

GREETINGS FROM HIS EXCELLENCY TARLIE FRANCIS, AMBASSADOR OF GRENADA TO THE USA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRENADA'S INDEPENDENCE



Esteemed Grenadian Diaspora, Friends, and Supporters,

It is with immense pride and joy that I extend warm greetings on the auspicious occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Grenada's Independence, a momentous milestone in our nation's rich history. As we reflect on our journey, we are able to stand tall, a beacon of resilience, unity, and progress.

From here, we see Grenada soaring into its centennial, in 2074, with a vibrant, educated, and healthy population that embodies the spirit of our beloved nation. We continue to earn respect on the global stage, proudly standing among nations as a symbol of tranquility and confidence. This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of every Grenadian, both at home and abroad.

Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell aptly captured the essence of our accomplishment, highlighting that size does not define destiny. As a small nation, we are charting our own course within the global environment, a privilege we wouldn't trade for anything.

Looking ahead, our focus must be on nurturing opportunities for the next generation of Grenadian youth. Our education system should be robust, flexible, and adaptable, providing a wide exposure to essential skill sets—from academic proficiency to vocational expertise in plumbing, electrician work, coding, digitization, and renewable energy.

We recognize the critical importance of food security, urging investments to empower our youth to secure their future. Likewise, energy security requires renewable energy initiatives to help reduce vulnerability to global shifts and contribute to climate safety.

Envisioning Grenada 50 years from now, we aspire to a society characterized by peace, safety, humility, love, and citizen pride. A society harmonizing with nature, preserving our marvels—beaches, waterfalls, rivers, fertile agricultural land, and breathtaking views; with cleanliness and environmental preservation that are paramount for meaningful life.

Our vision extends to Grenadians proudly embracing our identity as global citizens, contributing to the advancement of mankind. A culturally rich Grenada that preserves its traditions, historical artifacts, and produces extraordinary individuals like Kirani James, Jennifer Hosten, Eric Gairy and Maurice Bishop.

We envision a Grenada where education and healthcare remain universal rights, infrastructure is resilient, senior citizens feel comfortable and well cared for, and the next generation feels satisfied to continue a fantastic life within our shores, and ever welcoming to visitors who partake.

To our diasporic community, your engagement and efforts are commendable. You play a pivotal role in our country's development. Partner strategically, share your vision, opinions, desires, joys and let your contributions, both at home and abroad, continue to make a lasting impact. We salute you and all friends of Grenada with gratitude.

As we celebrate this historic jubilee anniversary, the Embassy of Grenada, along with Consulate Generals in Miami and New York, reaffirms our commitment to serving you and Grenada with respect, tolerance, dignity, and determination.

May this jubilee independence celebration be joyous, and may the year ahead bring prosperity to all. May God bless us - One People, One Journey, One Future.

2024 Independence Message from His Excellency Tarlie Francis

Ambassador of Grenada to the United States of America, and Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States.