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MESSAGE FROM THE PARTY LEADER

MY PEOPLE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL BY NATURE TURKS AND CAICOS,

Our country has not seen true democracy since the last PDM administration, which came to an abrupt end in August 2003, when a very odd court ruling resulted in a duly elected and legally certified government being eventually replaced by a PNP-led government. What transpired for the following six years continues to unfold, even as we as a people continue to try to understand all that happened. We do know though, that it was by and large for our country and for us, a tragedy of huge proportions; a tragedy leaving a stain, as well as a strain on us and on our children for years to come. Can that stain ever be removed? Perhaps so, but it will no doubt take many generations to lose its stinging effect upon us.

That six-year PNP reign created the need for an Interim Government, where any semblance of local authority was abruptly wiped out, and we lost the right to, and the dignity of, electing a government of our choice. In the quest to fix what was broken during the preceding six years, and render justice to those that broke it, we the people became sidelined, seemingly all to not be trusted, creating the need to be governed with all power vested in a single individual. He was in turn assisted and advised by persons foreign to us, that often displayed gross arrogance and disrespect for us, and with an insulting and unbearable “father knows best” attitude toward us. This too will all rest within our minds for years to come.

The People’s Democratic Movement will be asking all the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to afford us the opportunity to again serve as your government, as your representatives; much as you did in 1994 and 1999 after which we delivered years of unprecedented and genuine growth and prosperity. And as we had planned to do after you again elected us in 2003, only to be unfairly removed from office mere months later. We want to, with all your help, and with the religious community and the business community and with every other type of community, bring us back the glory days, returning to being an economically viable and internationally respected, and envied country. We will here explain why you should again give us this chance, at this very crucial time when we are regaining the opportunity to govern ourselves, and prove to the world that we are not the caricature that has become us in recent years.

To ensure that we again become the TCI that we can be proud of we must ensure **P**articipation, **A**ccountability, **R**esponsibility and **T**ransparency – **PART**.

PART as in participation, recognizing that if this is to be a reality, everyone must play his/her part. We are committed to working with all the peoples of these Islands as we move this country forward **IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION**.

OSWALD O SKIPPINGS
PARTY LEADER



Everyone Has A Part To Play

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PARTY LEADER

My fellow Turks and Caicos Islanders

I believe that this country is at a crossroads and it requires everyone to be a part of the process moving forward. It requires experience, strong proven and tested leadership and representation, bright and innovative ideas and diverse skills; as well as an electorate and people who are ready to accept their role as participants in governance, whether in sharing their ideas and/or being watchdogs holding their government to account. I believe that the PDM offers this type of leadership, and equally understands the need for a more involved people. We are committed to a strong, focused, mature and solution-oriented service to these Islands, one that puts country above self.

We do have a Record that can never be forgotten or erased. We have governed in difficult times and have taken us from high national debt on a path to sustainable economic growth and development, with strong fiscal policies. We have done it before and we can do it again. We have record performance in instilling investor confidence, in marketing these Islands to tourists and investors with real tangible results. We raised the minimum wage and lowered the cost of living, we increased scholarships in priority areas and managed well the monies spent; we gave our civil servants the highest pay raise ever, took care of our teachers and police, trained health professionals and expanded our health facilities. We increased the number of international and regional airlifts to our country and increased the numbers of Resorts, thereby increasing the number of jobs available.

We gave you major roads, from the Leeward Highway to the Millennium Highway, we accredited our Community College, we gave you the youth, National Youth Day and the Youth Policy that governs your Department, we took care of our elderly, we empowered our local contractors and businesses and represented the employee with policies that saw their upward mobility in senior positions, whether in the Public or Private sector; we have done it all before and we can do it again. I believe with all my heart that only a PDM Government with support from the religious community, private sector and a strong civil service can once again take this country from the doldrums of debt towards once again becoming the “Star of the Region”. Turks and Caicos Islands require mature and sober leadership and this is what we offer you.

Today we face so many challenges as a people and equally as a Government. We must plot in our minds to stay the course no matter the challenges ahead. The road to restoration will be rough and long but we must keep our goal in sight. We must through strong relationships/partnerships whether locally, regionally or internationally, seek the best way forward for this country.

As I offer myself to you as the Deputy Leader of the PDM, I do so as a Turks and Caicos Islander running in an All Island constituency. I vow to do my very best in service to you. I know that we can restore these Islands to their place of prominence in the Region, and pave the way to making us a force in the global arena. I remain that familiar voice – that voice that you know. I am Sharlene, a Turks and Caicos Islander wanting a brighter future for my children, your children and all of us. I promise you good governance and true transparency, and secondly, I promise to help to build a modern, democratic, productive, just, peaceful and caring society to be enjoyed by all who live here. This is not a utopian idea, we just need to begin. As I serve you, I will serve you with a new allegiance to these Islands and realizing always that with “power comes responsibility more than privilege”. I remain committed to the cause and I ask that you afford us this opportunity once again TO take this country IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION on November 9th.

Sharlene Cartwright Robinson, Deputy Leader



Everyone Has A Part To Play

The Legacy of the PDM and PNP

The Turks & Caicos Islands, over the past 9 years, has seen unprecedented social and economic decay. A phenomenon with its genesis in 2003, spurred on by the stealing of the government by the Progressive National Party, a feat facilitated by the then governor. The degradation of the first six of those nine years was the sole responsibility of our own. In the more recent three years, it was encouraged and perpetuated by the current interim administration, whose tactics policies and economic agenda *reflect those of the colonial masters practiced during the era of the salt industry*. There is no question as to where the Turks and Caicos Islands are today as a country. Everyone, big or small, rich or poor, black or white, indigenous islanders or Belongers, visitors or guests, all residents of these Beautiful by Nature Turks & Caicos, are experiencing the hardest times of our political and economic history. While this economic drought and our social degradation, initiated by an ironically named Progressive National Party government, was predicted by many from 2003, the PNP made it into office again a second time in 2007, albeit short lived. This saw the ultimate destruction of the socioeconomic structure by their abusive wasteful fiscal policies and their nepotistic practices in the disguise of facilitating development and modernization of the country, bringing us to a point of disgrace today. The physical characteristics have changed; the cultural entities have been infiltrated by numerous external influences; the spiritual strongholds have been demeaned; and the people are struggling to retain some semblance of hope and faith in that which is our Turks and Caicos. This has been further exacerbated by the betrayal of the British government's quest to ensure that their people come to reside en masse, occupying the top positions in the public sector, while creating a national brain drain through public sector reform.

The People's Democratic Movement is once again confronted with the awesome task and responsibility to return this country to a national pride that once was the envy of our neighbors. Among the many challenges, the PDM is ready to recreate that environment of respect and integrity that is our nature, and that which is expected by our neighbors and indeed the world. While faith and trust have been raped and destroyed over the recent past, there is still a profound confidence and expectation that the PDM and the people of these islands have the ability and capability to rise to the occasion and in time erase the tarnished character of our country. The PDM therefore is a promise of hope. The PDM is an assurance that good governance, prosperity and pride would be restored. These are the expectations of our people, and our regional counterparts are depending on us to lead the way again. Economic prosperity and social integrity have always been the bedrock of a PDM government, and now more than ever we are equipped, energized and enthusiastic to take on the task of leading our people into an attitude of nation building and eventual nationhood. Our Christian principles and God fearing practices all merge to enable us to impact the lives of our Youth, through education and entrepreneurship.

Where are we today? What have the PNP and the Interim Government brought us to?



Physically outnumbered as a people! In the worse economic depression since the early nineteen hundreds! Very educated and unemployed cohort of citizens! A comprehensive health system that's out of the reach of those who need it most! A severely neglected education system! A stagnant infrastructural development! The cost of living that is higher than the proposed 28 storied building! Communities are neglected! Turks and Caicos Islanders are unemployed while other nationals are holding two jobs! Immigration and labor continue to be overwhelmed with little resources! Crime continues to threaten our fragile tourism industry! Construction and physical development have come to a standstill! National debt is at an all-time high! The P.N.P. has successfully established, for us, organizations and institutions geared to encourage poverty while prospering a few: Ports Authority; Provo Stevedoring; TCI Lotto; National Health Insurance Program; two costly hospitals; exorbitant medical debt; social divisions with the lengthening of the socioeconomic continuum. Our people are more divided then we have ever been! And the list of brokenness is almost endless.

While the issues are numerous, the unification thrust and collaborative efforts of the PDM and the people of the Turks and Caicos would enable us to see the turn around that is so badly needed. This program provides for the people the high way to unity, success and prosperity in every sphere of our nation. Once again, with the PDM government we shall be able to be proud Turks & Caicos Islanders, Belongers, citizens and residents alike.

What is the legacy of the PDM?

National Pride!

Respect and envy of or neighbors!

Economic prosperity and sustainability!

Qualitative development, through commerce and industry!

Youth empowerment!

Gender empowerment!

Pertinent national institutions!

Well informed and defined national plans!

Ownership and partnership of national entities!

Cultural consciousness!

The PDM government, in waiting, is now more than ever equipped and poised to re-introduce those institutions that seek to bridge the many gaps that exist among our people. One Government! One people! The inclusive nature and practices of this PDM ensure everyone living, residing and working in this country a fair and equal opportunity to enjoy the resources that God has granted us. Fairness, equality and justice have always been the hallmark of a PDM government - of the people, for the people and by the people.

It would appear that we have reached rock bottom, but the policies and programs outlined in this document serve to propel us into a position where every single individual may realize his/her worth as we grow from strength to strength, with God's help. The recent former governments have allowed evil to prevail, but God is greater than any evil and as God's children we shall overcome again.



Everyone Has A Part To Play

MEET THE CANDIDATES



PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT

PDM AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

 Oswald Skippings	 Sharlene Robinson	 Derek H. Taylor	 Josephine Connolly	 Samuel Harvey
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PDM DISTRICT CANDIDATES

 #D1 Grand Turk North Derek Rolle	 #D2 Grand Turk South Edwin Astwood	 #D3 South Calcos Edith Cox	 #D4 North & Middle Calcos Ashwood Forbes	 #D5 Providenciales Leeward Ezra Taylor
 #D6 Providenciales The Bight Sony Forbes	 #D7 Providenciales Cheshire Hall Oral Selver	 #D8 Providenciales Five Cay Sean Astwood	 #D9 Providenciales Blue Hills Goldray Ewing	 #D10 Providenciales Wheeland Delroy Williams

PDM- THE RIGHT DIRECTION



Everyone Has A Part To Play

OSWALD SKIPPINGS
PARTY LEADER
*(Former Chief Minister, Minister &
Longest Serving Parliamentarian)*

SHARLENE L ROBINSON
DEPUTY LEADER
*(Attorney At Law, Former Parliamentarian &
All Island Candidate)*

DEREK TAYLOR

*(Former Chief Minister, Longest Serving
Chief Minister & All Island Candidate)*

SAMUEL HARVEY
*(Former Deputy Chief Minister/Minister &
All Island Candidate)*

JOSEPHINE CONNOLLY
*(Successful longstanding businesswoman over
20 years/All Island Candidate)*

DEREK ROLLE
*ED 1 Grand Turk North
(Contractor/Businessman for over 27yrs)*

EDWIN ASTWOOD
*ED 2 Grand Turk South
(Healthcare Professional/Formers DS, TCIG)*

EDITH COX
*ED 3 South Caicos
(First Local Certified Public Accountant/Manager)
Manchester Group of Companies*

ASHWOOD “NASH” FORBES
*ED 4 Middle Caicos & North Caicos
(Attorney At Law/ Former Parliamentarian &
Deputy Speaker)*

EZRA TAYLOR
*ED 5 LEEWARD
(Career Civil Servant – Senior Management)*

SONNY FORBES
*ED 6 THE BIGHT
(Self Employed Businessman/Taxi Operator)*

ORAL SELVER
*ED 7 CHESHIRE HALL & RICHMOND HILL
(Longstanding Hospitality Industry Professional)*

SEAN ASTWOOD
*ED 8 FIVE CAYS
(Self Employed Manager/Owner Group of
Companies & Former Minister)*

GOLDRAY EWING
*ED 9 BLUE HILLS
(Experienced Manager)*

DELROY WILLIAMS
*ED 10 WHEELAND
(Self Employed Manager/Owner Group of
Companies & Former Minister)*



FOUR STEPS TO EMPOWERMENT AND UNITY

SECTION ONE:

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT – REPOSITIONING THE ECONOMY FOR GROWTH AND FOR THE CREATION OF JOBS.

- **The Current Economic Situation**

The former PNP Government had engaged in wasteful and unsustainable financial practices.

Economic development has stagnated over the last four years. Little effort if any has gone into attracting new investment and into exploring new and innovative ways of raising revenue.

A PDM government will stimulate sustainable economic development.

THE PDM'S PLANS AND STRATEGIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOW

1) TRANSPARENCY

A PDM Government will have confidence in the economic viability of the Islands. **The PDM government will reposition the country as “open for business”**. We will market and behave as a growth orientated business friendly, straight-talking government. We will revisit the new structure of the Investment Unit and seek to ensure it reflects our mandate as an elected government.

A PDM Government will work hard to increase inward investment, provided that it is in line with our overall policy objectives and accords, with existing ordinances such as planning, and does not damage the environment. **Our dealings with new and existing investors will be open and transparent, and we will expect nothing from our investors except honesty and integrity.**

Within the first 100 days we will reinstitute Team TCI which saw the joint promotion of the Public and Private Sectors, with the Governor and then Chief Minister's participation in marketing the country.



2) CONCESSIONS

With respect to concessions, these will be looked at on an individual basis. It cannot be a one size fits all, however we can set some general rules that we will apply. The state of the economy will be the biggest determinant of the need for concessions.

All concession periods should be relatively short, with a time limit. A concession for the developmental stage of a project can be justified, but once operating, that entity should compete on a level playing field with other businesses.

A PDM Government will also explore new and innovative gains for a TCI Government in the area of concessions.

3) SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS

A PDM Government will introduce Special Development Areas (SDAs) where we pre-approve concessions through The Encouragement of Development Ordinance which will expand to local businesses.

We have identified areas as SDA's in the Turks & Caicos Islands and we expect that the use of SDA's will stimulate the economy in areas of need.

4) REDUCE THE RED TAPE

For the existing businesses on the Islands, we will work with them and their associations to reduce red tape and unnecessary business costs; but in the spirit of cooperation, we will expect a degree of social responsibility from those businesses.

We will also prepare a Policy for the Encouragement of Expansion in Existing Businesses.

5) ASSIST THE OFFSHORE FINANCE INDUSTRY

A PDM Government sees the Financial Industry as an important Industry which requires immediate attention, to ensure that it can become a strong Industry in this country and a world contender in this niche area.

We will work with the Financial Industry Association to actively encourage growth in this area.

We will ensure that the Financial Services Commission continues to operate as an efficient regulator, but imposes no more regulation than is necessary. We will expect the



board of the FSC to be fully engaged and to offer meaningful recommendations to the government on the efficient operation of the FSC.

Within 100 days, a PDM Government will meet with the stakeholders and various Associations in the Financial Services Industry and will commission a Strategic Plan for the revitalization of the Industry.

A PDM Government will support necessary legislative frameworks and special skills in this regard, together with mutually agreed Staff Plans which will feature heavily on the training of Turks and Caicos Islanders in this sector.

6) SPREADING THE WEALTH

A PDM Government will work with the large developers to identify small business opportunities within their developments for Turks & Caicos Islanders to own and to run.

We will ensure that within the business plan there is a comprehensive training program for the development for Turks & Caicos Islanders.

7) COST OF DOING BUSINESS

A PDM Government will conduct a comprehensive review of the cost of doing business in the TCI, together with a full review of the Tax Structure and will take measures to reduce the costs in order to ensure we retain a competitive edge.

Within the first 100 days, we will commission a full study on the implementation of Value Added Tax on our economy. We will open and encourage an open-ended dialogue with all the various stakeholders in our country.

We will also establish the Consumer Protection Bureau that will educate buyers and consumers on standard market prices.

8) LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

A PDM Government will ensure a level playing field for all businesses in their areas and will put in place needed Legislation and Regulations to govern the various sectors.

We will review the Reserved Business Categories and empower the Public Service to police it to ensure compliance with the Laws.



REPOSITIONING THE ECONOMY FOR GROWTH AND FOR THE CREATION OF JOBS

I. Public-Private Sector Cooperation:

We are fully aware of the wealth of expertise, knowledge and goodwill in our private sector. We have in the past worked together to bring our country to the stage of the development that we are now at.

A PDM Government will within the first 100 days re-establish Team TCI whose task will be to travel overseas and market the Turks and Caicos Islands. This Body will comprise members of the Public and Private Sectors and their message will simply be “OPEN FOR BUSINESS”. Fresh monies are required to assist in our efforts to reposition this economy for growth.

We will also invite private sector participation in a more formal manner, forming a Development Council with equal participation by the public and private sectors. The Council will among other things, be tasked with vetting business proposals, and acting in an advisory capacity to the government.

Within the first 100 days, we will host the first Annual Economic Summit where persons from both the public and private sector can hold think tank sessions and make recommendations to the Government.

II. Reviving Dormant Development Projects:

A careful review will be made of all those projects that work has been suspended on for various reasons, once any legal issues surrounding them will have been brought to a conclusion. We will assess their feasibility, then work with the appropriate entities, providing whatever support to the extent of our ability, that is necessary to have them re-started and completed. The results would be new jobs, new accommodations in most cases for our tourists, and more revenue going into our public treasury.

- III. A PDM Government will work immediately to diversify the tourism product and spread the development to the other Islands in an effort to re-populate Islands outside of Providenciales, thereby decentralizing development and releasing the pressure on social services in Providenciales.



Sectors that impact economic development

- **TOURISM**

In 1999, tourism arrivals were 117,589; by 2004, that number had risen to 172, 847. Over that 5-year period, we saw an increase in arrivals of some 47%, or an average of 9.4% per year. Note that there were no cruise passengers included in these figures, as there was not yet a cruise tourism component. The Tourist Board's maximum budget during this five-year period, was \$2.4 million for fiscal 2003/2004. The PDM administration ended in August of 2003, and the visitors for 2004 were the result of marketing efforts undertaken previous to 2004. There have been no reliable statistics since 2004, during PNP and Interim Government administrations; and It must be noted that reliable statistics are vital to the proper marketing strategy for the destination, and to those seeking to undertake development projects. Especially those projects that are tourism-related.

Most of our country's jobs and revenues emanate from the Tourism Industry. The PDM was ever mindful of this during our previous administrations, therefore giving the industry top priority. With sensible and very modest budgets, we produced more than modest growth in the industry, with many noteworthy achievements. Some of these were spelled out in the National Conversation, a document which was given widespread local and regional dissemination; among those accomplishments include the introduction of three major airlines – Delta Airlines, British Airways and US Airways - to our destination, an industry-wide training scheme – TCI-Host, and a Hotels Inspection and Rating System.

Reorganizing the Turks and Caicos Tourist Board:

That there were excesses, inefficiencies and apparently some degree of corruption at the Tourist Board during the period immediately preceding the Interim Government, is without question. Millions of dollars were spent, supposedly to market and promote the country as a tourist destination, with precious little to show, and no corresponding increase in tourist arrivals. Due to mismanagement and hard economic times, many of the staff at the Board were laid off by the Interim Government. This at a time when finding jobs elsewhere is not the easiest thing to do.

A PDM government would give immediate attention to tourism, our biggest economic engine; and to how it is promoted and managed.



The Board of Directors

After much thought and consultations, we will organize and restructure the Board of Directors to ensure that all major stakeholders are included.

Staffing the Tourist Board

We would restructure the Staff Body to ensure the efficient functioning of the following departments:

- 1) Administration
- 2) Marketing and Promotion
- 3) Product Development
- 4) Community Tourism Involvement
- 5) Training
- 6) Statistics Production
- 7) Quality Control

We would re-visit the Report prepared in 2002 by the Valiant Group of Trinidad, for the Tourist Board. This very thorough document provides staffing needs and qualifications for the Board, as well as salary recommendations, based upon surveys of other regional Tourist Boards. We could request that the Valiant Group update this portion of the report, having their recommendations based upon current realities in the tourism industry, and our present economic situation.

Expand the Market and our Presence

A PDM Government will tap into new markets and will focus heavily on product development to ensure that Tourists receive a TCI Brand vacation.

A PDM Government will strengthen Local, Regional and International Relationships.

Other Initiatives in Tourism

Within 100 days of taking Office, we will update our National Tourism Strategic Plan. This will allow for greater community participation with the development desires of the country, clearly laid out as a guide for development.



- I. A PDM Government will encourage and facilitate international investment in Tourism not only for Hotels but various attractions.
- II. A PDM Government will update the Accommodations Regulations 2000, especially in light of the Industry's expectations, post 911 attacks on America.
- III. The continued growth of tourism brings many opportunities and some require minimum input or are guaranteed business opportunities. These opportunities will be reserved for Turks and Caicos Islander only businesspersons.
- IV. A PDM Government will rebuild our relationships with CTO and CARICOM, which have been neglected.
- V. A PDM Government will reinstitute the Statistical Unit of the Tourist Board and return the use of the CTO MIST statistical system that once made us a well documented and reporting destination. This would allow for the easy retrieval of information, especially for investors. This would allow us again to know basic information that has not been accurate in almost a decade, such as the reason for visiting, place of stay, length of stay and the Island an individual will be staying on.
- VI. A PDM Government will continue with the designation of historic building and sites of national importance that are not with the Protected Areas System (PAS). Also, where possible a PDM Government will allow for the conservation of Turks and Caicos Islands buildings and artifacts for the education and enjoyment of all.
- VII. A PDM Government will increase the promotion of the Tourism product through the promotion of international certification that has not been actively promoted in the past decade.
- VIII. A PDM Government will organize and provide increased marketing support to operators of small hotels and guest houses.



- IX. A PDM Government will further develop and enhance the Hospitality and Tourism Program at the TCI Community College through greater collaboration with regional and international higher education bodies.
- X. Marine tourism will also continue to grow, therefore it is the intent of a PDM Government to create a Marine Tourism Policy to encourage the development of the yachting market in the Turks and Caicos Islands with proper protocols.
- XI. A PDM Government will establish the TCI's first Sustainable Tourism Zone and Policy to safeguard our future, whilst allowing responsible activities to take place.
- XII. A PDM Government will work alongside District Commissioners for the formulation of Island Committees to assist as community stewards in Tourist interest groups. Also, further utilize identified points, especially outside Grand Turk and Providenciales as a point of dissemination for information such as tourism materials and brochures.
- XIII. A PDM Government will designate a Desk or Individual as the National Tourism Safety and Security Specialists. It will act as the liaison for tourism and disaster, whilst being aware of multi hazards (Terrorism, Floods, Hurricanes, Oil Spills etc). A PDM Government will introduce a National Tourism Policy on Multi-Hazard Management and Toolkit that can be used and applied.
- XIV. A PDM Government will designate an individual to act as Director of Cruise Development for the further development of the Cruise Industry. *Within the first 100 days, we will meet with the stakeholders and key players in the Cruise Ship Industry to strategically plan a way forward.*
- XV. A PDM Government will identify at least one Island Festival per Island and return them as Hall Mark events on the National Calendar and will also support the promotion of local entertainment as a product.
- XVI. A PDM Government will encourage the development of tourism clusters, creating tourism centers in our communities that contain restaurants, gift shops, galleries etc. A PDM Government will also further support and



develop agro-tourism and locally produced items such as vegetables etc, as a pre-condition requirement where possible, thereby reducing the carbon foot print and high degree of leakage from the economy.

XVII. A PDM Government will design an Apprenticeship Program for the Youth for better Industry exposure through close collaboration with the Turks and Caicos Hotel and Tourism Association.

XVIII. A PDM Government will also explore Sports and Health Tourism

RE-FOCUSING ON THE RESTORATION OF THE “TRADITIONAL” SECTORS

A PDM Government will commission long, medium and short-term plans for the restoration of traditional sectors: Animal Husbandry; Salt Mining; Agriculture and Fishing.

Agriculture

We will commission a comprehensive Study and establish a Policy to support the expansion of this Industry.

Fishing Industry

Having a real fishing industry could be one way to reduce our dependence upon Tourism, which as we all know, can be very fickle. A 9-11 type catastrophe, or a hurricane with the force of Hurricane Ike, can leave us without tourists for a while. We currently catch and process lobster and conch for local consumption and for export. Scale fish, however, is caught in negligible quantities, except by those licensed from overseas to fish in our waters, for a minimal fee.

The PDM would seek to change this by encouraging our own people to become commercial fishermen and in addition, we will see that the catch is brought ashore to plants here in our country for processing and export. **A PDM Government will develop a proper Scale Fish Industry and will assist in making the necessary equipment, education and training for deep-sea fishing available to them.**

A PDM Government will explore the possibility of a market for things like: crabs, (land and sea) pear-bush buds, whelk soup, suck rock salad, or curbs as they are called in the Bahamas, other herbs and green leafy vegetables. We will also look to develop entrepreneurship in this area.



A PDM Government will ensure that the appropriate Scientific Studies are done to ensure the continuation and growth of the Industry with focus on the hatchery and marine cycle.

A PDM Government will pass an Encouragement of Industries Ordinance and will explore the possibility of markets for corned and fresh fish and dried and fresh conchs.

A PDM Government will commission a Study of the Salinas to see if shrimp can be cultivated.

A PDM Government will encourage Innovation, Competition and Entrepreneurship overall.

SECTION TWO:

GOVERNANCE, THE ADVANCEMENT OF AN INVITING, COOPERATIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO DO BUSINESS, WORK AND LIVE.

THE PDM'S SIX GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

1) Inclusiveness

The PDM believe social equity* is important. If an economy prospers, but the median income is low and the disparity of wealth is large, the society will not be cohesive and social harmony will be threatened. For too long in the Turks & Caicos Islands governments, we have been focused on the VIP's, we need to recognize that every citizen in this country is a VIP.

We compete in the world's market economy which rewards people differently in accordance with their ability, talent and education. That is a fact of life that we cannot change. The PDM want there to be economic growth in the Islands, but we need to build social equity into our growth strategy so that everyone in the country feels the benefit of this country's success.

2) Meritocracy

People need to be judged by ability and by performance. There should be no barriers to upward mobility in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Religion, class, family should be irrelevant. In order to encourage meritocracy, the PDM will ensure that everyone has an equal chance and this is done by providing every Turks & Caicos Islander with a good education and an opportunity to pursue his and her dreams.



3) Care for the Environment

The government and the people of this country are trustees of the environment for future generations. We want economic growth, but not at any price. As a government the PDM will ensure that this sacred trust is honored.

4) Clean Government

The PDM is committed to clean government. We will have a zero-tolerance policy against corruption. The policy is absolute and applies without exception.

5) The Rule of Law

The rule of law is vital if we are to progress as a nation. A PDM Government will take steps to strengthen the independence of the judiciary and expect the bar association to take on a greater role in educating and disciplining its members.

6) Financial Management

A PDM Government will strengthen financial management to ensure that we never again lose our financial/political independence.

**The National Academy of Public Administration defines Social Equity as; "The fair, just and equitable management of all institutions serving the public directly or by contract; the fair, just and equitable distribution of public services and implementation of public policy; and the commitment to promote fairness, justice, and equity in the formation of public policy."*

- **Government of the people, by the people for the people (One People – One Turks and Caicos: A Passion, A Promise)**

A LISTENING GOVERNMENT

- The PDM will open a new era of accessible government. It is simply not good enough to ask voters to go the polls and then forget about them for the next four years.
- Each of your ministers and your elected representatives will hold regular surgeries throughout the Islands so that individual constituents concerns can be heard and addressed.



- The PDM Government will work hard to ensure that we listen to the issues affecting you the citizens of the Turks & Caicos Islands and fix them.

The National Conversation

According to Mrs. Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, Lead Coordinator of The National Conversation, *“In December 2010 recognizing the need to hear from the people and to assure that the relevant bodies hear the views of the public and to channel same in the most proper and useful place, Mr. Douglas Parnell, the Leader of the People’s Democratic Movement (PDM Party) called for a national dialogue amongst ourselves: the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands. This Dialogue was called The National Conversation”*. She went on to say that *“It is my understanding that this would form the basis for further dialogue with the other Partners in this relationship.”*

Mrs. Cartwright-Robinson *“...gladly accepted the call. {and} in an effort to assure greater involvement at the organization level and to ensure a checks and balance, I invited Rev. Dr. Conrad Howell and Mr. Drexwell Seymour to co-lead The National Conversation”*.

A wide range of concerns, opinions and recommendations emanated from The National Conversation from persons in each of our islands, as well as from across the business sector. They are all taken very seriously by our Party Leader, Oswald Skippings and our party as a whole, and we have every intention of addressing them to the very best of our ability, if you the people of our Turks and Caicos Islands again elect us as your government. We gave eight years of successful leadership, underpinned with respect and integrity, prior to 2004, and promise and assure you our people that we will take up right where we left off, and continue to serve you to the best of our abilities.

Following are some of the recommendations coming out of The National Conversation exercise:

- There must be a review of the operation of TC Invest with a view to empowering the Institution to assist in moving this country forward through its Banking, Investment and Small Business arms.
- There must be a review of the recruitment process in the private sector as well as the public sector and the weaknesses identified must be addressed.
- There must be a National Census as soon as possible which will provide the basis for a population policy and vital information necessary for budgeting and planning purposes.
- There should be a clear path to Belongership; but it is felt that the UK Government has no moral or legal authority to carry out this mandate.



- The Labour Department must be strengthened and empowered to review and police Labour Laws. Among other things, it is felt that Labour must be allowed to review Resumes to ascertain whether the qualifications required are necessary for the job being advertised.
- There must be a strengthening of local Government and the possibility of instituting elected councils must be reviewed.
- There is a need to review the operation of Primary Health Care in the Islands, outside of Providenciales and Grand Turk with particular regard to the stocking of drugs in the respective pharmacies.
- Political Parties must be asked to disclose all donations made, complete with the amounts and names of donors, and companies must be allowed to make donations. As well, Political Parties should be required to present audited accounts and reports to the Registrar.
- Immigration and Revenue Departments must be strengthened in manpower and not downsized.
- Transportation to the Islands of Salt Cay, South Caicos and Middle Caicos must be addressed.
- The proposed sites for mining and dredging in Middle Caicos and North Caicos should be abandoned and the local population should be consulted on these issues.

Individual Participants and their Input:

- Former Chief Minister **Washington Misick** felt that *“Education must be a priority and the College must be progressed.”*
- Long-time resident and architect **Simon Ward** opined that *“Steady, well planned and controlled development that allows social and physical infrastructure to keep pace (Balanced progression) will have a positive economic and social effect; but rapid, unplanned and hasty development that moves ahead of social and physical infrastructure development (Unbalanced progression) will be ultimately detrimental to the lasting health of this nation.”* He stressed the need for:
 1. Good, lasting jobs that provide a living wage (for all).



2. Capital for the construction of physical and social infrastructures.
 3. Ongoing revenue for the maintenance and management of those physical and social infrastructures.
 4. Mitigation and Management of the negative consequences of development.
 - a. Environmental degradation.
 - b. Crime
 - c. Excessive immigration.
- Attorney **Gordon Kerr** stated that *“We need as a people to decide on these thorny issues. To settle upon a plan and make the tough decisions that will attract investment back to the islands. Be warned though that investment needs people. We are not going to get back to a balanced budget and economic stability unless we are prepared to face the reality that this will need more people, to share in increased tax burden. The Government for its part must grasp the nettle and close these uncertainties. It is my hope that this national conversation will open a dialogue between Government and the people in a constructive way, so that these uncertainties can be laid to rest and a coherent plan mapped out for the future well-being of the Turks and Caicos Islands.”*
 - **The people of Middle Caicos feel that** the Causeway is vital to the life of the people of their island, as there is no direct Airlift into Middle or North Caicos. That the Causeway represents the link by which food and all supplies get into the Island, by which students and workers access their schools and job each day, and as there is no resident Doctor, it is the only means by which the Doctor can visit the Island and attend to the sick.

They also felt that not enough was being done to address the mosquito problem.

- **The people of North Caicos** are of the opinion that there is a need to decentralize government and to strengthen local government. This is felt can be achieved through the introduction of locally elected District Boards or Councils.

They also feel that that there should be a greater effort to encourage agricultural Development, as jobs and money could be generated from this Industry. They stressed that. North Caicos does not wish to be developed in the same manner as Providenciales but wishes to expand agriculture which they hope will be the Island’s mainstay.

- **The people of Salt Cay** expressed that *Salt Cay feels neglected and felt that a glimmer of hope recently felt has been dashed away. With the limited and sporadic flights to Salt Cay, it is felt that it will not become the viable tourism destination that it can be. It feels that the Island should be marketed for what it*



offers different from the other Islands and this would help businesses to grow and benefit the local economy.

- **The people of South Caicos** were of the opinion that the TCI needs to review and encourage cooperative development especially on the smaller islands where the economy is not doing well.

- **The Ministerial Fellowship** felt that the deep-rooted division in these Islands between expatriates and Belongers (and even between the Turks versus Caicos Islands), are unhealthy for our people and our country. And that these tensions can escalate to a negative place where there are physical clashes; and there are serious prejudices that must be dealt. They emphasized that it is important to work towards creating a cohesive society as much as possible. They also felt that there must be a balance between protectionism versus prejudice; that politics continues to divide us and that education is necessary to counter this indoctrination; and that true unity is necessary to move our country forward on the right path, and that this unity must be led by and from the Church.

The People's Democratic Movement has taken heed of each and every one of these concerns and recommendations, and will devote its time and energy into addressing them should we be elected by the voters on November 9, 2012 to be their next government.

- Too often in the past governments have been focused on the glamour and glitz of ministerial office. We need to ensure that the issues that affect people's lives whether it is solid waste management, feral dogs, potholes or school admissions. These are also priorities of the new PDM Government.

- We have citizens within the Islands with a wealth of experience and ideas on how to improve systems, processes and government. The PDM government will be self confident enough to look for and listen to advice. We do not need to bring in a host of "experts" from outside who no little or nothing about the Turks & Caicos Islands, for we have plenty of knowledge and experience amongst the people of this country, and the PDM government will use these resources.

- **Under a PDM Government there will be empowerment for the people of these Islands to be a part of decision making in matters of local governance.**

- A PDM Government will partner with the Church and the people in People Partnerships, Local Government and community development.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT MODEL

Community decision has to be one of the pillars of governance. Decision making must be as close as possible to the people affected by the decisions, and that active citizenship and involvement in decision making, leads to better governance. Communities should be allowed the maximum flexibility to manage their own affairs and control their own destinies. We will ensure that all communities have the right to set up their own decision making structures.

A PDM Government will commission a Study to identify a suitable Local Government Model for these Islands.

A PDM Government will encourage and support Community Councils and will encourage people to work together in Neighbourhood Associations for the betterment of their communities.

- **THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

The Civil Service has suffered an almost fatal blow and has seen a great loss of talented, experienced and qualified Turks and Caicos Islanders as a result of the flawed Policies of the British, which were in response to repairing the damage done to it by the former PNP Administrations.

Within the first 100 days, a PDM Government will meet with the hierarchy of the Service to ensure that the Budget accurately addresses the road to restoring the Civil Service.

We will work to reinstate the lost 10% in salaries which was committed to by the Interim Government on the condition that the economy improves.

A PDM Government will meet with Civil Servants to hear their concerns, suggestions and vision on the way forward and will encourage the revitalization of the Civil Service Association.

A PDM Government will seek to ensure that a review of the Civil Service and its needs is done and that a Salary Review and Re-grading Exercise is commissioned.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR: Enforcing our Labour laws to address and reduce unemployment and underemployment

Survey and Inventory of our Labour Pool:

A PDM Government is fully aware that now, and for a good while to come, we will need workers from outside our borders to complement our work force. Tourism, e.g., is very



labour intensive and we may not have sufficient workers to staff our hotels and resorts. We will therefore have our Labour Department maintain a registry of unemployed persons and their capabilities; they will in turn be cross-referenced with job advertisements and requests for labour clearances by a fully staffed and equipped Labour Department. This system will also keep inventory of the skills within the country and will also cross reference skilled TC Islanders who are unemployed. This system will also alert authorities as to work permit renewals, expirations and when approved visitors' stays have expired.

A PDM Government recognizes that this effort must be supported by a comprehensive Immigration Database. This system will be shared on a Network with all the relevant Government Departments that assist in immigration, labour, scholarships and training as it will maintain information on the number of jobs, the details of work permit holders, all categories of residents and visitors, the skill sets imported and in the country and general population details. A PDM Government will use this information to among other things, secure jobs, understudies and apprenticeships for Turks and Caicos Islanders especially returning students and also to update national needs for the Scholarship and Training Policy.

Within the first 100 days, a PDM Government will seek to secure funding for a comprehensive Computer system that will address the shortfalls identified in Immigration management.

A PDM Government will within the first 100 days establish a Public/Private Sector Partnership that will seek to determine the need for continued imported labour versus returning students' placements whether in Government or the Private Sector.

A PDM Government will seek to attract the skills of TC Islanders living abroad, whether they continue to live abroad or decide to return home. A PDM Government recognizes the need to tap into the TCI Diaspora all over the world. **A PDM Government will within the first 100 days begin talks with members of the TCI Diaspora.**

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

The Interim Government has commissioned a Radar Station and we will continue to support this effort. However a PDM Government would recognize that the fight against illegal immigration requires a comprehensive approach and will **within the first 100 days commit to do the following:**



- 1. We will begin a serious campaign jointly with the Haitian people to discourage human trafficking and the dangerous sea voyage to our shores.**
- 2. We will commit to begin to prosecute those involved in the encouragement of the entry of illegal sloops and the hiring of undocumented workers.**
- 3. We will engage the Regional and International Governments, in particular the Haitian Government to deal with this matter as a matter of urgency.**
- 4. We will engage the UK Government on the matter of their constitutional responsibility to protect our borders.**
- 5. We will commit to strengthening the patrol of our waters locally.**

The lack of a cohesive immigration and labor policy has led to:

- frustration by Turks & Caicos Islanders at a system that is biased against their employment
- an increasing burden upon our social services, schools and medical services
- conflicts between the other laws, such as the Labor law and NHIB regulations
- increasing numbers of illegal immigrants with the consequent increase in temporary settlements and other social ills
- an overly bureaucratic and complex system for employees and employers seeking work permits which wastes time and money and discourages investment

A PDM Government would commit to a complete overhaul of the Immigration and Labour Systems. A PDM Government will:

- Move the focus of the labor department to working with employers to find suitably trained and qualified Turks & Caicos Islanders.
- Establish clear policies regarding the issue of work permits with a clear time limit for any new work permits issued.
- Streamline the present work permit process so that the NIB, NHIB and the work permit issuance are synchronized. This should reduce costs and uncertainty for employers.



- Expand the Turks & Caicos Islander card scheme to include all residents to enable easy confirmation of status by the authorities and employers.
- Require social responsibility by the employer in respect of suitable accommodation and eventual repatriation of work permit holders,
- Switching the focus from the illegal employee to those who use illegal employees. Introduce stiff penalties for those who employ illegal workers.
- Upgrade the Immigration Department's equipment and accommodation

A PDM Government will also seek to introduce some of the recommendations of the Immigration Review Commission Report of 2004 (the 2004 Report"). This comprehensive Report written by Turks & Caicos Islanders after consultations with Turks & Caicos Islanders, was largely ignored by the Interim Administration and the Previous Government which commissioned it. This was unfortunate as it clearly identified the Immigration Issues facing this country in 2004 and they are largely the same issues in 2012.

Within the first 100 days, the PDM Government will seek to do the following:

- ✚ **A Review of the Immigration Legislation and ensure that it is in line with the wishes of the people and with the new TCI Constitution;**
- ✚ **Begin the ground work to design a Population Policy for the future growth of the TCI's population; and**

Multiculturalism Policy

The PDM recognizes the need to positively address and facilitate the different nationalities within the country and as such **within the first 100 days will commission the formulation of a Multiculturalism Policy that will seek to foster greater harmony between the dominant TCI's culture and the migrant cultures by fostering a level of tolerance and respect for each other.**

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The PDM will continue to foster and strengthen relationships with Caribbean, Europe and our sister overseas territories and the United States of America.



We will enhance the relationship between the TCI and its neighbours, pursuing opportunities for cooperation in Border Control, Drug and Human Trafficking and Illegal Immigration.

A PDM Government will support the establishment of Consulates to address the needs of the different nationalities within the Turks and Caicos Islands. **We are committed to ensuring that the already announced Haitian Consulate is re- established before the end of the first quarter, being first established under a PDM Government.**

A PDM Government will form an Association with all the Overseas Territories and host the first Meeting here in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

A PDM Government will establish regular engagements with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Government of the United Kingdom.

A PDM Government will establish relationships with regional and international Media Houses in all our efforts to secure TCI's repositioning in the global arena.

A PDM Government will set the stage to ensure that the Turks and Caicos becomes a leading decision maker in the policies of CARICOM and the Wider World.

A PDM Government will develop a China Policy, with regard to Chinese investment in our country..

THE COST OF LIVING AND EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

A PDM Government will use the information from the recent Poverty Assessment Survey and address the areas of serious inflation and the needs of our people.

We will review the minimum wage for the Worker to ensure that it is a living wage.

We will ensure that there is Equal Pay Legislation to protect employees within the Public and Private Sector.

We will seek to lower the cost of electricity by seriously pursuing an Alternative Energy Policy.

Within the first 100 days, we will revisit and review the payment of Gratuity within the Hospitality Industry.



A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE AND DO BUSINESS: SECURITY

A PDM Government will spare no efforts to ensure that we live in and that tourists visit a safe destination.

A PDM Government will support the infusion of creditable TC Islanders in the Police Force.

A PDM Government will support all efforts to engender a trust that is so visibly missing within the Police Force and also in the relationship between the Police Force and the people of these Islands.

A PDM Government will seek to establish a Police Commission that will vest the responsibility of major decisions in matters relating to the Police Force in a Body.

Within the first 100 days, we will meet with Law Enforcement and seek a comprehensive review of the Police Force.

National Security Strategy "NSS"

The TCI has seen tremendous changes in recent years in its Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental, Legal and governance structures. As a political organization it is imperative that going forward a clear path is identified, debated, developed and agreed to as a Platform for our National Security Strategy. Any such strategy must be formulated based on addressing the safety and security concerns of our homeland from a Community, National, Regional and Global perspective. We need to be conscious of the fact that we are living in a more globalized world bearing in mind that while many incidents maybe global in origin they can end up becoming local in effect.

To this end we share our 12 Point Law Enforcement Priorities for the first 100 days in office, we will:

- 1. Ensure that a Comprehensive Training Policy is formulated;**
- 2. That there is a proper Succession Plan;**
- 3. That there is capacity building within the Police force;**
- 4. That there is a review of the Resources / Equipment Program;**
- 5. That there are Comprehensive Crime Prevention Initiatives;**
- 6. That there are Comprehensive Border Protection Initiatives;**
- 7. That there are Comprehensive Community Partnerships Initiatives;**
- 8. That there is an Offender Management Program;**
- 9. That there is a Safer Communities Project;**
- 10. That there are National, Regional and Global Partnership Crime Prevention Initiatives;**



11. That there are Pay and Retention incentives.
12. That there is a re-engagement of Law enforcement expertise available locally.

THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

A PDM Government commits to review the Justice System with a view to ensuring that the Courts and AG's Chambers receive the resources they require to carry out their function effectively and efficiently.

A PDM Government is also committed to ensure that the accused receives due process and that justice is swift and fair.

A PDM Government will ensure that the Correction Facilities are funded to ensure that the persons in custody receive the best care and rehabilitative programs to ensure that they have the best opportunity to reintegrate into society.

NECESSARY PARLIAMENTARY, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM

The PDM Government would be committed to reviewing the entire Parliamentary, Legislative and Administrative functions in Government and to implement reforms where necessary.

SECTION THREE:

SOCIAL/HUMAN AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION INNOVATION AND HEALTH ADVANCEMENT 21ST CENTURY AND BEYOND.

Within the first 100 Days a PDM Government will commission a review of the Education and Health Systems.

We will seek to establish a Teaching Commission to govern the Teaching Profession and vest all major decisions to be made in this Body.

We will commission a review of the Teaching Profession to ensure it is attractive and that all efforts are made to attract and retain Turks and Caicos Islanders in this profession.

Education, as a major part of the PDM's instrument to hope and prosperity, would be redefined, reformed where necessary and re-energized to meet the needs of our developing nation. Policies, programs and institutions would be geared to give all an opportunity to experience success on and in a level playing field. Through strong, intentional and deliberate emphases on the educational milieu, persons would be equipped and prepared to pursue industry, entrepreneurship, further education, skills in every area that is in accordance with the priorities of our country. Efforts would be



made to involve all in every aspect of reshaping our education system with emphasis placed on the varied abilities of all our children, young people and adults, from primary education through to adult and continuing educational programs.

What then is the PDM outlook for education in the new government?

- Redefine the existing structure of the school system to include:
 - Early Childhood
 - Primary
 - Middle school
 - High school
 - Upper secondary school (vocational training)
 - Continuing Education
- Encourage and introduce career development courses reflective of the immediate and long term needs of the country.
- Provide special scholarships for:
 - Aircraft dispatching
 - Meteorology
 - Marine /diesel mechanics
 - Quantity surveyors
 - Spa training
 - Engineering
 - Teachers: primary and secondary (science)
 - Agriculture
 - Landscape artists
 - Computer repair and networking
 - Roofing (Metal, wood & concrete)
 - Carpet installation
 - Land surveying
 - Heavy equipment operation
 - Elevator installation maintenance and repair
 - Road building and repair
 - Swimming pool construction and maintenance
 - Steel buildings
 - Welding (steel fabrication)
- Building of new schools where needed (primary and secondary).
- Emphasize the teaching/learning of science as early as the primary school
 - Encourage schools science fairs
 - Building and establishing of science labs in all the schools.



- Purchase /build the physical facilities.
 - Build in stages starting with the Hospitality training school and general
 - Equip the computer labs
 - redesign the computer studies program to reflect the needs and changes in the industry

- Develop the community college to University status
 - Remunerate the staff to reflect that of universal community colleges principles
 - Encourage the continued education of our local lecturers to doctorate levels
 - Establish professorships for experienced and qualified lecturers
 - Restructure the board of governors to reflect persons knowledgably and in touch with developments in the educational milieu at the university level and with a futuristic perspective of the development of the country
 - Develop a research center at the community college
 - Build dorms for students from other islands and international students
 - Provide facilities international students to easy access to enroll (VISAS)
 - Establish teacher training providing scholarships to the college for early childhood, primary and secondary level teaching

- Reduce class sizes to ensure quality experiences or individuals.

- Improve the teaching and learning environments of the school.

- Modernize the schools equipping them with teaching materials
 - Dry erase boards
 - Multimedia projectors
 - Interactive boards

- Provide definite teaching career paths for local teachers

- Provide libraries and common facilities at all schools

- Establish reading rooms in each public primary school

- Make provisions for special education for students with special abilities

- Reintroduce the two plus two programs and provide scholarships abroad only for students studying in areas that are not available at the University of the Turks and Caicos.



- **Establish institutions and encourage the commercial banks to provide guaranteed students loans.**
- Establish a mandatory community service/ apprenticeship programs for all students in the upper secondary school.
- Encourage youth empowerment programs through the youth department such as the Youth Parliament, National Youth Council and Civic Organisations..
- **Encourage corporate citizens and give incentives to organizations and companies that generously contribute to the scholarship of our young people (A president set and practiced by Fortis for example)**

“As we reflect on what it would need to rebuild and build those institutions that would bring us out of the doldrums we are in and realize what is necessary to maintain and sustain a nation of individuals that we are proud of, and where everyone is equipped and willing to make positive contributions in all facets of society, our education policies and programs must become more responsive to the ability of each child and more relevant to our national pursuits.” (P.L.P. 2012 manifesto)

The PDM recognizes that the development of education must take place simultaneously at three stages: Primary, Secondary & Tertiary. The PDM also realizes that education development consists of human resource, curriculum & instruction and infrastructure improvements.

1. **A PDM Government will implement a national education plan which equips more of our young people for the world of work and provides a modern curriculum using modern means of teaching and learning.**
2. **We will immediately address the problem of the placement of school age children and long term goals of manageable teacher/student ratio and overcrowding. On the opening of the CHHS and perhaps still, students were seated on the floor. This is totally unacceptable.**
3. **We intend to launch a campaign to employ more young men and women in the teaching profession by making teaching more attractive through salary improvements, special allowances and incentives.**

Scholarships and Returning Students

1. **We will provide “Priority Scholarships” for those areas desperately needed by the TCI Government and that are vital for the private sector. We will base the review of a National Needs list on a comprehensive review by Labour Department of skills sets in the country and those needed.**



2. We will form a strategic partnership through direct policy that will bring the government and the private sector together to ensure that students on return from studies overseas are able to find placements. It will no longer be acceptable to just award scholarships, we must ensure that policies are in place to ensure their placement and use of their skills on return.

Primary Education

The PDM recognizes the importance of a solid primary education for our children. We further realize that children at the primary level should attain basic reading/writing and numeration skills on par with children in the Caribbean region. The Director of Education spoke to the poor performance of our students (and Caribbean on a whole) in the areas of Math and English. We will introduce a national education literacy and numeracy plan “NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND” and this plan will focus on decreasing and eventually eliminating illiteracy from the Primary and Secondary level. This campaign will focus on reading and writing as well as identifying the weak students and placing them in programs to enhance their basic skills. Libraries and Reading rooms will be priority and the recruitment of Reading Specialist will be a priority.

The PDM will ensure that workshops continue which better facilitate the improvement of primary education.

Secondary Education

1. We will embark on a major infrastructure plan to repair schools and to secure a second High School in Providenciales. We will rely on the Census data to determine its location.
2. The PDM will ensure that our high schools are properly equipped with the resources needed for them to achieve maximum results.
3. We will reintroduce a standardized National Secondary School Leaving Exam (in selected subjects) to ensure academic parity and equal standards among our various high schools.
4. The PDM will introduce a Local O Level examining body tasked with offering O Level courses/Subjects to Secondary Students unable to sit CXC Examinations. These O Level exams will be accepted by the TCI Community College.



5. **We will strengthen the Career Guidance initiatives in Secondary and Tertiary level Institutions. We recognize that students need guidance in career options at both levels.**

TERTIARY EDUCATION – THE TCI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The PDM is serious about Tertiary Education. The PDM, recognizes that if we are going to seriously build our nation, we need many educated and qualified people in the labour force as much as possible. To achieve this, we have to improve the standard of the Community College.

1. **We will spare no effort to advance the TCICC to a University, where students can study at home.**
2. **The first step needed in improving the college standards is improving and providing better infrastructure and facilities. Our college students deserve an advanced properly furnished and equipped place to learn. We intend to upgrade the infrastructure of the TCI Community College as well as providing dormitories for housing family islands students.**
3. **We will secure and invest seed money to increase the number of degree programs offered, as well as increase partnerships with other tertiary institutions.**
4. **We will increase the number of scholarships to the TCI Community College. As finances improve, so will more scholarships increase. We will provide incentives to individuals and businesses who seek to provide scholarships for our youth.**
5. **We will introduce a mandatory Student Development Program as a part of the curriculum of all College and University Students.**

Technical Vocation

1. **We will create and staff a Technical Vocation School in the TCI which caters to those students who are not academically competent but have technical skills needed to run a country.**
2. **Too many youth are being left behind. The PDM recognizes the reality of some students' inability to achieve academic excellence. We however realize that they too have a role to play in the development of our country. These students have a contribution to make in the field of construction for example masonry, carpentry, plumbing and cosmetics etc.... Those skills can be obtained through courses either offered at high school level or**



college. The PDM will invest in a strong skills acquiring and practical Technical Vocation Program.

The PDM will not leave you out of their plans for this country. We will not just provide better education opportunities for you, but put policies in place which safeguard your training and acceleration in the work place.

HEALTH CARE IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS.

The single highest expenditure item in the Turks and Caicos Government budget over the years has been the cost of health care for Turks and Caicos Islanders. Several attempts by previous administrations and most notably the previous PNP administration have proven to be more disastrous in terms of cost to the TCI taxpayer than at any other time in our country's history. The construction of the two new hospitals and the subsequent contract with Interhealth Canada are an albatross around the neck of every Turks and Caicos Islander both now and into the unforeseeable future. Our great, great, grand children will bear the cost of this decision. The contract document with Interhealth Canada which to date remains a secret to the general public, apparently offers all of the incentives/benefits to Interhealth Canada. This will be looked at by a People's Democratic Movement administration with a view to renegotiating the terms and conditions and ensuring that the major benefits are for the TCI public.

Governments around the globe have recognized that the two most important areas of human development lie in ensuring that education and primary health care are essential aspects of an overall national development strategy. The Turks and Caicos are at the centre of the region as it is currently being held as the poster child for the entire Caribbean area in advancing health care benefits for its citizenry. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that we get it right. Under a People's Democratic Movement government, specific emphasis will be placed on primary care. Research has concluded that when primary care is advanced the need for secondary care, which is what Interhealth Canada is supposed to provide, is lessened and expenditure on over-all health care is decreased. A PDM Government's Plan will include:

- I. The re-establishment of properly run Government Primary Health Care Facilities/Clinics in all of the Islands. Each Facility will be managed by certified and experienced medical personnel. There will be a minimal fee payment and incentives offered to patients who take advantage of the Primary Health Care Facilities.
- II. Work with the various service clubs, church and civic groups to promote healthy life styles by encouraging proper diets and the importance of exercise.



- III. Encourage screening on an annual basis for chronic conditions such as heart disease, kidney and liver functions and diabetes screening. We will support the various Foundations.
- IV. At the appropriate recommended age encourage females to do prescribed annual, five or ten yearly mammograms, pap smears and cancer screening test. Encourage all males at the appropriate age to do the prostate exams and the colonoscopy screening.
- V. Our efforts will not stop with the adult population but will include the youth. We firmly believe that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. In this vein we will:
- VI. Embark on an expanded Immunization Plan that ensures that the necessary immunizations are given to our children and to enact legislation framework in support of this Program.
- VII. That as part of the School's Curriculum proper diets are included to assist our children in understanding the importance of eating healthy foods. We will commission a National Nutrition Policy.
- VIII. Ensure that through the community based organizations and the Church that our schools are sufficiently prepared to assist those children who may not be able to afford the essential first meal of the day, breakfast.
- IX. Ensure that each school's curriculum includes the Physical Education period in its timetable.
- X. Encourage the Primary Health Care unit to make regular visits to the schools to determine the immunization and other health needs at the schools.
- XI. For the elderly in the communities every effort will be made to ensure that there is a regularly scheduled home visitation program providing medical care and attention to those who are unable to attend clinic on a regular basis.
- XII. We will strengthen and properly equip our Dental Department.

Secondary health care is of course extremely important. We believe however, that if the primary health care aspect is properly implemented the need for secondary health will be lessened. We are cognizant that there will always be a need for secondary health care. To this end we will ensure that:

- I. Our secondary health care facilities are fitted with the latest technologically advanced machinery and equipment for diagnostic purposes.
- II. Ensure that in addition to the equipment, staff has the competencies and experiences to properly diagnose the conditions presented.
- III. Work with regional and international medical training schools to use our facilities in Grand Turk and Providenciales for training of their students in medicine



thereby encouraging scientific discovery, and the development of new forms of treatment for various diseases.

There are multiple benefits from encouraging some of the above initiatives. If we are able to bring in a recognized regional or international medical training school the exposure for the Turks and Caicos cannot be quantified. It opens up the Islands to an increase in the tourism market, it provides an economic boost for the Islands in terms of the need for accommodations, transportation, entertainment, and other services such as banking, grocery shopping etc. The spin-off is unimaginable.

The exposure to the latest medical technology and the ability to attract world renowned medical specialist will make the TCI the envy of the region and the world. The opportunities are limitless. Our ability to renegotiate the contract with Interhealth Canada will be enhanced and will put us in a better position to achieve the best health care system in the region and indeed the world.

A PDM Government will however also review the Interhealth Contract and make all efforts to terminate this Agreement as it is unaffordable and unsustainable, inter alia.





PDM

YOUTH



IS



PDM

OUR

PDM

MISSION

PDM – THE RIGHT DIRECTION



Everyone Has A Part To Play

THIS AGREEMENT IS BETWEEN THE PDM GOVERNMENT OF THE FIRST PART (Hereinafter referred to as “The PDM” AND THE YOUTH OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS OF THE SECOND PART (Hereinafter referred to as “The Youth”)

The PDM HEREBY AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:

That we are committed to ensuring the development of a sense of belonging and participation for our youth, thereby preparing them for a productive life.

We will promote the development of youth through social and educational programs nationally which prepares our young people for their eventual roles in society.

We will provide proper funding for National Youth Programs and support existing Programs while ensuring that the first commissioned PDM Programs of The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, Citizen and You for all ages and the Cadet Corp are reintroduced and supported.

We will explore ways to encourage volunteerism in youth based programs from Churches, Civic Groups and the Private Sector generally to ensure that the Programs are fully staffed.

We will exercise strong fiscal management policies and not place future generations in huge debts as a result of irresponsible behavior.

We will seek to be the role models that are lacking in all areas of your life and will do our best to ensure that our actions do not confuse or harm you.

We will do our best to ensure that you have an enjoyable relationship with a PDM Government where you can hold us to account.

We will do our part but we ask you as well to do your part. In return the Youth are required to:

Take responsible action and embrace all the opportunities provided for them by being responsible students, business men and women, workers/employees and citizens.

We further ask the Youth to participate in a Government Sponsored Program called the [National Youth Service](#) that will encourage our young people to give back to the TCI Communities.

THE PDM PARTY

THE YOUTH OF THE TCI



YOUTH OUR MISSION: Mainstreaming Youth Policies and Programs

A PDM Government is committed to encouraging youth programs and policies that will develop a sense of belonging and participation for our youth. We are committed to ensuring that they are prepared for life and become productive citizens.

We will promote the development of youth through social and educational programs nationally which prepare our young people for their eventual roles in society.

The PDM Believes in the Youth of the TCI.

"Our philosophy is that in order for the youth to become leaders of tomorrow, they must be co-leaders of today. "They must be groomed and given the chance to serve alongside experienced and mature leaders," Party Leader Oswald Skippings said.

In order to be co - leaders of today, you must be serving today and we are committed to ensuring that this happens:

- 1. An elected 2012 PDM Government will hold regular meetings with the young people to hear from them on issues that affect them. The first of these Meetings will be held within the first 100 days.**
- 2. We will empower and strengthen a National Youth Body to raise, discuss and advise Government on things youth.**
- 3. We will through Policy ensure that youth of national age are allowed to serve on national boards which will allow them to have exposure to decision making at that level.**
- 4. We will partner with Churches, Civic Organisations and the Private Sector to devise and implement youth programs and address and meet the needs of our youth in their many stations and will encourage youth leadership so that they are able to develop their leadership skills.**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. We recognize that there is a high level of unemployment amongst our youth. We will enact Employment Policies that give our youth a fair opportunity to obtain jobs.**
- 2. We will also secure Apprenticeships that will ensure youth get the exposure and experience needed.**
- 3. We will ensure through programs that youth remain competitive in the job market that providing programs that will provide skills training.**



ENTREPRENEURSHIP, HOME OWNERSHIP and FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- 1. We will create young entrepreneurs initiative which allow young people to develop a business proposal and submit to the government (through a reinstituted small business unit) for consideration and the government will ensure that start-up capital is available to kick start the project for the youth. This will encourage young people to branch out and become stakeholders in the TCI economy.**
- 2. The PDM will also again embark on a Scheme to ensure that low income workers are able to access finances to become home owners**
- 3. A PDM Government will partner with Agencies to train and expose youths to proper budgeting, practical savings habits and practices and planning for retirement.**

SPORTS

- 1. We will invest in the athletic development of athletes by implementing an effective athletic training program in the TCI and secure more athletic scholarships for outstanding national athletes.**
- 2. We will improve the condition of the National stadium and promote more athletic competitions to increase athletic activity of our athletes.**
- 3. We will implement and assist schools with their athletic programs so that students can begin training from a young age. And as stated before, we will ensure that Physical Education is on the curriculum of each school.**
- 4. We will form partnerships with more recognized athletic federations and corporations.**
- 5. We will promote sport camps to expose our young people to opportunities in sports.**
- 6. The PDM will promote the formation of national sport/athletic associations to enhance the development of sports in the TCI.**
- 7. We will reintroduce the TCI National Track & Field Championships between the Islands.**
- 8. The PDM in the 1990s established a National Olympic Committee. We believe that we are lagging and will reinstitute the National Olympic Committee and identify the number of sporting events to enable the TCI to compete in Olympics 2016.**

CULTURE

- 1. We will promote our culture and ensure that youth know who they are as Turks and Caicos Islanders. We will support local music artists, designers**



and other cultural initiatives that will enhance our youth and instill a sense of national pride. **We will within the first 100 days begin the formulation of a Back To Our Roots National Campaign.**

2. We will launch a heritage site where youth will be encouraged to trace their family's history. We believe that this will help our youth – the next generation to understand that we are all one people and so foster unity, in particular between the Turks and Caicos Islands.
3. We will re-commission local test books and commission new ones for all levels of education.
4. We will ensure the introduction of the TCI Host Program in our schools and also that Civics is taught at all levels.
5. We will support national events that seek out talents among our youth and provide opportunities to grow in their areas of strength.

We will support the efforts and champion the cause for those seemingly underrepresented Departments that champion the cause for youth – Departments like the Gender Desk, Drug Unit, Social Development, Special Needs Unit and the Prison.

1. We will improve the staff numbers and quality in these Departments.
2. We will support the Gender Desk to ensure that we do not lag behind in our regional and international goals and that youth are empowered under these Goals.
3. We will support the Gender Desk's New Beginnings Program for teenage mothers.
4. We will support the construction of a Half-Way House and Drug Programs and Policies to ensure that our youth receive education and information at whatever station they are at in life.
5. We will erect and support Rehabilitation and Recreational Centers and facilities across TCI
6. We will ensure that a Juvenile Facility is erected and that the necessary facilities, staff and programs are in place that will give our troubled youth a fair chance of re-entering society successfully. We now house 7 juveniles in an Adult Facility though in a separate area, this is less than ideal.
7. Our Prison built for less than 90 persons is overcrowded and has been housing no less than 100 persons for a very long time, the majority of which are young men and women. We need to ensure that there are rehabilitative programs that will help them to successfully re-enter society.



We will support alternative sentencing legislation, the use of electronic tagging in the aid of securing early release and non - custodial sentences.

8. Special needs will be high on our Agenda as we believe that a number of students are left behind because learning disabilities are not detected early or at all.
9. We will ensure that testing is done and early and that programs are put in place for those with learning disabilities.
10. We will ensure that a Bill of Rights is in place to safeguard a productive future for persons with Special Needs and that laws are revised and re-enacted for Special Needs provision. We will ensure programs and therapy and job skills training are in place.
11. We will rely on support from families through the re-establishment of a National Advisory Committee made up of family members and the private sector to address national issues relating to special needs and also on regional and international partnerships to provide technical assistance to our programs.

Formation of Beneficial relationships

1. We will forge partnerships with the private sector to ensure that opportunities and programs are in place for our youth.
2. We will promote Faith Based Initiatives to enhance traditional family structures in the TCI and introduce Big Brother/Sister volunteer programs to assist welfare children with their social development.



OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS – Gender, Aged, Special Needs

GENDER ISSUES

We will commit to support all programs and policies that will ensure that we meet all the regional and international requirements.

A PDM Government will support the programs and policies of this Department by ensuring it is well staffed and resourced to meet its needs.

THE AGED/ELDERLY

A PDM Government will identify places and provide support staff for an Elderly Day Rest Program.

A PDM Government will employ the elderly in Works Programs where they are still able to work.

A PDM Government will ensure greater access to healthcare for the elderly and will ensure that their rights are protected.

A PDM Government will ensure that the Home Visits and Home Help Programs are reinstated.

SPECIAL NEEDS

A PDM Government will ensure the following in an effort to secure a productive life for an individual with Special Needs.

Within the first 100 days, we will seek the appointment of a Program Director for a Special Needs Project to oversee a review of the needs of this special group.

We will also commit to the following:

- I. Secure a Bill of Rights to safeguard a productive future for persons with Special Needs
- II. Revision and re-enactment of ordinances for Special Needs provision;
- III. The Appointment of a Director for Special Needs;
- IV. The re-establishment of a National Advisory Committee made up of family; members and the private sector to address national issues relating to special needs;



- V. Opportunities for the re-establishment of regional and international partnerships to provide technical assistance to our programs;
- VI. Networking strategies with relevant departments to secure appropriate support systems to allow persons to function effectively in their communities;
- VII. The provision of occupation, speech, and behavioral therapy to meet the basic needs of our children;
- VIII. Skills training for job opportunities for persons with special needs;
- IX. Ongoing awareness campaigns to sensitize communities;
- X. Early detection and stimulation programs to address challenges from the onset;
- XI. Ongoing medical assessments and diagnostic procedures to lessen the severity of the disability for a productive lifestyle;
- XII. The procurement of appropriate equipment and aids for effective use;
- XIII. The establishment of an adequate housing scheme for persons in need;
- XIV. Placement of Special Needs program under Ministry of Education for better service;
- XV. The restructuring of the Snap Center as a feeder program for all islands.

SECTION FOUR:

INFRASTRUCTURE/HOME AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Housing stock

A PDM Government will put in place a Housing Policy and strengthen and empower the Housing Department to inspect and ensure standards are maintained. The Housing Department will work in conjunction with the Environmental Health Department to establish minimum requirements for rental housing to avoid the creation of slums within the TCI.

A PDM Government will work with the EU to secure the promised funding for replacement homes after Hurricane Ike.

Physical infrastructure

A PDM Government will address the provision and maintenance of roadways and will identify and implement Systems to mitigate flooding.

Transportation

A PDM Government will commit to ensure the introduction of safe, reliable and efficient Public Transportation Services on the Island of Providenciales.



A PDM Government will address the issue of airlift for the Islands outside of Grand Turk and Providenciales through its regulatory Body ATLA.

A PDM Government will be committed to ensuring that the Causeway is properly repaired.

Land use

A PDM Government will commission a National Physical Development Plan that will take Inventory of the lands available and that will zone the remaining lands on Islands.

A PDM Government will make representation on having a Ministry that will include in its Portfolio all Departments that have a function in the distribution and management of lands. The new Crown Land Legislation vests this oversight in the Attorney General and an elected PDM Government will not accept this.

Water availability

A PDM Government will commission a proper logging and mapping of all City Water Lines throughout the TCI.

A PDM will again address the accessibility to clean potable water and will maintain, upgrade and procure Reverse Osmosis Plants while ensuring that there is increased water storage capacity.

Disaster Management

A PDM Government will support a full National Disaster Plan that includes an All Hazards Approach.

Environment

One of the biggest threats to our tourism product is the environment. Both the terrestrial and marine environment have to be protected.

A PDM government will commission a clean - up program within the first 100 days in Office and will term this Program the National Spic and Span Project that will concentrate efforts at getting all the relevant agencies to work urgently to address the indiscriminate dumping and disposal of waste, which included inter alia littering.

This Program will provide a National Litter Strategy to particularly address this plaguing problem. This Program will take a three prong approach: Enforcement of our Laws, Sustained Education and Active Participation by the communities, and will not target



roadways alone but also residential and commercial properties. It will encompass the Healthy Homes Program started by the Environmental Health Department some years ago.

A PDM Government will commission a review of DEMA with a view to strengthening its resources to properly carry out its purpose.

INDEPENDENCE - Inevitable, but not now

We the PDM would someday like to see our country become an independent nation as much as anyone else. We however, are equally convinced that our priorities at this time, must be rebuilding our country's economy, putting our people back to work; and regaining our country's reputation, greatly damaged by actions of the most recent PNP governments. Independence is not currently a priority for the People's Democratic Movement.

The words of the Deputy Leader of the PNP: *"We recently passed a resolution making it a policy objective of the party to prepare the country for independence.... I consider myself to be bound by that resolution..."* Again, a PDM government's top priority would be restoring of country's good reputation and economic health. Not independence.

We too are unhappy with many of the actions of the Interim Government; however, we must remain mindful of why the British are in direct control of our country. But we are also strongly of the belief that the return of democratically elected government here is now well overdue, and as a result, requested that elections be held last August on Emancipation Day. Again, independence is not now on our agenda, and we feel that present calls by certain individuals for independence are mostly self-serving and even reckless at this time.

The People's Democratic Movement values our GOD given unalienable right to chart our own destiny as a people and determine for ourselves the form of Government that we should be governed by. Our founders have enshrined in our party's constitution THE MANDATE to protect this right as is stated in two main objectives of our party, ***"b) to maintain the political freedom of the Turks and Caicos Islands and strive for the economic independence of her people: and k) to promote, nationally and internationally, the concept of human rights, self determination and majority rule for all the peoples of the world"***.

To this end we submit to the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands the position of the People's Democratic Movement on Independence.



BACKGROUND and HISTORY

The PDM has always had self-determination as an objective in our Party's constitution. In our first term in office 1976-1980 the Party agitated for and promoted a larger degree of self-determination for the Turks and Caicos Islands. As a democratic society we are committed to the promotion of this ideal through education and having an engaged and informed population that would make the decision on self-determination through a country wide referendum.

Regrettably, part of our history includes constitutional regression brought about principally by our political opponents' actions while in office. The people of the Turks and Caicos Islands have paid dearly for their actions in every instance. First, in 1986 through the loss of our right to determine and direct the advancement of the financial services industry and secondly through the imposition of direct rule and the loss of our very advanced constitution instituted by our party in 2002 through the Constitutional Commission.

OUR POSITION

1. Decision by every voter

The right to determine what form of self determination our country takes in the future is a right that must be made by every voter. The heavy importance that this decision will mean for the country and by extension the day to day life of every man, woman and child and the institutions they make up cannot be over emphasized. It is fundamental that any decision involving a move to Independence, Integration or Free Association, as outlined by the UN as acceptable means of self determination, be taken with clarity after a period of political calm and while an elected Government can craft the terms of reference for a process that would not violate the individual rights of every person who will be affected by the outcome of such a question being put. In any case we support the Bermuda model to conduct such a process.

2. Education about self determination

People must be aware of their responsibilities and the benefits of independence, and the financial and opportunity costs of taking that informed and un-emotive step towards self-determination. People need to be aware of the threats and opportunities that go hand in hand with the status.



In light of the serious but important nature of this issue, we would seek to Commission a study on self-determination during our first term and engage the population on the issue.

3. Democratically elected Government must spearhead the process.

4. Appoint a Commission once elected

In preparing the people to consider self-determination/ independence there is a need to commission a study to identify the prerequisites for self-determination and keeping the public engaged every step of the way.

5. PDM's list of prerequisites (what we need to be prepared or National Achievements)

We would seek to identify those important markers that must be achieved with regards to the level of awareness by the population even before there is a call for a referendum. These prerequisites to the referendum are listed so that they can be check marked as they are achieved.

- **External Affairs** – The handling of Government relationships internationally, negotiation of trade agreements, security, memberships to international organizations i.e. United Nations, E.U., OCT's
- **Internal Affairs** – internal security is currently handled by the RTCIP, the need for a Defence Force or some other military agency must be reviewed?
- **Citizenship and Visa Matters** – Critical questions must be answered like, who would automatically become citizens of an independent TCI. Will we allow dual citizenships etc.. An independent TCI would have to negotiate with other countries individually and as a group in some cases to relax and/or maintain current visa requirements.
- **Defence** – Currently the TCI as a British Overseas Territory is protected through the UK's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). On becoming independent the TCI would be responsible for its own defence.
- **The Economy and Commerce** – Decisions about the economy cannot be based on emotions; this requires a total exploration of our current economic situation along with future plans. The TCI has previously enjoyed a high standard of living; a decision for independence must ensure that this standard is maintained and/or improved.



- **Tourism** – When exploring the concept of independence, other countries have found that most tourists are unaware of, nor interested in their current constitutional position. However, a country’s stability and security is known to out-weight the amount of sand and sea it has to offer.
- **International Business** – Currently this is the most likely means of diversifying our economy, as the second pillar after tourism.
- **The role of TCI’s Monetary Authority** (would this be the FSC or a new body would need to be created?) – The US dollar etc...
- **Aviation** – Currently the TCI is governed by the U.K.’s treaties with other sovereign states, an independent TCI will have to become a contracting party to the Chicago and Montreal Conventions, that regulates international aviation and that deals with the liability of air carriers to passengers and shippers respectively.
- **Treaties** – An independent TCI would have to form treaties, bilateral and multilateral with organizations such as:
 - International Monetary Fund - IMF,
 - The World Bank Group
 - The Caribbean Community - CARICOM,
 - Caribbean Development Bank - CDB,
 - Inter-American Development Bank - IDB
 - World Trade Organization - WTO,
 - Free Trade Area of the Americas - FTAA,
 - Association of Caribbean States - ACS,
 - Organization of American States - OAS,
 - European Union-African Caribbean Pacific Group of States - EU-ACP
- **The Judiciary** - Court of Appeal, a decision to continue with the Privy Council, or become a member of the Caribbean Court of Justice, the CCJ.

6. The need for Political and Social stability

Presently, the need to have a restoration of confidence and stability in government cannot be over emphasized. It has been cited as one of the most important areas that international businesses look at when making a decision to do business in a country.

7. Independence tied to a General Election is not acceptable; a Referendum is necessary



As important as determining what is the settled will of an informed and engaged population on the matter of independence, we lack the mechanism to call for a referendum. It is imperative for us to therefore push for constitutional advancement with that provision enshrined to enable us to call for a referendum. We feel that only a democratically elected government has the moral right to call for a referendum by the population.

We hold the view that political parties ought NOT to run an election on the issue of independence because it does not leave the voter with a choice. A voter may wish to support his/her party but hold a different view with regards to independence. General elections ought to be about choosing a government, not deciding on independence. This issue must be treated as a separate matter.

9. Constitutional Advancement

To this end, we re- confirm our view that constitutional advancement immediately after general elections to set the stage for the pre-requisites for a move to self determination is still our best hope in the short term. In simple terms, we must move to get back a return to internal self government before we embark upon a program of independence.

There are certain things that must be fixed before we consider independence; including reversing some of the actions taken by the Interim Government, taking power away from the Turks and Caicos people and transferring it to the governor. We know that times are perilous, but we also know that it is because of the actions of the PNP governments preceding the Interim Government, the international economic downturn, and even some of the actions - such as harsh new taxation measures - by the Interim Government.

Finally, as an independent country, just as almost every other country – including the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, we would need to borrow money to be sustainable. But we would need a sound economy to do this. We must remember that the UK would not be there to provide backup for our borrowings. If for example, the current financial distress that we are experiencing, resulting from the actions of the last PNP governments and the international meltdown, would have happened in an independent environment, our country would have now been a total basket case, with unthinkable suffering.

CONSTITUTION 2012

The PDM is not satisfied with the full 2011/2012 Constitution and believes that many of its clauses are regressive and restrain the powers of an elected government. To this end, it will within the first 100 days hold talks with the FCO



on the removal of regressive sections and areas allowing the Governor wide discretionary powers.

LAWS PASSED SINCE 2009

There have been many Laws passed by the Interim Administration since 2009.

A PDM Government will immediately review all the Legislation with a view to ensuring that they are in our best interest, and will jointly with the other Members of Parliament seek an audience with HMG to make representation on behalf of the people of our Islands.

Of top priority are the following pieces of the Legislation:

The Constitution
The VAT Ordinance
The Crown Land Ordinance
The Equality Bill
The Immigration Ordinance

Our task within the first 100 days are highlighted in this Blue Print but other matters of priority are as follows:

Restructure Government Ministries
Address Budget to address priorities for next fiscal year
Meet with all Department Heads and Ministries
Meet with the Clergy and Private Sector
Meet with Youth
Meet with the Civil Service Association
Begin a country wide Listening Tour
Begin Schools Tour

WE WILL HIT THE GROUND RUNNING AND WILL TAKE THIS COUNTRY IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION ON A PATH TO SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND STRONG FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY, WHILST GETTING OUR PEOPLE BACK TO WORK AND ENSURING THAT THEY ARE HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE, INVOLVED AND EDUCATED.

OUR YOUTH WILL ALWAYS BE THE FOCUS OF OUR MISSION.

