



## 17th Youth Parliament

Held on:

Monday, 11 March 2024

At the:

House of Parliament 33 Fort St., George Town



# Programme

**10:15 a.m.** Members of Parliament and Persons seated in the Chamber.

Members of the Public to be seated in the Public Gallery.

**10:25 a.m.** Seated on the platform:

Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, MP

Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency Chair of the CPA Youth Parliament Organising Committee

Hon. Heather D. Bodden, OCI, Cert. Hon., JP, MP

Deputy Speaker of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary Deputy President of the CPA Cayman Islands Branch

Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP

Premier, Minister for Finance & Economic Development, Education and District Administration & Lands Joint Vice-President of the CPA Cayman Islands Branch

Hon. Roy McTaggart, JP, MP

Leader of the Opposition

Joint Vice-President of the CPA Cayman Islands Branch

**10:30 a.m.** Youth Parliamentarians seated.

**10:31 - 11:00 a.m. Opening Remarks** 

Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, MP

**Welcome Address** 

Hon. Heather D. Bodden, OCI, Cert. Hon., JP, MP

Remarks

Hon. Roy McTaggart, JP, MP

**Opening of the Seventeenth Youth Parliament** 

Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, JP, MP

SPEAKER'S PROCESSION

All Rise

**PRAYER** 

To be delivered by the Hon Premier, Minister of Finance & Economic Development, Education and District Administration & Lands.

## READING OF MESSAGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HONOURABLE SPEAKER

Statement by the Honourable Speaker of the CPA Seventeenth Youth Parliament

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Private Members' Motions:

- Private Member's Motion No. 1 of 2024: Immigration and Border Reform
- Private Member's Motion No. 2 of 2024: An Updated National Development Plan for the Cayman Islands

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

This Honourable Seventeenth Youth Parliament stands adjourned siné die.

## Youth Parliamentarians

#### **Speaker**

HON. RALDAYNE THOMAS

#### **Ministers of the Cabinet**

#### HON. JHENELLE COLQUHOON, MP

Newlands

Premier, Minister of Finance & Economic Development, Education and District Administration & Lands

#### HON. ANGELO REALES, MP

Red Bay

Minister of Tourism & Ports

#### HON. CHLOE REID, MP

Bodden Town West

Minister of Planning, Agriculture, Housing, Infrastructure, Transport & Development

#### HON. JERRIN REYNOLDS-VELASQUEZ, MP

West Bay North

Minister of Youth, Sports & Heritage

#### HON. JORDAN MCDONALD, MP

George Town North

Deputy Premier, Minister of Financial Services & Commerce and Investment, Innovation & Social Development

#### HON. JOHANAH O'CONNOR, MP

Bodden Town East

Minister of Health & Wellness, and Home Affairs

#### HON. CHAD POWELL JR., MP

North Side

Minister of Border Control & Labour and Culture

#### HON. LUANA SLEVIN, MP

George Town West

Minister of Sustainability & Climate Resiliency

#### **Ex-Officio Members of the Cabinet**

#### HON. ABYGALE ELLIOTT

Deputy Governor, ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of the Civil Service

#### HON. LORLIE BRYAN

Attorney General, ex officio Member responsible for the Portfolio of Legal Affairs

#### **Government Backbench**

MISS SIRICHANDANA BATTA, MP

Cayman Brac East

MR. DIMITRI HURLSTON, MP

Cayman Brac West & Little Cayman

MISS AYLANI MORRIS- SEYMOUR, MP

West Bay Central

**The Opposition** 

HON KEIRA BODDEN, MP

**Prospect** 

Leader of the Opposition

MISS AMAYA EBANKS, MP

George Town Central

MISS BRIANNA GREENE, MP

East End

MISS ALISON OWENS, MP

West Bay West

MISS ROSIE DIJKHUIZEN, MP

West Bay South

Deputy Leader of the Opposition

MISS TERRISHA WALKER, MP

George Town East

MR. GARSON GARDINER, MP

Savannah

MISS ANABELLA HAYDEN, MP

George Town South

**Parliamentary Officers** 

MISS TYLER WOOLAVER

Serjeant-at-Arms

MR. ISAIAH WHITTAKER

Clerk

## Private Members' Motions

## AMENDED PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION No. 1 of 2024 IMMIGRATION AND BORDER REFORM

WHEREAS the livelihood of the Caymanian Population is being hampered by the influx of other nationalities;

AND WHEREAS according to data from the Cayman Islands Labour Force Survey Report Spring 2023, Caymanians are statistically outnumbered in their own country, where expatriates make up 53.5% of the total population. Meanwhile, Caymanians account for 46.5%;

AND WHEREAS the acquisition of Permanent Residency and consequently Caymanian Status by non-Caymanians is too liberal;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of more stringent Status and Permanent Residency criteria may decrease the impact of socioeconomic factors that plague the Cayman Islands;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable Youth Parliament considers revising the Permanent Residency application process and amending the relevant Immigration acts and regulations to give effect to the revision;

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable Youth Parliament considers the implementation and maintenance of a comprehensive Immigration screening process that encourages greater security and safety of the economic, social and political wellbeing of the Cayman Islands.

Moved By: Ms. Sirichandana Batta

Elected Member for Cayman Brac East

Seconded By: Ms. Aylani Morris-Seymour

Elected Member for West Bay Central

## AMENDED PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION No. 2 of 2024 AN UPDATED NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

WHEREAS the National Development Plan is shockingly outdated having been created from 1997;

AND WHEREAS an updated National Development Plan would significantly contribute to our local communities, prioritising investments for future generations;

AND WHEREAS an updated National Development Plan would ensure the retention and expansion of local and international businesses to increase Gross Domestic Product and create a more sustainable local business sector;

AND WHEREAS an updated National Development Plan would have adequate foresight for the increasing population and for the continuous development of the Cayman Islands;

AND WHEREAS Cayman Brac and Little Cayman would be included in the National Development Plan;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT THIS Honourable Youth Parliament considers updating and implementing a fit-for-purpose National Development Plan for the Cayman Islands.

Moved By: Hon. Keira Bodden

Leader of the Opposition Elected Member for Prospect

Seconded By: Ms. Rosie Dijkhuizen

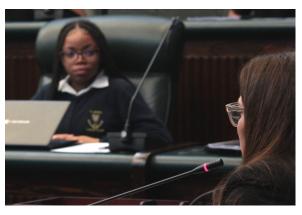
Deputy Leader of the Opposition Elected Member for West Bay South





















### Organising Committee

The Youth Parliament Organising Committee is comprised of Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff who support and guide the students as they learn about the legislature and develop their arguments.

- Hon. Katherine Ebanks-Wilks, MP | Chair
- · Hon. Kenneth Bryan, MP
- Mr. Joseph Hew, MP
- · Hon. Johany Ebanks, MP
- · Ms. Barbara Conolly, NP, JP, MP
- · Hon. Dwayne Seymour, OCI, JP, MP
- Mrs. Zena Merren-Chin, BSc, LLB | Clerk
- Ms. Nordra Walcott, LL.B (Hons.), PGDip | Asst. Clerk

## Guest Speakers

Several guest speakers dedicated their time and expertise to educating and assisting the students as they learned about the legislature, the government, and effective speaking and research skills.

Thank you to all of the speakers who attended training sessions, including: Deputy Governor Hon. Franz Manderson; Attorney General Hon. Samuel Bulgin; Leader of the Opposition Hon. Roy M. McTaggart, JP, MP; Solicitor General Mrs. Reshma Sharma; Mr. Vaughan Carter, Chair of the Constitutional Commission; Mr. James Whittaker of GreenTech Solar; Mr. Arek Nicholson and Mr. Mahipal Persaud of the Grand Cayman Toastmasters Club; and, Chief Officers and Civil Servants across the Cayman Islands Government.

### Commonwealth Day

Commonwealth Day is an annual celebration observed by people all over the Commonwealth in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Americas, the Pacific and Europe. The theme for Commonwealth Day 2024 is "One Resilient Common Future: Transforming our Common Wealth". The theme highlights how the 56 member countries may harness their strengths by building resilience, unlocking potential, leveraging the 'Commonwealth Advantage' and fostering a connected, digital Commonwealth. For more information, visit: thecommonwealth.org.





## CPA Cayman Islands Branch

The Cayman Islands Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) works to support good governance and democratic principles through the development of programs for future parliamentarians, and by enhancing the public's knowledge and understanding of parliamentary procedures and best practices. The branch became a full member of the CPA in 1977.



### Supporters

The Youth Parliament Organising Committee gratefully recognises the tireless support and attention of the following persons, whose dedication to the students and the effective functioning of the programme cannot be understated:

- Mrs. Patricia Priestley, BSc., LL.B (Hons.), Assistant Clerk
- · Mrs. Nikita Small, Hansard Editor
- · Mr. J. Kim Evans, NP, Serjeant-at-Arms
- Mr. Christopher Clarke, Parliamentary Page
- Ms. Susan Burke, Communications Officer
- Parliamentary Staff

## Our Valued Sponsors

The CPA Youth Parliament Organising Committee gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sponsors and persons who contributed their time and service in supporting and training the participants:











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