

# TRANSFORMING GRENADA!

### Generating GROWTH Creating WEALTH Eradicating POVERTY



National Democratic Congress 2022 Manifesto

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## MESSAGE FROM THE POLITICAL LEADER

Fellow Grenadians,

Once again, we are called upon to make a decision that will profoundly affect our lives and the future of our country; that of electing a new government to lead and manage our affairs over the next five years. This is a patriotic responsibility that our ancestors diligently fought for, and as Grenadians we must take seriously and embrace. In the discharge of our responsibility, we must be careful in the selection of the best team, with the appropriate development plans that can take our beloved country forward, ensuring that our children's future is secured. We must choose an organisation that is led by a visionary, competent, empathetic, authentic, honest, genuine, action oriented, accountable and God-fearing leader.

On this important occasion, we must conclude on the performance of the current government and whether they have delivered on the many promises they have made. We must also decide on whether they have managed our resources efficiently, whether they were inclusive, equitable, transparent and consultative. During the last nine years, we have witnessed irresponsible decisions which are now a chronic pattern. Citizens have grown fearful of expressing themselves, choosing to avoid victimization, and some Grenadians are losing hope.

Once again, the National Democratic Congress is called upon to restore integrity, dignity, respect, direction, leadership and hope to the Grenadian people and in particular, our youth.

The National Democratic Congress believes that now is the time for a new approach in the leadership and management of Grenada. We cannot continue on the same path with failed policies, bankrupt ideas and the same old team that has failed to transform the lives of and living conditions for Grenadians. We firmly believe that as a people we can do much better. The National Democratic Congress believes that we can once again instil confidence, faith and hope in our people.

The invigorated National Democratic Congress, with its diverse team of capable and talented Grenadians, is ready to lead a path of Transformation that will change Grenada positively for the benefit of all. We have outlined the new approaches, policies, programs and actions that we will pursue within this document. I urge you to take some time to examine and discuss our plans as we move Grenada forward.

As we go to the polls, I solicit your support for my team of candidates and the development plans that we have shared. I also ask for the opportunity to lead Grenada on a path of sustainable growth, maximizing our full potential for the benefit of all Grenadians with a leadership team you can TRUST. **GRENADIANS DESERVE BETTER!**   $\odot$ 

Grenadians deserve a future that is better!

JOIN ME IN MOVING GRENADA FORWARD.

## **Our Vision**

Equity, Sustainability and Prosperity

The **NDC**'s vision is A Sustainable, Equitable and Prosperous Grenada for All: This envisages Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique as:

- A nation that is just, free, independent and self-reliant.
- A nation in which everyone has an equal opportunity to realize their potential and enjoy the fruits of their labour without fear or discrimination.
- A nation in which poverty and ignorance are eradicated and Grenadians are taking their rightful place among the community of nations.
- A nation that is stable, peaceful, friendly, safe and secure.
- A nation that embraces diverse faith communities and their harmonious interaction with each other; a nation that embraces diversity and practices tolerance at all times.
- A nation transformed into an eco-friendly, fair, equitable, dynamic, prosperous and stable democracy, capable of sustaining a high quality of life for all its people.
- A nation whose people take pride in their culture, heritage and patrimony.
- A nation where the environment is protected and preserved for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.
- A nation that is a model of sustainable development for small island developing states.

### Aspire, build, advance As one people, one family. God bless our nation.

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## **Transforming Grenada**

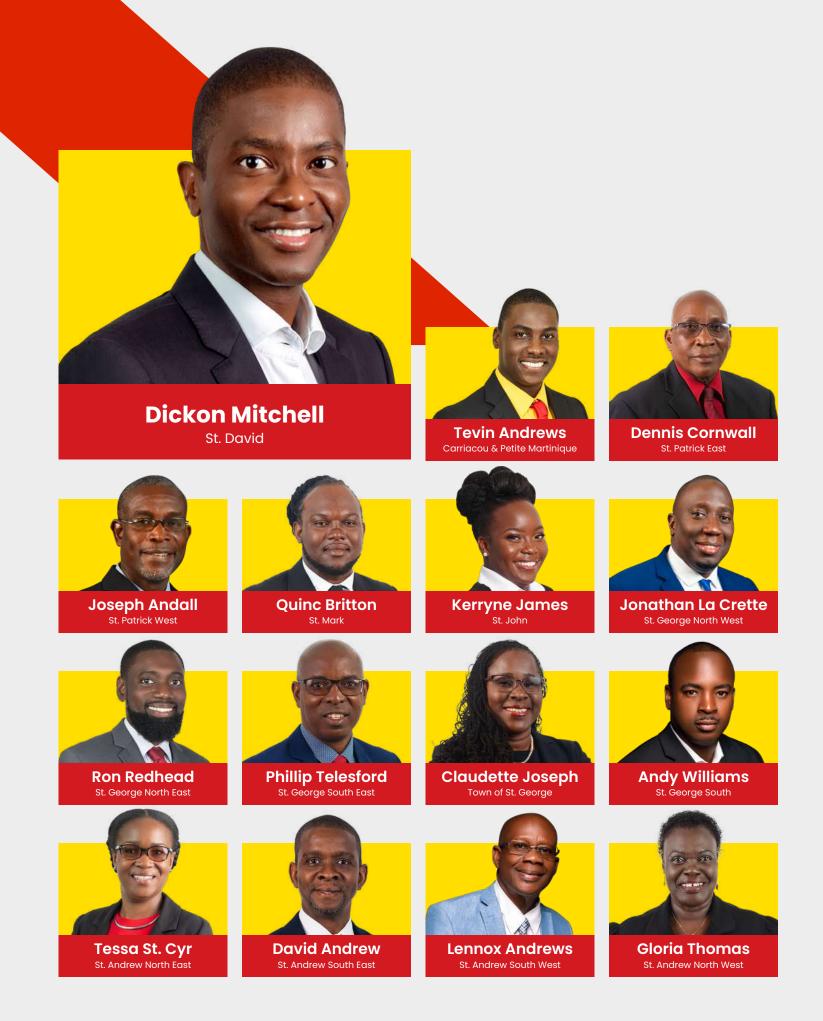
Our mission is to transform Grenada through self-reliance and the creation of wealth. This is the cornerstone in the building of a sustainable, prosperous society for the benefit of all Grenadians. **NDC**'s transformative vision will address our country's social and economic challenges and bring advancements, which we will all benefit from, including:



### The team who will lead the forward transformation of Grenada, Carriacou & Petite Martinique

Our team combines the young and innovative with the senior and experienced. We have diverse, qualified and dynamic candidates who together, bring a collection of experiences in multiple fields. With expertise in various specialties including public service, law, economics, education, entrepreneurship and community development, we will dedicate ourselves to serving you, the citizens of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, as we work to Move Grenada Forward.

# Passionate Professional Purpose Driven Prepared



### Highlights of commitments from our campaign

#### **Payment of Pension**

An **NDC-led government** will honour the Constitution and the ruling of the High Court on the payment of pensions.

#### **Twice Monthly Salary Payments**

The **NDC-led government** will pay public servants twice per month to assist in addressing cash flow challenges, and to increase the volume of business transactions in the economy. We will collaborate with the private sector to standardize this practice for the rest of the country.

#### **National Minimum Wage**

An **NDC-led government** will undertake a collaborative review of wages with the private and labour sectors to raise the minimum wage.

#### **Construction of a Modern Hospital**

We will construct, in collaboration with St. George's University, a new, modern public hospital with teaching facilities as the centrepiece to the development of the Education, Health and the Wellness Sector.

#### Introduction of a National Health Insurance Scheme and Fund

Fully implement the National Health InsuranceScheme,whichwillbeestablished in consultation with key stakeholders.

#### Construction of 500+ High-quality, Grenadian-styled, Family Homes

Create and facilitate access to housing that will increase substantially, the number of Grenadian families who own and live in their own homes. Special priority will be given to satisfying the housing demand for people in the lowest income bracket and youth.

#### **Free Education up to TAMCC**

Guarantee FREE universal education up to community college with a strong focus on Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM).

# Let's Move Grenada **FORWARD**

#### Facilitation of Reliable and Cost Effective Travel Between Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique

We will partner with the ferry operators and airlines to enable efficient, reliable and cost-effective transportation service between Grenada, Carriacou, and Petite Martinique.

#### Provision of Free Wireless Internet Access Nationwide

The **NDC** will work with our internet service providers to establish a network of Free Wireless Access Points in every community, government office, tourism sites and recreational parks.

#### Restructuring and Upgrading the Imani Program

We will transform the Imani Program to better equip young people with stable and reliable employment.

#### Empowering Local Constituencies/ Parishes

We will implement a Local Government Authority in Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

#### **Securing Social Safety Nets**

We will retain the Support for Education Empowerment and Development ("SEED") and other Social Safety Net Programmes. We will provide a helping hand to those needing it most.

#### Launching a National Spice Replanting Program

We will invest in re-invigorating our spice industry by encouraging farmers to engage in the large scale replanting of all of our local spices.

#### Paying our Sport Men and Women

We will establish a "**Pay For Play**" System, where our national teams and sports personalities are paid a monthly stipend when on national training, and representing Grenada.

#### **Establishing a Cannabis Industry**

We will legalize cannabis and immediately begin the process of developing a Cannabis Industry. This industry will focus on the medical and industrial uses of the plant, to create employment, and generate foreign exchange.

#### Establishing a Cultural and Creative Economy

Develop a Creative and Cultural economy policy. This master plan will inform the creation of an enabling environment for the development and growth of a creative and cultural industry. In addition, the **NDC** will establish an enhancement fund for persons in the cultural and creative industry.

# The question we have to ask ourselves is, do we want a society where we plan and set goals, or do we want a society where we get up and say whatever happens, happens. THIS IS THE **ULTIMATE TEST WE MUST PASS.**

Dickon Mitchell

# The time has come to transform Grenada

To transform Grenada we will focus on the holistic development of our people, ensuring that they are equipped and able to produce and deliver new and improved goods and services, utilizing modern methods and techniques and generating new sources of employment and income. An **NDC**-led transformation will be driven by creativity and innovation and will focus on:



# EMPOWERING OUR PEOPLE

The time for a social transformation is NOW

The **NDC** believes that strong, united and progressive communities build strong countries. Strong communities preserve our traditions, our community spirit, our culture and our rich legacy. As such, an **NDC-led government** will pursue the inclusion of all Grenadians in the process of nation building, regardless of political affiliation. We intend to empower our people by re-emphasizing some of the core values of honesty, integrity, transparency, accountability, self-respect, tolerance, patriotism, equality, justice and good governance (which includes respect for the rule of law and the institutions of the state) that will transform our country. We firmly believe that these important values are pre-requisites for the sustainable economic and social development of Grenada. Furthermore, the **NDC** is adamant that every Grenadian needs to be self-reliant and patriotic.

Healthcare
Education
Land ownership and housing
Sports
Youth development
Carriacou & Petite Martinique
Diaspora Engagement
Culture



Empowering our People
Transforming Healthcare

The **NDC** is committed to improving the health of all citizens of Grenada. We believe that good nutrition, physical exercise and a balanced lifestyle are essential for good health. Our policy focus will be on preventative, curative and rehabilitative health services. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Construct, in collaboration with St. George's University, a new modern Public Hospital with teaching facilities as the centrepiece to the development of the Education, Health and Wellness Sector.
- Introduce a National Health Insurance
   Scheme.
- Establish Primary Health Care teams in every parish and ensure the availability of medical and nursing service in every district medical station.
- Emphasize strong community participation in the planning, implementation and monitoring of all Community Health Services.
- Expand school health programs to all primary and secondary schools.
- Collaborate with the private sector to establish a dialysis unit for on-going treatment of patients and an oncology centre specializing in the care and treatment of cancer patients.
- Upgrade and expand the programs
   offered at the Grenada School

of Nursing and provide financial assistance to nurses for specialized training in areas such as Dialysis, Oncology and Psychiatry.

- Collaborate with the Drug Control Council to develop a national prevention and control program for drug abuse and addiction.
- Actively encourage and attract the establishment of clinics to deliver specialty care in areas such as hip replacement, fertility, cosmetic surgery and post operative recuperation.



Empowering our People
Transforming Education

**NDC** believes that our human resource is our most important asset and a fundamental contributor to the social and economic development of our nation. The **NDC**'s policy agenda will expand the core curriculum around components that build life skills, encourage critical thinking and independent learning and foster lifelong learning attitudes in our students, teachers, leaders, and community members. For our citizens to reach their full potential. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Guarantee FREE universal education up to community college with a strong focus on Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM).
- Reintroduce Community Access Points (CAP), so that all students can have quality internet access and expand CAPs to be full resource centres.
- Ensure that at least one child per household will be provided with 100% financial support in obtaining a first degree.
- Introduce a government-sponsored national student loan scheme for students wishing to pursue postsecondary education.
- Establish a specialized 'Institute of Digital Technology, Climate Science, Marine Studies and Creative Sciences' in rural Grenada.
- Establish a fully accredited polytechnic for students in the technical and vocational stream to pursue their specialty education and a high-level

training institution for workers, to enable them to perform highly skilled, high paying jobs in diverse sectors.

- Introduce courses in the areas of agriculture, culture and the performing arts, music, technical/vocational skills and ICT, including coding in particular to the traditional academic stream in primary schools.
- Restore the public library and upgrade it to include a digital department.
- Revive the Student Support Unit in the Ministry of Education to adequately address school counseling, medical services, truancy and school feeding programs in all schools.
- Provide training in coding, film and multimedia in addition to other digital and creative fields that will open opportunities to further studies and employment.
- Support access to learning new methods of farming and agribusiness.



Empowering our People
Land ownership and housing

The **NDC** will ensure that all Grenadians have a home in which they have security of tenure, adequate shelter and privacy, access to potable water and adequate sanitation facilities, together with basic electricity services. We will utilize innovative and creative programs and plans, including initiatives to facilitate land ownership and housing for young professionals and entrepreneurs. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Partner with the private sector to launch our First Time Homeowner Program. Our goal is to construct 500 Grenadian-styled homes for sale to low and middle income wage earners and our youth.
- Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Housing and the Grenada Housing Authority to better deliver housing services to the low and modestincome families.
- Institute a house repair and upgrade service for the most vulnerable.
- Review the taxes, most specifically VAT, that are applied on building materials on houses valued up to \$300,000 Eastern Caribbean dollars.

- Partner with our financial and regulatory institutions to explore the concept of reverse mortgages giving incentives where necessary, to provide for dignified standards of living for our elderly in their golden years.
- Embark on a program to provide land title (deeds of ownership) to all families who have been continuously occupying Government Lands for residential purposes for more than 10 years.





Empowering our People Sports

Grenada proves time and time again that we produce stellar sports men and women. We excel internationally in track and field, cricket, football and boxing, and we are recognized as regional champions in swimming, tennis and netball. Sports, has therefore illustrated that it is an intrinsic aspect of empowering our young people, connecting our communities and building our sense of national pride. The **NDC** understands the power of a national commitment to developing sporting opportunities in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique. We intend to empower young people to act as the vanguard of the revolution in sports and will turn it into a profitable industry that will provide avenues to education, travel and stable employment for our citizens. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Upgrade and implement the National Sports Policy to guide the planning, development and administration of all sporting activities in Grenada.
- Invest in state-of-the-art sports centres, including playing fields and multi-use community centres and make better use of major facilities to promote and facilitate a wide range of sporting disciplines.
- Develop the Sports Tourism sector and position Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique as a sports hub.
- Develop world-class facilities that integrate sporting activities with education, leisure and entertainment, encouraging active, healthier lifestyles.

- Provide an environment where our athletes can achieve their highest levels of performance, and create a regional centre for sporting activities.
- Develop training programs in the areas of sports medicine, sports education, sports psychology, physiotherapy, sports nutrition, medical services, proper management of sporting facilities and activities, coaching, athletic welfare, and the funding and promotion of sports tourism.
- Provide financial, educational, and other assistance and compensation to our national athletes during training and competitions.
- Actively seek to secure more scholarships for Grenadian athletes at all levels to further their education.



Empowering our People
Youth Development

We recognize that Grenada is a youthful population, as over 50% of Grenadians are between the ages of 18 and 35. This means that youth are integral in national development. The **NDC** therefore plans to harness the talent, energies and innovation of the country's youth to pivot our country forward. Under an **NDC** administration youth development will be a top priority. We will foster an environment where youth will thrive by providing the opportunities, support and facilities they need to rise out of unemployment and poverty. We recognize that youth are eager to contribute to strengthening our labour force and overall economy and will incentivise them to turn hobbies into entrepreneurial activities and skills into businesses. An

#### NDC-led government will:

- Create a national Youth Advisory mechanism to provide policy advice to the cabinet, and government.
- Maintain a minimum of two (2) seats which would be reserved in the Senate for young people.
- Ensure that there is at least one person aged 30 years or younger serving on the Board of Directors of every state owned enterprise in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.
- Expose all young people to opport unities to inculcate positive values through the managed induction to the world of work, based on acceptable values and habits, such as time management and interpersonal relations.
- Re-imagine the IMANI program to provide more industry-ready training opportunities that will lead to sustainable employment.

- Provide training in coding, film and multimedia and addition to other digital and creative fields that will open opportunities to further studies and employment.
- Create a National Youth & Student Organization, which will seek to promote and protect the rights and privileges of young people.
- Establish an annual Youth and Students Science & Technology Exhibition
- Give second chance opportunities to all youths who did not complete a primary, secondary or tertiary education, especially for boys and dropouts.

### Transforming the Imani program into full-fledged Skills Training and Apprenticeship program

The **NDC** is mindful of the expectations raised among young people by the Imani Program. The **NDC** will therefore retain **ALL THE TRAINEES** and the best practices of the Imani Program. **No trainee on the Imani Program will be sent home.** 

The existing Imani Program will be transformed so as to make it a full-fledged Skills Training and Apprenticeship program with primary focus on the following areas; Information Communication Technology (ICT), Creative and Entertainment Industry, Tourism and Hospitality, Agriculture and Agro-business, Marine Services. In addition we will introduce an exchange program with other Caricom countries which have similar programs.





#### Empowering our People Carriacou & Petite Martinique

Our sister isles provide rich natural and human resources to the tri-island state. They are uniquely positioned as our connection to the Grenadines, exhibit pristine beauty and hold rich historical roots. The **NDC** recognizes that Carriacou and Petite Martinique cannot be left by the wayside. With infrastructure development and an equal provision of resources for social, economic and human development, Carriacou and Petite Martinique can blossom into stable economies. An **NDC-led government** will not only pay particular attention to the needs of our citizens in Carriacou and Petite Martinique, but will also tap into their unique positioning to create unique advancements in the fishing and marine industries. An **NDCled government** will:

- Replace the jetty in Petite Martinique and construct a suitable waiting area for passengers.
- Construct a seafood storage depot for fresh catch.
- Standardize the price for petroleum products (gasoline, diesel, kerosene or cooking gas –all sizes) throughout the State of Grenada, which includes Carriacou and Petite Martinique.
- Repair the Hillsborough jetty and construct floating L or T shaped jetties to accommodate different sized boats and yachts. We will offer pump out services and bring the Osprey back to Hillsborough.
- Ensure consistency in travel access to the sister isles by ensuring availability of airlift including night landing and that the Osprey returns to a daily schedule.



Empowering our People
Diaspora Engagement

There are countless Grenadians and their descendants residing abroad and the **NDC** recognizes that members of the Grenadian Diaspora are an untapped resource. The Grenadian Diaspora is key in representing Grenada's culture and history in other countries around the globe. They also provide a significant source of knowledge, skills, and resources that can be harnessed for the sustainable development of Grenada. In an **NDC** administration, the input and contribution of the Diaspora will be utilized to build foreign partnerships, innovate local industry and extend the abilities of our people to thrive within a global village. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Build deeper relationships with our Diaspora through strengthening the Office of Diaspora Affairs.
- Connect with community organizations operating within the Diaspora to ensure that Grenadians abroad are receiving the social supports needed.
- Collaborate with the Diaspora to create international partnerships and opportunities for local industries.



Empowering our People

Culture

Our culture is our identity and defines who we are as citizens of this tri-island state. We are a warm, dynamic and vibrant people who should have a tremendous source of pride in our nation. The **NDC** aims to foster a sense of patriotism for our beloved state, that emits to the world our heritage and cultural traditions. The **NDC** is proud of our unique identity and sees it as central to our human and social development. We will preserve our cultural traditions that continue to anchor our society. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Integrate cultural studies into our education curriculum.
- Pursue the building of our creative and cultural industries.
- Establish a school for the performing arts.
- Provide institutional support to artistic and creative products.
- Encourage greater private sector investment in the Creative Arts through appropriate tax incentives.
- Reintroduce the National Arts Festival to encourage a spirit of healthy competition among our young artistes, and inspire them to be the best that they can be.

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# Transforming Our Economy

Jobs - more and better

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Private Sector Development -Growing and supporting our small and medium size businesses!

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#### **Strengthening existing Sectors**

- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Fishing and Marine

4

#### **Investing in Emerging Sectors**

- ICT and Digital Economy
- Cannabis Industry
- Creative Economy
- Energy



Transforming Our Economy

The current high unemployment rate of over 40%, and the steadily increasing poverty amongst our citizens are unacceptable. The **NDC**'s integrative programs in Agriculture, Health, Fishing, Education, and Infrastructure will provide quality and sustainable jobs for all our people. The **NDC** will focus on providing incentives to expand the private sector to create employment in new sectors and will expand educational and training opportunities for citizens to receive the necessary skills needed to excel in their fields of employment. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Create more jobs by stimulating growth in Tourism, Agriculture, Construction, the creative and digital economy and the blue economy.
- Stimulate job creation by creating the enabling environment for more and diverse entrepreneurial activities.
- Increase apprenticeships and training opportunities.

- Improve job security and stability, and reduce seasonality
- Implement a national minimum wage and a wage and income policy.





#### Transforming Our Economy Growing and supporting our small businesses!

Small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy and hold the potential to maintain our country through global economic shocks. Entrepreneurship creates jobs and economic opportunities for all our people, being a great source of potential for women, youth, military veterans and people with disabilities. The **NDC** intends to drive innovation and all forms of entrepreneurship by supporting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, socially-owned enterprises such as co-operatives and village economies that are all critical for economic transformation, inclusive growth and job creation. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Develop and provide a range of financial and non-financial support measures to small and medium size business enterprises.
- Restructure and realign the the Grenada Development Bank to focus on providing funds and financial support for SMEs.
- Adopt and pursue appropriate fiscal and employment policies to promote an optimal economic environment.
- Collaborate with the GIDC to restructure small business hubs and support mechanisms to educate and train young people in small business management.
- Improve the attractiveness of entrepreneurship.

#### Transforming Our Economy

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#### Agriculture & Agro-processing

Agriculture is the industry that has historically provided a means to sustain our people and our economy. A nation that has to ability to feed themselves is a nation that is well on-route to self-reliance. The **NDC** recognizes that we should not only grow what we eat, but our citizens should turn to local food sources to eat what we grow. Today, agriculture is more appealing through agro-processing. The **NDC**'s transformational agricultural policy will focus on food security, building resilience, enhancing the lives of farming families, attracting the youth to agriculture and agro-processing, generating foreign exchange and stimulating the rural economy. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Make food security a top priority for an NDC government. This is necessary to reduce our food import bill, eat healthier, and support local production.
- Give support to farmers to rehabilitate abandoned agricultural lands, particularly with nutmeg, cocoa, spices and fruit trees.
- Develop an Agro-Processing Services Unit which will be established to assist entrepreneurs to develop and package their products and to provide advisory and coordination services to entrepreneurs.
- Introduce the production of white potatoes, currently a major import, and expand the production of flowers as an industry.
- Encourage the private sector to invest in the agricultural sector.
- Enhance Mirabeau Agricultural School, as well as the teaching of the business and science of agriculture.
- Introduce and promote the use of modern technology, modern methods of farming, labour support and mechanization of the sector.

- Revitalize and develop the spice industry, including elevation of the 'minor spices' (e.g. cloves, cinnamon)
- Introduce new spices (e.g. pimento) to make Grenada a major spice producing and exporting nation once again.
- Provide support and incentives for the development of cottage agro-processing around Grenada.
- Utilize local agricultural and agro products to expand the School Feeding Program, thus providing a ready market for farmers' products while enhancing nutrition among students.
- Restructure MNIB, to provide Agricultural Support Marketing and Procurement services in collaboration with farmers and commodity boards.
- Establish a Praedial Larceny Court with hearings in the evening to try cases with persons accused of stealing farmers' produce; and pass laws to ensure that those convicted either pay back the farmer or provide farm labour services to the farmer.





Transforming Our Economy

#### Tourism

A transformed, globally competitive tourism sector will contribute more to our GDP, enhance employment opportunities and build local capacity. An **NDC-led government** will transform our tourism sector by creating more opportunities, investment, training and support to the industry.An **NDC-led government** will:

- Embark on a program to develop new tourism products.
- Establish and operate a first-class training institute. This will improve the delivery of high quality service in the tourism industry.
- Provide training for young Grenadians to take up the best-paying jobs in the sector (chefs, administrators, managers, supervisors, marketers, etc).
- Create stronger linkages with agriculture, tourism culture and the creative economy (film, carnival, festivals).
- Grow room stock to 4,000E. Special incentives will be provided for expansion of room stock in parishes outside of St. George.

- Deepen Grenada's presence in the established source markets (US, UK, Canada and the Caribbean).
- Promote high-end stay-over visitors. We will promote investment in small to midsize luxury hotels and villas to attract visitors seeking a special experience and destination. Special incentives will be given for development in rural communities.
- Upgrade existing historical, geographical, archaeological, and other sites and attractions and identifying potential sites and attractions, especially in rural Grenada.
- Promote Grenada as a film destination for the shooting of movies, documentaries, commercials and TV shows.





Transforming Our Economy
Fishing & Marine

Coastal and marine ecosystems provide vitally important resources. As a small island developing state, Grenada can responsibly exploit our marine resources to maintain the important tradition of fishing and transform the industry into a viable livelihood for many citizens. With an **NDC** government, Grenada's fish production and exports will continue to surpass our OECS neighbours. The **NDC** will position Grenada to become a processing centre for fish exports destined to the United States and Europe. To unleash this potential, an **NDC-led government** will:

- Undertake an assessment of the commercial fisheries resources in the territory, including high-end marine products such as conch, lobster, shrimp, oyster reef, inshore fish, and other commercially viable marine life, in collaboration with international agencies or friendly governments.
- Provide guidance for the development of community fishery management plans, setting goals and objectives to protect the ecological systems and habitats which support marine life, guided by accompanying enforcement legislation and monitoring mechanisms while expanding and developing the marine industry.
- Pursue the development of Petite Martinique as the primary fishing centre of the nation, including the establishment of a fish processing facility to create employment opportunities for residents.

- Identify practical and creative uses of sargassum seaweed.
- Develop measures to ensure that all fishing stations are equipped with the necessary utilities and supplies including safety gear, water, fuel, waste disposal, ice making equipment, fishing gear storage, freezer space, landing and berthing facilities.
- Develop and implement a National Fishing Support Program for local Fishermen aimed at providing better training in modern sustainable fishing techniques, securing larger and better equipped boats and better and more reliable refrigeration capacity and facilities to preserve their catch.
- Expand the fish processing capacity to derive greater value and increased employment.

#### The Blue Economy

The Blue Economy is defined as the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of the ocean ecosystem. Given Grenada's large ocean resource, the blue economy holds tremendous potential to broaden, diversify and generate sustainable economic growth for Grenada. An **NDC-led government** will explore potential sectors for economic growth including aquaculture, waste disposal, marine biotechnology, ocean renewable energy, coral farming, sustainable fisheries, bioprospecting, marine eco-tourism, and others.

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## Transforming Our Economy ICT and the Digital Economy

Countries in the region and around the world are creating digital economies and Grenada should not be left behind in these advancements. The **NDC** seeks to train our citizens to function and thrive in digital economies by promoting the use of computing technologies to conduct business in global market places. With a strong digital economy our citizens can earn foreign capital without leaving our shores. With an **NDC** government, we will promote ICT Services and ICT-enabled products and services, critical to the development and growth of a digital economy. In all, we aim to target and reduce the unemployment among the youths by opening the gates to more sustainable digital employment in the fields of law, medicine, education, culture, data analysis and accounting. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Invest in additional training ICT to promote the development of skills needed to thrive in a digital economy
- Amend and or introduce legislation to include flexibility in business structure to accommodate employment in digital economies



Transforming Our Economy
Creative Economy

Our culture defines who we are, and is a source of tremendous National Pride. This unique identity is central to our development as a people. The **NDC** will preserve our traditions, which continue to anchor and build our society. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Integrate cultural studies into our education curriculum.
- Pursue the building of our creative and cultural industries
- Establish a school for the performing arts.
- Provide institutional support to artistic and creative products.
- Encourage greater private sector investment in the Creative Arts through appropriate tax incentives.

- Reintroduce the National Arts Festival to encourage a spirit of healthy competition among our young artistes and inspire them to be the best that they can be.
- Support the development of cultural products
- Champion Arts and Entertainment (music, film, visual arts, fashion)



Transforming Our Economy Cannabis Industry

A transformed Grenada seeks to engage the world in a meaningful way, and this means producing and delivering new and improved goods and services for an evolving world. The cannabis industry, although not new, can utilize modern methods and techniques to generate new sources of employment and income. The **NDC**-led transformation will spearhead Grenada in the cannabis industry providing best practices that can inform other islands in the areas of medical marijuana, the creation of hemp products and the exportation of cannabis by-products, which can be sold globally. Driven by creativity and innovation, an **NDC-led government** will:

- Legalize cannabis and create a legal and regulatory framework for its production and sale
- Develop the cannabis industry for medicinal benefits
- Maximize the potential of hemp and it by-products for export
- Promote training and education of farmers interested in the agro-processing of cannabis.

Transforming Our Economy
Energy

9

Our country's dependence on traditional energy sources, like crude oil, places Grenada in a vulnerable position. Depending on expensive, imported petroleum products increases electricity prices, and increases the cost of food and other gas and energy related products. We need to transform our energy industry to one that depends on our indigenous energy sources. An **NDC** administration, will invest in alternative and renewable energy. We will create avenues for the use of solar, geothermal, wind and hydro energy, as well as encourage the efficient utilisation of all of our energy. In doing so, we will provide employment in the energy sector and will provide more affordable prices for electricity and energy related products. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Create legislation that will allow citizens to implement alternative energy products in their businesses and homes.
- Provide incentives for individuals to utilize alternative energy sources.
- Collaborate with the private sector to encourage the efficient utilization of our energy.
- Incentivise citizens in Carriacou and Petite Martinique to utilize solar energy by subsidizing the cost of solar panels.

• Pursue with vigour the alternative production of solar and geothermal electricity with the aim of lowering the cost of energy to consumers.

# GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL REBUILDING

Good Governance
 Fiscal Accountability
 Infrastructure Development
 Public Sector Reform

Policy and Administrative Action





## Governance and Institutional Rebuilding Good Governance

Your government should be effective, responsive, efficient, honest, transparent and accountable. The **NDC** is committed to good governance, which is the responsible conduct of public affairs. The affairs of a country should not be top secret, but should be open, available knowledge that informs its citizens about the management of the country. To us, our public resources are for the benefit of our people, and as an administration, the **NDC** values all the components of good governance. We will therefore build a public administration that adopts the culture of these principles. The **NDC-led government** will:

- Demonstrate zero tolerance for unethical conduct.
- Promote and preserve the independence of the judiciary.
- Encourage and respect a free press and freedom of expression.
- Demonstrate that the primary purpose of government is to look after the welfare of the people.
- Respect the fact that "power" belongs to the people.
- Create community structures to enable everyone to participate in the decision-making processes that affect their lives.

- Be a government of inclusion and consult with all stakeholders (private sector, CSO, Labour, other stakeholders).
- Insist on the equitable distribution of public goods and services, with special consideration for the poor and disadvantaged.





## Governance and Institutional Rebuilding Fiscal Accountability

A government that effectively manages the financial resources of its country is one that is responsible. Grenada operates within a system where growing public and international debt threaten to stifle our productivity. These are critical issues that need immediate attention. To move Grenada forward, an **NDC** administration plans to manage this debt by assessing the current debt situation, investing in new industries to grow the economy and, managing this debt. This will first require an **NDC-led government** to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the current debt situation. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Restore faith in fiscal responsibility by making public a thorough assessment of the total public debt and terms and conditions of the debt. The assessment willinclude all Central Government debt, all debt guaranteed by Government, the debt of all statutory bodies, stateowned enterprises, and that of public/ private partnerships. The assessment will also include outstanding judgment debts and outstanding payments due to agents for the provision of goods and services to the Government.
- Audit and report on areas of public interest and concern such as the repurchase of the WRB shares in GRENLEC and the use of the National Transformation Fund.

Governance and Institutional Rebuilding

Grenada has one of the best road networks in the Eastern Caribbean, and as such we should pride ourselves in maintaining our infrastructure throughout our tri-island state. Under an **NDC-led government**, all public infrastructure, including roads and drains will be improved to support our productive sector. Adequate and efficient infrastructure improves other sectors such as healthcare and the environment. Therefore, all infrastructure projects will be supported by technical studies, including environmental impact assessments and cost benefit analysis. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Reduce congestion on our roads
   through better planning and
   management of our road network.
- Pursue town development programs to address convenient public access, parking spaces, pedestrian only walkways, vending, farmers market and traffic congestion.
- Develop a centre for economic activity in St. David.
- Revitalize the town of Sauteurs with priority given to solving the erosion problem created by the current breakwater project.
- Implement quality control and procurement policies to ensure the use of repair materials, tools and machinery required to effect lasting roadworks.
- Resolve current drainage problems and chronic flooding.
- Construct a modern headquarters for the RGPF. All other police stations will be upgraded to ensure that our police officers live and work in a safe and comfortable environment, suited to the

great sacrifices they make in ensuring we have a safe and secure nation.

- Introduce a National Infrastructure Renewal project to modify the entire national network of roads and bridges. This will also be part of a robust disaster mitigation and recovery program.
- St. George South has developed rapidly with many private businesses relocating there, with more hotels, larger population and increasing commercial activities, without the required infrastructural support. As part of the further development, a modern police and fire department will be built. A government administrative centre, library and resource centre will also be built in that constituency.
- Immediately implement systems to mitigate flooding and its effects in key areas such as Grenville, Grand Anse and the town of St. George.



Governance and Institutional Rebuilding
Public Sector Reform

Our public service is another one of our greatest assets. The individuals that make up the public service provide essential services that keep the country functioning. The **NDC** values its public service, and aims to create ONE public service. Our public sector should be efficient, empowered, ensure that public sector reform creates and encourages a public sector that is efficient and An **NDC-led government** will:

- Regularize the status of persons operating within the public service. This includes public officers on acting, probationary and temporary appointments, as well as persons holding contracts of various types, but, carrying out the duties of public officers.
- Pay pension, gratuity, and other retiring benefits in keeping with the Constitution.

- Undertake a review of the pay and grade structure within the public service.
- Train and retrain public officers and other government employees.
- Align government ministries to meet developmental needs of the country.
- Build capacity for strategic policy management and coordination.

#### **Government Salary Payments**

The **NDC-led government** will pay workers twice per month to assist in smoothing their cash flow challenges and to increase the volume of business transactions in the economy. We will collaborate with the private sector to standardize this practice.

#### **Pension Payment**

• An **NDC-led government** will pay pensions as stipulated by the Constitution and the High Court.



## Governance and Institutional Rebuilding Policy and Administrative Action

Effective policy and administration of the public sector drive the development of all governments, and Grenada is not an exception. With an **NDC-led government**, appropriate amendments will be made to policies that hinder the proper functioning and administration of the government and the country. For instance, an **NDC-led government** will amend the policy in the areas of public expenditure, labour relations and taxation. An **NDC-led government** will:

- Undertake a collaborative review of wages with the private and labour sectors to raise the minimum wage.
- Reverse the impact of the Structural Adjustment Program on taxation that is disproportionately burdensome to low-income earners (e.g. VAT, customs service tax).
- Reform the tax incentive regime to provide incentives for stimulating and developing the transformative sectors.
- Recognize and promote competence and excellence, and develop a system of rewards based on merit and performance
- Amend the Labour Code to ensure that there is an efficient, affordable, and effective dispute resolution mechanism to address disagreements between individual employers and individual employees, and between trade unions and employers.

- Propose a mediation meeting that will be required within 30 days of a grievance being reported to the Office of the Labour Commission by an employee, employer or trade union.
- Establish a Permanent Arbitration Tribunal staffed by one labour employee representative, one business community representative and one experienced lawyer, who will review all disputes which are not resolved within the 30-day period, and the Permanent Arbitration Tribunal will make a decision with respect to the grievance.
- Improve transparency through the introduction of a Freedom of Information Act, which will allow citizens to seek any government information which they need. Any refusal to such request can be taken to an ombudsman for speedy resolution.



## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMEN

## Environmental Management

The **NDC** believes that the sustainable management of our natural resources is paramount. Our land, coastal and marine areas are finite resources which need not only protection, but preservation. Climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and habitat protection, as well as pollution prevention and control will be key policy priorities. The **NDC** believes that adequate management of all of these resources will contribute to better preservation and a continued use of these resources for economic benefit. Further, we will ensure that environmental impact assessments are conducted to inform all development projects. Consistent with this philosophy an **NDC-led government** will:

- Increase emphasis on policies and activities that will lead to the protection of our environment, in particular the health of our coastal waters, the degradation of our lands and soil loss, and the quality and sustainability of our water supply and physical infrastructure.
- Promote a national culture that appreciates the need to maintain balance between human needs and environmental sustainability.
- Review, implement and enforce our national Land Use policy.
- Implement a reforestation program throughout Grenada and encourage the creation of green spaces.
- Protect certain species, such as the Grenadadove, and habitats in Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique that present a business opportunity in ecotourism.
- Establish a system where marine resources are monitored to ensure the natural regeneration of aquatic life in areas where such life has been depleted.
- Encourage community involvement in the maintenance of beaches and coastal areas to ensure the proper disposal of waste

- Alleviate the problems posed to fishers and residents, by the sargassum buildup along coastal areas.
- Zealously protect ALL of our National Parks, heritage sites and Protected areas, including Camerhogne Park, Quarantine Station, Lakes, Beaches, Rivers, Fedon's Camp and Carib's Leap ensuring that they remain the patrimony of the Grenadian people for the use and benefit of present and future generations and shall not be sold or given away to any person.
- Introduce and enforce urban planning legislation to include provision for the restoration and conservation of buildings and sites of special historic and architectural interest and value, with a view to declaring areas such as the town of St.George as specially protected historic districts.

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#### **Foreign Policy**

Grenada is part of a global village and accordingly, our role in the international community is important. With an **NDC** administration, we will continue to promote democratic principles as well as adhere to the the ideals of good governance. We understand that our linkages and partnerships with states across the globe have provided resources to grow and develop our country. In transforming Grenada, **NDC** will seek to maintain key international relationships with our current international partners, and will seek new international relationships that place the best interest of our national affairs as a priority. Consistent with this philosophy, an **NDC-led government** will:

- Promote Grenada as a safe destination and an attractive investment location.
- Develop beneficial trade relationships.
- Promote the security and economic development interests of Grenada.
- Collaborate with partners in the implementation of mutually beneficial initiatives.



#### **Regional Integration**

The Caribbean region has made significant advancements toward regional integration. The **NDC** intends to continue Grenada's commitment to regional integration and pledges to continue to work with regional institutions such as CARICOM and the OECS to assist with the development of our state. An **NDC led government** will:

- Promote the deepening of the OECS Economic Union and the CARICOM integration movement.
- Support a coordinated regional foreign policy approach in engaging the rest of the world.
- Contribute with established regional organizations and institutions to foster and continue regional integration.

#### **OUR COVENANT**

### This Charter is our covenant with the people of Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

Our programs and plans outlined in this charter are SMART and sound. It reflects the knowledge, competence and experience of many Grenadians from all walks of life. They are designed to achieve our mission of transforming Grenada through self-reliance and the creation of wealth.

This mission can only be accomplished with the commitment, dedication and hard work of all Grenadians. The full participation of all stakeholders namely the private sector, the labour movement, the NGO's and all other publics is critical. More importantly, every Grenadian should have a stake in this process recognizing that his or her input is valued and important. This is their patriotic duty.

With your support, the **NDC** is prepared and committed to leading the transformation of our beloved country for the enhancement of all our lives. Your duty is to make the right choice.

THE CHOICE OF BETTER HEALTH CARE! THE CHOICE OF REAL JOBS! THE CHOICE OF ERADICATING POVERTY! THE CHOICE OF BETTER OPORTUNITIES! THE CHOICE OF BETTER MANAGEMENT OF OUR COUNTRY'S RESOURCES! THE CHOICE FOR INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION! THE CHOICE OF INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN PUBLIC LIFE THE CHOICE OF A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR CHILDREN!

#### **VOTE THE NDC AND BE PART OF THIS TRANSFORMATION JOURNEY!**



# 2022 MANIFESTO

LET'S MOVE GRENADA

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