



Cayman Islands
Government

100

Day Report



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Foreword



By Hon. G. Wayne Panton, JP, MP
Premier

What a pleasure it is to deliver this 100-day report highlighting some of the work the PACT Government has undertaken and accomplished for the benefit of our people and our country.

I appreciate the support, confidence, trust, and encouragement that the people of the Cayman Islands have in this Government. This has undoubtedly fueled our efforts over the past 100 days.

While we celebrate these achievements, we are by no means resting on them. There is still much work to be done and we are ready for the challenge.

First and foremost is the safe reopening of our borders. To do this, we need every eligible resident in the Cayman Islands to be fully vaccinated. I thank and applaud those individuals who have already been fully vaccinated as well as the businesses that have come on board to ensure that their workers — especially those on the front lines — are vaccinated and protecting themselves from the full impact of COVID-19.

As you turn the pages of this report, you will see that we have done much since forming the government and we have kept our noses to the grindstone working hard for the country.

As a team we continue to grow from strength to strength with our focus on our vision and

guiding principles of being a PACT government that is People-driven, Accountable, Competent and Transparent.

Our collective goal is to responsibly improve the quality of life for this and future generations of Caymanians. Broadly speaking, our vision is of a Cayman that is held up as one of the most sustainable countries in the world where all of its citizens can thrive; a country that is a peaceful and prosperous place known for its resourcefulness, its diligence, its excellence, and its innovativeness.

At the heart of our mission is the Caymanian people, their ability to build careers, own homes, and enjoy a good quality of life in their own country. We are here to serve.

While this report highlights our first 100 days in office, it is by no means exhaustive. There are decisions and actions that the diverse PACT Government considers and implements each day to improve the lives of the people in their constituencies and the country as a whole.

I thank each member of the PACT Government for their diligence and willingness to serve for the greater good of our people and our country. I also thank the members of the Civil Service who have also made the success of our past 100 days possible. We could not do it without them.

We will, together, march on to help better the lives of all who live and work here, and safely reopen our borders as we continue to keep our Islands safe from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Together we have made the past 100 days meaningful and productive and have set a solid foundation for the remainder of our term. Our unwavering commitment is to place our people at the center of everything we do.

01

Reopening



1,138

vaccines received during May 2021 vaccination drive



80%

vaccination goal set for residents of the Cayman Islands



5 days

reduced quarantine time

Reopening

- **Commenced genome sequencing** at the Health Services Authority of local COVID-19 cases, making the Cayman Islands the **first in the region** to do so other than the Caribbean Public Health Agency.
- **Announced the reopening plan** at the Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon. Details can be found at: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/reopening-plan>
- **Formulated and executed a vaccination campaign** in May 2021 that attracted 1,138 people with 734 getting their first jab and 404 receiving their second.
- Engaged with the Cayman Islands Tourism Association and received stakeholder input on the way forward to reopen the borders to tourism and to get more Caymanians employed within the industry.
- **Reduced quarantine** to five days for verifiably vaccinated incoming travellers.
- Mandated weekly PCR testing of unvaccinated frontline workers.
- **Set an 80%** vaccination goal of the 71,106 residents of the Cayman Islands to get to herd immunity of COVID-19.
- Mandated COVID-19 vaccination for new work permit grants and renewals.
- Delivered a joint message by Premier Hon. G. Wayne Panton and Leader of Opposition Hon. Roy McTaggart in solidarity, urging all eligible residents to receive the COVID-19 vaccine ahead of the planned reopening of borders, slated to begin in September 2021.



02

Education



4,989

laptops for all public school students



3

schools received "Good School" rating



50%

increase for overseas undergraduate scholarships

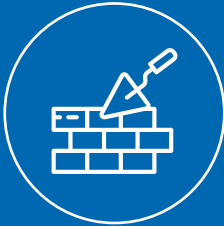
Education

- **Achieved 'Good School' rating** at John Gray High School, Layman Scott High School and Lighthouse School demonstrating significant improvement in Cayman Islands public education.
- Introduced the **one-to-one Laptop Initiative** providing 120 new iPads for the Lighthouse School and 4,989 laptops for all public school students.
- Received donations of 1,600 laptops from the Private Sector for all public schools and ordered an additional 450 laptops for the start of the new school year.
- Established the **Cayman Scholar Award** of up to CI\$100,000 per year to the most outstanding Caymanian male and female students to pursue overseas undergraduate studies at approved elite colleges around the world.
- Created a special scholarship award of CI\$35,000 per annum for undergraduate applicants pursuing studies leading to **teaching as a profession**.
- Increased the scholarship award for undergraduate overseas scholarships by 50 per cent from up to CI\$20,000 per annum to up to CI\$30,000 per annum.
- Expanded criteria for post-secondary scholarship funding to include students pursuing first-year qualifications in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, the Advanced Placement Programme, and the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination.
- Confirmed nine nursing students at the University College of the Cayman Islands who passed their Regional Examination for Nurse Registrations.



03

Healthcare



2022

planned opening of Long Term Mental Health Facility



5 phase

plan for Safely Reopening the Cayman Islands



80

college & high school students summer
medical field internships

Healthcare

- **Commenced genome sequencing** at the Health Services Authority of local COVID-19 cases, making the Cayman Islands the first in the region to do so other than the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). This led to the discovery of the first two cases of Delta variant in local traveller samples. Government appreciates the work done in this area by two young Caymanians: Jonathan Smellie and Beverley Nunez.
- Developed technological solutions to **securely verify vaccination records** from some issuers in North America, European Union and other regions as part of an initiative by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Computer Services Department.
- Advanced work on the **Long Term Mental Health Facility** in East End, which is slated to open in the first quarter of 2022.
- Provided all Needs Assessment Unit clients with **access to healthcare via the Health Services Authority's CayHealth Programme**. Since 2010 when it was first launched, CayHealth had covered only a limited number of clients through the Needs Assessment Unit, but now the programme is being expanded to include everyone receiving care through the Unit.
- **Extended the Health Insurance Premiums Payment Assistance Programme** for a further three months until 30 September 2021.
- **Formulated and executed a vaccination campaign** in May 2021 that attracted 1,138 people with 734 getting their first jab and 404 receiving their second.
- Re-launched the Health Service Authority's annual summer internship programme providing approximately **80 college and high school students** the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a variety of health care disciplines.
- Completed required public consultation on the Draft Terms of Reference for the new Integrated Solid Waste Management System.



04

People & Social Policy



\$2M

prioritised and reallocated to support
Caymanian small businesses



200

Caymanian families offered the Guaranteed
Home Assisted Mortgage programme



Census 2020

will begin 10 October 2021

People & Social Policy

- **Prioritised and re-allocated \$2 million in supplementary funding** to provide much needed support to Caymanians through business stipends, primarily to micro and small tour operating businesses.
- Offered **200 Caymanian families the opportunity to own a home** via the Government Guaranteed Home Assisted Mortgage through the Ministry of Planning, Agriculture, Housing and Infrastructure.
- **Launched the Census** of Population and Housing in the Cayman Islands which will begin on 10 October 2021.
- **Extended the national pension holiday to 31 December 2021**, not requiring employers and employees to make mandatory pension contributions thus providing businesses and workers with financial relief and supporting economic recovery.
- Bolstered the leadership team at Workforce Opportunities and Residency Cayman's (WORC) with the appointment of experienced Caymanians. With these appointments, the mission of WORC will be enhanced. That mission is to provide opportunities for Caymanian workers, ensuring that Caymanian owned businesses have the human resources necessary to aid in their success, and help to strengthen the economy and global competitiveness of the Cayman Islands.
- Coordinated with banks to have National Housing Development Trust homes built on the properties of two pre-approved NHDT applicants.
- **Launched a portal to support an online Seafarers Registry** for voluntary crowdsourcing of information regarding Caymanian seafarers.
- Approved amendments to effect **fee reductions for older persons** in traffic regulations.
- Held a three day strategic retreat for the Ministry of Investment, Innovation and Social Development to ensure that its departments and units are aligned in benefiting and empowering all people in the Cayman Islands, supporting Cayman's most vulnerable people as well as Government's assistance entities. The Ministry enables all segments of society to benefit from prosperity and economic growth, which is globally competitive and diverse and driven by tangible improvements.
- Re-established the **Housing Repair Committee** to provide critical repairs under the Ministry of Investment, Innovation and Social Development Housing Repair Programme to **assist highly vulnerable Caymanian homeowners**.
- **Approved supplementary funding for the Needs Assessment Unit** meeting financial assistance demands.
- Commenced development of a digitised Needs Assessment Unit application process to make it easier for clients to apply for services and to increase transparency and efficiency in the application process.



05

Good Governance



Code of Conduct

developed and approved for the Cabinet of the Cayman Islands



Cabinet Meeting Summaries

to keep the public informed of Government business, and promote transparency



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

when selecting national boards, tribunals, commissions, and committees

Good Governance

- **Approved a Code of Conduct** for the Cabinet for the first time in Cayman Islands history.
- Commenced publishing **Cabinet Post Meeting Summaries** to keep the public informed of Government business and to promote transparency within Government.
- Approved and committed to a framework for the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities, older persons, women and youth for **equal representation when determining the makeup of national boards, tribunals, commissions and committees.**
- Commenced drafting a Code of Conduct for the Parliament.
- Formulated draft legislation for the Electronic Identification Card known as the Cayman Identification Card, which when fully implemented, will provide numerous economic and social benefits. The system will provide a safe and secure means for all citizens to verify their identity online to access government services and perform other digital transactions external to government. A main feature is that it provides internationally recognised digital signatures.
- **Maintained Aa3 rating** by Moody's — the international credit rating agency, for Government's bonds issued in foreign and local currency, and an Aaa rating as a country ceiling. The high rating for the Cayman Islands Government positively affects all economic activity within the Cayman Islands. Additionally, the rating should inspire businesses' and investors' confidence in the Cayman Islands, which in turn, leads to higher levels of investment in the Islands and that should translate into greater job opportunities for the public.
- Delivered the Cayman Islands Government Strategic Policy Statement 2022-2024 at the first meeting of the 2021-2022 session of the Cayman Islands Parliament.
- The Customs and Border Control Department has collected \$43 million in executive revenue and \$1.2 million in entity revenue in the first 100 days of the PACT Government.



06

Safety



Zero

tolerance for gun violence



5 shelters

across Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac
readied for tropical storm Elsa



138.25

hours of various training and workshops
completed by CBC staff

Safety

- Reaffirmed **zero tolerance for gun crime** by convening an emergency meeting for all Members of Parliament (at the request of the Premier) to be briefed by the Police Commissioner on a spate of shootings.
- Developed a **plan of action** approved by the National Security Council to address gun violence and illegal firearms.
- Commenced monthly meetings of the National Security Council.
- Continued training for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTS) volunteers helping them be better prepared for hazards that threaten our communities.
- Hazard Management Cayman Islands readied four hurricane shelters on Grand Cayman and one on Cayman Brac as the country prepared for the passage of Tropical Storm Elsa.
- Invested in the development of CBC staff who participated in and completed **138.25 hours of various training** and public awareness workshops.



07

Environment & Sustainability



1

new government ministry created for sustainability and climate resiliency



First

of a series of automatic weather observation towers erected



\$

Darwin Plus funding for invasive species control

Environment & Sustainability

- Created the **Ministry of Sustainability and Climate Resiliency** to drive campaigns and initiatives to increase awareness of, and actions to support sustainability and climate resiliency.
- Progressed discussions with the UK's Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science on assisting the Cayman Islands Government with a climate change risk assessment to inform a **review of the Draft National Climate Change Policy**.
- Awarded Darwin Plus funding for the Department of Environment to undertake **invasive species control** on the Sister Islands.
- **Erected the first tower of a series of automatic weather observation** stations for National Weather Service being rolled out across the Islands. The stations and buoys will provide meteorological and maritime data for the service. Information includes wind direction and speed, temperature, humidity and rainfall. Each station will be able to detect lightning, cloud bases and monitor air quality.
- Recruited six additional divers from the local watersports sector to assist the Department of Environment in its **response to Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease**.
- Shared information on how to keep our coral healthy through the Safer Cleaner Greener Campaign.



08

Employment & Labour



4

persons recommended for Second Chances Programme



10

Caymanians offered scholarships to attend Tools for Success & Financial Peace University



50

persons completed Employability 101

Employment & Labour

- Recommended **four people for the Second Chances Programme** for possible employment opportunities in collaboration with the Portfolio of Civil Service.
- **Offered scholarships for 10 Caymanians** to attend Tools for Success-Employability Skills and Financial Peace University through WORC in partnership with Inspire Cayman.
- Supported **50 participants in completing Employability 101** and commenced Phase 2 with placement services.
- Re-opened registration for the tourism stipend to give displaced tourism workers.
- **Continued Skills4Life campaign** that highlighted the Passport2Success Programme, which will begin the 34th cohort on 23 August 2021.



09

Youth, Sports & Culture



3

top ministry priorities established: Identify and develop talent; enhance and empower youth; and ensure awareness and preservation of culture and heritage



5

athletes representing the Cayman Islands at the 2020 Summer Olympic Games



Site Visits

were conducted with all entities under the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage

Youth, Sports & Culture

- Held a strategic retreat for the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage and established the following priorities: **identify and develop talent; enhance and empower youth; and ensure awareness and preservation of Cayman's culture and heritage.**
- Engaged with all entities under the Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage through meetings, presentations, site visits and familiarisation tours.
- Extended the Ministry's full support and best wishes to the **five athletes representing the Cayman Islands** at the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.
- Arranged the attendance of the Minister at various community sporting events such as track and field meets, jet-ski competitions, and the Flowers Sea Swim.
- Delivered remarks at the JA Roy Bodden Symposium and the Cayman Islands Sailing Club.
- Reviewed national strategic plans for Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage.



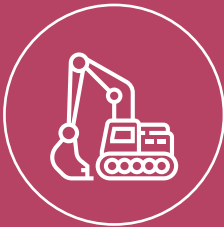
10

Infrastructure



1

private land purchase on Cayman Brac to create a public beach



Approved

permit to construct a new dock at Old Man Bay in North Side



3

new countries added to list of approved cement providers to help ease shortages

Infrastructure

- **Added Colombia, Cuba and Panama as approved cement providers to help ease shortages** suffered by the local construction industry amidst rising global demand to support sustainable development, lower construction costs and encourage increased Caymanian home ownership.
- Purchased private land on Cayman Brac to **create a public beach**.
- Approved a Coastal Works Permit to **remove the existing public dock in Old Man Bay, North Side, and construct a new, longer dock** as well as excavate at the end of the dock to allow for improved boat access.
- Supported the renaming of sections of the downtown waterfront to Seafarers Way to recognise the outstanding contributions our seafarers made to the Cayman Islands.
- Hosted the first ever Cayman Art Week in partnership with the National Gallery under the George Town Revitalisation Initiative.



11

Financial Services



EU Tax Negotiations

addressing European Union's tax good governance initiative, remaining strong and cooperative with international tax compliance



Liquor Licensing

online portal launched, impacting more than 500 businesses



Strategic steps

being taken to develop a national financial services strategy that will inform the 2022-2023 budget process

Financial Services

- Pursued Cayman Islands interests through **direct negotiations with EU COCG on Economic Substance relating to Partnerships and enacted the International Tax Co-operation (Economic Substance) (Amendment of Schedule) Regulations, 2021** and the International Tax Co-operation (Economic Substance) (Prescribed Dates) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 which came into effect on 30 June 2021. The regulations address the European Union's tax good governance initiative, which has assessed tax regimes in countries including Cayman. These changes ensure that Cayman remains strong and cooperative with international tax compliance.
- Flagged areas of concern and submitted corrections and comments to the planned 7th edition of the Tax Justice Network's Financial Secrecy Index with an aim to promote our legislative updates and influence perceptions.
- Provided briefings to the Minister on current operations and initiatives of all Departments and SAGCs within the Ministry and contributed to the development of the Government's policy interests, objectives, and priorities.
- Engaged with industry associations to **champion collective solutions to global issues** that impact our financial services industry.
- Participated in the Cayman Islands Digital Economy Conference where remarks were delivered by the Minister covering the Cayman Islands' digital future and the **Government's vision for the role of technology in financial services as well as the delivery of social services**.
- Responded to the G7 announcement regarding a global minimum corporate tax rate and continued to participate in OCED working groups to shape the details of international tax reform.
- Ensured that the Ministry is represented at working groups related to issues of importance to the financial services industry (e.g. ESG and AOA)
- Supported the Cayman Islands competitive advantage in international markets by progressing work to update legislation for the benefit of practitioners and end-users (such as Part V of the Companies Act).
- Participated in an international (ACAMS) symposium on anti-financial crime and CFT which examined the Cayman Islands' AML framework including present efforts to be removed from the FATF Grey List. The Ministry presented specifically on its activities in relation to the operation of the beneficial ownership regime.
- Instituted an online system via DCI for liquor licensing licensees to have **24/7 access for renewals - impacting more than 500 businesses**.
- Published **regulations bringing partnerships under the scope of economic substance requirements**. This is expected to keep the Cayman Islands off the EU's list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes.
- **Commenced the development of a national financial services strategy**. This began with a retreat with members of the senior management team of the Ministry of Financial Services and resulted in a vision for Cayman as a 'globally respected financial services centre of excellence' and medium term goals that will inform the 2022-2023 budget process. The Minister announced this vision at a conference held on 22 July 2021 that was attended by senior members of the financial services industry. The next steps to develop a national strategy for financial services that will involve extensive industry consultation will be announced in August.



12

Tourism



Caymanians

first in the tourism industry



4

destination repatriation flights continued to La Ceiba, Jamaica, Miami & London



\$1,500

tourism worker stipend continued through October 2021

Tourism

- Reaffirmed the Government's vision to **keep Caymanians first in the tourism industry** by engaging with the Cayman Islands Tourism Association on necessary preparations and logistics.
- Continued **repatriation flights to four destinations:** Miami, Jamaica, and La Ceiba via Cayman Airways as well as London, via British Airways.
- Announced the continuation of the **tourism worker stipend of \$1,500 per month through October 2021.**
- **Engaged with tourism industry stakeholders** including the Land and Sea Cooperative, the Cayman Islands Independent Tour Bus Association and Cayman Hospitality Ambassadors.
- Contributed to the formulation of the Plan for Safely Reopening the Cayman Islands.
- **Formulated and executed a Tourism Stipend Survey.**
- Conducted site visits and familiarisation tours of Cayman Airways, Cayman Turtle Centre, Cayman Islands Airports Authority, Department of Tourism, Port Authority of the Cayman Islands, and Tourism Attraction Board.
- Confirmed the Cayman Islands current position on cruise tourism during virtual meetings with cruise lines and the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association.
- Supported the **protection of key tourism attractions** through the continuation of the Stingray Feeding and Interaction Programme, and facilitated meetings with other Ministries that impact the Tourism Industry.





Cayman Islands
Government