



**MOVEMENT FOR UNITY & DEMOCRACY**

# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANIFESTO**

**"PROMOTING DEMOCRACY AND UNITY  
THROUGH IMPACTFUL  
REPRESENTATION"**

[WWW.UNITYFORGUYANA.COM](http://WWW.UNITYFORGUYANA.COM)



# POLITICAL MESSAGE BY OUR FOUNDING MEMBER

Dear fellow citizens,

It is time for us to come together as a nation and create real change. The current political climate is failing us, and we need a new direction. That is why I am proud to be the founder of the Movement for Unity and Democracy, which aims to put the power back in the hands of the people.

Our movement is founded on the principles of transparency, accountability, and representation. We believe that every citizen has the right to have their voice heard, and we will work tirelessly to ensure that their voices are not silenced by special interests or political elites.

We stand for a government that is open and responsive to the needs of its citizens. We will fight to end corruption and ensure that our elected officials are held accountable for their actions. We believe that every citizen deserves access to affordable healthcare, quality education, and a fair living wage.

This movement is not about red or green, but about what is best for the people of Guyana. We will work across the aisle to find solutions to the issues facing our nation. We believe that, by working together, we can create a brighter future for our children and ourselves.

Join us in this movement. Let us work together to create a government that truly represents the will of the people. Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

**Keron Bruce**

**Founder of the Movement for Unity and Democracy**



# POLITICAL MESSAGE BY OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow Guyanese,

As the President of the Movement for Unity and Democracy, I stand before you today with a message of hope and progress for our beloved country. Our movement believes in the values of transparency, democracy, and good governance, and we are committed to upholding these principles in all aspects of our work.

We recognize the importance of unity in our diverse communities, and we strive to bring people from all backgrounds together under one common goal: a better Guyana for all. Our campaign for Local Government Elections is rooted in this belief, and we promise to work tirelessly to ensure that every voice is heard, every community is represented, and every decision is made in the best interest of our country and its people.

Join us in our mission to build a more transparent, democratic, and prosperous Guyana. Together, we can make a difference and create a brighter future for generations to come.

Yours Sincerely,

**George Gonsalves**

**President of the Movement for Unity and Democracy**



# OUR VISION



The Movement's vision for local government in Guyana is centered on creating sustainable, equitable, and inclusive communities. Our goal is to establish a transparent, accountable, and responsive government that is capable of delivering effective services and meeting the needs of all citizens. We recognize the importance of the rich history of local government in Guyana and will build upon it to create a modern and innovative system that is responsive to the needs of the 21st century.

**This envisages the 70 Local Authorities and ten (10) Municipalities area**

- We envision communities that are Just, Free, Democratic, Independent, and Transparent.
- Communities where everyone is no longer marginalized based on their political support, gender, sexual orientation, age, or sex.
- Communities where everyone has an equal opportunity to build and strengthen their goals and enjoy the harvesting of their labor without fear and discrimination.
- Communities where poverty is not a limitation and where ignorance is limited. The Movement will support the elections of Community Leaders at every level.
- Communities that are stable, peaceful, and secure.
- Communities that support the diversity and uniqueness of our cultures and faiths.
- Communities that support our diverse, fair, equitable, dynamic and prosperous, and capable democracy of sustaining a high-quality life for all its people.
- Community leaders that protect our environment and where climate actions can be seen and be used as a beacon for region and the Hemisphere.



# GUYANA'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS ON THE RISE



Our Mission is to revolutionize Guyana via community development, wealth creation, and strengthening of our local government economy, which will benefit everyone, regardless of political affiliation. Our Candidates and Membership are responsible for the Movement's revolutionary and progressive vision. Our collective visions will address our local economy's socioeconomic difficulties in order to bring about reforms that will benefit everyone, including:

- **Comfortable living standards**
- **Inclusive and Shared Governance**
- **Community development**
- **Culture, Youth, and Sport**
- **Education Advancement and Training**
- **Decreased levels of poverty**
- **Adequate attention to the development of new and existing businesses**
- **Raising awareness of Climate Change**
- **Reducing the rate of domestic violence and crime in our communities**



# OUR EXECUTIVE BODY



**DENZEL ST HILL**  
GENERAL SECRETARY



**GEORGE GONSALVES**  
PRESIDENT



**LYNN MEDFORD**  
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



**DHAN SHYAMRAJ**  
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



**NAZIA MOHAMED-PERSAUD**  
TREASURER



**MARCIA LEWIS**  
ASST. GENERAL SECRETARY



**BRAD SINGH**  
ASST. TREASURER



**RASHAN REID**  
EXECUTIVE MEMBER



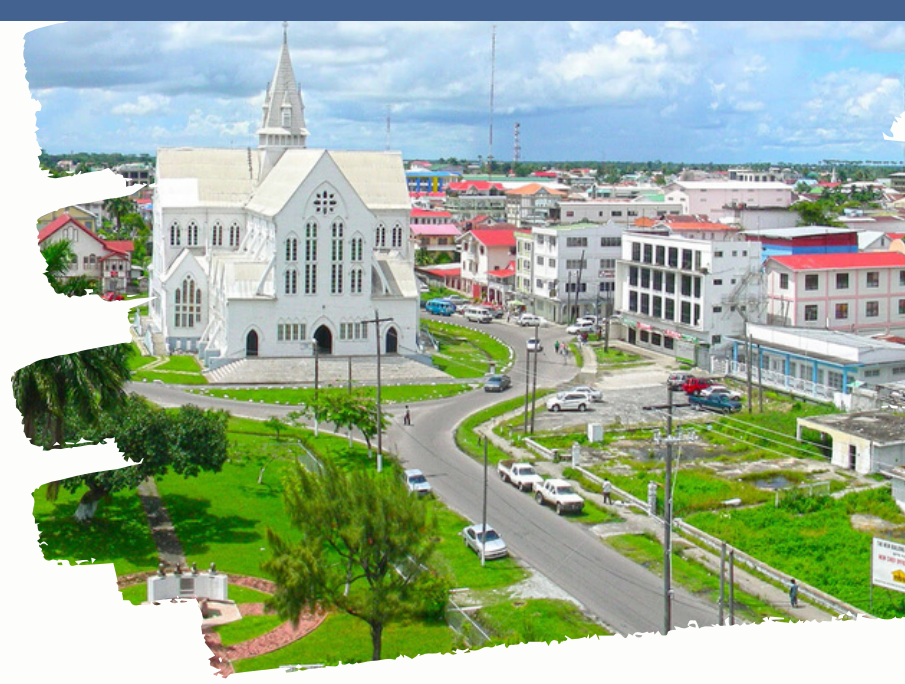
**TELROY MC ALMONT**  
EXECUTIVE MEMBER



**KERON BRUCE**  
EXECUTIVE MEMBER



# OUR MOVEMENT COMMITMENT TO THE AREA BEING CONTESTED



## INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES



We will prioritize the development of infrastructure and services that are essential for the growth and development of communities. We will ensure that all communities have access to clean water, reliable electricity, and affordable transportation. We will also invest in the development of healthcare facilities, schools, drainage & irrigation, and recreational facilities to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

We believe that local government should be the foundation of democratic organization in the state. We will work to empower communities to participate in the decision-making process and take ownership of their development. We will create mechanisms for active citizen participation, such as community meetings and online forums, to ensure that the voices of all citizens are heard. We will also support the development of community-based organizations and cooperatives to enhance community ownership and self-reliance.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

We believe that local government should be the foundation of democratic organization in the state. We will work to empower communities to participate in the decision-making process and take ownership of their development. We will create mechanisms for active citizen participation, such as community meetings and online forums, to ensure that the voices of all citizens are heard. We will also support the development of community-based organizations and cooperatives to enhance community ownership and self-reliance.



# OUR MOVEMENT COMMITMENT TO THE AREA BEING CONTESTED



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We believe that economic development is essential for the growth and sustainability of communities. We will support small and medium-sized enterprises by providing access to financing, training, and resources. We will also work to attract investment and promote tourism to create job opportunities and boost the local economy.



## TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

We recognize that transparency and accountability are essential for building trust and promoting good governance. We will establish mechanisms to ensure that local government officials are held accountable for their actions and decisions. We will also work to promote transparency in the allocation of resources and the decision-making process

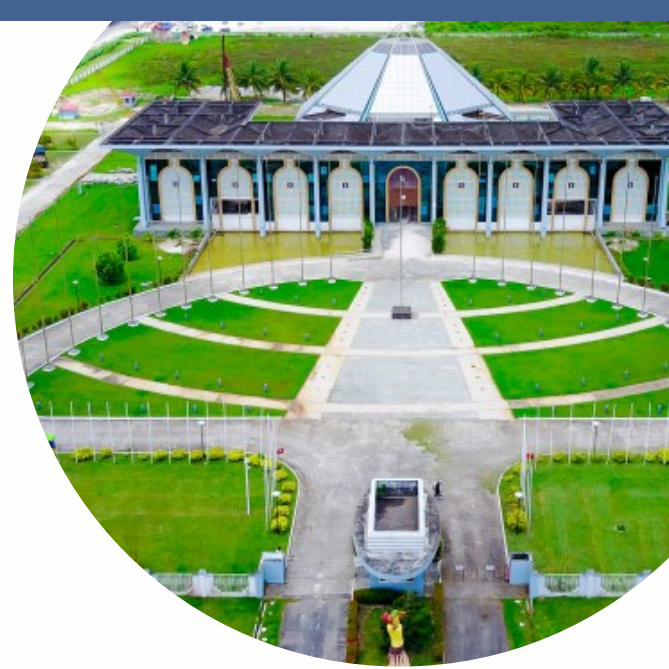


## OUR PROMISE TO GUYANESE

This is our promise, a comprehensive approach to local government that is focused on empowering communities, promoting sustainable development, and creating economic opportunities. We will build upon the rich history of local government in Guyana and will work to create a modern and innovative system that is responsive to the needs of all citizens. We believe that by working together, we can build a vibrant, equitable, and sustainable future for all Guyanese.



# GUYANA'S TRANSFORMATION



We will focus on the holistic development of our communities to ensure that they are equipped and capable of producing and delivering new ideas to improve our people and transform our country. We must ensure that the technological period is supported by both the young and the senior, since they have the potential to deliver great outcomes in terms of employment and revenue.

## The Movement is focused on:

- Giving power back to the people
- Transforming our local economies, which will further support the central economy
- Good Governance and Institutional Reform
- Environment and the Climate
- Improved dialogues with civil society, the country's political leadership, and our constituents

The Movement believes that strong, united, democratic communities build strong countries. Strong communities preserve our traditions, our community spirit, our culture, and our rich and diverse legacies. We are committed to and will pursue the inclusion of all Guyanese in the spirit of community strengthening and nation-building, regardless of political affiliation.

We shall uphold the principles of honesty, integrity, transparency, accountability, self-respect, tolerance, patriotism, equality, justice, good governance, and the rule of law. The Movement is adamant that these important qualities are required for Guyana's long-term economic and social growth. Furthermore, the Movement is obdurate that every Guyanese should learn to be self-sufficient and patriotic.

- Institutional Reform & Community Development
- Sports & Youth Development
- Senior Citizens
- Small Businesses
- Climate Action & Food Security
- Education
- Culture & Arts

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## INSTITUTIONAL REFORM & GOOD GOVERNANCE



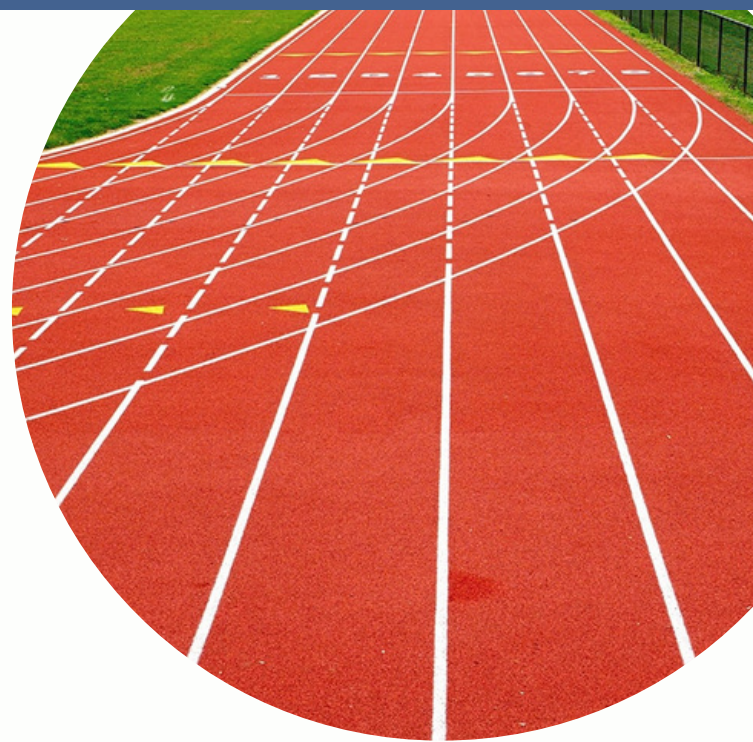
The Movement believes that a government should be efficient, effective, responsive, honest, transparent, and responsible. The Movement is dedicated to good governance, which is defined as responsible behavior in public affairs. A country's business should not be kept hidden, but should be made public. We will ensure that the same approach is used at the NDC or municipal level, including contract issuing and awarding, public infrastructure management, and security.

The Movement will ensure that the public purse is the people's business at all levels of government, not just during budget season. All aspects of good governance are valued by the movement. We will make certain that the culture of these ideals pervades the public administration. The Movement will do the following:

- Demonstrate zero tolerance for unethical conduct.
- Promote and preserve the independence of the local government organs
- Encourage and respect a free press and freedom of expression
- Demonstrate the primary purpose of government is to look after the welfare of the people
- Demonstrate that “power belongs to the people”
- Create community structures to enable participation in the community decision-making processes.
- Be inclusive and consult with all stakeholders.
- Insists on the equitable distribution of public goods and services with consideration for the poor, elderly, and disadvantaged.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## ADVANCING SPORTS & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Guyana has repeatedly demonstrated that it produces outstanding athletes. We thrive in international sports like track and field, cricket, football, boxing, volleyball, chess, and tennis. Sport has demonstrated that it is an integral part of empowering our youth, connecting communities, and instilling a sense of national pride.

The Movement recognizes the importance of a national commitment to expanding sporting possibilities in our communities. We plan to empower young people to lead the revolution in sport and youth development and to convert it into a successful enterprise that will provide opportunities for education, travel, and steady employment for our population.

- Upgrade and implement a local sport policy to guide the planning, development, and administration of all sports in our Local Authority Areas and Municipalities.
- Support and upgrade our existing sporting facilities. We will support Governments investing in state-of-the-art facilities that will benefit all Guyanese.
- Develop a local sports tourism sector.
- Develop and support Communities' sports teams and athletes.
- Empower local government bodies to provide and support athletes financially and educationally.
- Expose our youth to chances offered by the state to instill constructive changes through the world of work, such as time management, acceptable values and habits, and interpersonal connections.
- Support youths in the arts & culture
- Support youths in business
- Give second chance opportunities to all youths who did not complete a primary, secondary, or tertiary education through job sourcing and training.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## SENIOR CITIZENS



The Movement holds on to the strong principle that experienced people must meet youth and will be attending to our senior citizens. As Guyana's population continues to age, senior citizens are playing increasingly important and influential roles in nurturing and preserving the community's heritage and legacy. The Movement believes that our senior citizens continue to provide invaluable experience and insight that can help guide community decisions and initiatives. However, there are also challenges that this fraction of society encounters daily, such as increased demand for healthcare, a lack of exercise, isolation, etc.

### The Movement will see that:

- Senior citizens are represented and given a space where they can relax and socialize.
- Programmes are designed to cater to this invaluable demographic to ensure they are kept safe and healthy.
- Opportunities are created for senior citizens to be able to contribute to the communities in which they live.
- The Movement will partner with Corporate Guyana and the Government of Guyana to raise awareness and recognize the valuable contribution of our senior citizens



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## SMALL BUSINESSES



Small businesses play a crucial role in our economy, and local governments have a significant impact on their success. In many ways, small businesses are the lifeblood of our communities, providing jobs, goods, and services that help to sustain our way of life. However, they often face a variety of challenges that can make it difficult to survive and thrive.

The Movement will ensure that the local government as a unit provides support, resources and training to help small businesses succeed in a 21st Century Competitive Business world.

The Movement will see that:

- Encourage the use of sustainable systems to generate income from the local environment .
- Connecting entrepreneurs to investment opportunities, training programs ,and resources to help grow their small enterprise and to develop new ones.
- Ensure government and international funding support reaches these individuals and provide support where necessary.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## EDUCATION

The Movement believes that education is essential for both young and old citizens alike. Senior citizens, with their wealth of experience and knowledge, can play a critical role in shaping policies and decisions that affect the entire community. As such, efforts to improve access to education for senior citizens can not only benefit them but also the community as a whole.

The Movement believes that:

- By investing in programs and initiatives that encourage lifelong learning, local governments can help ensure that seniors remain engaged with very active members of their communities, bringing their unique perspectives and insights to the forefront.
- Engaging children and teenagers in local government can help instill a sense of civic responsibility and encourage them to be active participants in their communities.
- By offering educational programs that highlight the inner workings of local government and the importance of citizen engagement, young people can gain the skills and knowledge needed to make informed decisions and contribute to positive change.
- Investing in youth education is crucial for creating a strong foundation of engaged and responsible citizens for the future.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## CULTURE & ARTS

Culture plays an important role in shaping small businesses, communities, and the local governments can have a significant impact on fostering a vibrant local culture. Entrepreneurs often draw inspiration and resources from their surrounding cultural communities, and local governments can help support these communities by facilitating connections and providing resources. The Movement believes by investing in local artists, musicians, and other creatives, local government can help build a community that is attractive to both residents and visitors, helping to drive economic growth in the area. This symbiotic relationship between culture and local government can be a powerful force for small businesses and the country's success.

### The Movement believes that:

- By investing in programs and initiatives that encourages and support young budding Artiste, Artists, Designers, Musicians etc.
- Engaging the education system and residents to implement summer classes for children that has interest in this industry.
- By offering educational programs and mentorship that pays recognition to Guyanese who plays an active role in the area of culture.
- By working with civil society groups, NGO's and/or Governmental organization we can collectively come together to strengthen culture and arts policies for communiites.
- If we use the local government platform has a stage for these individuals, we will be able to promote their content at the local level that will further allow them to present their image nationally.
- By partnering with the private sector and government to open public culture & arts spaces for young individuals.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## ENVIRONMENT



In today's world, protecting the environment is becoming increasingly important, and local government plays a crucial role in achieving this goal. Not only do they have the power to ensure that environmental legislation are breached, but they also have the ability to educate citizens on the importance of sustainable practices by working in conjunction with both individuals and businesses. The Movement believes that local governments can help to reduce harmful environmental impacts and promote a healthier, more sustainable future for all.

### The Movement believes that:

- Working along with private entities aimed at decreasing the effects of climate change will increase the community level contributions
- Preservation and implementation of green spaces in each community
- Impliment simple solutions to the difficulties in drainage by using sensitization and collective approaches
- Community identity and beautification initiatives support
- Acknowledging residents who go the extra mile and partnering with corporate Guyana to recognize valuable contributions by residents





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## FAMILY & SOCIAL

Family and local government are two crucial elements in building and maintaining strong, healthy communities. Each plays a unique role in providing support and resources for individuals and families, and when they work together, they can create a powerful network of support that can help to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community.

The Movement believes that the family is the fundamental unit of society, and it plays a vital role in shaping individuals and communities. Families provide emotional support, care, and guidance to their members. They also help to instill values, beliefs, and cultural practices that are essential for the growth and development of individuals. A strong family unit is necessary to promote healthy behaviors, emotional stability, and positive social interactions. Families can also help to bridge gaps in society by providing support to those who may be disadvantaged or marginalized, creating a sense of belonging and community.

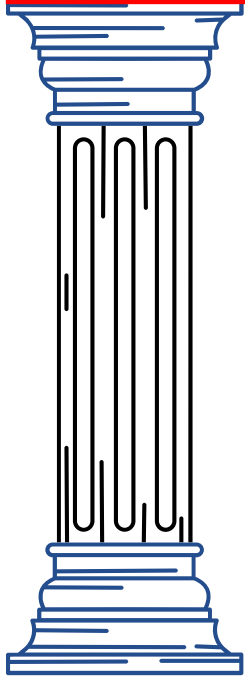
Moreover, the importance of family and local government working together cannot be overstated. Families are the backbone of the community, and they provide the social and emotional support necessary to maintain a healthy and thriving community. Local government, on the other hand, provides the resources and services necessary to create a safe and healthy environment for families to thrive.

### The Movement will:

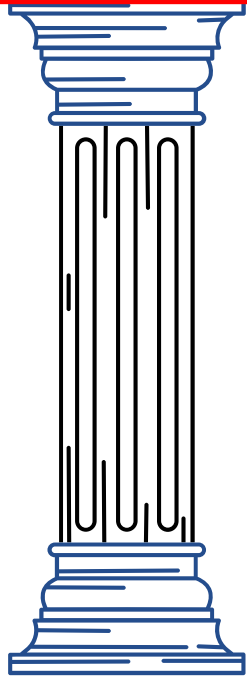
- Contribute to solutions to combat community crimes and delinquency
- Ensure the development of safe family friendly spaces for recreation and fun
- Ensure new and existing social assistance programs for single parents and other vulnerable groups are easily accessible and reaches those in need



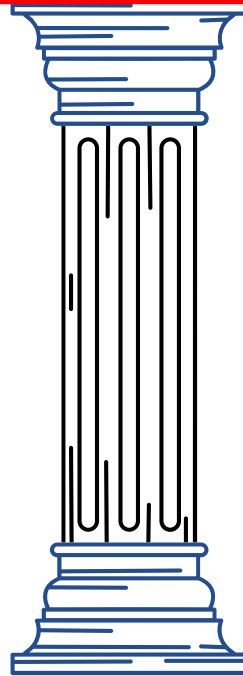
# OUR PILLARS



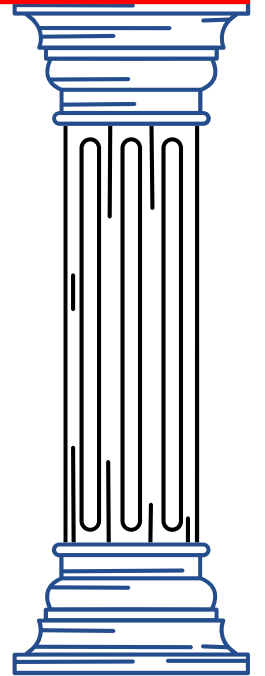
**GOOD GOVERNANCE**  
**ACCOUNTABILITY**  
**TRANSPARENCY**



**POWER TO THE PEOPLE**  
**REPRESENTATION**



**UNITY**



**DEMOCRACY**

**GUYANESE, WE DESERVE MORE, DO NOT SETTLE FOR LESS!**

# THANK YOU



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**The Movement wishes to offer its heartfelt appreciation to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and members for their help in preparing for and leading up to our launch and the Local Government Elections.**

**Your encouragement and conviction in the Movement have provided the Movement with strength and motivation, allowing it to achieve many of its objectives. Your kind words, thoughtful acts, and constant support have truly impacted the Movement's beliefs, and we cannot thank you enough.**

**Guyanese, your willingness to listen, offer counsel, and share your expertise has been crucial to the Movement's establishment. You have always been there for us, whether we were celebrating our triumphs or going through a difficult moment.**

**We appreciate your generosity and kindness more than words can express. Your support has made a significant impact on our principles and work as a Movement, and the Movement will always be grateful for everything you have done.**