

Embassy of Grenada NEWSLETTER Volume #2

## NEW NATIONALS AND FRIENDS DATABASE

In an effort to reach more of our Nationals and Friends, we are revamping the email database. Please visit our website and <u>sign</u> <u>up</u> before 12/31/19 to continue receveing email notices regarding events, news, etc.



## END OF YEAR CLOSURES

Our offices will be closed from Wednesday, December 25, 2019 through Wednesday, January 1, 2020. The office will reopen to the public on Thursday, January 2, 2020. Check your passport expiration date and plan accordingly! <u>New fees</u> apply!



## WORLD ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Anderson Peters, Kirani James and Lindon Victor for representing Grenada at the 2019 World Athletic Champshionships in Doha, Qatar. A special congratulations to Peters, who captured the Gold Medal in the Men's Javelin.

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE PRESS RELEASE



## CONDOLENCE TO MINISTER DAVID

The Ambassador and Staff of the Washington Mission extends sincerest condolence to the Honourable Charles Peter David on the passing of his father Mr. Chasely David. Our thoughts and prayes are with the Minister and his family as the celebrate an amazing life. Wishing you God's comfort and peace.

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# GRENADIAN

# DIASPORA IN ACTION

*Congratulations to the Newly Appointed Multicultural Commissioners* On Monday, September 23, 2019, Mrs. Lisda Sawney, Ms. Marisa Rodney and Mr. Luis McSween were among 14 Caribbean nominees taking the Oath of Office at the County Administrative Building in Maryland with friends, family and representatives of the African Union and the diplomatic Corps in attendance.

The newly appointed Multicultural Commissioners will represent the Caribbean Community in Prince George's County for a term of two years, fostering partnerships with community organizations that represent the diversity of the County.

State's Attorney Braveboy, Esq., daughter of Grenadian national Cuthbert Braveboy, acknowledged the outstanding contributions of these members of the Caribbean Diaspora in their adopted homeland of the United States and in particular the state of Maryland, where she has taken a leading role in legislating and advocating for the rights of immigrants.

### Congratulations to the New Executive Board of the Grenada Houston Association

Mr. Ryan Nelson-Parayag, President
 Mr. Ian Tamar, Vice President
 Ms. Ancilla Felx, Secretary
 Mrs. Grace Peppers, Treasurer

#### Diaspora Engagement Follow-up Action

The International Organization for Migration and The Global Group sponsored diaspora event to review the draft Diaspora Engagement Policy took place in Washington, DC on September 29, 2019. The draft policy and operating structure were presented by the Ambassador for Diaspora Affairs, Derrek James, Michael Mitchell, Minister Counsellor at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Trisha Mitchell Darius, Project Coordinator with the IOM.

The event moderated by Ambassador Smith, was attended by approximately 50 nationals and friends of Grenada from the District of Colombia, Maryland and Virginia, and was streamed live via Facebook with social media participation. While Foreign Minister Perter David was not able to attend, Health Minister Nickolas Steele was on hand to update nationals on new initiatives and field questions form the audience on the state of healthcare in Grenada.

The next step is to establish a focus group or diaspora forum to conduct further review of the draft policy and to look at the proposal for an operating structure for the diaspora initiative. The call is out for volunteers to form this core group and for the Grenadian diaspora to complete the skills survey.

Click here to take the survey!

# From the Desk of the Ambassador

HER EXCELLENCY YOLANDE Y. SMITH

**GRENADIAN DIAS** 

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### UNGA AND THE IMF/WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS

### The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) – New York, September 23-30:

The end of September and mid-October are busy periods for the Embassy and Missions. While CARICOM Countries including Grenada have Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York (ours headed by Her Excellency Keisha McGuire), the Ambassadors to the White House traveled up to New York for a series of meetings including the US-Caribbean Ministerial with the United States Department of State and Caribbean Foreign Ministers dealing with bilateral issues including those on the US-Caribbean 2020 agenda, and the meeting of the Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) as representatives of our foreign ministers in the United States. Grenada is the Chair of (COFCOR) and, therefore, Minister Peter David had a leadership role in both meetings.

### IMF/World Bank Group Annual Meetings – Washington, DC October 14-21:

Each year Ministers of Finance, Central Bankers and other senior government officials, private sector executives, civil society and academics come together to attend the IMF/ WB Group Annual Meetings. Grenada was represented this year by Honourable Simon Stiell, Minister for the Environment, Climate Resilience, Forestry, Fisheries and Information. Minister Stiell along with senior management of the World Bank Group, representatives from Seychelles and Ireland, presented at the closed ministerial-level peer learning forum titled "*Harnessing the Blue Economy*". The Minister was also on the panel for "*Building Back Better for Climate Resilience*" and signed two World Bank projects for Grenada on digital governance and regional health.

# GRENADA AT THE **OAS**

Leo S. Rowe Pan American Fund – A Viable Option for Financial Aid

The Rowe Fund is an educational loan program of the Organization of American States (OAS) that helps citizens from Latin America and Caribbean <u>OAS Member States</u> finance their studies or research in accredited universities across the United States by awarding **interest-free loans** of up to US\$15,000 dollars.

By financing a portion of their studies in the United States, the Rowe Fund helps students complete their education while fostering cultural diversity, friendship, and communication among the people of the Americas. Rowe Fund loans include:

- Deferred repayment while in school
- No application or processing fees
- Applications are accepted and reviewed year-round and at any time during the studies in the U.S.
- Funding is sent directly to the student after approval
- Easy access to Loan Application Forms and instructions

For more information, please see the <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> <u>for Prospective Applicants</u> or, if you have already been awarded a Rowe Fund loan, please visit the <u>Frequently Asked</u> <u>Ouestions for Current Beneficiaries</u>.

#### Grenada Hands Over the PC Chair to Guatemala

After a highly successful rotation, Grenada handed over the chairmanship of the Permanent Council (PC) to Guatemala on October 1, 2019. During the 3-month period, some of the hot issues before the PC were: The High Level Commission on Nicaragua – due to report to the PC by November 15, 2019; The Situation in Venezuela, which resulted in States Paries of the Inter-American Treat of Reciprocal Aisstance (TIAR) also known as the Rio Treaty meeting at the margins of the United Nationals General Assembly (Grenada is not a member of the TIAR); and, the convocation of a Special General Assembly to elect the next Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS on March 20, 2020.

Based on good faith negotiations with individual member states, consulatations with regional coordinations (CARICOM, ALADI, SICA, USA, Canada), and informal PC meetings, the Chair was able to present a non-paper to begin the process and draft the resoluation, which received overwhelming consensus support for its passage. The terms of the current Secretary General (SG) and Assistant Secretary General end in May and July 2020, respectively. The OAS has never had a female or CARICOM SG.

