

# AMANDALA



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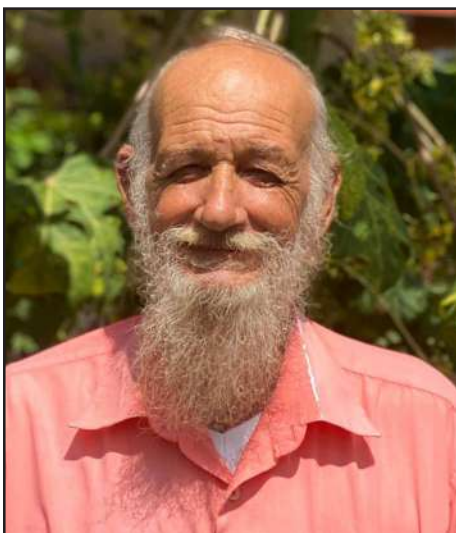
BELIZE CITY, FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2022

(36 PAGES)

\$1.50

# Churches' call for referendum gains steam

## Melvin "Flippin" Hulse loses battle with cancer



Melvin Hulse

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

Following a prolonged battle with stage 4 colon cancer, former minister of government and three-time area representative of Stann Creek West, Melvin Hulse, Jr., has passed away at the age of 74. Hulse was a colorful—and some might say

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## PAHO Director warns of another COVID wave



Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, PAHO Director

(See story on page 2)

Despite its new party leader having previously boasted while on a visit to the US about the legalization of marijuana in Belize, the United Democratic Party has issued a press release supporting the NEAB's call for a cannabis referendum. The NTUCB has echoed that call.

by Khaila Gentle

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 7, 2022

On the heels of the passing of the Cannabis and Industrial Hemp Control and Licensing Bill in the Senate last Wednesday, the National Evangelical Association of Belize (NEAB), the Belize Association of Evangelical Churches (BAEC), and the Belize Council of Churches have intensified their public opposition to it and have increased their calls for the Belize government to conduct a referendum before completing the

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## MIT busts human smuggling operation; Cuban refugees flee the country

Two days after the police's Mobile Interdiction Team (MIT) intercepted a suspected human smuggling operation involving 18 foreign nationals in Orange Walk, a press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has revealed that 13 Cubans who were being accommodated at Help for Progress have left the shelter. The Ministry continues to speak out against migrants entering the country via irregular means.

by Khaila Gentle

ORANGE WALK TOWN, Fri. Apr. 8, 2022

An attempted human smuggling operation was intercepted by the Police Department's Mobile Interdiction Team (MIT) in Orange Walk on Tuesday night. According to reports, at some time around 9:00 o'clock that night, the MIT, who had

been on patrol along with the Customs Department, took notice of two large cargo vans, one white and one black, along with two other private vehicles—a blue F150 pickup and a grey Nissan Xterra. After a brief chase, during which two of the vehicles dashed into a cane field, all the vehicles were

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## Belize abstains at the UN. Former PM says that's a BS move.

(See story on page 3)

## BDF soldier charged with murder

Twenty-seven-year-old BDF soldier Raheem Williams was charged with murder after the death of Estevan Baeza, 38, on Monday, April 4. Three days prior, Baeza had been savagely beaten by Williams on a main street in Orange Walk Town. Minister of National Security, Hon. Oscar Mira says counselling programs for soldiers will continue.



Raheem Williams

by Charles Gladden

ORANGE WALK TOWN, Tues. Apr. 5, 2022

A Belize Defence Force (BDF) soldier has been charged with murder and remanded to the Belize Central

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## Channel 7 apologizes to PM Briceño for Hon. Shyne's comments



*Uncut featuring Hon. Moses "Shyne" Barrow (via Channel 7 Facebook page)*

by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

BELIZE CITY, Mon. Apr. 4, 2022

Following a UDP leadership convention on Sunday, March 27, and the emergence of Hon. Moses "Shyne" Barrow as the new leader of the party, Hon. Barrow appeared as a guest on Jules Vasquez's *Uncut* talk show, which was initially aired on Wednesday, March 30. While he was a guest on that show, Barrow faced the characteristically tough questions posed by Vasquez—a number of which highlighted his past as a gangster rap artist and cast doubt on his suitability for the role he is now playing, as UDP leader and leader of the opposition. At several points during the discussion, while trying to defend his eligibility to hold national office, Hon. Barrow referred to allegations made against other prominent politicians. One of his assertions—regarding Prime Minister Briceño and his late father, Elijio Briceño, who had served as the Minister of Energy and Communications under Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price, would be viewed by many as defamatory. And those defamatory remarks that he made were later re-aired during the following day's newscast.

Within less than 48 hours after the airing of the show, two letters were issued by Courtenay Coye LLP, legal representatives of the Prime Minister, to demand an apology, and also threatening to seek damages if such apologies weren't forthcoming. One was addressed to Tropical Vision Limited (Channel 7) and another to Hon. "Shyne" Barrow himself. In the letter to Channel 7, the Prime Minister demanded a cessation of all circulation of the interview with Barrow, as well as a public retraction and apology on the media house's website and social media platforms, and proof of deletion of the video and related comments from all platforms and archives. The letter also indicated that compensation of

\$100,000 for the tarnishing of Hon. Briceño's reputation would be sought and stated that, should an apology draft not be submitted for approval within two days, legal proceedings would follow.

On *7News*' Monday night broadcast, the apology letter that was drafted by the media house was shared with the public. That letter stated, "On Wednesday, 30th March 2022, during the live airing of Channel 7's *Uncut*, the guest, Shyne Barrow, Leader of the Opposition, stated that the Prime Minister of Belize, John Briceno, was associated with a cartel. The host of that program, Jules Vasquez, as well as Channel 7News, wish for all its viewers in Belize and abroad to know that they regard those statements as untrue and without any factual basis whatsoever. Mr. Vasquez emphatically denied the allegations during the live broadcast of the show. We sincerely regret that those untrue statements were made on Channel 7 and any hurt and distress it may have caused Prime Minister Briceno and his family. We unreservedly apologize to Prime Minister Briceno and his family, retract those offensive statements in their entirety and undertake not to have them repeated either on Channel 7 or any of its digital and social media platforms. It is our genuine hope that this apology and retraction will repair any injury or emotional distress suffered by the Prime Minister as a result of the broadcast."

As mentioned, Hon. Barrow received a similar letter on April 1 from Courtenay Coye LLP in which he was instructed to cease republication of the interview, and to send a retraction and apology to Channel 7 and Channel 5 and all associated social media platforms.

Barrow, however, has yet to publish any apology or retraction of his statements. It remains to be seen whether he will do so, or whether he will pay the \$100,000 compensation that was demanded.

## PAHO Director warns of another COVID wave

(From page 1)

*Tourism dependent countries beware*

by Khaila Gentle

WASHINGTON D.C., USA, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

At a press briefing held today by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on the current COVID-19 situation in the Americas, it was revealed that while cases (and deaths) across most countries have significantly declined, the number of new infections is beginning to rise once again in some places, particularly in countries where there has been increased tourism and travel in conjunction with the relaxation of public health measures. The Director of PAHO, Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, in her opening remarks at the briefing reminded the region that quite often, what has happened elsewhere in the world is a foreshadowing of what the Americas may face—citing the recent dramatic COVID-19 surges seen in Europe and East Asia that were caused by the BA.2 Omicron sub-variant.

"Time and time again we've seen how the infection dynamics in Europe are mirrored here just a few weeks later. In fact, Omicron BA.2 has already been detected in 8.7% of the sequences reported from South America in global databases," said Dr. Etienne, who also noted that in North America—Canada specifically—the number of cases increased by one-third over the past week while hospitalizations increased by ten percent.

Additionally, the region continues to record more than 620,000 new cases every week, and 15 Caribbean countries and territories have already begun to see a surge in new infections. Dr. Etienne further noted that reports of deaths have risen in some countries but stated that this might have been caused by countries reclassifying the cause of past deaths and subsequently listing them as COVID-19 mortalities. Nevertheless, the PAHO Director stressed the fact that the risk of further surges cannot be ignored.

"We cannot ignore the risk of further COVID-19 surges in other parts of the region. We must face it together, with caution but also with confidence, because we know what it takes to protect our people. First, it is important to continue filling out vaccination gaps to protect the most vulnerable," she stated, highlighting the higher likelihood of hospitalization among the elderly and the immunocompromised.

During the press conference, it was also revealed that more than 685 million people in the region have been completely vaccinated. But according to the PAHO Director there is still more work to be done—that includes making COVID-19 testing

and vaccination easily accessible to everyone so as to prevent new outbreaks and protect health systems in the event that there is a surge in cases.

"Countries must also continue to monitor this virus to stay prepared for what is coming next. Throughout the pandemic, testing has been a critical tool to track COVID spread. But today some countries have changed their testing strategies, making it more difficult to get the full picture of BA.2 in our region. Countries must keep testing capacity in place so we do not go into this next wave blind," she said.

The PAHO Director, who stressed that the pandemic is not over, emphasized the need to be cautious and to remain cognizant of basic health and safety protocols, whether traveling or staying at home, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These include always wearing a well-fitting mask when around other people, staying at least one meter away from others, and avoiding the three C's (closed spaces with poor ventilation, crowded places, and close contact settings) even where restrictions have been relaxed.

Another top priority, said Dr. Etienne, is for countries to continue to make evidence-based decisions. She stated that over the past few weeks many countries in the Americas have scaled back public health measures, some prematurely so.

"As travel restrictions have loosened, case counts have risen in countries that rely on tourism, especially in parts of North America and the Caribbean where vaccination coverage is low," she said.

The PAHO press briefing comes just one day before World Health Day, which will be celebrated under the theme, "Our Planet. Our Health." Referencing the theme, the Director also touched on climate change, making an urgent call for the countries in the region to work together to withstand not only this next phase of the pandemic but also the climate crisis in an effort to create a healthier and more sustainable future.

"It is undeniable that climate change has presented significant threats to our region's health. Higher temperatures and air pollution have led to rises in cardiovascular and respiratory diseases in the Americas. Extreme weather events, droughts, and wildfires have caused crop failures and displaced people from their homes, driving malnutrition and forced migration," she said.

As we prepare for the next emergency, she added, PAHO and WHO are counting on countries across the Americas to continue making health their collective priority.



# Residents react to parking meter pilot project

*The Belize City Council's pilot project has been receiving mixed reviews since its implementation on Monday, with some residents saying it has inconvenienced them while others have said that it was just what the city needed.*

by Kory Leslie (freelance writer)

BELIZE CITY, Tues. Apr. 5, 2022

The Belize City Council's Parking Meter Pilot Project, which has been in the works for some time and is a part of the council's efforts to regulate commercial parking throughout the city, has been receiving mixed reviews since its implementation this past Monday. This project, meant to target areas of high congestion where repeat parking infractions occur and to provide equitable parking opportunities for all, has seen new parking meters installed on Newtown Barracks from The Ramada Princess Hotel to Midtown Restaurant and on Albert Street from its intersection with Orange Street to its intersection with Dean Street.

While there were seemingly no public objections during the installation of the meters, in a matter of days following the project's commencement, park vendors, entrepreneurs, and residents quickly began to voice their discontent. A number of vendors and entrepreneurs have told the media that they were never consulted about the execution of the project. The collective qualm is that businesses have seen an immediate and drastic decrease in

customer inflow because it now costs a fee to park in front of their establishments. Some of the business owners also lamented the fact that even they must pay the fees associated with parking in front of their own storefronts, which is an unwelcomed expense, especially following the financial blows caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

During an interview this week, Mayor Bernard Wagner told local media that while each vendor was not consulted personally, there were briefing sessions held with the president of an association of park vendors as well as the area representatives of the constituencies where the meters are now placed, Hon Tracy Pantan and Hon. Kareem Musa. The mayor also added that while the project is in its early stages and residents need time to adjust, it has been successful for its intended purposes thus far:

"Our objective is really to regulate the spaces. To have it be shared in an equitable fashion with all residents having the opportunity to use that space. Anything new obviously will have glitches and pushback, but we're in day two. I would recommend that you give the council three months, and thereafter we see how it's working. But it's day two. And I drove in the



city Monday morning, I drove along Albert Street, and I see this project working. People are having access to park in front of Brodies, in front of Downtown Plaza, in front of Smart. And they're using it, and it's just how we adapt to change."

The Belize City Council has also scheduled a public consultation meeting for Thursday, April 7 at the House of Culture, during which residents will be able to voice their concerns.

While some residents have expressed resounding dissatisfaction with the pilot project, though, there are those who have stated that it was just what the city needed, citing the huge reduction of traffic congestion on both Albert Street and Newtown Barracks.

"It's nice to drive in front of BTL Park and not have to be stopping as vehicles park on both sides where you have to pull [over] to let another vehicle pass, the traffic flows smoothly...now we can get some

parking without having to circle trying to find a space," wrote one person on social media.

"I agree with pay parking. Truth be known, most all roadside parking spots [are] used as long-term parking for workers in the area. Businesses suffer from those people. Pay parking is good for businesses and shoppers," wrote another.

At the moment, the mayor says the council is open to conversation and may make adjustments to the project, but that the public should give the project at least a few months to see how successful it truly is. Parking meter prepaid cards can be loaded with different values that are purchased from authorized dealers. Currently, meter rates stand at \$1.50 per half hour and \$3.00 per hour between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. from Monday to Thursday and between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with Sundays and holidays being non-operational days.



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## Easter Notice

Our sellers, readers and advertisers are advised that next week for the Easter holidays, there will only be the Friday issue of the Amandala, which will hit the streets on **Wednesday morning, April 13, 2022.**

After the Easter holidays, there will be only the Friday issue of the Amandala which will hit the streets on **Friday, April 22, 2022.**

Have a happy and safe Easter



## Belize abstains at the UN. Former PM says that's a BS move.

(From page 1)



by Glen Tillett

BELIZE CITY, Thu. Mar 7, 2022

Former prime minister and two-time foreign minister Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow told AMANDALA that he was calling Belize's decision to abstain from today's vote at the United Nations that resulted in the suspension of the Russian Federation from membership in its Human Rights Council, "Bullshit!"

He emphatically declared that under his administration Belize would have voted yes for the motion along with the United States and 92 other countries

instead of abstaining along with 58 other countries. Twenty-four nations of the 193-member General Assembly voted against the U.S.-led initiative.

Barrow said that he thought there was no good reason to be concerned that Belize's abstention would impact the

Belize-Guatemala dispute currently before the International Court of Justice or our relationship with Guatemala who voted yes along with the United States.

Former Foreign Minister Wilfred "Sedi" Elrington echoed Barrow's opinions, expressing confidence that the ICJ would decide on the facts, but that Belize had to be concerned by what had happened in Ukraine, which he described as a proxy war between Russia and the United States. "We need good neighbours," he told



## GoB: no further hikes in gas prices; bus fares going up

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 7, 2022

In an effort to alleviate the “gas pain” being felt by Belizeans countrywide, Cabinet has approved several measures that are aimed at ensuring that fuel prices are stable. Among these measures is the capping of the price of regular gasoline at \$13.50 per gallon. According to a press release issued today following the regular meeting of Cabinet, the Government has established a firm cap on both diesel and regular gasoline pump prices, with the price of diesel to remain at \$13.41 per gallon. Without the cap on diesel, which was made possible through a reduction of excise taxes by 57%, the cost of diesel would have risen by \$2.13 per gallon, which would have seen the price at the pump shoot past the fifteen-dollar mark to an astounding \$15.54.

According to the GoB release, this cap in fuel prices will be maintained through the use of a fuel price stabilization fund—by means of which government will set aside extra funds that are generated when acquisition costs fall and use these funds to offset surges in such costs at a later time. It is something Prime Minister John Briceño had alluded to when speaking to reporters two weeks ago.

The Prime Minister had explained on March 29, following a meeting with key stakeholders, “Fuel is going to be a long discussion, but basically what we have been talking when we met with them is that there were.... many people in the industry want to have certainty, they want to be able to cap fuel at a price and keep it at that price so that if the price goes up, we are looking at setting up a fund from where we can get how to be able to pay the taxes and then when the prices go down, we keep it at that price until we can pay off the funds. So we hope that by next week Tuesday. I mean we had a long discussion in Cabinet and now we



have once again asked my ministry, Agriculture, Transportation and Tourism to sit down and to try to come up with a right formula as to how we are going to be addressing that.”

Prime Minister Briceño had mentioned that he had discussed the matter with representatives of the Belize Bus Association, the churches, the NGO community, and other social partners.

Additionally, Cabinet has approved measures to minimize the increase in bus fares—expected to go up on April 15th. According to another press release from the Government, commuters can expect their public transport fares to increase by the following amounts for both regular and express runs:

- Below 13 miles – \$0.25
- 13 to 25 miles – \$0.50
- Above 25 miles — \$1.00

The approved measures include a fuel subsidy of \$0.91 per gallon that will be granted to eligible bus operators over the next six months, which according to the press release will represent over \$1 million in savings to commuters. The Government will also be providing subsidies to eligible tour operators.

“Eligible tour operators will be beneficiaries of a capped fuel subsidy jointly funded by the Government of Belize and the Belize Tourism Board in the sum of \$1.5 million for a period of up to six months,” noted the release.

Incidentally, it was also announced this week that the price of LPG that is currently in the country was lowered by 13 cents per gallon. In urban areas, the retail price for a 100-pound tank of LPG will be \$142.

## Melvin “Flippin” Hulse loses battle with cancer

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refreshingly so—character on the Belizean political scene, and garnered much attention for his sharp tongue and his coining of phrases such as “flippin” and “madda fish” that made his manner of speaking amusing and distinct.

He was born in 1947, while Belize was still known as British Honduras, and grew up in the mahogany camps of the Stann Creek District. He attended Lyman College and served with the British Honduras Volunteer Guard.

Hulse, who during his final public appearance in an interview with *7News*’ Jules Vasquez referred to himself as a product of his times—a grassroots man from the valley with a deep love for the south—would also eventually go on to help develop much of the Stann Creek district, serving as a Minister under both the Esquivel and Barrow administrations and bringing roads, schools, and access to electricity to many villages in the area. Referring to the development projects he undertook in the 1990’s, he told Vasquez, “Up to then there was not a single lamp post in Stann Creek, there was not a single water pipe in Stann Creek, there were no roads, there was no phone, there was nothing out there, and they could say whatever they want. The fact is there was nothing.... We developed, I created, some of those villages, and the villages that existed before me, I developed with another thousand lots. So I developed, I created and help develop Middlesex, Hummingbird, Valley Community, Steadfast, Alta Vista, Pomona, Hope Creek, Sarawee, Silk Grass, Hopkins, Sittee, Maya Center, Santa Rosa, San Roman, George Town, Maya Mopan, Red Bank, San Juan, Seine Bight, Placencia and Mango Creek. In that time, I put in lights, water, brought phone out there, built schools in every village -- you all know that I worked hard. Never liked what happened, but I paved the Hummingbird, I paved the Southern Highway, I got Hopkins road paved, we built and paved Placencia road.”

Notably, when asked by Vasquez why he was not a wealthy man after having served as a government minister for a number of years, he remarked, “Riches? Any madafishing salary are riches, and you are putting children through school and sometimes you have 4-5 of them in there? The only way as a politician you could come out rich is if you are hustling.” He also stated during that interview that he was intolerant of two things—“stealing and laziness”.

“Other than that I don’t care what kind of life you want to live. You want to drink every day, you want to rot every day -- do whatever you flipping want, ‘cause I’m not living with you, but when we are at work and all of us are collecting taxpayers’ money, work for it -- it done,” he went on to say.

Tanya Felicia Hulse wrote on the passing of her father on Facebook, stating, “It is with a collapsing and profound sense of loss that I share with you the news of the passing of our beloved father. Words cannot sufficiently describe how heavy the grief is that weighs on my heart. But I am grateful that the good Lord was merciful enough to give him rest from his suffering.”

“There could never be another like the legend and giant of a man that is my father. The strength and bravery he showed to the end. I am so proud and blessed that God allowed me to share this life as his daughter,” she added.

Despite his two-year battle with cancer, Hulse had remained in high spirits, even in the few weeks leading up to his passing, having spent plenty of time contemplating his mortality and even planning his own funeral.

A state service will be held for Hulse on Monday, April 11, at Mile 20 on the Hummingbird Highway at 10:00 a.m. Melvin Hulse leaves behind his eleven children along with a host of friends and family members, including his extended families—the United Democratic Party and residents of the Belizean south. We at AMANDALA would like to extend our deepest and sincerest condolences to the Hulse family.

## MIT busts human smuggling operation; Cuban refugees flee the country

Continued from Page 1

intercepted and their occupants—a Belmopan resident and two persons from Orange Walk—apprehended.

While nothing and no one else was found inside the vehicles, the MIT officers later found 18 persons, 16 Cubans and 2 Nicaraguans, hiding in a nearby area. Those persons were also detained at the Orange Walk Police Station and shortly after were handed over to the Immigration Department. The three persons who were initially apprehended, suspected

of being human smugglers, are likely to be charged.

Just two days later, on Thursday, April 7, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration issued a press release addressing the issue of foreign nationals, particularly Cubans, who have been entering the country using irregular means.

“These Cuban nationals are utilizing the Refugees Program to avoid repatriation and are being handed over to Help for Progress,” it stated, adding that to date, the department has seen

the illegal entry of a total of 39 Cuban nationals whose primary aim has been to reach the US/Mexico border while using Belize as a transit point.

AMANDALA reached out to the Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration, Dr. Gilroy Middleton, who wrote to us that the Ministry will continue working with ATIPS (the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit) “to address these situations and ensure that our prosecutors are prepared for the upcoming legal proceedings.”

The press release issued by the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration also revealed that, on April 6, 2022, a representative from Help for Progress visited the Ministry and informed the Assistant Director with responsibility for Enforcement that 13 Cuban nationals who had been released to the Human Rights Commission of Belize after two court rulings on March 18 and March 23, were no longer at the shelter. According to the CEO, this is all the information that the Ministry has gathered regarding those persons so far.





# Improve conditions and Belizeans will harvest the crops

Last week Belize's Foreign Minister, Hon. Eamon Courtenay, remarked in the Senate that Belize has a "serious migration problem" and that the government will be making a strong move to apply the laws to check the number of illegal persons entering and being trafficked through Belize. Worldwide people are on the move, and not only in war-torn regions. The 2020 World Migration Report estimated that 281 million persons, 3.6% of the world's population, migrated that year.

Presently, the GOB has initiated an amnesty program which it says should see upwards of 40,000 persons being regularized, on the way to becoming citizens of Belize. Speaking on our migration history, an information sheet published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration says that in 2010 the Statistical Institute of Belize couldn't provide statistics on undocumented immigrants, but a census they did that year showed that 14.2% of our population was born abroad. The Immigration Department's information sheet said Belize has had two amnesties, with 8,680 undocumented immigrants being registered in 1984 and 11,168 migrants gaining permanent residence status in 1999. An aborted 2010 amnesty was expected to register more than 20,000 persons.

Across the globe, countries roll out the red carpet for immigrants who have special skills or have money to start up industries or invest in existing ones. Immigrants who work "dirt cheap" are in demand too, where there are labor-intensive businesses that aren't extremely profitable for the owners, or the owners are rapacious.

Illegal migrants who are using our country as a transit point

or are trafficked persons are a concern, but the greater problem for Belize are those who come in on work permits and do not return to their home country after their permits expire. Around 50% of workers' permits go to the agriculture sector, and a large number of these workers move on to work in tourism, and construction.

Belizeans have a lot of sympathy for persons who want to come here to make a better life, but it is necessary to control the number of persons who come on a work permit and stay, or just sneak into the country. Charity begins at home, and there is a great need for us to first secure the futures of Belizeans who have not yet gotten a fair share of the pie. When the present government promised that all of us would win, it was speaking specifically to the thousands, the more than 50% of Belizeans, who are barely scraping by. It is primarily because of the level of destitution in the country that some Belizeans have expressed reservations about the 2022 amnesty, even though the Immigration Department insists most of the persons who will be registered have been living here for some time.

All the authorities know that the key to controlling illegal

immigrants begins in the agriculture sector, where cheap labor is a necessity, except in times when prices for our products on the world market are high. It's extremely wishful to think that all the workers who get permits to work here seasonally will go home and stay home when the harvesting is over. If Belizeans don't harvest the crops, the population of illegal persons will grow.

There was a time when most of the field workers in the major agro industries were Belizean. It won't take much for those days to return, but it won't if farm owners have their way. They generally prefer foreign laborers because they are far easier to manage, they don't ask for more pay, and they are uncomplaining about poor living conditions. There's nothing illegal there. It's capitalism.

If GoB is serious about solving the immigration problem it will ensure that Belizeans get those jobs. The first move must be to provide a subsidy aimed at getting farmers to improve housing conditions for farm workers. Harvesting is not for everyone, but if housing conditions are decent, there should be no trouble finding able-bodied persons in rural and urban Belize who are eager to join the seasonal work gangs.

## Lord Ashcroft is not a good "ambassador" for his people

Putting aside the contention that the United Kingdom hasn't done nearly enough to make reparations for its role in slavery and its colonial past in Belize, what the British have done by way of grants and technological assistance is being eroded by one of that nation's sons, Lord Ashcroft, who is just about the worst ambassador.

Understandably, the British will support their citizens, and those who do well abroad are especially favored, because for centuries people on those islands have depended on their overseas "investments" to maintain their high standard of living. Business is never a tea party, but there are things such as respect and social responsibility that these foreign corporates must consider when doing business in an independent foreign country.

Local political leaders, the PUP, made a bad error when they allowed Ashcroft and his crowd to purchase control of our telecommunications company, BTL. The foreign-controlled BTL ignored the PUC, resisted the expansion of telecommunications to not-so-profitable areas, and would not allow VOIP. The PUP got "wap" at the polls for their mistake.

The succeeding UDP government had no choice but to take back BTL. Those who insist on hollering that we hurt our foreign investment potential when we took back BTL don't know how proud nations operate. Nations go to military and economic wars to protect their assets, and to preserve their dignity. All wars cost. (Though what we paid to get back BTL needs to be thoroughly investigated.)

The latest excesses, atrocities linked to Ashcroft are an application for an injunction to block an ex gratia payment GoB made to the stevedores at the Port of Belize Ltd., and a lawsuit against said stevedores over a short strike. To raise funds to counter the latter vicious attack in court, the stevedores are presently on a dollar drive.

Belize offers special incentives to attract foreign investment, but sometimes honey attracts not so desirable flies. If Belizeans looked closely, they would see that both Belize governments have been beyond fair in their dealings with Ashcroft, but without a thought of our goodwill, he turned around and bit us. It is the worst when you bring someone into your house and they abuse your hospitality.

As they go about doing business, the British try to project class, and a firm belief in fair play. The low mark of the British is their hooligans who have behaved boorishly at times at football matches. Lord Ashcroft acts like some nouveau riche who wiggled his way to the top, and now is getting some perverse joy out of using his money to bully and shame Belizeans. He should drop his case and treat the stevedores with respect, if only to stop embarrassing the UK. He is no good ambassador.



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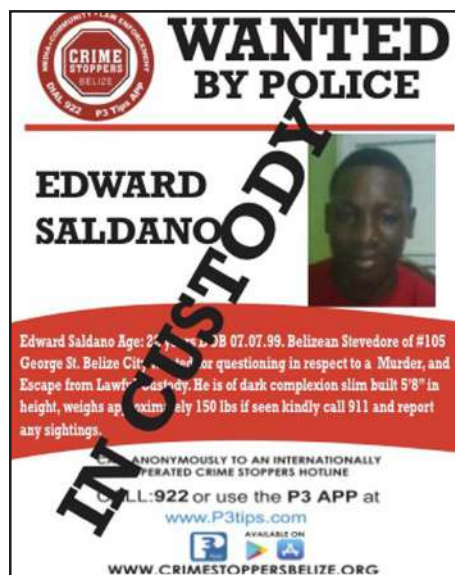
# Escapee Edward Saldano, Jr. surrenders

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 7, 2022

In this past Tuesday's issue of AMANDALA, we briefly reported on the recapture of Edward Saldano, Jr. who had escaped from police custody while at the Belize City Magistrate's Court on February 9th. Now, almost two months later, Saldano has turned himself in to the police.

According to reports, Saldano is claiming that a police officer, who he refuses to name, had told him that he should "go home". He was charged with a single count of escaping lawful custody to which he pleaded not guilty. Resultantly, he was denied bail and remanded to the Belize Central Prison until May.

Saldano's father, 55-year-old



Edward Saldano, Sr., better known as "Scrub-board" was gunned down in a drive-by shooting last month.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### VACANCY

**VACANCY:** Vacancy hereby exists for a Sales Representative at Belize Ship Handlers (BSH). Qualified person will be responsible for selling the services offered at BSH, which is shipping of cargo to and from Belize. Knowledge in shipping is an asset. Letter of Application along with Resumé can be emailed to [info@belizeshiphandlersbz.com](mailto:info@belizeshiphandlersbz.com) or mailed to 6480 Mahogany Street, Belize City. For further information please call 222-4075.

### NOTICE

**NOTICE:** I, St. George's Caye Resort, state that lost boat title for boat name: MELTED, Registration Number: BZ-1803. Description of hull: Fiberglass Catamaran, color scheme: white & blue hull with deck.

**NOTICE:** I, Devon Castillo, lost Registration certificate boat Registration number: Sc 0998, name: Capt Wilmer Two

**NOTICE:** I, Andy Vargas, state that lost title of name of vessel: Hakim Divers, Model: Pelican, Type of Vessel: Fiberglass boat, Description: White hull with blue bottom with red, green and blue stripes.

### LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Mrs. Myrna Harris** is applying for a Malt & Cider Liquor License to be operated at Belcove Hotel, #9 Regent Street West, Belize City, Belize, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Aminda Evelin Crespo & Carlos Adan Alarcon** are applying for a Publican Special License to be operated at Royal Restaurant Bar & Entertainment, #11 Cemetery Road, Belmopan, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Double O Restaurant** is applying for a Publican Special License to be operated at Double O Restaurant & Bar, #3 Pacific Street, Belmopan, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Jose Ernesto Vasquez** is applying for a Publican Special License to be operated at Tress Estrellas Bar, located at Valley of Peace, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Thomas Wilson** is applying for a Shop License to be operated at South of the Border, Independence Village, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Thomas Wilson** is applying for a Malt/Cider License to be operated at Thatch Snack Bar, Independence Village, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

**LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICE:** Notice is hereby given that **Princess International Belize Ltd. (Casino)** is applying for a Club License to be operated at Princess International Belize Ltd. (Casino), 129 Newtown Barracks, under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 2000.

## PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

### SHARES in Sibun Grain & Cattle Ltd. & Indian Creek Equestrian Center Ltd.

BY ORDER of the Supreme Court, Licensed Auctioneer **Fitzgerald A. Joseph** will sell the following Shares at the offices of **Barrow & Co. LLP**, 1440 Coney Drive, Belize City, Belize on **Wednesday the 20th April, 2022** starting at **10:30 a.m.**

**4,999 Shares in Sibun Grain & Cattle Limited**

**4,999 Shares in Indian Creek Equestrian Center Limited**

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**FITZGERALD A. JOSEPH**

**TELEPHONE: 601-2039**

**Email: palas105@yahoo.com**

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given under Section 4(1) of the Standards (Preparation and Declaration) Regulations, 1997 that the Belize Bureau of Standards proposes to recommend to the Standards Advisory Council that the following draft standard be declared a compulsory Belize Standard:

### 1. the Belize Draft Specification for Marking and Labelling of Medical Gas Cylinders



































Belize lacks standards in the medical gases industry especially when it comes to safety and most importantly life-saving oxygen and medical gases. This standard provides for minimum requirements for labels and markings on compressed gases in cylinders and cryogenic liquid container cylinders containing medical gases namely for medical air, oxygen, carbon dioxide, helium, nitrogen, nitrous oxide and mixtures. Labels shall be applied to compressed gases and cryogenic liquid containers to identify the container contents and to warn of principal physical and health hazards associated with the container and its contents.

Any comments on the draft standard should reach the **Director, Belize Bureau of Standards** at the below-mentioned address no later than **May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022** or at [bbs@btl.net](mailto:bbs@btl.net). Copies or details of this standard are available from the office of the Belize Bureau of Standards located at Power Lane, P.O. Box 430, City of Belmopan or on the website at [www.bbs.gov.bz](http://www.bbs.gov.bz).



**BELIZE CITY COUNCIL**  
 Always 'bout The People  
**BELIZE CITY COUNCIL NOTICE**

The Belize City Council hereby notifies vehicle owners that Pursuant to Section 6 (8) of the Summary Jurisdiction Offences Act, CAP 98 Laws of Belize, disposal of derelict vehicles will commence with Wednesday, April 20, 2022. Any vehicle owner wishing to collect their vehicle must appear at Belize City Council's Audit Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor City Hall with their vehicle registration on or before Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

 Honda Accord	 William J Usher Mitsubishi Mirage BCC-16148	 Jehan Gillett Kia Optima BCC-62906	 Robert A. Batty Ford Contour BCC-37486
 John A. Flowers Grand Voyager BCC-55452	 Deysi A. Esquivel Dodge Stratus C-30802	 Monica Usher Chevy Cavalier 1CJ5295X7177162	 Hector Olivera Volkswagen Jetta BCC-50927
 Kenrick Bevans Toyota Camry D-5500	 Chrysler Pacifica 2A8GM68XX7R202635	 Cadillac Eldorado IG6DL12Y4DU601890	 Kareem Harvey Chevy Cavalier BCC-50258
 Reynold R. Lamb Asia Bus C-6947	 Ford Explorer BZC-38759	 Delcie Ciego Grand Cherokee IJFX58S8VC677502	 BMW X5 SCC-10533
 Tropical Vision LTD Hyundi Santa Fe BCC-45998	 Derek Disdale Nissan Stanza JN1FU21PXNX917700	 Discovery SD SALJY1287TA512500	 Toyota Rav4 BMPD-00767
 Ford Explorer BCC-40410	 Anita V. Henry Subaru Legacy BCC-47237	 Arvy M. Turner Grand Cherokee BCC-53279	 Victor Valencia Mazda BCC-51593
 Aaron C. Flowers Pontian Grand Prix BCC-52290	 Jose L. Nejera Cadillac Deville BCC-52141	 Ashra Parks Dodge Van BMP-09806	 Shevon Graham GMC Jimmy BCC-54501
 Winfield Dennison Dodge Stratus BCC-43297	 Fortunato Noble Chevy BCC-31574	 Kephawn's Pawn Shop Isuzu Rodeo BCC-44312	 Jennelli S. Simmons Toyota Rav4 BCC-24580
 Anne E. Carcamo GMC Jimmy BCC-45438	 Winfield Dennison Dodge Stratus BCC-43297		





## Mejoren las condiciones y los beliceños cosecharán los cultivos

La semana pasada, el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Belize, el Honorable Eamon Courtenay, remarcó en el Senado que Belize tiene un "problema migratorio serio" y que el gobierno hará un movimiento fuerte para aplicar las leyes para controlar el número de personas ilegales que ingresan y son traficadas a través de Belize. La gente de todo el mundo está en movimiento, y no solo en las regiones devastadas por la guerra. El Informe sobre Migración en el Mundo 2020 estimó que ese año migraron 281 millones de personas, el 3,6% de la población mundial.

En la actualidad, el Gobierno de Belize ha iniciado un programa de amnistía que, según dice, debería regularizar a más de 40.000 personas, en camino a convertirse en ciudadanos de Belize. Hablando de nuestra historia migratoria, una hoja informativa publicada por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Exterior e Inmigración dice que en 2010 el Instituto de Estadística de Belize no podía brindar estadísticas sobre inmigrantes indocumentados, pero un censo que hicieron ese año mostró que el 14.2% de nuestra población nació en el extranjero. La hoja de información del Departamento de Inmigración dice que Belize ha tenido dos amnistías, con 8.680 inmigrantes indocumentados registrados en 1984 y 11.168 inmigrantes obteniendo el estatus de residencia permanente en 1999. Se esperaba que una amnistía abortada de 2010 registrara a más de 20.000 personas.

En todo el mundo, los países despliegan la alfombra roja para los inmigrantes que tienen habilidades especiales o tienen dinero para iniciar industrias o invertir en las existentes. Los inmigrantes que trabajan "muy barato" también tienen demanda, donde hay negocios intensivos en mano de obra que no son extremadamente rentables para los propietarios, o donde los propietarios son rapaces.

Los inmigrantes ilegales que utilizan nuestro país como punto de tránsito o son personas objeto de trata son una preocupación, pero el mayor problema para Belize son aquellos que llegan con permisos de trabajo y no regresan a su país de origen después de que vencen sus permisos. Alrededor del 50% de los permisos de los trabajadores se destinan al sector agrícola, y una gran cantidad de estos trabajadores pasan a trabajar en el turismo y la construcción.

Los beliceños tienen mucha simpatía por las personas que quieren venir aquí para hacer una vida mejor, pero es necesario controlar la cantidad de personas que vienen con un permiso de trabajo y se quedan, o simplemente se cuelan en el país. La caridad comienza en casa, y existe una gran necesidad de que primero aseguremos el futuro de los beliceños que aún no han recibido una parte justa del pastel. Cuando el gobierno actual prometió que todos ganaríamos, estaba hablando específicamente a los miles, más del 50% de los beliceños, que apenas sobreviven. Es principalmente debido al nivel de indigencia en el país que algunos beliceños han expresado reservas sobre la amnistía de 2022, a pesar de que el Departamento de Inmigración insiste en que la mayoría de las personas que se registrarán han vivido aquí durante algún tiempo.

Todas las autoridades saben que la clave para controlar a los inmigrantes ilegales comienza en el sector agrícola, donde la mano de obra barata es una necesidad, excepto en momentos en que los precios de nuestros productos en el mercado mundial son altos. Es extremadamente ilusorio pensar que todos los trabajadores que obtengan permisos para trabajar aquí por temporada se irán a casa y se quedarán en casa cuando termine la cosecha. Si los beliceños no cosechan los cultivos, la población de personas ilegales crecerá.

Hubo un tiempo en que la mayoría de los trabajadores de campo en las principales agroindustrias eran beliceños. No pasará mucho para que esos días regresen, pero no será así si los dueños de las fincas se salen con la suya. Generalmente prefieren trabajadores extranjeros porque son mucho más

fáciles de manejar, no piden más pago y no se quejan de las malas condiciones de vida. No hay nada ilegal allí. Es el capitalismo.

Si el Gobierno de Belize se toma en serio la solución del problema de la inmigración, se asegurará de que los beliceños obtengan esos trabajos. El primer paso debe ser proporcionar un subsidio destinado a lograr que los agricultores mejoren las condiciones de vivienda de los trabajadores agrícolas. Ese trabajo no es para todos, pero si las condiciones de vivienda son decentes, no debería haber problemas para encontrar personas capacitadas en zonas rurales y urbanas de Belize que están ansiosos por unirse a las cuadrillas de trabajo estacional.

### Lord Ashcroft no es un buen "embajador" para su pueblo

Dejando de lado la afirmación de que el Reino Unido no ha hecho lo suficiente para hacer reparaciones por su papel en la esclavitud y su pasado colonial en Belize, lo que los británicos han hecho a través de subvenciones y asistencia tecnológica está siendo erosionado por uno de los hijos de esa nación, Lord Ashcroft, que es casi el peor embajador.

Es comprensible que los británicos apoyen a sus ciudadanos, y aquellos a los que les va bien en el extranjero son especialmente favorecidos, porque durante siglos la gente de esas islas ha dependido de sus "inversiones" en el extranjero para mantener su alto nivel de vida. Los negocios nunca son una fiesta de té, pero hay cosas como el respeto y la responsabilidad social que estas empresas extranjeras deben tener en cuenta al hacer negocios en un país extranjero independiente.

Los líderes políticos locales, el PUP, cometieron un grave error cuando permitieron que Ashcroft y su gente compraran el control de nuestra empresa de telecomunicaciones, BTL. El BTL controlado por extranjeros ignoró a la Comisión Reguladora de Servicios Públicos, resistió la expansión de las telecomunicaciones a áreas no tan rentables y no permitió voz IP. El PUP fue vapuleado en las urnas por su error.

El siguiente gobierno UDP no tuvo más remedio que recuperar BTL. Aquellos que insisten en gritar que dañamos nuestro potencial de inversión extranjera cuando recuperamos BTL no saben cómo operan las naciones orgullosas. Las naciones van a guerras militares y económicas para proteger sus activos y preservar su dignidad. Todas las guerras cuestan. (Aunque lo que pagamos para recuperar BTL debe investigarse a fondo).

Los últimos excesos, atrocidades vinculadas a Ashcroft son la solicitud de una orden restrictiva para bloquear un pago ex gratia que hizo el Gobierno de Belize a los estibadores de Port of Belize Ltd., y una demanda contra dichos estibadores por una breve huelga. Para recaudar fondos para contrarrestar el último ataque vicioso en la corte, los estibadores están actualmente en una campaña para recaudar fondos.

Belize ofrece incentivos especiales para atraer inversiones extranjeras, pero a veces la miel atrae moscas no tan deseadas. Si los beliceños miraran de cerca, verían que ambos gobiernos de Belize han sido más que justos en sus tratos con Ashcroft, pero sin pensar en nuestra buena voluntad, se dio la vuelta y nos mordió. Lo peor es cuando se lleva a alguien a casa y abusan de su hospitalidad.

A medida que hacen negocios, los británicos intentan proyectar clase y una firme creencia en el juego limpio. La nota baja de los británicos son sus camorberos que se han comportado de forma grosera en ocasiones en los partidos de fútbol. Lord Ashcroft actúa como un nuevo rico que se abrió camino hasta la cima, y ahora está obteniendo una alegría perversa al usar su dinero para intimidar y avergonzar a los beliceños. Debería abandonar su caso y tratar a los estibadores con respeto, aunque solo sea para dejar de avergonzar al Reino Unido. No es un buen embajador.





## INVITATION TO QUOTE – GOODS

**Institution:** Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing  
**Country:** Belize  
**Project:** Additional Financing for George Price Highway Rehabilitation Project  
**Sector:** Transport  
**Abstract:** Equipment for the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing Soils Lab  
**Loan No.:** Loan 4616/OC-BL  
**Deadline:** **2:00 pm (Local Belize Time) on April 21st, 2022**

1. The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of the additional Financing for George Price Highway Rehabilitation Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments under the Contract for the Supply of Equipment for the Soils Lab under the George Price Highway Rehabilitation Project.

2. The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing now invites sealed quotations from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of the following items: a **Compression Testing Machine, a Motorized Liquid Limit Machine, Rebar locator/cover meter along with spare parts and a Plastic Limit Roller with 20 pads.**

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Shopping procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank's Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Policies.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain the full Invitation to Quote for the required equipment from the Program Management Unit, Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing, located on the First Floor of the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing Soils Lab Building, Power Lane, Belmopan by emailing [pmupcmow@gmail.com](mailto:pmupcmow@gmail.com) **AND** [mow.project3344@gmail.com](mailto:mow.project3344@gmail.com).

5. Quotations must utilize forms provided in the invitation to quote. One (1) Original and two (2) copies are to be submitted in sealed labelled envelopes to the address indicated below. Quotations by email **WILL NOT** be accepted.

6. Bidders are informed that they can only bid for the type of equipment specified, and quote for all items in this Invitation. Price quotations will be evaluated for all the items. Price quotations should be **Exclusive of General Sales Tax.**

7. Your quotation(s) should be submitted as per the following instructions and in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of supply in the attached Quote Submission Sheet.

(i) **VALIDITY OF THE OFFER:** Your quotation(s) should be valid for a period of **90 days** from the date of receipt for quotation(s).

(ii) **SUBMISSION OF OFFERS:** Offers will be submitted on the Quote Submission Sheet including a description of specifications offered, Price Schedule for Goods and Related Services. These templates are annexed in the full Invitation to Quote. All documents must be completed without any alterations in format, and no substitutes shall be accepted. All blank spaces shall be filled in with the information requested.

8. The Purchaser shall award the Contract to the offer which complies substantially with the technical specifications and other requirements in these documents and represents the lowest price.

9. Quotations must be delivered to the address below at or before **2:00 pm (Local Belize Time) on April 21st, 2022.** Electronic quotes **will not** be permitted. Late quotes will be rejected. Your quotation should be in the English language in the required format or other similar, acceptable format should be addressed and submitted to:

**Attention of (Name):** **Mr. Rolando Chan, Program Coordinator Program Management Unit**

**Address:** **Program Management Unit,  
First Floor – Soils Lab  
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing  
Power Lane, Belmopan  
Cayo District, Belize**

**Phone #:** **822-1942/822-0100**

**Email:** [pmupcmow@gmail.com](mailto:pmupcmow@gmail.com) **AND** [mow.project3344@gmail.com](mailto:mow.project3344@gmail.com)



**Ministry of Rural Transformation**  
Community Development, Labour and Local Government

No. 5163 University Boulevard,  
Belmopan

(501) 802-2679  
 (501) 802-2663  
[info@labour.gov.bz](mailto:info@labour.gov.bz)  
[www.mlgrd.gov.bz](http://www.mlgrd.gov.bz)

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

**Consultancy services for research and formulation of a plan for the Gradual Implementation of the Government's Commitment to reaching A Five-Dollar National Minimum Wage**

### PURPOSE:

The Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government is launching a call for proposals from interested professionals to conduct background research and formulate a plan for the gradual implementation of the Government's commitment to reaching a Five-Dollar National Minimum Wage.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY:

The main objective of the Consultancy is to formulate a Plan for the gradual implementation of Government's commitment to reaching a Five-Dollar national minimum wage.

### MAIN ACTIVITIES:

**Phase (I) – Situational Analysis:** A thorough assessment of the political, economic, social, business and institutional factors in order to understand the current and future national context of the wage's dynamics.

**Phase (II) – Gap Analysis:** The Consultant will identify specific wages and productivity issues for traditional and non-traditional forms of work – against the backdrop of significant challenges and opportunities for Belize's labour market.

**Phase (III) – Drafting of Plan:** The Consultant will produce a Plan in plain, actionable language while grouping topics and provisions in a logical structure addressing scope of implementation, and supplementary and legal provisions.

**Phase (IV) - Implementation:** The Consultant will prepare an operational and monitoring and evaluation framework.

### QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCIES:

Candidates seeking to undertake this consultancy should possess the following minimum qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Public Policy, Labour Economics, Development Studies, Industrial Relations or any related fields from a recognized university or institution with ten years of relevant professional experience;
- Exposure to and familiarity with local labour markets' conditions, policies, programs and Pre and Post COVID-19 situations;
- Strong practical understanding of macro and micro economic policies and conditions;
- Strong practical knowledge and implementation of wages legislation and policies;
- Strong practical knowledge of government processes, legislations, regulations, and policies;

### SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Each proposal should consist of:

1. A short cover letter (2 pages maximum) with exact references to the consultant's experience with similar undertakings specifying – in detail – (i) experience with wages policies, action plans or similar documents; (ii) experience with policy research, development, and implementation skill; and (iii) knowledge of Belize labour markets' conditions, policies, programs and Pre and Post COVID-19 situations;
2. Relevant samples of work and/or hyperlinks to published material;
3. Tentative calendar for carrying out the various phases of the process (see section 7, paragraphs (i) to (iv) of the Terms of Reference). With regards to the calendar of activities, please note:
  - a. The consultant is expected to start working during the month of April 2022 and conclude the exercise at least, by October 2022.
  - b. The full stakeholders' consultation schedule and modality will be jointly determined after selection of the candidates in line with the stakeholders' availability, COVID-19 health situation/regulation and available resources.
4. Curriculum vitae and current affiliation of relevant consultants, if any;
5. A price proposal that includes all consultant fees and related expenses. Meetings and workshop costs will be covered by the Ministry.
6. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.
7. The full Terms of Reference may be requested from [lambcl@gobmail.gov.bz](mailto:lambcl@gobmail.gov.bz)

### Proposals must be submitted to:

Post:  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government  
5163 University Boulevard  
Belmopan City, CAYO

### And

Email: [lambcl@gobmail.gov.bz](mailto:lambcl@gobmail.gov.bz)

All submissions must be made by 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at 4:00pm



**PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES, FARM EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES**

*San Pedro, Ambergris Caye; Vista Del Mar, Hattievillage Village, Lord's Bank Village, Belize District; San Antonio Village, Xiabe Village, Waree Bight Village, Corozal District; Trail Farm, August Pine Ridge Village, Indian Creek Community, Hill Bank Area, Orange Walk District; Belmopan, Georgeville Village, Camalote Village, More Tomorrow Village Extension, Santa Elena Town, Cayo District; Dangriga, Stann Creek; Bella Vista Village, Toledo District*

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the below described properties, farm equipment and vehicles. Sales currently running and will expire 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the time shown on the website.

**A: San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize District:**

1. Vehicle:



1999 Toyota Rav 4  
VEHICLE: Available for viewing prior to sale

2. Parcel No. 7854 Ambergris Bay Area on the Western Portion of Ambergris Caye, San Pedro, Belize:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	7854
Freehold property of Mr. Pedro Valeriano Vasquez.		

3. Parcel No. 6824 Colonia Diego, San Pedro Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	6824
Freehold property of Mr. Pablo Sosa.		

4. Parcel No. 2601 San Pedro Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	2601
Freehold property of Mr. Pablo Sosa		

5. Parcel No. 9412 approximately 13 miles northeast of San Pedro Town in Bracelette Caye on the west coast of Ambergris Caye, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Pedro	7	9412
Freehold property of Messrs. Pair of Aces Limited, surety for Mr. Keith Alan Zielaskowski.		

**B: COROZAL DISTRICT:**

1. Parcel No. 799 Waree Bight Area, near Little Belize, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Waree Bight/Freshwater Creek	3	799
Freehold property of Mr. David Neufeld of Little Belize Corn Mill.		

2. Parcel No. 130 San Antonio Village, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	36	130
Freehold property of Mr. Carlos C. Elvir & Blanca Elvir.		

3. Parcel No. 929 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal Central	1	929
Freehold property of Mr. Abraham Nicholson.		

4. Parcel No. 178 Xaibe Village, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Xaibe Village	1	178
Freehold property of Mr. Abraham Nicholson.		

**C: ORANGE WALK DISTRICT:**

Farm equipment: FARM EQUIPMENT: CAMP 18 SHIPYARD COMMUNITY - Available for viewing



Combine Harvester Sprayer

1. Parcel No. 1124 August Pine Ridge Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
August Pine Ridge	9	1124
Freehold property of Mr. Jacob Freisen.		

2. 726.969 Acres Indian Creek Community, Hill Bank Area, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Sierra De Aqua	23	68,69,70,71,72,73,75,76,77,78,79, 80, & 81
Freehold properties of Mr. Jacob Freisen & Mr. Bernhard Freisen.		

3. Parcel No. 396 Trial Farm Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Trial Farm	4	396
Freehold property of Mr. Jesus Pena.		

**D. BELIZE DISTRICT:**

Vehicle: Available for viewing prior to sale at No. 170 Beltex Avn., Belama Phase I, Belize City



2000 Isuzu Rodeo Truck

1. Lot No. 58 situate in Lord's Bank Village Extension, Belize District:



ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 58 situate in Lord's Bank Village Extension, Belize District comprising 1066.42 square yards TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. Freehold property of Mr. Norman Augustine Jr.)

2. Lot No. 307 Hattievillage Village, Belize District:



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

3. Parcel Nos. 1534 & 1535 Sailfish Avenue, Vista Del Mar, Ladyville, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Vista Del Mar	16	1534 & 1535
Freehold property of Ms. properties of Ms. Heather Jones.		

**E: CAYO DISTRICT:**

1. Parcel No. 3173 Western Side Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Belmopan	20	3173
Freehold property of Ms. Su Ti Liang.		

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



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

3. Parcels Nos. 2286 & 2287 Camalote Village, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Society Hall	24	2286 & 2287
Freehold properties of Mr. Ron Waight & Ms. Karina Waight.		

4. Lot Nos. 7 & 12 More Tomorrow Village Extension, Cayo District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 7 containing 920.616 square meters and Lot No 12 containing 909.380 square meters situate in More Tomorrow Village Extension, Cayo District, Belize TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold properties of Mr. Jimmy Robinson Sr., surety for Mr. Jimmy Robinson Sr. and Mr. Jimmy Robinson Jr.)

5. Parcel No. 422 Perez Street, Santa Elena, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Santa Elena/Cayo	23	422
Freehold property of Mr. Guillermo Monolo Castillo & Ms. Arlene August.		

**F: STANN CREEK DISTRICT**

1. Parcel Nos. 440 & 618 Dangriga, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
Dangriga South	31	440 & 618
Freehold property of Messrs. Dangriga Cable Vision.		

**G: TOLEDO DISTRICT:**

1. Lot No. 2 Bella Vista Village, Toledo District:



All That piece or parcel of land known as Lot #2 located in Bella Vista Village, Stann Creek District comprising 445.892 square meters Together with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. (Freehold property of Mr. Robert Andrew August and Ms. Roselia E. Lizama)

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)**

**Face Book: Belize Auctions**



# Let's not get preposterous here

by Colin Hyde

It was like the best joke in Belmopan for weeks when the local chapter of the *Lions* had a big powwow one night and next morning some of the known whiskey guzzlers were sporting bumper stickers on their vehicles that said: *Say No to Drugs!* In those days in the 70s there were other drugs here, stuff used in the upper classes, but on the ground the only one we were aware of was weed.

I say, if you're looking for hypocrites to nail for attacking other people's vices, those whiskey guys were the worst kettles kossing pots, but we know the truth: those well-off highly educated ones couldn't get over the bias sown in their heads from childhood. *Four legs good; two legs bad.* Whiskey, rum, and beer gud; weed is terrible.

Wow, I just presented the lead case in the category for adult bias disease rooted in the warped young mind! Really, in those days even the most notorious rum soaks, the kind who were at the bar door waiting for hours for it to open, so they could *kita* the *goama* from the night before...yaa, just don't make the mistake of mix them up with no weed head. Someone said the famous Joyce Brothers said a man is what he eats. Well, in the world of highs, a man is what stimulates him! Don't you dare look at me; I'm on caffeine.

If we believe the story weaved by the anti-weed crowd, it was the Creator who decreed it criminal to smoke weed. Of course we and they know that is not so. Weed was criminalized in the UK in 1928 ... *The Week* (UK magazine) says that in 1928 cannabis was made illegal in the UK, but doctors could

prescribe it for medical use up to 1971, "when the Misuse of Drugs Act came into force, creating the Class A, B and C classification system and making even more drugs controlled substances."

We being a former colony, we can expect that if we go to the Archives we will find a newspaper of that period with the details. God didn't criminalize weed; GOVERNMENTS did. And as government made the law, government can change the law. Of course, wi got rights to challenge.

My gudnis, the conscientious *antiweed* are warning people that they'll have to guard their little field with guns. When I was a boy fisherman in the 1970s, there were fishermen who guarded their lobster traps with shotguns. When I was a young man working in the Valley, some people guarded their orchards with shotguns. Nobody guards sugarcane – oh wait, they have to guard against vandalism sometimes.

Praedial larceny is the scourge of farmers. There was a time when small farmers in the west used to run a few heads on their 10 and 20-acre parcels, but people in villages near to urban areas don't keep cattle anymore. The blow is too crushing to lose a cow; that's why villagers sold out their stock. Some villagers still try with a few sheep, and pigs, and all of them will tell you they don't rest easy at night. Everybody jumps up and runs for their shotgun when they hear barking. Dogs that bark at ghosts need a good beating.

Only in villages a way out there will you find people who sleep with their windows opened. The windows on the houses in the posh neighborhoods are all burglar-barred, the yards are roamed by

vicious guard dogs, and the eaves all around the houses have cameras that are taking pictures all day and all night long.

We must insist that the weed act is finely tuned. If it is, it will ease the strain in urban areas. Hopefully destitute individuals who resort to stealing to survive will find an end in growing a little weed, or selling it. Freeing up the weed should make urban neighborhoods more relaxed, and that will lead to the reopening of small panades shops that remain opened late into the night.

## In the "For God's sakes, stop it!" category

This story on social media—my congratulations to these gay dads who took six siblings out of a foster home so they could be raised together—my that's great, except that if your love were true you would have placed them in a regular home, with a real mom and dad, and supported them financially. Many regular couples would adopt children if they had the funds; in fact, many regular people wouldn't put up their children for adoption if they had the funds to support them.

You are so right, guys, but so wrong. Hey, no one can have everything that they want in this world. If you doubt that, make it a hobby to look up people who you think have it all and ask them about it. You gay dads and "moms" can get your satisfaction, from a distance. There are no perfect people in this world; we all have some issue or other, but we should all try to do our best. Playing mommy and daddy with the children isn't the best situation for them. A whole lot of love to you guys, much love, but you

got a whole half of this thing wrong.

## These honorary doctors have their place

No one raised an eyebrow when former prime minister, Sir Manuel Esquivel got an honorary doctorate from Loyola University in New Orleans, where he had gotten a Bachelor's in Physics when he was a young man, but there was much surprise when Dr. Louis Zabaneh, I'm pretty sure it was he, had Galen bestow an honorary doctorate on Mr. Rene Villanueva. Really? For what, being rich? We all know where Rene got his A: being nice to the establishment. My, that Dr. Rene thing cut into Dr. Manuel's parade. Naa, it didn't. The honor was nearly all Loyola's to bestow the honorary on our second PM.

Whoa there, in the Olympics the judges use a numbering system to grade the performance of athletes in certain sports. In gymnastics, 10, the highest score, is rarely given, because if someone comes along and performs better in the judges' estimation than someone they gave a 10, well, there's no 10 plus.

Galen also gave out an honorary doctorate to Don Hector, and in his case Galen didn't lose points because Don Hector is the last of the self-government Mohicans. He has the great positives of contributing much from all his experiences, and he goes on a limb on issues that he sincerely feels could hurt our beloved country. I hope he doesn't drink whiskey, or wine.

Well, the hoal ting tohn oava recently, and I'm not talking about a university in Taiwan conferring the honorary on our present Prime Minister. The PM has a BA since 1985; he has held the second highest office in our country, and he now holds the highest office in the land. Bam, the fan got hit by something when our new leader of the opposition raced off and got himself his own honorary doctorate.

There really can be too much of a good thing. Dr. VonderBrink, on *Quora*, says "It is not customary for honorary degree recipients to use the title, however, and if you try to, people who have a real doctorate will laugh behind your back." But let's leave him out. He's too cruel. The University of Brighton says, "Honorary graduates shall be advised that recipients of an honorary degree may use the approved designatory letters after their names; Hon DArts, Hon DEng, Hon LLD Hon DLitt, Hon DSc, Hon DTech. It is not customary, however, for recipients of an honorary doctorate to use the title 'Dr.' in front of their name."

Of course, you can write me off as being envious because I haven't yet reached JP. But if you're objective, you'll daam well see what I mean.

## FOR SALE BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE

The Development Finance Corporation of Bliss Parade, City of Belmopan, Cayo District hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as mortgagee under Deed of Mortgages or Charges between those hereinafter named and the said Corporation which mortgages or charges are recorded at the Land Titles Unit or the Lands Registry, respectively and that the said Development Finance Corporation will, at the expiration of two (2) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, sell the properties described in the Schedule hereto.

All offers to purchase the said properties must be made in writing to the said Corporation at its Headquarters Office or District Offices.

### SCHEDULE

Parcel No. 446, Block 45, Queen Square Registration Section containing 452.11 Square Yards situate on Neal Pen Road, Belize City, Belize District held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of PAUL DAWSON.

Parcel No. 633, Block No. 45, Queen's Square Registration Section containing 721.41 Square yards situate on Supaul Street, Belize City, Belize District, Belize held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of PAUL DAWSON.

All that lot, piece or parcel of land situate on the left hand ascending on the Sibun River below Freetown Sibun known as Freetown Dawson Bank, Belize District containing 20 Acres held under a Deed of Gift being the freehold interest of PAUL DAWSON.

Parcel No. 2769, Block 1, Corozal North Registration Section containing 1852.73 Square Yards situate on No. 1 G Street, Corozal Town, Corozal District, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of GABRIEL BOCHNIA

Parcel No. 7161, Block No. 16, Ladyville/Lord's Bank Registration Section containing 478.005 Square Meters situate in the Los Lagos Area, Ladyville Village, Belize District held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of MICHELLE ELIZABETH TRAPP-ZUNIGA

Parcel No. 937, Block No 4, Tower Hill Registration Section containing 30 Acres situate in Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District, Belize held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of EUFEMIO FIDEL BUSTILLOS.

DATED THIS 30TH DAY OF MARCH, 2022



## VACANCY NOTICE

**Position Title:**

Grant Support and External Relations Coordinator

**Salary Pay Scale:**

Salary commensurate with qualification and experience

**Duty Station:**

Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

**Accountable to:**

the Chief Executive Officer

**Posting Period:**

2 years

**Basic purpose of position:**

The Grant Support and External Relations Coordinator shall effectively assess and coordinate the donor landscape aligned with our sustainable development priorities with the aim of aligning, identifying, and facilitating the entrance into and approval by these facilities; thus, securing opportunities and financing for environmental/sustainable development projects with high biodiversity returns in Belize.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Serve as the ministry's liaison officer between international partners such as the UN system, Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Central American Commission for Development, among others.
2. Assess the grant funding landscape aligned with national sustainable development targets and goals.
3. Document entry points, focus areas, processes, requirements, and opportunities of donor agencies aligned with our national target and goals for the environment.
4. Develop a funding dashboard which facilitates tracking of biodiversity targets and investment funding windows.
5. Develop expressions of Interests, concept notes in collaboration with relevant agencies for submission to donors and facilities.
6. Work closely with Results Based/Monitoring and evaluation Specialist within the MSDCC&DRM to ensure alignment of grant opportunities with investment opportunities.
7. Develop a donor coordination mechanism that supports the ministry's strategic priorities.
8. Submits periodic reports on the status of projects development with external stakeholders.
9. Any other duties, assigned from time to time, for the MSDCC&DRM.

**Minimum Qualifications – Academic/Training:**

Master's Degree in: Finance, Economics, Investment Management, or closely related field

**Skills, Experience and Qualification Required:**

1. Strong organizational skills and leadership capability.
2. Ability to integrate financial knowledge with operational strategies and policy objectives.
3. Knowledge of environmental finance, sustainable development issues and the interface between socioeconomics and the environment at the local and international level
4. Strong interpersonal and communication skills
5. Intermediate level Spanish proficiency
6. Knowledge of national governance framework strongly desired
7. Ability to prepare publications, reports, and presentations.
8. Proven knowledge of financial planning and diagnosis
9. Ability to conduct research, data analysis.
10. Ability to work with a multidisciplinary and multicultural team.
11. Computer literacy particularly in Microsoft and Access software application
12. Strong work ethic.
13. Flexible and ability to prioritize a variety of complex evolving tasks.

**Application Requirements**

Interested persons shall submit an Expression of Interest/Letter of Application Letter along with Curriculum Vitae inclusive of two (2) references and supporting documents no later than **April 18, 2022**, to:

Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management

**Attn: National Biodiversity Office- Director**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Green Complex Building

#2557 Hummingbird Highway

Belmopan

Telephone number 828-9055

or

Email address: BIOFIN-Belize@environment.gov.bz

**\*Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted**



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN OF THREE STORAGE AND PACKING FACILITIES

**Institution:** Ministry of Economic Development

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Resilient Rural Belize Programme

**Loan No.:** 2000002301

**Deadline for Submission of Proposals:** April 15, 2022 at 10:00AM.

**Background:**

The Government of Belize (GOB), through a financing agreement with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and 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 vegetables, fruits, 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 Service:**

One of the objectives of the Programme is to assist small farmers to become more climate resilient by improving their agricultural production through investments in climate resilient agricultural technologies such as covered structures, water harvesting facilities and storage facilities. To accomplish this, the Programme must prepare appropriate designs and architectural drawings, which shall be used for the procurement of quality services and materials for the construction and delivery of all identified technologies.

This assignment aims to prepare a complete set of architectural drawings for packaging and storage facilities for three Producers' Organizations that the RRB already has signed agreements with, inclusive of electrical drawings (digital and hard copies), for a solar powered electrical system and priced Bill of Quantities for multiple Producer Organizations (PO). These Producer Organizations for whom these three architectural drawings are directly applicable are:

1. Valley of Peace Farmer's Association Holdings Limited
2. Maya Green Growers' Cooperative Society Limited (San Antonio, Cayo)
3. New River Farmer's Cooperative Limited, (San Carlos, Orange Walk).

**Deliverables:**

The deliverables for the project shall include:

- i. Workplan with work schedule for the project.
- ii. Preliminary Report of findings.
- iii. Initial Renderings of Drawings in 3D view.
- iv. Final architectural and electrical design and detail working drawings, including 3D Renderings, for the structure in digital and two (2) hard copies.
- v. Priced Bill of Quantities for the completion of the three facilities.

The Resilient Rural Belize (RRB) Programme now invites proposals for the provision of **Architectural Services for the Design of Three Storage and Packing Facilities**.

A Consulting Firm will be selected in accordance with the procurement procedures set out by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consulting Firms interested in receiving the RFP and submitting a Proposal should register their interest by sending an e mail (with subject: Request for RFP Architectural Services for the Design of Three Storage and Packing Facilities) to the Procurement Officer at [nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz](mailto:nvernon.rrb@med.gov.bz) giving full contact details of the Consultant. This will ensure that the Consultants receive updates regarding this RFP.

The Proposal must be delivered to the following address on or before April 15, 2022, at 10:00AM (Local time). Consultants also have the option of submitting their Proposals electronically using the File Request Link: <https://bit.ly/3Lcz8YK>

Attn: Nadia Vernon  
Procurement Officer  
Resilient Rural Belize Programme  
Ministry of Economic Development  
National Agriculture Showgrounds  
Hummingbird Highway  
Belmopan, Belize





Ministry of Finance, Economic Development & Investment  
Belmopan  
MARCH 31, 2022

## **NOTICE TO TAX DEFAULTERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 64A OF TAX ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE ACT (TAPA)**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>TAX CENTRE</b>	<b>TAX TYPE</b>	<b>AMOUNT OWED</b>
<b>Matus Medical Supplies</b>	Medical Supplies Importer	Belize	GST and Business Tax	\$271,705.59
<b>DK Limited</b>	Retailer	Belize	GST	\$131,932.93
<b>Darrell Carter</b>	Upholsterer	Belize	GST	\$854,419.47
<b>HLB Belize, LLP I Grant Thorton</b>	Accounting Firm	Belize	GST and Business Tax	\$2,421,576.26
<b>Buttercup Development Co. Ltd</b>	Real Estate	Belize	GST	\$63,703.66
<b>Jose Depaz</b>	Land Surveyor	San Ignacio	GST	\$261,963.06
<b>Mark Neal</b>	Gym	Belize	GST	\$47,561.74
<b>Denvor Fairweather</b>	Producer	Belize	GST	\$17,017.42
<b>Johnny Quan</b>	Retailer	Corozal	GST	\$161,223.14
<b>Zhen Jun Lan</b>	Retailer	Corozal	GST	\$444,111.53
<b>Damaris Berges</b>	Restaurateur	Corozal	GST and Business Tax	\$115,881.53
<b>Caribbean Sunrise Limited</b>	Manufacturer	Belize	GST	\$402,440.99
<b>Quality Water Depot</b>	Manufacturer	Belize	GST	\$226,745.84
<b>Amigos Del Mar</b>	Tour Operator	San Pedro	GST	\$1,822,074.47
<b>Belize Pharma Supplies</b>	Pharmacy	Belize	GST	\$93,049.36
<b>Ivor Company</b>	Real Estate/Marketing	Belize	GST and Business Tax	\$60,410.51
<b>Austin Waight</b>	Marketing	Belize	GST and Business Tax	\$166,304.48
<b>Out Island Construction &amp; Development</b>	Construction	Belize	GST	\$408,950.55
<b>Arthur Saldivar</b>	Attorney	Belize	Business Tax	\$57,712.95
<b>Eden Holland</b>	Restaurateur	Belize	GST	\$834,465.22
<b>Mark King</b>	Security Services	Belize	GST	\$398,141.53
<b>Smoky Mermaid</b>	Restaurant	Belize	GST	\$256,017.56
<b>El Secreto</b>	Hotel	San Pedro	GST and Business Tax	\$293,630.87
<b>M&amp;M Engineering</b>	Engineer/Construction	Belize	GST and Business Tax	\$2,784,507.54

You are hereby notified to contact the Belize Tax Service Department as soon as possible to settle your arrears. Failure to do so in a timely manner will result in court proceedings or further action taken against you pursuant to the TAPA.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
BELIZE TAX SERVICE DEPARTMENT**



# From the Publisher

Reproduced from page 9 of the Tuesday, April 5, 2022, #3544 issue of Amandala

When I was a young university student in the United States running around with black activists, I didn't want to hear anything about the fact that there were Africans who had enabled and facilitated the kidnapping and enslavement of their own African people for their own enrichment and the enrichment of European slave traders. But, facts are stubborn things: Africans sold other Africans.

In the Western media nowadays, we hear a lot about all the brutality taking place in the Ukraine, which has been attacked by Russia, but we Belizeans know very, very little about what has occurred in Zaire

(previously the Belgian Congo) over the last six decades since the country, perhaps the richest in the world where natural resources are concerned, was granted political independence by Belgium in 1960.

It is generally accepted that Patrice Lumumba was an honest, sincere leader who wanted the best for his Congolese people, but there was another Congolese, a man by the name of Moise Tshombe, who controlled the wealthy Katanga province, who was prominent in the murder of Lumumba because, like some of the African chiefs in the slavery days, he was on the payroll of the European predators.

We don't have to go anywhere to see that the paradigm of Africans participating in the butchering of other Africans remains a terrible reality, because almost every day in Belize some black youth kills another black youth with a high-powered automatic pistol.

In a previous column, I explained to you that the Russian people are not considered classic Europeans by the "tappa tappa" Scandinavian and Anglo-Saxon Europeans. But the Ukrainians are considered fully European. The Russians are considered a Slavic people, whatever that means. To us, as Belizeans of color, however, we see

the Russians and the Europeans as basically the same thing -- white people.

Anyway, so much for Russians and Ukrainians. It has been very, very painful to me to watch our own Belizean people of color accept all the pieces of silver handed out by Vladimir Ashcroft for the crushing of the interests of black Belizeans. The excuse is that this is what attorneys do. This is their professional modus operandi. They don't see right and wrong, as such. It's all about pipers, moneys, and tunes.

In the larger sense, human beings do very cruel things to other human beings because we want power and money. Western companies wanted control of Congolese resources at the lowest possible prices, so they paid for the murder of Patrice Lumumba, who wanted the best possible deals for his Congolese people. The Russians are murdering the Ukrainians because they want control of Ukrainian resources in order to become more powerful and wealthy.

What is puzzling for people like me is how God and religion fit into planet earth's reality. There are some of us who do cruel things while masquerading as Christians. These are Belizeans who are considered the successful ones of our country. But Jesus said clearly and pointedly that His kingdom was not of this world.

And so, one of Christ's parables which I cherish most is that of The Rich Young Man. He asked Jesus what he should do in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. Jesus said, obey the commandments. The Rich Young Man replied that he had been doing this, obeying the commandments, from the time he was a child. Jesus said, okay then, leave all you have and follow me. The Rich Young Man turned and walked away: he could not bear to give up his material possessions.

Ashcroft is the Belizean Anti-Christ. He brings material possessions for his favorites, wonderful material possessions. In return for these possessions, some of us have sold out our people. This is historically characteristic of an oppressed people. From the time we encountered the oppressor Europeans more than five centuries ago, they have been the oppressors, and we have been the oppressed. Those of us who want to be successes, have to sell out our own kind. This truth is undeniable.



Toledo Teachers Credit Union, Ltd.  
Queen Street, Punta Gorda Town  
Post Office Box 95  
Toledo District, BELIZE C. A.  
Phone Nos: (501) 722-2522, 722-0060, 722-0056, 671-2522  
E-mail: ttcu@btlnet

## VACANCY – INTERNAL AUDITOR

Suitable applications are being invited for the post of Internal Auditor for the Toledo Teacher's Credit Union Ltd to provide coordination and completion of all Regulatory and Auditing requirements of the Credit Union. The Internal Auditor is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the Internal Control Policies, Loan Underwriting Processes & Procedures, Financial Transactions & Daily Operations, and the Audit Programme of the Credit Union. In this capacity, the Internal Auditor will provide an independent assessment of management's responsibilities for the Credit Union's assets and compliance with Local & National Regulatory Authorities.

### Responsibilities will include:

- Provide quarterly, independent audit reports to the Supervisory Committee via the General Manager guided by the Audit Charter.
- Determine the objectives and scopes of each audit and the allocation of audit resources necessary to complete audits.
- Provide an Annual Audit Plan to encompass the necessary testings & internal controls of the Credit Union.
- Obtain, analyse and appraise sufficient documentary evidence as a basis for formulating an opinion on the efficiency and effectiveness of operations and activities being audited.
- Prepare work papers in accordance with Credit Union and Industry Standards that document test works that were performed and support the findings and conclusions that were derived.
- Prepare formal reports documenting audit procedures performed and audit results, risks associated with audit findings, and practical recommendations for improvement.
- Monitor and appraises the adequacy and effectiveness of corrective actions taken on audit findings and present written reports to the GM and the Supervisory Committee.
- Inform the Supervisory Committee of all significant issues regarding the Credit Union that may be detected through audits or interactions with management and/or staff.
- Establish and maintain written policies, procedures, practical internal verifications, controls, and audit trails to be incorporated into the audit function.
- Monitor national and international regulations as needed. Other responsibilities as assigned by the President/GM and the Supervisory Committee.
- Perform other duties and projects as assigned by the Supervisory Committee and/or President/GM

### Required Skills:

Requires general knowledge of the financial institution's operations, regulations, and services. Possess three to five years of specific or related experience with ability to demonstrate integrity, credibility, confidentiality, and responsibility.

### Qualifications:

Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in Accounting/Business Management with at least three years working experience. Being an Anti-Money Laundering Certified Associate would be an asset. The ability to be fluent in English and Spanish will be an asset.

### Application packages should include:

- Letter of Application
- A current Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of Relevant Diplomas/Certificates
- Two letters of recommendation or references.
- A recent Police Record.
- Proof of Address
- Valid Social Security Card or Passport (Belize)
- Proper notice for commencement of work
- Recent Medical Examination

Package can be sent to the General Manager  
Deadline for submission of application is 15 April, 2022

Mr. Leopoldo Romero  
General Manager  
Queen Street  
Punta Gorda Town  
Toledo District  
Belize

Online application can be sent to [lromero@ttcupg.org](mailto:lromero@ttcupg.org)

Toledo Teachers Credit Union is a viable, innovative, socially responsible and transparent financial institution that provides the most efficient, reliable, convenient and competitive financial services to its member-owners and community through education, the use of modern technology, good governance and sound financial management practices.

Commitment, Integrity, Honesty, Accountability, Visionary, Empowering, Stewardship, Teamwork, Excellence, Equity, Professionalism. C-I-HAVE-STEER VALUES.

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# PRESS PREDICTIONS

**The sports psychic speaks**

## **BOLEDO**

**“Press” Predictions; 24-58-61  
Boledo stats thru 8th to 14th  
April, 2022**

In boledo news, 50 finally played after 1 year 8 months 2 weeks and 5 days. These are my lucky numbers for this week: 24-58-61-29-36-06. These are my lucky jackpot numbers: 8266-7921-5403. These are my lucky PICK-3 numbers: 432-101-674-580-969. Get ready Belize, some dinero will be coming our way. 49 finally played after 1 year 1 month 2 weeks and 5 days, 55 is still out for over 1 year 5 months 3 weeks and 1 day now, 42 just joined 03 and 55 last week Friday, All Fools Day. 03 is still out for over

1 year 1 month 3 weeks and 3 days now. The sixties series has not played for over 43 days now. The ending 2 ball is very hot, also the ending 9 ball, 29 is the only 9 ball number left to play. There 3 numbers that played a lot in 2021: 36 played some 8 times, 34 & 65 both played some 7 times each. Keep your eyes open for those 3 hot numbers that played last year; a lot of low numbers will be out this week. Remember to read your Psalms: 72-91-63. Good luck to all buyers, next week more lucky numbers.

## **LOCAL FOOTBALL**

**Verdes Crushed Caesar Ridge 7-  
Nil  
Local Football Results and**

### **Predictions**

In local football action, week-8 results, Verdes F.C. the 2-time champion, crushed Caesar Ridge 7 goals to nil; 7 different players scored and 6 of them are under 21 years old. The bench players had their day to shine and they did very well. Then the Garden City Boys edged Wagiya F.C. 1-nil, Warren Moss had 3 goals in his last 4 games; he now plays for the National A Team of Belize, his parents are very proud of their son. Then Altitude F.C. beat San Pedro Pirates 4 goals to 2. This Saturday night in Benque, Verdes F.C. will host the San Pedro Pirates. Verdes wants to come in undefeated in this second season. They were unbeaten in the first tournament, they have won 43 games with only 1 draw in their last 44 games



**by Gilroy “Press” Cadogan**

played. They will go to Concacaf in August and represent Belize very well. Next week more stats.

## **CYCLING**

**Justin Williams will not be in the Race**

**The 92<sup>nd</sup> Cross Country Cycling Classic Prediction**

The 92<sup>nd</sup> Holy Saturday Cross Country is just 1 week away, and Justin Williams, the 2-time Cross Country Champion, has dislocated his shoulder, he will be out for this race. His younger brother Cory Williams and 2 Americans will be here, there will be some Guatemalans and some Mexicans alongside some Americans, Johns Delong will bring his team, only 25 foreigners are invited. Team Valvoline BTB 501 are the strongest Belizean Team right now, they have Oscar Quiros, Brandon Cattouse, Joslyn Chavarria and Derek Chavarria, with Joshua Fuller, Team Digicell has Giovanni Lovell and his older Brother Gregory Lovell, Marlon Castillo and Sherwin Roca aka B-12 alongside Ernest Bradley. They named Team FAL. Fitzgerald “Palas” Joseph, aka the Black Rocket, will be in the top 10 finish, he is one of Belize’s top sprinters. Next week some more predictions.

## **NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**

**The playoffs get started next week Saturday**

**NBA Results and Predictions**

In NBA action, the Phoenix Suns will be number 1 in the West. The East is still up for grabs. The Miami Heat and the Milwaukee Bucks are battling for that number 1 seed. The Boston Celtics are the hottest team in the East, the Brooklyn Nets with Kevin Durant and Kyrie Erving will be very dangerous in the playoffs. The Los Angeles Lakers are in trouble to make the play-in, the San Antonio Spurs and the New Orleans Pelicans have the tie breaker on the Lakers, LeBron James and Anthony Davis are back in the lineup, they will have to win their last 4 games. Frank Vogel will be fired after the regular season, they want Quinn Snyder from the Utah Jazz. The Dallas Mavericks are in the third spot. The Memphis Grizzlies will be at the number 2 spot. The Golden States Warriors will be at the fourth seed, there will be a lot of first round upsets. The playoffs get started on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. Next week more stats.

## **Belize Water Services Limited**

### PRESS RELEASE

March 31, 2022 For Immediate Release

### **BWS has asked the PUC to review its Final Decision for 2019-20 Full Tariff Review Proceeding**

Pursuant to the Section 32 of the Public Utilities Commission Act, Belize Water Services Limited has formally written to the Public Utilities Commission to request a review of the Decision made in its 2019-20 Full Tariff Review Proceeding (the “2020 Decision”).

The 2020 Decision would have caused an across-the-board 2.25% tariff increase to become effective April 1, 2022.

In an effort to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting impact on the lives of our customers and Belize’s economy, BWS felt that asking the PUC to review its Decision was the right thing to do.

The PUC has been asked to expedite the review and in the interim, the PUC has instructed BWS to suspend implementation of the scheduled rate adjustment pending the outcome of its review.

###

Customers are encouraged to report any water supply issues via BWS Toll Free at 0-800-CALL-BWS (0-800-2255-297) or WhatsApp 614-BWSL(614-2975).

**BWS: Delivering Water and More ...**  
For more information regarding this or any other BWS Release, please contact:  
Corporate Communications at Tel: 222-4757 Ext. 1405 or 1408  
or via e-mail at [pr@bws.com.bz](mailto:pr@bws.com.bz)



# Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson!!

by Glen Gillett

For the first time in the history of the Supreme Court of the United States, a black woman will be confirmed to fill a seat on the highest bench in the land. Harvard-educated, and probably the most qualified candidate ever to be chosen to serve in that most exclusive club! She has been a prosecutor and a defense lawyer, a rare find indeed. None of the other 8 judges on the bench have her experience of working on both sides of the judicial system. She will be confirmed, she has the votes, and will serve in her capacity with distinction, I believe. I feel very proud, like everyone in America should, black or white, that someone with the vast experience, integrity, and intelligence of this outstanding woman, will help to restore some semblance of righteousness to that court.

In spite of her stellar and incomparable qualifications, the hearings on her nomination have brought out the racism that still permeates every sector and segment of American society. The questioning by some of the Republican senators was not only ignorant, but blatantly racist, as they tried to appeal to the Trumpian wing of that now-disgraced party, kind of like the UDPs! She's black, so she's soft on crime; she gives lighter sentences to pedophiles; she's too liberal to be a Supreme Court Justice! They threw the book at her about defending Guantanamo inmates; she coddles terrorists, according to them. Why? Why would they be so hard on this woman? Why? Because according to them, a black woman has no right to be in such an elevated position. There must be something wrong with her, in their little, racist minds!

Judge Jackson kept her cool, fended off all their insensitive and disgusting questions with aplomb. The majority of Americans approve of her nomination and ascension to the pinnacle of the judiciary in America. All their feeble attempts at trying to discredit her, and all people of color, by extension, failed. Their accusations and rambling, incoherent diatribes, just rolled off her shoulders; she brushed them off and maintained her cool, her grace, her class!

It is so disappointing, so disheartening, that in 2022, in what is supposed to be the new Age of Enlightenment, the age of social and moral and racial advancements, these troglodytes are still hovering about, still trying to "keep us in our place!" What will it take for people of color to get their just due, for us to be recognized for our greatness, our contributions to society, in so many different forms? What will it take for us to feel, and be, truly free, not the conditional freedom that has been imposed upon us? To reach that proverbial promised land? The Israelites took 40 years to get there. It's been over 400 years, and we are still wandering in the desert!

*"Why are we weigh'd upon with heaviness,*

*And utterly consumed with sharp distress,*

*While all things else have rest from weariness?"* — "The Lotus Eater", by Tennyson.

## TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE CENTRAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Tenders are invited from security companies for the general security and surveillance of the Belize National ICT Center Building (Belmopan City), corner Mountain View Blvd. and Dry Creek Street, and for infrastructure relating to the Disaster Recovery Site located on the top floor of the Post Office Building in Belmopan.

1. The tender shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing 1 July 1, 2022, and ending 30 June 2023.
2. The successful tender will be expected to provide the following security and surveillance services:
  - (a) General security and surveillance of the Belize National ICT Center compound (the "Premises") including all buildings and fixtures erected therein by armed guards on a 24-hour basis seven days per week, including public and bank holidays.
  - (b) Monitor the Disaster Recovery Site (the "DR Site") using surveillance cameras and conduct nightly patrols and random verification checks of the generator, electrical room door, and main access door commencing at 6pm to 6am.
  - (c) Allow only authorized persons to enter the Premises. The Security must maintain a log of all persons and vehicles entering and leaving the Premises.
  - (d) Conduct patrols outside the Premises to ensure that doors remain locked and that there is no sign of breakage into the building.
  - (e) The Security Company will provide its personnel with equipment including a licensed firearm for the effective performance of their duties.
  - (f) The Security Company, or its agents shall not divulge to any person or persons, any proprietary information coming to their knowledge in the course of their duties.
  - (g) The Security Company/Guard shall also comply with CITO's Fire Safety Policy in the event of an emergency fire evacuation. (Details available upon request)
  - (h) Any other security related task as may be agreed upon from time to time by the Parties involved.
3. Costs incurred in visiting the Premises and preparations of the tender bid are the sole responsibility of the tenderer.
4. Tenders shall include
  - a. Letters of Good Standing Belize Tax Service
  - b. Letters of Good Standing Belize Companies Registry
  - c. Letters of Good Standing Belize Social Security Board
  - d. Current Trade License
5. The tenderer shall provide evidence:
  - a. firearm licenses.
  - b. evidence of past jobs
  - c. recommendations for 3 or more customers.
6. Tenders are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF THE BELIZE NATIONAL INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) CENTER BUILDING (BELMOPAN)**", and delivered to the Central Information Technology Office, Belmopan, no later than 3 June 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
7. Tenders will be opened on 3 June 2022 at 10:30 a.m. in front of the tenderers or their representatives who wish to attend the opening.
8. Evaluation of tender will be carried out immediately after the opening of the tenders on 3 June 2022.
9. Additional information can be obtained from Ian Smith at telephone: 828-5169 or by email at [ian.smith@cito.gov.bz](mailto:ian.smith@cito.gov.bz).
10. The lowest tender will not necessarily be accepted.
11. Late tenders will be disqualified and returned to the tenderer unopened.





# Central Information Technology Office Ministry of Finance

Corner Dry Creek Mountain View Boulevard Belmopan

Telephones: 501 822-2406/08-20708 • Email: [contact@cito.gov.bz](mailto:contact@cito.gov.bz)

## TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF MICROSOFT 365 LICENSES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

- The Government of Belize, acting through the Central Information Technology Office, now invites Tenders for the supply of Microsoft 365 Licenses for the Government of Belize. The subscription period required is for one (1) year.
- Procurement of the goods will be conducted through Open Tendering Procedure.

### 3. Terms of Reference

#### 3a. Technical specifications

The scope of work includes the provision of Microsoft Licenses for the products listed in the table below:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Azure Active Directory Premium P2	100
Microsoft 365 E3	3,800
Microsoft 365 F3	175
Office 365 E3	750
Office 365 E1	900
Office 365 F1	200
Microsoft Defender for Office 365 (Plan 1)	5725
Microsoft Defender for Office 365 (Plan 2)	100
Power BI Pro	10
Project Plan 3	60
Project Plan 5	7
Visio Plan 2	70

#### 3b. Program of Works

The program of work includes:

- Technical support with license provisioning
- Activation of licenses and handing over to Central Information Technology Office
- Issue resolution for the duration of the contract period (12 months)

#### 3c. Schedule

The licenses are to be provisioned and activated no later than 30 June 2022.

- Copies of this Tender document can be downloaded from the Ministry of Finance Procurement Portal <https://procurement.gov.bz/> or from the CARICOM Public Procurement Notice Board <https://cppnb.caricom.org/epps/home.do>.

- Currency exchange rate for regional/international bidders is USD 1.00 to BZD 2.00.

- Eligibility Criteria:** This invitation is open to all eligible Tenderers as per the eligibility criteria below:

- The Tenderer has an active membership in Microsoft Partner Network for Latin America and the Caribbean region and market (MPN ID)
- The Tenderer must be an active Cloud Service Provider (CSP) that can sell CSP offers in Latin America and the Caribbean region and market
- The Tenderer should provide evidence of experience deploying Microsoft 365 for business of a comparable size within the past three years.
- Audited Financial Statements for the past 3 years.
- Bid-Securing Declaration in the amount of BZD 10,000
- The Tenderer has availability of liquid assets through either:
  - Access to line of credit of 30% of the bid price
  - Case in bank account of an amount at least 30% of the bid price

- All Tenders shall include the following additional documentation:

#### I. Business certificates

##### a. For local Tenderers:

- Copies of Certificates of Good Standing from:
  - Belize Tax Service
  - Belize Companies Registry
  - Belize Social Security Board
- Copy of current Trade License

- For regional/international Tenderers:** Statement of compliance from Companies' Registry

- Evidence of past jobs including a copy of the contract or agreement with the client including a copy of the TOR.

- Two references.

- The contract is subject to Income and Business Tax as per Government Policy as shown below:
  - 25% - for non-Caricom states
  - 15% - for Caricom member states
  - 6% - for companies in Belize.

- Price should be inclusive of General Sales Tax (GST) payment of 12.5%

### 10. Questions and Replies

Questions shall be type-written in English and shall be sent via email to the following address: [MS365tenders2022@cito.gov.bz](mailto:MS365tenders2022@cito.gov.bz). The deadline for queries is 9 May 2022. Responses from the CITO will be type-written in English and will be emailed to the requester and may also be made available to other Tenderers subject to confidentiality.

- Submission Tenders** should be emailed to [MS365tenders2022@cito.gov.bz](mailto:MS365tenders2022@cito.gov.bz) with the subject TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF MICROSOFT 365 LICENSES FOR GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE.

The bid response should consist of two password protected files - one technical and one financial. The Technical file will be open first and evaluated.

Only the top 4 bidders that meet the technical merit will have their financial file opened.

To ensure the confidentiality of the submission, the files should be protected via a password. This can be done on the file itself, using zip password protection, or some other means of password protecting the file. The password will be requested at the opening of the tender.

- The deadline for Tender submission** is 23 May 2022. Submissions received after the deadline will be rejected.

### 13. Evaluation Criteria

Tenders will be evaluated on technical merit and price based on the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Weight (%)
Financial Offer	50%
Technical proposal	50%
Direct technical support from Microsoft.	20%
Access to the portal for managing licenses with the flexibility to increase or decrease licenses throughout the term of the agreement (1-year) at the guaranteed price.	10%
Service delivery models for issue resolution, preferably with English-speaking technical support.	10%
Service delivery experience in provisioning and supporting Microsoft365 for business comparable in the magnitude of this Tender	5%
Financial strength of company demonstrated over past three (3) years	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

- Opening of the Tenders** will take place online on 23 May 2022 at 2 pm Belize Time and in the presence of the Tenderers or their representatives who wish to attend the Tender opening.

- Evaluation of the Tenders** will be conducted on 25 May 2022.

- The selection of the successful Tenderer will be based on a competitive process that considers Technical and Financial Proposals.

- Incomplete tenders will not be accepted.





**Institution:** Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Solid Waste Management Project II (SWMPPII)

**Sector:** Waste Management

**Abstract:** Social Inclusion Officer for the Solid Waste Management Project II(SWMPPII).

**Loan No.:** 3684/OC-BL

**Deadline:** April 14, 2022

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the *Inter- American Development Bank (IDB)*, towards the cost of the Solid Waste Management Project II and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards to hiring of a Social Inclusion Officer.

The Objective of the consultancy is to provide technical assistance to BSWaMA in promoting the social inclusion, formalization, and professional development of affected recyclers working at key project sites.

The Belize Solid Waste Management Authority, the Executing Agency, now invites interested eligible individual consultant to submit Expressions of Interest indicating qualification and experience required to provide these consultancy services listed below.

#### A) SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

The Consultant shall:

- 1) Support BSWaMA and the IDB Project Team as needed in the updating and implementation of the Social Inclusion Plan (SIP) for the recyclers at each of the project sites, following the Social Inclusion Plan Framework as a guide and including, but not necessarily limited to: (i) consultation; (ii) documentation; and (iii) the monitoring of SIP related performance indicators.
- 2) Prepare reports on the SIP implementation status, to be included in the semi-annual reports to the IDB.
- 3) Provide support to the recyclers at the 5 operational transfer station sites across Belize, and provide consultation and support to the recyclers at the beneficiary municipalities of SWMPPII, in the formation, maintenance, and promotion of a cooperative; or other form of formally recognized sustainable collective organization.
- 4) Support the preparation of a replicable Business Plan/ model for the recyclers recovering material at the operational transfer station.
- 5) Provide support to all other affected groups of recyclers at the project sites. The exact nature of this support is to be determined in consultation with them, and in accordance with the Social Inclusion Plan Framework, but it should, among other things, involve actions designed to close gender gaps.
- 6) Ensure that the recycler groups are trained in team building, organization, entrepreneurship and other income diversification related skills; support and provide guidance as needed.
- 7) Monitor and observe recyclers, listen to their concerns, and assist

them in understanding and managing social, and habitual problems.

8) Facilitate the development of social and business partnerships (e.g., with the Cooperatives Department, Belize Recycling, private sector and buyers of recyclable materials, other GoB agencies, NGOs, credit unions, and local CBOs).

#### B) QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

The Consultant shall have the following:

- 1) Minimum of a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Social Sciences, or related discipline; A masters degree will be an asset. A combination of a social science degree with a Business Management or Administration degree or training in entrepreneurship, production, sales and marketing will be considered an asset.
- 2) Two (2) or more years demonstrated professional experience in at least one of the following areas:
  - Institutional strengthening, partnership building activities, community organization, cooperative development, business development, marketing, conducting training, and fund raising.
  - Experience working with poor and marginalized communities, and irregular immigrants particularly those involved the informal sector; the waste/recycling sector and/or small business development
- 3) Demonstrated capacity to conduct field-level interventions and processes with marginalized groups and engage in strategic planning and the preparation of key operational documents.

Good command of the English Language. Knowledge of the Spanish language will be an asset.

The *Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining* now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested individual Consultants must provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualification and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the Selection of Individual Consultants method and other procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: *Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank - GN-2350-15*, and is open to all eligible candidates as defined in the policies.

Further information can be obtained at the email address below during office hours: Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. local time.

Expressions of interest must be submitted electronically and must include a signed application letter, Curriculum Vitae (CV), copies of academic qualification, and the names and contact information of two professional references no later than Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. local time. **Application must be submitted via one consolidated PDF document; only complete packages will be processed.** Packages must be sent to the address below:

**Solid Waste Management Authority**  
 Attn: Procurement Officer  
 3013 Bougainvillea Street, Orchid Garden Area  
 City of Belmopan, Belize, C.A.  
 Tel: (501) 802 1527  
 PO Box 285  
 E-mail: [GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz](mailto:GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz)



## Installation of friendship group Mexico—Russian Federation: Part 2

Permit me, our dear readers of this column, to present to you the following which was published on Youtube on March 23, 2022 entitled “**En VIVO/ Instalación del Grupo de Amistad México - Federación de Rusia**” (Installation of the friendship group Mexico - Russian Federation). I find what the Ambassador of Russia to Mexico, His Excellency, Victor Coronel, said in the Honorable Chamber of Deputies in Mexico City to be of utmost importance. Part 2 is as follows:

I would like to remind you that the current situation in Donbass and Ukraine is a consequence of the unconstitutional coup that took place in February 2014... The new Kiev

regime began the fight against the Russian language and culture in a country with millions of Russian-speaking people... Someone asks me, what Nazism can we talk about today in Ukraine? Yes you can. We, well, my colleagues, my diplomats, brought information confirming the development of Nazism in Ukraine. Please distribute these pieces of evidence to your deputy friends and well, even to representatives of the media. Extrajudicial executions of political opponents in the persecution of dissidents have become a new normal among stretchers in Ukraine. I have a lot of respect for the Ukrainian people, the brother people of the Russian people. But I cannot have

respect for this current government of Ukraine and I am going to give you an example that has nothing to do with Russia or with what is happening today in Ukraine.

I think you know that every year in the UN General Assembly a resolution is voted that condemns the economic and commercial blockade of the US against Cuba. They vote for it every year. It has enormous support from countries. Only two countries vote against, traditionally the US and Israel. Last year, on instructions from Washington, the Kiev government did not dare to vote in favor of this resolution. He abstained, despite the fact that in the 1980s and 1990s after



by Clinton Canul Luna

the catastrophe at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, the Cuban government, for 20 years, offered help, totally free medical help, to Ukrainian children who had the consequences of this catastrophe at the atomic power plant. Thousands, tens of thousands of Ukrainian children with their mothers, with their families, passed through Cuba to the Cuban government, receiving medical attention all at the cost of the Cuban government. Today, I repeat, the Ukrainian government does not dare to support the resolution of the UN National Assembly that condemns the commercial blockade against this valuable island.

I have to mention another thing; the massacre in the city of Odessa, the Ukrainian city of Odessa, perpetrated by Ukrainian radicals, was one of the most heinous acts that went unpunished so far.... These events were well-documented with photos and videos. However, I reiterate, 8 years have passed and not a single person has been imprisoned for this terrible crime.

Meanwhile, the Kiev regime continues to carry out incessant attacks against the civilian population of Donbass. On March 14, the Ukrainian tactical missile attack killed 20 civilians and injured 28 people, including children in the center of the city of Donetsk, which was a deliberate attack on civilians. It is worth mentioning that the missile had a warhead with receipt ammunition whose use in residential areas is classified as a war crime. However, we are still open to dialogue with the Ukrainian side. Several rounds of negotiations have already been held, as well as the meeting of the foreign ministers of Russia and Ukraine on the sidelines of a diplomatic forum in Turkey. There is some progress on the question of humanitarian routes. At the same time, the Ukrainian side hinders the education of local residents and foreign citizens of dangerous areas, as well as, does not spread information about community corridors among the population. There were cases when the nationalists shot civilians who wanted to leave the combat zones. Precisely, this happened on March 6 when fighters from the nationalist Azov battalion opened fire on civilians who were traveling through the Mariupol humanitarian corridor. Recently, as I said, we have faced a media campaign, unprecedented in its scale and preparation against our country.... All over the world we see many manifestations of discrimination and racial hatred.

(To be continued)  
[fincasolan@gmail.com](mailto:fincasolan@gmail.com)  
April 3, 2022  
Finca Solana  
Corozal Town

### CAREER OPPORTUNITY FOR THE POST OF Junior Accountant

**GRAND BELIZEAN ISLAND CO. LTD.** invites qualified candidates for a career opportunity of Junior Accountant.

#### EDUCATION:

Candidate must have an Associate's Degree and at least 2-3 years' experience in the accounting field.

#### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

- Knowledge and experience in all fields in accounting,
- Excellent writing, communication, organizational and problem-solving skills
- Ability to be flexible, team player, make suggestion and adopt to change
- Creatively helping in seeking and finding solutions to make systems and procedures to make work more diligent.
- Experience in all Collections/Accounts Receivables area in accounting.
- Excellent Interpersonal Skills
- Must have professional demeanor, flexible, dependable, have a sound work ethic and mature attitude to work and be a good communicator and collaborator.

Send resume and photograph no later than 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 to:

Human Resources  
Email: [eloyisa@grandbelizeanestates.com](mailto:eloyisa@grandbelizeanestates.com)



## VACANCY

The Social Security Board invites applications from suitably qualified persons to fill the role of **QUALITY ASSURANCE INTERNAL AUDITOR** at its Internal Audit Services Division, SSB Headquarters, Belmopan.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, Finance, Accounting, or other closely related discipline, with five (5) years' supervisory experience in Internal Auditing.

Visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.org.bz/vacancy-announcement/](http://www.socialsecurity.org.bz/vacancy-announcement/) to view further details on this position.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Application packages containing application letter, resume, two (2) recent letters of recommendation, copies of degree, certifications and other relevant academic credentials and current police record or receipt for record may be submitted via email to:

Manager, HR Strategies, SSB Headquarters, Belmopan:  
[dlindo@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:dlindo@socialsecurity.org.bz)

HR Advisor, HR Policy & Strategy, SSB Headquarters, Belmopan:  
[fphillips@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:fphillips@socialsecurity.org.bz)

Copy to: Ag. General Manager, Human Resources, Headquarters, Belmopan: [odakers@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:odakers@socialsecurity.org.bz)

Email Subject Line: “*Application for QA Internal Auditor*”

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 14th, 2022**





**VACANCY**  
**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS SPECIALIST**

The **BELIZE ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED (BECOL)** is accepting applications for the management post of **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS SPECIALIST**.

BECOL is the owner and operator of the Mollejon, Chalillo, and Vaca Hydroelectric Projects. The main function of the company is to provide clean and reliable energy to BEL and as an extension to the country of Belize. The company's foremost concern is the safety of its employees and the running of an environmentally sound operation by following the guidelines of the International Standards Organization, category ISO14001.

**JOB DESCRIPTION:**

Bring innovation and efficiencies to the IT department. Position will be responsible for delivering new and enhancing existing technology services by embracing automation and continual service improvement across the organization. Ensure execution of key IT operational processes such as service, incident and problem management. Lead project management Information Technology projects. Aid in the development, execution and continuous improvement of the Cyber Security strategy and controls of the company to ensure security of its assets and minimizing cyber risk.

**JOB DUTIES:**

- Drive operational efficiencies by adopting innovation and automation, including the owning the management of the underpinnings technologies
- Take ownership and manage key IT operational processes such as service, incident, and problem management, conduct reviews to minimize major incidents and make formal recommendations for solutions.
- Lead project management of information technology projects and provide regular project status reports to the company.
- Managing and maintaining the network infrastructure, including firewall, switches, wireless networking and any related components.
- Manage and administer the server infrastructure, active directory, and Office 365 environment.
- Aid in developing, implementing, and managing of the organizations Cyber Security strategy and controls to ensure security of its assets and minimizing cyber risk.
- Aid in developing, implementing and managing of the organizations Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plans and associated controls to ensure recovery of its critical business processes and IT systems in an efficient and timely manner in the event of a disaster.
- Aid in developing business case justifications, cost/benefit analyses, bid requirements for IT operations, upgrades, audit compliance and continuous improvement initiatives.
- Aid in formulating and deploying long-term information technology strategic plans to support the delivering of the company's targets and enable business efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
- Aid in benchmarking, auditing, analyzing, reporting, and making recommendations for the improvement of the IT infrastructure and IT systems.
- Aid in the deployment, monitoring, maintenance, development, and support of all IT assets (hardware and software) based on department needs.
- Aid in developing and implementing IT & Security policies and procedures, including those for architecture, operational process& standards, service provision, general security controls, disaster recovery, Data classification and access controls.

**SALARY:**

- Dependent on Qualifications and experience

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Diploma/Certifications in Computer / Network Support such A+, Network+ and Security+ or equivalent certifications would be an asset.
- Minimum of 5 years IT support experience with extensive experience in application support, Windows desktop and server operating system administration, printer management, active directory, and group policy administration Office 365 administration.
- Strong background in networking technologies LAN, WAN & WLAN  
Problem Solving skills - Troubleshooting and solution research skills.

**Competencies:**

- Demonstrates professional written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Strong analytical, reasoning, and problem-solving skills.
- Must maintain confidentiality.
- Should be able to work effectively in both a team and individual environment.
- Effective time management and organizational skills.
- The ability to manage multiple projects
- The ability to remain open-minded and objective
- Good health and physical fitness

The successful applicant must relocate and reside in the San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town area or Benque Viejo del Carmen Town. Application letters, accompanied by two (2) letters of reference, must be submitted by **April 14th, 2022** to: [Corporate@becol.com.bz](mailto:Corporate@becol.com.bz)

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The U.S. Embassy Belmopan is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the following position:

**Position Name:** Residential Security Equipment Technician  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2022-08  
**Closing date:** April 15, 2022

Interested applicants must submit their application via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA) system, a web-based system. To view and apply for this vacancy, visit the ERA site at: <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>

Please visit the Embassy's website for instructions on how to apply via the ERA system: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**Note 1: Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.**

**Note 2: Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The U.S. Embassy Belmopan is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the following position:

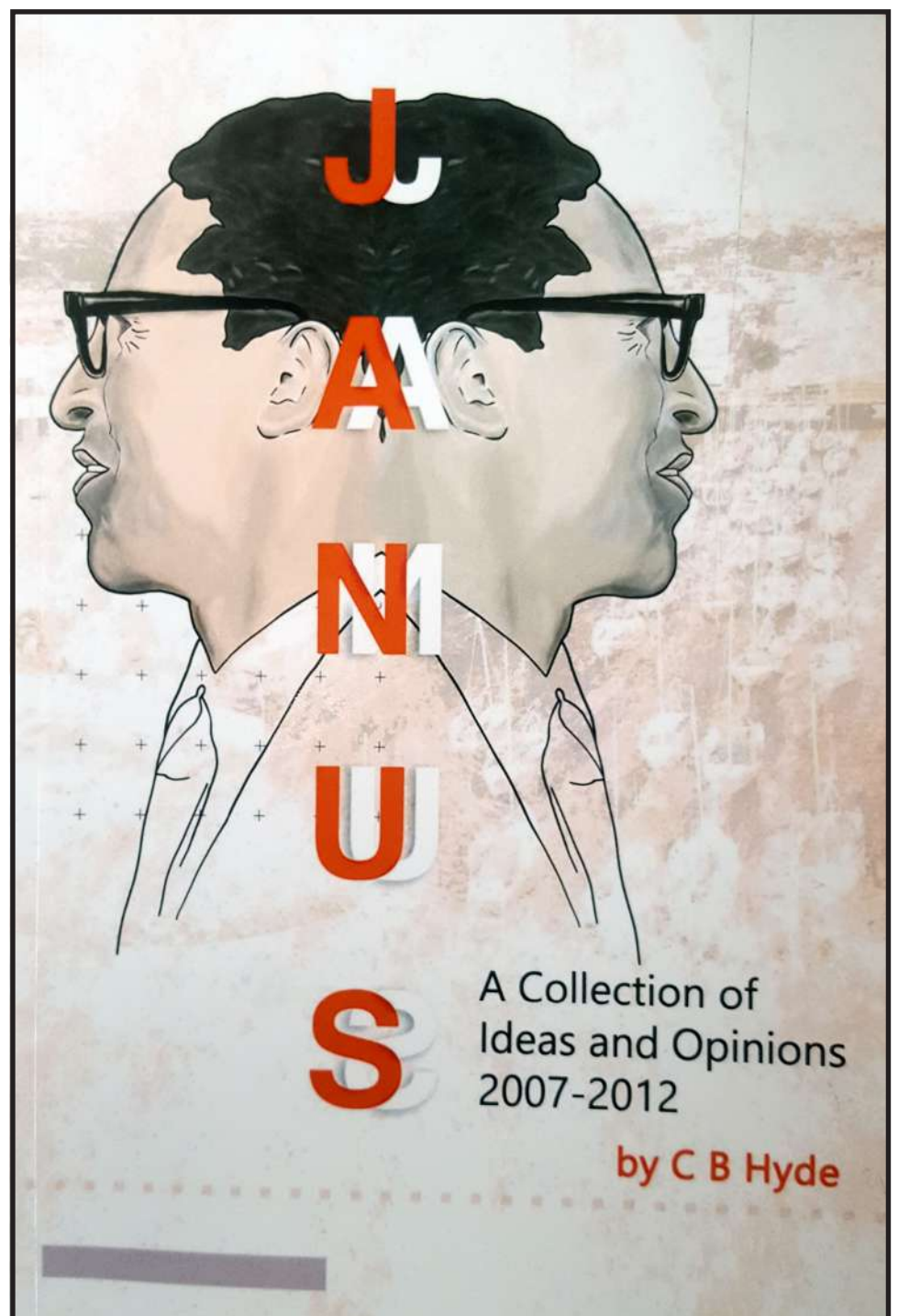
**Position Name:** Trades Helper  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2022-07  
**Closing date:** April 14, 2022

Interested applicants must submit their application via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA) system, a web-based system. To view and apply for this vacancy, visit the ERA site at: <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>

Please visit the Embassy's website for instructions on how to apply via the ERA system: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**Note 1: Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.**

**Note 2: Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.**





# “Absolutely nothing wrong” – PM on Coye’s financial license

*Allegations of a conflict of interest have been made against Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Hon. Christopher Coye and one other minister due to their being granted a Financial Institution License. But according to Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño, there is nothing unethical about the issuance of the license, which was reportedly granted during the previous UDP administration.*



**Hon. John Briceño and Hon. Christopher Coye**

by *Khaila Gentle*

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Mar. 30, 2022

In response to recent allegations of a conflict of interest on the part of Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance, Hon. Christopher Coye, who reportedly co-owns, with another minister of government, a company

known as PHX Capital Limited that was granted a Financial Institution License by the Central Bank of Belize and has since been operating in the financial sector, Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño has stated that there is “absolutely nothing wrong.”

“He’s the Minister of State. I am the Minister, and I am responsible, so

at the end of the day, if there’s something wrong, you hold me responsible, not Chris Coye,” said the Prime Minister to local reporters.

According to a public notice published by the Central Bank of Belize, a license to carry out financial business granted to PHX Capital Limited was issued by the then Governor of the Central Bank, Joy Grant, on June 1, 2020—an entire five months before the November 2020 general elections that resulted in a change of administration, following which Coye was appointed as a Minister of State in the newly elected PUP government. And since the license was approved under a UDP government, Prime Minister Hon. John

Briceño is insisting that there is nothing unethical about Coye’s ownership of a financial enterprise while himself serving as the Minister of State in the Finance Ministry.

“I don’t remember what the name is, but they [the two ministers] do have a sort of limited financial license...I don’t want you to quote me, but yes, they’ve had this from in the UDP days, so if there’s a conflict, maybe you should have talked to Dean Barrow back then,” remarked the Prime Minister.

Phoenix Capital Limited is listed in Belize’s Companies Registry as an international business company (IBC). Hon. Christopher Coye, in response to the recent allegations, has stated that the licensed company isn’t conducting any business with the Government of Belize nor is it operating in the banking sector, since the license granted is only for conducting “financial business”.

Of note is the fact that the person who reportedly unearthed the documentation for the financial license and raised concerns about a possible conflict of interest is former Governor of the Central Bank, Manuel Vasquez. Vasquez replaced his predecessor, Joy Grant, in April 2021 and was set to serve a five-year term after signing a contract with GoB. He was removed from the post, however, a mere five months later, with differences between Vasquez and the board of the bank being cited as one reason for his termination.

According to a report made by *Love News* in August 2021, Vasquez wrote several emails to his staff before his departure, with one of them stating that he had faced “stiff opposition from the Ministry of Finance and special financial and economic sector interests” including one major banking institute in Belize. In that email, Vasquez also stated that he had tried his best to “restore the integrity and operational autonomy of the bank.”

But Prime Minister Briceño has vehemently denied that the issuance of the license had anything to do with Vasquez’ departure. In fact, he told local media that Vasquez’s concerns had been addressed and he had withdrawn his objections to the issuance of the license back in 2021.

“The facts are that they have a company that was operating under the UDP government. The UDP government approved those licenses and when the former governor, Manuel Vasquez, found out about it because, apparently, when he found it in a different file where it did not belong, in some filing cabinet, he then started to ask about it, and then he was told—and he found out—that there was nothing wrong. It was straightforward. There is absolutely nothing wrong. And it ended as that. So, the former Governor, that has nothing to do with his stepping down as the Governor of Central Bank,” said Prime Minister Briceño.





**Belize Solid Waste Management Authority**  
of the  
**Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining**

**Invitation to Quote (ITQ)**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the *Inter- American Development Bank (IDB)*, towards the cost of the Solid Waste Management Project II and a Non - reimbursable Technical Cooperation- Innovation in the Solid Waste Management Sector in Belize an intends to apply part of the proceeds towards the **supply, delivery, and maintenance of two (2) vertical balers.**

The Belize Solid Waste Management Authority now invites eligible bidders to submit a sealed quotation for the Supply, Delivery and Maintenance of the following item:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Vertical Balers	2

The Invitation to Quote (ITQ) may be obtained, free of cost, by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below. Interested Bidders may obtain further information by writing to the email address given below.

All ITQs must be delivered to the address below no later than 10:00 a.m. (Belize local time) on Thursday, April 14, 2022. Electronic submission will not be permitted. Late ITQs will be rejected.

ITQs will be opened at 10:15 a.m. (Belize local time) on Thursday April 14, 2022, at the Conference Room of the Belize Solid Waste Management Authority at the address below, in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

Procurement Officer  
Belize Solid Waste Management Authority  
3013 Bougainvillea Street, Orchid Garden Area  
City of Belmopan, Belize, C.A.  
Tel: (501) 802 1527  
E-mail: [GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz](mailto:GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz)





## BELMOPAN BAPTIST HIGHSCHOOL

Banana Bank  
PO Box 697  
Belmopan Belize  
Central America  
Tel.: (501) 832-7437  
bbhs\_accts@yahoo.com

The Board of Management of the Belmopan Baptist High School announces vacancy available for the post of **Part Time Integrated Science Teacher (3months)**

Qualifications: Applicants must have:

- a minimum a Bachelor's Degree in the subject area to be taught
- experience in teaching Secondary Level
- experience teaching third and fourth form at CXC level
- excellent communication and Interpersonal skills
- Must be willing to work extra hours with students.
- Must have a strong Christian background with high moral values and willing to lead by example.

Salary:

Commensurate with the Government Pay Scale based upon qualifications 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.

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

**Deadline for Application is April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**



Government of Belize  
Belize Social Investment Fund  
CARICOM Development Fund



**SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PUMPS AND MOTORS FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN MAHOGANY HEIGHTS, BELIZE DISTRICT; GEORGEVILLE, CAYO DISTRICT; AND SAN ANTONIO, TOLEDO DISTRICT**  
**W/CDF-01/2022**

**INVITATION TO BID**

The Government of Belize (GoB) has received financing from the CARICOM Development Fund (CDF) to implement a project that focuses on improving water supply systems in four communities. The project comprises small-scale infrastructure works and capacity building for key stakeholders. The GoB has appointed the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) as the Implementing Agency (IA) for the project and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDF will be made only at the request of GOB and upon approval by CDF, and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account 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 CDF, 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 GOB shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF), the IA, now invites sealed bids from qualified Bidders for the **SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PUMPS AND MOTORS FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN MAHOGANY HEIGHTS, BELIZE DISTRICT; GEORGEVILLE, CAYO DISTRICT; AND SAN ANTONIO, TOLEDO DISTRICT**

Bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required or that do not demonstrate the prospective firm's ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

A secured "sample" electronic Bid document can be shared with interested Bidders at the address below, starting **April 11, 2022**, on week days between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for viewing purpose only (has a time restriction for viewing). A complete set of Bidding documents (hard-copy or electronic version) can be purchased by interested bidder upon payment of a non-refundable fee of BZ\$150.00. Requests may be made by personal application or in writing to the address below. Written applications must be clearly marked: **"TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PUMPS AND MOTORS FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN MAHOGANY HEIGHTS, BELIZE DISTRICT; GEORGEVILLE, CAYO DISTRICT; AND SAN ANTONIO, TOLEDO DISTRICT"**. The method of payment will be by cash deposited to, or Bank transfer to BSIF's Bank Account only. Banking details can be requested at the address below. Cash payment will not be accepted at the BSIF Office.

Hard copies of Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, with the name and address of the bidder, and be clearly marked **"TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PUMPS AND MOTORS FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN MAHOGANY HEIGHTS, BELIZE DISTRICT; GEORGEVILLE, CAYO DISTRICT; AND SAN ANTONIO, TOLEDO DISTRICT"** and must be delivered to the first address below no later than **May 9th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (Belize Time)**. Bids will be opened virtually at **10:15 a.m., May 9th, 2022** at the Social Investment Fund, 3rd Floor, #1902 Constitution Drive, Belmopan, Cayo District in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to participate. The link is <https://bit.ly/31ACuQU>. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. All bids must be accompanied with a "Bid-Securing Declaration".

BSIF reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for BSIF action. BSIF will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids.

**1. Address for Inspection, Collection and Clarification of Bidding Documents, Bid Submission and Bid Opening**

Contact: Ms. Ruby Pascascio  
Senior Procurement Officer  
Social Investment Fund  
3rd Floor, #1902 Constitution Drive  
Belmopan Cayo District  
Tel: 822-0239/822-0508  
E-mail: [ruby.pascascio@sifbelize.org](mailto:ruby.pascascio@sifbelize.org)

## SAN PEDRO HIGH SCHOOL



A vacancy exists at San Pedro High School for the following permanent post:

- **Information Technology Teacher**

Applicants must have a minimum of a first degree in the subject area to be taught.

Experience teaching the subject and pedagogical training will be an asset.

Applicants must also have excellent communication, interpersonal skills and be willing to work with students.

Applications should be submitted along with a resume, copies of certificates, transcript, letters of recommendation and teacher's license (must).

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

Applications must be addressed to:

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

**Deadline for Applications: April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**



# St. Lucia to integrate Creole language into all schools

*Kwéyòl, the French-based Creole language spoken by over half of St. Lucia's population, will soon be fully integrated into the country's education system. Education officials hope to ensure that students will one day be able to read and write in Kwéyòl as well as they do in English.*

by *Khaila Gentle*

CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Tues. Apr. 5, 2022

In working towards fully integrating Kweyol into the country's schooling system, St. Lucian education officials have created a Language Education Policy and Plan which was presented to education officers, principals, and other stakeholders this week during a consultation forum. Also presented was a Draft Implementation Plan which will be used to move the policy forward and which focuses on teacher professional development, curriculum and assessment, resource acquisition, and development and research.

According to *St. Lucia Times*



*News*, the move to integrate the vernacular language, known locally as Patwa (Patois), into schools is being made in an effort to ensure that students are bi-lingual by the end of primary school and bi-literate by the

end of secondary school, after which they would be as fluent in Kweyol as they are in English—particularly in the areas of reading and writing. The initiative, which was conceptualized by the language department of St.

Lucia's Curriculum and Materials Development Unit (CAMDU) in the Department of Education and is being funded by UNESCO, also seeks to address the language needs of students in early education.

Speaking at the presentation of the Language Education Policy and Plan was Ms. Marcia Symphorien, the Secretary-General for the St. Lucia National Commission for UNESCO, who remarked that the initiative will not only foster multilingualism in the country but also contribute to achieving the UN's fourth Sustainable Development Goal: leaving no one behind.

"Specifically, the project addresses a very important issue of the status of the Creole language within the education system. The key objective being the development of an implementation plan which would essentially transform policy into action, paper into practice," she stated.

The policy and implementation plan were presented on Tuesday, April 5, to education officials and other stakeholders, who were given an opportunity to offer their feedback and suggestions on the policy before its implementation.

"Overall, our goal is to ensure that our learners, who are the most important clients in this process, benefit from their tenure within the school system. And, of course, teachers are very critical to learners achieving learning objectives within the classroom," commented Dr. Kathy Depradine, the head of the Modern Language Learning Unit at Sir Arthur Lewis Community College.

Discussions and consultations regarding the National Language Education Policy and the Implementation Plan will continue up until July of this year, when it is expected to be officially presented.



**Belize Solid Waste Management Authority**

of the

**Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining**

**Invitation to Quote (ITQ)**

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the *Inter- American Development Bank (IDB)*, towards the cost of the Solid Waste Management Project II and a Non - reimbursable Technical Cooperation- Innovation in the Solid Waste Management Sector in Belize an intends to apply part of the proceeds towards the **supply, delivery, and customization of two (2) cargo tricycles.**

The Belize Solid Waste Management Authority now invites eligible bidders to submit a sealed quotation for the Supply, Delivery and Customization of the following item:

ITEM	QUANTITY
Cargo Tricycles	2

The Invitation to Quote (ITQ) may be obtained, free of cost, by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below. Interested Bidders may obtain further information and details about the requested customization by writing to the email address given below.

All ITQs must be delivered to the address below no later than 10:00 a.m. (Belize local time) on Thursday, April 14, 2022. Electronic submission will not be permitted. Late ITQs will be rejected.

ITQs will be opened at 10:15 a.m. (Belize local time) on Thursday April 14, 2022, at the Conference Room of the Belize Solid Waste Management Authority at the address below, in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

Procurement Officer  
 Belize Solid Waste Management Authority  
 3013 Bougainvillea Street, Orchid Garden Area  
 City of Belmopan, Belize, C.A.  
 Tel: (501) 802 1527  
 E-mail: [GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz](mailto:GladdenM@gobmail.gov.bz)

**KREM FM**

can be heard  
 on the following  
 frequencies:  
 96.5FM in Belize  
 City, Punta Gorda  
 Town, Santa Elena,  
 Cayo and Carmelita  
 Village  
 91.1FM in Ladyville  
 and Independence  
 101.1FM in  
 Dangriga Town  
 Camalote Village  
 and Caye Caulker



**PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PICKUP & VAN**

*Belize City, Belize District*

BY ORDER of Messrs. St. John's Credit Union Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the below described vehicles. Sales currently running and will expire Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the time shown on the website.



2014 Great Wall Wingle 5



2006 Suzuki Aerio

**VIEWING AVAILABLE**

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)**

**Face Book: [Belize Auctions](#)**

**PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY**

*Banak Street, Belize City*

BY ORDER of the mortgagees, Messrs. Heritage Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo & Christiana Rebecca Castillo is selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the below described property. Sale currently running and will expire Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 1:30 pm.



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Lake Independence	45	757

(Being a two-storey concrete/timber dwelling house (1,368 sq. ft): Ground floor – Open Area; First floor – 2 bedrooms + 1 bathroom + living/dining/kitchen + Verandah and lot [352.471 Sq. Yds.] situate at No. 16, Banak Street, (between Lake View Street & Central American Boulevard) Lake Independence, Belize City, Belize, the freehold property of Mr. Reynaldo Romero & Ms. Ema Romero.)

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

**Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)**

**E-mail: [belizeauctionsales@gmail.com](mailto:belizeauctionsales@gmail.com)**

**Face Book: [Belize Auctions](#)**



**BELIZE PORT AUTHORITY**  
PUBLIC SAFETY NOTICE FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAY



On behalf of Honourable Michel Chebat, Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy, Logistics, and E-Governance, the Board of Directors, Ports Commissioner, and the Management and Staff of the Belize Port Authority would like to wish all members of the maritime communities a Safe and Blessed Easter Holiday.

**GOLDEN RULES:**

Mariners are reminded to practice proper Boating Safety by following the Golden Rules of Seamanship and by ensuring that their vessels are registered and licensed with the Belize Port Authority.

- Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.
- Have sufficient lifejackets for everyone on board and show passengers how it works.
- Carry spare fuel, oars, a bailer, fire extinguisher and distress signal (flares) on board.
- Know the area you are operating in, or use a nautical chart.
- Check the marine forecast and adhere to the small craft warning. If in doubt, don't go out.
- Don't overload your vessel.
- Keep a good lookout at all times and know the "Rules of the Road".
- Don't drink alcohol on the boat.
- Anchor carefully so your boat does not drag or swing around.
- Communications – ensure that you have a VHF or cell phone onboard your vessel to communicate.

**Office Closure:** Holy Thursday, 14 April, 2022: 12:00 NOON

**Normal Working Hours:** Tuesday, 19 April, 2022: 8:00 AM -5:00 PM

Belize Port Authority  
**NATIONAL MARITIME COMMUNICATION CENTER**

Report navigation hazards, pollution or maritime incidents  
VHF Channel 16  
HF Frequency 2182  
NMCC Hotline: 966  
Manned 24 hours x 7 days  
Vessel Clearance Available



Maritime Service, Security & Efficiency



**Vacancy at Julian Cho Technical High School**



Julian Cho Technical High School invites suitably qualified persons to apply for the following post:

**1 English Teacher – Temporary**

**Qualification for Teacher:**

- (a) Bachelor's Degree or Higher in the subject area with pedagogical training preferred, however an Associate Degree in the subject area may be considered.
- (b) Teaching experience at the secondary level would be an asset.
- (c) Good communication skills and a willingness to uphold the mission of Julian Cho Technical High School.

**Application package must include:**

- A letter of application and resume
- Certified copies of diplomas and certificate/s
- Sealed transcript from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Birth certificate or Passport
- Certified copy of Social Security Card
- Recent Medical Certificate
- Recent Police Record
- **Valid** Teacher's License (Secondary level)
- Two **recent** letters of recommendation

**\*ALL COPIED DOCUMENTS MUST BE CERTIFIED BY A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.**

**Salary:**

Salary will be in accordance with the government pay scale based on qualification.

Application packages must be addressed to:  
Secretary  
Board of Governors  
Julian Cho Technical High School  
P.O Box 171  
Toledo District  
Belize, Central America

**Deadline for applications is Tuesday April 19, 2022.**



**Maud Williams High School**

Email: [mwhseducate@gmail.com](mailto:mwhseducate@gmail.com)

Tel: (501) 227-6717

**TEACHERS WANTED**

At MWHS our students come first and we work tirelessly for our students' success. This positive determination means that we provide our students with a positive, caring school environment with ample opportunities for students to do well.

If you believe that you are qualified and can add value at MWHS, you are invited to apply to fill the following VACANCIES for May 2022.

- Business
- Building Maintenance

**Deadline: Deadline: April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Teaching Qualifications:**

- Preferably a Bachelor's Degree in the content areas with pedagogical training.
- An Associate Degree with teaching experience will be considered.

**Applicants should forward:**

- Letter of application
- Curriculum vitae
- Two recent recommendations
- Copy of transcript
- Certified copy of teaching license
- Certified copies of qualifications
- Copy of Police Record

**Short listed candidates are asked to bring to the interview original transcripts, police record and completed medical form.**

**Address to: Secretary**  
Board of Management  
Maud Williams High School  
Corner Dolphin and Raccoon Streets  
Belize City





## OWFA Amateur Closing Season Week #2 results

by Ben Ramos, Jr. –  
OWFA Regional Administrator

ORANGE WALK TOWN, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

The Orange Walk Football Association (OWFA) held Week #2 games in its 2021-2022 Amateur Closing Season at the Louisiana Football Field on Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3.

Below are the results.

Saturday, April 2

In the 7:00 p.m. opener, Carmelita FC clipped Louisiana FC, 2-0, with goals from Noel Arzu (60') and Philip Rhaburn (93').

And in the nightcap, it was Progreso FC shutting out San Jose Pumas FC, 3-0, with a goal each from Esmer Patt (56'), Steven Baizar (71') and Adriel Novelo (87').

Sunday, April 3

Game 1 at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday saw Caribbean Rum Boyz FC gaining the 2-1 win over Yo Creek La Ceiba FC. The Rum Boyz got a goal apiece from Camilo Sanchez (46') and Russel Casanova (66'); while Yo Creek benefited from an own goal by Harlan Casanova of Rum Boyz (80' OG).

In game 2, San Francisco FC and Palmar FC drew, 1-1. San Francisco's goal was by Enrique Cecena (53'), while Ian Chi (69') scored for Palmar.

In game 3, Galacticos FC got the 3-1 victory over Trial Farm Jaguars FC. Netting a goal each for Galacticos were Berthier Correa (24'), Marlon Gutierrez (76') and Alberto Cassanova (86'); while the lone goal for Trial Farm was by Wilbert Uh (12').

Game 4 at 3:00 p.m. was a 2-1 win for Charlies Cave Tubing over Guinea Grass Lazio FC. Cave Tubing had a goal each from Doroteo Arjona (5') and Jesse Sedacy (48'), while Guinea Grass' only goal was by Zadiel Narvallez (88').

In the nightcap game at 5:00 p.m., Young Ballerz FC blanked San Antonio FC, 3-0, with a goal apiece from Jesse August (19'), Fidel Acosta (33') and Jahiem Augustine (49').

Upcoming Week 3 schedule:

Saturday, April 9

7:00 p.m. – Progreso FC vs Palmar FC

9:00 p.m. – Galacticos FC vs Charles Cave Tubing

Sunday, April 10

9:00 a.m. – Guinea Grass Lazio FC vs San Antonio FC

11:00 a.m. – Guinea Grass FC vs San Francisco FC

1:00 p.m. – Carmelita FC vs Trial Farm Jaguars FC

3:00 p.m. – Young Ballers FC vs Louisiana FC

5:00 p.m. – San Jose Pumas FC vs Caribbean Rum Boyz FC

## OWFA Futsal Week #2 Day One results

by Ben Ramos, Jr. – OWFA  
Regional Administrator

ORANGE WALK TOWN, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

The Orange Walk Football Association (OWFA) is now in the second week of its Futsal Open and Inter-Office tournaments being played at the People's Stadium. Futsal games are being played during the week on two days, Day One on Tuesdays, and Day Two on Thursdays.

Below are the Week #2 results for Day One games.

Tuesday, April 5, Day One

In the 7:00 p.m. opener, (Inter-Office) BSI/ASR defeated Orange Walk Town Board, 2-1, with both BSI goals coming from Carlos Coc, while Wilbert Gonzalez scored for OWTB.

In game 2 at 8:00 p.m., (Open) Galacticos edged Carmelita Young Stars, 8-7. Galacticos goals were by Yamil Williams, Jose Guy (2), Alberto Cassanova (3), Zacarias Gonzalez and Luis Cunil; while for Carmelita it was Ricardo Carcamo

(2), Kherion Miranda (2), Oscar Reyes (2) and Edimir Teul.

Game 3 at 9:00 p.m. saw (Inter-Office) Cuellos with the 5-2 win over WSK Limited. Cuellos' goals came from Noel Melendez, Joe Argallez (2) and Omar Urbina along with an auto-goal from WSK. WSK got a goal each from Abner Marroquin and Rafael Avila.

And in the nightcap at 10:00 p.m., (Inter-Office) La Inmaculada Credit Union defeated BNTU, 4-2, with goals from Gildardo Cervantes (2), Christian Aguilar and Jason Russell; while both BNTU goals were by Alexie Cowo (2).

Week #2 Day Two schedule:

Thursday, April 7, Day Two

7:00 p.m. – (Inter Office) BNTU vs Mendez Home Builders

8:00 p.m. – (Inter Office) BSI Security vs Cuello Store

9:00 p.m. – (Open) Aquarius vs Athletic United

10:00 p.m. – (Inter Office) La Inmaculada Credit Union vs WSK Limited

## Verdes already clinched championship at Week 8 of FFB Top League Closing Season

BELIZE CITY, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

With two weeks of games remaining in the Football Federation of Belize (FFB) Top League 2021-2022 Closing Season, the championship has already been decided, since their eighth victory on Sunday puts Verdes FC out of reach of any other team with 24 points in this competition where there are no playoffs involved. With only 2 more weeks of games remaining, the closest contenders, Altitude FC and San Pedro Pirates FC, each with 14 points, can only muster a possible 20 points as they battle for second place. (See Week 8 standings below.)

Down south in Independence at the

M.A. Stadium on Saturday night, April 2, home standing Altitude FC prevailed, 4-2, over San Pedro Pirates FC. Altitude got a goal each from Andres Orozco (13'), Miguel Garcia (45+1'), Alden Forman (65') and Ashley Torres (68'); while both goals for the Pirates came from Mario Chimal (41' & 70').

There was no upset at the MCC Grounds in Belize City on Sunday afternoon, where the first half score was only 1-nil, but things fell apart in second half for the home team, Caesar Ridge FC, who remained winless, while the undefeated visitors, Verdes FC poured in 6 more goals, unanswered goals, to come

away with the 7-0 victory. Netting a goal apiece for Verdes were Desmond Wade (11'), Jovaun Ramos (46'), Krisean Lopez (67'), Eldon Reneau (81'), Jaylen Lennan (83'), Trimayne Harris (87') and Edwin Bernal (88').

Meanwhile, down south at the Carl Ramos Stadium in Dangriga, home standing Wagiya SC dominated in possessions, corners and shots taken, but their marksmanship was poor; and the visiting Garden City FC came away with a 1-0 win, courtesy of a smart long ball by rookie Wilfredo Galvez (37') that caught Wagiya's goalie too far away from his goal line.

TEAM	W	D	L	GF	GA	Dif	Pts
Verdes FC	8	0	0	27	2	25	24
Altitude FC	4	2	2	12	8	4	14
San Pedro Pirates FC	4	2	2	9	6	3	14
Garden City FC	2	3	3	5	11	-6	9
Wagiya SC	1	2	5	4	12	-8	5
Caesar Ridge FC	0	1	7	3	22	-19	1

Week 9 schedule:

Saturday, April 9

7:00 p.m. – Verdes FC vs San Pedro Pirates FC – Marshallek Stadium

7:30 p.m. – Altitude FC vs Wagiya SC – M.A. Stadium in Independence

Sunday, April 10

4:00 p.m. – Garden City FC vs Caesar Ridge FC – FFB Stadium

## Cross Country fever is here again

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. Apr. 7, 2022

It's that time of year again, Easter approaching, and after two years of abstention due to Covid-19 restrictions, Belizeans countrywide and in the diaspora are beginning to feel the growing excitement as the daily commercial bugle calls remind us that Cross Country time is here again.

The Juniors were in action this past Sunday with their Junior Cross Country 74-mile journey from the Succotz ferry in Benque Viejo to Belize City; this coming Sunday it will be the Women Cross Country, traveling the 70 miles from Columbus Park in San Ignacio to BTL Park in Belize City; and then next weekend, after three long years' waiting, it will finally be the return of the legendary, historic, oldest and most unique cycling classic in the western hemisphere, Belize's Annual Holy Saturday Cross Country Classic!

Much has been written about the history and mystique of this race, and the annals of history chronicles the wearers of the fabled garland from the first champion, Elston Kerr, in 1928 right through the decades and generations, the list to soon include the winner of the upcoming 92nd running of Holy Saturday Cross Country, from Belize City to San Ignacio and back.

The annual Holly Saturday Cross Country Classic has only been cancelled in 1932 (following the devastating 1931 hurricane on September 10), and in back-to-back years, 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The last champion in 2019 is Guatemalan Julio Padilla. It is anticipated that he will be back to face the challenge from our Belizean cyclists, determined to try and bring the



## blue ventures

beyond conservation

**JOIN A GLOBAL GROUP OF CONSERVATION PROFESSIONALS**  
We are in search of a dynamic and competent **Program Coordinator - Fisheries** to join our Belize Team!

BV's office in Sarteneja and a co-working space in Belize City are accessible to staff, who also have the option to work remotely from their homes across Belize.

Blue Ventures develops locally led approaches to marine management that benefit people and nature alike. By listening and responding to community needs, we design our models to catalyze and sustain marine conservation, unlocking the potential of coastal communities to manage their resources. We work in places where the ocean is vital to local cultures and economies, and are committed to advancing the rights of small-scale fishers throughout the coastal tropics.

Our Belize team is also optimally placed to expand our work in the wider Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. Building on our experience in Asia and Africa, Blue Ventures is now scoping opportunities to identify and support values-aligned partners on fisheries management and governance across the wider region with a view to developing a thriving regional programme.

### Summary job description

- The successful candidate will be a motivated, proactive and highly organized individual, with an excellent working knowledge of the small-scale fisheries, marine conservation and development sectors. You will demonstrate a proven track record of project management, effective written and interpersonal communications, and partnership building.

### Responsibilities

#### Governance and institutional strengthening

- Work closely with partner organizations to evaluate community and organization needs, facilitate strategic planning as required, and design work plans.
- Gather feedback from partners to guide efforts to improve performance

#### Fisheries knowledge management

- Facilitate and/or lead discussions around local fisheries management practices, drawing on best practice insights from similar contexts
- Deliver and/or facilitate training with partners in technical fisheries management concepts and data use as necessary

#### Communications Support

- Champion excellent communications with colleagues, communities and partners
- Develop executive summaries of technical reports to share with a variety of stakeholders across different platforms

### Skills and experience

#### Required

- Fluency in written and spoken English and Spanish
- Undergraduate degree or equivalent experience in natural resource management, fisheries, marine conservation or related field

#### Desired

- Experience with participatory monitoring and social research
- Previous international organization or NGO experience
- At least 2 years' practical experience working in community-based conservation or development

For more information or to apply to any of these positions, please visit: <https://careers.blueventures.org/jobs>

Kindly submit applications online. Only applications submitted through our online system will be considered. **Deadline for submission: Sunday 17th April 2022, midnight local time.**

## Cross Country fever is here again

Continued from Page 25

garland back home.

### JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY

In the 21st BEL Junior Cross Country last Sunday, April 3, some 18 junior cyclists started and 15 completed the journey, 13 doing it inside the time limit of 30 minutes after the winner, who came in solo, followed 3 minutes later by the second place finisher, and then two separate pelotons that arrived over 20 minutes later. This year's Junior Champion was Renan Codd (G-Flow, 3:59:51); 2nd was Goran Gabourel (C-Ray Cycling, 4:03:15); 3rd Tyler Tejada (Chavarria Cycling, 4:26:08); 4th Mark Bowman, Jr. (unattached, same time – st); 5th Travis Grinage (unattached, st); 6th Brandon Guerra (unattached, st); 7th Delton Rojas (unattached, st); 8th Elwin Humes (unattached, st); 9th Christopher

Waight (Chavarria Cycling, 4:26:17); 10th Ramon Codd (st); 11th Jaylen Briceño (unattached, st); 12th Alvin Perdomo (unattached, st); and 13th Jamar Murray (G-Flow, st). Finishing outside the time limit were 14th Hubert Grinage (unattached, 5:10:33); and 15th Khalil Gentle (Team Cayo, st).

### WOMEN CROSS COUNTRY

The 31st running of the Women Cross Country is this Sunday, April 10. Defending champion is Kaya Cattouse, and she is expected to be challenged by a stable of young up and coming female cyclists, as well as a few resilient veterans including former champions Alicia Thompson and Shalini Zabaneh.

### HOLY SATURDAY CROSS COUNTRY

And then it will be the Big One on Holy Saturday, April 16! "Blow di bugle, bwai!!"

## Sunday Review News Review Talk Show

On Krem TV & Krem Radio

Live-streaming on Krem Television Face Book Page

**Host: YaYa Marin Coleman**

**Date:** Sunday, April 10, 2022 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. to noon

**Guest:** Bredah Jerry Enriquez - Writer, Author and Community Organizer

**Sunday Review will be repeated at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 10, 2022**

### PUBLIC AUCTION SALE - APARTMENT COMPLEX

No. 13 Mex Avenue, Belize City, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Receiver, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the following property. Sale currently running and will expire Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 10:30 am.



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Albert/Mesop	4	919

(Being two residential apartment buildings: a.) Two Storey mixed construction Apartment Building containing Ground Floor: 1 two-bedroom apartment + 1 fully furnished room; First Floor – 3-bedroom apartment (b.) Five Storey mixed construction Apartment Building containing 2 apartments on Ground Floor, First Floor & Second Floor + 1 4-bedroom Apartment on Third Floor + Terrace on Fourth Floor TOGETHER with lot [470.700 S. M.] situate at No. 13 Mex Avenue, Belize City, Belize District, the freehold property of Mr. Marvin Leonel Cardona)

**TERMS: STRICTLY CASH**

**KEVIN A. CASTILLO**

**TELEPHONE 223-4488**

Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)

E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)

FaceBook: BelizeAuctions

## Atlantic Bank

### Easter Holiday Opening Hours

The public is advised that all Atlantic Bank Branches and Drive Thrus will be opened for business from

**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

on Thursday, April 14, 2022.

All branches will reopen on  
Tuesday, April 19, 2022.



**Form of First Notice**

**In The Matter of the International Business Companies Act (Chapter 270) of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011**

And

**In Voluntary Liquidation, Members' Winding Up and Dissolution**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the following company is in dissolution:



NAME	REG. NO.
BALKAN TRADING LTD.	8,833

The date of commencement of the dissolution is the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022, and the liquidator is Peter Chaya of Flat 42, 17 Hall Road, NW8 9RF, London, United Kingdom. Any claims against the Company should be forwarded to Barrow & Williams LLP, attorneys-at-law for the liquidator, within 30 days of this Notice.

Dated the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.



**BARROW & WILLIAMS LLP**  
84 ALBERT STREET  
Email: attorneys@barrowandwilliams.com

**INVITATION TO BID**

**PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

The Ministry of Health & Wellness (MOHW) hereby invites eligible and qualified bidders to submit sealed bids for **Supply and Delivery of COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test Standard Q.**

All interested bidders are asked to contact the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health & Wellness, Second Floor, East Block Building, Belmopan (Tel. 822-0992) for the relevant **Tender Document**. Eligible Bidders must be in accordance with Ministry of Health & Wellness requirements as indicated in the **Instruction to Bidders**. Tender package are free of cost.

The Tender Package may be collected from the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit, Ministry of Health & Wellness, East Block, Belmopan commencing on **Monday, April 11, 2022 to Wednesday, April 13, 2022 from 8AM to 4PM**. All tender submissions must be returned to the Policy Planning and Project Management Unit no later than **Friday, April 22, 2022 at 10AM**. Late bids will be rejected.

Please be prepared to submit relevant samples **immediately** upon request.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The U.S. Embassy Belmopan is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the following position:


**Position Name:** Mail Room Clerk  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2022-09  
**Closing date:** April 23, 2022

Interested applicants must submit their application via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA) system, a web-based system. To view and apply for this vacancy, visit the ERA site at: <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>

Please visit the Embassy's website for instructions on how to apply via the ERA system: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**Note 1: Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.**

**Note 2: Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.**



**BELIZE PORT AUTHORITY**  
**JOB VACANCY**  
**INTERNAL LEGAL COUNSEL**

The Ports Commissioner is inviting applications to fill the post of "INTERNAL LEGAL COUNSEL" at Belize Port Authority. Work station: Belize City with duties countrywide.

**Internal Legal Counsel whose duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to:**

- Litigate on behalf of the Belize Port Authority;
- Assist the Ports Commissioner to develop the Authority's capability and compliance with the regulatory functions under the Belize Port Authority Act, the Harbours and Merchant Shipping Act, the Wrecks and Salvage Act, and any other applicable laws of Belize and Regulations made thereunder;
- Maintain and direct an organized programme in relation to Maritime Legal Issues;
- Advise the Authority with respect to any IMO regulations, and draft relevant Cabinet and legislative instructions for domestication of such, and submit for final approval of the Ports Commissioner;
- Consolidate and modernize the Laws of the Authority to provide for better implementation of the IMO Conventions;
- Coordinate and/or facilitate employee training on National Laws and IMO Instruments based on the organisation's needs, to ensure the Authority's growth and development;
- Develop procedures and training manuals which are user friendly to encourage learning with respect to the laws and conventions;
- Assist in the management of various projects designed to facilitate the functions of the Authority;
- Discharge duties in a fashion that aligns responsibilities with the mandate and goals of the organization;
- Perform related duties as may be assigned;

**Qualification and Experience:**

- Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in Maritime Law; or
- Associate Degree in Law with at minimum a Bachelor's Degree in a Maritime Field which integrates IMO Conventions;
- Has the ability to practice Law in Belize;
- Experience in legislative drafting, prosecutions and Office suite an asset;

Deadline for submission of application is **15 April, 2022**. Interested applicants are to submit a letter of application, Curriculum Vitae & two letters of reference to the attention of the:

**Ports Commissioner**  
**Belize Port Authority**  
**Mile 4, George Price Highway, P.O Box 633**  
**Belize City, Belize**  
**Email: bzportauth@btl.net**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The U.S. Embassy Belmopan is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the following position:

**Position Name:** Supervisory General Services Assistant  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2022-10  
**Closing date:** April 23, 2022

Interested applicants must submit their application via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA) system, a web-based system. To view and apply for this vacancy, visit the ERA site at: <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>

Please visit the Embassy's website for instructions on how to apply via the ERA system: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

**Note 1: Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.**

**Note 2: Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The U.S. Embassy Belmopan is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the following position:

**Position Name:** Supply Clerk  
**Vacancy number:** Belmopan-2022-11  
**Closing date:** April 23, 2022

Interested applicants must submit their application via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA) system, a web-based system. To view and apply for this vacancy, visit the ERA site at: <https://erajobs.state.gov/dos-era/blz/vacancysearch/searchVacancies.hms>

Please visit the Embassy's website for instructions on how to apply via the ERA system: <https://bz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

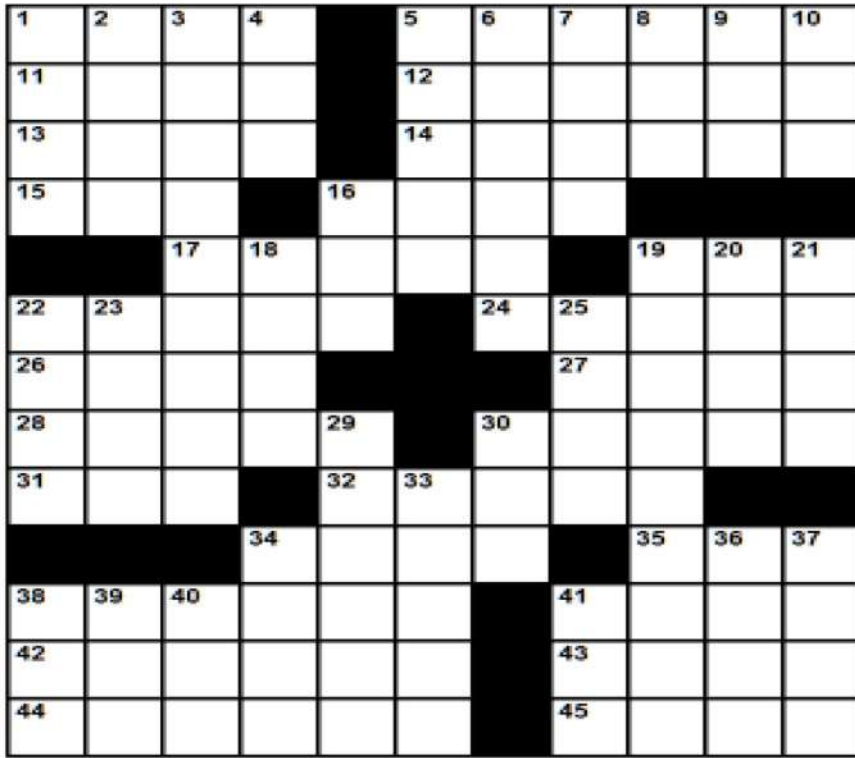
**Note 1: Resumes will not be considered. Candidates must note all work experience when completing the ERA application. Insufficient or incomplete information will result in an ineligible application.**

**Note 2: Candidates must submit applicable required documentation by the closing date of this announcement. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in an ineligible application.**





Daily Crossword Puzzle for April 6, 2022



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**Across**

- 1. Add liquor
- 5. Occult doctrine
- 11. Type of thermometer
- 12. Foreshadowed
- 13. Black-tie accessory
- 14. Gossipy ones
- 15. Electric fish
- 16. Blunted sword
- 17. Coy
- 19. Actor Vigoda
- 22. Nuclear missiles
- 24. Less up front
- 26. Balm ingredient
- 27. Boxer Barkley
- 28. Like cheap speakers
- 30. Flow out
- 31. Is down with
- 32. Fanfare
- 34. Accepted
- 35. Foyer spread
- 38. Slander
- 41. Breezy
- 42. Exposed
- 43. Leap lightly
- 44. Pie nuts
- 45. Brief times

**Down**

- 1. Emit amplified light
- 2. Add to the pot

- 3. Witch's vessels
- 4. Antiquity
- 5. South American rodent
- 6. Arab leaders
- 7. Caesar's well
- 8. Aardvark fodder
- 9. Actress Thompson
- 10. Billboards
- 16. Font widths
- 18. Bump free
- 19. Attack from the sky
- 20. Actor Bridges
- 21. Bald eagle's cousin
- 22. Alg. or trig.
- 23. Bones in pelvises
- 25. Actress Kudrow
- 29. U.S.N. clerk
- 30. Kind
- 33. Dorm residents
- 34. Samoan cash
- 36. Obtained from urine
- 37. Gulls
- 38. Copy, abbr.
- 39. Compass pt.
- 40. Media overseer org.
- 41. Braying beast

**Crossword answers for last edition**

The answers below are for the puzzle appearing in the last edition of the Amandala. The answers for the above puzzle will appear in next issue of this newspaper.



Daily Interactive Crossword Puzzle - 03-31-2022 - Answers



**KREM Television Program Guide**

*Shoa Wiself, Si Wiself, Bee Wiself!!!*

Questions or comments may be forwarded via email to  
**Phone: 202-5848**      [kremtelevision@yahoo.com](mailto:kremtelevision@yahoo.com)

Friday April 8, 2022 to Tuesday April 12, 2022

**FRIDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: LUV
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Belizean Legend: Talita Long
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**SATURDAY**

- 9:00 a.m. **UEF Zoom Community Conversation (LIVE)**
- 11:50 p.m. Movie: Mulan
- 1:46 p.m. Documentary: Safari Africa
- 2:14 p.m. Movie: Mandela's Long Walk to Freedom
- 5:34 p.m. **UEF Zoom Community Conversation (repeat)**
- 7:15 p.m. Movie: The Tiffany Rubin Story
- 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

**SUNDAY**

- 10:30 a.m. **Sunday Review (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. Movie: Southside With You
- 2:06 p.m. Documentary: Internet Hackers
- 2:57 p.m. Movie: Nappily Ever After
- 4:36 p.m. Documentary: Diving With the Dinosaur Fish
- 5:30 p.m. **Sunday Review (repeat)**
- 7:00 p.m. Sunday Jazz
- 8:00 p.m. Music Videos

**MONDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: Simple Justice
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Documentary: Inside Mecca
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**

**TUESDAY**

- 6:30 a.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (LIVE)**
- 9:00 a.m. **Morning Stew (LIVE)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**
- 1:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 2:00 p.m. Movie: Black or White
- 3:30 p.m. **Wake Up Belize Morning Vibes (repeat)**
- 6:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (LIVE)**
- 7:00 p.m. News Broadcast: Democracy Now
- 8:00 p.m. Documentary: Ronan Farrow: Who Were the Rioters
- 9:00 p.m. **Krem TV Evening News (repeat)**



# 6,000 gang members in El Salvador arrested in 10 days

by *Khaila Gentle*

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Wed. Apr. 6, 2022

The Government of El Salvador's

recent crackdown on gang members has resulted in thousands of arrests in less than two weeks and has also sparked some criticism by the office of the UN's High Commissioner for

Human Rights. On March 27, 2022, just a few days after gang-related violence led to the deaths of 87 persons (62 of which occurred in just one day), Salvadoran president Nayib Bukele announced a countrywide state of emergency, and placed blame specifically on the Mara Salvatrucha gang (MS-13) for the deaths. Since then, the country's law enforcement has been targeting all those suspected of being gang-affiliated, and at the time of the writing of this article, over six thousand men and women had been arrested.

reports from Bryan Avelar of *Guardian* newspaper UK, the continued arrests have led to countless distraught families across the Central American nation searching for information regarding the fate of their relatives. Those families have claimed that even those who only work or live in gang-dominated areas have been arrested.

Since the declaration of the state of emergency two weeks ago, several constitutional rights in the country have been suspended, including the right to be presumed innocent, the right to legal counsel, and the right to be informed of one's rights at the time of arrest. Throughout the course of the "war on gangs," President Bukele has frequently taken to Twitter to share updates related to the arrest of alleged gang members whom he has often referred to as "terrorists". Just this week, he tweeted that exactly 6,894 gang members had been captured in 11 days. He also went on to suggest that those arrests are going to continue. Furthermore, Bukele has used Twitter to speak out against those who might want to criticize his actions, going as far as to accuse the media, NGOs, and other entities of siding with the gangs.

"Do you know how many countries have decided to help us in the war against gangs? Exactly: NONE. Do not come later and try to tell us what we should have done or not do, when at the moment that we could have needed your help, you left us alone," states one of Bukele's tweets.

The office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights has issued a statement in response to the Salvadoran government's crackdown, criticizing what it has called the cruel and inhumane treatment of those arrested as well as the reported use of "unnecessary excessive force" by police.

The Government's most recent move in the crackdown on gangs has also resulted in what some have called a direct attack on the freedom of the press. On Wednesday, April 6, it was revealed that El Salvador's congress had passed several laws that could subject those in news media—whether radio, television, written, or digital—to possible sentences of up to 15 years in prison for sharing messages from any of the country's gangs.

Despite protests from some, many Salvadorans, weary of the gang-related violence, have commended President Bukele for his efforts.



(Source: National Civil Police of El Salvador)

According to



## CAREER

# OPPORTUNITY




Belize Sugar Industries Ltd.

Invites qualified and self-motivated individuals to submit applications for the post of:

Security Officer

at Big Creek, Stann Creek District

The **Security Officer** forms part of a team of Security Professionals whose responsibilities is to watch over and protect BSI's property and various threats. This includes static, patrol, and escort security functions within the Company. The Security Officer must be able to obtain certification in ISPS Code and other port regulations.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- High School Diploma
- Holder of a valid Class A driver's license
- Be able to operate standard transmission and 4x4 type off-road vehicles
- Possess Security, Police or Military background and/or equivalent skills

**Skills and Competencies:**

- Ability to adapt to new technologies
- Excellent written & communication skills
- Team oriented/ possess interpersonal skills
- Knowledge of smart phones, camera and GPS technology
- Be physically fit and able to stand long hours in all types of weather conditions
- Must be able to legally carry and use firearms during course of duties
- Able to work flexible hours (shift, weekends & holidays)
- Computer literate (Microsoft Suite)

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Implement/ enforce Access Control Procedures at the Entry Control Points (ECPs).
- Conduct patrols to ensure the well-being of employees and protect the company's assets within the Big Creek Port.
- Report to assigned post and perform all duties diligently
- Respond and report to all accidents/ incidents that affect the Company
- Perform any other assigned duties

Letters of application accompanied by a *résumé*, police record and two reference letters should be submitted to:

Human Resources Manager  
P.O. Box 29, Tower Hill, Orange Walk  
Or email  
HR.Belize@asr-group.com





DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS IS APRIL 22, 2022.

# AMANDALA

is

# cream





## STRENGTHENING OF TAX ADMINISTRATION PROJECT

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

#### Consulting Services to design and implement an Internal Control Model including the implementation of a system to support internal control processes

**Institution:** The Ministry of Finance (MOF)

**Country:** Belize

**Project:** Strengthening of Tax Administration (STA)

**Abstract:** Consulting Services to design and implement an Internal Control Model including the implementation of a system to support internal control processes

**Loan No.:** 4839/OC-BL

**Deadline:** April 26, 2022, Belize Local Time

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the execution of a five-year tax modernization project entitled "Strengthening of Tax Administration" (BL-L1031). Through this project, the Belize Tax Service Department (BTSD) has procured a Modern Integrated Tax Administration System (the Revenue Management System (RMS)) and is presently in the implementation process. This new system will be used in the management of the Belize Tax Administration.

BTSD staff integrity is a concern for its management. The BTSD strategic plan indicates that: "Corruption has devastating effects on the integrity of any organization. At the BTSD the effects would be particularly harmful as corrupt activities could compromise the collection of revenue; impede tax compliance; negatively impact the image of the Agency and reduce the public's confidence in the Agency's ability to objectively administer taxes."

As such, an Internal Audit Division will be executed to conduct investigations into alleged employee misconduct and ensure that commensurate disciplinary actions are taken when staffers are found culpable. Additionally, a new Employee Code of Conduct will be drafted, which will be instructive on the standards of Professional Conduct. Given that partnerships with the public are important in combating corruption, Outreach Programs will be utilized to engage civil society and to aid in deterring and reporting immoral activities."

Management is also concerned about internal audit. They have identified the need for regular reviews the compliance with the department's regulations, operations, procedures, and controls and if they comply with the international goods practices and operate effectively.

So, BTSD is looking for reorganizing its Internal Audit Division into an Internal Control Division with the view of improving both, the control of staff integrity and the internal audit. This consultancy is intended to address this concern.

Consequently, the BTSD will explore the introduction of a Risk Management Plan (RMP) to properly respond to the risks identified on a timely basis, to minimize overall compliance burden for both the taxpayers and the tax administration. As an important aspect of the RMP, risk mitigating strategies will be proposed for application against potential and existing risks. The plan will highlight all areas of risks including risk-based assessments, risk-based audits, risk-based sector and taxpayer segmentation, compliance risks (registration, filing, reporting and payments) and international risks. Risk mitigation reduces the extent of exposure and ensures that the strategic objectives are achieved."

Management is also concerned about internal audit. They have identified the need for regular reviews the compliance with the department's regulations, operations, procedures, and controls and if they comply with the international goods practices and operate effectively.

So, BTSD is looking for reorganizing its Internal Audit Division into an Internal Control Division with the view of improving both, the control of staff integrity and the internal audit. This consultancy is intended to address this concern.

The consulting services ("the services") includes the contracting of a Consulting Firm for a period of eight (8) months to design and implement an Internal Control Model including the implementation of a system to support internal control processes. The main activity of the consultancy includes:

- 1 Prepare the action plan for implementation of the new Internal Control function includes:
  - a. Detailed project, its outcomes and success indicators
  - b. Intended results and their justification
  - c. The consultancy risk assessment and mitigation
  - d. Cost and other detailed resource requirements, if necessary
  - e. Schedule for implementation
- 2 Carry out an assessment
  - a. Review BTSD current practices and recent events regarding Internal audit and integrity investigation
  - b. Review BTSD Internal Audit Division organization, staff, and legal framework
  - c. Review the BTSD current regulations, operations, procedures, and controls with a view to prepare internal audit and integrity investigation plans
  - d. Review BTSD compliance with the new ITAS procedures
  - e. Review recent cases of BTSD staff integrity issues

- f. Interview relevant stakeholders to determine the general perception on the BTSD staff integrity


- 3 Draft Internal Control Model
  - a. Outline the guidelines and policies to the implementation and operation of the BTSD Internal Control Model including internal audit and integrity investigations
  - b. Define the Internal Control procedures inclusive case selection and processing
  - c. Define the necessary changes in, or queries to ITAS to provide information on potential integrity deviations and for case selection
- 4 Design and implement the BTSD Internal Audit organizational structure
  - a. Propose the organizational structure of the BTSD Internal Division including the internal audit and integrity investigation units
  - b. Prepare the job descriptions, including competencies, for staff of the BTSD Internal Audit Division
  - c. Estimate the necessary HR for the unit
    - a. Define the required BTSD Internal Control staff skills, knowledge, and abilities,
    - b. Define the requirements for the Internal Control staff training
    - d. Train the Internal Control Division staff
- 5 Development of the Internal Control Manuals, handbooks, and Code of Conduct
  - a. Draft the Internal audit manual
  - b. Draft the integrity investigation manual
  - c. Draft the necessary handbooks for both areas
  - d. Draft the BTSD staff Code of Conduct
  - e. The **Internal Audit manual** should include at least:
    - i. The Internal Audit mission and strategies
    - ii. The Internal Audit procedures
    - iii. The Internal Audit organizational structure as part of the Internal Control Division
    - iv. The job descriptions for the Internal Audit staff
    - v. The estimation of Internal Audit staff by function
    - vi. The applications/software needs.
    - vii. The Internal Audit's performance indicators and targets
  - f. The **Integrity Investigation** manual should include at least:
    - i. The Integrity Investigation mission and strategies
    - ii. The Integrity investigation procedures
    - iii. The Integrity Investigation organizational structure as part of the Internal Control Division
    - iv. The job descriptions for the Integrity Investigation staff
    - v. The estimation of Integrity Investigation staff by function
    - vi. The Integrity Investigation applications/software needs.
    - vii. The Integrity Investigation's performance indicators and targets
- 6 Execute dissemination sensitization workshops on the Internal Control model and manuals, including Internal Audit and Integrity Investigations
  - a. Deliver seminar for the BRS managers
  - b. Deliver seminars for the Internal Control staff
  - c. Deliver seminars for the BTSD staff
  - d. Deliver seminars to other authorities
  - e. Deliver seminars for main stakeholders
  - f. Train the Internal Audit Staff
  - g. Train the Integrity Investigation Staff

The consulting firm should have a minimum of five (5) years' experience in similar assignment. In addition, the consulting firm should have a minimum of five (5) years specific experience in the following:

- Organizational development and design
- Development of internal audit and staff integrity investigation systems
- Development of internal audit and staff integrity investigation organizations
- Development of internal audit and staff integrity investigation procedures and manuals
- Job analysis and job evaluation
- Training needs analysis, and;
- Staff training capacity

The firm will need to have or demonstrate expertise in internal audit and integrity investigation, communication and interpersonal skills, business Strategy (supporting business and organizational goals), Presentation and facilitation skills, flexibility and adaptability, time management skills, fluency in written and spoken English is essential, and highly motivated and committed. As well as have knowledge and experience working in Belize and or the Caribbean environment in a similar assignment.

The Ministry of Finance now invites eligible Consulting Firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in

**Please turn to**  **Page 31**





## STRENGTHENING OF TAX ADMINISTRATION PROJECT

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

#### Consulting Services to design and implement an Internal Control Model including the implementation of a system to support internal control processes

Continued from **Page 30**

providing the services. Interested eligible Consultants must submit an Expression of Interest providing information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services (description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.). *The term "consultant" means a legally established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide the services.*

#### Expression of Interest package should contain:

- (i) Document explaining interest, experience, and competence of the consulting firm.
- (ii) Firms experience in the assignment of similar consultancy services during the past five years. Description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments.
- (iii) Firms evidence of past jobs. (These includes letters from the respective client on the job (s) carried out, or a copy of contract or agreement with the client including copy of the TOR).
- (iv) Two references
- (v) Proof of nationality: Copy of certificate of incorporation, information of shareholders of company specifying the shares owned by each respective shareholder of the company and a copy of documentation of nationality of the shareholders of the company.

#### Additional documentation required for National Consultants:

- (vi) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from Belize Company Registry
- (vii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Social Security Board
- (viii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Belize Tax Service
- (ix) Copy of Current Trade License

The total estimated contract price for this consultancy inclusive of taxes is **US \$ 319,805.00**

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the with the Quality and Cost - Based Selection (QCBS) procurement method 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, May 2019 edition) and is open to all eligible consultants as defined in the IDB policies. The selection of the successful firm will be based on a competitive process among short-listed firms that takes into account the quality of the proposal and the cost of the service. **Only the short-listed firms will be notified and will be asked to submit a technical and price proposal.**

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

**Further information** can be obtained at the address below during office hours Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Expressions of interest must be delivered via direct mail or e-mail at the address indicated below by 3:30 p.m. (Belize local time) on Tuesday April 26, 2022.

Interested consulting firms are asked to submit their expression of interest via e-mail to [Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz](mailto:Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz) marked **STAP- Consulting firm to design and implement an Internal Control Model including the implementation of a system to support internal control processes** in the subject header, or submit on or before 3:30 p.m. (Belize local time) on Tuesday April 26, 2022 to the following address:

**Director General  
Belize Tax Service  
Strengthening of Tax Administration  
Project  
Charles Bartlett Hyde Building  
Mahogany Street, Belize City  
Tel: 501-222-5114**

For clarifications kindly contact:

**Procurement Officer  
Project Executing Unit  
Strengthening of Tax Administration  
Project  
Charles Bartlett Hyde Building  
Mahogany Street, Belize City  
Tel: 501-222-5114/E-mail: [Ian.Ramirez@mof.gov.bz](mailto:Ian.Ramirez@mof.gov.bz)**



### VACANCY NOTICE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOB ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FUND, DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill one (1) vacant post of Executive Director of the GOB Environmental Management Fund, Department of the Environment, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION:

The Environmental Management Fund was established through the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, (EPA) 2009, Chapter 328 of the Substantive Laws of Belize. Part VII of the EPA has provisions for the governance and general operations of the Fund. The main purpose of the Fund is to assist the Department of the Environment (DOE) to address environmental matters and enforce the legislation which also guides the DOE's roles and functions. The specific objectives of the EMF are to cover all costs associated with the response and clean-up of oil spills and other chemical spills, to carry out programmes to prevent and reduce pollution; to provide support for laboratory analysis of samples collected for environmental monitoring; to support its environmental monitoring and enforcement programs; to promote environmental public awareness and research; to encourage local environmental initiative; to publish reports and publications on the environment; to promote, support and encourage activities relating to the protection and management of the environment; and to plan and implement other initiatives important for the effective and efficient management of our natural and environment resources.

#### 2. PURPOSE OF POSITION:

This person will be tasked with the efficient management of the GOB Environmental Management Fund (EMF), as well as building the necessary capacity of the Fund for its long-term sustainability. He/She is expected to apply results-based management techniques, provide operational oversight, create and maintain effective systems, and ensure appropriate staff capacity development to efficiently support goals and objectives of the Fund.

#### 3. ANALYSIS OF POSITION

This person will be required to handle several responsibilities associated under the Duties and responsibilities associated with the overall, management of the Fund, Management of Human and Financial Resources: and provision of advisory support to the Board of Directors. **(Details of these responsibilities of this post are listed in the Terms of Reference)**

#### 4. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Master's Degree in Public Administration, Finance, Accounting, Business Administration, Management, or related field with 10 years of work experience in programme operations management, organizational management, public sector management
- ✓ 10 years of work experience in programme operations management, organizational management, public sector management.

**(Details of skills set required for this post are also listed in the Terms of Reference.)**

#### 5. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants can obtain a copy of the terms of reference at [www.doe.gov.bz](http://www.doe.gov.bz) or by requesting a copy from the Department via email: [emf@environment.gov.bz](mailto:emf@environment.gov.bz) or office number: 822-2548 or 822-2819.

Applicants are asked to submit a complete application package containing a cover letter, resume, and 2 reference letters, no later than 3:00 pm, April 27, 2022 addressed to:

**Chief Environmental Officer  
Department of the Environment  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Green Building Complex  
7552 Hummingbird Highway  
Belmopan, Cayo District  
Belize**





## Belize Agricultural Health Authority

The Belize Agricultural Health Authority invites applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

### 1. QUARANTINE INSPECTOR

**Minimum qualification and skills:**

1. Associate Degree in Agricultural Science or related field;
2. Work experience in the Agriculture Sector is an asset;
3. Superior work ethics and practices;
4. Excellent public relations;
5. Bi-lingual (English and Spanish)
6. Very good written and verbal communication skills;
7. Computer Literate;
8. Valid class "A" driver's license;

The primary function of the position is to Safeguard Belize's Agricultural Health and Food Safety through inspection of imported commodities.

Salary: \$17,810.76 x 852.84 - \$34,014.72

**Station of Duty:** The quarantine inspector is subject to rotation throughout the country every two to three years.

### 2. FOOD SAFETY LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

**Minimum qualification and skills:**

1. Bachelor's degree in Biology and/or Chemistry with a minimum of one (1) year work experience in testing of food, feed, environmental or biological samples;
2. Strong work ethics and practices, honesty and integrity;
3. Capacity to achieve results through teamwork;
4. Strong inter-personal, organizational and communication skills;
5. Bi-lingual (ability to speak and write English and Spanish);
6. Knowledge and experience with laboratory equipment;
7. Knowledge or work experience in laboratory techniques;
8. Knowledge of sample handling principles ;
9. Computer literate;
10. Team player who is flexible, objective, highly motivated and takes initiative;
11. Valid class "A" driver's license;

The primary function of the position is to conduct analysis of foods and other matrices and perform other laboratory activities in support of food safety monitoring programmes.

Salary: \$20,665.92 x 927 - \$38,278.92

**Station of Duty:** Central Investigation Laboratory, Belize City

### 3. AGRONOMIST

1. A Bachelor's Degree in Agronomy with two (2) years work experience in plant protection activities;
2. Superior work ethics, honesty and integrity;
3. Superior written and verbal communication skills;
4. Superior planning, analytical, data collecting, and resource management skills;
5. Ability to lead a team;
6. Bi-lingual (ability to speak and write English and Spanish);
7. Computer Literate;
8. Team player who is highly motivated and takes initiative;
9. Valid class "A" driver's license;

The agronomist will be responsible to provide support to the Plant Health Department in all areas of Plant Protection. The post will be a middle management post and the successful candidate will be required to supervise staff.

Salary: \$26,351.52 x 1,137.12 - \$47,956.80

**Station of Duty:** Central Farm, Cayo District

### 4. MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY TECHNICIAN

**Minimum qualification and skills:**

1. Associate Degree in Applied Science (Agriculture) or Agricultural Science with one (1) year work related experience;
2. Superior work ethics, honesty and integrity;
3. Superior written and verbal communication skills;

4. Computer Literate;
5. Team player who is highly motivated and takes initiative;
6. Valid class "A" driver's license.

The primary function of the Mediterranean fruit fly technician is to perform surveillance and inspection activities to ensure a medfly-free status of Belize.

Salary: \$17,810.76 x 852.84 - \$34,014.72

**Station of Duty:** Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District

### 5. FINANCE DIRECTOR

**Minimum Qualification and Experience Requirements:**

- Master's degree in Accounting and/or Business Administration with five (5) years financial management experience or a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and /or Business Administration with 10 years financial management experience; OR
- Professional Qualification in Accounting (CPA, ACCA, etc.) with five (5) years accounting and financial management experience;
- Thorough understanding of accrual accounting, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);

The primary function of the finance director is to provide oversight on the financial operations of the Authority; review and make recommendations on accounting policies, procedures, standards, and controls to ensure financial system(s) are accurate, efficient, and complies with professional accounting practices; and will be responsible to prepare the Authority for an annual financial audit.

Additionally, the finance director will be responsible for financial forecasting, budgeting, and cost recovery and reduction schemes as well as to provide timely financial reports to the Managing Director.

**Key Job Responsibilities:**

- Manage the preparation of the Organization budget in collaboration with the Management team;
- Maintain a documented system of accounting policies and procedures following International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and/or other applicable accounting guidelines; ensures complete and up to date operating procedures for all accounting and financial controls;
- Forecast cash flow positions, related financing needs, and available funds for investment;
- Ensure maintenance of effective internal controls to assure safeguarding of assets; carryout annual inventory counts and implement replacement plans for vehicle and It Equipment;
- Update fixed asset register and schedule on a quarterly basis;
- Manage the accounts receivables portfolio; timely revenue collection, recording and processing of customers financial transactions;
- Manage the accounts payable portfolio; timely approval of expenditure per department within budget allocations and constraints.
- Prepare financial reports and carry out procurement processes for grant/ project funds received by the Organization;
- Prepare audit schedule for external auditor and acts as a liaison between the Organization and auditors;
- Participate in and provide support to the Finance Committee of the BAHA Board of Directors;

Management representative on BAHA Provident Fund Committee and BAHA Employee Provident Fund Board of Trustees.

Salary: \$35,460.84 x 1,433.76 - \$62,702.28

**Station:** BAHA Headquarters, Belmopan

**Kindly indicate the job position of interest on your application package.**

Interested persons may submit letter of application, résumé, proof of qualification, official transcript and two recent reference letters and a police record, no later than Thursday, April 21, 2022 to:

**Human Resource Director**  
**Belize Agricultural Health Authority**  
 P.O. Box 169, Cor. Hummingbird Hwy. & Forest Dr., Belmopan, Belize  
 Phone: 501-8220197, Fax: 501-8220271, e-mail: baha@btl.net, website:  
 www.baha.org.bz



# BDF soldier charged with murder

Continued from Page 1

Prison after brutally beating an Orange Walk resident, whom he then left for dead, following a disagreement that reportedly erupted over a borrowed lighter. The incident, which occurred on Friday night, April 1, and was captured on video footage recorded by an onlooker's mobile phone, unfolded a little after 10:00 p.m. near Central Park. It was there, at the heart of Orange Walk Town, that 38-year-old Estevan Baeza and the soldier, Private Raheem Williams, got into an argument over the lighter that Williams had borrowed from Baeza but refused to return. That argument quickly escalated and ended on the median of the road with 27-year-old Williams punching and stomping a seemingly already unconscious Baeza before casually walking

away. And, unfortunately, it wasn't until the BDF soldier had finished his brutal assault on the 38-year-old that onlookers and passersby stopped to render aid. Shortly after, Baeza was placed in a police pickup that transported him to the hospital.

(Williams was reportedly pursued by two MIT police officers and was apprehended a few lanes away from the scene of the incident.)

Despite being taken to the hospital, however, Baeza passed away early Monday morning, just as his family was traveling to Belize City to pay for the facial and cerebral CT scan that doctors had told them he would be needing.

Vicenta Baeza, Estevan's mother, told local media that before her son's untimely death he had visited her and asked for coffee. Soon after, he told her that he was leaving to purchase tacos or fried chicken.

"He came to ask me for some coffee, so I gave it to him, and he said, 'Ma, I will go and get some tacos or fry chicken'. If I knew that would have happened to him, I would have held him, but I couldn't, because he was hungry and wanted to eat out. He wanted to eat something, and the man shouldn't have done that to my son because he is a human being and not an animal. The discipline that they gave the man was for war, not to kill Belizeans," said the grief-stricken mother.

She also noted that her son was not known to be belligerent or aggressive, and pointed out that she had taught all her children to be respectful.

"Maybe he had a beer. I can't say what my son was doing when they were out there but the man shouldn't have done that. I want justice for my son. He used to help me with money,

food, and pills," she stated. She lamented that her son, who worked at a "place where they packed clothes," was her sole source of financial assistance.

She also shared with reporters her understanding of the sequence of events that led to her son's death. "He lends the BDF the lighter and the BDF gave 2 other persons the lighter and that's when my son said, 'give me the lighter' and... then they started to fight, and like how the soldier is bigger and more fit than my son, who is small, the BDF should have backed off. He punched him, threw him on the ground, he stomped him in his throat, he stomped his face, burst his head, burst his throat; he couldn't breathe. He pushed him down on the ground and that burst his head," she said.

Hon. Oscar Mira, the Minister of National Defence and Border Security and a retired Major of the Belize Defence Force, spoke with AMANDALA about the issue, and informed us that the BDF plans to ensure that its soldiers get all the counselling that they need.

"We have counselling sessions for all our soldiers, and we have just completed the counselling workshop. It is ongoing, but it is something that we're going to continue. It's something that we're going to make sure that every BDF soldier has the opportunity to seek counselling and sessions with companies and with the platoons whenever they are in operation," he stated, adding that he believes there might be a need to start providing counselling after soldiers finish their tours along the border.

Acting Deputy Commander of the BDF, Lieutenant Colonel Brandon Garcia, also spoke about the incident, and told local media that Williams' heinous actions are a violation of all the principles that are taught to those who enlist.

"When we saw that video, it is an indication of what a commander of the Belize Defence Force doesn't tolerate. We have a zero-tolerance policy for any brutality against civilians... We sensitize and educate our soldiers. We provide psychosocial support. We provide sensitization on international humanitarian law, because both when they are deployed in the jungle on the borders and [in] that urban environment these things apply," Garcia stated, later adding that soldiers are taught to treat civilians humanely and to follow the law of the land.

"We are not above the law in any way," he said.

According to Lt. Col. Garcia, Private Williams, who was reportedly stationed at Colonel Eyles Camp in Orange Walk Town, had been evaluated psychologically before joining the force, and since joining he had not exhibited any violent tendencies. When asked whether Williams will have a future



## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The US Government-funded Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) has selected Belize as one of only two countries in the world for a five-year government to government grant to fund a program aimed at reducing poverty and stimulating economic growth.

The Government of Belize (GOB) through the Ministry of Finance, **Economic Development**, and Investment, intends to contract a team of individual consultants to form a Compact Development Team in Belize that will work together with a U.S.-based MCC Team to conduct a diagnosis of the constraints to economic growth, prepare concept notes, develop project proposals, and plan for project implementation.

The Belize Compact Development Team will be led by a National Coordinator who will manage the team, engage key stakeholders across all sectors, and bear responsibility for the overall performance and work quality of the team. The Procurement Director will be a member of this team and will be responsible for the duties in close coordination and partnership with MCC's procurement lead.

### Vacant Post

#### 1. Procurement Director

**Remuneration:** Competitive salary and benefits are offered, commensurate with academic level, work experience and other relevant strengths of the winning candidate. Kindly follow the below link for further details.

<https://med.gov.bz/>

Interested candidates are requested to submit ONE PDF File that shall include: **a)** Letter of Interest indicating the post being applied for; **b)** the curriculum vitae, **c)** copies of university degrees, and **d)** the names of 3 references.

Subsequently the top 3 applicants for the post will be interviewed.

Deadline for application is **20 April 2022 at 4:00pm**. Application can be sent via email to: [econdev@med.gov.bz](mailto:econdev@med.gov.bz) or hand delivered to the address indicated below:

Chief Executive Officer  
Ministry of Economic Development  
Sir Edney Cain Building  
Ground Floor, Right Wing  
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.

Any request for clarification should be sent via email no later than 11 April 2022. Responses will be provided within three days.



**PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES & VEHICLES**

*Countrywide*

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com) the below described properties and vehicles. Sale currently running and will expire on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the times listed on the website:

**N.B. Properties and vehicles will remain on sale on this website on a bi-weekly basis until conclusion.**

1. Parcel No. 2871 1<sup>st</sup> subdivision south of Airstrip, west side, Placencia Road, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2871
The freehold property of Ms. Dawn Anderson & Mr. Hector Tut.		

2. Parcel No. 2891 1<sup>st</sup> subdivision south of Airstrip, west side, Placencia Road, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2891
The freehold property of Mr. Sidney Lopez & Ms. Valarie Godoy.		

3. 147.228 Acres, San Marcos Agricultural Area, Toledo District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being 147.228 acres situate in the San Marcos Agricultural Area, Toledo District. Freehold properties of Mr. Marcial Mess.

4. Parcel No. 2911 Cedar Street, Santiago Juan Layout, San Ignacio, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Ignacio North	23	2911
The freehold property of Ms. Adelita Zaiden.		

5. Lot No. 400 Savannah Road, Independence Village, Stann Creek District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 400 situate along Savannah Road, Independence Village, Stann Creek District TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The freehold property of Ms. Maria J. Rodriguez)

6. Parcel No. 418 Corner 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue & 5<sup>th</sup> Street North, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal Central	4	418
The freehold property of Mrs. Guadalupe & Mr. Edmund Longsworth.		

7. Parcel No. 461 George Price Highway, Unitedville, Cayo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Society Hall	24	461
The freehold property of Mr. Ulric L. Willoughby.		

8. Lot No. 59A Pomona Village Extension, Stann Creek District:



Lot No. 59A, comprising 696.567 square metres situate in Pomona Village Extension, Stann Creek District, Belize. Freehold property of Mr. Thurman Williams.

9. Parcel No. 410 Seine Bight Village, Placencia Peninsula, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	410
The freehold property of Mr. Kent Roland Francis and Ms. Silvana Andrea Garcia.		

10. Parcel No. 2275 Seine Bight Village, Placencia Peninsula, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2275
The freehold property of Mr. Lammey Alvarez.		

11. Parcel No. 1710 Mahogany Street, Punta Gorda Town, Toledo District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Punta Gorda	4	1710
The freehold property of Ms. Elizabeth Borland.		

12. No. 315 San Estevan Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Estevan	1	315
The freehold property of Mr. Augusto Angel Blanco.		

13. Parcel No. 1523 Seine Bight Village, Placencia Peninsula, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	1523
The freehold property of Ms. Sherlette Augustine.		

14. Parcel No. 4111 Blue Bird Street, Alta Mira, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	4	4111
The freehold property of Mr. Raleigh Rivas and Ms. Olga Rivas		

15. Parcel No. 1142 Phillip Goldson Highway, San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Jose Palmar	4	1142
The freehold property of Ms. Marisa Perera & Mr. Carlos Perera		

16. Parcel No. 2708 Phillip Goldson Highway, Orange Walk Town, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Orange Walk Town	4	2708
The freehold property of Mr. Gustavo Gongora & Ms. Rubicela Mai		

17. Parcel No. 2492 Oak Street, Halls Layout, Corozal Town, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal North	1	2492
The freehold property of Mr. Yasin Shoman & Ms. Ruth Shoman		

18. Parcel No. 158 Sunset Park, 8 1/2 Miles George Price Hwy, Western Paradise, Belize District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot No. 158 containing 1,013.39 S.M. situate at Mile 8.5 Northern Side of Hector Creek Road, Western Highway, Belize District of Belize, the freehold property of Mr. Lawrence Ellis and Mrs. Kimberly Ellis)

19. Parcel No. 2842 first subdivision south of Placencia Airstrip, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	36	2842
The freehold property of Mr. Ajinder Singh Garcha		

20. Parcel No. 1726 Guinea Grass Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Tower Hill	4	1726
The freehold property of Ms. Gloriceida Camara		

21. Parcels Nos. 639 & 640 San Estevan, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCELS
San Estevan	1	639 & 640
The freehold property of Mr. Manuel Jesus Blanco and Mr. Augusto Blanco)		

22. Parcel No. 853 San Jose Drive, San Jose Palmar, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Jose Palmar	4	853
The freehold property of Mr. Freddy Orlando Tun		

23. Parcel No. 16/1 San Estevan Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Estevan	4	16/1
The leasehold property of Ms. Irma Olivera		

24. Parcel No. 244 Caledonia Village, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Caledonia Village	1	244
The freehold property of Messrs. Chico's Company Limited		

25. Parcels Nos. 21, 42 & 280 Libertad Registration Section, Corozal District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Libertad	1	21, 42 & 280
The freehold properties of Mr. Leonard Folgarait		

26. 200.35 Acres Eastern Side Southern Lagoon, Manatee Area, Belize District:



ALL THAT piece or parcel of land containing 200.35 acres situate along the eastern side of Southern Lagoon and 3 1/4 miles north of Gales Point, Manatee Village, Belize District, Belize, the freehold property of Mr. Arnaldo Pena.

27. Lot No. 13 Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District:



All that piece of land containing 836.013 square meters being Lot No. 13 situate in Santa Cruz Village, Stann Creek District TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon. The freehold property of Mr. Jose O. Raudales & Ms. Rixy G. Ramirez.

28. Parcels 1682, 1683 and 1684 Linda Vista Estate, off George Price Highway, Belize City, Belize:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
St. Martin de Porres West	45	1682, 1683 & 1684
The freehold property of Mrs. Marissa Sosa & Mr. Godfrey Sosa.		

29. No. 1 Cor. Talawalla & Edwin Park Streets, Lord's Bank Village, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/Lords Bank	16	3806
The freehold property of Mr. Kevin Enriquez & Mrs. Andrea Enriquez.		

**VEHICLES:**

2019 Geat Wall Wingle 5 1999 MCI 1 Door Bus 1999 Blue Bird Bus



**"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"**

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH

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TELEPHONE 223-4488

Website: [belizepropertyauctions.com](http://belizepropertyauctions.com)

E-mail: [kevinacas@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinacas@yahoo.com)

Facebook: Belize Auctions



# Churches' call for referendum gains steam

Continued from Page 1

process through which the use, cultivation and sale of marijuana would be legalized in the country.

This week the United Democratic Party and the National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB) issued public statements backing the call for a referendum, though none of those parties have yet indicated what specific question would be asked of the public in the proposed plebiscite.

"In the name of Democracy, let the people decide in a referendum," states a press release issued by the United Democratic Party, which also notes that one of the party's guiding principles is to "heed the will of the majority of citizens" that it has sworn to serve.

The Leader of the Opposition and newly elected UDP leader, Hon. Moses "Shyne" Barrow, has previously voiced his support for the push to legalize marijuana.

In January of 2021, Hon. Barrow wrote a statement to local media in which he indicated that he would support an amendment to the Constitution for legalization of marijuana, citing the fact that, in December 2020 the then President-elect of the United States had gone on record in support of the federal legalization of cannabis.

"Legislation to legalize marijuana is long overdue in Belize and would reverse the failed policy of criminalizing marijuana which would take steps to address the heavy toll this policy has taken, particularly on poor communities," he had stated.

It is to be noted that last Friday, April 1, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to end the federal ban on marijuana.

Belize had, under a UDP administration, decriminalized possession

of up to 10 grams of marijuana via a bill passed by the National Assembly on October 20, 2017, and that bill was signed into law by the then Governor General, Sir Colville Young, on November 3, 2017.

At that time the leadership of the NEAB had hosted a press conference to complain that the Government had passed that law too fast, without carefully considering their objections.

The Cannabis and Industrial Hemp Control and Licensing Bill that was passed last Wednesday, like the previous decriminalization bill, received bi-partisan support in both houses of parliament, but the social senators, particularly the church and labor senators, strongly voiced concerns and called for more time for further consideration of their concerns and objections.

Hon. Eamon Courtenay, the Leader of Government Business in the Senate, told the chamber before calling for the vote: "It is this Senate, the social partners, the senators, who objected to the format of the previous bill. We changed that. They objected to the new composition set out in the bill. We changed that. They objected to the discretion of the minister to remove. We changed that. They requested money be indexed. We put that in. They wanted money for education. We put that in. They wanted money for policing administration of the bill that is in there. We introduced a taxation on it. All of that and more. Not around the residency of residential areas or schools. We put that in, and yet we are here being told that we're hearing and not listening. Madam President, I don't worry about it. I don't operate like that."

After the vote, Courtenay said he would ask that the signing of the bill into law by Governor General Dame Froyla Tzalam be delayed by a month to address any further concerns.

Those expressions of concern are coming from various quarters. This week, the National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB) was another entity which came forward to express its support of the NEAB, BEAC and the Council of Churches' call for a referendum, and, like the United Democratic Party, it cited the upholding of democracy as its motivation.

"The National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB) is calling upon the Government of Belize to immediately stop the commencement of the proposed cannabis legislation," stated its press release.

The NTUCB then went on to demand that the Government of Belize conduct "countrywide consultations to sensitize and listen to the positions of Stakeholders, Social Partners, and the wider public," in addition to holding a referendum.

The dissenting secular organizations have not indicated whether they will join the religious groups' logistical effort to gather the almost 20,000 signatures needed to trigger a referendum. Hon. Kareem Musa, the bill's sponsor and the Minister of New Growth Industries, has stated that he regards further delay and a referendum as a massive waste of taxpayers' money.

He stated in an interview on one local television station: "It is the taxpayers of the country that will actually have to pay, and it's in the millions of dollars; let's be real. So, you have 2 mass political parties that are supporting a particular bill, we already know mobilizes voters when it comes to a referendum, so you imagine you have the PUP and the UDP mobilizing constituents for a yes vote and so we kind of already know what the outcome of the vote will be, so I believe it will truly be a waste of resources unnecessarily..."

Reliable reports are that Hon. Shyne Barrow was only joined by two other members of the caucus of interim constituency caretakers (31) and members of the Central Executive Committee (20) who met and considered the call for a referendum. Reportedly those were Giovanni Alamilla (Pickstock) and Edmond "Clear The Land" Castro (Belize Rural North), who is a Rastafarian.

It is reported that the overwhelming majority of the delegates at the NTUCB caucus supported the call for a

referendum on the issue of the legalization of marijuana in Belize.

The referendum proponents face the end of the month as a deadline to gather and submit their signatures and petitions for verification to the Governor-General.

As of January 31, 2022, Belize had a total of 186,893 registered voters, and the valid signatures of 10% of those voters would be needed to trigger a referendum.

The Referendum Amendment Bill was passed as part of the Belize Constitutional Sixth Amendment Bill on August 22, 2008, and survived challenges all the way to the Privy Council, whose judgement in March 2010 ensured it became the law of the land.

In August of 2008, the Barrow administration had introduced the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution in the House of Representatives and the package of amendments was tied up in the courts for 20 months. One of the most compelling of the multiple legal challenges ironically was the question of whether the government was obligated to hold a referendum before passing some of those amendments because they altered the fundamental rights granted to citizens under the Constitution.

The Supreme Court of Belize and the Belize Court of Appeal found that a referendum should have been held, though it was unclear at what stage, but a dissatisfied Barrow administration successfully appealed to the Privy Council.

In October 2011, the courts found that the Government of Belize was under no obligation to hold a referendum on the Belize Eighth Constitutional Amendment, despite the petitioners having gathered 20,000 signatures.

In February 2012, the Governor General disallowed enough signatures to thwart Oceana's attempt to trigger a referendum on offshore oil exploration.

In December 2013, the Elections and Boundaries Commission rejected a petition by the PUP to trigger a referendum for the recall of then Cayo Northeast area representative Elvin Penner because the petition lacked 300 more valid signatures.

The NEAB, BEAC, The Council of Churches, the NTUCB and the UDP must hope that despite the record of failure of all prior attempts, this time their attempt will be the charm.

## Belize abstains at the UN. Former PM says that's a BS move.

Continued from Page 3

AMANDALA. "We can't look to Russia and the US continues to work for us."

He did not think the vote would affect our relationship with the US or Guatemala, but we had to be concerned that Taiwan might be worried. The Chinese breakaway republic is claimed by China and continually faces the threat of invasion by its larger neighbour. Taiwan has given Belize tremendous foreign aid to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars in grants and loans.

"I would not have abstained," Elrington said. "We are not that far removed from their (Taiwan's) position. We must be principled."

Former foreign minister Assad Shoman told AMANDALA that he would have wanted to vote no, but he did not think the vote would have any material effect on the ICJ, or our relations with either Guatemala or the United States. However, he said, he thinks Belize did the right thing by abstaining.

Belize's current minister of Foreign Affairs Eamon Courtenay told KREM News today that "Belize has repeatedly condemned the illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine, and we have condemned the clear breaches of international

humanitarian law by Russia. We have called for a ceasefire and for an end to this unnecessary and very damaging war. In our view, the negotiations should be encouraged and facilitated. The suspension of Russia from the HRC does not help with the overarching objective of a return to peace. We strongly encourage independent investigations to corroborate the atrocities in Ukraine followed by bringing perpetrators to justice. The war must end and war criminals prosecuted."

Barrow thought while Courtenay's assessments were on point they did not represent a principled stand.

Indeed, Madam Lisa Shoman, now a Belize supreme court judge and a former foreign minister said: "We Belizeans have always stood for certain principles, foremost among which is independence and self-determination. I cannot think of any good reason to abstain when these ideals which we cherish are at stake."

Of note is that just two months ago, Belize and Russia had made an agreement to remove visa requirements, thus allowing Belizean to travel to Russia visa free for up to 90 days and vice versa. Additionally, the year 2021 had marked 30 years of established diplomatic relations between Russia and Belize.

## BDF soldier charged with murder

Continued from Page 33

with the BDF, Lt. Col. Garcia noted that the disgraced soldier will be suspended from the force and that his dismissal will hinge on the outcome of his case.

"When this matter went in front of the court, I understand he was charged for the unlawful death of Baeza. [It is to be noted that Williams was charged with murder.] Our procedures [are] simple. This is a matter for the court, and we will be making submissions to our Security Service Commission to ensure that he is suspended until the outcome of his case," he said.

On Monday, April 4, the BDF, as

well as The Belize Bar Association, had condemned Williams's brutal actions via press releases, and both organizations expressed their condolences to the family of Estevan Baeza. Also, according to Lt. Col. Garcia, members of the Belize Defence Force met with the family of Baeza shortly after his death to extend their condolences, and the BDF will also be helping the family to cover funeral expenses.

When speaking to reporters earlier this week, Baeza's mother had remarked, "I would like to ask the BDF to give me the weekly money my son used to give me to help myself. I believe in God; I am not like him who hurt my son."



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