Former Minister of State for Finance, Michael Halkitis, yesterday said that he thought it was ill-advised for the government to “handcuff themselves” to balancing the budget within three years. The Minnis Administration has been deliberate about curbing spending in an effort to reduce the fiscal deficit.

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis spoke at a town meeting at the Exuma Foundation Resources Center in George Town, Exuma, on Saturday, March 16, 2019.

The Minister of State for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson says the government intends to transform the way it does business, even at the Cabinet level with a decision and a commitment to move to a paperless Cabinet system.

The Nassau Airport Development is not expecting the the Bahamas following the US Federal Aviation Administration’s order to ground all MAX aircrafts. This follows the March 10th crash of an Ethiopian airline, which killed all 157 people on board.

Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis said The Bahamas and the island of Exuma is poised for an economic rebirth as he announced extensive plans to improve infrastructure on the island. Among the plans are a new international airport in George Town, the construction of an Office of the Prime Minister, much-needed roadworks and repairs to public docks. The Prime Minister also announced that the moratorium on taxi plates and rental cars would be lifted exclusively for the island, and government would ensure the necessary infrastructure on the island.

Additionaly, there was a second victim that was shot in the leg. He was transported to the Accident and Emergency section of Princess Margaret Hospital where he is undergoing medical attention”, he added. Mr. Cash also indicated that a mobile unit at

Two Shot, One Dead in Fox Hill

Members of the Fox Hill community and family members watched in shock and horror as one of their very own was killed in a brazen shooting in broad daylight yesterday.

Thompson, alias Jojo. Chief Superintendent Solomon Cash was on the scene and told reporters that shortly after 3:30 pm officers were alerted of the incident in the Fox Hill Community Park. He said, “the officers, once on the scene, saw the lifeless body of a male lying in the street.”

Additionally, there was a second victim that was shot in the leg. He was transported to the Accident and Emergency section of Princess Margaret Hospital where he is undergoing medical attention”, he added. Mr. Cash also indicated that a mobile unit at

NAD Not Affected by Aircraft Grounding

The Nassau Airport Development is not expecting the the Bahamas following the US Federal Aviation Administration’s order to ground all MAX aircrafts. This follows the March 10th crash of an Ethiopian airline, which killed all 157 people on board.

Airlines like Southwest and American Airlines which have services to Nassau both issued a statement expressing their support and compliance to the FAA’s order, noting the importance of the safety of their team and passengers. In a statement on March 14 Southwest said

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attempt to do it.

“If your revenue is down $185 million for the first half of the year, what that says is that either you have to have a tremendous second half to make up that deficit, or you have to cut spending,” he added.

The former PLP MP also said that there is not a lot of discretion in this decision.

He said, “either you’re postponing capital works; you’re not going to do repairs that are needed, or you’re going to tell the people at the hospital that they’re going to have to wait for the second quarter release before they can buy a ventilator. ‘You’re either going to have to make some painful cuts, or you’re going to have to come back and re-adjust your strategy,’ he said.

The government has also come under fire in recent months for marching to the beat of international agencies like Moody’s and the International Monetary Fund.

When asked about his opinion on this matter, he said, “a very successful Bahamian businessman once said, ‘You don’t manage your business for your auditors.’ You listen to what they have to say, but you don’t manage your business for them. He added, “I always kept that in mind when I was dealing with the rating agencies.”

Mr. Halkitis said that while Tourism numbers are doing well, times are still challenging for the average Bahamian.

The cost of living is high, wages aren’t moving, and you have the government and its agencies and even in the central government, particularly with people who are contracted, they’re downsizing,” he said.

Mr. Halkitis was a guest on Radio Love 97’s Jones and Company talk show.

NAD NOT AFFECTED BY AIRCRAFT GROUNDING

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that removed all 34 MAX aircraft from their service, which will remain out of service until the FAA rescinds this order.

The statement also noted that with more than 750 aircraft in their fleet, more than 95 percent of Southwest aircraft are unaffected by this order.

Meanwhile, American Airlines also said in a statement that they have removed all 24 MAX aircraft from their fleet.

On average, American operates 85 flights per day on the MAX, out of 6,700 departures throughout the American Airlines system.

In a statement, Friday’s Vice President of Marketing and Communications Jan Knoll said, “We are monitoring the matter closely as international airline partners that have this aircraft type in their fleet have confirmed that they will be replacing these aircraft with other equipment to service the significant demand for Nassau.”

She noted that in January and February of this year, LPIA experienced record passenger numbers with a 20.5 percent year over year increase in passengers.

NAD is anticipating this growth trend to continue through March and the upcoming Easter season.

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SPECS DAILY

New York – Bahamas

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The Prime Minister met with residents of Exuma to provide an update on the Mid-Year Budget Statement and the recent 30th Inter-Sessional CARICOM Heads of Government meeting in St. Kitts and Nevis. He encouraged the island’s residents to take advantage of increased opportunities for entrepreneurship through programs offered by the Small Business Development Center, which is providing up to $20,000 in grants, and support, for Bahamians looking for capital to start small businesses.

The Prime Minister also told residents who are leasing Crown Land that they may soon have the opportunity to become landowners. Outstanding applications for residents leasing Crown Land will be processed in the coming weeks, particularly for Family Island residents, said the Prime Minister. Prime Minister Minnis said the Government’s ambitious affordable housing program will also provide additional land ownership opportunities for Family Island residents. The Government is in the process of developing subdivisions in New Providence and the Family Islands, featuring lots – complete with infrastructure – for sale at less than $30,000.

“The Family Islands have been ignored for too long. Exuma is not represented by the FNM but we are still one Bahamas and we will not discriminate against any constituency or island as long as I am here,” said Prime Minister Minnis. The Town Hall meetings are part of Prime Minister Minnis’ commitment to provide regular updates to Family Island communities throughout the country.

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online services but the government is still far beyond, then that is a major problem for the country," said Senator Thompson.

He announced that in two to three weeks, the Government will execute a $30 million loan with the Inter-American Development Bank, which will transform E-government services.

"The Cabinet is the highest decision-making body that we have in the country. If we can make decisions in a timely and efficiently then that means that those decisions can be executed more efficiently and efficiently. It has to start from the top down.

"The Government has made a commitment that we will be paperless when it comes to the Cabinet and we will institute a program called E-Cabinet where decisions will be made online securely with all of the proper cyber security. It can be done online where Ministers are able to view online, make decisions and communicate with each other online and paperless," he stated.

Senator Thompson also noted the Government's plan to adopt Estonia's model of E-government services.

"If a government agency has a piece of information about you no other government agency should be able to ask for that same piece of information. That one simple concept, if we would begin to move towards that one principle, how powerful that change for this Government would be.

"One Government office will ask you to go to another Government office to get the Government's information to give to another Government office – imagine if they spoke to each other. We should be moving towards a concept of the Government working for you instead of you working for the Government. What we are doing now is we are working for the Government. what should be happening is the same Government office should be digitally carrying out acts of criminality. It's difficult, when those mails are made up to prevent them, but we will remain focused in our strategies to remain in these communities where we would like to manage these events from happening," he added.

"Police are appealing to members of the public or anyone in the immediate area that may have witnessed the incident to feel free to contact police with any information."

He said, "those persons were able to allure the officers in the Blueberry Hill area near a church.

"He added, "Both suspects were able to allure the officers in the Blueberry Hill area near a church.

"He said that those officers chased the perpetrators through several streets in the Fox Hill District before making an escape.

He advised that this investigation is still in its early stages, and the motive at this time is unknown to police officers.

For community members who may feel some degree of fear following this recent homicide, Mr. Cash said that officers are committed to securing citizens of The Bahamas.

He said, "from time to time you may have isolated incidents, but what I want the members of the public to remember is that some perpetrators and suspects are relentless in their motive at this time is unknown to police officers."

Senator Highlights Move to E-Cabinet and E-Government Services

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Dismissive Behaviour Towards the United States – Again!

"If history teaches anything, it teaches that self-delusion in the face of unjust facts is folly"

Ronald Reagan

Dénis Cousineau's non-moral obligation to protect their citizens. Sometimes this is achieved through political or military means. In other cases, honor, sacrifice, public宣传 or war is the only solution, often at the cost of our own. However, hand in hand but we are certainly at the nutting and changing stage; moral mores appear to have three worlds – the real, the preferred, and the attained. This is an adversarial behaviour of our public officials towards our major source of security; without the issuance of travel advisory's is troubling and dangerous.

This is what it means to lump us in the same category as professionals. We are not in the same league because we are not in the same world. Unlike others, we have an obligation to maintain an aura of professionalism and personal integrity. It is the duty of the US and every country to protect the interests of their citizens at home and abroad. It is not enough to provide security and protection to our own citizens, we must also provide the same for our visitors. A travel advisory is a means of informing potential visitors about the current situation in a particular country or region. It is a tool used by governments to ensure the safety and security of their citizens while abroad.

On the morning of March 17, 2019, the US Department of State issued a travel advisory for the Bahamas. The advisory stated that the Bahamas had experienced a spike in crime, including a rise in violent incidents such as murder and robbery. The advisory warned travelers to be aware of their surroundings, avoid walking alone at night, and be cautious of pickpockets and other petty crimes. The advisory also urged travelers to report any incidents of crime to the police and to stay informed about the latest developments.

The travel advisory was met with mixed reactions. Some Bahamians welcomed the advisory as a means of protecting their country’s reputation and ensuring the safety of visitors. Others, however, saw it as a threat to the country’s tourism industry, which is a major source of revenue. The advisory was also criticized for being issued too late and for not providing enough information.

In response to the advisory, the Bahamas government announced that it would be implementing a series of measures to improve security in the country. These measures included increasing police patrols, strengthening immigration controls, and improving the country’s overall security infrastructure. The government also urged travelers to be vigilant and to report any incidents of crime to the police.

The travel advisory and the government’s response were seen as a reflection of the country’s ongoing struggle with crime and violence. The Bahamas has had a long history of crime, and the issue has become even more pressing in recent years due to the country’s rapid development and increased tourism.

In the end, the travel advisory was a reminder of the importance of protecting visitors and ensuring their safety. It was also a call to action for the government to take more decisive and effective steps to address the country’s crime problem.
Prime Minister Opens the 47th Annual Scientific Conference

Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis delivered welcome remarks at the 47th Annual Scientific Conference Medical Association of the Bahamas and the Dental Association. The two-day event was held at the Baha Mar Convention Centre.

"It is always good to be with former colleagues, especially at events such as this. During the conference there will be a rich and dynamic exchange of ideas and information which may help to improve health care practices, save lives, and enhance the quality of health for Bahamians and residents," said the Prime Minister.

He said as a member of the profession and as a member of the Medical Association, he firmly remembered these types of conferences and the role they played in informing him and other health care professionals of developments in medicine.

I am advised that with both dental and medical trusts you will have over 45 lectures over the next two days. You will hear from over 30 local speakers and over 20 international speakers from individuals, experts in their fields," said Dr. Minnis. "As health care practitioners it is vital that you remain current in medical advances, including in technology, pharmacological, surgical breakthroughs, health care delivery and other areas."

He said the enhanced utilization of communications and information technology and information sharing are vital in improving the quality of health care and well-being of Bahamians and residents.

For example, on the course of a revolution where tele-health technology is poised to enhance the delivery of primary care services, national emergency medical service and radiology services to Bahamians and residents throughout our archipelago," he said. "We noted that as on previous occasions, in terms of public health, the Government would continue to focus extensively on the prevention and treatment of chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD) like diabetes and hypertension.

"We must do more to combat these diseases, which rob us of general health and too many lives," he said. "Along with climate change, the explosive incidence of NCD's represent two of the greatest threats to national development."

He noted that as a matter of urgency, healthcare professionals must more aggressively address risky drinks and the role they play in obesity, especially childhood and adolescent obesity.

"Let me also reiterate that an important component in how we deliver health care is our progress in implementing a National Electronic Medical Records System."

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He said this represents an opportunity to harness the digital age technology for the benefit of Bahamians and residents.

He said that the technology would enhance the delivery of care in hospitals and clinics, improving transitional care between facilities and services, while expanding avenues for medical research.

The aim and objectives of the [Medical] Association are:

- To encourage and support a high standard of medical practice, ethics and conduct;
- To improve the professional competence of its members, to foster an interest in and development of the science of medicine and to improve public health;
- To improve the professional competence of its members, to foster an interest in and development of the science of medicine and to improve public health; and
- To protect all their interests, and to

"continue our development," he said. "Let me also reiterate that an important component in how we deliver health care is our progress in implementing a National Electronic Medical Records System."

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Conchman Helps Young GB Athletes Get A Fast Start

As part of their mandate to support organizational that focuses on Youth and Sports, the GBPA Conchman Triathlon began their donations with the Grand Bahama Amateur Athletic Association (GBAAA). The GBAAA used all its donations to help purchase track and field equipment as well as cover the athletes' travel expenses to Nassau and other islands for competitions.

Chairman of the Conchman Committee, Christopher Baker said: "We are very pleased to be able to assist the Grand Bahama Amateur Athletic Association. The funds were used to purchase the proper equipment to train for competitions. Donna Idol, Conchman Committee member noted that: "We were pleased to see the new equipment being used at the recent Grand Bahama High School Championships and the Fletcher Lewis Invitational. The GBAAA volunteers provide great support to Conchman Triathlon every year, and we are thankful for their assistance and pleased to help them."

The GBPA Conchman IronKids Competition is a mini version of the full triathlon. The event is held in November, during the Conchman Triathlon, and many GBPA distances runners use the competition to prepare for race season. The IronKids is open to young athletes up to twelve years old, and the Secondary School Challenge is open to all high school on the island. The Registration for the 2019-2019, Kids, Secondary School Challenge is open now.