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THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 22ND, 2018

75 CENTS

BAHAMIANS FED-UP

PM: "PROTEST IS PART OF DEMOCRACY"

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

Irate Bahamians fed-up with high electricity bills among other things, yesterday delivered on their promise by showing up in a mass protest demonstration on Bay Street.

Decrying the increasing cost of electricity in the country, along with other vexing issues, the group marched to Bay Street from the headquarters of Bahamas Power and Light on Blue Hill Road, with flags and placards marked with the words, "No Election Promise Kept," "BPL Bill Robbery," "Stop BPL Scam," "BPL are robbers and "Minnis is clueless." The protesters along the way chanted "Minnis got



► The scene from yesterday's protest in Downtown, Bay Street as Bahamians march in protest of increasing BPL bills and promises unfulfilled by the current Gov't. (File photo)

■ See BAHAMIANS / page 3...

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

Exiting the House of Assembly, the Prime Minister responded to the demonstration, a sentiment shared by National Security Minister, Marvin Dames.

"This is a democratic society, individuals are within their legal rights to demonstrate, that's good about democracy" said Dr. Minnis.

"I have no issues with persons protesting, the

■ See PROTEST / page 2...



► Prime Minister, Dr. Hubert Minnis (File photo)

UTEB Decries Union Busting LECTURERS PROTEST AT UB

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas

(UTEB) is calling on the University of The Bahamas (UB), to "come to the table in good faith to negotiate" a new Industrial

Agreement, as the old one agreement expired in 2017.

During a protest at the main entrance of the University's campus on

University Boulevard, lecturers of the institution accused the university of

■ See UTEB / page 6...



► Protest yesterday at the UB campus as some lecturers took to the streets in efforts to bring the University of The Bahamas (UB) to the table for negotiation talks (File photo)

PM PROPOSES USING DORMANT FUNDS FOR DISASTER RELIEF

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Doctor Hubert Minnis suggests that dormant accounts in the banking system should go to disaster relief in the country. Dr. Minnis

made the statement yesterday as he opened debate on an amendment to the Central Bank Act in the House of Assembly.

Dr. Minnis told the House that at the end of

■ See PROPOSES / page 3...

COOPER CAUTIONS GOV'T "ON BAD FORM"

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) Deputy Leader Chester Cooper yesterday suggested in the House of Assembly that the money from dormant accounts at

the Central Bank be used for youth empowerment, family island development, school sport facilities, or somewhere than will make a difference.

He added that "this money isn't actual rev-

■ See COOPER / page 6...



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RIGHTS BAHAMAS PROTESTS POLICE RESTRICTIONS

The President of Rights Bahamas, Stephanie St Fleur said she is saddened "to see the state of our country and how the powerful continue to attempt to oppress our people. In all my years of demonstrating as a labour organiser, I have never, ever seen a permit granted that limited protestors to the sidewalk. Apparently, under the Minnis Administration, the streets no longer belong to the people."

She said "thankfully, the police did not enforce this dictatorial stipulation; nevertheless, the public deserves an explanation of how it came to be in the first place, and Rights Bahamas demands an answer."

"While the 'Enough' Marchers were permitted to walk in the streets, today was also the first time in my life that I have seen police squad cars escorting a march so close-

ly, directing and restricting its movement and the course it followed.

"It was also extremely disappointing to witness the authorities' shameful attempt to barricade Rawson Square in order to keep the marchers out," she said.

"What a far cry from the spirit of the 'We March' demonstration a few years ago, when Bahamians took over the streets of Downtown Nassau, with senior FNM leaders among them. At the time, then Opposition Leader Hubert Minnis told the press in Rawson Square: "The people have finally arrived at their square, this is the square of liberty and the people have a right to march in Rawson Square. The people march for freedom, they march for freedom of expression, they march for a future, and they want to be heard. It's the people's time." How quickly times

have changed.

"The authorities would do well to remember that the Bahamas Constitution grants each and every one of us the right to peaceful assembly. The police do not have the authority to curtail or restrict that right and Rights Bahamas will not hesitate to take the matter before the courts if this worrying trend continues," said Ms. St. Fleur.

She said, "Our government is now on the UN Human Rights Council; as such, it should also remember that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights grants all people the right to freedom of assembly, expression, thought and movement.

"This FNM government must learn to respect people's fundamental rights, or else they will go the way of their predecessors. Enough is enough," said the Rights Bahamas leader.



▶ Right Bahamas organized a street march to combat the new regulations for protesting, that and other human rights violations brought about under the Minnis administration. (File photo)

PM: "PROTEST IS PART

Continued from / PAGE 1...

only thing I would say though is that when we do in fact protest, that we must do it respectfully, because this is a peaceful society and you can be much more effective

protesting without violating your permit," said Minister Dames.

As for possibly reducing the cost of electricity, Prime Minister Minnis told reporters, committees are looking into this.

"We understand that

there are some people having challenges with light bills, we're cognizant of that. We will do whatever we can to try and relieve their pain and their stress.

"That's what a good government does," said Dr. Minnis.

BAHFSA Warns Of E. Coli/ Salmonella Outbreak

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas Agricultural Health and Food Safety Authority, BAHFSA is taking no chances particularly after a recent warning in the US about E. coli and Salmonella in Romaine Lettuce, and raw turkey products respectively.

In a press release BAHFSA advised local consumers to throw out any lettuce products they may have that may have been bought from stores selling U.S. products.

"The Bahamas Agricultural Health and Food Safety Authority (BAHFSA) is committed to ensuring that food for human consumption is safe and free of disease.

"The recent E. coli outbreak and warning of Romaine Lettuce in the US hereby extended to consumers in The Bahamas to voluntarily throw out any lettuce they may have bought from stores selling US derived lettuce products," the statement said.

They have also warned of an ongoing outbreak of Salmonella in raw turkey products.

Just recently, the Centre for Disease Control in the US warned its citizens of the E. coli outbreak, although no specification on recall has been made.

"The U.S. Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention is still in the process of a traceability study to determine the origin of the outbreak; hence, no recall has been made.

"In addition, the CDC has indicated that an earli-

er outbreak this year is 'not directly related' to the current outbreak which has a "slightly different DNA fingerprint".

"Thirty-two (32) illnesses have been reported in the U.S with thirteen (13) requiring hospital care; and eighteen (18) illnesses reported in Canada," according to the statement.

BAHFSA said persons who continue to consume that brand of lettuce, does so at their own risk. However, the authority advises that there are things that can be done to mitigate any potential exposure and illness.

The statement asks for consumers to "wash hands before handling lettuce, thoroughly clean any containers, utensils and cutting boards to be used during preparation, wash the lettuce thoroughly over potable running water, rinse with a three or four to one ration of water to vinegar to remove any microbial presence, then again with water, keep the lettuce away from surfaces where raw food is present and place leftovers in a covered container in the refrigerator".

The effects of consuming contaminated lettuce BAHFSA says can result in vomiting, stomach cramps, diarrhea, fever or loss of appetite which can last for anywhere from 12 to 24 hours to up to a week after ingestion.

There have been no incidents associated with the recent E.coli outbreak in The Bahamas

As for the Salmonella outbreak in raw turkey products just days before Thanksgiving, the USDA has recalled all ground

turkey due to an ongoing outbreak, one year ago.

BAHFSA has also cautioned consumers about raw turkey products associated with an antibiotic-resistant strain of Salmonella.

According to the statement, "over 160 illnesses have been reported, with three hospitalizations and death in the US.

The Centre for Disease Control (CDC) has yet to identify a supplier as the source of the outbreak. However the Jenny-O Turkey store has voluntarily recalled over 91 thousand pounds of its raw turkey products, specifically those dated October 1 or October 2, having the code "P-190" inside the USDA inspection mark.

Further, BAHFSA wishes to caution those who grocery shop in the U.S to discard any lettuce or named Jenny-O brand turkey products they may have brought upon their return into the country and have in the refrigerator and to exercise caution in purchasing all raw turkey products.

In addition, those who may have traveled to the U.S and consumed turkey products and have become ill, should make a report with the Surveillance Unit at the Ministry of Health.

A warning is also given to local retailers and wholesalers who may have any of these items in their inventory to, in the case of the Romaine Lettuce, voluntarily remove them from the shelf and to discard any Jenny-O brand Turkey products named in the recall.

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BAHAMIANS FED-UP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

to go" and sang the Civil Rights Movement's anthem, "we shall overcome."

"The prime minister of this country is doing everything other than what is in the manifesto, to me that is criminal because he deceived the people and he won a general election based on lies, propaganda and fake news," said march coordinator "Queen Bee."

"When we're going to have a government take away from our children, deprive them of their school uniforms, we have a problem with that."

"When we're going to have a government take away from the senior citizens the little food coupons that they are getting, we have a problem with that."

"When we're going to have a government have the white people in Lyford Cay send one letter to meet their demands and [obligations] and they honored that letter, we have a problem with that."

"We want this FNM government that we elected to this house, to end that OBAN deal immediately," said co-coordinator Maria Daxon.

"Nothing was ever tabled as to how and what was the benefit for the Bahamian people, that's one of the proposal that we want them to do," she added.

"We want them to reinstate the Removable Property Act; nothing with that benefits the whole entire Bahamian people, only a select set of people are [benefitting] from everything this FNM government did since they went to parliament."

"I'm not here to baby those people in the House of Assembly, they [are] my slaves they [are] working for me," said Queen Bee.

"I'm paying them and I'm not here to baby them up. Who do they think they are?"

"This is the second fiscal budget that we are in, [and] what is listed in this budget for the Bahamian people and our country, nothing not a damn thing," she added.

"When you have a whole country that is hurting and that is angry, what more do we expect for them to sit home and wait for the high electricity bill to reach, for them to sit home and wait for their children to starve...what do we expect? This is not a game this is reality."

"We are here to voice our demands," she said.

"We [are going] to give them 10 days to address our demands, if they don't we will be back to ask for the [entire] cabinet's resignation."

"If they don't do that we will be back again, but not here we will be to the AG."

Standing in solidarity

with the group were FNM backbencher, Frederick McAlpine, former cabinet minister, V. Alfred Gray, DNA Deputy Leader Arinthia Komolafe and outspoken activist Rodney Moncur.

"This is the people's parliament and this is about the people and I want to be here with the people," said McAlpine.

"My political future doesn't matter; the Bahamian people matter. If I have to take a choice between party and people, I'll always chose the people," he said.

"After two years for us to be at this level, I've never seen this degree of anger and frustration from the people so quick with a government, something is drastically wrong and practically every government organization is striking or attempting to strike or talking about striking. That is bad," he continued.

"I often see this four years into election and it's not even been two full years and this where we are at, this is deplorable," said Mr. McAlpine.

"I honestly expected this crowd and if Bahamians were as bold as Haitians are, there would be much more out here, because if you think only these people here are hurting, that's a mistake," said V. Alfred Gray.

"Every Bahamian is hurting and will be hurt more come January because everything is

going to go up as of January, except salaries, and that disturbs me," he said.

"I'm just standing here with Bahamians. Any right thinking Bahamian who is sitting under this current administration would be standing here," said Komolafe.

"What you are seeing here today is an obvious display of democracy."

"This is what democracy looks like in our country, this is what happens when the people are frustrated," she added.

"We have not seen any protest so often in one administration that's only been around for less than 18 months, but it just goes to show that this administration that came into office with no plan is obviously executing plans that are not benefiting the Bahamian people and so they are here to voice their frustrations and their concerns and I'm here to stand with the people," she said.

"We have come to Bay Street to protest against the fact that the Free National Movement government having made many promises [and] have not kept one," said Rodney Moncur.

"We have also come to Bay Street to petition our parliament, to demand that electricity, which is extremely high, the electricity bills, be reduced by 50 per cent," he added.

"We are also upset over the fact that since the Free

National Movement Government came to power, its only policy has been to terminate people who have been employed and yet having done that, they have done nothing to stimulate the economy whereby jobs could be produced."

Addressing the protestors were Opposition Leader Philip Davis and his deputy Chester Cooper, who expressed hoped that this exercise opens the government's eyes to the cries of the people.

"First of all it is impressive and I think it speaks to the frustrations and angst that exist amongst our people," said Davis.

"I think it is exacerbated by the fact, that this government claims to be the people's party, the people's government, it's the people's time, and yet where are the people, out here crying, screaming, expressing their disappointment with this government because of what's happening to them," he added.

"With all the taxes and just the uncaring nature of their approach to governance as they feel it today."

"I hope they listen to the people. These people are crying, they want to be heard they want to be listened to, they want action to bring relief to the things they are complaining about today."

"They say it's the peo-

ple's time, but the people aren't feeling that," said Cooper.

"The cost of living is up, taxes up, and the cost of electricity is up, so every Bahamian is feeling it in their pockets and this is why we see such an outcry here this morning, because people are hurting," he said.

"Not only is the cost of living up, but the misery level is up in the country as well."

"So this is a great democracy; the people are speaking loudly and the government can ignore them at their own peril, but this is a great movement here today and we are delighted that the people have determined that their voices will not be depressed," said Mr. Cooper.

The march came just ahead of Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis tabling an amendment to the Value Added Tax (VAT) bill, upping the exemption on electricity from \$200 to \$300.

As for what's behind the soaring cost of electricity, the government has blamed it on two generators damaged by fire at the Clifton Pier plant, taking with it about 70 megawatts of energy.

Consequently, the Blue Hills power station had to be used.

Wednesday's demonstration was organized by Queen Bee and Maria Daxon.



► The scene from yesterday's protest in Downtown, Bay Street as Bahamians march in protest of increasing BPL bills and promises unfulfilled by the current Gov't. (File photo)



PM PROPOSES USING DORMANT FUNDS FOR DISASTER RELIEF

Continued from / PAGE 1...

June 2018, the number of these accounts was 42,452 with a corresponding value of approximately \$88.7 million.

Of that total, 34,528 were Bahamian dollar accounts, translating into \$18.9 million. The average amount on such accounts was \$548 compared to

\$7,837 for a U.S dollar equivalent balance.

The Prime Minister said, "there were 32,542 accounts or 77 per cent of the aggregate number of accounts having a value of \$500 or less, for a total of \$3.875 million in dormant accounts."

Of this total, he said, Bahamian dollar accounts represent 88 per cent or

\$3.11 million.

Dormant accounts with values exceeding 500 and meeting the proposed 17 years dormancy threshold for extinguishment of claims total 5,724, bearing a value of \$36.4 million.

Based on these legislative proposals, the Central Bank's Treasurer would receive an initial flow of at least 41.3 million dollars

assessed at the end of June 2018 and a further stream of transfers as the funds meets the 17-year threshold for extinguishment of claims "should they not be claims."

As for the use of the funds, Dr. Minnis said the money can be spent in several ways.

However, he added that mature governments must

make responsible decisions, therefore, he suggested the money go toward a proper disaster relief fund.

He said, "If our infrastructure — our roads, our telephones, our lights and our airports—are destroyed by a hurricane; and we cannot immediately embark on and prepare, our economy will subsequently demise

and we will have no funds or activities to repair the health system, the educational system, the social services, or encourage sporting."

The Prime Minister is headed to Washington D.C. this coming Sunday for a meeting with the world bank, the IMF, and IDB to discuss dealing with disaster management.

Spectacular Bahamian AFFAIR IN ATLANTA

Bahamas Ministry of Tourism Appreciation Night for Top Agents

The colors were bold and the music was amped up with the sounds of the goat skin drums, cowbells, whistles and horns, as travel professionals enjoyed the singing and the pulsating rhythms of Junkanoo sponsored by the Bahamas Tourist Office, Atlanta. The event was held at the Delta Flight Museum in Hapeville, GA.

Spearheading the efforts out of the Atlanta area, Gabrielle Archer, Area Manager of the Bahamas Tourist office, Atlanta, worked with her team to update 100 Delta Preferred Travel Agents, Bahamas Specialists and Media on What's New in The Islands Of The Bahamas (TIOTB). Industry Partners gave updates on

Nassau/Paradise Island, Grand Bahama Island and the Bahama Out Islands. Sponsor giveaways included special prizes from the following partners:

Viva Wyndham Fortuna Beach, Valentine's Resort & Marina, Abaco Club at Winding Bay and SLS Baha Mar.

"Events like tonight are important, firstly,

because they allow us to update the product and destination knowledge of our travel agents, allowing them to be "in the know" and well equipped to sell TIOTB. Secondly, it allows us to interact one on one with our top producing agents, thank them for the outstanding job they are doing and encourage them to continue to sell TIOTB,"

said Gabrielle Archer, Area Manager, Bahamas Tourist Office, Atlanta.

"I loved how organized it was! The information given was very concise and I did learn a lot. The venue was amazing. . . loved everything about it as I was exploring! The food was amazing...some of the best I've had at a travel event! The Bahamian Junkanoo per-

formers were such a treat I video'd the entire thing up close!" said Jennifer Goza, Owner, Time-Out Cruises and Tours.

Pushing the message that "It's Better In The Bahamas," the event was a part of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism's ongoing efforts to reconnect and re-engage with the Travel Agent Community.



► Pictured from left to right is: Junkanoo Performer; Nikki Barjon, The Barjon Group; Gabrielle Archer, Bahamas Tourist Office, Atlanta; Astra Armbrister Rolle, Consul General, Consulate General Of The Bahamas In Atlanta; and Junkanoo performer. (photo Gianne Demeritte)



► Pictured for left to right is: Gabrielle Archer, Bahamas Tourist Office Atlanta; Kimberly Love, Kimberly Love Travel and winner of the Winding Bay Abaco Trip. (photo Gianne Demeritte)

MINISTRY RESPONDS TO ALLEGATIONS OF HAITIAN NATIONALS REPATRIATED OR DEPORTED

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs says that it has been made aware of information circulating on social media - in this instance, the posting of a photograph of an unnamed man - alleging that the Haitian Government is denying entry to Haitian nationals repatriated or deported from The Bahamas and returning them to The Bahamas.

The Ministry advises that this information is a complete fabrication and without merit, as the

Haitian Embassy in The Bahamas and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs work together at all times, and in a coordinated manner, to ensure the smooth and respectful course of action required in this sensitive process. Moreover, the Ministry has confirmed that the Haitian Government has never denied entry to any Haitian nationals repatriated or deported from The Bahamas who are born to Haitian parents.

The Ministry reminds

that The Bahamas is committed to abiding by all international laws with respect to the return of foreign nationals to their countries of origin. The Ministry further cautions the public to be responsible with their postings on social media that falsely implicate on government-to-government relations and strongly requests that parties involved refrain from spreading such false information, which is a punishable offence.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that a Public Auction will be conducted by the Customs Department on non-entered goods at the places and times listed below:-

No.	LOCATIONS	DATES	TIMES
1	Airfreight LPIA - (GFT)	3 rd December, 2018	9:00am - 12:30pm
2.	Airfreight Odyssey (GFT)	3 rd December, 2018	9:00am - 12:30pm
3.	Betty K. - Arawak Cay (GFT)	3 rd December, 2018	2:00pm - 5:00pm
4.	Mailboat - Arawak Cay (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	9:00am - 12:30pm
5.	MSC - Arawak Cay (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	9:00am - 12:30pm
6.	Tropical Shipping - John Alfred Dock (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	2:00pm - 5:00pm
7.	Congo Town, Andros (GFT)	5 th December, 2018	9:00am - 5:00pm
VEHICLES (NEW PROVIDENCE) CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS			
8.	Betty K - Kelly's Dock - Arawak Cay (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am - 12:30pm
9.	Inchape Shipping (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am - 12:30pm
10.	Island Maritime (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am - 12:30pm
11.	United Shipping (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am - 12:30pm
12.	R. H. Curry & Co. Ltd. (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am - 12:30pm
ARAWAK CAY			
13.	Mailboat - Fiesta Mail (Arawak Cay)	6 th December, 2018	2:00pm - 5:00pm
FAMILY ISLAND			
14.	Marsh Harbour, Abaco	10 th December, 2018	10:00am - 5:00pm

The above goods will be sold under the Provision of Section 201 of the Customs Management Act. The Auction will commence at 9:00 am daily with the exception of Tropical Shipping, Betty K. Agencies, Arawak Cay (GFT), which will commence at 2:00 pm.

Vehicles (New Providence) Customs Headquarters, will commence at 9:30 am daily with the exception of the Mailboat - Fiesta Mail, Arawak Cay, which will commence at 2:00 pm.

Family Islands - Congo Town, Andros (GFT), will commence at 9:00 am on 5th December, 2018.

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, will commence at 10:00 am on 10th December, 2018.

A list of the goods to be auctioned can be viewed at Customs Headquarters, Betty K. Agencies, Gladstone Road Freight Terminal, Air Freight, Arawak Cay East.

The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids tendered.

Marlon Johnson
(Acting) FINANCIAL SECRETARY

UTEB Decries Union Busting

Continued from / PAGE 1...

union busting, while lamenting a plethora of issues they have been faced with.

Although the numbers were small in terms of the amount of faculty members demonstrating, the group shouted in solidarity, "negotiate!"

Dr. Erecia Hepburn, Membership Secretary of UTEB says that all is not well at the University of The Bahamas, particularly with the renegotiation of the industrial agreement.

"Come to the table in good faith. I don't need somebody coming to the table thinking they are a dictatorship, the only dictator I have is the Lord.

"So, everybody else has to come and understand that this is [a] democracy," Dr. Hepburn said.

"The administration brazenly contravenes the laws, policies and practices

and even openly declare that the signed and registered Industrial Agreement, 2012-2017 is no longer binding on UB, despite the terms and conditions being legally vested in faculty.

"They continue to blatantly violate the same," Dr. Hepburn said.

As for negotiating a new Industrial Agreement, Dr. Hepburn says that UTEB was faced with the university refusing to negotiate in good faith.

"Negotiations for a new Industrial Agreement started on February 19, 2018.

"UTEB found it necessary to suspend negotiations on June 20, 2018. We followed up with efforts to obtain legal interpretation.

"UB's position, which goes against all labour practices, is that more than fifty percent of our current Industrial Agreement falls under purview of the Academic Senate created under the UB Act 2018 and

they were not prepared to negotiate the same," Dr. Hepburn added.

"The fact that they are trying to act like the Act supersedes negotiations, we went to the Labour Board together as a collective [group]; UB did not bother to show up. They sent their legal counsel, which of course I assumed infuriated the Labour Board.

"We want them to come to the table and actually negotiate with us.

"There is no way we are just going to let the Act, which has Academic Senate that has more persons than faculty dictate what has to go on with faculty. It's ridiculous!" Dr. Hepburn said.

Dr. Hepburn says areas UB was not prepared to renegotiate include, clauses on Definitions, Faculty Development, Disciplinary Board, Faculty Appointments, Categories

and Nationality of Appointment, Annual Performance Assessment, Promotions, Teaching Duties, and Duties and Responsibilities of All Faculty.

She added that these essentially make up the terms and conditions of employment of the university.

"Their refusal to discuss any financial matters with UTEB and the autocratic style of their lead negotiator have contributed greatly to the break-down of negotiations," she said.

As for a time line for negotiating, Dr. Hepburn suggested that such takes place before December 7, as that's the date of the end of the school's semester.

"Let's hope people get their grades, that's all I can say. We can hope," Dr. Hepburn said.

Other UTEB issues include:

Among the many issues

UTEB has had to deal with are numerous trade disputes going back to 2016, which we had put in abeyance but recently reactivated as there has been no attempt by the administration to resolve any of these matters. Included among these issues are:

Indefensible delays in effecting timely promotions exercises.

Deliberate erosion of academic freedom.

Failure to negotiate a new agreement in good faith

Appointment of part-time faculty.

Failure to continue negotiations.

Failure to provide UTEB with agreed reports.

Failure to hold regular meetings of the Professional Leave Committee.

Failure to convene Faculty Development Committee (FDC) meetings.

Implementation of an online student feedback

forms.

Neglecting to take steps to address issues affecting health and wellness.

Inadequate remediation of UB's physical plant.

Neglecting to consult UTEB concerning changes to the infrastructure.

Limiting faculty advertisements to those with doctorates.

Violations in faculty overload payment.

Dereliction of fiduciary duties.

Undermining the union through victimization, discrimination and generally anti-union activities.

Omission of UTEB representation on search committees.

Placing a faculty member on paid leave without just cause.

Termination of faculty contracts without just cause.

Illegally stopping faculty salaries.

Intimidation of a union officer.



Protest yesterday at the UB campus as some lecturers took to the streets in efforts to bring the University of The Bahamas (UB) to the table for negotiation talks (File photo)



MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND REVENUE

REAL PROPERTY TAX NOTICE for 2019

In accordance with the Real Property Tax Act, Chapter 375 as amended, the Chief Valuation Officer hereby gives notice:-

- that copies of the assessment lists are available as required by Section 7 subsection 7 of the Act, and may be inspected at the Office of the Chief Valuation Officer;
- that a notice of assessment addressed to each owner of property liable to tax under the Real Property Tax Act is available at the Valuation Office, located at rear of the shops at Carmichael Plaza, Carmichael Road and may be collected therefrom by or on behalf of the owner of such property during normal working hours;
- that pursuant to subsection (3) of Section 7 of the Act, upon the expiration of five days after the publication of this notice, a notice of assessment shall be deemed to have been served on every owner of property liable to tax under the Act;
- that without prejudice to the provision of subsection (3) of Section 7 of the Act, the Chief Valuation Officer may at any time after the publication in the Gazette of this notice send by post, a notice of assessment addressed to any owner of property liable to tax under the Act;
- that pursuant to Section 11(1) of the Act, any person aggrieved by a notice of assessment deemed to have been served under this Act may object thereto by serving on the Chief Valuation Officer within thirty days after the date on which the notice of assessment is deemed to have been served, a notice in writing of such objection stating the grounds upon which he relies;
- that pursuant to Section 18 of the Act, the tax is due and payable by the owners of property not later than sixty days after the date on which notice of assessment is deemed to have been served. Accordingly, it is the duty of each taxpayer to ensure that he receives a Notice of Assessment;
- that the exemption has been allowed for 2019 on those which have been declared as owner-occupied residences, and have satisfied the conditions. However, under Section 43 of the Act, the owners are required to disclose to the Chief Valuation Officer any change in the circumstances which does not entitle the property for the exemption allowed;
- that pursuant to Section 10 of the Act, every owner of property shall not later than the thirty-first day of December in each year, make to the Chief Valuation Officer in the prescribed form a return of such particulars of that property as may be prescribed, for the purpose of enabling that Officer to compile and maintain accurate assessment lists, and such owner shall declare to the correctness of such return before an authorized person.

(For) Controller of Inland Revenue/
Chief Valuation Officer

COOPER CAUTIONS GOV'T "ON BAD FORM"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

enue and though it makes sense for the State to deal with these dormant accounts, they should have every intention of having the funds used by entities or an individual".

He said, "It would be bad form to spend this money from the consolidated fund for a current expenditure paying bills by everyday expenses."

He added, "it is unjust to classify it as government revenue and book it through the consolidated fund, in my view."

Mr. Cooper added that before the government embarks essentially ceasing money from these accounts, there should be provisions in the bills and

regulations to mandate that a notice be given to customers informing them of their plans.

He said, "I also find that the requirements for notice set out in certain legislations like the Insurance Act for notice by mail or registered mail is archaic, especially in the realm of modern technology and the inefficient postal services.

"So when we amend the bills to require notice, I would recommend that we consider the modern approach for delivering such notices," said Mr. Cooper.

The Exuma and Ragged Island MP added that dormancy, in his view, is usually the result of bad customer service,

saying that there is no measure to improve the heightened level of care at the bank and trust company, but according to him, there should be.

Mr. Cooper invited the government to look first; slow down a bit, and look at countries like the United Kingdom, the United States, Ireland, and Japan, assuring that together they will discover that there are attempts to create reserves in these accounts to ensure that the owners are not disenfranchised.

He said there is a constitutional point to be made, adding that he believes it is important that the government consider carefully these points.

GOT NEWS?
Please call The Bahama
Journal's News TIP
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and let us know!

Graduation of First Cohort of Citizens Security and Justice Programme Trainees

"If not for this programme, I would be involved in an activity that is contrary to my life's mission." "This programme is saving me from a life of crime." "I'm doing this for my daughter." Gadville McDonald, Executive Director, National Training Agency (NTA), shared these moving testimonials of graduates of Cohort 1 of the Government's Citizens Security and Justice Programme (CSJP) during the graduation ceremony, Saturday, November 17, 2018 at the NTA, Gladstone Road.

Mr. McDonald said there was much to be celebrated as not only are these individuals sharpened in necessary skills for the workforce but there are many stories of intrinsic motivation and transformation that have resulted from the intensive training, coaching and assessment.

Two hundred and seventy-eight trainees successfully completed four weeks of soft skills training in 17 areas including Attitude Management, Governing Yourself in the Workplace, Customer Service, Communications, Job Preparation, the Power of Choices, Team Work, Commitment, Persistence and Self Control, and Remedial Education in Numeracy and Literacy.

The contract to initiate training for the first cohort was signed five weeks ago



Presented with his award is Peter Turnquest, as Michael Nelson, Chief of Operations, IDB, (left); Eugene Poitier, Permanent Secretary (3rd from left); and Gadville McDonald, Executive Director, NTA, look on. (Photo/Anton Cunningham/NTA)

between the NTA and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The objective is to reduce crime, violence and contribute to the interest of safety and security in The Bahamas. CSJP takes a comprehensive approach to reducing crime and violence by targeting the following:

- Improving behaviors for non-violent conflict resolutions
- Increasing employability and employment of vulnerable youth
- Strengthening the institutional capacities of justice services

Decreasing the recidivism rate among the incarcerated.

The students will now begin training in their chosen technical disciplines which cover areas including hospitality, retail skills and customer service.

Dorcas Cox, Project Manager, CSJP, urged the graduates to take the values, tools, systems and resources that they have learned with them because they are necessary on the remaining steps of their journey.

Michael Nelson, Chief of Operations, Inter-American Development

Bank (IDB), expressed appreciation for IDBs involvement in the training. He encouraged the graduates to continue to overcome the challenges on their journey to success.

"We will be here throughout your journey. We are so proud of you. The loans that we give to the Government of The Bahamas, the interest goes back into the community. It is reinvested into our country. We are here to support the development of The Bahamas and for moments like this," said Mr. Nelson.

Eugene Poitier, Permanent Secretary, said the Ministry of National Security recognized that the high youth unemployment rates may put some people at risk for becoming involved in criminal and violent activities and some young people are facing significant challenges that prevent them from finding employment.

He remarked that potential investors look not only at infrastructure development, but at levels of skill set, education, and if there is a critical mass of qualified people to fill the jobs they need.

"We are catching vulnerable youths at the beginning of the process and those in remand at Bahamas Correctional Services. We are changing the focus of that from penal to rehabilitation," said Mr. Poitier.

He noted that a recent employability survey conducted by the CSJP, as part of the targeting and enrollment programme, indicated that around 42 percent of respondents did not receive a high school diploma, 36 per cent are single parents and may be raising a child of their own, and roughly 5 percent have had previous infractions with the law.

Mr. Poitier said programmes like the CSJP seek to improve employment opportunities for vulnerable youth who might otherwise be considered unemployable.

Moreover, an "enhanced" public employment system at the Department of Labour will also improve opportunities for trainees to connect with potential employers and assist them in finding permanent employment.

He said, "We have a combination of job skills training, work experience and job search support network. This triad is an excellent demonstration of a comprehensive approach to equipping young people with [what is] necessary to find a job and maintain employment. It's all about choice theory."



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Ministry of Health, invites Tenders for the provision of Janitorial Services during five (5) days per week Monday to Friday at the following North Eleuthera Clinics:

NAME OF CLINICS
Harbour Island, Eleuthera
Spanish Wells, Eleuthera
The Bluff, Eleuthera
Lower Bogue, Eleuthera

Interested persons can contact the Administrative Officer/Nurse In Charge at the said facilities for permission to inspect the premises. To obtain a copy of the Scopes of Work and additional information, please contact any of the following telephone numbers: 1 (242)-470-8153/225-1146/225-1277.

All Tender documents are to be placed in a sealed envelope marked: "To Tenders Board" Janitorial Services at The North Eleuthera Clinics c/o Financial Secretary Ministry of Finance Cable Beach Nassau, Bahamas

Companies should submit bids no later than Monday, November 26, 2018. Only persons with a valid Business License, Tax Compliance letter, Registration Certificate and Letter from National Insurance (NIB) stating your company is in Good standing need apply. Bids will be opened on November 27, 2018. Bidders or Representatives will be requested to be in attendance.



GOVERNMENT NOTICES

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ROAD TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

P.O BOX N-1615

THOMAS A. ROBINSON NATIONAL STADIUM

NASSAU, N.P. BAHAMAS

The Road Traffic Department would like to remind all Franchise Holders – Taxi, Tour, Public Schedule, Private Schedule, Private Charter, Livery, Self-Drive Cars and Scooters that we are now accepting registration documents for the Bi-annual inspection period of October 2018 to May 2019.

The Following documents are required:

1. Passport/Voters Card and N.I.B Card (for holders not registered in the new system)
2. Up to date Franchise Receipt
3. Up to date Business License
4. Inspection Slip/Copies of expired Inspection Discs
5. Completed Inspection Forms for Companies with five (5) or more Vehicles that require On-site Inspection (forms Can be picked up at the Road traffic Department Franchise Unit).
6. Up to date Insurance Certificates
7. Vehicle Color and right/left hand drive (for new vehicles)

All Franchise Holders with a fleet of five (5) or more vehicles are invited to submit their packages to the Road Traffic Department, Franchise Unit Section 3 Eastern Grandstand of the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium. All Packages will be processed on a first come first serve basis.

Please note that the Department will only receive payments in the form of:

- a. Certified cheques payable to the Public Treasury (No personal or company cheques)
- b. Visa, Master, Debit, Credit Cards
- c. Cash


Controller
Road Traffic Department

66 Steps, BBB Craft Beer back for the Holiday Season

With a decade long reputation of providing quality products and experiences for its customers, the Bahamian Brewery & Beverage Company (BBB) continues to set the standard in the highly competitive beer market offering great tasting products. Its latest product, the limited edition 66 Steps, was launched in March of 2018. The brewery yielded to the demand of its consumers to bring back this seasonal premium craft beer to the local market, just in time for holiday celebrations. "The March launch of 66 Steps was so amazing," noted BBB Trade

Marketing Supervisor Bryan Thurston. "Beer enthusiasts lined up to sample the all new flavor, giving great reviews for the quality and uniqueness in taste as well as its awesome red hue."

Named for one of the country's most significant monuments, the famed Queen's Staircase, within the Fort Fincastle Historic Complex, hewn out of solid limestone rock by slaves. Known locally as the '66 steps' into downtown Nassau, the beer is an amber colored brew bursting with hints of nuts, and caramel. "The beer boasts a malty freshness," said Thurston. "It

has a well-balanced body derived from roasted malt with fine notes from selected hops and will be available for limited time only."

The beer will be available in the market for a limited time. "66 Steps is more than just a beer, it's an ode to one of the country's most popular landmarks," said Sales and Marketing Manager Wellington Seymour. The consumer continues to be in awe of the extraordinary quality, freshness, and packaging in BBB brands. As a beer critic has said, "Jimmy has kicked the ball out of the park on this one!"



► Beer enthusiasts with discerning tastebuds have turned out to sample the Bahamian Brewery & Beverage (BBB) Company's newest craft beer 66 Steps - named for one of New Providence's most popular landmarks located in downtown Nassau. The beer was initially launched in March of this year and has returned in time for the holiday season. (Photo BBB/Barefoot Marketing)

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VACANCY FOR COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS BAHAMAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the post of Commissioner of Corrections in The Bahamas Department of Correctional Services, Ministry of National Security.

Requirements for the Post

Bachelor's Degree (from an accredited institution, approved for The Bahamas Government's purpose) and have been trained in Penal/Public Administration/Correctional Management; with a minimum of three (3) years experience as Deputy Commissioner of Corrections;

OR

Applicants must possess a Bachelor's Degree (from an accredited institution, approved for The Bahamas Government's purpose) and have been trained in Penal/Public Administration/Correctional Management; with a minimum of ten (10) years experience in a comparable post and environment;

OR

Associate's Degree (from an accredited institution, approved for The Bahamas Government's purpose) and have been trained in Penal/Public Administration/ Correctional Management, with a minimum of five (5) years experience as Deputy Commissioner of Corrections;

OR

Associate's Degree (from an accredited institution, approved for The Bahamas Government's purpose) and have been trained in Penal/Public Administration/ Correctional Management, with a minimum of twelve (12) years experience in a comparable post and environment.

Degrees in Law, Criminal Justice or Social Sciences would be an asset.

In addition to the post requirements, experience as follows would be an asset:

- Senior executive level management experience, including the management of human and financial resources;
- Experience in promoting the importance of a healthy organization workplace;
- Experience in representing an organization, and communicating and consulting at a senior level with a broad range of private and public sector stakeholders, policy and decision makers as well as the media;
- Experience managing labour relations and working with staff associations in a complex and challenging environment;
- Experience working in a correctional facility, within the criminal justice system, or in a field providing services or programmes to inmates, working with diverse inmate populations and vulnerable persons or groups.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities required

- Knowledge of legislative and policy frameworks and legal principles governing corrections and the criminal justice system in The Bahamas;
- Knowledge of the mandate, role and responsibilities of organizations involved in the National Security portfolio;
- Knowledge of the challenges facing The Bahamas Department of Correctional Services, including the rehabilitation of offenders, health and mental health care, and strengthening community corrections;
- Knowledge of the role of Commissioner and their relationship within the portfolio and with the Government;
- Knowledge of practices, principles and policies underlying interactions between the institution and the private sector;
- Knowledge of labour relation practices and managing interactions with employee representatives and their Association;
- Superior communication skills, both written and oral, and ability to represent the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services with employees, the public, governments and other organizations, including public safety and criminal justice bodies internationally;
- Ability to lead and manage a public sector organization, and to define its strategies and objectives;
- Ability to lead in emergency situations, including life threatening situations;
- Ability to innovate, identify modern solutions and opportunities, and implement culture change; and
- Ability to analyze differing opinions and complex situations with a view to identifying appropriate courses of action and understanding the impact of decisions.

Responsibilities and Duties of the Post

The Commissioner of Corrections shall have overall responsibility for the general management of The Bahamas Department of Correctional Services and the management and discipline of correctional institutions in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Specific duties include:

- The care and custody of inmates, sentenced and those on remand, including their health and mental health care;
 - The provision of programmes that contribute to the rehabilitation of inmates and to ensure their successful reintegration into the community;
 - The preparation of inmates for release; and
 - Maintaining a programme of public education about the operations of the Service.
- The Commissioner will work in collaboration with other senior public leaders in the National Security portfolio, and around the world in a professional and non-partisan manner. He/she will lead a dynamic team to fulfill the important responsibilities of this option.
- The salary scale of the post is in Scale PR1 - \$54,050 x \$800 - \$62,850 per annum (July 2012 Salary Scale).

Serving officers must apply through their Heads of Departments.

Application forms may be obtained online at: www.bahamas.gov.bs/public-service. They should be returned, complete with certified copies of academic qualifications and documentary proof of relevant experience to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Poinciana Hill Complex, Meeting Street, not later than 30th November, 2018.

Secretary
Public Service Commission