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# No Pay Yet For ITVET Instructors



*ITVET instructors say they have not been paid from September*

At the end of January, instructors at the ITVET came out publicly to complain against the Ministry of Education for

not paying them their salaries from September of last year. Despite claims to the contrary, the Guardian has confirmed that

as of Wednesday, February 7, 12 contract instructors have not gotten paid for the work that they have done.

With the instructors not receiving their salaries, for the better part of three weeks, students attending the school have not been receiving instructions. Over these days the instructors would show up to school but they have not been teaching the students. The teachers say that they have not been receiving any payments from the Ministry of Education and have only been getting by with the assistance of the ITVET's management which has been lending them small sums of money in order for them to get by.

The school's ability to help the teachers out has now been exhausted and teachers had no other option but to call on the media and vent their woes.

As late as Wednesday, Minister of Education, Francis Fonseca claimed that the teachers had been paid we have since found out that this is not the case. Still Fonseca has been promising a solution to the problem from the time the PUP took office three years ago. But knowing the non-caring nature of the People's United Party, the old adage holds through- a promise is a comfort to a fool. Meanwhile the instructors have begun their fifth month without collecting a salary.

## Man Perishes In Fire



*House was completely destroyed*

Fire authorities are investigating the cause of a fire which gutted a plywood house at the corner of Gibnut and

Dolphin streets in Belize City. Sometime shortly after 11p.m on Wednesday, February 7, fire broke out inside one of the rooms

of the house. The fire quickly spread and destroyed the entire structure. While fire authorities managed to suppress the blaze from spreading to nearby houses, when the blaze was extinguished, authorities found the body of an elderly man who has not yet been identified.

Other occupants of the house tell the Guardian that the man was asleep when the fire started. They say that they desperately tried to wake the man up and get him out of the house but their efforts were futile.

Neighbors say that there is a possibility that the fire may have been intentionally set.

## Smaller Pensions for Retired Soldiers, No Salary Increase For Government Attorneys

Following questions by Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow to the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Johnny Briceno, it was disclosed that pensions for soldiers who have recently retired will be calculated at a rate far less than what the soldier were earning before they retired. Briceno said that the calculation will be made

at a lower rate as a result of a clerical error that took place back in 2019. It was not until soldiers began to claim their pensions earlier last year that the error was discovered 4 years later.

Meanwhile the promised salary increase for government attorneys continues without being honored despite the Government already having lumped it into a

revenue supplement which was gotten at the end of last year. Briceno said that they got 1.5 million dollars for the attorneys but blamed a process that includes the judicial and legal service commission having to issue new letters of appointments to Government attorneys for their increase to take effect.

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Protecting Freedom Rights Democracy

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# Shyne to Fonseca: "Do Your Job"



Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow

Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow, publicly castigated the Minister of Education, Francis Fonseca and the Briceno Administration on Friday, February 2 during a meeting of the House of Representatives. Hon. Barrow took Fonseca to task for not paying the salaries of instructors of ITVET in Belize City. The instructors have come out publicly to complain that they have not received their salaries since September of this year when the new school year started. The teachers say that they have been making do with advances from the institution which does not cover their entire pay and which they have to pay back.

During the House Meeting, Hon. Barrow minced no words in telling the Minister of Education to do his job and pay the instructors. Fonseca says that the teachers have not gotten paid because

they are not established workers and operate on a yearly contract. He had promised to solve the problem when the problem was first brought to his attention 2 and a half years ago but now, three years into the PUP administration the situation has continued and worsened. It has gotten so chronic that the instructors have decided to go public with their plight. This is because there is no further assistance being given to them by the institution as it has ran out of finances to continue to help them out.

By what Hon. Barrow pointed out, it would appear to be a simple administrative matter which the Minister of Education is refusing to address or simply does not care to address. Either way, Hon. Barrow's request was a legitimate one where he asked that the minister simply do his job.

## Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow Recognized in South Carolina



Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow being acknowledged in the South Carolina House of Representatives

Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Dr. Shyne Barrow received special recognition at the House of Representatives in the State of South Carolina on Wednesday, February 7th by J.A. Moore member of the House of Representatives in that state.

In acknowledging his presence in the house, Moore noted that he was an admirer of Hon. Barrow and had the pleasure of being in Belize for his endorsement convention held last year. He also encouraged members of the house in South Carolina to visit Belize as it is

a country that presents great economic opportunities.

Hon. Barrow was given a certificate which reads in part, "We applaud his distinguished service in the House of Representatives and his many values that are shared between the citizens of Belize and the citizens of South Carolina. We hope he enjoyed the day as he brought great pride to the South Carolina House of Representatives and we wish him continued success in all his future goals and endeavors as he works for the betterment of all people."

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

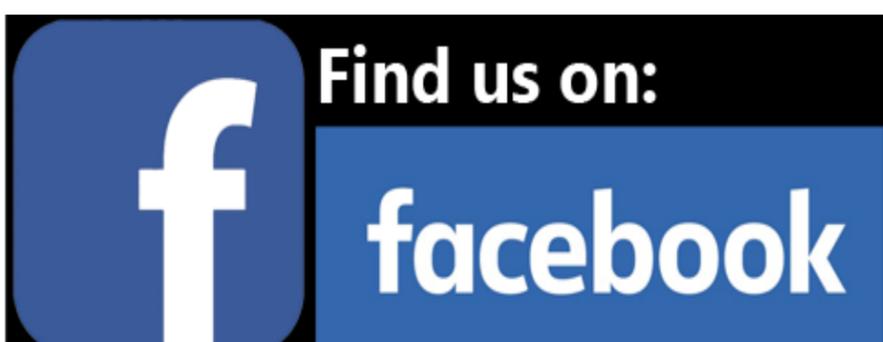
Tenders must be submitted via email to [bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz](mailto:bidsubmittal@bel.com.bz) no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2024.

The email subject should include the bid number located on the respective bid form.

*Email Subject: BID# 2024-2272 Website and Digital Development Consultancy.*

**For more information or queries, send email to [bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz](mailto:bidboxrequest@bel.com.bz)**

Cost incurred for preparation of the tender document is the sole responsibility of the bidder. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.



# Public Property Used For PUP Electioneering



Michel Chebat exiting the pavilion

Municipal elections are just under a month away and as the day draws nearer, all manner of politicians who have been inactive for the past 3 years are resurfacing and having last minute ditch efforts to win over the electorate. One such example is in the Cayo North constituency where they sitting area representative has been absent all these years. He nonetheless is trying to once again bamboozle voters and has decided to open a center of operations at the Cayo North Pavilion.

The pavilion which is public property is a grant funded project that came to completion

in November of 2020. Since the PUP victory in the elections of 2020 the new area representative deliberately abandoned the facility and allowed it to fall apart. It comprised a synthetic five a side football field, and office spaces to host programs and seek further funding for community based programs and single mothers. All that fell to disrepair and the entire structure was completely abandoned until the Area Rep realized that elections are coming.

Now this grant funded facility is being used for political purposes to host the PUP campaign of Michel Chebat

# 25 Years In Jail For Killing His Friend



Shane Bennett

On April 26, 2022, Shane Bennett was found guilty of murder in the killing of Anthony Parks. After the verdict, Bennett bolted from the Supreme Court in Dangriga but was caught shortly thereafter in the precincts of the Supreme Court. One year and ten months later, Justice Antoinette Moore has sentenced him to life in prison. He will be eligible for parole after 25 years. 4 years will be deducted for time he has been on remand.

Bennett was charged following the murder of Parks which took place on Toucan Avenue in Independence village on Wednesday January 22, 2020.

At the time, the victim was at home when someone called him outside. When he went outside to investigate he was met by Bennett who shot him multiple times. On hearing the gunshots, Parks' girlfriend also went outside and saw Bennett. In response she threw two pint bottles at him and he responded by also firing at her. Bennett then rode off on a bicycle. While Parks managed to survive the attack he died three days later while undergoing treatment.

At the time of the killing, Parks and Bennett were friends but had a falling out over drugs.

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY



Stephen Laurie | Adlene Estero | Cindy "J" Farjado

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## VOTE UDP 7

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# PUP: The Business Killer



Hofius is one of the oldest stores in the country

With the recent announcement of the closure of yet another longstanding business, it has become evident that the People's United Party

(PUP) is detrimental to business growth. In the past year alone, five longstanding businesses in Belize City have closed their doors, with Hofius being the

latest casualty. Established 123 years ago, Hofius has been a fixture in the country but will now cease operations. Staff members have confirmed that the store will discontinue operations imminently, and then later on the company's management confirmed that the business would close towards the middle of the year. Founded in 1892 by Otto Hofius and Curt Hildebrandt, Hofius and Hildebrandt has been an integral part of Belize City's landscape for over a century.

Prior to Hofius, another downtown Belize City landmark, Bottom Dollar Supermarket,

permanently closed its doors on August 31st. After serving the Belizean public for 18 years, Bottom Dollar fell victim to unfair competition, leading to its closure. The decision was influenced by proposed market changes that would exacerbate the situation, prompting the owners to focus on other endeavors. Situated in the heart of the Old Capital, Bottom Dollar leaves behind a significant legacy.

Last July, Augusto Quan Hardware Store abruptly closed, leaving behind a rich history dating back to 1940. Despite catering to the hardware needs of countless residents for 83 years, economic factors led to its closure. Although the retail store shut down, Augusto Quan continues to offer wholesale services.

Also in July word surfaced that the Smiling family that had been in the meat business would be selling their Meat Shop and getting out of the industry after 95 years. Mathew Smiling did not mince any words when he put the blame squarely on the shoulders of the PUP administration. The following was what he said: "Before Covid we were doing okay but you know Covid came. And honestly, frankly I thought that after the government change that things would have looked better for us but honestly it got worse.... There were a lot of stuff that we wanted to do and couldn't do, we lost a lot of business because of not being able to import. I use to do my own importation when I took over, I started that part of it.... But since this new change of administration, Smiling Meats have been blocked out so that part of it is not there anymore."

Additionally, Kiddie Trends announced its closure earlier last year after 35 years of service. While economic considerations were believed to be the cause, the Marin family cited personal reasons for their decision. Notably, a member of the Marin family had served in a PUP Cabinet.

Collectively, these five businesses had a combined history of 364 years. None encountered financial trouble before the PUP's election in 2020. Despite weathering the COVID-19 pandemic, the policies implemented by the PUP administration led to their demise. It is evident that the PUP's governance has had a detrimental impact on Belize's business landscape.

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**ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT**  
**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 6TH MARCH 2024**  
**Polling Stations and Counting Stations**



MUNICIPALITIES	ELECTORAL DIVISIONS	POLLING AREA NOS.	ALPHABETICAL BREAKDOWN	NO. OF REG. ELECTORS	TOTAL NO. OF REG. ELECTORS	NAME AND ADDRESSES OF POLLING STATIONS	NO. OF POLLING STATIONS	NAME AND ADDRESSES OF COUNTING STATIONS
BELIZE CITY	Freetown	1	A - F (326), G - N (366), O - Z (377)	1069		All Saints Anglican Primary School Corner First and Dunn Street, King Park Belize City	3	All Saints Anglican Primary School Corner First and Dunn Street, King Park Belize City
		2	A - CO (514), CR - HA (497), HE - MOL (485), MON - SA (536), SC - Z (481)	2513		Young Women's Christian Association Corner Freetown and Thomas Street Belize City	5	Young Women's Christian Association Corner Freetown and Thomas Street Belize City
		3B	A - Z (338)	338	3920	Young Women's Christian Association Corner Freetown and Thomas Street Belize City	1	Young Women's Christian Association Corner Freetown and Thomas Street Belize City
	Caribbean Shores	3	A - D (420), E - K (411), L - RE (422), RH - Z (405)	1658		Edward P. Yorke High School Princess Margaret Drive Belize City	4	Edward P. Yorke High School Princess Margaret Drive Belize City
		3A	A - LE (394), LI - Z (395)	789		Buttonwood Bay Nazarene Primary School #4649 Coney Drive Belize City	2	Buttonwood Bay Nazarene Primary School #4649 Coney Drive Belize City
		4	A - F (388), G - M (408), N - Z (402)	1198		Trinity Methodist Primary School #5 G Street Belize City	3	Trinity Methodist Primary School #5 G Street Belize City
		5	A - L (383), M - Z (349)	732	4377	Belize Ex-Services League Building #158 Newtown Barracks Belize City	2	Belize Ex-Services League Building #158 Newtown Barracks Belize City
	Pickstock	6	A - F (507), G - N (521), O - Z (535)	1563		Central Christian Primary School #166 Freetown Road Belize City	3	Central Christian Primary School #166 Freetown Road Belize City
		16A	A - E (414), F - L (404), M - RI (395), RO - Z (412)	1625		Saint Luke Methodist Primary School Mahogany Street Belize City	4	Saint Luke Methodist Primary School Mahogany Street Belize City
17A		A - FL (429), FO - N (409), O - Z (380)	1218	4406	Saint Luke Methodist Primary School Mahogany Street Belize City	3	Saint Luke Methodist Primary School Mahogany Street Belize City	
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BELIZE CITY	Fort George	7	A - L (337), M - Z (320)	657		Holy Redeemer Upper Division Primary School New Road Belize City	2	Holy Redeemer Upper Division Primary School New Road Belize City
		8	A - J (428), K - Z (409)	837		Holy Redeemer Lower Division Primary School #144 North Front Street Belize City	2	Holy Redeemer Lower Division Primary School #144 North Front Street Belize City
		9	A - L (467), M - Z (459)	926	2420	Queen Street Baptist Primary School Corner #1 Queen & Eve Street Belize City	2	Queen Street Baptist Primary School Corner #1 Queen & Eve Street Belize City
	Albert	10	A - K (442), L - Z (434)	876		Wesley Lower Primary School #38 Albert Street Belize City	2	Wesley Lower Primary School #38 Albert Street Belize City
		11	A - F (430), G - P (403), Q - Z (379)	1212		Anglican Cathedral College #71 Albert Street Belize City	3	Anglican Cathedral College #71 Albert Street Belize City
		16	A - K (337), L - Z (344)	681	2769	Calvary Temple Primary School #60 Regent Street West Belize City	2	Calvary Temple Primary School #60 Regent Street West Belize City
	Queen's Square	12	A - F (458), G - PA (467), PE - Z (449)	1374		St. John's Anglican Primary School #116 Euphrates Avenue Belize City	3	St. John's Anglican Primary School #116 Euphrates Avenue Belize City
		21	A - GA (436), GE - O (427), P - Z (419)	1282	2656	St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Primary School #289 Fabers Road Belize City	3	St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Primary School #289 Fabers Road Belize City
	Port Loyola	20	A - F (497), G - O (505), P - Z (518)	1520		Young Men's Christian Association #7539 Fabers Road Extension Belize City	3	Young Men's Christian Association #7539 Fabers Road Extension Belize City
		22	A - GA (486), GE - PE (473), PH - Z (481)	1440		Muslim Community Primary School Central American Boulevard and Fabers Road Belize City	3	Muslim Community Primary School Central American Boulevard and Fabers Road Belize City
		22A	A - EL (509), EN - L (515), M - RI (496), RO - Z (489)	2009	4969	Excelsior High School Fabers Road Belize City	4	Excelsior High School Fabers Road Belize City
	Mesopotamia	13	A - K (281), L - Z (326)	607		Queen Square Anglican Primary School #1 Armadillo Street Belize City	2	Queen Square Anglican Primary School #1 Armadillo Street Belize City
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BELIZE CITY	Mesopotamia	14	A - J (479), K - Z (458)	937		Grace Primary School #14 Amara Avenue Belize City	2	Grace Primary School #14 Amara Avenue Belize City
		15	A - L (364), M - Z (358)	722	2266	The Salvation Army Primary School #12 Cemetery Road Belize City	2	The Salvation Army Primary School #12 Cemetery Road Belize City
	Lake Independence	17	A - CH (499), CI - G (468), H - MA (447), MC - Q (430), R - S (374), T - Z (314)	2532		St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Parish Primary School Partridge Street Belize City	6	St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Parish Primary School Partridge Street Belize City
		17B	A - B (441), C - FI (471), FL - H (563), I - MC (471), ME - Q (510), R - S (455), T - Z (494)	3405	5937	St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Parish Primary School Partridge Street Belize City	7	St. Martin de Porres Roman Catholic Parish Primary School Partridge Street Belize City
	Collet	18	A - K (329), L - Z (341)	670		Youth Entrepreneurship and on the Job Skills Training Service Headquarters #1 Magazine Road Belize City	2	Youth Entrepreneurship and on the Job Skills Training Service Headquarters #1 Magazine Road Belize City
		19	A - CL (479), CO - G (477), H - M (511), N - SL (506), SM - Z (428)	2401		Gwen Lizarraga High School #18 Antelope Street Belize City	5	Gwen Lizarraga High School #18 Antelope Street Belize City
		20A	A - Z (433)	433	3504	Grace Primary School Corner Fabers Road and Singh Street Belize City	1	Grace Primary School Corner Fabers Road and Singh Street Belize City
SAN PEDRO TOWN	37	A - AR (537), AS - BRAD (548), BRAK - CASI (497), CAST - COBA (534), COBB - D (511), E - GI (553), GL - GU (549)	3729		San Pedro High School/San Pedro Junior College Corner Laguna Drive and Seagull Street San Pedro Town	7	San Pedro High School/San Pedro Junior College Corner Laguna Drive and Seagull Street San Pedro Town	
	37	H - J (493), K - MAH (543), MAI - MEN (502), MER - N (520), O - PH (471), PI - RH (471), RI - SAL (461), SAM - TE (496), TH - VAR (466), VAS - Z (552)	4975	8704	San Pedro Roman Catholic Primary School Barrier Reef Drive San Pedro Town	10	San Pedro Roman Catholic Primary School Barrier Reef Drive San Pedro Town	
COROZAL TOWN	39	A - CAM (485), CAN - CU (461), D - GOM (441), GON - LA (477), LE - M (488), N - RA (495), RE - TH (495), TI - Z (484)	3826		St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Primary School Corner Fourth Avenue and First Street North Corozal Town	8	St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Primary School Corner Fourth Avenue and First Street North Corozal Town	

# Make Belmopan *Vibrant Again!*



**Jacklyn Burns**

*For Mayor*



**Victor Orellana**



**Beverley Hope**



**Jose Linarez**



**Paul Casey**



**Cristina Chacon**



**Leslie Zelaya**



**ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT**  
**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 6TH MARCH 2024**  
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COROZAL TOWN		40	A - CHA (481), CHE - HA (488), HE - MO (496), MU - R (481), S - Z (487)	2433		St. Paul's Anglican Primary School Corner Fourth Avenue and Fifth Street South Corozal Town	5	St. Paul's Anglican Primary School Corner Fourth Avenue and Fifth Street South Corozal Town
		41	A - E (507), F - PE (520), PH - Z (540)	1567	7826	Our Lady of Guadalupe Roman Catholic Primary School Antonio Sosa Sr. Drive, Altamira Area Corozal Town	3	Our Lady of Guadalupe Roman Catholic Primary School Antonio Sosa Sr. Drive, Altamira Area Corozal Town
ORANGE WALK TOWN		53	A - CAJ (479), CAL - CO (493), CR - GR (490), GU - MC (474), ME - PE (491), PH - TI (493), TO - Z (445)	3365		San Francisco Roman Catholic Primary School #8 George Price Avenue Orange Walk Town	7	San Francisco Roman Catholic Primary School #8 George Price Avenue Orange Walk Town
		54	A - CE (418), CH - K (454), L - P (460), Q - Z (437)	1769		La Inmaculada Roman Catholic Primary School #3 Church Street Orange Walk Town	4	La Inmaculada Roman Catholic Primary School #3 Church Street Orange Walk Town
		55	A - G (363), H - Z (393)	756		Chapel Primary School Tate Street Orange Walk Town	2	Chapel Primary School Tate Street Orange Walk Town
		60	A - BR (496), BU - CAS (496), CAT - CR (430), CU - GI (436), GO - K (477), L - MEN (494), MER - PA (424), PEC - ROM (461), ROS - TS (472), TU - Z (435)	4621	10511	Louisiana Government Primary School Comer Zerico and Flamboyant Street Orange Walk Town	10	Louisiana Government Primary School Comer Zerico and Flamboyant Street Orange Walk Town
SAN IGNACIO AND SANTA ELENA TOWNS		72	A - CI (443), CL - HA (440), HE - MI (441), MO - R (418), S - Z (445)	2187		Sacred Heart College Joseph Andrew Drive San Ignacio Town	5	Sacred Heart College Joseph Andrew Drive San Ignacio Town
		73	A - BAL (462), BAN - CAN (440), CAR - COL (454), CON - E (479), F - GL (441), GO - HEN (439), HER - LE (457), LI - MAR (538), MAS - MY (494), N - PI (494), PL - RI (430), RO - SL (486), SM - VAL (476), VAN - Z (491)	6581		Sacred Heart Primary School Church Street San Ignacio Town	14	Sacred Heart Primary School Church Street San Ignacio Town
		76	A - BL (487), BO - CL (498), CO - F (463), G (534), H - L (531), MA - MO (535), MU - P (489), Q - R (413), S - TO (487), TR - Z (523)	4960	13728	Santa Elena Roman Catholic Primary School Perez Street Santa Elena Town	10	Santa Elena Roman Catholic Primary School Perez Street Santa Elena Town
BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN		83	A - CAR (440), CAS - CO (491), CR - GO (498), GR - J (431), K - MA (434), ME - N (435), O - RE (449), RI - S (414), T - Z (422)	4014		Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Primary School #10 Diaz Street Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town	9	Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Primary School #10 Diaz Street Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town
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BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN		84	A - L (392), M - Z (410)	802	4816	Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Primary School #10 Diaz Street Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town	2	Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Primary School #10 Diaz Street Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town
BELMOPAN CITY		86	A - C (435), D - K (434), L - Q (457), R - Z (484)	1810		Belmopan Comprehensive School (NORTH) South Ring Road Belmopan City	4	Belmopan Comprehensive School (NORTH) South Ring Road Belmopan City
			A - CAR (449), CAS - GAM (436), GAR - LE (443), LI - PAR (466), PAS - ST (474), SU - Z (425)	2693		Belmopan Comprehensive School (CENT) South Ring Road Belmopan City	6	Belmopan Comprehensive School (CENT) South Ring Road Belmopan City
			A - F (477), G - M (456), N - Z (413)	1346		St. Michael Roman Catholic Primary School (WEST) Monja Blanca Street Belmopan City	3	St. Michael Roman Catholic Primary School (WEST) Monja Blanca Street Belmopan City
			A - CAB (481), CAC - CHA (454), CHE - COP (459), COR - GE (480), GI - LE (474), LI - M (452), N - Q (490), R - S (475), T - Z (451)	4216	10065	St. Martin Government Primary School (EAST) #34 Cemetery Road Belmopan City	9	St. Martin Government Primary School (EAST) #34 Cemetery Road Belmopan City
DANGRIGA TOWN		92	A - L (306), M - Z (313)	619		Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Primary School #77 Sisters of Holy Family Avenue Dangriga Town	2	Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Primary School #77 Sisters of Holy Family Avenue Dangriga Town
		94	A - K (339), L - Z (388)	727		Zion Seven Day Adventist Primary School #90 Saint Vincent Street Dangriga Town	2	Zion Seven Day Adventist Primary School #90 Saint Vincent Street Dangriga Town
		95	A - L (544), M - Z (529)	1073		Delille Academy High School Second New Site Dangriga Town	2	Delille Academy High School Second New Site Dangriga Town
			A - DE (415), DI - LI (409), LO - P (419), Q - Z (394)	1637		Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Primary School Railway Pier Road Dangriga Town	4	Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Primary School Railway Pier Road Dangriga Town
		96	A - FL (413), FO - M (399)	812		Alexia M. Nolberto Government Pre-school Corner 1068 Ninth and Alvarez Street, Wagierale Area Dangriga Town	2	Alexia M. Nolberto Government Pre-school Corner 1068 Ninth and Alvarez Street, Wagierale Area Dangriga Town
MUNICIPALITIES	ELECTORAL DIVISIONS	POLLING AREA NOS.	ALPHABETICAL BREAKDOWN	NO. OF REG. ELECTORS	TOTAL NO. OF REG. ELECTORS	NAME AND ADDRESSES OF POLLING STATIONS	NO. OF POLLING STATIONS	NAME AND ADDRESSES OF COUNTING STATIONS
DANGRIGA TOWN		96	N - Z (414)	414	5282	Benguiche Pre-School (Former) Pen Road Dangriga Town	1	Benguiche Pre-School (Former) Pen Road Dangriga Town
PUNTA GORDA TOWN		109	A - F (430), G - P (450), Q - Z (356)	1236		St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Primary School #60 George Price Street Punta Gorda Town	3	St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Primary School #60 George Price Street Punta Gorda Town
		109	A - G (568), H - Z (547)	1115		St. Benedict Roman Catholic School Indianville Punta Gorda Town	2	St. Benedict Roman Catholic School Indianville Punta Gorda Town
		111 & 112A	A - J (332), K - Z (350)	682	3033	Punta Gorda Methodist Primary School Front Street Punta Gorda Town	2	Punta Gorda Methodist Primary School Front Street Punta Gorda Town
				101189	101189		224	

# The Passing of Former Justice of the Court of Appeal of Belize and Retired President of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica, Hon. Mr. Justice Dennis Morrison, O.J., C.D., K.C.



*Mr. Justice Dennis Morrison*

**Belize City, 5th February 2024-** It is with profound sadness that Honourable Chief Justice Madame Louise Esther Blenman and the Judiciary of Belize mourn the passing of the esteemed Hon. Mr. Justice Dennis Morrison, O.J., C.D., K.C., former Justice of the Court of Appeal in Belize and retired President of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica, who passed

away on the evening of February 3rd, 2024.

Hon. Mr. Justice Morrison was an eminent Caribbean jurist and had a remarkable career spanning over forty eight (48) years. Justice Morrison was humble, generous, respectful, and brilliant and his dedication was greatly admired in the legal profession. Indeed, he has left an

indelible mark on the Caribbean legal landscape.

Justice Morrison was educated and graduated from the University of the West Indies, and the Norman Manley Law School and was a Jamaican Rhodes Scholar in 1975. He was called to the Jamaican Bar in 1975 and was a lecturer at the Norman Manley Law School for over twenty (20) years. He chaired the Council of Legal Education and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1994.

Justice Morrison was a valued Judge of the Court of Appeal in Belize and served with distinction for over ten years, from 2004-2015. He contributed immensely to the jurisprudence in Belize and the Caribbean.

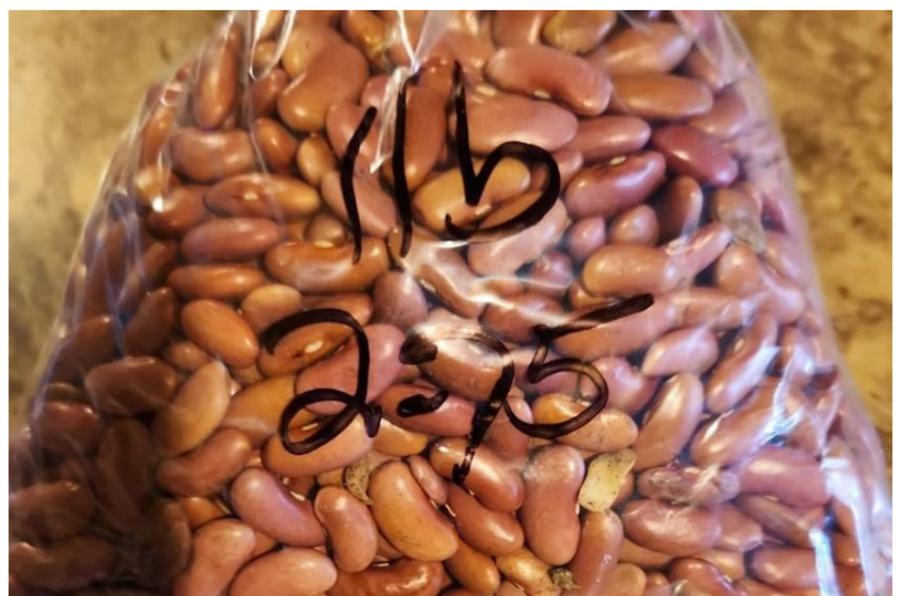
Justice Morrison served with distinction as a judge in other Courts of Appeal in the Caribbean. In 2008, Justice Morrison served as a judge on the Court of Appeal of Jamaica and acted as a judge on the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal in January 2015. He served on the Cayman Islands Court of Appeal

in May 2015. Justice Morrison also served on the Turks and Caicos Island Court of Appeal. In 2016, Justice Morrison was appointed President of the Court of Appeal of Jamaica, a position he held until his retirement in December 2020.

Justice Morrison's professional contribution extended beyond Jamaica as he served as a Commissioner of the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission of the Caribbean Court of Justice. He also served in various roles including as President of the Jamaica Bar Association and Vice President of the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations (OCCBA).

Hon. Chief Justice Mde. Louise Esther Blenman and the Judiciary of Belize extend heartfelt condolences to his wife, Janet and their children, the Judiciary of Jamaica and all who worked alongside the late Justice Morrison during this difficult time. His legacy of service and humility will forever be remembered.

## Can't Afford Beans



*Red kidney beans*

Just about every Belizean household has beans as a staple in their diet but over the past few weeks, even this singularly important food item has become unaffordable. The skyrocketing inflation has spared no commodity and beans now sells at over 3 dollars per pound. Reports to the Guardian indicates that the price of beans in some parts of the country like San Pedro and

Punta Gorda sell for as much as a 4 dollars per pound.

It is noteworthy that red kidney beans are one of 7 primary commodities that has a controlled price. But it appears that controlled prices means nothing in this era of hyper inflation as the Government is doing absolutely nothing to ensure that the prices are kept affordable.

## Galen University's Criminal Justice Club Calls For Increased Patrols To Safeguard Commuting Students!

**Central Farm, Cayo District. February 3, 2024**

In response to the recent unfortunate incident of a robbery targeting a university student in San Ignacio, Galen University's Criminal Justice Club is raising its voice to address concerns about the safety of students during their morning and evening commutes to school.

The incident has prompted the club to call for enhanced security measures, particularly during the hours when students

are most vulnerable. Recognizing the importance of ensuring the safety and well-being of the community, the Galen Criminal Justice Club is urging local authorities to increase patrols during these crucial times.

The safety of our community members, especially students commuting to and from school, is of paramount importance. We believe that increased patrols during these critical hours will act as a deterrent and contribute to a safer environment for everyone.

# BELIZE CITY COUNCIL

# 2024

## Miss Mortis for Mayor

# UDP 11



Nelma Jones Mortis

Mayoral Candidate



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One Vision.

COUNCILOR

Candidates



Angelie Perez Tyrone Louriano



Brian Audinet



Jason Staine



Leon Guild



Alisha Craig



Tattiyanna Young



Victor Miguel



Horace Alford



Samson Jacobs

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## Better for San Pedro Town!



Glan Rivero

Gabriel Zetina

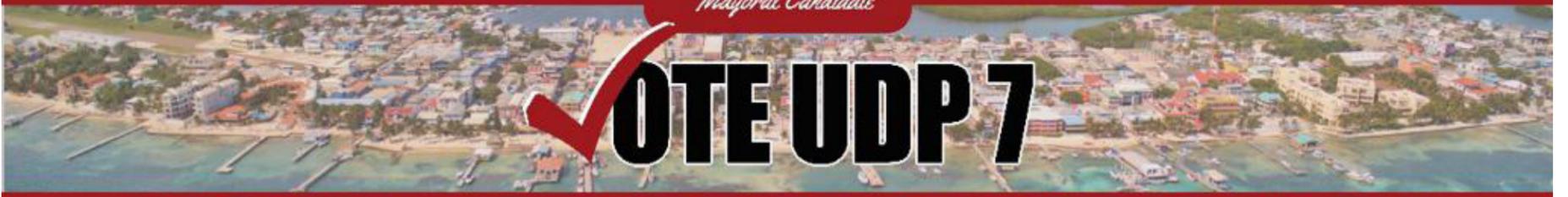
Ana Lilla Rodriguez

**WILFREDO ALAMILLA**  
*Mayoral Candidate*

Yakarells Hernandez

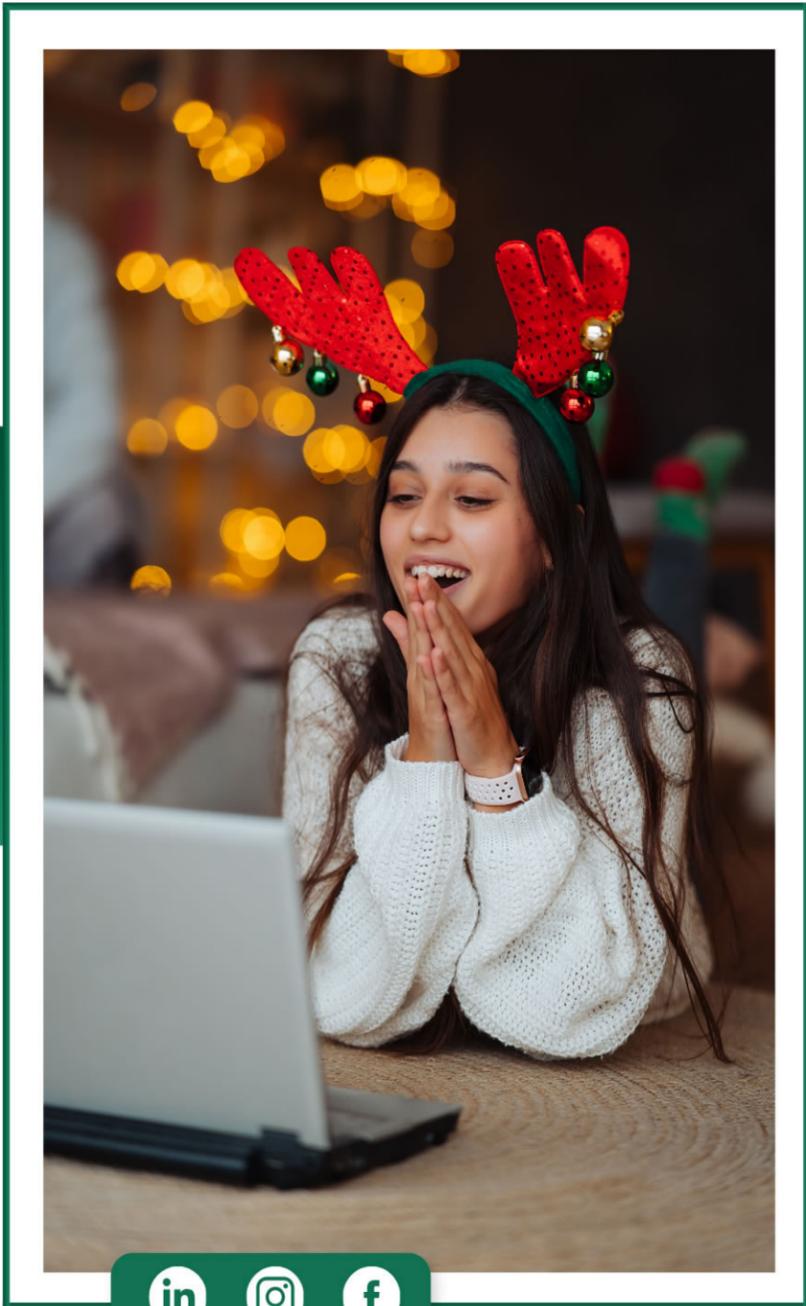
Abner Diaz

Byron Duarte



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**ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT****NOTICE****BELIZE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION, WEDNESDAY, 6TH MARCH 2024  
APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTION CLERKS**

**IT IS NOTIFIED** for general information that the Elections and Boundaries Commission, pursuant to Section 18 (1) of the Belize City Council Act, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize, has appointed the **RETURNING OFFICER** named below, and the Chief Elections Officer, acting pursuant to Section 18(2) of the said Act, has appointed, with the approval of the Elections and Boundaries Commission, the **ELECTION CLERKS** named below for the Belize City Council Election to be held on **Wednesday, 6th day of March 2024**.

**BELIZE CITY****RETURNING OFFICER**

Therese Martinez  
Assistant Comptroller of Customs  
Customs & Excise Department  
Port of Big Creek  
Independence Village  
Stann Creek District

**ELECTORAL DIVISIONS****ELECTION CLERKS****ELECTORAL DIVISIONS****ELECTION CLERKS**

Freetown

Sandra Diaz-Cadle  
Director, Training and  
Development Ministry of the  
Public Service, Constitutional  
and Political Reform and  
Religious Affairs North Wing,  
Ground Floor Sir Edney Cain  
Building Belmopan City

Queen's Square

Dorla Humes  
Assistant Director General  
Belize Tax Services  
Eleanor Hall Building  
Lake Independence  
Boulevard  
Belize City

Caribbean Shores

Jennifer Myvett  
Supervisor of Audit  
Audit Department  
Corner Douglas Jones  
Street and New Road  
Belize City

Port Loyola

Cecilia Ramirez-Smith  
Deputy Chief Education  
Officer Ministry of  
Education, Culture, Science  
and  
Technology Third Floor,  
West Block Building  
Belmopan

Pickstock

Shawn Vargas  
Director Department of  
Human Services  
#40 Regent Street  
Belize City

Mesopotamia

Lincoln Blake  
Director Investment,  
Policy and Compliance Unit  
Ministry of Finance, Economic  
Development and Investment  
#3 Mango Street  
Belmopan City

Fort George

Annisa Perdomo  
Belize Tax Officer I  
Belize Tax Services  
Eleanor Hall Building  
Lake Independence  
Boulevard  
Belize City

Collet

Kim Burgess  
Supervisor  
Belize Tax Services  
Eleanor Hall Building Lake  
Independence Boulevard  
Belize City

Albert

Teresita Miranda  
Accountant General  
Treasury Department Fourth  
and Fifth Floor, Eleanor Hall  
Building Lake Independence  
Boulevard  
Belize City

Lake Independence

Odelia Caliz  
Education Officer  
Curriculum and Assessment  
Unit Education Department  
Former Teacher's College  
Compound University Drive,  
West Landivar Belize City

**Dated: 7th day of February 2024**

**JOSEPHINE TAMAI**  
*Chief Elections Officer*

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY



Kendle Esquivel | Marina Gongora | Adelaida Tuyu | **ENRIQUE "WICO" CARBALLO** *Mayoral Candidate* | Yara Villeda | Vanessa Urbina | Carlos Diaz

## ✓ VOTE UDP 7

### YOUR CHOICE IS YOUR VOICE

ORANGE WALK TOWN COUNCIL / 2024-2027

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY



JAREN LAMBEY  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE | KATHY BURNS  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE | KARL "HG" CABRAL  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE | **FRANKLIN "KRANKA" POLONIO**  
MAYOR  
CANDIDATE | SELENI CUS  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE | VICTOR JACOBS  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE | KEVIN CHOC  
COUNCILLOR  
CANDIDATE

## "MEK WI TEK BAK PG FI WE"

### NEW VISION - NEW ENERGY - NEW HOPE

## VOTE UDP 7 PUNTA GORDA TOWN

**UDP**  
#Better for Belize

**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2024**

**UDP**  
#Better for Belize

# Your Horoscope

## **Aries Mar 21 – Apr 19**

You might be more interested in your freedom than in love at the moment. There's so much Uranian energy at play, thanks to Friday's New Moon in Aquarius plus the Sun square Uranus on Thursday, that it could complicate certain aspects of romance. You won't want to compromise individuality and personal authenticity in any way. While this may not be so much of an issue if you're single, if you're already in a relationship, move with care. Your sweetheart might throw a tantrum if you're paying more attention to your friends than your lover, as one example. If that happens, you may feel entirely turned off.

## **Taurus Apr 20 – May 20**

Brace yourself for a game-changing revelation in matters of the heart. Thanks to Venus making a gorgeous trine to Uranus in your sign on Wednesday, you're likely to have a major shift. You can finally understand that in order to get something you never had in love, you have to do something you've never done. It's as if the universe is going beyond an alarm clock -- it's almost physically shaking you out of it. Remember, if your current love life is feeling stale or stuck in any way, look inward. A mental rut could be blocking your grand romantic potential. You're ready to wake up and make real change.

## **Gemini May 21 – Jun 20**

Things are getting spicy, Gemini! If you're in a relationship, you and your sweetheart may enjoy a deliciously erotic rendezvous that starts out as a fantasy and soon becomes a delectable reality. Venus in your 8th House of Intimacy will make a gorgeous trine to Uranus in your hidden 12th house this Wednesday. Single? Pay attention to any opportunity to indulge in a surreptitious love affair. Perhaps you and this person have been flirting for some time but neither one of you actually made a move. This week, that could change as one of you makes an irresistible offer. You can keep things subtle while turning up the heat.

## **Cancer Jun 21 – Jul 22**

The stars are calling you to join a cosmic party -- no matter how comfy your couch feels. On Wednesday, charming Venus in your partnership sector will make a perfect link to unique Uranus, currently in your friendship sector. If coupled, you and your sweetheart are ready to get out of your private love bubble just long enough to enjoy new experiences through your shared social time. Maybe you'll attend more gatherings this week that connect you with delightfully quirky people. This could stimulate ongoing love connections or spark fresh ones. Be open to meeting strangers! If single, consider trying a new dating app or letting a friend set you up.

## **Leo Jul 23 – Aug 22**

Everything will be shaken and stirred this week in your love life, just like an invitingly colorful cocktail. Still, be careful, or you might end up with a hangover! A New Moon in your partnership sector on Friday suggests a new beginning, but it will hit with an uninvited twist, due to the Sun squaring wild Uranus the day before. If single, you could fall for someone who you know isn't good for your reputation. If you're in a relationship, then you and your partner may both need more space because you're feeling suffocated. This agreement is mutual, but there's a danger that it'll lead to you two growing apart. Step carefully.

## **Virgo Aug 23 – Sep 22**

Romantic changes are arriving at the speed of light this week -- any one of them could be vital for your love life. On Wednesday, Venus in your romance sector will make a stunning link to Uranus, the great awakener of the zodiac. This will jolt you awake, wherever it is that you've been "asleep at the wheel" concerning your love life. If single, you could make a sudden love connection with someone who isn't your usual type but captures your attention anyway. Currently paired off? At least consider telling your sweetheart when you think it's time to spice things up. The conversation should be easier than you think!

## **Libra Sep 23 – Oct 22**

People may not be saying what they mean at present. In particular, if coupled, you might have a sneaking suspicion that your significant other is hiding something from you. It doesn't have to be anything too underhanded, but you're allowed to be upset about it. On a positive note, as Mercury and Pluto unite in your romance sector this Monday, if it's not a lie from your lover, then the two of you can have a deep and meaningful conversation. If you're currently single, a New Moon in your romance sector on Friday signals the potential for someone to come into your life in the most chaotic way. You'll be ready.

## **Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 21**

Conversations with your partner should be anything but a snooze fest this week. Venus in your communication sector will make a gorgeous link to excitable Uranus, presently in your relationship sector, on Wednesday. This connection will remind both you and your mate to discuss innovative topics together -- ones that remind you how much you appreciate the mental connection you share. Alternatively, you might decide to take a spontaneous road trip alongside a lover or love interest. It'll be a blast! If you're single, one of your siblings may introduce you to someone you feel an instant attraction to. Be open!

## **Sagittarius Nov 22 – Dec 21**

One of your colleagues might remind you not to settle for anything less than what you know you deserve in matters of the heart. This person holds you in high regard -- they may even have a crush on you. Either way, because this peer sees your value, they can remind you that you're in charge of how friends or lovers treat you. If there's something going on in your current romantic situation that warrants better treatment, you could realize it's time to move on. Single? You just might be ready to make the first move and get an office romance going!

## **Capricorn Dec 22 – Jan 19**

You've got a cosmic edge when it comes to love and romance all week long. That's because Venus is spending her final week in your powerful sign, offering you the most glorious prospects for attention, love, and validation from others. You are extra gorgeous and appealing to others during this transit, so be sure to use this to your advantage by showing off the very best of your Venusian vibes to others. Whether you're single or attached, on Wednesday, Venus will make a perfect trine to Uranus -- this makes it possible for you to experience a strikingly unique romantic moment with someone.

## **Aquarius Jan 20 – Feb 18**

You're ready to change things up

in your life -- and that includes your love life! A New Moon in your sign on Friday signals this major shift in your energy. Since the Sun will have just squared Uranus on Thursday, it's sure to be a radical, unstable time. That being said, it's likely that you're the one instigating the chaos. It's as if your inner rebel needs to come out and you just can't seem to control it! You might let a current relationship go up in flames if it no longer honors your authentic self. If single, you may embrace your freedom in a whole new way.

## **Pisces Feb 19 – Mar 20**

Your love life might seem too good to be true this week, but guess what? It's really happening! Venus is in your 11th House of Hopes and Wishes, and on Wednesday, will make a perfect connection to Uranus, the planet of surprise. Since Uranus is in your message sector, you might receive sudden communication from someone you've got a crush on, confirming that the feelings are mutual. Maybe you and your current partner will make a radical decision to finally go for it and make a shared dream you've had come true. You can plan without second-guessing yourselves and may watch things take flight faster than you imagine. Amazing!0



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# THIS 2024 MARCH UPCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN BELIZE WILL HAVE SOME SURPRISES DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE COST OF LIVING, GAS, POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT, CRIME, LAND AND OTHER ISSUES

By: Wellington C. Ramos Adjunct Professor of History and Political Science



Wellington Ramos

Since returning back to Belize in October of 2022, I have been analyzing the social, economic and political situation in my country. Especially, in Dangriga Town and Stann Creek District where I spend most of my time. In the history of Belize the results of the Municipal Elections which are held on the first Wednesday in the month of March every three years is an indicator of which political party

will win the upcoming General Election. Belize have seven towns and two cities where these elections are conducted.

### THE RISE OF UDP

Most of the Municipal Elections indicators in Belize have been accurate over the years. A good example was the Municipal Election of 2006 when the People's United Party (PUP) Prime Minister Said Musa called election. He and his party were

defeated by the UDP party by a landslide. The General Election was held in 2008 and the UDP also won by a landslide defeating the PUP by a margin of 25 seats to 6 seats. Under the former United Democratic Party (UDP) Prime Minister Dean Barrow administration, in the 12 years that he and his party governed Belize, two of the Municipal Elections that he called in 2012 and 2015 were done jointly with the General Elections with the exception of the one that was held in 2018. His UDP party won the Municipal and General Elections of 2012 and 2015 unanimously.

were held in November of 2020 and the PUP won by a margin of 26 to 5. The People's United Party came to power during the COVID-19 Pandemic which started under the UDP and they were struggling to cope with the crisis.

### SOME REASONS WHY PUP WON

The UDP party was also plagued with factional ongoing infighting among themselves, with John Saldivar and Patrick Faber fighting to become leader of their party. Also, with one of their top Representative John Saldivar constantly in the news with a money scandal. The citizens of Belize became frustrated and disgusted with the UDP. Now the UDP under their new leader Honorable Shyne Barrow have decided to work together in unity so that they can have a chance of winning the Municipal and

### THE RISE OF PUP

In 2018 the People's United Party (PUP) won Belize City, Orange Walk Town and Corozal Town. This was an indication to UDP that the Belizean citizens were becoming disgusted with their party. The General Elections

## NOTICE

### SAGICOR LIFE INC.

**Beverly Wade** of 5 Independence Drive, Belize City, Belize, having made sworn deposition that Policy No **012004249** issued by Sagicor Life Inc. has been declared lost, and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

**Dated February 2nd, 2024**

**By Order**  
**Andrew C. Greaves**  
**Corporate Secretary**

## Liquor License Notice

Notice is hereby given under the intoxicating **Liquor License Ordinance** Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2023, that **Ifzal Hussain** is applying for a "Shop Liquor License" for the year 2024 to be operated at "**Juned Grocery Shop**" located at 87 Vernon Street, Belize City, Belize District.

Notice is hereby given under the intoxicating **Liquor License Ordinance** Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2023, that **Aydelin Cerritos** is applying for a "Publican Special Liquor License" for the year 2024 to be operated at "**La Bocana**" located in Bella Vista Village, Stann Creek District.

Notice is hereby given under the intoxicating **Liquor License Ordinance** Chapter 150 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2023, that **Yuis Rodriguez** is applying for a "Publican Special Liquor License" for the year 2024 to be operated at "**Alaska's Restaurant and Bar**" located in Alta Vista Village, Stann Creek District.

# THIS 2024 MARCH UPCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN BELIZE WILL HAVE SOME SURPRISES DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE COST OF LIVING, GAS, POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT, CRIME, LAND AND OTHER ISSUES

General Elections.

**ONE OF BELIZE'S BEST FOOTBALL STRIKER  
ENRIQUE "WICO" CARBALLO**

## **PUP SINCE 2020**

When the PUP won the General Election of 2020, the Belizean citizens were willing to be patient and sacrifice with them because of the Covid crisis. But when they started to see the way how this PUP Government is spending their money and the constituencies that are getting priority they are now angry. The citizens of Dangriga, Punta Gorda, San Ignacio and Belize City are not happy at this moment. The PUP government is aware that these people are not happy and up to this day they have not come up with any Economic Relief Plan to improve the quality of living for the people in Belize City, Dangriga Town and Punta Gorda Town.

## **ISSUES AFFECTING BELIZEANS TODAY**

The rising price of food, gas and fuel is affecting all the Belizean citizens in this country no matter where they reside. Most of the people in Belize City and the south, believe that the citizens in Corozal and Orange Walk Districts are given more preferences and live much better than them. This assumption is made because many of them have their cane farms and make good money from their farming. However, the price of gas, fuel and food is also affecting them.

## **PROBLEMS IN THE NORTH OF BELIZE**

They are also not happy with the sugar industry. I have friends



from Orange Walk including the current UDP candidate for Mayor Enrique Carballo who I played football with on the Orange Walk Selection and other teams in the 1970's. I asked him why he is running for Mayor and he said to me; "Ramos I am fed up of what I am witnessing in my hometown and a new vision and leadership is needed". He is not only popular in Orange Walk but in the entire country of Belize because he was one of our country's best football Striker. Apart from playing football he is educated and possess years of experience in management. The saying that politics is "Local" is true.

## **I N A D E Q U A T E R E V E N U E S   A N D S U B V E N T I O N S**

The cities and towns in Belize, do not have enough funds to manage their municipalities because their Government Subventions and revenues are not enough. They spend more money that they take in. They can give

all the speeches and make all the promises they want but if they do not have the money they cannot do anything for their citizens, towns and cities.

## **A U T O N O M Y   F O R V I L L A G E S , T O W N S A N D C I T I E S I N B E L I Z E**

What the villages, towns and cities in Belize need to do is to, demand autonomy from the Belize Central Government to have autonomy and control over their; villages, towns and cities affairs. This will place them in a position to generate the needed funds to administrate and manage their municipalities.

## **A P R O B L E M I N B E L I Z E C I T Y T O D A Y**

If not, they will continue to send their revenues to Belmopan and then they will have to beg the Central Government for their funds. A typical example is to fix streets and drains in all of our cities and towns. In the news today the PUP City Council and

their Central Government are arguing about who is suppose to fix Cemetery Road when the City Council and the Central Government are from the same political party. Imagine, what would happen if they were under a different Central Government? The street would not get repaired because of political vindictiveness and sabotage.

## **T H E   S E L L I N G   A N D B U Y I N G   O F   O U R   C I T I Z E N S '   V O T E S   M U S T   C O M E   T O A N D   E N D**

I hope that the two political parties and our citizens place the issues affecting their families, friends, themselves and this country over selling or buying votes to improve all of our living conditions in this upcoming Municipal Election. If our citizens decide not to sell their votes in this upcoming Municipal Election, they will send a strong message to the political parties and their candidates, that they will no longer endure this pain and suffering. Moving forward all of our citizens in Belize should cast their votes based on the conditions they and their families face daily in their lives and the way how their elected Representatives provide needed services to their constituencies and nothing else. I hope and pray that our citizens read and digest the contents of this article if they want to improve their living conditions. Otherwise, nothing will change after this upcoming election but things will remain the same.

# ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT

## NOTICE

### BELIZE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Belize City Council Act, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **BELIZE CITY COUNCIL** will be received at the **ITVET Building, Freetown Road, Belize City** between the hours of **10:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.**

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide** between the hours of **8:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **BELIZE CITY** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).**

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **BELIZE CITY COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **BELIZE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at the Customs and Excise Department, Port of Big Creek, Independence Village, Stann Creek District.

**DATED** the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **THERESE MARTINEZ**  
Returning Officer  
Belize City Council Election

## NOTICE

### BELMOPAN CITY COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Belmopan City Council Act, Chapter 86 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **BELMOPAN CITY COUNCIL** will be received at the **Belmopan Civic Center, Bliss Parade, Belmopan City**, between the hours of **10:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.**

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide** between the hours of **8:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **BELMOPAN CITY** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).**

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **BELMOPAN CITY COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **BELMOPAN CITY COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at the Office of Supervisor of Insurance and Private Pension #2 Toucan Avenue, Belmopan City.

**DATED** the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **ALMA GOMEZ**  
Returning Officer  
Belmopan City Council Election

## NOTICE

### SAN PEDRO TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **SAN PEDRO TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **San Pedro Town Council, #54 Barrier Reef Drive San Pedro Town** between the hours of **10:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.**

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide**, between the hours of **8:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **SAN PEDRO TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00).**

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **SAN PEDRO TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **SAN PEDRO TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is at Belize National Forensic Service, Old Army Road, Ladyville, Belize District

**DATED** the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **GIAN CHO**  
Returning Officer  
San Pedro Town Council Election

## NOTICE

### COROZAL TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **COROZAL TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **Corozal Magistrate Court, Corner First Street North and Fifth Avenue, Corozal Town**, between the hours of **10:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.**

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countywide**, between the hours of **8:00 a.m.** and **4:00 p.m.** daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **COROZAL TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00).**

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **COROZAL TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **COROZAL TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at the Ministry of Finance, **Economic Development** and Investment, Ground Floor, Right Wing, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan City

**DATED** the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **CARLOS POL**  
Returning Officer  
Corozal Town Council Election

# ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT

## NOTICE

### ORANGE WALK TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **ORANGE WALK TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **Sandy Hunter Library, Main Street, Orange Walk Town**, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**.

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide**, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **ORANGE WALK TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)**.

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **ORANGE WALK TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **ORANGE WALK TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at Orange Walk District Education Centre, Corner Manatee and Independence Streets, Orange Walk Town.

DATED the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **CARLA ALVAREZ**  
Returning Officer  
Orange Walk Town Council  
Election

## NOTICE

### SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWNS COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nominations of candidates for the election of members of the **SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWNS COUNCIL** will be received at the **San Ignacio Magistrate Court, Corner King and Buena Vista Streets, San Ignacio Town**, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**.

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countywide**, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)**.

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **SAN IGNACIO/SANTA ELENA TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is at Ministry of **Finance**, Economic Development and Investment, Second Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan City.

DATED the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **RUTILIA GABRIEL**  
Returning Officer  
San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town Council  
Election

## NOTICE

### BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **Benque Viejo del Carmen Town Council, George Street, Benque Viejo del Carmen Town**, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**.

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide** between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)**.

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **BENQUE VIEJO DEL CARMEN TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at Belize Archives and Records Service, #26/28 Unity Boulevard, Belmopan City.

DATED the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **MARVIN POOK**  
Returning Officer  
Benque Viejo Del Carmen Town Council  
Election

## NOTICE

### DANGRIGA TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **DANGRIGA TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **Dangriga Town Council, Market Square, Dangriga Town**, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**.

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office countrywide** between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **DANGRIGA TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)**.

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **DANGRIGA TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **DANGRIGA TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at Ministry of **Finance**, Economic Development, and Investment, Third Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan City.

DATED the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **AKIRAH SANCHEZ**  
Returning Officer  
Dangriga Town Council Election

# Business Community Endorses UDP Success in Controlling Inflation

This past Tuesday morning on the Chamber of Commerce’s morning chat show “The Business Perspective”, there was a very sober, yet intelligent, analysis of the dismal failure of the current BLU PUP Price control policy and its efforts to combat the so-called “price gouging”. While the discussion was very calm and almost timid in casting blame anywhere, it ended up being very highly critical of this government’s “price gouging” policy.

The panelists on the discussion noted that there are certain actions that can be taken to try to combat inflation. These include doing a wage adjustment at the top of the list, that is to give consumers more spending power. This option is followed much further down by price control which is seen as a heavy-handed approach that generally does more harm than good since

it typically does not work and damages businesses.

It is said that the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it and so now, a year later after the BLU PUP’s attempt on a wage adjustment, and their new price control measures implemented six to seven months ago, it is clear that these do not work and represents a total failure by this BLU PUP government and indicates a total lack of talent and creativity on their part. The feeble and useless efforts used to combat inflation in this country are simply not working.

Instead of allowing the free market to adjust the prices, it is being manipulated and controlled by a government which is hypocritically the biggest price gouger with their continued excessive fuel prices, which is the greatest fueler of inflation. The PUP’s heavy-handed approach was described as a double

whammy since the taxpayer has to pay for the attempts at the failed price control measures but yet the goods have not become any cheaper over the past six months or a year.

Other drawbacks and impacts of price controls that was cited is that you end up with fewer options on the shelves and consumers cannot find their favorite brand of a product so choice becomes increasingly limited as businesses start to become more conservative and restrictive with their product lines. It is generally understood across the board, except by this untalented BLU PUP government, that price controls do not work and in some cases cause more severe harm than good. Hence it is noted that the Chamber had immediately opposed these price control measures when they were first announced 6 to 7 months ago.

The prime example mentioned was that of the price of sugar that has been controlled for many decades now and how it did not help but resulted in the recent sugar shortage followed by the sugar price hike saga. We see how under this PUP Briceno government, the economic law of supply and demand has been destroyed and turned completely on its head. The question was raised during the discussion of why could not Belize have exported sugar under the normal and official channels and allow the Belizean sugar producers to benefit from the high sugar prices in Mexico and Guatemala instead of allowing just the smugglers to benefit? The answer is simple: when we have a BLU PUP government that has no vision, then the people will continue to perish.

The discussion then shifted to the question of then so what helps with inflation if price controls do not? The response was that it is government’s obligation to provide a social safety net to make sure that the most vulnerable households could access the goods that they needed to access with some kind of support from the government. Tried and proven programs that worked under the last UDP government such as the BOOST program was cited, along with the Food Pantry (now rebranded as a flimsy “Grocery Bag”) were cited as things that worked. It was further noted that it is important to extend the

food pantry to supply to more households not less (like this useless and selfish BLU PUP government has done).

The continuation of these programs would clearly offset some of the impacts of inflation, which was virtually nonexistent under the UDP. Yes, it would come with a cost but the benefits far outweigh the costs and it is supposed to be a responsibility of government to be looking after its people and to provide some level of a safety net to those who are the most vulnerable at the time. It was noted that these are by far more sustainable, viable, long-term solutions rather than the interventionist price control methods that do not work – it is literally the matter of the carrot instead of the stick approach. It was particularly noted that the heavy-handed approach, chosen by the PUP, generally does not work. We all know that approach was chosen just to make it seem as if they are doing something when, in fact, they are doing nothing.

It was clearly pointed out by the representatives of the Chamber that government has to look after the people who are really bearing the brunt of the high prices and those who are not even making the 3 meals a day comfortably – “the people who are going to work hungry just so that they can send their children to school with some food”. The policies must be designed in a focused way to get the most vulnerable through this difficult period until the inflation rate subsides. The speakers also proposed revisiting some of the inflationary customs duties and taxes and pointed out that tax reform is desperately needed. They noted that taxes can be used not just to keep down prices but also to educate or encourage consumers to select more healthy foods.

However, if you read between the lines, the bottom line of the discussion and the key to solving this inflationary upwards spiral in prices under this useless PUP is to bring back the BOOST program, bring back the robust Food Pantry that we had before under the UDP and, most importantly, bring back the UDP who knows how to control inflation without constantly attacking the business community.

## ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT

### NOTICE

#### PUNTA GORDA TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

#### NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF NOMINATION AND DATE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Town Councils Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Belize, and the applicable Subsidiary Regulations, it is hereby notified that for the purposes of every election of members of a new council, the nomination of candidates for the election of members of the **PUNTA GORDA TOWN COUNCIL** will be received at the **Punta Gorda Magistrate Court, Front Street, Punta Gorda Town**, between the hours of **10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**.

Nomination Forms can be obtained at any **Elections and Boundaries Department office** countrywide between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.** daily, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Every candidate shall be proposed by two other persons whose names appear on the Register of Electors for **PUNTA GORDA TOWN** and shall deliver to the Returning Officer his/her written consent to be so nominated.

Every candidate shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)**.

If more candidates are nominated than there shall be seats to be filled, a municipal election of members to the **PUNTA GORDA TOWN COUNCIL** shall be held on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

The Office of the **Returning Officer** for **PUNTA GORDA TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION** is situated at Forestry Department, Forest Drive, Belmopan City.

**DATED** the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Signed: **WILBER SABIDO**  
**Returning Officer**  
**Punta Gorda Town Council Election**

# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY



Armando Vasquez | Melanie Mena | Villma Vellos | **RICARDO "RICK" AKE** | Shajira Sajja | Benjamin Acosta | Austin Pate

*Mayoral Candidate*



## "BIG CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS"

COROZAL TOWN COUNCIL / 2024-2027

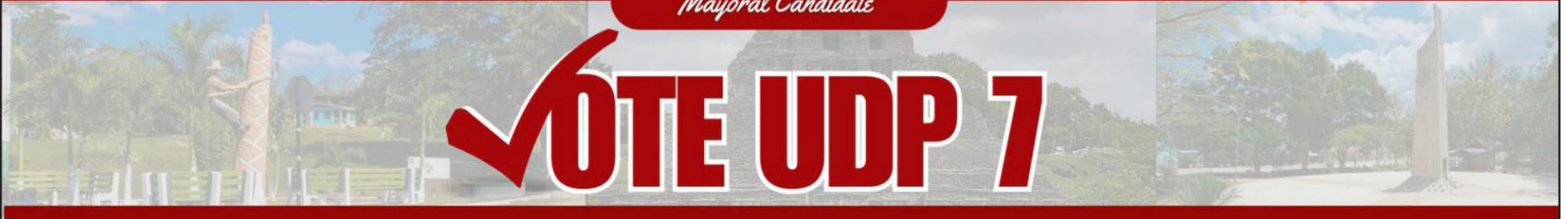
# UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## BETTER FOR BENQUE



George Iglesias | Angel "Colitas" Rodriguez | Sandra "Sandy" Torres | **Marco Tesucum** | Maria "D.C" Martinez | Jorge "Crab" Moralez | Oscar "Rene" Kuylen

*Mayoral Candidate*



## "UN PUEBLO UNIDO, UN PUEBLO PROSPERO"

BENQUE VIEJO TOWN COUNCIL / 2024-2027