

THE DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY

MANIFESTO 2018

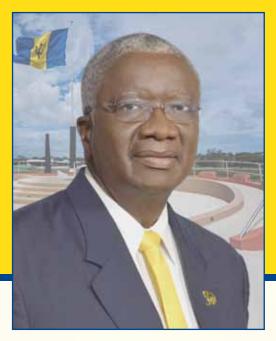


STAND STRONG BARBADOS
TOWARDS A DIGITAL ECONOMY





BARBADOS Vote DEMS



The Rt. Hon. Freundel Stuart O.C.

Prime Minister of Barbados Leader of the Democratic Labour Party



The Democratic Labour Party celebrates its 63rd year of existence on the 27th day of April, 2018. The launch of the Manifesto for the 2018 General Election coincides OCRATIC LABOUR PARTY roughly with that celebration. I am pleased to write the foreword to that Manifesto.

The party came to office on the 16th day of January, 2008, just after the financial meltdown in the USA, of the last quarter of 2007. The ten-year period during which the party as governed was challenging to say the least. Our faith never wavered nor did our footsteps falter. We governed with quiet conviction for the benefit of the people of Barbados.

Between 2008 and 2013 we committed ourselves to the creating of pathways to progress and made housing the focus of our attention since this was a loud and pressing need. We registered significant gains in that area along with impressive gains in other sectors of the society and economy. after all, for us in the Democratic Labour Party, Barbados is not just an economy but also a society.

By the time we reached 2013 and were ready to fight the general election of that year, we saw the need to create a Barbados that is socially balanced, economically viable, environmentally sound and characterised by good and transparent governance.

We pursued this ideal harassed by unyielding revenue challenges as we tried to protect, at all cost, the standard

of living and quality of life of the people of Barbados. Significant gains in education, health, energy, labour, social care and tourism are the highlights of that five-year period.

As we embark on the next five years, with the economy returned to a consistent, even though modest, growth path, the debt overhang resulting from our revenue challenges notwithstanding, we are now in a position to envision a Barbados that embraces equal opportunity for every Barbadian and a Barbados that includes all; a Barbados that stands ready to draw on the strengths and talents of every Barbadian - a Barbados that engages all; and a Barbados whose rewards are widely and fairly shared – a Barbados that benefits all.

That is what our 2018 Election Manifesto is about. I invite you to study it carefully and join us o a journey on which you are intended to be an important companion. The Barbados we envision will include you, will engage you and will benefit you.

It will also lay the foundation on which we will be able to include your children and grandchildren, to engage them and to benefit them. Your participation in this project matters. Just upwards of 50 years after independence, it is important that you play your part in the building of a better Barbados.

Be our companion on this journey!







(1) INTRODUCTION: THE FIRST GLOBAL RECESSION OF THE 21ST CENTURY AND ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHALLENGES

(2)	A SUSTAINABLE and DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY
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- ☐ AN AGRICULTURE and AGRI-BUSINESS REVOLUTION;
- □ NEW HORIZONS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY;
- ☐ A VIBRANT VENDING AND SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR;
- ☐ NEW HORIZONS FOR CULTURAL INDUSTRIES
- ☐ DIGITAL BARBADOS;
- ☐ A NEW PUBLIC SECTOR;
- ☐ TAXATION AND THE ECONOMY;

(3) MAINTAINING KEY SOCIAL SERVICES and PROTECTING THE VULNER-ABLE

- ☐ PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT
- ☐ AN INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SYSTEM FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE
- A DISABLED AND ELDERLY FRIENDLY BARBADOS
- ☐ A DISASTER READY BARBADOS
- ☐ A SAFE BARBADOS
- ☐ A HEALTHY BARBADOS
- ☐ PROMOTING GENDER EQUITY
- ☐ SOCIAL RENEWAL
- (4) CONCLUSION: GET ON BOARD and HELP BUILD THE NEW BARBADOS;





GLABAL RECESSION

THE FIRST GLOBAL RECESSION OF THE 21ST CENTURY AND ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHALLENGES

Under the caring and astute leadership of the Democratic Labour Party, Barbados has been able to successfully weather the storm of the first global recession of the 21st century. We have been buffeted by the worst recession since the 1930s, record high oil prices and then record low prices, Brexit, Climate Change and unprecedented global economic, political and social upheaval.

Barbados as a vulnerable Small Island Developing State (SIDS) has not been immune to these global challenges and we may have been battered and bruised but we have withstood the challenges and preserved the social fabric of Barbados. Despite the challenges of the last ten years, the DLP has put Barbados and its people first, and protected them from the ravages of the global economic storm unleashed in 2007/2008.

The DLP wants to thank the people of Barbados for the sacrifices made over the last ten years as our country has wrestled with this volatile period in world history. The DLP wants to especially thank the middle class, which has borne the brunt of the economic crisis. They are the bedrock of our society, and they have made tremendous sacrifices as the government has sought to preserve the social fabric of this country. The worst is now behind, and there are blue skies after the storm. The middle class must now be rewarded for the sacrifices it has made to help preserve social stability.

Despite the challenges of the global economic environment, the Barbados economy has only recorded negative growth in two of the last ten years. In fact as we approach the 2018 general elections:

- The Barbados economy is enjoying eight consecutive quarters of positive economic growth;
- Our school children still travel to school free of cost on school buses;

- ☐ Children can still access school meals;
- Education is still free at the point of delivery for nursery, primary and secondary education;
- The government still funds 80% of the cost of university education and provides Higher Education Grants to those who cannot afford the pay the 20%;
- Health care is still provided free at the point of delivery at our various polyclinics and at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH); Barbadians are only too aware of the challenges of accessing health care in our wealthy neighbor, the United States;
- The Transport Board is still providing subsidized public transportation across the length and breadth of this fair land. Pensioners, senior citizens, children and many others use this service to get to church and their various activities;
- The Sanitation Services Authority (SSA) is still collecting garbage across the length and breadth of this country, ensuring we can all enjoy a clean and healthy environment;
- The Child Care Board, The Barbados Defense Force, Barbados Coast Guard, Postal Service and the various agencies of the state are still providing services to the people of Barbados;
- Most importantly, thousands of public servants still have their jobs. These jobs mean that persons are still earning an income that allows them and their families to access goods and services and maintain their dignity.





We reject the call for wholesale liberalization and privatization! We will not throw our people under the proverbial bus to please those who could always afford to pay

SERVICES

Preserving jobs and the delivery of these social services, that many Barbadians still depend on has not been easy. There has been a philosophical and a financial challenge to the preservation of public sector jobs and the delivery of social services.

Over the last ten years, the DLP administration has had to withstand a philosophical challenge to the preservation of public sector jobs and the delivery of social services. There have been powerful, influential and loud, domestic, regional and international voices calling on us to dismantle the public sector and the range of social services offered by Barbados, and to make you the public pay directly for these social services.

Some argue that so many Barbadians now own cars that there is no need for a Transport Board. Some argue that a Single Payer Health Care system is unaffordable and obsolete. Many private players are lining up to purchase and profit from the Airport, Seaport, Water Authority, Transport Board, Sanitation and many more.

The philosophical argument is that at this stage of our development most services should be provided by the private sector and paid for directly by residents, rather than have the state provide these services and they get paid for out of general taxation.

The philosophical position of the Democratic Labour Party is clear. We believe that a vibrant private sector is critical to the economic and social wellbeing of Barbados. We also believe that there is a role for the private sector in the provision of some social services to some people. However, for a variety of historical reasons, many Barbadians are not ready and cannot cope with private sector and user pay based delivery of key social services. The DLP is philosophically committed to a vibrant public sector delivering key socials services to those residents who cannot afford private services.

The economic turmoil and uncertainty of the last decade has presented a serious financial challenge in the delivery of these services. Over the last decade we have seen tax revenues from the International Business Sector decline by about \$200 million annually. As a consequence, providing the social services and protecting public sector jobs has meant carrying larger than desired deficits and increases in the national debt. The challenge for a DLP administration is not the philosophy but the resources! How do we maintain access to key social services in a financially sustainable way is the challenge to which we must address our minds!

We reject the call for wholesale liberalization and privatization! We will not throw our people under the proverbial bus to please those who could always afford to pay, or those who can now afford to pay, and have forgotten those who cannot afford to pay! We will not throw our people under the bus to please rating agencies and others.

How do we maintain access to key social services in a financially sustainable way is the challenge Barbados faces and we must face that challenge rather than surrender Barbados to the dictates of neo-liberalism which is creating social, economic and environmental problems across the globe!

While the DLP remains grounded in its philosophy we are not immune to financial realities. The DLP will continue to make pragmatic decisions. The policies outlined in this manifesto reflect our roadmap as we seek to negotiate this delicate balance. The road is not easy, we will not always get it right, but we will always put Barbados First.

Our plans are bold and ambitious. Our financial circumstances are challenging, our plans are therefore reliant on skilful reallocation of resources, genuine private/public co-operation, international partnerships and volunteerism.



A SUSTAINABLE AND DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY

Barbados remains one of the best places in the world to live. We continue to rank 3rd on the Human Development Index for the Americas. The quality of life we enjoy in Barbados is closely linked to the strength and resilience of our economy.

The Barbados economy is now built largely on Tourism and International Business. Our continued excellence in those two global industries provides us with a very high standard of living, and these two industries will remain integral to the Barbados economy. However, the challenge before us in our 51st year of independence is to supplement these industries and build a more sustainable and diversified economy. The solution is not to tear down those sectors, but rather to build up others to support and even surpass these sectors.

Over the last ten years, the DLP has sought to transform the economy by:

- 1. A Renewable Energy Revolution;
- 2. Education as a business;
- 3. **Developing Cultural Industries;**

In a third term, the DLP will step up this drive and aggressively transform the Barbados economy by implementing policies to foster deeper linkages between Tourism, Agriculture, Cultural Industries and Renewable Energy.

The world class Tourism and Hospitality industry will be incentivized and assisted in driving the development of Agriculture, Cultural Industries, Manufacturing and Renewable Energy. During a third term, achieving strong inter-sectoral linkages will be the focus and centre-piece of the DLP's economic strategy.

Backward and Forward Linkages with the Tourist Industry

Barbados has developed a World Class Tourism industry. We are now an iconic, aspirational tourist destination and we are justly proud of this. Over the last ten years, under the stewardship of the DLP we have scaled unbelievable heights in this area and the DLP sees tourism and hospitality as continuing to play the leading role in our economy.

However, as we continue to develop our tourism and hospitality industry, the business model must adapt to integrate greater local content. GREATER LOCAL CONTENT is the next frontier for our tourism and hospitality sector. The goal of the DLP in the next five years is to dramatically expand the local value added by deepening the integration between tourism and the rest of the economy. No more should anyone be able to claim that the tourist arrivals increased but it was not felt in the economy. The integration of tourism with agriculture, renewable energy, cultural industries and manufacturing will be the economic priority of the DLP over the 2018 to 2023 period. This new diversified economy will provide new opportunities for the skilled persons that make up the middle class, and provide the basis for tax relief.

Tourism related businesses must adapt to enhance their development impact while remaining commercially viable entities catering to the medium and high ends of the market. The policies being proposed by the DLP provide our Tourism and Hospitality industry with a new marketing angle, opportunities to enhance their value proposition and reduce operating costs.







The government will provide up to a 15% Land Tax rebate for Tourism related entities that can demonstrate at least a 25% increase in the use of local inputs from local agriculture (including fisheries and meats), cultural industries and manufacturing. Entities will be eligible for the rebate in the year they achieve a 25% increase in local inputs (measured from 2018 levels), and the rebate will continue once levels are maintained or increased.

There will be a further 10% Land Tax rebate for Tourism related entities that install systems for at least 50% of electricity generation requirements from renewable sources. Entities will be eligible for the rebate in the year they achieve at least 50% electricity generation from renewable sources, and the rebate will continue once levels are maintained or increased.

Tourism related entities will be able to

- claim corporation tax deductions of up to 150% of expenditures related to the use of local content from local agriculture (including fisheries and meats), cultural industries and manufacturing.
- ✓ The Barbados Tourism Product Inc.,
 The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry
 of Culture and the Barbados Hotel
 and Tourism Association (BHTA) will
 establish "Adopt a Farmer" and "Adopt an
 Entertainer" Programmes. Under these
 programmes tourism related entities will
 be paired with specific farmers or farmers'
 groups and cultural practitioners for the
 supply of selected goods and services.
- √ The Barbados Tourism Product Inc., in collaboration with tourism related entities will develop a series of themed nights based on local food, beverage, art, craft and entertainment;
- The Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc., will arrange annual expos between local suppliers and tourism related businesses.





THE WORLD CLASS TOURISM INDUSTRY MUST BE THE VEHICLE FOR MOVING AGRICULTURE FORWARD

A New Dawn For Agriculture and Food Security

In our 52nd year independence, we are less able to feed ourselves than we were in 1966. Our economic model has to change so as to allow us to build a more sustainable and secure future for all Barbadians. Fifty-one years after independence we must shake the stigma associated with agriculture and grow much more of what we eat. There is nothing wrong with a university educated person being involved in food production!

In a third term, the DLP administration will engineer a new dawn in agriculture providing Barbados with increased levels of food security, saving much needed foreign exchange, providing new employment opportunities, enhancing the health of the nation and making Barbados a much more sustainable place to live.

In our fifty second year of independence, the DLP sets the broad goal that by 2026, our 60th year of independence, Barbadians will grow at least 50% of what we eat. Achieving that goal will save much needed foreign exchange, generate new jobs, improve the health of the nation and promote a more sustainable Barbados.

The key elements in this strategy are to link agriculture to the thriving tourist industry and enhance the capabilities for Agriculture and Agri-Business. Our strategy for enhancing the capabilities for Agriculture and Agri-Business is not based only on fiscal incentives, but also on carefully designed and selected projects that take our agricultural sector into the 21st century.

If the sector is to play a meaningful role it must be commercially viable, scalable, foster entrepreneurship and be based on the application of science, innovation and research and development. Agriculture will only succeed if young people get into agriculture. Our strategy is to provide the regulatory framework, fiscal incentives and demonstration projects.

The strategy is already being implemented with the launch of the HOPE Project and The Agri-Business Science Park at Dukes with the University of the West Indies (UWI). The DLP administration has mobilized US \$64 Million from the Chinese government for these projects.





NEW AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE





Classroom training facilities.

stitutions in Barbados and most foods consumed, rely on imports, which has increasingly constrained the economic development of Barbados.

The demand for agricultural training cannot be satisfied.

There are no agricultural training in-

A new agricultural training school will



Agricultural Training base.

be established to profide suitable teaching and practice sites for agricultural students to promote national food security and import substitution plan.

The first agricultural training institute in Barbados will include teaching office buildings, staff and student dormitories, greenhouses, breeding sheds, agricultural machinery maintenance and storage.

The agricultural training institute will be designed to meet the teaching needs of 300 people, 60 faculity members and related agricultural training activities.



The Livestock Training base.



Agri-Business Science Park at Dukes.

This project with US \$34 million will place Barbados at the centre of Agricultural Training and Education in the Caribbean and on completion will see:

- A modern conference facility seating 500 persons;
- Large tracts of land for farming
- Agro-processing facilities;
- Meat curing facilities;
- Chocolate manufacturing and training facility;
- Cotton processing facility
- A food standards laboratory

In a third term the DLP will take this further and:

- Provide government owned lands for agricultural projects that are focused on the youth and/or are scalable and commercially viable;
- Use the international network of the government to source large amounts of external funding for scalable and commercially viable agricultural projects;
- ✓ Facilitate foreign direct investment into high impact and commercially viable agricultural projects.

- ✓ Provide fiscal incentives for Agri-Business
- Promote widespread use of Aquaponics and remove all taxes related to the importing of equipment and supplies for approved Aquaponics Projects.

The government will support farmers by providing a market for their products by:

 ✓ Offering long term purchase contracts to supply fresh food to The School Meals Programme, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Geriatric Hospitals and the Psychiatric Hospital;

Promoting Barbados in Tourism as a Fresh Food Destination;

Agri-Business Incentives

- Tax holiday for 10 years for new Agri-Business entities;
- 150% deductible on interest paid on loans used for developing Agri-businesses.
- 150% deductible on expenditures for product development and research related to Agri-Business
- 150% deductible on expenditures for staff training in Agri-Businesses.



- 150% deductible on expenditures for marketing products of Agri-Businesses.
- No withholding tax on interest earned by financial institutions for 10 years on investments made in Agri-business
- No Corporation Tax for a period of 10 years for venture capital funds set up to invest in Agri-Business.
- Contributions to Agri-Business venture capital funds deductible for a period of 10 years.
- Dividends received by shareholders in Agri-Business entities exempt from withholding tax for a period of 10 years.

A vibrant agriculture and agri-business sector are central features of the DLP's economic strategy as we pursue inclusive and sustainable economic growth. The world class and vibrant tourism and hospitality will be incentivized to develop backward linkages with the agricultural sector, and the state owned tourism and hospitality promotion agencies will be tasked with fostering these linkages. There will be new opportunities for our middle class professionals and creation of new wealth which will allow further tax relief.







Vibrant Commercially Viable Cultural Industries

The DLP administration of 2008 to 2018 has gone further than any previous administration in seeking to develop and promote the Cultural Industries as a viable economic sector.

The Cultural Industries Act was passed in 2013 and the Cultural Industries Development Authority was established in 2015.

A development fund, financed mainly from resources from the national lottery, finances the Cultural Industries Development Authority's projects.

Again, as we pursue inclusive and sustainable growth, the world class and vibrant tourism and hospitality industry will be incentivized to bring along the cultural industries in a mutually beneficial partnership.

The DLP will:

- Introduce a new Barbados Culture and Heritage course at the primary school level;
- ☐ Create a permanent Home for NIFCA;
- ☐ Provide scholarships for NIFCA winners;
- Provide business financing for NIFCA winners;

- Provide improved prizes for NIFCA winners;
- Foster linkages between Tourism and the Cultural Industries by;
 - ➤ The Barbados Tourism Product Inc, Ministry of Culture and the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association establishing an "Adopt a Cultural Practitioner" programme. Under these programmes Tourism related entities will be paired with specific cultural practitioners for the supply of services.
 - The Barbados Tourism Product Inc., in collaboration with Tourism related entities will develop a series of themed nights based on local food, beverage, art, craft and entertainment;

The vibrant Barbadian culture will now form the basis for successful enterprises, providing new opportunities for all, including middle class professionals.







Fast Tracking The Renewable Energy Revolution

As a result of the vision and foresight of the DLP administration of 2008 to 2018, and the efforts of NGOs, the private sector and our international partners, Barbados now has an emerging but viable Renewable Energy industry.

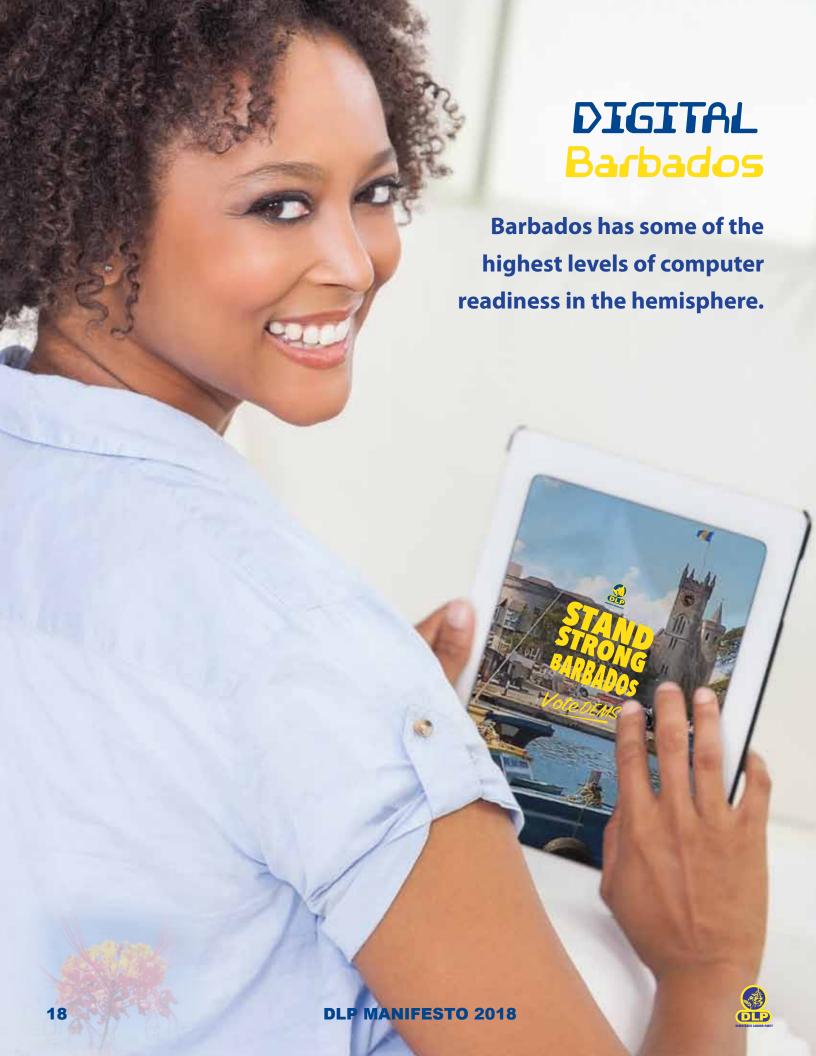
In 2008, the DLP administration embarked on the bold mission of facilitating the large scale penetration and distribution of PV and wind generating technology on the island to match the current levels of solar water heater penetration in domestic households. Over the last decade, electricity generated from renewable sources has moved from virtually 7 Kilowatts to 22,285 Kilowatts. The number of electric vehicles in Barbados has moved from virtually zero to.

To further drive the renewable energy revolution, the government proposes to;

- ✓ Facilitate Utility Scale Renewable Energy Projects to get to 50% of peak demand by renewables by 2026.
- Establish a Green Bus Fund to support the replacement of the state bus fleet with cleaner, greener vehicles.
- Provide a 25% rebate on land taxes to households with vehicles not powered by fossil fuels.
- Provide incentives for further research into renewable energy technologies and their applications;

As we promote a sustainable and greener Barbados we must also embrace the digital age, artificial intelligence and robotics as we build DIGITAL Barbados.







DIGITAL Barbados

The digital age is here it is no longer a thing of the future. Digital technologies are now an integral part of our lives and we are set for a quantum leap. Artificial intelligence is already transforming how we live and work and Barbados must be on the cutting edge of this bold new digital age.

International benchmarks consistently suggest that Barbados has some of the highest levels of computer readiness in the hemisphere. We must now take the bold leap and harness this potential for business and various aspects of our lives. Drones can form an integral part of policing and promote agriculture by monitoring for praedial larceny. Our people can earn income by developing and marketing apps to the world. The possibilities are endless and mind boggling.

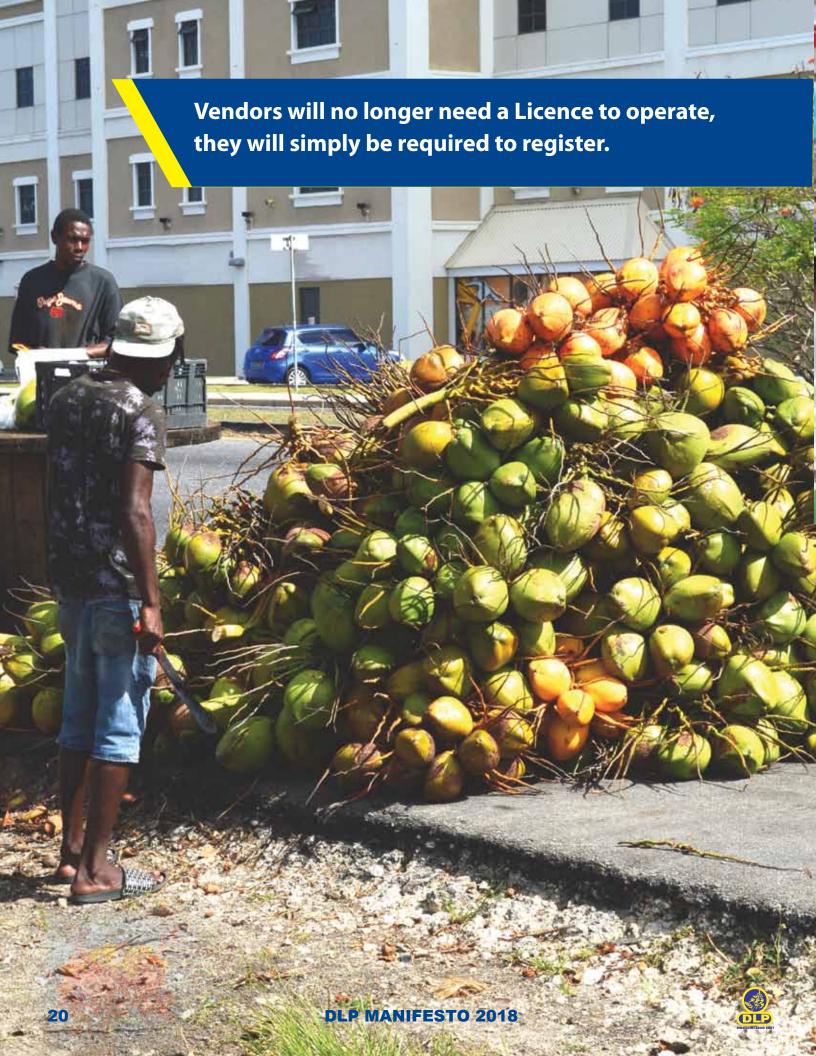
Our plan for the next five years is to:

- ☐ Create schools fit for the digital age;
- Promote the development of Barbados as a digital society and economy through the development and implementation of a National Digital Strategy;
- ☐ Promote free Wi-Fi access in public spaces;

- Provide accelerated depreciation for the capital costs of establishing an E-commerce or Digital Commerce platform;
- Provide corporation tax credits for up to 150% of the costs of operating an Ecommerce of Digital Commerce platform;
- Accelerate direct capital investment in digital investment in health, education, transport, energy, agriculture, tourism, and other sectors
- Promote Barbados as the location of choice for ICT businesses through the BIDC and Invest Barbados;
- Develop and implement a National Broadband Plan, eGovernment, and eHealth strategies

However, as we move forward into the brave new digital age, we must seek to ensure that small and medium sized firms are included and not left behind, and where possible and practical we must seek to right historical wrongs.







Righting Historical Wrongs:A Fair Deal for Vendors

Vending has been a crucial and ongoing part of the coping strategies employed by the marginalised in Barbadian society. From the days of slavery, vending was one of the few economic avenues available to and exploited by our fore-parents. However, vending has not gotten the respect it deserves and vendors have had to operate under constant threat of police action. After 51 years of independence, we must now do right by our vendors, and stop treating them as second class citizens.

In a third DLP term:

- Vendors will no longer need a licence to operate they will simply be required to register with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.
- ✓ If food related items are being sold, a valid Health Certificate will be required. However, in plying their trade, vendors must not impede the legitimate activities of other persons, or engage in inappropriate behaviour.



Barbados at 60 must have a diversified, sustainable economy providing inclusive growth and decent work for all, especially the youth.





Entrepreneurship, Small Business and Innovation

Our plan for the next five years is to:

- Actively promote the establishment of small and medium sized businesses in the areas of education, healthcare, renewable energy, digital technologies, agriculture, agri-business and cultural industries;
- Foster linkages between SMEs and the Tourism and Hospitality industry;
- Partner with the Credit Union and Co-operative Sector in SME Financing. In order to unleash the power of coo-operative financing in driving the SME sector

the DLP will:

- Re-introduce the income tax deduction for Credit Union Shares and Deposits;
- ✓ Remove the asset tax on Cooperatives;
- ✓ Provide for Deposit Insurance on deposits at Cooperatives;
- ✓ Support the establishment of a credit union owned and operated commercial bank;

- ✓ Reform the various Central Bank Guarantee Schemes to include the Credit Union and Cooperatives in facilitating SME financing.
- ✓ Seek international partnerships for the establishment of a Venture Capital Financing for SMEs through the Credit Unions Movement.
- ✓ Incentivize the local credit union movement to develop crowd-funding platforms, mobile banking and other Fin-tech solutions aimed at SMEs.
- Enhance the Endless Possibilities Programme (EPP) to expand sector based training opportunities and job placements and international linkages to provide greater overseas placements for young people.
- Double the budget of the Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) to expand into a centre of excellence in Youth Entrepreneurship.

Barbados at 60 must have a diversified, sustainable economy providing inclusive growth and decent work for all, especially the youth.





A NEW PUBLIC SECTOR

Key to the achievement of these goals and the continued advancement of Barbados is a modern, efficient, well-managed public service. The process of public sector reform that was started during the 1990s needs to be rationalised and modernised. The public service must be seen as an attractive career option and as a sector whose productivity is not questioned.

In this regard, one issue that needs to be considered as a matter of priority is our compensation model. We have to ensure that effort and hard work are rewarded and recognised. We need to ensure that each category of employee is compensated in line with the contribution that it makes to the public good.

In a third term the DLP will:

• Implement service charters for all government departments and statutory corporations;

- Implement Key Performance Indicators for all government departments and statutory corporations;
- We will introduce a pay-for-performance system in the public sector based on these performance indicators.
- Where appropriate, we will adjust existing salary scales, paying attention to length, overlapping and the value of increments.
- Secure developmental financing for a youthled project to digitise the entire records system of the public service within a specified time to bolster efficiency of the public service, create employment for young people and improving the ease of doing business in Barbados





TAXATION AND THE ECONOMY

Barbados has always been a high tax country; this is because, unlike the case in developed market economies, the government is required to provide many services that should be provided by the private sector. Taxpayers have been justly concerned about the increase in taxation in the recent past. No one likes to pay more taxes. We have already explained that it was a direct consequence of the decline in government revenue coupled with the government's commitment to maintain the social services.

We could have used a different approach, namely, keep taxes lower and cut back on the services we now provide. A reduction in services really means a reduction in jobs; however, that would not have been in the best interest of all Barbadians. In opting to raise the level of taxation, we have kept people employed and incurred larger deficits than we would like.

One of the goals in the next five years is to reduce the tax burden on Barbadians. The way to do this is to grow the economy. As the economy grows, tax collections from wages and salaries and from the sale of goods and services will increase. Government revenue therefore rises without further increases in tax rates. Sustained growth in the economy and in tax

collections will enable government to actually reduce tax rates over time.

VAT was introduced in 1997, replacing several other taxes on goods and services. It was envisaged then that, if the income from VAT was sufficient, there would be some leeway for reducing taxes on personal income. In light of the preceding statement, improved tax administration must be a priority. A serious effort will be made to rationalise the administration of the VAT. Steps will be taken to allow the VAT to reach is full revenue-raising potential. A well-functioning VAT enables government to deal with the pressing issue of VAT and income tax refunds. It also creates the environment for reducing the level of personal income tax would support economic growth through increased spending power and higher personal investment.

Tax relief will be provided as the economy is diversified and achieves robust growth:

(1) Providing Key Social Services and Protecting the Vulnerable in a Fiscally Sustainable Manner.



The Rt. Hon. Freundel **STUART**St. Michael South



Denis KELLMAN St. Lucy



Irene SANDIFORD-GARNER
St. Andrew



George CONNOLLY
St James Central



George PILGRIM St John



Dr. Rolerick HINDS St Thomas



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James PAUL St Michael West Central



Kim TUDOR St. Michael North



Rodney GRANT
St. Michael South East



Dr. David **ESTWICK**St Philip West



Michael LASHLEY
St Philip North



John BOYCE Christ Church South



Ronald **JONES**Christ Church East Central

De team to trust

DLP

DE TEAM YOU CAN TRUST!!



Dave **CUMBERBATCH**St Peter



Dennis HOLDER St Joseph



Harry HUSBANDS
St James North



Donville INNISS
St James South



Dr. Esther BYER-SUCKOO
St George South



Henderson WILLIAMS

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Chris SINCKLER
St. Michael North West



Richard **SEALY**St. Michael South Central



Michael CARRINGTON
St. Michael West



Steve **BLACKETT**St. Michael Central



Patrick **TODD** St. Michael North East



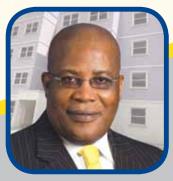
Adriel BRATHWAITE
St Philip South



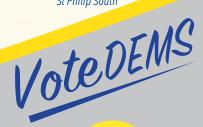
Stephen LASHLEY
Christ Church West Central



Verla DEPEIZA
Christ Church West



Dr. Denis **LOWE**Christ Church East





with your future!!



A Second Education Revolution:

An Inclusive Education System for The Digital Age

Barbados' education system is world renowned and as a nation we are justly proud of our achievements in this area. The current system is world class in terms of access and the outcomes for high achievers. Our goal is take the education system to new heights by making the system more inclusive and focused on outcomes. However, despite the successes, a large percentage of students score less than 50% on Mathematics and English at the Eleven Plus exam and a large percentage leave secondary level with no qualifications. The system currently fails a significant percentage of the students that enter the system. This has to be corrected immediately! The education system must now ensure that the vast majority of young people and citizens have the knowledge, skills and expertise to function in a digital and globalised world.

We aim for nothing short of a second education revolution which by 2025 will see:

- √ 95% of students leaving the school system with some form of certification either CSECS or CVQS;
- 90% of all primary school students taking

the Eleven Plus will achieve grades of 60% or higher on Maths and English at the Eleven Plus:

Volunteers and private service providers will be critical as we seek to achieve this by:

- Providing 200 specialist Math Teachers at the Primary School level (50 new teachers a year);
- Providing 200 specialist English language teachers at the primary school level (50 new teachers a year);
- Providing at the Primary School level, 25 teachers specializing in teaching children with Autism and other conditions along the spectrum;
- Providing at the Primary School level,75 teacher specializing in diagnosing and teaching children with Dyslexia and other learning disabilities;
- Creating a national lessons programme across all state owned primary schools staffed by a combination of volunteer





teachers and philanthropic financing to assist those who cannot afford private lessons;

- Providing a comprehensive remedial Mathematics and English language programme at the Secondary School Level;
- ✓ Inviting private service providers to bid for the delivery of the mentioned services;
- ✓ Erdiston Teachers' Training College has emerged over the last five years with a stronger pedagogical framework and a new Centre for Professional Development. Teachers are now being trained before entering the classroom. Erdiston will continue to be reinforced and reengineered to become the leading independent teacher training institution in the Caribbean.
- ✓ A cadre of Social Work and psychological professionals will gradually be deployed across the Primary school system to offer early interventions among children who demonstrate grave social, emotional, psychological behaviours.
- ✓ The DLP government will continue to work with the University of the West Indies to develop and build a Funding Model that meets the needs of students, Caribbean education and Caribbean development. This will seek to ensure that vulnerable families have the resources to benefit from higher / tertiary education. While maintaining and efficient and effective global education brand.

✓ Barbados will complete universal Nursery Education by 2021 with the construction of 5 dedicated Nursery schools and the enhancement of existing nursery classes at Primary Schools as well as the participation of the private sector.

To radically enhance the access to, quality and status of Technical and Vocational Education the DLP will:

- ✓ Ensure all Secondary Schools will be equipped to offer Technical and Vocational Education
- ✓ Establish additional campuses of Samuel Jackman Institute of technology in St. Lucy and St. Philip.
- Expand The National Scholarship/Exhibition winners to include awards to graduates in Technical and Vocational Education
- ✓ Establish a National Technical and Vocational Internship program with businesses and organizations across Barbados. Businesses and organisations that participate in the program will be eligible for a 150% Corporation tax credit for the stipends paid to interns and a 10% reduction in The NSRL.
 - To Create a focus on school performance there will be:
- Mandatory literacy and numeracy testing for primary school children at various stages of their development;
- ✓ International benchmarking of Barbados' secondary schools;



✓



Schools Fit For Digital Age

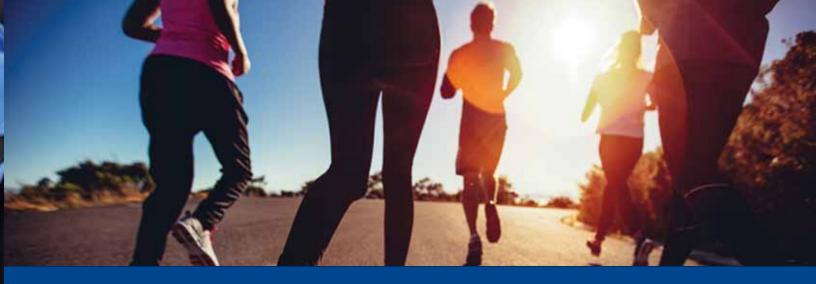
Our plan for the next five years is to:

- Develop private and international partnerships to invest in broadband and technology for schools;
- Aim to have Barbados in the top ten countries for Reading, Science and Maths by 2026;
- Make 21st century skills and subjects part of every child's education;
- Ensure each child has access to appropriate technology regardless of their means;
 - To promote savings for university education the DLP will introduce:
- A tax deductible education savings account of up to \$5,000 annually.

- ❖ Teachers perform a unique and special function in Barbados. In order to thank them for their sacrifice the government will fund 10 scholarships annually. There will 5 scholarships for those teaching at the primary level and 5 for those at the secondary level. The scholarship winners will be chosen from a pool of applicants by a committee of retired teachers.
- We will seek private support for the hosting of an annual "Teachers Awards Ceremony."

Barbados at 60 must have an education system that allows all to achieve their where all can succeed.





Promoting A Healthy Barbados

Barbados represents a success story in the health care. Despite the difficulties of the last decade we have been able to maintain a health care system that was ranked in the world for emergency care. As we go forward we face three challenges;

- Promoting health and wellness among Barbadians as we deal with an epidemic of chronic noncommunicable diseases. Our people must take better care of themselves. We must become more active and eat better. The state and civil society have major roles to play in fostering this wellness revolution:
- We must find a model for the sustainable financing of health care while preserving universal access to emergency and primary health care;
- We must decentralise the delivery of health care services and develop a more community based model for many aspects of health care;

Our plan for the next five years:

- Aggressively promote the "Ounce of Prevention" tax credits;
- Establish a volunteer programme providing inhome and community based health checks and health information along the lines of the Cuban model;
- ☐ Provide tax credits for gym memberships;

- Provide mandatory health checks at schools;
- Promote the establishment of community exercise facilities;
- Increase taxes targeting the amount of sugar and other undesirable content if necessary;
- ☐ Implement a National Health Insurance Scheme;
- Provide tax credits for private health insurance;
- ☐ Enhance the use of telemedicine and other digital technologies to reduce the cost of health care delivery and health care management;
- Upgrade polyclinic network to expand access to health care and ease the burden on Queen Elizabeth Hospital;
- Reform work practices and the allocation of staff within hospitals to ensure systemic change in how discharges are dealt with;
- Review the pay and working conditions within the hospital and polyclinic to ensure better retention of staff;
- Reform the planning, management and board membership of hospitals to ensure a more accountable, effective system;
 - To promote the greater use of Health Insurance, the DLP will introduce:
- a tax deduction of up to \$5,000 annually for the premium paid on eligible Health Insurance Policies.





Mental Illness

Our plan for the next five years:

- Create free counselling in Primary Care service to all 16-25 year olds, the group most likely to require urgent mental health intervention;
- ☐ Introduce additional training for GPs in mental health issues
- Establish a permanent mental health awareness and advertising programme;
- ☐ Bring in a registration and licensing system for mental health professionals;
- Develop a new service to address dual diagnosis (addiction and mental health);





Drugs and Harm Reduction

Our plan for the next five years:

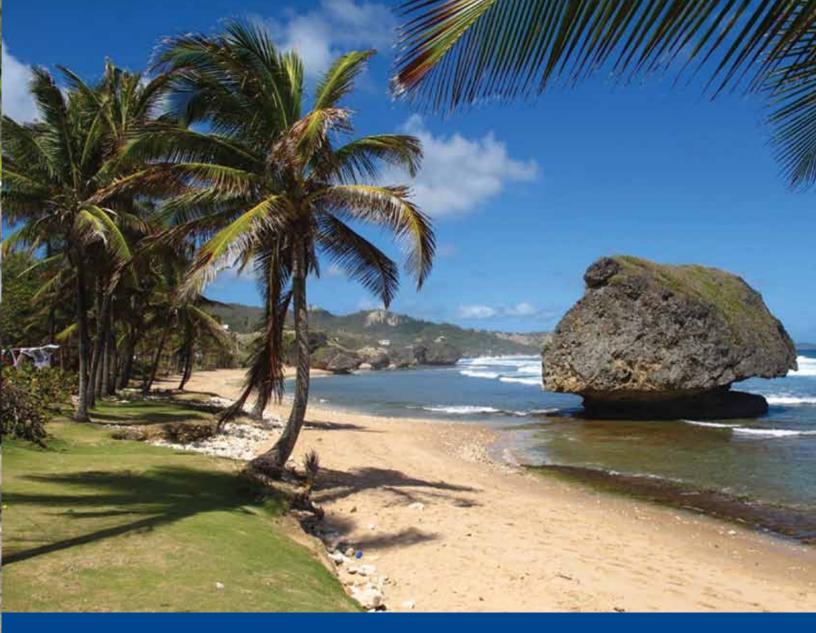
- De-criminalise medical marijuana and possession of less than a minimum quantity of marijuana;
- Ensure the resources of the criminal justice system are targeted at the pushers and medical supports are focused on the victims of drug abuse;
- Create a Drug Court;
- Nurses perform a unique and special function in Barbados. In order to thank them for their sacrifice the government will fund 10 scholarships annually.
- We will seek private support for the hosting of an annual "Nurses Awards Ceremony."

Barbados at 60 must be a physically and mentally healthy society, providing broad based ad affordable access to a range of health services.









PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

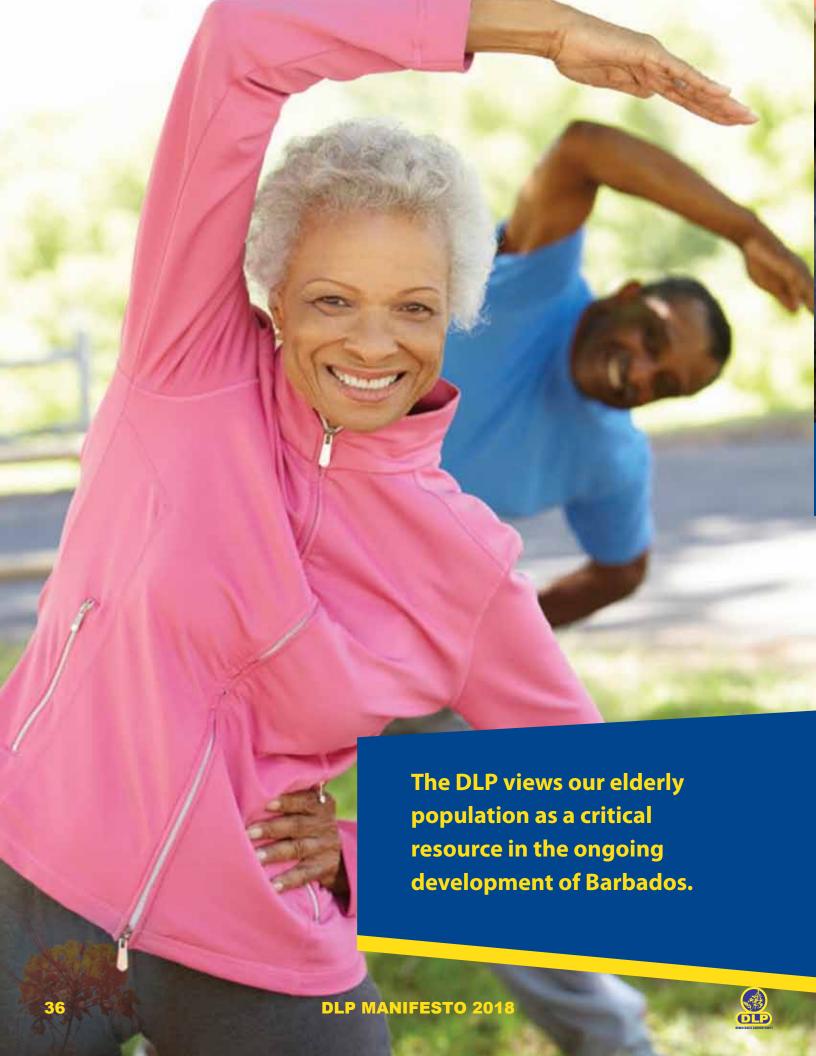


Barbados is blessed with rare natural beauty and a unique physical environment. One of the major challenges of our age is to ensure that we preserve the physical environment for future generations.

In a third term the DLP will:

- Engage in a vigorous public education program to discourage illegal dumping of garbage and the improper disposal of old vehicles and appliances;
- Vigorously enforce laws against illegal dumping of garbage and the improper disposal of old vehicles and appliances;
- Introduce a national recycling program with appropriate penalties and incentives to encourage residents to separate and re-cycle refuse.
- We will introduce and enforce existing legislation that deals with the occupation, acquisition, demolition or removal of dilapidated structures.







Promotion an Age Friendly Barbados

One of the major realities in Barbados is that we are an ageing society. By the year 2020 around 40% of our population will be over 50 years old. The DLP views our elderly population as a critical resource in the ongoing development of Barbados, and is committed to providing avenues for elderly persons to be productive citizens as well as enjoy their golden years. Our manifesto plan anticipates that a number of retired teachers, nurses, police officers, civil servants and other professionals will volunteer their time in helping us address implement our plans in education and health care, in particular.

Our plan for the next five years:

Partner with Barbados Association of Retired Persons (BARP) to ensure a 50% increase in the number of home-help hours by 2026;

- Follow a "home first" policy approach to provide adequate supports and services to help older people who wish to stay in their own homes for as long as possible;
- Partner with BARP to launch a 're-ablement' scheme to support older people who have been hospitalised to return to living ordinary lives;
- Continue to engage with the vital work done by care-givers and work with their representatives to ensure supports for an increase in this activity.

Barbados at 60 must be an Aged Friendly Society





Dignity in Disability

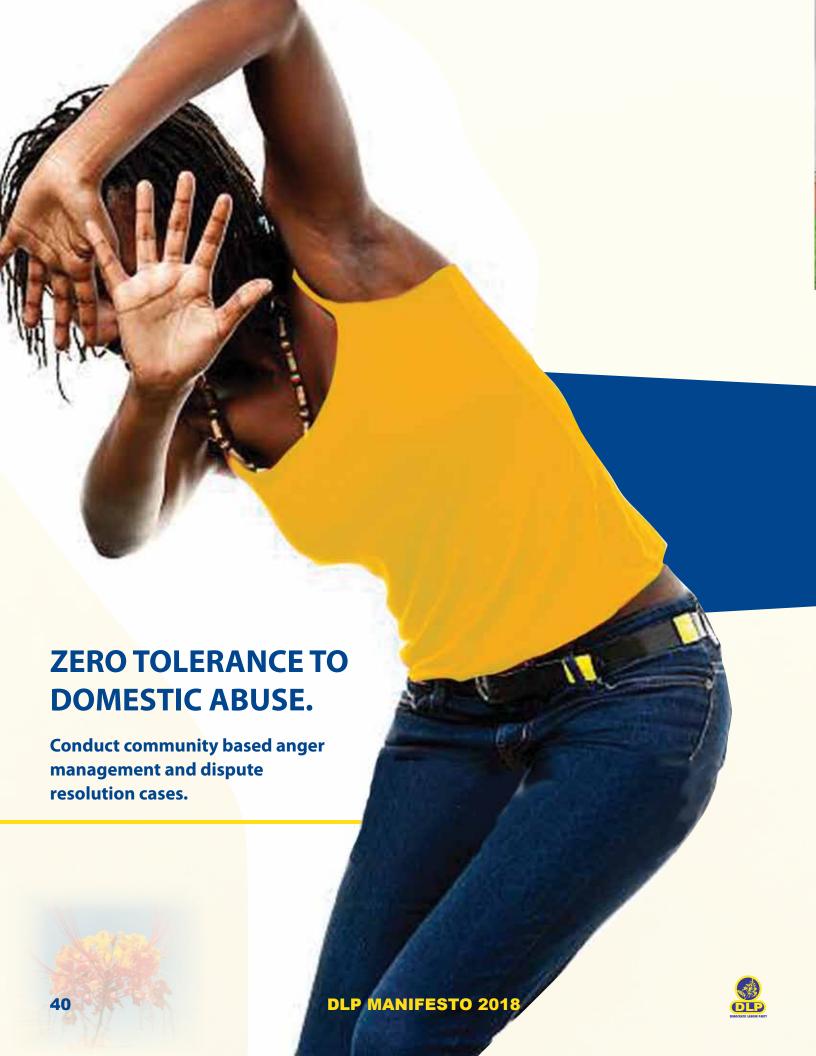
The DLP administration has always been committed to having our differently able members of society be productive citizens and enjoy a high quality of life. Our goal is make Barbados the most disabled friendly society in the Western Hemisphere by 2026.

Our plan for the next five years to help achieve this are:

- Develop an "Enabling The Disabled 2026 Plan" in consultation with key stakeholders in the disabled community and in line with international best practices;
- Develop international and private/public partnerships to provide wheel chair access to all public buildings in Barbados by 2026;
- Develop international and private/public partnerships to launch and complete a national wheel chair friendly sidewalk program by 2026;
- Improve educational supports for children with disabilities and special needs by expanding the number of educational psychologists in the Ministry of Education;
- Develop and implement a Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities;

Barbados at 60 must be a Disabled Friendly Society.







A SAFE AND SECURE BARBADOS

A Proactive Approach:

Tough on Crime and Tough on the Causes of Crime

In seeking to promote a safe and secure Barbados, the DLP's philosophy is grounded on crime prevention, and being tough on crime and the causes of crime. An important plank of this strategy is enhancing the crime prevention capabilities of the Royal Barbados Police Force (RBPF).

In a third term the DLP will:

- Make greater use of community policing as the default approach;
- b. Adjust the training programmes for police officers to include greater training in crime prevention.
- c. Assign a community officer to each school.
- d. Reallocate police officers performing administrative functions to increase the police presence in communities. Approximately 200 officers can be placed in communities using this approach.
- e. Ensure frequent rotation of personnel working at ports of entry including customs and law enforcement officers.
- f. Actively police the entry of all seacraft into Barbados, this includes yachts and fishing vessels.
- g. Expand the Barbados Youth Service and similar programmes to provide young males in particular with viable alternatives to crime.
- h. Conduct community based anger management and dispute resolution cases.
- i. Enhancing the prison rehabilitation programmes.
- Partner with civil society to expand programs in parenting skills.





In addition to enhancing the crime prevention capacity of the police force, the DLP administration will also seek to further enhance the already impressive crime solving capabilities of the RBFP.

Specifically, we will:

- a. Urgently provide police officers and other relevant personnel with the adequate technology such as cameras, scanners and drones to aid in investigation.
- b. Increase the pool of funds available to the police to acquire intelligence.
- c. Make greater use of the Barbados Revenue Authority (BRA) to investigate suspected crime bosses for tax evasion.





Bringing Criminals to Justice

The RBPF has an excellent record in criminal investigation, identifying and arresting suspects. One of the challenges in crime prevention is the backlog of cases in the criminal justice system which creates an increased likelihood for offenders to repeat offenses while awaiting trails. One solution is to expand the powers of the Magistracy.

A DLP administration will therefore:

- ✓ Expand the value of cases that can be tried by a magistrate from a maximum of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$1,000,000.
- ✓ Extend the length of sentences that can be imposed by a magistrate from to.
- ✓ Extend the hours of the magistrate courts to include after hours.

Police Officers and Members of the Armed Services perform a unique and special function in Barbados. In order to thank them for their sacrifice the government will fund 10 scholarships annually tenable at an institution of the officer's choice.





A DISASTER READY BARBADOS

The hurricane season of 2017 brought home the extreme vulnerability of Small Island Developing States like Barbados. The message is clear decades of economic gains can be wiped out in a few days. Worse still, human life can be lost and families torn apart. We have to improve our preparedness for disasters and our capacity to respond to disasters.

The DLP will:

- ✓ Introduce a business continuity program for the public sector and incentivize the private sector to do the same;
- ✓ Introduce disaster-preparedness drills in all secondary and primary schools;
- ✓ Increase the Disaster Insurance Coverage for Barbados;
- Seek local and international partners for the upgrade of hurricane shelters across Barbados;
- ✓ Seek international partnership for the construction of bunkers in selected parts of Barbados to withstand Category 5 storms;
- Partner with the diaspora to establish redundancy sites for key social services outside Barbados.





A society at its core is driven by its values. Our work ethic, productivity, levels of service, treatment of others especially the less fortunate, our proclivity to engage in crime, how well we take care of our health and so many aspects of our lives are driven by our values. Who are we? What do we believe in? What are our moral anchors? Who are what do we aspire to be? Whom do we trust?

We need a revival in this land. We need to rediscover the values that sustained us through the trials of the middle passage, slavery, colonialism and took from a collection of villages to the number one developing country in the world. We need a revival in this land! We need to build strong communities. We need to be raising sons and daughters with strong values and moral anchors to guide through the complex world we now inhabit.

Scientific research shows that Barbados is now plagued with low levels of trust in key institutions.

A DLP administration will be focused on rebuilding trust in Barbados and building strong communities.

We will focus on:

- ✓ Ongoing workshops on conflict resolution in schools from primary to secondary;
- ✓ Teaching of civics in primary and secondary school;
- ✓ Community policing and health care;
- ✓ In-home and community based health care and health checks;
- ✓ Community tourism;
- ✓ Emphasis on and opportunities for volunteering;

Barbados at 60 must have strong moral anchors and strong communities.





Promoting Gender Equality

Our women form part of the bedrock of our society. Females have been extremely successful in Barbados and outperform males in the education system. However, women remain a small minority on statutory boards, corporate boards and in corporate management.

As we continue to promote gender equity the DLP will:

- Mandate at least 50% female membership on all state boards by 2026;
- ☐ Mandate that by 2026 at least 25% of all private sector board members should be female;
- Compel all large companies to publish their gender pay gap;



AMAZING FACTS

Dear Barbadians

Pride and industry have been the hallmark of this country and the pillars on which this nation stands. This nation was established by great men and women, filled with pride, and who had a vision for this country where we would be independent and outstanding in all aspects of daily living and the governance of this pnation. This was a vision of hope. One where the inhabitants of this land lived freely, grew healthy and happy in a safe and secure environment and who inevitably propelled this nation to its greatness.

This country boasts of a superior educational system which, against all odds, stands tall with the Singapores and Finlands of this world, being rated at number nine out of the eleven best educational systems worldwide.

Barbados is a country which holds the vulnerable in high esteem, not letting them falter nor fall by the wayside.

This island has been a pioneer for women's rights passing the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Act. Barbados ranks 4th in the top ten countries of the world for female wage employment in the non-agricultural sector.

The worker should no longer fear being dismissed on the impulse of his or her superiors as the Employment Rights Tribunal has been created to ensure that workers are treated fairly.

In 2018 - BARBADOS was chosen N0.1 with travellers where 70,000 travellers across the world selected Barbados as their place to visit

What great achievements for an island such as this. Those who crafted plans of development for this island during its early days of independence must surely be proud.

Barbados stands out in the Caribbean and Latin American region as high above the average in this hemisphere being rated as having "Very High Human Development". (UNDP)

What an excellent achievement, as this is the highest designation of development possible in the United Nations Human Development Index.

Achievements such as these cannot go unnoticed. We must remember that we remain craftsmen of our fate. We must not retreat and we must not surrender if a massif stands before us. We were born of great men and women. Men and women who understood that hard work and commitment were the threads that wove the fabric of pride and industry.

Regards

lam Barbados.. PROUD Vote DEMS



A brief journey

On the night of 27th April, 1955, twenty-six persons met at Land's End, St. Michael. They represented varied backgrounds and outlooks. Some had already had considerable experience in politics, because four of them were members of the House of Assembly and two of them sat in that chamber years before. By the time the meeting ended, twenty-five people had started something that would change the course of Barbadian history.

On this historic night, the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) was formed. Yet, before this significant meeting was held, there had been discussions and tentative agreement. Prior to that important night, there was the obvious, though up to that time inarticulate, dissatisfaction caused by the policies of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP). Since 1952, some members of the BLP withdrew their confidence from the leadership. Soon after the General Election of 1951, Mr. Grantley Adams had bluntly told his parliamentary colleagues that if he had to choose between their advice and that of the then Governor of the territory, he would take the Governor's.

Outside of this narrow political circle, there had grown for some time a radical movement of young men known from time to time by varying names. It was for some time known as the "The Citizens' Association" with Mr. "Brain" Alleyne as its president. At other times it was the "Christian Socialists" under the leadership of C.L. Brathwaite. Then there was a regrouping with a

less radical body known as "The Peoples' Common Law Parliament" under the nominal leadership of Mr. Hugh Blackman and Mr. Chappie Clarke. These groupings were the radical voices of protest.

The weakness of these groups lay not in any lack of energy or sincerity; for these they had in generous quantities. Their weakness was found in their psychology. They were a protest organisation. They did not appreciate the fact that if a political party wants to be taken seriously by people, it must include active and well known politicians who appear to have national stature regardless of their views. In this group, only Mr. Allder was prominent. It is probably for this reason that Mr. Allder, Mr. L.B. Brathwaite and Mr. Gill gave some weight to the view of Mr. C.L. Brathwaite that they should join forces with people of a wider and different tradition. It is significant, however, that Mr. Allder, Mr. L.B. Brathwaite and Mr. C.A. Gill all left the DLP within a year and only Mr. C.L. Brathwaite remained.

Meanwhile another tributary began to flow in the same direction. Mr. Cameron Tudor severed his association with the BLP in October 1952. He was later to challenge and defeat the BLP in the now famous St. Lucy By-Election of 1954. However, long before this, Mr. Adams had invited Mr. A.E.S. Lewis to take part in a public meeting in Queen's Park. Mr. Lewis, unsuspecting, agreed and attended. At this meeting, Mr. Adams devoted his entire





of the DLP

speech to a public excoriation of Mr. Lewis who was sitting next to him on the platform. With this, the parting of ways had come.

Early in 1952, Mr. Errol Barrow began to entertain serious doubts about the policies and purposes of the Barbados Labour Party leadership. With his well know directness of speech, he several times challenged these policies in party conclave and was sometimes forced to dissociate himself from them in the House of Assembly. A sense of loyalty to his constituents in St. George restrained him for some time, but the inevitable break engendered since 1952 came in early 1954. After the St. Lucy By-Election in which Mr. Allder then an independent member of the House played a full part, it was now thought propitious to launch a new political party. Mr. Barrow, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Tudor and Mr. F.G. Smith had already a common outlook. But there was another group of which Mr. Allder was a leading figure. Was there to be one party or two? This was clearly a matter of some importance. Two new political parties would compete for the same allegiance.

A single party, provided that there was agreement between its founders, would carry all before it. Accordingly, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Tudor and Mr. Smith initiated conversations with Mr. Allder's group who, by this time, February 1955, had accepted C.L. Brathwaite's suggestion that they should seek a wider affiliation. Discussions lasted for two months and it was agreed that a political party, whose outlook was to be both democratic and socialist could be organised.

Aims and objectives were discussed and, when there was agreement on these, a name was chosen from several suggestions and a constitution was drawn up for adoption. By the middle of April 1955 several persons expressed their interest, and so on 27th April, at the "Glenhurst" meeting, the constitution of the party, which was to come into force on 1st May, 1955, was adopted by the party's foundation members.

The provisional executive met on the following day and made the first management decisions of the DLP. These included the arranging of a press conference, the arrangements for acquiring a headquarters building and the public meeting place to launch the new party. This meeting was held in the Steel Shed in Queen's Park on Friday May 6th, 1955, and was presided over by Mr. Allder who, because of a reservation of his, did not feel able to participate in the meeting more fully. Mr. Barrow, Mr. Tudor, Mr. A.E. Lewis and Mr. Smith all spoke and the DLP set out to meet its fate.







From Colony to Nationhood!



ERROL BARROW

Founder of the Democratic Labour Party Errol Barrow served in the Royal Air Force during World War II. He enlisted in the Royal Air Force on 31st December 1940 and by 1945 he had risen to the rank of Flying officer and was appointed as personal navigator to the Commander in Chief of the British Zone.

After the war, he studied Law at the Inns of Court and Economics at the London School of Economics concurrently taking degrees in 1949 and 1950 respectively. He returned to Barbados in 1950 and was elected to the Barbados Parliament in 1951 as a member of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP).

In 1955 he founded the Democratic Labour Party as a progressive alternative to the BLP. He became its leader in 1958 and the party won parliamentary elections in 1961.



LLOYD ERSKINE SANDIFORD

The Right Honourable Sir Lloyd Erskine Sandiford, KA, served as the fourth Prime Minister of Barbados from 1987 to 1994. He studied at the University of Manchester, receiving his Master's Degree in Economics and Social Studies. Sir Lloyd returned to Barbados where he joined the Democratic Labour Party (DLP).

The DLP under Errol Barrow formed government in 1971 and Sir Lloyd served in many Cabinet positions including Minister of Education. The DLP lost the 1976 election and regained power in 1986 with Sir Lloyd defeating BLP MP Lionel Seymour Craig in the St. Michael South constituency. Sir Lloyd was made Deputy Prime Minister to Mr. Barrow.

In 1987 Barrow died and Sir Lloyd was appointed Prime Minister. He led the DLP to victory in the 1991 election.





From Colony to Nationhood!

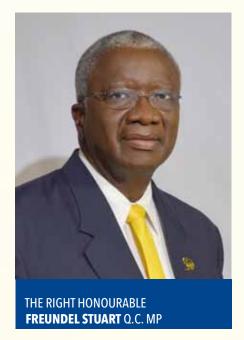


THE HON. **DAVID JOHN HOWARD THOMPSON** Q.C. MP

David John Howard Thompson was Prime Minister of Barbados from January 2008 until his death on October 23rd 2010. He attended the Combermere School before pursuing his Law Degree at the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus. He later pursued his Legal Education Certificate at the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad.

David Thompson came to politics in a by-election, after the death of Prime Minister Errol Barrow, gaining his parliamentary seat for St. John in 1987. During Erskine Sandiford's term as Prime Minister, Thompson served as Minister of Community Development and Culture from 1991 to 1993. He was subsequently appointed Minister of Finance from 1993 to 1994.

Thompson became leader of the DLP when Sandiford resigned after losing a parliamentary no confidence motion. Thompson led the DLP in General Elections in 1994 and 1999. The DLP won the General Election on the 15th January 2008 with 20 seats to the Barbados Labour Party's 10. He became the sixth prime Minister of Barbados.



The Right Honourable Freundel Jerome Stuart Q.C. MP is the seventh Prime Minister of Barbados. He succeeded David Thompson who died on the 23rd October 2010.

On graduating from the Foundation School, he obtained a Bachelor's Degree with honours in Political Science and History from the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus. He later returned and studied for a Law degree and a Master's of Law in Public International Law before proceeding to the Hugh Wooding Law School to pursue his Legal Education Certification. Freundel Stuart served as acting Prime Minister of Barbados in May 2010, when Prime Minister David Thompson became ill.

Stuart was sworn in as the seventh Prime Minister of Barbados on October 23rd 2010 by then Governor General His Excellency Sir Clifford Husbands. On January 24th 2014 Stuart became a member of the Privy Council of the United Kingdom and was accorded the title of Right Honourable.



Thankyou



BARBADOS





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Vote DEMS



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