africa, but it did not worry the blinkered conservative bureaucrats of the Kremlin: for them Lumumba and African nationalism were throwaway items. Krushchev told the US ambassador in Moscow off the record that "he was sorry for him (Lumumba) as a person when he was in prison but that his imprisonment actually served Soviet interests." For Moscow, Lumumba's defeat was no more than a propaganda coup. "With respect to Congo, 'K' said what had happened there and particularly the murder of Lumumba had helped communism." On the whole, Moscow's support for the Congolese nationalists was only ever a symbolic gesture. Was it not significant that the US ambassador to the Congo, who inundated Washington with messages about the Soviet danger in central Africa, recognised during a (behind closed doors) interview with a US Senate commission that the Kremlin's support for the Lumumbists was never more than a "trickle"?

Lumumba advocated a complete de-colonisation that would benefit the population as a whole. He had, therefore, to be stopped. In order to get public opinion on their side, Western strategists invoked a series of noble objectives. Just as the Belgian king Leopold II had legitimised the conquest of the Congo by presenting it as liberating Africans from the hands of Arab slave traders, and colonial exploitation had been justified as a civilising enterprise, so in 1960 the nationalists were destroyed in the name of protecting Africa from Soviet imperialism. "Saving Africa from the Cold War" or "containing Soviet influence in the process of de-colonisation" were the coded phrases used by the West.

Lumumba was not a communist. He was a nationalist, prepared to accept help from any quarter provided that it was unconditional help which did not compromise sovereignty.

Sunday Review News Review Talk Show

On Krem TV & Krem Radio

Live-streaming on Krem Television Face Book Page

Host: YaYa Marin Coleman Co-Host: Alba

Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 Time: 10:30 a.m. to noon

Guest: Representatives of the Belize Federation of Fishers (BFF)

Sunday Review will be repeated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 27, 2021

BELIZE TAX SERVICE DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CLEANING & MAINTENANCE
SERVICES AT CHARLES BARTLETT HYDE BUILDING, BELIZE CITY

The Belize Tax Service Department seeks expressions of interest from companies wishing to tender their services for cleaning and maintenance at our headquarters in Belize City. Sanitization and cleaning of the office is essential to provide a safe and healthy environment for the BTSD personnel and the public.

Scope of work:

To maintain a clean and healthy working environment at the BTSD at Charles Bartlett Hyde building and compound on Mahogany Street in Belize City, Belize, the contractor must undertake the following cleaning and maintenance services:

Deliverables

The scope of the contract shall include the following:

1. Cleaning of office spaces, cafeteria, kitchenette, office furniture, equipment and conference facilities along with respective fixtures.
2. Cleaning of all bathrooms and their fixtures.
3. Cleaning of the stairways, corridors and foyer area, railings and doors.
4. Cleaning of windows – internally and externally.
5. Compound maintenance.
6. Garbage disposal.

Main Activities:**a. Office space, furniture and equipment:****Daily:**

1. Sweep and mop offices spaces properly.
2. Empty office paper/wastebins.
3. Change garbage bags for office paper/waste bins.

Weekly:

1. Cleaning/dusting/polishing/sanitizing of office furniture and equipment such as:
 - ✓ Filing cabinets
 - ✓ Cupboards, shelves, desks and desk equipment
 - ✓ Printers, photocopiers, computer stations
 - ✓ Telephones and fax machines
2. Dust ceilings and walls for cobwebs (how often) – internal and external

b. Conference room

After every use – cleaning/dusting/mopping and washing of utensils

1. Dust and wipe frames, clocks and other fixtures.
2. Dust and polish all furniture.
3. Sweep and mop floors.
4. Weekly dusting of ceiling and wall to remove cobwebs.

c. Bathrooms**Daily:**

1. Properly sweep and mop floors.
2. Clean and disinfect toilets (9:00 am, 2:00 pm & 5:00 pm).
3. Clean basin, mirrors and other fixtures.
4. Empty garbage bin and change garbage bags.
5. Replenish toiletries as required - toilet paper, hand towel and handwashing liquid soap etc.

Weekly:

1. Disinfect garbage bins weekly.

d. Kitchenettes**Daily:**

1. Properly sweep and mop floors.
2. Clean microwave, coffee maker, table and sinks.
3. Empty garbage bin and change garbage bags.
4. Replenished as seen necessary washing liquid, kitchen paper towels

Weekly:

1. Disinfect garbage bins.
2. Clean refrigerators.

e. Corridors, foyer area, stairway, railing and doors**Daily:**

1. Sweep corridors, foyer area and stairway.
2. Disinfecting of doors including knobs.

As required

1. Mop corridors, foyer area stairway (Monday's, Wednesday and Friday's).
2. Clean and disinfect railings on both stairways (Wednesday and Fridays).

f. Internal and external window cleaning

1. Clean windows and windowsills (monthly or as required)
2. Clean (power wash) exterior windows and doors.
3. Dust/clean ceiling fans monthly or as required.

g. Maintain cleanliness of the grounds/building.**h. Maintain the compound and building litter free.****i. Clean drains surrounding the building.****IDENTIFICATION**

During the time, the services are being performed, all employees for the contractors shall wear identifiable clothes showing that they are contractors' workers.

The contractor shall send a list of personnel and their hours of work for the week to the Employer's representative at the beginning of each week.

SECURITY

1. The Contractor shall ensure that there is no pilferage on the part of his/her employees.
2. Most of the work to be done by the personnel in the building is highly sensitive and confidential, the Contractor and his personnel must ensure that they do not interfere with, read, make copies of, or remove any such papers from the building.
3. No such documents shall be removed from the building under the guise of being garbage or litter.
4. A police record shall be provided for all personnel.
5. The Contractor and all personnel must sign and adhere to the Confidentiality Oath.

PROVISION OF LABOUR AND EQUIPMENT

1. It is hereby understood and agreed that by the Contractor that this is a "fixed price" contract, and the Contractor shall provide all labour, equipment and cleaning supplies to perform his/her duties under this contract including One (1) supervisor, five janitors and one yard attendant.
 - There is a dedicated storage room on the premises for keeping supplies and equipment.

RESPONSIBILITY

1. The contractor shall ensure that the building has been properly cleaned in accordance with the terms and conditions of this contract.
2. The contractor is responsible for all fees, taxes and other cost related to worker's compensation, GST, Social Security contributions, etc.
3. The Contractor shall attend quarterly meetings or as requested with the representative of the employers for monitoring and evaluation of cleaning and maintenance services performed by the contractor, as set out in the terms and conditions of the contract.
4. The Contractor must invoice the Government of Belize monthly for services rendered.
5. The Government of Belize assumes no liability, expenses or cost for the conduct and work of the contractor or its employees.
6. All work must be done between the hours agreed upon.

COMENCEMENT AND DURATION

The duration of the contract is for two (2) years for the period July 1, 2021, to June 20, 2023, and is subject to satisfactory performance of the contractor.

QUALIFICATION FOR THE CLEANING COMPANY**The selected consultant should have the following characteristics:**

1. Have a minimum of three (3) years working experience in Government offices.
2. Cleaning and maintenance or similar type work experience of at least five (5) years is required.
3. Experience working in the public and private sector in similar assignment.

4. Skills, Abilities and Knowledge**The team will need to have or demonstrate the following:**

- ✓ Excellent written and communication skills in English and Spanish.
- ✓ The ability to solve problems in a timely fashion.
- ✓ Organizing a work team with hands-on experience.
- ✓ Good public relations, organizational, coordination and networking skills required.
- ✓ Honesty, integrity, and respect.
- ✓ Demonstrate daily monitoring of on-site workers.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Bidding package should contain:

1. Comprehensive proposal that includes the company's profile, interests, experience, and expertise.
2. Certificate of Good Standing from Belize Company Registry.
3. Certificate of Good Standing from the Social Security Board.
4. Certificate of Good Standing from the Belize Tax Service "For Bidding Purposes".
5. Current Trade License.
6. Two (2) recommendation letters.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Late bids will be disqualified and returned to the sender unopened.

Deadline date for submission of proposals is before or on **July 9th, 2021**, and should be addressed to

Mrs. Michelle Longsworth

Director General

Belize Tax Service Department

Charles Bartlett Hyde Building

Mahogany Street Extension, Belize City

Ref: "TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE BELIZE TAX SERVICE DEPARTMENT IN BELIZE CITY"

Belize's Digitized Transport System

by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

ORANGE WALK, Wed. June 23, 2021

The Belize Motor Vehicle Registration and License System has been discussed in the media for a number of years to date. The project was designed in collaboration with The Republic of China (Taiwan) with the aim of centralizing Belize's Transport System and streamlining a number of services, including driver and vehicle licenses, vehicular registrations, traffic tickets, and revenue collection through the digitization of records and implementation of new auditing measures.

This week that vision came to fruition when the Ambassador of Taiwan, H.E. David Kuan-Chou Chen, handed over a new transport



system at a ceremony held in Orange Walk which was attended by the Minister of Youth, Sports and E-Governance, Hon. Kevin Bernard,

and Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño.

In addition to optimizing traffic systems, the Belize Motor Vehicle

Licensing and Registration System (BMVRLS) will also serve to "strengthen the government's ability to investigate vehicle theft, violation, tax evasion and traffic accidents," according to a press release issued by the Government of Belize Press Office. This will be achieved through collaboration with several enforcement entities, such as the Police Department, Customs and Excise Department and the Magistrate's Court.

During the handing-over ceremony, Hon. Kevin Bernard remarked, "The Ministry of Youth, Sports and E-Governance, through the E-Governance and Digitization Unit, is committed to support the Belize Motor and Vehicle Licensing and Registration project and the Department of Transport. This project highlights the opportunities that can be achieved through the digital realm." Following the ceremony and during an interview with the media, the Minister also commented that the new system would be "making life easier for citizens" and that the Ministry seeks to achieve its mandate to digitize 95% of the GOB's services.

Ambassador Chen also spoke on the impact the new system will have on the daily lives of Belizeans moving forward:

"Digital information technology is an inseparable part of the daily life of the global people. This E-Government project is aimed at improving the efficiency of the Government of Belize and providing the people of Belize with a more accessible, more convenient transport registration system."

Also in attendance at the ceremony were the Minister of Public Utilities, Energy and Logistics, Hon. Rodwell Ferguson; the Mayor of Orange Walk, H.W. Ladrack Sheppard; CEO to the Ministry of Youth, Sports and E-Governance, Mr. Jose Urbina; and Chief Transport Officer, Ms. Dian Vasquez. Hon. John Briceño delivered the keynote address, during which he stated that "this is what we talk about when we say making life better for everybody. So that is a big step in effect that we are taking. We are showing our citizens how e-governance can change our lives and how it can make it better".



Sacred Heart College

P.O. Box 163, San Ignacio, Cayo,
Phone: (501) - 824 - 2102, 824 - 2758, Fax: 824 - 3759
Office of the President

Vacancies exist at Sacred Heart College for the post of:

1. One Temporary English Teacher (August 2021 – November 2021)
2. One Full Time Chemistry Teacher (August 2021 – June 2021) First year is probationary period.

Applicants must have a B.Sc. in the teaching subject area with a Diploma in Education, or B.Ed. in the teaching subject area. Experience in these areas will be an asset.

Remuneration is commensurate with MOE approved salary scales. Successful applicants should have a valid Teacher's License.

Application packages should include the following: a signed letter of application, a copy of a university diploma showing the highest earned degree, official university transcript(s), two named referees, and a copy of a valid Teacher's License.

Completed application packages can be dropped off at the College, emailed to president@shc.edu.bz. Or mail to:

Secretary
Board of Governors
P.O. Box 163
San Ignacio Town
Cayo District

Deadline for Application: July 9th, 2021

Public Auction Sale

Licensed and Certified Auctioneer, Sheldon N. C. Arnold will sell the following properties with reserve prices.

STANN CREEK PROPERTY

To Be Auctioned ON SITE on Tuesday July 06th 2021 at 10:00AM.



Location: Lot No. 2, situated in Sarawee Village, Stann Creek District, Belize.
Description: Lot - 871.851 square meters with a 1,372 square feet concrete elevated single family residence, comprising of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, an open area to facilitate kitchen, living and dining spaces, one laundry and two porches, being the fee simple property of Varlene Arzu.

Sheldon N.C. Arnold
P.O. BOX 666, Belmopan
Cell # 615-8308 or 624-5200
Email: info@arnoldenterprise.com
Website: www.arnoldenterprise.com
Terms - Cash 10% Deposit, Balance in 14 days
Financing Available, Call Ahead For Details



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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) is the primary distributor and the only licensed public provider of electricity in Belize. Our mission is to deliver safe, reliable and sustainable energy solutions to enhance the quality of life and the productivity of enterprise and to support national development.

We are looking for a highly motivated, goal-oriented, responsible and committed person to join our Company in the role of **Strategy & Business Planning Officer** in the **Strategy & Business Innovation Department** at our headquarters in Belize City.

Duties:

- Support the development of business strategy that is market responsive and stakeholder oriented.
- Develop the budget and help identify the sources of financing necessary to implement the business strategy.
- Set business targets based on the anticipated impact of the strategy and monitor performance along these targets.
- Conduct sensitivity and other scenario analyses to assess the impact of critical events on the probability of goals being realized.
- Participate in and be able to perform robust economic and business analyses to determine or recommend a particular course of action.
- Support the development and implementation of the Company's Enterprise Risk Management program
- Contribute and adhere to the safety & environmental requirements of the Company.
- Support/Lead as necessary any other functions/duties reasonably within the scope of strategy/business planning as they may arise.

Education and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Business Administration, or related field
- Minimum of three years' working experience in management consultancy, project management, economic analysis or strategy and business planning

Required Skills and Abilities:

- Exceptional analytical skills with the ability to perform quantitative analyses
- Thorough understanding of business administration, management, and business forecasting strategies and techniques
- Ability to grasp new concepts quickly, exercise sound judgment and decisiveness while maintaining high work quality
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Action and results oriented with excellent collaborative skills for pursuing shared goals
- Excellent presentation and communication skills both verbal and written
- Working knowledge of the Windows Environment and Microsoft Office applications
- Intermediate proficiency in Microsoft Excel

Salary: In accordance with Company's salary structure.

Kindly submit application letter along with resume, copy of degrees and certificates and three (3) recent professional letters of recommendation to:

Manager, Talent Acquisition and Development

Email: Career.Opportunity@bel.com.bz

In the email subject, please indicate the position:

Strategy & Business Planning Officer

Only electronic applications are being accepted at this time.

For more information or queries, call us:

227-0954 Ext. 1415 or 1416

Deadline: **Friday, July 2, 2021**

CARICOM SG takes the job



Irwin LaRoque, CARICOM Secretary General

by Dayne Guy

GREATER GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Wed. June 23, 2021

In the latest public service announcement (PSA) from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the CARICOM Secretary General, Ambassador Irwin LaRoque, encouraged all in the community to be vaccinated. "I took the jab, the COVID-19 vaccine. I am encouraging you, my brothers and sisters, to join me. Take the jab, and observe the protocols. We're saving lives and jobs," he said. Recovery from the pandemic remains key to financial recovery, especially for regions like the Caribbean.

The Caribbean has remained one of the most indebted regions worldwide -- with Barbados, Belize, Jamaica and Dominica ranking as the highest debtors in the region. The pandemic has only heightened the economic challenges in the region. The Caribbean has recorded 906,086 cases of COVID-19 in addition to 12,291 virus-related deaths cumulatively, according to statistics from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

It is of paramount importance that members of the community continue taking precautionary measures that are known to reduce the spread of coronavirus — including washing hands, wearing masks when in public places and social distancing.



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Police stepping up enforcement of Covid-19 rules

The Police will be monitoring the different social events and activities across the country. Those events include, but not limited to the following: wakes, nightclubs/ bars operating as restaurants, private parties, weddings, and beach parties

BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021
 Today, the Belize Police Department issued a press release informing the public that officers have been directed to increase their enforcement of the Covid-19 protocols across the country following what looks like a decrease in vigilance within the public and an increase in Covid-19 cases.
 The release says, "Due to the recent increase in confirmed Covid-19 cases, the Belize Police Department warns the general public that effective immediately there will be stricter enforcement of the Covid-19 regulations."
 The department stated in the release that they are intensifying their


enforcement of these rules in order to contain the spread of the virus across communities. Police will now increase the monitoring of social events and locations such as nightclubs and bars operating as restaurants, as well as private parties, weddings, wakes, beach parties, and other social gatherings.
 "We are also observing that several establishments are advertising on social media a variety of social events. The general public is advised to protect themselves by not hosting or attending these events," the Police Department's release said.
 The release adds, "Anyone caught in violation of these protocols will be prosecuted."



Raiders flashback

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021
 When the Suns got to inbound the ball trailing 102-103 against the L.A. Clippers with 0.9 seconds left on the clock in their Western Conference finals Game 2 on Tuesday night, a thought, which I couldn't help but voicing to my wife, crossed my mind, and it took me way back to the early '90s, as I'm sure it did many a semipro basketball fan in Belize, and especially Raiders fans. I said, I wonder if this will be like when Duck (Garnett) sent that inbound pass straight to Keith (Acosta) for a slam dunk (which at the time clinched the Raiders' victory and semipro

basketball championship against, I think, Santino's Hotspots?).
 Well, so said, so done. The Suns' Jae Crowder's inbound pass was like a shot just above the basket area, and Deandre Ayton outjumped Clippers' center Ivica Zubac and slammed it home for what proved the game winner.
 Apparently, it had happened once before in the NBA, and with the same Phoenix Suns, whose coach Monty Williams therefore had the "institutional memory" advantage over their opponents, most of whom apparently were unaware that the rules do not consider such a play as goal tending.



KARL HEUSNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

VACANT POSITION

Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority invites applications from suitably qualified and motivated individuals for the following vacant position:

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCE

JOB SUMMARY:
 The Human Resource (HR) Director is responsible for the smooth operations of the organization's human resources. This position oversees and provides consultation to executive management on strategic actions relating to all recruitment, labor relations, training and development, benefit and compensation administration, performance review and change management for the organization. The HR Director is also expected to take a leadership role in developing a culture that enables employees to perform in accordance with KHMHA's Vision and Strategic Direction. This position serves as principal advisor to the Chief Executive Officer and Management Team on all matters related to Human Resource Management.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Prepare and oversee implementation of short and long-term human resource strategic plans incorporating budgetary and other resource implication and monitors process accordingly.
2. Supervise employees' compliance with related Labor Laws, Regulations, Policies, Procedures, guidelines and other Practice Standards.
3. Establish and supervise implementation of a Performance Evaluation System and organization wide Employee Orientation Program for all employees.
4. Ensure employees' compensation and benefit package is in accordance with Policies, Regulations and Labor Law of Belize.
5. Develop, in collaboration with management team members, service-specific and performance competencies for all categories of employees.
6. Lead the development and execution of high-quality workforce strategies aimed at maintaining the Authority's position as the leading healthcare institution.
7. Identify, recommend and participate in the development of policies, working procedures, regulations and practice standards.
8. Develop and implement systems and work processes to sustain employees' motivation towards achievement of organization's vision, strategies, plans, programs and projects.
9. Ensure that due process is applied at all stages of decision-making and full and maintained throughout.
10. Lead effective labor relations, including negotiating and administering labor agreement.

EDUCATION and WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Master's Degree in Human Resource Management/Public Health Administration and/or Business Management or related field.
- A minimum of ten (10) years' experience in Human Resource Management or at Senior Management Level.


SALARY:

- Contract

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Must display positive work attitude
- Excellent leadership skills including; superb communication, delivery of results, consultative skills, partnership skills and team building
- Ability to resolve critical issues related to employee unions
- Be able to communicate and negotiate with multiple categories of hospital employees
- Possess strong working knowledge of Labor Laws, Public Service Regulations and Employee Relations

Completed application must be submitted along with a current police record, copy of valid Belize social security card and two letters of recommendation addressed to the (Ag.) Chief Executive Officer at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority, no later than 9th July 2021.



KARL HEUSNER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

VACANT POSITION

Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority invites applications from suitably qualified and motivated individuals for the following vacant position:

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

JOB SUMMARY:
 The Financial Controller is an Executive Manager at the KHMHA who provides leadership direction and has responsibility for the operation of the Financial Services Directorate. This position establishes and maintains financial and accounting systems, and ensures that all employees of the directorate are knowledgeable in the operations of said systems and implement them fully within their activities. The Financial Controller sets goals for departments, stations and units in order to carry out the vision of KHMHA, and requires an in-depth knowledge of KHMHA strategies, goals and plans and know-how to communicate these goals and plans to employees. The Financial Controller is responsible in safeguarding hospital assets and maintaining internal controls. Develops, evaluates, trains and counsels subordinate supervisors in the finance division in GAAP.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Oversee the functions of the Financial Services Directorate in accordance with hospital policies, objectives and mission.
2. Develop and implement policies and procedures for budget planning, accounting, expenditure control and revenue.
3. Ensure the preparation and maintenance of financial services and the preparation of reports for the hospital's internal and external financial audits.
4. Serve as corporate advisor to the KHMHA Board, Chief Executive Officer and management team.
5. Plan, organize, implement, direct and develop services and activities in the Financial Services Directorate and supervise the head of the sections within the directorate.
6. Implement in collaboration with other services directors, a resource management program to identify the overall needs of the hospital in the resource areas in budget, human resources, material, facilities, and equipment.
7. In collaboration with service directors and department heads, finalizes the annual budget submission for the approval of the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Governors.

EDUCATION:

- A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Post Graduate degree in Business Management.
- CPA, CA, ACCA designation.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- A minimum of ten years' experience in management positions in a hospital or similar health care organization.
- Experience in accounting software such as QuickBooks, SBT and ACCPAC.

SALARY:

- Contract

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

1. Demonstrated leadership skills with the ability to create, promote and participate in a teamwork environment.
2. Able to communicate clearly, concisely and accurately with all levels of staffs and patients, both verbally and in writing.
3. Self-directed, hardworking, creative and forward thinking.

Completed application must be submitted along with a current police record, copy of valid Belize social security card and two letters of recommendation addressed to the (Ag.) Chief Executive Officer at the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital Authority, no later than 9th July 2021.



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) is the primary distributor and the only licensed public provider of electricity in Belize. Our mission is to deliver safe reliable and sustainable energy solutions to enhance the quality of life and the productivity of enterprise and to support national development.

We are looking for a highly motivated, goal-oriented, responsible and committed person to join our Company in the role of **Supervisor, Financial Reporting & Analysis** in the **Finance & Accounting Department** at our headquarters in Belize City.

Duties:

- Analyze business and financial data and create financial models for decision support to organizational leaders.
- Perform financial forecasting, reporting, and operational metrics tracking for regular leadership reviews, and evaluate financial performance by comparing and analyzing actual results with plans and forecasts.
- Analyze past results, perform variance analysis, identify trends, and make recommendations for improvements.
- Work closely with the accounting team to ensure accurate financial reporting.
- Provide support to other departments regarding financial and accounting related matters.
- Assist with policy compliance by providing support to External Auditors for quarterly and annual audits and internal auditor for procedural audits.
- Provide budget planning support, analysis, and reporting.
- Formulate and implement policies and procedures where necessary.
- Engage, coach and mentor staff while fostering a work environment that is consistent with the mission, vision and values of the Company.

Education and Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Finance
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) certification is desired
- Minimum of three years' accounting experience with focus on financial reporting requirements
- Two years' relevant supervisory experience

Required Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to analyze and interpret financial data
- Extensive knowledge of accounting concepts and principles
- Possess exceptional analytical and problem-solving skills
- Ability to grasp new concepts quickly, exercise sound judgment and decisiveness while maintaining high work quality
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Action and results oriented with excellent collaborative skills for pursuing shared goals
- Strong supervisory, leadership and coaching skills
- Ability to foster continuous learning through research and other forms of learning
- Ability to prioritize tasks and delegate them when appropriate
- Working knowledge of the Windows Environment and Microsoft Office applications
- Intermediate proficiency in Microsoft Excel (managing spreadsheets with large sets of data, creating charts and using advanced formulas)

Salary: In accordance with Company Salary Structure.

Kindly submit application letter along with resume, copy of degrees and certificates and three (3) recent professional letters of recommendation to:

Manager, Talent Acquisition & Development
Email: Career.Oppportunity@bel.com.bz

In the email subject, please indicate the position:
Supervisor, Financial Reporting & Analysis

Only electronic applications are being accepted at this time.
For more information or queries, call us:
227-0954 Ext. 1415 or 1416

Deadline: Friday, July 2, 2021

Miami building collapse: 51 people unaccounted for



Collapsed Building

Microsoft

BBC

At least one person has died and 51 others are unaccounted for after the collapse overnight of a 12-storey residential building north of Miami, Florida, officials say.

Rescuers are combing the rubble in the search for survivors and were seen pulling a boy out alive.

It is unclear how many people were in the building at the time.

The complex in the town of Surfside was built in 1980. Out of 130 units, about half were affected by the collapse. Fifty-one people believed to have been living in the building have not yet been contacted, County Commissioner José Díaz said.

Rescuers pulled 35 people from the wreckage, officials said. Ten were assessed and treated, of whom two were sent to hospital.

"The back of the building, probably a third or more, is totally pancaked," Surfside Mayor Charles Burkett told a news conference. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who visited the site on Thursday afternoon, said the fire and rescue service was still in "search and rescue mode".

"The TV doesn't do it justice. It is really, really traumatic to see the collapse of a massive structure like that," he said. A community centre in Surfside has been turned into a family reunification centre and an information point for concerned relatives.

This full article can be viewed at : <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-57592827>

This article was first published by BBC news.

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Unplanned retirement for 50+ CitCo employees



by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

BELIZE CITY, Wed. June 23, 2021

The Belize City Council has announced that it will be releasing approximately fifty (50) employees from the council's workforce in the

coming months. In a press release dated June 23, CitCo stated that the previous administration put "no tactical plan in place to address the aging workforce, accrued entitlements like gratuity or severance, and the projected increase in monthly

pensions." Based on their projections, the council foresees that the number of employees passing the legal retirement age would be roughly seventy (70) employees by the end of 2021, with gratuities estimated at \$500,000, and that number (of employees over 55 years old) would increase to roughly one hundred (100) by 2024, with gratuities estimated at \$1.4M.

CitCo will thus be engaging in a "phased retirement of council staff," according to the release. Phase one of the plan is set to commence on July 1, 2021, and will conclude at the end of October. At the end of this first phase, a total of twenty-one employees aged 60 and above will have been placed in retirement by the council. During phase two, which will begin in August and run concurrently with phase 1, the council will oversee the retirement

of twenty-two employees between the ages of 57 and 59. Finally, the retirement of ten employees between the ages of 55 and 57 will take place in phase three, which will begin in September.

Despite serving as mayor for a second consecutive term, Mayor Wagner stated that he had to put the plan into effect this year because if it had been enacted prior to 2020, those affected would not have qualified for severance pay. The plan will unfortunately affect mainly members of the Operational Support and Maintenance (Sanitation) sections of CitCo's staff who were "previously employed with private sanitation companies under contract with the city."

The release goes on to state that the Belize City Council has been in communication with the Christian Workers' Union (CWU) to inform them of the phased approach and walk them through the necessary steps being taken. Further, the council has stated that any further delay of their plan would result in an increased liability, and that many of their "aged" employees are finding it difficult to carry out their assigned duties.

Following initial reports that the council was firing employees, we were able to speak with Mayor Wagner in an exclusive interview, during which he took the opportunity to clarify what is taking place:

"Like what I stated previously, it's not firing or termination but really, retirement. An exercise that should've been done ten, fifteen years ago. If all the previous councils were complying with the City Council Act, which clearly states that the retirement age is 55, we wouldn't have been in the position where you are accruing gratuities, entitlements, severance, and pension as you go along. So, we look at it in a way where we needed to stop the continuous increase in those people who should be retired," Mayor Wagner said.

He further explained, "If we continued by the end of 2021, we would've had 70 employees due gratuity payments, which would've taken us in the neighborhood of \$500,000. Some of these employees have already surpassed the legal retirement age. Most of them are from Sanitation and Operational Support. They were previously employed by S.E.L. and B.M.L. and they came back to the Council, and so some of them will lose the benefit of pension, because I believed those were paid in, but of course they will be getting all they are due to them from the Council in terms of severance, in terms of gratuity... After the retirement phases have occurred, we will want to ensure that we comply every year, given the adequate notice to the employees that you're expected to retire next year so begin to make your plans so that we never be in a situation where we have a substantial percentage of our staff surpassing the retirement age."



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST VACANCIES - MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

The Government of Belize, through the Ministry of Infrastructure and Housing, is desirous of recruiting suitably qualified and experienced candidates to fill vacant positions as specified in the Table 1 below:

POSITION	DUTIES	MINIMUM QULIFICATIONS
Executive Engineer (3)	Assist with design of Roads, Bridges and Buildings. Conduct geotechnical investigation. Conduct assessment of Roads, Bridges and Buildings.	BSc. in Civil / Structural / Hydraulic / Transportation Engineering. Proficiency in usage of computers and office software packages, Competency in use of AutoCad and Civil-3D, Competency in use of project control software such as MS Project or equivalent,
Land Surveyor (1)	Conduct Topographical Surveys Conduct Cadastral Surveys Setting out of Roads, Buildings & Bridges	HND or equivalent in Land Surveying 3 yrs experience in conducting topographical survey and setting out of roads or other related structures.
Senior Mechanics (4)	Diagnose light and Heavy-Duty equipment. Conduct repairs of Diesel and Gas Vehicles Assist with inspection & assessment of vehicles/Equipment. Servicing of Vehicles /Equipment	ITVET Diploma in Automotive Repair Experience in diagnosis of Light & Heavy-Duty equipment. At least 3 years of experience in diagnosing, repairing and servicing vehicles and Heavy Duty equipment
Heavy Equipment Operators - Loaders/ Excavators/Grade rs/ Bulldozers (5)	Operate Heavy Duty equipment such as Bulldozers, Excavators, Loaders & Graders	Must have appropriate license for equipment type. Must have min of 3 years of experience operating the respective equipment. Must be conversant with basic servicing of equipment

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites suitably qualified and experienced individuals to indicate their interest in filling the position. Interested individuals should submit their curriculum vitae providing sufficient information establishing their qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services in accordance with the prescribed minimum requirements. Submittals must be in English and clearly indicate the position of interest.

Three hardcopies or preferably a scanned copy of the Expression of Interest, including CV, copies of qualifications along with names of two (2) references and their contact information, must be submitted to the MIDH'S Offices via direct mail or email at the address indicated below by **10:00 am local Belize time on July 8, 2021.**

Interested candidates may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 8 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday. The full terms of reference and duties are available on MIDH's website: <http://www.midh.bz>.

Candidates will be selected in accordance with the Government of Belize's procurement procedures as set out in the GOB website.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
POWER LANE
BELMOPAN
TEL: 822-2136/39
EMAIL: ceo.secretary@mow.gov.bz**

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY

BY ORDER of the Chargees, Messrs. Alpha Gamma Financial Services Limited, Licensed Auctioneer, Fernando Molina, will sell the following properties, being the freehold property of Palmetto Holdings Ltd., TOGETHER with all buildings and erections thereon in one lot by way of public auction on site on **Monday, the 5th of July, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.:**

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	662(1.91 Acres), 663 (1.60 Acres), 664 (1.29 Acres), 665(1.14 Acres), 678 (0.99 Acre), 679 (0.98 Acre)



TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

For further particulars on the properties, please contact:

Email: info@beaconrealtybz.com

Tel: 610-0919

Pardon the Interruption



Belize Electricity Limited advises its customers in the **Cayo and Stann Creek Districts** that the supply of electricity will be temporarily interrupted as follows:

Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021

Time: 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Area: Dangriga, Silk Grass, Hopkins, Sittee, Kendall Maya Center, Riversdale, Melinda, Sarawee, Hope Creek, Pomona, Alta Vista, Steadfast, Valley Community, Middlesex, Hummingbird Community, Santa Martha, St. Margaret's and Hershey.

BEL apologizes for the inconvenience caused. This scheduled power outage is necessary for our teams to replace utility poles, remove vegetation growing into powerlines, and conduct power line upgrades and maintenance of the Dangriga Substation.

Call Toll Free, 24 Hours
0-800-BEL-CARE OR 0-800-235-2273
for customer inquiries and information on power interruptions.

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We are looking for talented, self-motivated individuals to join our growing B&B Family of 1,200+ who are united in achieving a common mission.

Belize District

Position: Industrial & Operations/Systems Engineer

To oversee and ensure the efficiency and reliability of all processes and equipment at worksites, to develop and implement action plans for achieving production targets and to collaborate with engineers to implement projects.

Education & Skills:

- Bachelor of Science in Industrial or Operations/Systems Engineering.
- Excellent troubleshooting and problem-solving skills in mechanical, electrical and Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) operating systems.
- Expertise in engineering and computer-assisted design software.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite including MS Project.

Application Deadline: July 2, 2021

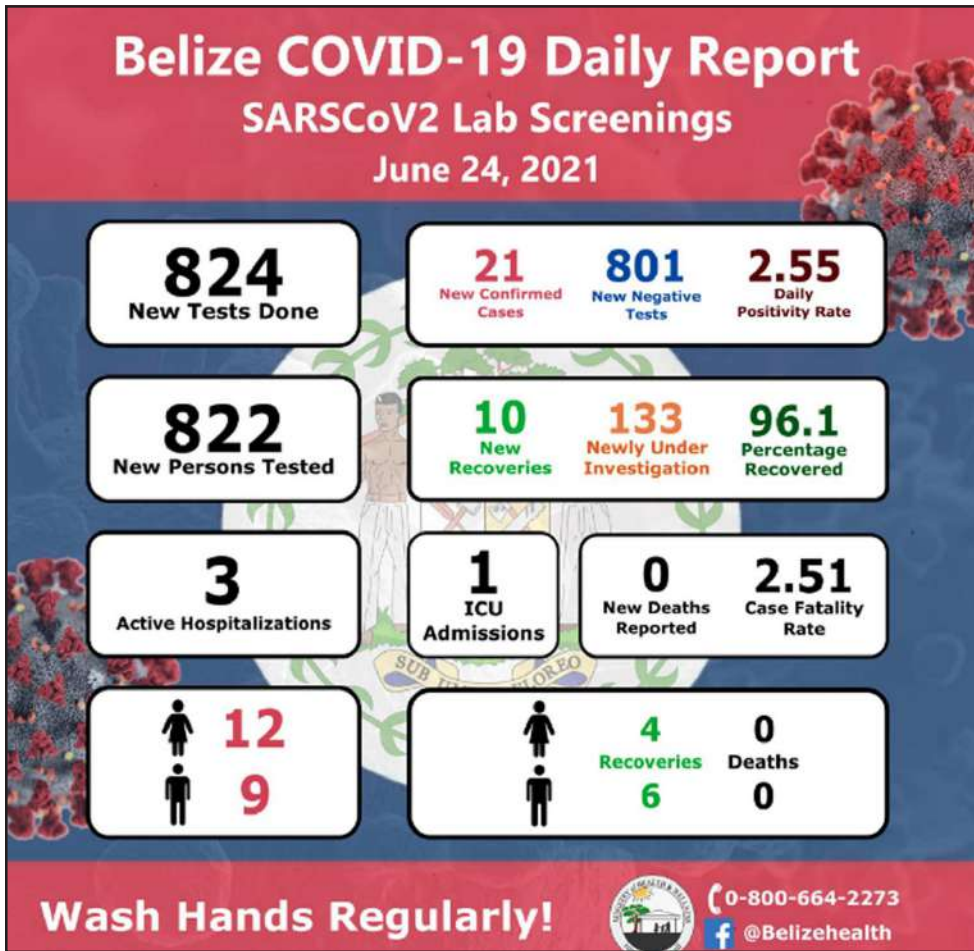
We are looking forward to hearing from you.

REALIZE YOUR CAREER POTENTIAL.

Send us your resume today!

- ✉ recruitment@bowen.bz
- 🏠 Attn: recruitment Team, Bowen & Bowen, Ltd
One King Street, PO Box 37, Belize City
- 📞 0-800-BOWENBZ (0-800-269-3629)





Covid-19 update

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

Today, the Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. Michel Chebat, told the media that his Ministry would be relaunching its Covid-19 inoculation campaign. The Government of Belize continues to urge all Belizeans to start their inoculation process. To date, a total of 79,993 persons in the country have received at least the first jab of the Covid-19 vaccine.

Today, the Ministry also received cold storage equipment from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This donation will give the country the capacity to store up to 9,000 multi-vials of the Pfizer vaccine at temperatures as low as -86 degrees Celsius.

The vaccine from Pfizer is approved for use in children 12 years of age and older. The United States has committed to begin donation of these jabs to countries across the globe as a part of its response to the pandemic.

Over the past week, Belizeans were dismayed to learn that an infant just 15 days old had tested positive for the deadly virus. The child was tested after being admitted to a local hospital with seizures and a high fever.

This case was detected in the northern part of the country, where the Health Ministry is monitoring an upsurge of cases in those districts, especially Orange Walk. Two active clusters are currently isolated in that area.

Today, the Health Ministry's epidemiological team detected a total of 21 cases from a batch of 824 tests processed. They recorded 10 additional recoveries from the virus and 3 active hospitalizations, with one of those hospitalized persons needing intensive care. No additional death was recorded on that day.

To date, a total of 13,104 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been identified in the country since the start of the pandemic. Around 96.1%, or 12,595, of those persons have recovered. Our death toll now stands at 329 fatalities. At this time,

a total of 164 cases are active across the country.

As mentioned, data issued today shows that a total of 79,993 persons within the country have received at least the first jab of the Covid-19 vaccine. A total of 26,017 persons are fully vaccinated, and about 1061 persons were vaccinated today.

On June 23, a total of 20 new cases were found from a batch of 603 tests. Four recoveries were logged, and no new deaths were identified. No hospitalization was recorded on that day.

Over the past weekend, from June 19 to 21, a total of 1637 tests were processed by the team at the Ministry of Health and Wellness. Among those samples tested, 35 new cases were identified and 17 recoveries were logged. Unfortunately, one new death was identified over the weekend — a woman from the Toledo district. One hospitalization was recorded on that day.

Another death was identified in data from June 17 -18. The person who died during that two-day period was also a woman — this time from Orange Walk. A total of 10 new cases were found from the 1303 tests processed. On that day, 44 recoveries were logged and five active hospitalizations were recorded.

At this time, the Delta variant, which first emerged in India, is now starting to surface in cases across European countries.

“Based on available scientific evidence, the Delta variant is more transmissible than other circulating variants and we estimate that by the end of August it will represent 90% of all SARS-CoV-2 viruses circulating in the European Union,” Andrea Ammon, the ECDC Director, stated.

Closer to home, Cuba has announced a high rate of efficacy in its homegrown vaccine candidate, Abdala. The latest results from clinical trials suggest a 92.8% efficacy of the vaccine against the Covid-19 virus.



VACANCIES at OCEAN ACADEMY

Caye Caulker Ocean Academy (OA) is a unique, award-winning secondary school that links academics to the real world and emphasizes social enterprise, innovation, technology, and research-based education to lead students along a path of being mindful, identifying one's passion, making money, and creating legacy. OA is committed to universal education and our school motto is “Preserving our Heritage, Creating our Future.” If you are creative, flexible, patient, and driven to empower youth, we invite you to apply for the following position:

ENGLISH TEACHER Forms I, II, III

Candidates must possess the following qualifications:

- Teacher training and/or experience
- Possession of a valid Teacher's License
- Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree

Interest and ability to:

- Inspire passion for writing, reading, and communicating
- Inspire, encourage, and support diverse students;
- Teach at the CXC level;
- Make connections between academic content and real-world apprenticeships and internships;
- Differentiate instruction according to ability and need;
- Use technology and creativity in designing effective lesson plans;
- Inspire positive morale within the class and among staff;
- Remain committed to retention of students;
- Be willing to think outside of the box; and
- Commit to ongoing professional development and growth.

SALARY: Per the Ministry of Education Payscale plus a Housing Stipend

Application deadline: Until the current position is filled. Kindly email application letter, copy of ID, and resume with supporting documents and two letters of reference to: admin@oaseatide.com.

Ocean Academy SEaTIDE, Caye Caulker, Belize District, Belize,

www.oaseatide.com, 226-0321 / 629-6028



Wear a mask. Save lives.

Wear a mask

Clean your hands

Keep a safe distance

Patrolling police shot near Guat border



SPU officer, Rolando Camara

by Dayne Guy

MACHAKILHA VILLAGE, Belize, Tues. June 22, 2021

Today, June 22, during a joint patrol in Machakilha village near the border that separates Belize and Guatemala, a 22-year-old police officer who is attached to the Special Patrol Unit was shot in the leg following an encounter with alleged xateros from Guatemala, who often cross the border to extract xate plants from Belizean territory.

The incident happened in the afternoon while a patrol was being conducted by 25 Belize Defence Force (BDF) soldiers and two police officers. Reports indicate that while the group of law enforcement officers was heading to an outpost located in the village, the 22-year-old police officer, Rolando Camara, trailed behind so that he could get some water from a nearby river.

According to Camara, his team had continued on their trek to the outpost while he was scooping up water from the river. At that point, two men of Hispanic descent, who were both armed, approached him. One of the men, who, it is believed, was wielding a makeshift shotgun, then fired a shot, injuring Camara in the left calf. Camara then fired shots of his own as the attackers fled.

Some time after the encounter, Camara's fellow police officer, David Jones, realized that his colleague wasn't present and informed the BDF commander of his absence. The BDF commander then ordered the patrol to walk back along their trail in search of the missing officer. The patrol team searched along many routes, but it was not until hours later that Jones found Camara nursing his wound after he had fired warning shots.

Camara was rushed to San Jose Village, after which he was taken to the Punta Gorda Hospital to receive treatment.

Canada: At least 600 graves found at Indigenous boarding school

Saskatchewan, Canada. Thu. Jun 24, 2021 – Aljazeera News

Cowessess First Nation announced the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves on the grounds of the former Marieval Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan, Canada and Indigenous leaders say they will find more at other sites.

Chief Cadmus Delorme of the Cowessess First Nation in Saskatchewan said they had found at least 600 graves after radar detected 751 "hits" in a field on the school grounds.

"This is not a mass gravesite. These are unmarked graves," he said in a news conference on Tuesday.

Chief Bobby Cameron of the Federation of Sovereign Indian Nations said the discovery, coupled with the recent discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia, shows "genocide" committed by Canada.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada determined in 2015 that more than 150,000 Indigenous children had been forced into residential schools. Cameron said on Tuesday there are many burial sites like at Marieval and Kamloops and that searches will continue.

"We will find more bodies and we will not stop until we find all our children."

"The world is watching Canada as we unearth the findings of genocide. We had concentration camps here. We had them here in Canada, in Saskatchewan, they were called Indian residential schools," he said.

"Now we have evidence."

The gravesite at Marieval was administered by the Roman Catholic Church, Delorme said. Over the years, oral stories from Indigenous elders



talked of the burials.

"In 1960, there may have been marks on these graves," Delorme said. "The Catholic Church representatives removed these headstones and today they are unmarked graves."

Removing gravestones is a crime in Canada, Delorme said, and the area is being treated as a crime scene.

"We cannot confirm they are all children. But there are oral stories that there are adults in this gravesite, as well."

Delorme said the ground-penetrating radar technology used to discover the graves had an error rate of roughly 10 to 15 percent. There were 715 "hits", which means "at least 600" graves, Delorme explained.

The discovery comes weeks after the remains of 215 children were found at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau described that discovery as heartbreaking.

Elder Florence Sparver recalled her time at the Marieval boarding school. She said the Catholic nuns were "rough" with Indigenous children and barred them from keeping their customs.

"We had our own way of honouring ourselves and Mother Earth," Sparver said, remember that Indigenous "blessings" were banned.

Canada's history of boarding schools for Indigenous children has made national news following the Kamloops discovery.

"They would just start beating you and lose control and hurl you against the wall, throw you on the floor, kick you, punch you," Geraldine Bob, a survivor of the Kamloops Indian Residential School, said about her experience there in a report.

Kamloops was also administered by the Catholic Church. Pope Francis expressed "pain" and offered condolences after the "upsetting discovery of the remains of 215 children". But he did not accept responsibility for his church's actions.

"The pope needs to apologise for what has happened to the Marieval residential school" to help survivors and descendants heal, Delorme said.

"An apology is one stage of many in the healing journey."

This article was first published by Aljazeera.

Climate colonialism and the EU's Green Deal

By employing corporate solutions for climate change, the EU's Green Deal will entrench further European neocolonial practices.

by Myriam Douo - Racial and Climate Justice activist

23 June 2021 – Aljazeera

Since the beginning of the year, the Amazon Rainforest, our largest tropical forest full of ecosystems essential to global climate regulation networks, has had 430,000 acres (174,000 hectares) cleared and burned to supply the logging industry and clear land for livestock breeding. Between August 2019 and July 2020, another 2.7 million acres (1.1 million hectares) were destroyed. Much of the wood and meat produced in Brazil from this deforestation ends up in Global North markets.

In Southeast Asia, deforestation linked to the palm oil industry also continues. Between 2018 and 2020, almost 500,000 acres (202,000 hectares) of rainforest were cleared in just three countries:

Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea, leading to Indigenous communities losing their land. The demand for palm oil from top food brands in the Global North remains high, despite their commitments to reduce use.

Meanwhile, the push for green sources of energy, particularly in the Global North, is driving the demand for metals like nickel, cobalt and lithium. Labourers in mining communities working to extract these metals face dangerous and degrading working conditions.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the use of child labour in cobalt mines is widespread, putting the lives of children at risk, damaging their health and depriving them of education. In Bolivia, Chile and Argentina, lithium mining uses large quantities of water, accelerating desertification and polluting underground waters and rivers, putting the health of local

communities at risk.

According to data gathered by London-based NGO Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, there have been 304 complaints of human rights violations by 115 companies mining these minerals.

Although the end of colonialism was declared decades ago, its last effects in the form of these extractive industries are clear. The system of Indigenous land takeovers, resource extraction, labour exploitation and wealth transfer set up by European colonialists continues to operate and dispossess people in the Global South.

It is against the backdrop of this neo-colonial reality that the European Union announced its Green Deal at the end of 2019.

Underpinned by an apolitical narrative that humans have already changed the Earth's climate and degraded the majority of its ecosystems, so action needs to be taken, the Green Deal completely ignores the fact that the Global North was the main

Please turn to **Page 38**

Excerpt from Cuban Foreign Minister's statement to the UN General Assembly

His Excellency, Mr. President;
Excellencies, Permanent
Representatives;
Delegates all;

In 2020, Cuba, like the rest of the world, had to cope with the extraordinary challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The government of the United States considered the virus as an ally in its ruthless, non-conventional war. It deliberately and opportunistically tightened the economic, commercial, and financial blockade and caused our country to incur record losses estimated at around 5 billion dollars.

President Donald Trump applied 243 unilateral coercive measures intended to restrict travel by US citizens to our country and damage tourist markets in third countries. He adopted measures that are proper to times of war with the purpose of depriving us from fuel supplies. He persecuted the health services that Cuba offers in numerous countries. He increasingly harassed our country's commercial and financial transactions in other markets and set out to spread fear among foreign investors and commercial entities through the implementation of Title III of the Helms-Burton Act.

He also hindered the regular and institutional flow of remittances to families. He dealt very harsh blows to self-employed or private workers and

hampered the links with Cubans residing in the United States as well as family reunification.

All these measures remain in force today and are being fully implemented. And, paradoxically, they are shaping up the behavior of the current US administration, particularly during the months when Cuba has experienced the highest COVID-19 infection rate; the highest number of fatalities and a much worse economic impact.

The Democratic Party electoral platform promised voters to swiftly reverse the actions taken by the administration of Donald Trump, particularly the elimination of restrictions on travel to Cuba, financial remittances, and the implementation of the bilateral migration accords, including the granting of visas.

It is a well-established fact that a large majority of US citizens support the lifting of the blockade and the freedom to travel to the island and that Cubans living in this country want normal relations and wellbeing for their families.

There are some who put the blame of this pernicious inertia on the electoral ambitions associated to Florida or the balances, in no way transparent, of the political and legislative elites.

What would those who voted for President Joseph Biden think about what is going on?

Adriana Rivas: Pinochet-era suspect loses extradition appeal

June 24, 2021 – BBC Latin America

A woman suspected of involvement in the kidnapping of seven people during the rule of General Augusto Pinochet in Chile is one step closer to facing charges, after a court in Australia quashed her appeal against extradition.

Adriana Rivas, 68, has been living in Australia for more than four decades but is accused of working for Chile's secret police in the 1970s.

She was arrested in Sydney in 2019. Ms Rivas could still appeal against this decision.

Chilean authorities accuse Ms Rivas of having participated in the disappearance of the secretary-general of Chile's Communist Party, Víctor Díaz, and six of his supporters in 1976. The seven are presumed dead.

She is facing charges of aggravated kidnapping. Chile has filed an extradition request to Australia, which she has been fighting.

Ms Rivas was a secretary for the infamous chief of Chile's secret police force, Manuel Contreras, from 1973 to 1976. Contreras died in 2015 while serving a sentence of more than 500 years for human rights abuses.

Ms Rivas worked at the National Intelligence Directorate (Dina), the secret police force founded by Gen Pinochet to hunt down his political opponents.



Adriana Rivas

The Dina was at the centre of Gen Pinochet's campaign to silence opposition to his rule after he seized power in a military coup in September 1973.

Its agents abducted, tortured, and killed thousands of people before the agency was replaced by the equally brutal CNI, an army intelligence battalion.

More than 40,000 people were politically persecuted and of those, more than 3,000 died or disappeared during the Pinochet era, which lasted from 1973 to 1990.

Ms Rivas has denied involvement in the kidnappings, but in a 2013 interview with Australian broadcaster SBS she described her years at the Dina as "the best of my life".

She told SBS how she was given an allowance for clothes, invited to glamorous events, travelled in luxury cars and stayed at upmarket hotels.

Asked about the torture carried out by Dina agents, she said that "they had to break the people - it has happened all over the world, not only in Chile".

While Ms Rivas has denied taking part in any torture sessions, witnesses alleged in interviews given to documentary filmmaker Lissette Orozco that she was one of Dina's "most brutal torturers" who allegedly played a key role in the elite Lautaro Brigade, which was tasked with killing the leadership of Chile's underground Communist Party.

Ms Orozco, who is Ms Rivas' niece, spent five years making a documentary about her aunt, which was screened at the 2017 Berlin film festival.

But as she found out more about Ms Rivas's involvement in the secret police, the film became a journey which shows the filmmaker increasingly confronting her aunt in conversations via Skype as well as talking to those fighting for justice for Dina's victims.

During her appeal, which was rejected on Thursday, Ms Rivas questioned the authenticity of documents which alleged she had been a Dina agent.

Ms Rivas can take her fight against extradition all the way to the High Court of Australia, a process which could prove lengthy.

This article was first published by BBC news.

Nicaragua's fragile leader and his ruthless crackdown on rivals

Before he was murdered in 1978, journalist Pedro Joaquín Chamorro wrote an open letter to Nicaragua's dictator, Anastasio Somoza Debayle. In it, he told the reviled military leader how much the people on the streets despised him and that his iron rule resembled "that of a king in children's stories".

Three years later, Chamorro was dead, forced off the road and gunned down by Somoza's henchmen. Today, his daughter, the presidential candidate Cristiana Chamorro, is under house arrest by the government of Daniel Ortega, the man who helped force Somoza from power.

Her detention on money-laundering charges is part of an alarming clampdown on high-profile opponents to President Ortega and his wife, Vice-President Rosario Murillo. In all, five potential candidates for the presidential election in November 2021 have been arrested, as well as numerous journalists and businessmen, most of them under a controversial treason law.

"We're in a period of absolute irrationality in Nicaragua," says poet and novelist Gioconda Belli.

On Wednesday, Daniel Ortega reappeared in public for the first time since May. Looking frail, the 75-year-old delivered a typically bombastic speech which lasted for more than an hour and covered everything from North Korea's nuclear ambitions to the recent spate of arrests.

He insists the actions were justified,

and said the detainees would be "punished according to the law" for supposedly carrying out crimes against the state. "Nicaragua is the safest country in the region," he claimed defiantly.

Not, however, if you are one of the president's critics.

Gioconda Belli says Vice-President Murillo's recent speeches have been equally erratic, "a mixture of religion and insults which rail constantly against 'coup-plotters' and Satanism. The government's narratives exhibit extreme levels of paranoia."

In part, the presidential couple's fear and suspicion are rooted in the events of 2018 when protests over pension reforms quickly grew into much larger anti-government demonstrations. The authorities responded with lethal force and more than 300 people were killed, the majority of them anti-Ortega protesters.

"In 2018, they lost the streets," says Nicaraguan sociologist Oscar René Vargas. "The repression was carried out so that people wouldn't return to the streets again."

The treason law and subsequent crackdown are signs the president and his wife view their rule as "fragile", Mr Vargas argues. They have turned to the "only force they have left - an alliance between the military, the police and [radical pro-Ortega] paramilitaries".

That is a potent and frightening prospect for any vocal critic or presidential rival. "They're trying to

decapitate the leaders of a social movement and remove any possibility of a new tsunami of social uprising", scar René Vargas says bleakly.

Among those arrested is Dora María Téllez, a former commander with the Sandinista rebel group who led a split from Daniel Ortega in 1990 after he lost power following Nicaragua's violent civil war.

When I last spoke to her, she was in hiding from the Ortega government. A day earlier, her home had been raided by government agents and she could barely hide her disgust at her former ally, even though they had parted ways many years earlier.

Nicaragua has "zero democracy, completely corrupted institutions, a regime which solely remains in place through repression and terror," she said from an undisclosed location. She now faces the prospect of 15 years in prison.

The treason law states in generic terms that anyone found guilty of acting against "the independence, the sovereignty and self-determination" of Nicaragua could be designated a traitor. A deeply compromised judiciary can easily conflate legitimate criticism of the president with crimes against the state.

The full article can be viewed at : <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-57594114>

This article was first published by BBC Latin America.

COVID-19 vaccination campaign re-launched

(From page 1)



Hon. Michel Chebat

by Dayne Guy

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. June 24, 2021

While being interviewed by local media, the Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. Michel Chebat, announced that the Health Ministry will be relaunching its vaccination campaign. This new phase of the campaign will commence on Wednesday, June 30, and is aimed at significantly increasing the number of persons in the community who have been vaccinated.

During the preceding campaign, healthcare personnel visited rural communities that would normally not have vaccines readily available to them. The Ministry of Health and Wellness had also engaged the various village leaders and asked them to assist by using their influence in the community to help promote the importance of vaccination.

This new phase of the campaign is being launched before two key events that will result in increased person-to-person interaction and activity — and thus increased risk of

transmission of the virus, which will require rigorous oversight by the Health Ministry. On July 7, cruise ships will be returning to Belize, and many in the community are concerned that increased interaction between locals and tourists may cause surges in the number of cases. However, the ministry has pledged to put in place proper protocols to minimize the potential spread.

In addition, schools will be fully reopened in August, so vaccinations remain paramount. While children

are generally asymptomatic when they contract the virus, they are still carriers and vectors for viral transmission. Minister Chebat noted, “Ninety-five percent of the time, they’re asymptomatic. The problem is that when they go home, they run the risk of infecting the older members of their families.”

Vaccinations remain an important part of the ministry’s response to the pandemic. The ministry intends to use the 100,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine that the country recently received through bilateral agreements with Mexico to carry out inoculations during its upcoming campaign. Additionally, Minister Chebat revealed that the ministry plans to procure vaccines that can be used to treat persons aged 12-18, since these young ones will become a key target group when schools reopen.

Minister Chebat urges all persons in the country to get vaccinated. “The worst thing that can happen to you if you get vaccinated is, it is going to save your life,” he said.

UDP coup de théâtre: Shyne ousts Patrick

Continued from Page 1

Three of the five UDP parliamentarians in the House of Representatives — Hon. Hugo Patt, Hon. Denise Barrow and Hon. Shyne himself — signed on to the letter sent to the GG, effectively staging a coup against their leader, Hon. Faber. The UDP area representative for the Albert constituency, Hon. Tracy Panton, who disassociated herself from Shyne’s public comments against Faber at the time of the emergence of the domestic violence video that brought Faber’s leadership into question, and who shied away from Hon. Shyne’s efforts to endorse her as new UDP leader, also chose not to sign the letter to oust the party leader from the role as head of the Opposition’s business in the House of Representatives.

Of note, two members of the Barrow family signed on to the motion of no-confidence against Faber: Hon. Shyne Barrow, the member for Mesopotamia, and his aunt, Hon. Denise Barrow, area representative for the Queen’s Square division — the son and sister of former Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow respectively. The deputy party leader of the UDP, Hon. Hugo Patt, also decided to side with the Barrow faction, leaving Faber isolated and without recourse.

For his part, the embattled UDP party leader, Hon. Patrick Faber, is yet to make an official comment on his dethronement in the House and the most recent efforts to oust him from the leadership role in the party. When news of Shyne’s ascension to the role of Leader of the Opposition broke, Faber posted just one word on Facebook, “AMAZING.”

The purported reasons for the coup against Faber were discussed by Barrow in subsequent media interviews following the announcement. While the video of Faber’s domestic outburst still appears to be the trigger that set the process of unseating him in motion, Barrow also pointed to other reasons for his ousting.

He remarked that Faber’s inability to unite the party has resulted in a fissure, one that now has to be sutured by new leadership. He also said that the UDP leader had flatly rejected a suggestion that he seek professional help to treat what Barrow classified as an “ailment”.

“For the last eight months, there has been a great division in our party. If you recall, he lost the leadership convention and again I am consistent,

the candidate that he lost to, the Hon. John Saldívar, I am one of the first people who asked him to resign in the interest of the party.” Barrow said on a local morning show.

In remarks released on social media, John Saldívar, who had held the post of UDP leader for a very short period before being defeated by Faber in a subsequent UDP convention after his unsavory connection with US fraudsters was revealed, commented, “The current sad situation in the UDP is not about Shyne Barrow nor John Saldívar, it’s about Patrick Faber and his fitness to lead our Party and country. Plain and simple. There are those who are prepared to once again pardon his behavior and that is their right, but for you UDPs who want to hate on those of us who will have no more of it, your double standard is hypocritical.”

So, after almost 20 years of leadership under Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, the UDP is now struggling to find its footing. Hon. Shyne has said that his goal is to preserve the party and act as a custodian until the viable candidates for leadership come forward to take on the task.

He remarked that by his action he is, “seizing a moment in history” by “answering the call” for leadership in the UDP.

Hon. Moses “Shyne” Barrow, a former rapper who had been signed to P Diddy’s Bad Boy label, is effectively the new Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives in Belize.

He is a novice politician, who became the standard bearer for the Mesopotamia constituency after his uncle, political powerhouse Michael Finnegan, retired from politics after representing that division for decades. Barrow’s father, Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, was the leader of the UDP for decades before finally stepping down from that role.

When asked if Shyne’s family affiliation had any bearing on his ascension to the leadership of the Opposition side of the Lower House, UDP party chairman, Michael Peyeffitte, said there has been no indication that this is indeed the case and added that he has committed to seeing that this new UDP deals with its problems without involving the old guard.

He also noted that the members of the Opposition can choose whom they want to represent them at any time, as provided for in the Constitution.

communities on the continent as well as the Global South.

It relies on tech solutions and silver-bullet ideas, promising to lead a “green, sustainable” economy with electric vehicles, solar panels, wind turbines and other exciting renewable innovations.

But the question is, who will this be sustainable for?

In order not to fall into climate colonialism, the European Green Deal needs a clear plan to eradicate harmful extractive

models, recognise its historical responsibility in the climate crisis, and provide accountability for the damage EU companies cause in the Global South.

This full article can be viewed at : <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/6/23/the-eus-green-deal-could-propagate-climate-colonialism>

This article was first published by Aljazeera as an op-ed written by Myriam Douo.

Climate colonialism and the EU’s Green Deal

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driver of climate change and environmental degradation across the world.

European governments and corporations not only damaged and destroyed the environment on the continent and exploited local marginalised communities, but have been engaged in the same exact behaviour and worse, on all other continents.

The natural world in Africa, Asia and Latin America has been destroyed through the capitalist economic systems deployed by the Global North which normalised, expanded and strengthened hyper-extraction through overproduction and over-consumption.

The European Green Deal does not outline how it will reconcile and repair the losses and damages EU countries have caused to ecosystems and communities outside of Europe. Nor does it acknowledge how these damages force people in the Global South to migrate to Europe’s shores,

where they experience pushbacks, must less offer a solution.

The European Green Deal also ignores the environmental impact of Europe’s drive for renewable energy and electric mobility on other parts of the world, where resources for this economic shift will have to be extracted. It also does not pay attention to how climate change and environmental degradation have disproportionately affected its own marginalised communities and the poor and destitute in the Global South.

In other words, in the pursuit of making the EU the first climate-neutral region in the world by 2050, Brussels is falling back on its old ways and deploying what we call climate colonialism.

The EU’s apolitical narrative on climate change — ignoring the impact of colonialism and capitalism and heavily influenced by the very corporations who profit from them — could result in climate action that is not only non-impactful but, worse, could be unsustainable and damaging for marginalised

Blue Economy vs the fishing community

Continued from Page 1

raised by the Belize Federation of Fishermen (BFF) was the lack of consultation on the issue. Director of the BFF, Nigel Martinez, said, “We learned of this late last week, and it immediately sounded an alarm. We scrambled to get our members up to date as to what has transpired. We believe what the Ministry of the Blue Economy did was completely undermine the rights of Belizean fisher folks.”

The fishermen further pointed to the reduced likelihood of ensuring a sustainable fishing sector when an excessive number of fishers are engaged in extracting marine products from fishing grounds that are steadily shrinking in size due to laws prohibiting fishing in certain areas as a result of strict zoning laws and the establishment of marine reserves. Martinez added, “They have now opened up the door back for permanent residents to access our natural resource of fishery, which is already overpopulated, which is already crowded. You have a number of fishers here today that will tell you the same sentiment. They are frustrated because it’s not getting easier. It’s very expensive to go out there. The issues are the same. There is no enforcement. The managed access program is not working. There are several components that are not working that are affecting the fishery right now.”

The managed access program to which Martinez referred is, according to the fishermen, an area-based fishing licensing system, through which fishermen are assigned specific areas in which they are authorized to fish. Many fisherfolk have noted that they have been finding it increasingly difficult to catch fish in recent years. Fisherman Dale Fairweather commented, “When I started to fish, there were a lot less fishermen, so we used to do good. But as the years went by, you’ll get more and more fishers, and now I catch, let’s say about a quarter where I used to catch. So I know everybody here is catching less. And if you bring in more people, then we are even gonna catch less.” He further noted that allowing persons from across the border (and it is being claimed that many of the permanent residents who will be receiving fishing licenses indeed reside across the border) will only further disenfranchise the local fishing population, making them less likely to fend for themselves.

Another issue the fishermen raised was their ability to access fishing licenses. The fishermen lamented the fact that that persons who were not born in Belize can come to the country, stay for six months and get a license to fish while native Belizeans are still unable to acquire these licenses. Andrew Usher, local fisherman, said, “I have [children], but if I go to Fisheries right now and they no want give my [children] fishermen license.

Then a ‘balli’ just told me that [the SI allowing permanent residents into the industry] happened about a week. Fishermen out there, they kill one another for a lee piece of lobster ground. The way the Minister is going right now, not knowing that we have a serious problem. If in Guatemala, Honduras or Mexico, we have them come fish in our water, because right now we Belizean, we barely could get along with the [little] bit of ground that we have here.”

The Minister of the Blue Economy, Hon. Andre Perez, however, has flatly denied these claims that Belizean fishermen cannot access licenses. “I don’t know anything about that right now. Anybody right now has a right to apply for fishing, providing they meet the requirements. So let’s not go into that. I can make it clear there’s no way. No way in our department. That is just rumors. I would have wanted that person, if they are feeling that, to come and see us, because that is not true. I make it clear one time and categorically that does not exist in my department.”

According to Perez, the primary purpose of the recent SI was to ensure inclusion. He cited the example of a family in Sarteneja. “We went to visit the village of Sarteneja, and right there is where I was approached by a family who were Belizean — the children and everybody. But the husband, who is a resident, cannot fish. And it’s a big family. So how do you tell that family you cannot do fishing? How will he sustain his family and including that the [gillnet] had been included. So how do you do that?” Perez said that the family had been living in Belize for 35 years. Hon. Perez thus feels that certain persons were being unjustly excluded from the right to fish in Belize’s waters, and it was hence decided that permanent residents who have met all legal requirements would be afforded the opportunity to partake in the industry.

Hon. Perez further asked the public to not confuse this SI with condoning illegal fishing. These issues are completely unrelated, said the Blue Economy Minister. He noted that some areas, especially in the south, have very limited fish stock as a result of illegal fishing. His ministry has been entrusted with the task of creating legislation that protects against such actions. Hon. Perez claims the ministry is actively engaging with the Coast Guard and the Police Department to minimize illegal fishing. On the other hand, he argued that what SI no. 57 is doing is allowing approximately 44 immigrants who are now living in Belize the permission to fish for their livelihoods.

A release from the Government of Belize Press Office of Belize further states, “It is not justifiable to identify permanent resident fishers as being the sole culprits in illegal fishing. Illegal fishing is a complex matter that requires a multi-prong approach to ensure its deterrence and elimination.”

Covid clusters in Orange Walk

Continued from Page 1

Belize, with one of the infected persons being an infant who was only fifteen days old at the time of the diagnosis. The child reportedly had to be admitted to the Northern Regional Hospital (NRH) after experiencing seizures brought on by a high fever.

The news came as quite a shock to the public, despite Orange Walk’s rising number of active cases. The cases had risen to 41 active cases as of Tuesday, with an additional 16 detected on Wednesday — most of whom were younger in age and were from rural areas, according to the Chief of Staff of the NRH, Dr. Manuel Estrada. Dr. Estrada also shared with the media that Orange Walk is presently monitoring two active clusters of the virus in the Trial Farm area.

Seemingly the spread is being caused by the holding of social gatherings (in violation of the restriction on the gathering of more than 10 persons), which is resulting in mass contamination of persons who have been in close proximity to one another. Just this Wednesday, in fact, the Belize Police Department issued a statement that there would be a more stringent surveillance effort to detect and break up illegal social gatherings, including parties, wakes, gathering at bars functioning as restaurants, beach activities and more.

Regarding the fifteen-day-old patient, Dr. Estrada stated when he was questioned by the media, “The baby was brought because he had fever and had seizures. It’s a newborn, so we do all the studies and one of the

studies that we do for all patients that are being admitted here at Northern Regional Hospital is the swabbing. Both rapid and PCR. The rapid came back positive for the baby; that’s how he was detected. Well, the mother of the baby is negative, and we’re still doing the contact tracing, and so far we don’t know yet exactly who gave the baby the infection.”

Dr. Estrada also shared that two other patients are currently admitted at the NHR. With the number of cases reaching over 150 in Belize for the first time in months, many are wondering if it is the onset of a third wave in the country. The doctor also weighed in on this:

“I think it’s just a matter of time if people don’t take care of themselves for us to go back to how we were when the pandemic first started. From zero we went to become to the epicenter. If we don’t take the necessary precautions, we can go back again for a third wave.”

Dr. Estrada has encouraged the public to take the necessary measures to get vaccinated and to follow the safety protocols being outlined by the Ministry of Health and Wellness. He stated that currently the most challenging aspect of the detection and prevention process is getting cooperation from residents being contacted during contact tracing who are asked to come in and get tested. Recently the NHR has begun to test all patients being admitted and has detected several positive cases through the exercise.

So far, approximately only 29% of the Orange Walk population has been vaccinated — with the turnout still being relatively low.

Man drowns after falling into well

Continued from Page 1

Reports are that the well-liked village handyman was doing his usual work in the village, fetching water for his neighbor and cousin, Minely Gilharry, but she became aware that something had gone wrong after hours passed and he had not returned to collect payment for the work he had done earlier.

According to Gilharry, he had asked her to lend him a bucket in which he could wash some pants and some bottles, and she had agreed, but when he never returned, she became concerned and went to his mother’s house.

That is when they began to search frantically for Hall, a search that eventually led them back to the well. One resident used a long stick to

probe the contents of the well, and after that resident trawled through the water in the well for a short time, eventually the victim’s slipper emerged. They eventually found his body, keeled over in the water, motionless, hours after it was noticed that he was missing.

His family believes that he suffered an epileptic episode and fell into the well, drowning in the process.

“Every day he come home, he woulda come and sleep and lay down and then from deh he goh again and da right soh, everybody know him as a good person, a handy person fi everybody da San Antonio,” his mother told local media.

The family is asking the public for donations to pay for funeral expenses to lay their loved one to rest. Anyone willing to assist can call 623-0317.



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