



CAYMAN
DEMOCRATIC
PARTY

MANIFESTO 2017

God is Supreme Education Youth Development
Protection Investment Infrastructure

National Consensus Security Patriotism Caymanians First
Community Empowerment Partnership

Tomorrow must be better than today!





CAYMAN
DEMOCRATIC
PARTY

MANIFESTO
2017



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Message From The Party Leader

The Cayman Islands is at a crossroad.

On May 24, 2017, Caymanians will go to the polls to vote for a new government that will create hope and opportunity for everyone.

For the last four years, the people of the Cayman Islands have endured the empty promises about job creation, reducing the cost of living, rebuilding the economy, providing more opportunities for small businesses and improving the lives of every citizen.

The government has not kept its promises and for the most part, the present administration has made it more difficult for ordinary Caymanians to survive by pursuing policies which have weakened our economy. A number of businesses are failing, our people are losing their homes, and unemployment and crime have increased tremendously.

The future of the Cayman Islands is in your hands. These are very critical times in our Islands and this certainly is not a normal General Election process. For the first time, we will be electing members to the Legislative Assembly by a one man, one vote process. Each candidate will compete to represent a constituency, which has been defined by its boundaries and registered number of electors.

For these Islands to prosper once more and to have everyone benefiting, strong leadership and experience are required. The Cayman Democratic Party offers this kind of leadership. Our Party will continue to give strong and unstinting support to the financial industry to ensure its protection and growth as we have done in the past.

This Party has always been an advocate for our people, and we will continue to implement policies and strategies to improve the standard of living for you and your families. Our Party is one of caring for people and results oriented, and each and every action we take is with you, the people in mind, and for the economic development of these Islands.

The Cayman Democratic Party comprises strong leadership and individuals with vast knowledge and experience spanning different industries. We are

ready to take on the challenges once again and work for the betterment of the people of these Islands. We will take care of our youth, our elderly, our business men and women, and our people will prosper once more!

I encourage you to examine the details contained in this Manifesto and our commitments to undertake a realistic, meaningful and sustainable job creation programme using existing resources; the restoration of the health sector to a path of sustainable quality; a new focus on education; measures aimed at crime reduction; the provision of more efficient services at the local community levels; and the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to create jobs, improve the quality of services and increased opportunities for the empowerment of citizens.

We have nominated eleven (11) candidates in an equal amount of constituencies, and we have offered our support to a limited number of other nominees who have chosen to run as independents. I encourage you to support our candidates.

As this election gets on the way, I am encouraged by the many messages, tweets and expression of solidarity which I have received from Caymanians at home and abroad.

TOMORROW MUST BE BETTER THAN TODAY

Better Must Come!

William McKeever Bush OBE, MLA, JP
Cayman Democratic Party Leader

Tomorrow must be better than today!



**MANIFESTO
2017**

15 *Core Principles*

Making the Cayman Islands a better place for all and building a strong and sustainable economy is paramount among the objectives of the Cayman Democratic Party. At the same time, the preservation of our traditions and heritage, the protection of our people and our environment as well as the maintenance of the core values of honesty, integrity, transparency, accountability and good governance are fundamental core principles. To that end, the Cayman Democratic Party subscribes to and is committed to the following fifteen core principles:

1 Recognizing The Supremacy Of God – The Role Of The Church And Religion

The CDP hereby reaffirms its commitment to religious freedom as a basic human right that is guaranteed to every person in these islands.

When we offer ourselves for public office and in service to the people of the Cayman Islands, we must recognise the Supremacy of God, and the foundation of spiritual devotion upon which these Cayman Islands are founded.

2 Showing Patriotism

In offering ourselves for public office and in service to the people of Cayman, we regard ourselves as the custodians of the sovereignty, national heritage, national pride and integrity of the Cayman Islands; and commit ourselves to the defence of these sacred canons. We, therefore, consider it be an act of national betrayal for persons holding public office to engage in behaviour that robs Caymanians of or discredits these sacred canons.

3 Demonstrating a High Level of Personal Integrity

The CDP as a political party submits to the principle of good governance which requires high moral and ethical standards in the exercise of public office and that the holders of political office must exhibit personal integrity in public life and transparency in their dealings in the name of and on behalf of the citizens of Cayman. We must always remain accountable to those who elect us to office, and show respect for the Constitution, the rule of law and the institutions of the state.

4 Values And Attitudes

The CDP holds the view that good family life is essential for building good communities and realizing a better Cayman Islands. Critical to achieving this is maintaining the core values and attitudes of honesty, integrity, transparency, accountability, respect, justice and good governance. A CDP Government will create policies to protect, promote and support these values and attitudes and to enhance Caymanian families.

5 Putting The Interest Of Caymanians First

Putting the interest of Caymanians FIRST will be our sacred promise. A CDP government will give priority to the needs of Caymanians in all areas of public service and administration. We will promote policies and programs to develop our communities with sustainable social development plans and to advance appropriate healthcare services, education, social security and the economic well-being of the people.

6 Securing Cayman's Economic Development

A CDP government will develop a well-thought out and realistic long-term plan for the sustainable economic development of Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman – the Cayman Islands. This plan would incorporate appropriate environmental protection mechanisms while providing an improved standard of living for all Caymanians.

7 Ensuring A Fair Working Wage For All

Everyone who is legitimately employed in the Cayman Islands, irrespective of which industry, should be guaranteed a livable wage. A fair living wage should, at the very least, cover the worker and his family's basic needs and provide enough for at least a modest discretionary income. We are committed to working with our business leaders and partners who share these values to ensure that these minimum standards are achieved and adhered to by all. We are equally committed to reducing the cost of living.

8 Protecting The Nation's Financial Services And Tourism Industries

A new Cayman Democratic Party government will promote and protect the nation's financial services industry to ensure that the industry remains viable and sustainable in a changing and more competitive and regulated global environment.

We will upgrade and expand the National Tourism Management Plan, promote more investments, open new markets, seek new airlift and improve training to enhance and expand the tourism industry.

9 Educating And Training Our People

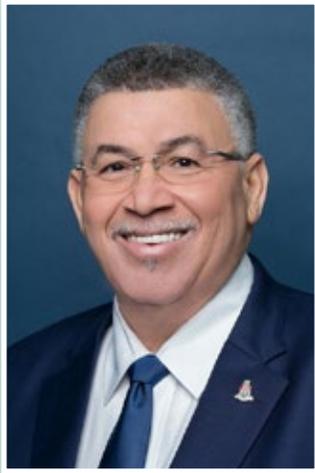
The Cayman Islands have a primary and secondary school system that requires significant improvement to ensure that every Caymanian child receives a first class education. We will develop and implement policies to improve the teaching and learning environment in the school system. We will ensure that financial challenges do not deprive our children and youth from achieving their true potential.

We will establish an Education Fund to provide better opportunities for tertiary education, life-long learning and other skills-based opportunities. We will also continue to create educational initiatives to ensure that our school facilities are properly equipped and are staffed with well-trained and well-paid caring teachers. A CDP Government will promote and facilitate the establishment of facilities to provide opportunities for training of young people to prepare them to take up jobs in traditional as well as new industries.

10 Empowering The Youth

Young people constitute a large portion of our small population and continue to face challenges in advancing their dreams. A CDP government will do more to encourage, engage and empower our youth by implementing policies that will address the challenges faced by our young people. We will make appointments and create mechanisms to ensure that young people participate and have input in the formulation and implementation of public policy at the highest level.

- 11 Protecting The Poor, The Elderly, The Disabled And The Disadvantaged**
A CDP government will make adequate provisions for the poor, the elderly, the disabled and the disadvantaged to ensure their personal safety, security and equality. To this end, we will do everything that is reasonably possible to control or reduce the cost of living and to maintain adequate social safety net programmes.
- 12 Protecting The Society, Particularly Women And Children Against Crime And Violence**
The CDP government will ensure that there are better and effective laws and systems and proper enforcement for the safety and protection of the society. In particular, we will do everything to protect our women and children, from all forms of violence, especially sexual and domestic violence.
- 13 Investment In Infrastructure And Energy**
We will continue to invest in critical infrastructure projects such as the re-development and expansion of new port facilities, the road network, schools, recreational and other public facilities. In addition, we will promote and foster new thinking and research in energy to achieve greater utilization of renewable energy sources.
- 14 Creating A Social Partnership And Building A National Consensus**
We cannot advance our national interest without a national consensus on what is good for our people. Therefore, uniting our people and building-national consensus will be critical for the success of government programs. A CDP government will engage in genuine consultations with the people in pursuit of an open policy of engagement with all Caymanians in the process of nation building regardless of political affiliation. We will encourage a policy of open debate and democratic participation by stakeholders by inviting discussion and dialogue on policies affecting all Cayman interests.
- 15 Recognising The Value Of Caymanians Living Overseas**
We will be a Government that will understand, acknowledge and appreciate the significant contribution being made by Caymanians who reside overseas, to the economic and social development of our country. Caymanians abroad are seeking opportunities to better themselves and their families, and often time they promote the Cayman Islands on the world stage far beyond anything money can buy. For the prosperity of our nation, we must embrace these aspirations and a CDP Government will provide opportunities for all our people residing at home and abroad to continue to contribute to improving their homeland.



PARTY LEADER
Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, OBE, JP
West Bay West



Bernie Bush
West Bay North



Capt. A. Eugene Ebanks
West Bay Central



Denniston Tibbetts
Red Bay



Mike Adam, MBE, JP
George Town South



Pearlina McGaw-Lumsden
George Town North





John Jefferson Jr
West Bay South



Tessa (Theresa) Bodden
George Town East



Jonathan Piercy
George Town West



Stafford Berry
Bodden Town West



Robert Bodden
Bodden Town East

*Ready to Serve,
Ready to Govern!*





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The Mission

To promote the social, moral and economic welfare of the people of the Cayman Islands regardless of colour, race, creed, religion, gender or age.





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The CDP has in another document published its Policy Platform which defines the broad approaches which will guide the specific plans, policies, programs and overall conduct of the next CDP Government.

In implementing those plans and programs, the CDP Government will work:

- to foster robust economic growth and development in the Cayman Islands and ensure that all Caymanians have an opportunity to benefit
- to create hope and opportunity for everyone to enjoy a better quality of life
- to protect and build on our proud history, our Christian values and our unique heritage
- to make skills, innovation, development and productivity the basis for sustaining Cayman's economic growth, to provide for inclusive growth and a broad-based increase in the incomes of our citizens
- to take care of our elderly, veterans and seamen and others who are genuinely in need
- to ensure that our youth have opportunities and our communities have the necessary positive programmes for their well-being
- to create a vibrant and distinctive global marketplace; one that is open and diverse, the best place to grow and reach out to new and existing trading partners, and
- to ensure that Caymanians are given the opportunity to provide decent homes and a good quality of life for their families

We share some of those specific plans and programs in this Manifesto.



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MANIFESTO

*The following are the major aspects of
our Manifesto, presented in
four (4) sections.*

*SECTION ONE:
FOR A DISCIPLINED AND
EQUITABLE SOCIETY*





National Sovereignty, National Heritage & Patriotism

The CDP will promote, protect and defend our National Sovereignty; National Pride and National Heritage as well as reinforce patriotism and the spirit of community and the role of the family among our people. We will promote a sense of pride in being Caymanian by introducing a civic programme in schools to promote national pride, national heritage, to preserve and protect and honour all things Caymanian. Additionally, we will foster a policy of unity and oneness among all, and commanding respect for our country at home and abroad. A CDP government will also:

- Restore, recreate and develop our National Park, Botanical Garden, National Museum, and National Archive; and strengthen and enforce existing laws relating to their preservation.
- Continue our program to recognise and bestow honour on any Caymanian citizen whose action has advanced the interest of the Caymanian people and Islands; and/or has brought exceptional positive international attention to these Islands.

Integrity In Public Office

Promote moral and ethical standards in the exercise of the duties of public office. We believe that all our leaders, candidates, caretakers and indeed supporters must strive to uphold the rule of law and be model citizens. A CDP government will also

- Ensure that laws relating to Integrity in Public Life are enforced and the requirements to file the necessary statutory returns are adhered to in accordance with law.
- Ensure transparency and accountability in government by ensuring that all citizens and groups such as the media, the NGO's and civil society effectively have a right of access to public information. We need our judiciary to remain efficient therefore we have to establish proper facilities to conduct the affairs of the courts.

Institutional Development

Build and strengthen our institutions of government to ensure predictability, stability, efficiency and equity in government operations and improve the ease of doing business in Cayman generally and in particular within the small business sector.

Exploit digital technologies for governance with emphasis on revenue collection, education, health, poverty reduction and crime fighting.

The Role Of The Church & Religion

The Cayman Democratic Party hereby reaffirms its commitment to religious freedom as a basic human right that is guaranteed to every person in these islands.

When we offer ourselves for public office and in service to the people of the Cayman Islands, we must recognise the Supremacy of God, and the foundation of spiritual devotion upon which these Cayman Islands are founded.

In this regard, the CDP will act always as the party for the family, for the community, for the church, and for everyone who wants a better life for themselves and those who are important to them.

Values & Attitudes

We continue to believe that social and cultural values form an important part of the national heritage of any society. We believe that positive values and attitudes are important connections to social order and peaceful coexistence.

Therefore, in our school system and throughout society, we will place emphasis on providing general guidelines for good social conduct and the study of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

We will promote a course of action which will define a national character based on our accepted values and attitudes, cultural and spiritual priorities.

SECTION TWO:
**ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**



Growing the economy for all Caymanians

We will implement policies to foster robust economic growth and development and, most importantly, ensure that all Caymanians have an opportunity to benefit.

The CDP's economic policies are based on six key principles:

1. A strong financial services sector, well-promoted and protected from competitive interests.
2. A high-growth tourism industry that attracts visitors to the Islands.
3. Diversification into newer knowledge-based sectors.
4. Promotion of small business interests, access to capital and training; and removal of excessive bureaucracy, which hinders or stops legitimate business interests.
5. Investing to improve our infrastructure to ensure we are prepared and ready for future economic growth and development.
6. Training of Caymanians generally and particularly in knowledge-based and new and emerging technologies to enable them to participate in and take advantage of opportunities in the Cayman economy.

We will work to stimulate the economy and provide a stable basis for long term, sustainable, equitable and inclusive growth and development, while raising productivity levels and creating and sustaining long-term employment, income generation and wealth creation opportunities for all of our citizens.

We will embrace and support diversification of the pillars of our economy to include emerging fields such as analytics and computer programming (which would complement our financial services industry), technology, medical research, business process outsourcing and new small and medium-sized manufacturing facilities.

We will continue to promote, protect and enhance Cayman's reputation on the international stage as a top financial, tourism, health care, and knowledge-based jurisdiction.

We will undertake and complete the development of a full ten-year National Economic Plan for the sustainable economic and social development of the Cayman Islands.



Repositioning The Cayman Economy & Creating An Environment For Growth

The CDP recognises this imperative and is committed to governing in a realistic and business-like manner to take advantage of markets and sectors where we are strong and can reap benefits for our people. We must work closely with the local private sector and foreign investors to achieve our full economic potential. We must develop partnerships involving all stakeholders and create an environment that is conducive to growth. To do so, the following issues must be effectively addressed and the CDP is committed to doing so:

- World-class workforce – Education and training is addressed in more detail in other sections of this document, but it is important to note that the availability of a well-trained workforce is indispensable to economic activity and investment projects.
- Affordable housing for workforce – Proper and affordable housing builds family life and improves the quality of life which have a positive effect on the productivity of workers.
- Attractive environment – Making Cayman attractive to tourists, through restaurants, attractions and other recreational activities, will also make it attractive to investors to set up business.
- Low crime, effective system for administration of justice – A clear and transparent strategy for crime prevention must be pursued and the independence and efficiency of the judiciary must remain sacrosanct. We need our judiciary to remain efficient and therefore we will establish proper facilities to conduct the affairs of the courts.
- Efficient and effective Government – Efficiency in the delivery of government services must be improved and be more effective.
- Competitive and stable revenue raising policies – Steps must be undertaken to ensure greater accuracy in revenue projections and new sources identified as the economy expands.
- Predictable, customer-oriented regulatory systems – Improvements are required to achieve electronic filings and same-day responses.
- Demonstrable green policies – It is recognised that sustainable development involves economic growth and social development within environmental limits and, therefore, environmental considerations must be an essential element of our developmental policies.
- Incentives – We must develop an incentives programme that is attractive to the types of businesses that meet the long-term economic development goals of the Cayman Islands and which should be encouraged to invest in Cayman.

An effective public relations/marketing campaign must be pursued to increase awareness of the Cayman Islands in general, and promote the issues mentioned above as well as the unique attributes of the Islands.

Financial Services Industry

As we did when we obtained the removal of the Cayman Islands from the OECD Gray List, we will continue to promote, protect and enhance the financial services industry by:

- Ensuring that the Cayman Islands meets its international obligations, and maintain international standards in all its financial institutions, both local and foreign operated
- Negotiating with regulators in the interest of what is best for the Cayman Islands and the industry
- Encouraging modernization of the platforms on which the industry operates by promoting research and development activities to ensure its continuing viability. We will in collaboration with the private sector create a Center for Business and Finance which would be an educational and research enclave and another avenue for Caymanians to be educated in the disciplines of economics, business, financial management and regulation and related studies to become qualified to work in the financial services industry. The Center would be an adjunct to the satellite campus of a major USA and/or UK university
- Amending supporting business registration, trade and business regulations and laws to conform to emerging global trends

Tourism & Hospitality

The CDP Government will ensure that it's strategies in promoting and expanding the tourism industry are streamlined and all arms of the administration will work together towards elevating the Cayman Islands and its people. We will be guided by the "Four-Ps Principle" to success: Purpose, Planning, Participation and REAL Progress.

- The CDP will review, upgrade and expand the National Tourism Management Plan aimed at re-branding and repositioning the Cayman Islands as a unique tourist destination, including plans and strategies to expand traditional markets, create new markets and increase visitor arrivals, particularly high-spending visitors.
- There will also be diversification of the tourism product, and expansion of eco-tourism facilities.



- The CDP government will stimulate investments in the sector and develop and refine the skills-sets available to workers in the tourism sector by expanding and upgrading the culinary, food and beverage, and hospitality training programme
- Research-driven strategies will be developed to optimize the overall revenue potential from the tourism industry, which is one of our main economic pillars. This will take place over the next five to 10 to 25 years.
- Agree on and formulate appropriate plans to promote the areas/sectors within the tourism industry which will help to create and develop the framework to allow for the realisation of the potential revenue (whether stay-over visitors, cruise tourism, medical tourism or other options).
- Develop programmes and policies to improve the tourism product and maintain high standards.
- Incorporate in the formulation of policies and plans, considerations for the protection of the environment to guarantee sustainability of our tourism product.
- Establish a tourism policy monitoring committee with representatives from all relevant Government departments to review and monitor relevant policies, as well as, monitor the channels of communication between Government departments, such as tourism, planning, the environment and public utilities.

Participation: (Distribution of Benefits)

(a) Education

- Tourism curriculum to be instituted throughout various levels of the education system.
- Specific scholarships to be assigned to the Cayman Hospitality School to allow Caymanians a pathway to higher levels of positions within the industry.
- Develop a programme of apprenticeship within high schools across the entire industry.

(b) Training: (Build on programmes the CDP administration started)

- Continue to invest in the Hospitality School to build capabilities and student output.
- Insert a version of Hospitality School into the high school system in order to attract and train local talent earlier.
- Continue to increase private sector participation in order to have buy-in for the hiring of local talent.
- Continue the work-shadowing programmes (Include mandatory programmes from the primary level to expose children from a young age to tourism career possibilities).
- Make business and financial planning available to small business owners in the tourism industry - (through the Department of Commerce and Investment).

(c) Incentives:

- Tiered benefits for employers that hire Caymanians in certain weighted positions.
- Work permit benefits for large Caymanian new hires.

Progress:

(a) New Markets:

- Continue and complete the opening of new markets which the last CDP administration started, including South America, Russia and China.

(b) Airlift:

- Continue to build on additional airlift from current carriers.
- Open/continue new airlift from Panama (as part of the Central and South America strategy) and encourage COPA to fly to the Cayman Islands.
- Continue to use Cayman Airways strategically to open new lucrative routes and tourism patterns.
- Work with the Airports Authority to incentivize airlines to open new routes which align with the overall tourism strategy.

(c) Development:

- Follow through on promoting and encouraging investment to increase stay-over room stock by 1,000 rooms or by 20 percent over the next four (4) years with a diverse mix of hotel options. The Department of Commerce and Investment will have a key and proactive role in this regard.
- Develop and execute a strategy for the revitalization of tourism zones in every district and actually achieve this in four (4) years.
- Encourage investment in the upgrading, expansion and development of tourist sites, including attractions, recreational and entertainment facilities and restaurants with significant focus on downtown G.T after regular business hours
- Promote sports and events tourism by encouraging the staging of world standard sporting events and festivals.
- Promote Cayman Arts and Culture, recognizing that the arts industry is an economic driver in communities and would be complementary to the tourism industry as it would lend appeal to visitors on a variety of levels.
- Encourage further development of tourism facilities in the Eastern Districts and in the sister islands (for example, Cayman Brac as an adventure destination and Little Cayman as an environmental/green sanctuary).
- Promote and encourage investment in medical tourism which is over-powering all other segments of tourism industry all across the world.

Small Businesses, Jobs and Reduction of Bureaucracy

We will expand small business support and advisory services provided by the Government, identify new sources of micro-financing for small businesses and start-ups and make access easier.

We will implement small business development and job creation programs aimed at creating employment opportunities generally and particularly for young entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 35.

We will pursue legislative and institutional changes and provide support mechanisms to facilitate our people converting their feasible business ideas into sustainable commercial activities.

Too many of our young people, whose ideas and energy are integral to any strategy aimed at Cayman's sustainable development, are unemployed and we will make it a priority to create programs (with private sector assistance) to help young unemployed people get a job, including apprenticeships and work experience programs.

We will have wide consultations on and review immigration laws and policies to ensure that in their application an appropriate balance is achieved and maintained between Caymanians being considered for jobs and the labour requirements of businesses, at all times ensuring that the rights of Caymanians are protected.

We will establish a national data base to support the application of the immigration policies.

Creating sustainable jobs is the central focus of our economic strategy. Creating jobs for our people is the surest way to reduce crime, raise living standards and protect families.



New Economic Opportunities

We will promote diversification in our economy by providing attractive and generous incentives (e.g., involving land and fees) to encourage serious and reputable investors to develop an informatics business/small manufacturing park to stimulate new industries, grow the economy and provide jobs for Caymanians and additional business for small operators.

- We will attract investors in growth areas such as patents, biotechnology, analytics, information technology (IT) and bioelectronics
- We will seek to establish Cayman as this hemisphere's Innovation Capital – a hub for research, innovation and enterprise, and a location of choice for commercialization of ideas and inventions and by attracting software and e-commerce companies to establish operations in Cayman
- We will establish a Science and Technology Incubator for young people – including computer engineers and programmers in collaboration with recognised universities and the private sector
- We will continue the work we started and further develop the unique opportunities available to Cayman to become an exporter of Education, Health and Wellness services by maximizing the opportunities presented by our health care facilities and training institutions

We will take advantage of Cayman's location, high level of security and expansion of the Owen Roberts International Airport and encourage the development of Cayman as a hub for both airline passenger and cargo traffic.

We will also seek to promote medical research and technology and the establishment of satellite locations of major medical institutions such as the Cleveland Center and the Mayo Clinic.

Energy & The Environment

The CDP also intends to:

Improve our energy security and independence by providing adequate, lower cost and affordable energy to all sectors of society as a prerequisite for a decent quality of life .

Reduce our carbon footprint by weaning our economy and society off the total dependence on fossil fuel and transition to renewable sources of energy both for electricity generation and transport.

Ensure the provision of cleaner and cheaper energy to reduce costs to households, thereby easing the cost of living for families, and cost to businesses, thereby increasing their competitiveness.

Grasp the opportunity to create a new industry from the country's transition to renewable energy, becoming a new centre of commerce. (Create local jobs, keep the expertise and money on-island, etc.)

Support education and certification in renewable energy at all education levels.

Employ a strategy which will include:

- Updating where appropriate and implementing a National Energy Policy that, among other things, strives to achieve a goal of at least 70% of the electricity generated in Cayman being from renewable energy sources within 20 years

- Promoting research and development into energy efficiency and renewable energy technology
- Taking full advantage of funding and technical assistance from the 'Green Financing Funds' and other financing sources and making use of the support mechanisms established for adaptation, mitigation and financing of green development projects
- Strengthening applicable regulations and relevant institutions to ensure that they support the development of the renewable industry and the achievement of the target
- Promoting energy use, efficiency and conservation
- Encouraging private investors to undertake a waste to energy project
- Creating an Energy Policy Council to monitor the implementation of the energy policy and to facilitate and assist investors

Agriculture

The CDP will:

- Continue to reposition our small agriculture industry as a critical sector of the national economy, so as to strengthen our food and nutrition security, and promote sustainable agricultural practices in order to reduce our dependence on imported food, particularly in fishery and agro-industry.
- Develop an appropriate and effective National Land Use Plan which among other things, identifies, sets aside and protects by the force of law, all lands suitable and intended for agricultural and agro-industrial use.
- In consultation with the people, we will develop an appropriate and effective National Land Use Strategy to identify land suitable for agriculture and agro-industrial use. We also intend to re-examine the mandate of the National Conservation Council to remove the unnecessary bureaucracy between land owners and the council, thereby creating a better working relationship among all stakeholders.
- Introduce a suitable incentive structure for entrepreneurs and develop and implement appropriate institutional support mechanism to assist farmers in securing financing for agriculture.
- Encourage and support the development of aqua-farming. The Cayman waters are ideal for the farming of fish, oysters and other sea foods. Aqua-Farming prospers in many parts of the world. Currently successful entrepreneurs would be invited to the Caymans to set up aqua-farming facilities. This would result in increase in employment as well as income for the Island through permitting, licensing and leasing fees.



Our Labour Market & Looking To The Future

We cannot build a strong economy and foster sustainable economic growth and development without the active involvement of an educated and trained workforce.

Therefore, we will radically develop and streamline the human resources capacity of the country by:

- ensuring that opportunities for education and training and re-education and retraining are available to all persons;
- that the quality of education and student achievement is significantly improved; and,
- that the knowledge and skills sets of our workforce are brought in line with our socio-economic requirements, objectives and priorities.

Develop strategies to prepare our next generation of Caymanian workers with the necessary skills and education to take advantage of an increasingly sophisticated job market.

Explore and encourage the creation of a Centre for Business and Finance which would be an educational and research enclave and another avenue for Caymanians to become qualified to work in the financial services industry. It would complement the financial services industry and be another source of professionals to work in the industry as well as a research reservoir.

The Centre would be an adjunct to the satellite campus of a major USA and/or UK university to be attracted to the Cayman Islands. It could also serve students from the entire Caribbean region who would be educated in the disciplines of economics, business, financial management and regulation and related studies.

SECTION THREE:
**PERSONAL, SOCIAL
AND PHYSICAL
DEVELOPMENT**



The Family & Social Development

We would implement a national policy to strengthen the family unit, utilising churches and other key stakeholders to assist with more programmes in our communities.

- Improve and expand social development plans and policies from a community stand-point as they relate to:
 - Family Life and Parenting;
 - Child Care and Development Services, including daycare services and early childhood development
 - Family Support Services, including Family Counseling, Child Protection;
 - Juvenile Justice;
 - Adolescent Parents;
 - Substance Abuse;
 - Gender Relations, including domestic violence;
 - Care of the Elderly;
 - Disability Services;
 - Income security, including old age pension and social assistance;
 - National Health Insurance and Pension Schemes.

Promote a **'welfare-to-work'** programme to reduce dependency on government.

- Ensure that there is sufficient funding to effectively support social legislative and policy requirements, such as laws and policies relating to children and seniors.

Caymanian Youth

The CDP would embark on a comprehensive development programme for our young people. We will proceed to:

- Develop and implement, in conjunction with recognised youth organizations, a comprehensive programme for the development of our youth with a focus on education, skills training, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.



- In collaboration with the private sector, create an employment and resource training program for our youth between the ages of 15 and 20 so as to provide them with skills training and employment through practical on the job learning experiences.
- Provide training, financing and support systems for young entrepreneurs.
- Initiate a formal mentorship programme whereby retired professionals, middle and senior executives can provide assistance to young and emerging entrepreneurs on a voluntary basis.
- Inculcate healthy lifestyles among young people, as a means of stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS and other lifestyle diseases as well as promote education and rehabilitation programmes to reduce, if not eliminate, incidents of substance abuse.
- Develop sports as an industry that brings financial as well as health and social benefits to young people.
- Develop the cultural and entertainment Industries to increase career choices for young people.

Education

The CDP Government will ensure that all Caymanians receive a quality education at all levels - early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary.

Amend the curriculum to provide for vocational and technical tracks and to remove the negative perception of non-academic courses for under-achievers.

Ensure that Internet connectivity is always available in schools and other places of learning to ensure that access to the internet is significantly improved and available to improve and enhance learning capabilities.

Create a system of Education Governance that will take the politics out of the education policy and its implementation.

Improve the literacy rates by 20% over the next two years.

Conduct a strategic review of teachers' training facilities and opportunities and their working conditions, including salary scales. We would undertake necessary adjustments to make the profession more attractive to the best and brightest teaching skills available on these islands.

Strengthen the work programme with employers on Continuing Education and Training (CET) to enhance the workforce and encourage lifelong learning.

Expand the Apprentice Programme for the hospitality industry and continue to develop the hospitality training programme in partnership with the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI).

Encourage the establishment of a Marine Sciences and Aquatic Medicine educational facility, for Caymanians as well as students from around the world.

As diverse industries and businesses appear and grow in the Cayman Islands, there is and will continue to be a need for manpower and trained groups of people to accommodate this need. We must, therefore, diversify the higher education system (University) to accommodate the growing need for new professions and skills, such as medical and scientific professionals in light of the expected expansion of medical tourism.

We must offer to the youth a more diversified higher education that runs parallel to Cayman's growing economy, from which the following benefits will be derived:

- greater opportunity for Cayman's youth to participate and compete in new and changing industries
- less outsourcing of workers from other countries
- a continuum of employment and standards (as opposed to a transient employment pool)
- support of the diverse new industries, such as, medical and scientific tourism, and agriculture
- creation of a scientific research and development regime which is home-grown
- stimulation of the economy by supporting new visions and ventures
- creation of more jobs and opportunities which stimulates local participation, lessening the unemployment issue, and thereby, lessening Government's burden of responsibility for the unemployed.

Healthcare Services

The CDP is committed to continuous improvement in the quality and delivery of adequate health services in the Cayman Islands which it will achieve by focusing on a strategy to upgrade health service facilities and the provision of preventative, curative and rehabilitative health services to all individuals and families throughout Cayman. The CDP will do the following:

- Ensure that our medical institutions are adequately maintained, equipped and staffed and that basic medical supplies are available for the care and treatment of patients.
- Ensure the continuous training and upgrading of skills of all health care providers at all levels.
- Reactivate and establish Primary Health Care Teams in every corner of the Cayman Islands.
- Expand school health programmes to all basic primary and secondary schools.



- Actively encourage and attract the establishment of specialty clinics to deliver specialty care - and provide adequate incentives and proper legal and regulatory framework for their establishment and operation.
- Develop and implement a national prevention and control programme for prevention of drug abuse and addiction.
- Review and where necessary, upgrade the National Health Policy and Strategic Plan

Autism

Autism is a disorder of neural development characterised by impaired social interaction and verbal and non- verbal communication, and by restrictive, repetitive or stereotyped behaviour. The diagnostic criteria require that symptoms become apparent before a child is three years old. Autism affects information processing in the brain by altering how nerve cells and their synapses connect and organize. it is growing concern in the Cayman Islands.

The CDP will:

- Establish an Autism Treatment Centre in Cayman - (Centre of Excellence) through a private sector/government led partnership that can pull together all the stakeholders on the Island.
- Undertake a major Education programme for doctors and all clinical teams on the island to enable them to make an early intervention and refer the child/children for immediate Therapy and Intervention.
- Link the Treatment Centre when established with the Autism Genetic Resource Exchange (AGRE). This is a repository (gene bank) of genetic and clinical information that is available to researchers worldwide.
- Take advantage of the expertise of the WHO (World Health Organisation) who can supply advice and guidance in the establishment of the Centre of Autism Excellence in the Cayman.
- Explore the possibility of cooperation with WU Medical Centre in Beijing where important research is taking place in stem cell implants for autism.
- Ensure that all children affected with Autism in the Islands will have access to treatment and special facilities.

Mental Health and Special Needs

Issues of mental health continue to affect Caymanian families and it is a source of anxiety for those affected and for the communities in which they live. Too many of those afflicted with mental illness are left to fend for themselves, and we believe that as a caring society assistance must be forthcoming. The CDP will endeavour to build proper facilities and create effective intervention strategies to treat the mentally ill. Additionally we will improve and enhance the current curriculum in schools to address children with special needs within the Cayman Islands.

The Elderly & Disabled

We would enforce the policy that all facilities serving the public, especially government buildings, departments and agencies are designed and constructed with the necessary access features for persons with disabilities.

Review the Cayman Islands Disability Policy and the Disabilities Bill and ensure that there is adequate legislative support for the protection of the rights of disabled residents and visitors in the Cayman Islands.

Ensure that the National Council for Persons with Disabilities is fully functional and has a mandate to advise government on issues relating to the community of persons with disabilities.

Housing

The CDP recognises and believes that access to affordable housing is a basic right and the foundation of strong families. We want to build on the work we commenced in the last administration, when we utilised the National Housing Development Trust (NHDT) and built affordable homes. We will continue the work to achieve the goal of all Caymanians having a permanent residence in which they have security of tenure and privacy and through which they are afforded protection from the natural elements, access to potable water and proper sanitation facilities, together with basic electricity services.

The CDP will:

- Develop appropriate financing arrangements and provide better access to affordable housing and better housing conditions to low and modest income families.
- Ensure that disaster mitigation practices are maintained in the design and construction of homes and that appropriate planning and infrastructure standards are adopted in housing developments.

Provide creative solutions for the reduction of the cost of development through reduction of government fees and duties, negotiating with utilities, co-opting non-traditional partners as well as incentivizing all local developers to provide some affordable housing. This could provide the country with a sustainable affordable housing strategy.

The CDP will consider and assess the following matters, among others, as we seek ways to reduce the cost of housing and provide affordable housing to Caymanians:

- Seek public input from a wide cross-section of the society to ensure 'buy-in' by the public
- Alternate energy components for affordable housing such as solar or wind to be duty free



- Only hurricane/earthquake rated structures should be built for affordable housing
- Government will form joint venture initiatives with developers for the creation of affordable housing and seek long term mortgage funding, which must be more accessible to those needing affordable housing.
- Planning fees for affordable housing should be lowered
- Government should partner with non-traditional, non-construction partners to provide funding for their lower-end employees or to provide funding for specific projects
- Density allowances should be made for some housing projects in specific areas
- Housing policy should include a provision for complete families to be housed in close proximity as the traditional Caymanian family structures rely on inter-family support for child rearing
- Maintain stamp duty allowances for first time Caymanian home purchases

Mortgage Assistance Program

We recognise that an increasing number of Caymanians are losing their homes because of difficulties complying with their mortgage obligations.

The CDP will:

- Re-instate the Mortgage Assistance Program, ensuring that as many home owners as possible are able to save their homes from foreclosure.
- This will be a priority for a new CDP government and as such, we will provide immediate assistance to those affected, including collaborating with banks and other financial institutions to restructure these loans and save the homes.

Reducing The Cost Of Electricity

Examine the use a dedicated incentive programme to assist with the reduction in electricity costs. In embracing a renewable energy strategy, serious consideration should be given to solar, OTEC (ocean thermal energy conversion) and wind as all alternative energy sources.

A CDP Government would reduce duties on solar panels and other alternative energy products for residential use as well as for commercial use, to create a long term sustainability approach to power needs.

Explore waste to energy solutions that will lead to a reduction in energy bills.

Poverty Alleviation & Social Protection

- Develop and maintain a package of poverty alleviation and social protection measures aimed at cushioning the negative impact of the cost of living and reducing the incidence of poverty on the aged, the disabled and the unemployed.
- Develop strategies to provide personal, social and income security to the most vulnerable members of our society by eradicating the social, institutional and systemic obstacles that have created and fostered economic and social imbalances and inequalities in our society.

Crime & Policing

Crimes, such as the trafficking of drugs, human trafficking, illegal immigration and weapons smuggling, threaten the Islands in many ways, with tourism being particularly vulnerable. We will, therefore, implement policies to repel this monster and protect our economy and society.

Develop policies to support the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) in the achievement of its objectives to uphold the law fairly and firmly; to prevent and detect crime; to pursue and bring to justice those who break the law (irrespective of their status); to keep the peace and to protect, help and reassure the community with integrity, sound judgment and common sense.

Establish appropriate standards in recruitment, training, and professional development of security personnel.

Enhance the accountability mechanisms governing the RCIPS' operations to ensure adherence to internationally accepted best practices. Develop strategies to ensure professionalism, efficiency, and enhanced competence and effectiveness of the RCIPS.

We will work with our partners in the United Kingdom, United States of America and within our region to augment and develop an effective border control programme with the requisite equipment and supplies for technical and logistical support to enhance the protection of our borders and stem the importation and infiltration of illegal weapons and other dangerous contrabands into our Islands. This must be a priority in the war against illegal drugs and weapons because the lives and safety of our people and their businesses are at risk.

Cooperate fully with international law enforcement agencies in the battle against international crime. Explore the possibility of developing a Joint Law Enforcement Operation with the governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and other Caribbean nations with Cayman hosting such an operation, which would provide enhanced security.



National Disaster Preparedness

A CDP Government would continue to strengthen our national and physical security capabilities by strengthening our police, fire and emergency; ensuring that these institutions are capable of responding to natural disasters and that they maintain the ability to serve and protect the interests of our people.

The present state of the Cayman Fire Service is unacceptable and poses a direct risk to national security and safety. The existing problem include the following:

- There are insufficient Fire Officers given the amount of buildings, people and vegetation in the Cayman Islands
- Initial training for trainee Fire Fighters is not comparable to International Standards and ongoing training is sub-par with minimal certifications and qualifications being the norm
- Inadequate human resources provisions, poor compensation, insufficient or non-existent training and human development opportunities, poor working conditions
- Building inspections not adequate
- Poor facilities at fire stations; inadequate vehicles – fire trucks and boats are not equipped to deal with prevailing conditions; inadequate equipment

The Fire Service needs and will receive urgent attention. The CDP Government will assess the Service; make adequate arrangements to train and qualify the experienced and dedicated staff; and provide modern and relevant facilities, vessels and equipment so that the Service can adequately provide protection for life and property.

Work with the Governor and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to develop a National Defense force to protect our borders, and to be called upon in times of impending National Disasters. To also assist the RCIP in their mandate to maintain public order when required.

Information Communication Technology

Accelerate the economic and social transformation of the Cayman Islands through Information Communication Technology (ICT) and pursue the development of ICT as an integral part of the economy. The ICT sector will be developed as a knowledge-based export services sector that will provide jobs for Caymanians and improve the economic wealth of the nation, reduce poverty and create a sustained economic base for national development. A knowledge-based export services sector could offer services in the following areas:

- Offshore Shipping;
- Offshore low-tech Information Services (such as Data Entry Services, and Telemarketing);
- Finance and Accounting Services, Translation Services, Transcription Services;
- E-learning, animation, data search, integration and management, network construction, website development and computer programming.

Re-establish the ICT Centre for Excellence and Innovation as a premier institution for training of our Youth in ICT and establish cooperation/partnerships agreements between the Centre for Excellence and Innovation and global ICT firms and Institutions of learning. This would ensure that the curriculum and training methodologies employed meet international best practices from which students will obtain internationally recognized certification and accreditation.

Our Physical Infrastructure, Buildings & The Environment

It is critical that we lay a proper foundation for the support of the productive sectors and for orderly and effective physical development. We will do this by creating and implementing a comprehensive plan for the improvement and expansion of public physical infrastructure and supporting institutions with appropriate measures to protect the environment. Accordingly, we will:

- develop a comprehensive strategy for the financing and development of public infrastructure to complement and support the strategy for future economic and social development of the Islands projecting forward for at least 15 years;
- review and determine the infrastructure needs in all sectors, such as tourism, finance, information technology, communication, health (hospitals), schools, prisons, roads, airports, ports, waste disposal, energy
- establish a committee to monitor and in some cases, manage implementation of infrastructure projects;
- undertake a complete review of the way in which infrastructure assets are managed and maintained;
- review the suitability of policies and legislation to support effective infrastructure development;
- identify projects where innovative forms of infrastructure financing such as Public Private Partnerships (“PPP”) can be used thereby reducing the impact on the country’s finances;
- review existing public sector procurement processes to ensure transparency, fairness, effectiveness and timely decision making
- continue the upgrade and expansion of the Owen Roberts International Airport to provide for traveling Caymanians and visitors a world class facility capable of accommodating the largest aircrafts and comfortable amenities for passengers, including a proper modern terminal for private aircraft.
- review the current cargo and cruise port operations and reports and studies on expansion or relocation and determine the best solution for stakeholders and Cayman

Upgrade and improve existing legislation, policies and codes as well as the operations of the Department of Planning and the Central Planning Authority to better provide for:

- the development and implementation of a comprehensive land use and zoning plan for the country;
- the administration of the system for the physical development and improvement of private lands;
- an effective and practical building code;
- the management and conservation of natural resources, national parks, coastal areas, marine resources and beach protection, centres of National Heritage and other protected areas and sites;
- solid waste management and pollution;
- climate change and other environmental matters.

We will also strengthen laws, regulations and policies relating to the environment and the Department of Environment to provide better protection of our marine and terrestrial ecosystems, prevent pollution, and encourage high levels of material recycling and promote sustainable environmental practices.

We will also implement sustainable solutions to our solid waste problem, including waste to energy solutions.

Solid Waste Management

Solid Waste Management Plan will be a stakeholder-driven, long-term master plan for solid waste management in the Cayman Islands.

- We will implement strategies to achieve a goal of 50 percent diversion by 2025. These targeted diversion rates would be implemented through the implementation of new policies and programs, and the development of future facilities to meet the Country's recycling and solid waste infrastructure needs over the next 25 years.
- We will ensure that measures are undertaken to close and remediate the George Town Dump;
- We will pursue waste management opportunities that have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels;
- We will ensure that economies of scale are considered in determining suitable waste management practices, having due regard for the geographical aspects of the Cayman Islands;
- We will pursue multi-sectorial collaborations and partnerships with various stakeholders to achieve our vision for waste management in the Cayman Islands;
- We believe in the enhancement of personal responsibility for waste management through advocacy, education, and the creation of opportunities to realise the national vision for waste management; and,
- We will ensure there is an appropriate legal, regulatory, and institutional framework, embracing good governance principles, to support achieving the national vision for waste management.



Sports & Recreation

Cayman has the potential to be a force to be reckoned with in the area of sport. As such, the CDP will move with alacrity to develop Cayman into a regional centre for sporting activities.

- Provide an environment where our sports men and women could achieve their highest levels of performance, starting with a proper programme at the district level to assist the various sports clubs in implementing their programmes with sufficient oversight with the objective of enhancing the involvement of our youth.
- Fully explore and take advantage of the opportunities to realize significant economic gains from sporting activities, especially for the benefit of our youth.
- Review, address deficiencies in and fully implement the existing National Sports Policy and Strategic Plan.
- Promote and enhance our sports policy to ensure that it adequately addresses appropriateness and suitability of sporting facilities, coaches and teachers; and commit the necessary financial resources to make Cayman a regional leader in sports development.
- Ensure that the National Sports Council is properly organised and resourced to be effective in its exercise of its mandate.
- Pursue implementation of a programme to train persons in the areas of sports medicine, sports education, sports psychology, physiotherapy, sports nutrition, medical services, proper management of sporting facilities and activities, coaching, athletic welfare, and the funding and promotion of sports tourism.
- Provide financial, educational, and other assistance to our national sports men and women during training and participation in competitions.
- Provide all national athletes with medical insurance benefits during active representation of the country.
- Actively seek to secure more scholarships for Cayman athletes at all levels to further their academic education.

The potential of sports to promote good health is widely recognised. In addition to promoting physical activity, the CDP is committed to the application of sports as an ideal platform for broader health promotion and reducing the impact of lifestyle risk behaviour, positively influencing health outcomes of individuals and that of communities.

Arts & Culture

To preserve the rich arts and culture of the Cayman Islands, the CDP would restore cultural strength, traditional values and national identity to our society while developing suitable avenues for the release of the creative energies of our people, especially our youth. To achieve this, the CDP would:

- Reposition the Cayman Islands as a premier arts and culture destination by strengthening programming, marketing, and linkages between cultural institutions across the region.

- Introduce Performing Arts into the curriculum of primary and secondary schools so that theatre, dance, music, voice training and comedy can all be introduced to our children from a very early age.
- Provide institutional support to the development of artistic and creative products, which have the potential for wealth creation and income generation. Encourage greater private sector investment in the Creative Arts through appropriate tax incentives.
- Explore and encourage the development of an all-purpose performing arts centre which could also provide facilities for large conferences and events which currently are inhibited in Cayman due to lack of facilities.



SECTION FOUR:
***CAYMANIANS LIVING
OVERSEAS, REGIONAL
AND COMMONWEALTH
COOPERATION***

Caymanians Living Overseas

We recognize that there are many patriotic Caymanians living abroad who are desirous of contributing to the development of the Cayman Islands. We will, therefore, be a government that will encourage Caymanians living overseas to contribute to the economic and social development of our country.

The CDP would develop and implement a plan for their full participation in the sustainable economic and social development of the country.

Regional, Commonwealth & International Relations

We would cooperate with the United Kingdom, other members of the Commonwealth as well as organizations within Commonwealth with a view to promoting cooperation and mutual respect. We would take common actions with other countries of the Caribbean region for the promotion of higher standards of social and economic life for the populations of our respective countries.

The CDP would also comply with all regional and international treaties and agreements to which Cayman is a signatory. The CDP would also strive to ensure at all times the development and pursuit of Cayman's foreign policy, our diplomatic engagements advance our vital national interests and development with greater focus on securing credible, bankable Investment opportunities and greater resource mobilization for the Cayman Islands.

In addition, the CDP would aggressively pursue the establishment and development of ties with non-traditional allies, including the newly emerging economic powers.





MANIFESTO 2017

Tomorrow must be better than today!





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