

# Reporter

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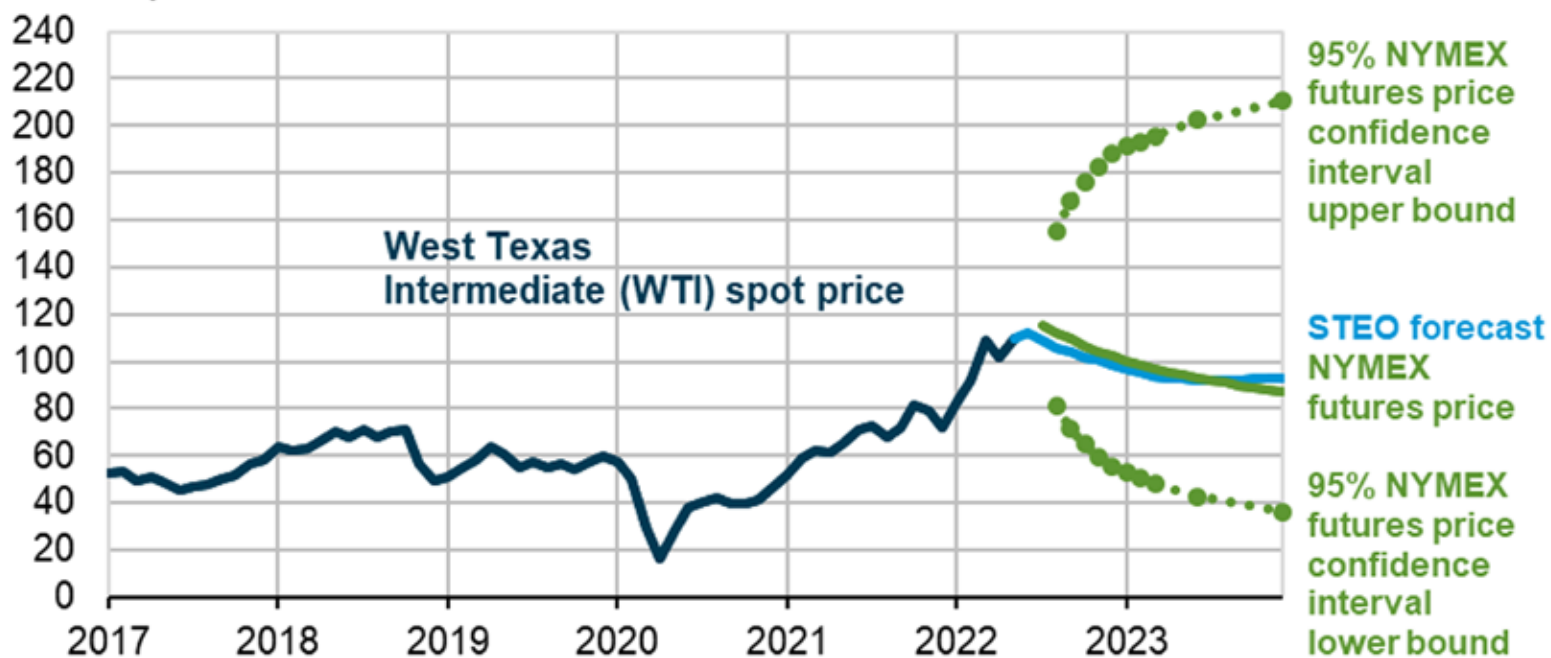
Sunday, July 10th, 2022

Price: \$1.00

## DIRE STRAITS!

Local Economist: GOB may soon be out of options to stabilize Diesel, Regular prices

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil price and NYMEX confidence intervals  
dollars per barrel



Note: Confidence interval derived from options market information for the five trading days ending Jun 2, 2022. Intervals not calculated for months with sparse trading in near-the-money options contracts.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook, June 2022, CME Group, Bloomberg, L.P., and Refinitiv an LSEG Business



Dr. Phillip Castillo

the pump move with the market.

Castillo was speaking to the fact that Government has reduced its excise duty on Diesel fuel to \$0.01, down from the original \$3.57 per imperial gallon. Similarly, the excise on Regular is now at \$0.90, down significantly from where it stood at \$3.95 at the start of the year. As the government explained via various mediums, the reductions in the excise were designed to keep the two fuel products' prices stable.

"As I see it, I accept the dilemma," said Castillo. "I strongly support the mitigation measures. I realize that GOB has limited options. However, as those options are exhausted, they'll have to allow prices for Diesel and Regular to rise if the upward price trend continues globally."

Castillo, an economics lecturer at the University of Belize, indicated that government may be

Pg. 3

## WHERE WAS DANIEL CHI'S VERBAL WARNING?

PSU President: the entire process instituted against the public officer is flawed

Forestry Officer Daniel Chi was, according to the Public Service Regulations, to first have received a verbal warning and an opportunity to correct any alleged minor misconduct, Public Service Union (PSU) President Dean Flowers told The Reporter this week.

Flowers, who informed that they are still awaiting an update on the Public Service Commission's deliberations, stressed that the Regulations is clear as it pertains to the minor misconduct of insubordination: an officer who commits a minor offense must receive a verbal warning of

his conduct.

The regulations go on to state that if that conduct persists, that officer should then be issued a written warning which should then be copied to the

Pg. 4



PSU President Dean Flowers

Poultry Association warns that shop owners are taking advantage of egg price increase



Pg. 2





# Justice

The good news is that after three years of crippling Covid, Belize’s economy (GDP) rose by 5.3 percent during the first quarter of this year.

The period January to June was the best half-year of all time, with exports of \$172 million, 11.7 percent better than the year before.

Belize tripled her exports to Mexico and doubled them to Central America. We produced a 100 percent increase in animal feed exports, a 119 percent increase in molasses sales, a 32 percent increase in marine foods (shrimp and conch and fish), and 16 percent improvement in citrus exports. This was offset by a 6 percent loss to the UK and the European Union.

The bad news is that inflation soared at an unsustainable 6.6 percent, according to the SIB’s statistics for May this year. The problem was and continues to be, among other things, the war in Ukraine which has caused the price of fuel to go through the roof. The table below shows the problem:

Item	Average Price (2021)	Average Price (2022)	% Change
Premium Gasoline	\$11.45	\$14.90	30.2%
Regular Gasoline	\$10.81	\$13.60	25.8%
Diesel	\$10.21	\$13.52	32.4%
Butane (100 lb)	\$114.08	\$144.14	26.3%
Rice	\$1.38	\$1.56	12.6%
Chicken (whole)	\$2.89	\$3.04	5.4%
Pig Tail	\$5.04	\$7.59	50.3%

This data about economic performance and inflation were released recently by the Statistical Institute of Belize. However, the statistics only reflect what Belizean households have been feeling for months, as their dollar loses its purchasing power. This week, elsewhere in The Reporter there is yet another report of another commodity seeing an increase. This time is the Belizean early-morning favorite: eggs.

Dear Sir:

Without the everyday practice of the virtue of JUSTICE life on planet Earth will become increasingly difficult and eventually impossible.

For the past three-quarter century, the countries of Europe, and the others that will call themselves WESTERN CIVILIZATION seem to have become obsessed by the everyday, everywhere insistence on giving me and respecting MY RIGHTS.

But, apparently the most powerful voices of our age have just begun to realize that the very concept of a right is meaningless if it is not conceived as an aspect, or expression of the virtue of justice. And it is like the life-giving sap of a tree energizing every branch, every limb, every leaf. Thus, it may be rightly said that JUSTICE is like the father and mother of rights.

Finally, after almost half a century the judges of the U.S. Supreme Court have publicly recognized the inevitable connection between JUSTICE and right. There can be no right without justice. If expunging a fetus from a woman’s womb consequent upon a free expression of consent to the act of fertilization, which causes the death of the new-life – how can the killing be a right?

When the first Ombudsman of Belize travelled to other lands, he was bombarded with the propaganda about Women’s Rights. He resisted offering the Truth that every right has a corresponding duty and responsibility. This wisdom is implanted on the conscience of every mature man and woman. This is no profound secret! How is it that the original Roe vs Wade Supreme Court judges did not recognize this truth about rights? It could be that their judgement was political rather than legal. And this is why it is necessary for us in Belize right now to insist that judges be wise in the ways of

the Moral Law, which is a persuasive, pervasive twin of the virtue of JUSTICE!

How can our little Belize be expected to do the right thing at this time? We are so small! The PRC is 4 thousand times our size! How can we resist the blandishments of their power financial and military?

This is why I pray daily: God please give MEN and WOMEN who inhale and exhale the fresh breezes of JUSTICE.

This is why I was exultant to hear on early morning 12th November, 2020 that the Belize voters had soundly, convincingly rejected that Red dragon that had consumed our national wealth leaving us almost bankrupt.

So far I have been somewhat pleased at the managerial choices the Prime Minister has made, but I am afraid; for he has not yet made a most crucial choice.

In 2019 when the Chief Justice resigned, I felt relief, for I thought that the returning Prime Minister would at least leave us with a new legal head who would really deserve that her title include the sacred word JUSTICE. No such luck!

I have known Michelle Arana for decades: my daughter and she were classmates at St. Ignatius School. These two girls were blessings to our home and Michelle has the mental brilliance and the moral fortitude that Belize needs at this crucial juncture to make us the greatest little leader of nations. But, now will George Price’s party overlook Michelle as Dean Barrow did?!

I fervently believe that Michelle Arana is the chief Justice that Belize needs today.

May God rest my case!

Signed Paul Rodriguez O.B.E.

## Poultry Association warns that shop owners are taking advantage of egg price increase

This week, the Belize Poultry Association confirmed that the price of eggs has gone up on the wholesale and retail level, but warned that some shopkeepers are price gouging with the retail price.

**The Reporter** spoke with Poultry Association Manager Armando Cowo who explained that a handful of external factors forced poultry producers to adjust the cost of eggs.

Those factors included higher fuel costs, fertilizer costs, and the cost of a key ingredient in animal feed called pre-mix. Cowo said that the pre-mixes are vitamins and minerals mixed into animal feed that are imported from Europe, which was already expensive, but the Russia/Ukraine war has made the situation worse.

A crate of eggs now costs \$105, working out to \$8.75 per carton or about 30 cents per egg wholesale.

"I am aware that some shopkeepers are changing a dollar for two eggs, which I believe is unwarranted," Cowo said. "If I am wholesaling you an egg for 30 cents, why would you sell it for 50 cents. You're making 20 cents. Not even the farmer is making 20 cents."

He went on to explain that the 30 cents wholesale per egg includes freight, transportation, feeding, and paying the workers on the farm. Cowo contends that shopkeepers don't have that kind of overhead. He also noted that Belize consumes a lot of eggs, which some shopkeepers have decided to exploit.

The increase in the cost of eggs is yet another commodity that Belizeans have to endure increasing prices on. The latest data provided from the Statistical Institute of Belize shows that inflation was as high as 5.3 percent for the first five months of 2022. The "food and non-alcoholic beverages" category with prices increasing by 5.4 percent, which saw consumers paying more for items such as meat, cereal products, cooking oils, seafood items, and fresh vegetables and fruits.

The cost of fuel was also up by 17 percent.

### THE REPORTER

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# DIRE STRAITS!

## Local Economist: GOB may soon be out of options to stabilize Diesel, Regular prices

Cont'd from pg. 1

able to tinker with the General Sales Tax (GST) and Environmental Tax, but those are much smaller in terms of their impact. Additionally, the government, via press release, has already told the public that it cannot “afford” an “actual subsidy of the pump prices,” meaning that GOB will not “underwrite any portion of the import acquisition cost.”

*The Reporter* also asked minister of state in the Ministry of Finance Senator Christopher Coye if this possibility was a concern for the ministry. “Yes, the Ministry of Finance is concerned about the continuing rise in acquisition costs,” Coye replied, as he reiterated that the price is driven by external factors beyond local policymakers’ control. Coye, however, expressed hope considering that certain economic factors in the developed markets have helped to soften international prices more recently. “That said, while the Ministry of Finance is hopeful that that scenario [global prices coming down] plays

out, it is still possible that the prices could reverse and start going back up again.”

### The International Outlook

Coye is not alone as it pertains to uncertainty regarding international prices. The US Energy Information Administration (EIA)’s recent price forecast cites “heightened levels of uncertainty resulting from a variety of factors, including Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine.”

Analysts are also highlighting that if the G7 countries implement the proposed cap on the price of Russian oil in an effort to limit Russia’s oil-export revenues, this too could backfire. As reported by Business Insider, RBC Commodities Strategist Helima Croft admonished that such a price cap on Russia oil could lead to Moscow retaliating “by taking more barrels off the market abruptly to drive prices higher.”

The Business Insider reports that, according to JPMorgan analysts, in that [reduced-Russian-oil] situation, oil could skyrocket to as high US\$380 a barrel, up from the EIA’s forecasted



Minister of State Senator Christopher Coye

average for 2022 of US\$107.3 per barrel.

As it stands, the EIA had already upped its average outlook for 2022, with forecast prices for quarters three and four placed originally at US\$103.98 and US\$101.66 per barrel, respectively. The US agency, however, as of last month, revised up its outlook for those latter quarters to US\$111.3 and US\$104.97, respectively.

### Continued Policy Measures

Acknowledging the probability of a worse-case scenario, Coye told *The Reporter* that the government continues to discuss with key “players in the fuel supply chain, specifically, the importer and the gas stations.” According to Coye, the goal is to have these stakeholders share some of the burden by easing some of their charges.

“If successful, this would allow Government a little

additional ‘wiggle room’ to accommodate even further increases in acquisition costs with the intent of maintain the current fixed prices on Diesel and regular gasoline,” Coye shared.

### Other Policy Options

Recognizing the unsustainability of the current fiscal measures, both Castillo and Coye were asked if other options, such as prioritizing targeted policies aimed at augmenting the service capacity, reliability, and quality of the

public transportation system would have been more ideal.

“Government would certainly be open to considering other alternative options,” Coye stated. “[As long as those options] do not further drain the already strained public purse, particularly, where they are targeted to those most adversely affected.”

Castillo, citing some of the longstanding structural constraints in the public transportation sector, was initially less optimistic that even with robust government support and financing, remedies emanating from that sector would be doable within the short-term. However, the economist did concede that there may be some “merit” to an approach that focuses on strengthening public transportation so as to reduce the opportunity cost of commuters choosing the bus over their private vehicles.

For his part, Castillo also underscored that if conditions internationally worsen in terms of international prices, the government would be left with limited options. “It either will have to cut expenditures or borrow, or both.”

**NOTICE OF COMMENCED DISSOLUTION**  
**SeaSky Traders Ltd.**  
**(“the Company”)**  
“Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that **SeaSky Traders Ltd.** a Company incorporated under the IBC Act of Belize commenced dissolution on **16th June 2022.**  
**And**  
**Mr. Jaufre Rouanet, of Office 610, Opal Tower, Business Bay, Dubai- United Arab Emirates, P.O. Box 416634 Dubai** is the liquidator of the company.  
**Frontier International Business Services Limited**  
**Registered Agent**

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“Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the below companies have been dissolved and struck off the International Business Companies Register.  

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>Date of Dissolution</u>
<b>Alpha Partners Limited</b>	<b>24th June 2022</b>
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**VACANCY:** A vacancy exists for a **Warehouse Attendant**. Please contact **Vinod Wadhwani** at **600-1255** for more information.  
**VACANCIES:** Vacancies exists for **Warehouse Assistant** at **Maheeps/Cosmetics Corner**. Please call **227-0145** for more information.



# WHERE WAS DANIEL CHI'S VERBAL WARNING?

## PSU President: the entire process instituted against the public officer is flawed

*Cont'd from pg. 1*

relevant Ministry. Section 83(4) notes that if the officer continues to offend, then disciplinary action may be sought by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), but that officer must first be informed in writing and given an opportunity to defend his/herself before the Public Service Commission gets involved to review the facts of the case.

Flowers explained that that entire process has been ignored, and instead, the government had placed Chi on Administrative Leave, an act for which Flowers say Chi has already been advised as having a solid legal case against the government.

Flowers also underscored the point that the allegations against Chi need to be reviewed. "Mr. Chi could have never hung up as he never had a phone in his hand," the PSU President explained. "The [Prime Minister] was on the phone with Chan's mother in law and the phone was on speaker. Chi's hands were occupied with the illegal species of plant."

"He simply refused to entertain the call and refused to take the phone," Flowers stressed.

Regarding the matter going before the Public Service Commission, Flowers explained that before anything happens, the Commission must communicate to Chi that a report has been received and request a response from him.

In a previous interview, Flowers had described the idea that the Commission would

even be considering disciplinary measures against Chi as "foolishness." Flowers had warned that dismissing Chi over the incident could have "serious financial consequences" for the government and people of Belize.

In mid-April, Chi had seized plants belonging to Diani Chan, owner of "Botanical Gardens by Roselyn" in the Corozal district. The plants reportedly lacked permits required under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). During the exchange, Chan called Briceño who attempted to intervene and direct Chi to cease the seizure of the plants.

If the Commission determines that the officer has indeed consistently engaged in conduct that amounts to a minor offense, it has the option to impose a number of penalties which include: (i) caution; (ii) surcharge; (iii) fine; or (iv) suspension of increment. Alternately, Under Section (c), the commission may "refer the public officer to the following programmes (i) coaching or mentorship

programme; or (ii) employee assistance programme under regulation 206."

Dismissal is notably absent from the list of penalties rolled out

for a minor offense, as is administrative leave. Chi was also placed on leave without a verbal or written warning, and his recommendation

for dismissal came without him being afforded the numerous opportunities for self-correction, prescribed by the Regulations.

The PSU has stated

that it intends to support Chi in seeking legal action if he is unfairly dismissed, but warned that the lawsuit could be "very hefty."

Procedure on minor misconduct.

83. (1) A Chief Executive Officer or head of department shall issue an oral warning to a public officer for minor misconduct under regulation 82(1).


(2) If, after the oral warning a public officer's conduct does not improve, the Chief Executive Officer or head of department shall warn the public officer in writing and the public officer shall, in writing, acknowledge receipt of such warning.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer or head of department may copy the warning issued under subregulation (2) to the Ministry.

(4) Subject to subregulations (1) and (2), where a public officer fails to improve his conduct, the Chief Executive Officer may recommend disciplinary procedures as follows –

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# Tour Operators Get Fuel Subsidy

By Michelle Sutherland

With premium gasoline nearly hitting the \$18 mark and regular and diesel inching closer to \$14 per gallon, several tour and tender operators will be getting much-needed relief at the fuel pumps after they were granted fuel subsidies from the Belize Tourism Board.

The program, valued at one point \$5 million will run for a period of five months and will assist a total of 185 applicants, which represent micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises from across the country. On Thursday of last week, the BTB held a short ceremony at the Government House in Belize City to distribute fuel vouchers to the first 18 recipients and are hoping to distribute the remainder in the



Belize Tourism Board Launches Fuel Subsidiary program for tourism industry.

coming days.

Abil Castaneda, the director of Cruise, Quality Management and Capacity Development, (BTB) told the Reporter, "the fuel subsidy program

that we have put together along with the Government of Belize, valued at 1.5 million dollars, is a program geared towards supporting tour operators

across the country with some partial assistance in an effort to provide some sort of relief from the increase in fuel prices that we are all suffering right now."

Castaneda said that the program was a partnership between the Government of Belize which donated one million dollars and BTB which donated five hundred thousand. Castaneda said that both entities were aware of the plight that tour operators are facing due to the increase in fuel and were of the view that more needed to be done to ensure the continued recovery of the tourism industry in Belize, in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Castaneda said that in April and May of this year the BTB distributed an application form asking interested tour operators to apply for the subsidiary if they were interested. In the questionnaire, applicants were asked to provide information on their fuel consumption levels for

the past and future. Based on the figures submitted Castaneda said that the BTB extracted those data to establish a figure on how the fuel subsidy would be distributed. That has resulted in a minimum fuel subsidy for tour operators starting at \$500 and then based on their consumption that figure would increase.

Castaneda, however, reiterated that they wanted to ensure transparency in the process and as such decided that no cash would be involved. Rather they have set up a fuel card system for tour operators to access at any Shell Gas Station around the county depending on where they are located. On a monthly basis, the recipient of these cards are only allowed to access a particular amount of fuel and once they surpass that amount then the account is locked off until the following month.

For tour operators who do not have access to Shell Gas Stations, they are given vouchers that are assigned to specific gas stations in their area.

They too can only access a particular fuel limit for the month before their accounts are locked off.

But while tour operators are now able to benefit, Minister of Tourism Anthony Mahler said it did not come easy. "I prepared a Cabinet paper and took it to Cabinet. They said we couldn't do anything at that time. So, I doubled back and became more aggressive in my approach with regard to the help for the industry, and thankfully, my colleagues in Cabinet saw the reality. They could feel the reality and we devised a plan to help the country and the main sectors using transportation with some support."

The government also assisted the Public Transportation Industry with fuel subsidy, while an increase in tariffs was approved for water transport. Currently, due to the increased cost of wheat and fuel, the bakers are also requesting assistance from the government.

## Lost or Destroyed Debenture & Share Certificates

July 9, 2022



Notice is hereby given of the loss of the following Debenture Certificates:

Name	Debenture Certificate No.
Roger Wright and/or Derron Wright	Series 4 #0004
Ron, Faith and Henry Cunningham For (Bernard Cunningham) Estate	Series 5 #0180 & 0053
Ron, Faith and Henry Cunningham For (Bernard Cunningham) Estate	Series 6 #0029-003, 0059-0065, 0068

It is proposed to cancel the above Debenture Certificates after the expiration of twenty-one (21) days from the appearance of this notice.

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Finance Department  
Belize Electricity Limited  
2 ½ Miles Philip S. W. Goldson Highway

Phone: 501.227.0954 Ext: 1512 | Email: debentures@bel.com.bz





# The Righters Write

## Article 14: Right to Asylum

Contributed by the Human Rights Commission

Taken from: Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70: 30 Articles on 30 Articles, 2018

In 1950, two years after the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), it created the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The agency was to have three years to help the millions of Europeans who had fled or lost their homes during the Second World War, and then was to be disbanded.

Decades later, the UN Refugee Agency is still in business, and the number of displaced people in the world is over 68 million. Of that total, 25 million are refugees – people fleeing conflict or persecution – who have crossed an international border, while 40 million are displaced within their own country. The remainder are asylum-seekers – people who may, or may not, ultimately be determined to be refugees.

Article 14 of the UDHR grants the right to seek and enjoy asylum from persecution. This right, in addition to the right to leave one’s own country (Article 13), and the right to nationality (Article 15), can be traced directly to events of the Holocaust. Many countries whose drafters worked on the UDHR were acutely aware that they had turned away Jewish refugees, likely condemning them to death. In addition, many Jews, Roma and others hunted by the Nazis had been unable to leave Germany to save their lives.

Under the umbrella of Article 14, more fully articulated in the 1951 Refugee Convention, over the decades millions of people have been given life-saving protection as refugees, been able to rebuild their lives and often have gone home again once the danger has passed. Many have also been resettled in generous third countries, where they use their skills to contribute to their new homelands. And some can settle permanently in the countries where they found refuge, like more than 170,000 Burundians who fled the country in 1972 and received Tanzanian citizenship in what is believed to be the world’s biggest naturalization of refugees.

“We can’t deter people fleeing for their lives. They will come. The choice we have is how well we manage their arrival, and how humanely.”

-UN Secretary-General António Guterres

The right to seek asylum is not unfettered. Article 14 makes it clear people cannot be granted asylum simply to avoid prosecution for “non-political crimes or acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.” So war criminals, and those guilty of a crime against the peace or a crime against humanity, do not qualify for asylum.

Cross-border displacement – including migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees – has become hugely controversial around the world in recent years. In order to exercise the right articulated in Article 14, people have to actually enter another country, and today countries all over the world are slamming the doors shut, keeping out refugees and other migrants with barbed-wire fences, walls and armies.

Advocates say people flee – and will continue to flee – because of the dangers behind them, regardless of the dangers and obstacles that lie ahead. Despite efforts to erect a “Fortress Europe,” refugees and migrants continue to

risk their lives in unseaworthy boats, trying to cross the Mediterranean to Europe. Since 2014, every year at least 3,000 have lost their lives in this way, and in 2016 nearly 5,000 people died at sea. Many others perish during overland journeys.

People on the move are also at considerable risk from those who prey on their vulnerability, including state authorities who try to profit from, rather than protect, them, as well as unscrupulous people smugglers who treat fellow humans as highly profitable commodities as they try to circumvent land and sea borders.

“We commit to a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world’s refugees.”

–UN General Assembly, Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, 19 September 2016

Countries have the right to control their borders. However, as the UN has been pointing out for years, an orderly migration

system grounded in the human rights principles enshrined in the UDHR, would not only address countries’ legitimate security concerns, but would also honour the rights that belong to both refugees and migrants.

In 2016, the 193 member states of the United Nations unanimously adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants to protect those forced to flee, and support countries that shelter them. It paved the way for the adoption of two new global compacts in 2018: a global compact on refugees, and a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Many people who have clear protection needs, and leave their homes for reasons beyond their control, are not granted asylum because they do not fall under the accepted definition of ‘refugee.’ So-called ‘climate refugees’ are a good example of today’s

Cont’d on pg. 7



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## The Righters Write

# Article 14: Right to Asylum

protection gaps and challenges. It is not clear how many people have been displaced across borders by climate change, but statistics on internal displacement are illustrative. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre estimates that from 2008-2016, weather-related disasters displaced, on average, 21.7 million people within their own countries every year. This does not include problems that build more slowly because of more insidious forms of climate change, such as rising sea levels, ground water turning salty, or farming and grazing land turning into deserts.

Similarly, people displaced by famine are in many cases not considered refugees within the definition of the 1951 Refugee Convention, or the various expanded forms of refugee protection. Yet clearly, they are in need of protection and assistance – and if they cannot get it at home, they have no option but to go abroad.

The Global Compact for Migration calls on countries to “cooperate to identify, develop and strengthen solutions for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin owing to slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation.” For such people not able to return to their home country, solutions envisioned in the Compact include planned relocation and new visa options.

**Disclaimer: the opinions expressed by our columnists are theirs alone, and are not necessarily reflective of the newspaper's stance on the issues touched. We believe it is critical that our columnists be allowed freedom to generate discussion through their expressions on any number of topics.**

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and  
Read*



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# GRASSROOTS

## Giving Back



By Hon. Gilroy Usher

“Opportunities don’t happen. You create them.”- Chris Grosser

On Thursday July 7th, 2022 on behalf of Hon. Rodwell Ferguson Minister of State for Youth, Sports, and Transport, who is abroad on government business and yours truly Hon. Gilroy Usher Minster of State for Youth, Sports, and Transport, this writer extended a warm welcome to the athletes, parents, and other invited guests at the Football Federation of Belize (FFB) in Belmopan for the awarding of over a dozen athletic scholarships to several Belizeans youths ,who have excelled in both their academic studies and football.

It was a historic occasions for both the FFB and the country. It’s the first time the FFB has used its resources and connections to offer Belizeans scholarships to advance their education. The Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Transport has contributed to the initiative and supports it the 200%.

The FFB awarded a total of sixteen scholarships to five female and 11 male football players ages 16 to 22. The recipients will study and participate in football programs some the most prestigious universities in the United States, that is well known as the land of opportunities. The scholarships will allow the athletes to further their education from Associates degree to the Masters level in a number of fields at a cost of thousands of dollars that is beyond the reach of many deserving Belizeans. Some athletes with be on partial scholarships which covers mainly tuition; other athletes will be on full scholarships that cover everything including tuition, books, and boarding. To maintain a scholarship, good grades

for academic subjects and football are mandatory for each athlete every semester.

In speaking at the ceremony this writer was happy to inform everyone that as a result of a request from the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Transport the Ministry of Education has committed to providing the athletes on partial scholarships with a \$300.00 US subsidy every month starting January 2023.

By making the scholarships available the FFB has demonstrated to the youths of this country in a tangible way that in addition to learning valuable life skills and having fun in playing football, they can also be the beneficiaries of great opportunities to further their education, which will enable them to be in better positions to pursue their dreams in life and uplift their families.

This writer most likely was only able to give some remarks at the important ceremony as the Minster of State for Youth, Sports, and Transport and Area Representative for Port Loyola, because years ago I was given the opportunity to further my education beyond the primary school level at St. John’s Junior College (S.J.C.) by Fr. Simms, who was a very kind Catholic priest in the Belize River valley.

This writer passed the then Primary School Exam (PSE) with a score of 50. In those days a score of 50 was called scaped dog as it was the minimum score to be accepted at a high school. Although this writer had scraped dog passing his (PSE) he still had a problem getting into high school of his choice. This writer wanted to attend St. John’s College High School (S.J.C.) ,which was and is still one of the top high schools in the country, but which at the time generally only accepted students with a score of 60 and above on the Primary School Examination. Aware of the value of education in overcoming poverty and uplifting oneself and also aware that this writer’s grandparents sent him to

the Catholic Church in the village every Sunday, Fr. Simms gave this writer one of five spaces he could fill at S.J.C. and the rest is history.

That brief story was told to illustrate the impact the scholarship from the FFB can have in making many things possible in the lives of the recipients. All the athletes were, therefore, urged to take full advantage of the opportunity offered to them by the scholarship drive.

*Confident of the full support of the FFB and the Government of Belize, this writer urged all of the recipients of the scholarships not to add to the brain drain at the completion of yours studies, but instead return home to help build a nation that all Belizeans are happy to call home.*

Several speakers reminded the athletes that studying abroad often requires tremendous sacrifice, but for the benefit of themselves, their sport, their families, and the country they need to hang-in-there until it’s their graduation day.

The athletes were also reminded that if they succeeded in that endeavour many football players from primary school upwards would be motivated to study hard and excel in the sport to qualify as recipients of future scholarships from the FFB. If the athletes make as success of the scholarship opportunities that would also motivate the FFB to expand its scholarship drive for the greater good of young footballer players and the entire nation.

One of the things that has affected development in the country is the brain drain. This is especially hurtful to the nation when Belizeans, who are given scholarships and other opportunities to study overseas by the government or organizations such as the FFB choose to remain abroad after completing their studies instead of returning home to use their newly acquired knowledge to aid in the development of the nation.

The achievements of Belize are many, but so are the challenges in building a better nation.

Confident of the full support of the FFB and

the Government of Belize, this writer urged all of the recipients of the scholarships not to add to the brain drain at the completion of yours studies, but instead return home to help build a nation that all Belizeans are happy to call home.

One of the goals of a better education should always be the furtherance of brotherly love- upliftment of one’s family and community. As one makes headway in life one should remember to give back to the family and the community.

In the past those who were the beneficiary of

higher education, which resulted in better salaries and other opportunities for a better life, made every effort to assist their family members and their community as much as

possible.

With little income from ageing grandparents, when access to education beyond the primary school level enabled my eldest brother, the late Herbert Blades, to secure employment as a primary school teacher, he used his small monthly salary to assist with the payment of my school fees at S.J.C., and he participated in numerous activities to improve his home village.


In speaking directly to the recipients of the scholarships from the FFB, which will cost over \$800,000.00 yearly, this writer challenged them in saying, “You know your family situation and your community. After completing your studies use your increase knowledge, salaries, and other opportunities to assist your children or siblings in getting a better education. Additionally use your increase knowledge and opportunities to offer advice or assistance if possible to one or more of the many at risk youths in

the country particularly in Belize City.

Such undertakings by yourselves, though small, will go a long way in empowering your children, your siblings, or at risk youths in the nation to be law abiding and productive members of the society.”

In concluding his remarks at the scholarship award ceremony, this writer urged all other sports in Belize to do everything possible to build strong organizations life the FFB. With that success they will also be able to offer scholarships and other opportunities to their players, which will attract more dedicated players to their organizations.

**Disclaimer: the opinions expressed by our columnists are theirs alone, and are not necessarily reflective of the newspaper’s stance on the issues touched. We believe it is critical that our columnists be allowed freedom to generate discussion through their expressions on any number of topics.**



BELIZE WATER SERVICES LIMITED

TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF LONG REACH HEAVY DUTY EXCAVATOR, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE

INVITATION TO BID

BWS invites sealed bids from interested parties and qualified Bidders for the Supply of a Long Reach Heavy Duty Excavator to BWS, Belize City, Belize.

Consideration will be limited to manufacturers/authorized dealers or joint ventures of firms which are legally incorporated or otherwise organised in Belize. Having a service center in Belize will be an asset

Eligible bidders will be required to submit full qualification information with their bids establishing their eligibility to bid and qualification to perform the contract if the bid is accepted. Tender and qualification information are to be submitted in the English Language on the prescribed forms inserted in the Bid Documents. Submissions that do not provide the information required or that do not demonstrate the prospective contractor’s ability to perform satisfactorily, will not qualify and will not be considered for further evaluation.

Bid documents will be available for distribution from **July 11, 2022**, on weekdays between 08:00 hour and 17:00 hour Monday to Friday. A complete set of Bidding documents will be available for free; however, requests should be made by email to [tenders@bws.com.bz](mailto:tenders@bws.com.bz).

One original and two copies of Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope, with the name and address of the bidder, and be clearly marked “**Tender for Supply of a Long Reach Heavy Duty Excavator**” and must be delivered to the address below no later than 15:00 hour, Friday July 29, 2022.

BWS reserves the right to accept or reject any bid or to annul the process and reject all bids, at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected prospective bidder(s) or any obligation to inform the affected prospective bidder(s) of the grounds for BWS action. BWS will not defray any costs incurred by any bidder in the preparation of bids. Late bids will be rejected.

Address for Bid Submission

Chief Financial Officer  
Belize Water Services Limited  
#7 Central American Boulevard  
Belize City, Belize

Telephone: +501-222-4757  
Email: [tenders@bws.com.bz](mailto:tenders@bws.com.bz)



*By Michelle Sutherland*

Quite interestingly, Major's family had contracted the service of now police minister Hon. Kareem Musa who came out strongly against the excessive use of police force at the time.

**Chief Environmental Officer  
Department of the Environment  
1st Floor, Green Building Complex  
7552 Hummingbird Highway  
Belmopan, Cayo District, Belize**



# EXCLUSIVE WTO faces new battle over COVID tests, drugs

By Emma Farge

GENEVA, July 7 (Reuters) - Less than a month after a hard-won deal was reached on a partial waiver of intellectual property rights for COVID-19 vaccines, a fresh battle may be looming at the World Trade Organization over extending the waiver to treatments and tests.

The June deal includes an agreement to debate waiving certain IP rights for tests and drugs, which the pharmaceutical industry says could lead to a broader unraveling of protections for treatments for other diseases

A group of six countries has set a six-month time frame for securing an agreement to extend the partial IP waiver, according to a document seen by Reuters.

"Extension of the policy tools... to therapeutics and diagnostics will help developing countries to address IP barriers to the expansion and diversification of production," said the document, backed by India, South Africa, Pakistan, Indonesia, Egypt and Tanzania.

"This will increase the accessibility of these crucial life-saving COVID-19 tools."

The document, shared with other WTO members, foresees a decision by the WTO's top decision-making body, the General Council, in November or December.

AWTO spokesperson was not immediately available for comment.

Three trade sources who attended a closed-door meeting on Wednesday said that developed countries including the United States, have not yet set their positions.

One source said there was a potential for renewed conflict between wealthy countries, which opposed a full waiver on the grounds that it would restrict research and investment, and proponents such as India and South Africa.

"There is going to be a massive battle," said the Geneva-based ambassador

who declined to be named, adding some countries had agreed to the partial waiver only because of the possibility of it being extended.

PANDORA'S BOX?

For opponents, the stakes are higher than ever.

Many COVID drugs and tests are also used for other diseases. Research from science information and analytics company Airfinity showed that 63 current COVID tests can be used for other infectious diseases such as flu, while 123 COVID treatment projects are being used for 95 other infectious diseases.

"It's a Pandora's box and sends completely the wrong signal for future pandemic preparedness," said Thomas Cueni, head of global pharmaceutical industry group IFPMA, adding it would undermine quality control and incentives for research.

"It is a coalition of countries who are fundamentally opposed to IP and they are trying to set a precedent to undermine (it)," he added.

Advocates said a broader agreement would be much more meaningful than the June deal that they argue is largely symbolic since demand for COVID vaccines has plummeted and many countries are destroying unused stockpiles.

Anna Marriott, policy lead for the People's Vaccine Alliance and health policy manager at Oxfam, said a waiver to cover tests and treatments could make a significant difference. She too expected a "fight" ahead.

"Big pharma won't want to give up their chance to charge eye-watering prices for COVID-19 treatments," she added.

Initial negotiations over the COVID waiver began in October 2020 but deadlocked because the WTO relies on consensus among its 164 members to take any decision.

WTO Director-

General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala helped overcome the stalemate by calling for a parallel set of "quad" talks between four parties: India, South Africa, the United States and the European Union.

It remains to be seen whether she will use her convening powers this time.

The debate over the vaccines waiver was at times acrimonious, with campaign groups and poorer countries heavily critical of wealthy countries.

The United States, which initially opposed the waiver but then switched positions, has previously indicated that it would only consider one limited to vaccines.

**RF&G LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.**


Date: July 4, 2022

Neima Pineda of *8<sup>th</sup> Street, San Ignacio, Belmopan City, Cayo District, Belize C.A.* having made written declaration that Policy BG 03031 under RF&G Life Insurance Company Ltd has been lost and having made request to the Company for a duplicate of the Policy, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date herein, the requested duplicate policy will be issued.

**RF&G LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.**

Date: July 4, 2022

Ricardo Escalante of *#14 Garden City Plaza, Belmopan City, Cayo District, Belize C.A.* having made written declaration that Policy A9800074 under RF&G Life Insurance Company Ltd has been lost and having made request to the Company for a duplicate of the Policy, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date herein, the requested duplicate policy will be issued.



**Belize Water Services**

#7 Central American Blvd  
Belize City, Belize

+501-222-4757 Ext. 1408

pr@bws.com.bz

www.bws.bz

No.: 202206-24-1

**NOTICE TO MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**  
Notice is hereby given that the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of Belize Water Services Limited (BWS) will be held at the Belize Civic Center on Friday, August 19, 2022 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

BWS shareholders or their authorized proxies, who wish to join virtually, must pre-register via email to shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday August 17, 2022. Kindly provide us with your full name and contact details. Upon registration, the shareholder will receive an email with further instructions.

Shareholders who plan to attend in person, must bear in mind that COVID protocols will be observed to ensure the safety of those in attendance. Shareholders who are unable to attend and do not wish to appoint a proxy, may submit written questions to shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday August 18, 2022.


**DIVIDENDS:**  
The Board of Directors of BWS is pleased to announce dividends of 7.5 cents (\$0.075) per share (equivalent to 5%) for the year ending March 31, 2022.

Shareholders are reminded that this year's dividend payments are being paid via direct deposit to your bank or credit union account. If you have not yet provided BWS with your banking information, please email, call or WhatsApp message us to obtain the banking update form. The completed form must be returned to BWS no later than Friday July 22, 2022. Direct Deposit payments will be processed by August 12, 2022.

For shareholder information, kindly contact us at:  
**Email:** shareholderinfo@bws.com.bz; **Telephone:** +501-222-5155; or send a **WhatsApp** message to 613-5382.

**BWS – Delivering Water and More ...**  
For more information regarding this or any other BWS Release, please contact:  
Public Relations at Tel: 222-4757 Ext. 1408  
or via e-mail at pr@bws.com.bz





# VACANCY NOTICE

## LEGISLATURE- NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Applications are invited from suitable qualified persons to fill the vacant position of

### PARLIAMENTARY OFFICER I.

In accordance with the National Assembly Staff Act, Chapter 14 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, the Parliamentary Officer I is a staff appointed under section 6 of the said Act. Also subject to Section 4, the **STAFF** of the **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY** are not governed by the Public Service Regulation.

#### Duties

The essential duties of the **PARLIAMENTARY OFFICER I** are as follows:

- General typing of letters and memos, including correspondences relating to Members and staff travels;
- Provide secretarial services for Members;
- Transcribe, edit and compile verbatim of House, Senate and Committee meetings;
- Compile speeches of Members of the House and the Senate;
- Amend Clerk’s and Deputy Clerk’s Law Books up to the month after the publication of a new Act;
- Prepare Orders of the Day for the House of Representatives;
- Prepare Prime Minister’s, Speaker’s and Deputy Speaker’s Notes;
- Prepare Notices and Communiqués for House meetings;
- Prepare Members’ question;
- Prepare Minutes of House Sittings;
- Prepare draft Bills for Printers to print and publish in Bill form;
- Prepare Reports and Minutes of House Committee meetings;
- Co-ordinate with the Deputy Clerk on all matters relating to the sitting of the House;
- Attend to visitors to the National Assembly;
- Assist in the preparation of Sessional Papers for House meetings;
- Assist with preparations for conferences, seminars, and meetings;
- Any other duties assigned from time to time.

#### Minimum Qualifications and Skills

The candidates should possess the following qualifications and skills:

(a)

- Associate Degree in General Studies or Secretarial Studies. A minimum of three (3) years of legislative work experience will be an asset.
- Verse and experience with the use of Microsoft Office software.
- Experience and verse in using virtual meeting platforms such as Teams/Google Meet/Zoom/etc.
- English Language CXC General Proficiency I/II/III passes or equivalent.
- Evidence of professionalism and ability to prepare notes for the various principals in the Senate and House.

(b)

Good knowledge of practice and procedure of the National Assembly. Have general knowledge of the functions of various government ministries/departments. Computer literate and proficient in the application of word processing and spreadsheet. Aptitude Good learning abilities, general clerical knowledge, verbal and writing ability in English. Have good public relations skills and be professional.

(c)

The applicant must be a person of integrity and good standing with no criminal record.

#### Salary

Equivalent to Government’s Payscale 9.

#### Deadline for applications

Interested persons in possession of the requisite qualifications and experience should submit their application, along with a copy of qualification/s and a recent Police Record to the **Clerk, National Assembly, Belmopan**, no later than **29th July 2022**.

\*\*\*

# Government Mitigating Impacts of Fuel Prices

*Belmopan. July 6th, 2022. 1:35 p.m.*

The Government of Belize reiterates the various steps Cabinet has taken to cushion increases in the imported price of fuel products, which has risen substantially as a consequence of, among other developments, the war in Ukraine.

Firstly, while the acquisition costs of fuel have increased more than 300% since November 2020, Government has substantially mitigated that increase by fixing prices on diesel and regular gasoline since March and dramatically reducing import duties on such fuels. At November 2020 and continuously for years before that, excise tax on diesel and regular gasoline was \$2.97 and \$3.29 per gallon, respectively. Today, those taxes have been reduced by virtually 100% and 77% respectively down to less than one cent and 75 cents per gallon.

Secondly, government has actively engaged with Puma Belize Ltd., the national fuel importer, to ensure that fuel product prices are the lowest possible prices. In addition, as a burden sharing effort, government is negotiating for temporary reductions to certain importer and dealer margins to allow government to accommodate even further increases in acquisition costs at the current fixed prices on diesel and regular gasoline.

Thirdly, government has expanded its fuel cost relief programs, originally including key foreign currency-earning sectors such as sugar and banana, to include tourism operators. Government is also now subsidizing the cost of public transportation. Naturally, as the import duties on fuel products have been reduced for everyone, the relative value to these sectors of these subsidies has dropped in tandem.

Year to date, the value of import duty reductions has totaled almost \$9 million. At this rate, by year end, budget funding from fuel duties will have been reduced by \$20 million. This represents a loss to government of \$55,000 per day.

So long as the imported fuel price allows, government will continue to hold diesel and regular gasoline prices at their current levels, in spite of the revenue losses. What government is absolutely unable to afford is an actual subsidy of pump prices: that is, for government to underwrite any portion of the import acquisition cost. Such a step would wreck the budget, put at risk public officers’ salaries and pensions, adversely affect the provision of essential public services including health, education and social protection, and ultimately, flout a debt surge and devaluation.

The government will continue its engagements with stakeholders – consumer groups, the importer, dealers, and others – seeking to keep prices down, encourage efficiency and support targeted relief for key sectors.

## Weh Wi Ga Fi Seh

Kip op yu helt! Stay pahn di lukowt!

### Fos Kwaata a di Mont

Wan week don flai paas eena Jooai. Kwaata a di mont don gaan. Tudeh, wi disaid fi shyaa wid unu sohn a di wod dehn fahn di Kriol-Inglish dikshineri weh staat wid di “kw” spelin. Den da di payj Batam, wi shyaa sohnting bowt maablz.

*Aal dehnya sentens kohn fahn di Kriol-Inglish dikshineri. Memba seh dat yu ku chek owt di Kriol-Inglish dikshineri **FREE FREE** da: <https://www.sil.org/resources/archives/10602>*

**kwaat** *n.* quart. **Mi onkl jrink dong wahn hoal kwaat a rom wan lik.** My uncle drank down an entire quart of rum all at once. *See: almoood.*

**kwaata** *n.* quarter. **Mayvis oanli gi mi kwaata a di mango.** Mavis gave me only a quarter of the mango.

**kwaharin** *v.* chicle process; to stir the chicle to prevent it from boiling over.

**kwail** *v.* coil, curl, wind up. **Wi fain di lee bwai kwail op rait eena di kaana.** We found the boy curled up in the corner. *See: roal.*  
— *n.* coil. **Di roap wahn eeziya fi put op if yu roal it eena wahn kwail.** The rope will be easier to put away if you roll it into a coil.

**kwaiyan** *n.* shining metal marble valued as a taw\*because of its weight.  
*Vee memba gud gud wan di wach dehn lee bwai play maablz wen Ah da-mi lee gyal. Ah wanda if dehn lee bwai ahn gyal stil laik play maablz tudeh day? Ha! Maybi dehn ga wahn Intanet maablz gaym!*

**\*taa** *n.* taw, main marble used in shooting in the game of marbles. **Yestudeh dehn win mi priti taa fahn mi eena maabl gaym.** Yesterday they won my

Silvaana Udz, Ed.D da fahn Bileez. If yu waahn tel shee bowt sohnting speshal fu put eena dis Kriol aatiki, eemayl: [sudz142@gmail.com](mailto:sudz142@gmail.com) **Vizit: [www.nationalkriolcouncil.org](http://www.nationalkriolcouncil.org)**



# G20 economies show restraint in use of trade restrictions amidst ongoing instability

By WTO

G20 economies continued to exercise restraint in the use of trade-restrictive measures despite increasing economic uncertainty aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, according to the 27th WTO Trade Monitoring Report on G20 trade measures issued on 7 July. WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala called on G20 countries, and WTO members at large, to show that the international community can work together to de-escalate tensions and ensure a solid economic recovery.

"This report arrives at a time when the world economy faces several challenges. As we continue to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine has created a humanitarian crisis of immense proportions with serious implications for millions of people, especially with respect to their food security. It is in this context of economic and trade uncertainty that G20 economies must show restraint in implementing trade-restrictive measures and exercise leadership in supporting open and mutually beneficial trade," DG Okonjo-Iweala said.

The G20 Trade Monitoring Report makes reference to the recent WTO 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) on 12-17 June, which secured unprecedented multilaterally negotiated outcomes.

"At MC12 we saw that, with the requisite political will, the international community can secure outcomes on a wide range of issues and react to the world's most pressing issues, especially when global solutions are necessary to respond to the pandemic and food insecurity, tackle environmental challenges, and foster greater socioeconomic inclusion. I urge the G20 to build on this momentum to de-escalate trade tensions to spur investment, growth and job creation," noted DG Okonjo-Iweala.

During the review period covered by the report (mid-October 2021 to mid-May 2022), the estimated trade coverage of the regular import-facilitating measures introduced by G20 countries (USD 581.5 billion) far exceeded the trade coverage of import-restrictive measures (USD 18.2 billion).

The early part of the review period provided some encouraging news for a post-pandemic economic recovery, but the Omicron variant outbreak and the conflict in Ukraine had a significant impact on trade flows as result of specific trade-related measures adopted in response to the crises.

The Omicron outbreak saw COVID-19 cases and deaths rise sharply in the first quarter of 2022 and, more recently, stringent lockdowns in China disrupted production and trade at a time when supply pressures appeared to be easing. The report indicates the lockdowns could lead to renewed shortages of intermediate and final goods, aggravating supply chain problems and inflationary pressures.

During the review period, twelve COVID-19 measures on goods were communicated by G20 economies, primarily amendments of existing measures originally implemented in the early stages of the pandemic or the termination of others.

Similarly, the flow of new COVID-19-related support measures by G20 economies to mitigate

Con'td on pg. 13



## NOTICE

Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) is pleased to announce the holding of an Extraordinary General Meeting at **BEL Corporate Headquarters, 2 ½ Miles Philip Goldson Highway, Belize City, Belize on Thursday, July 14, 2022 commencing at 2:00 p.m.**

Shareholders or their proxies are invited to participate virtually by pre-registering at the Company's website at **[www.bel.com.bz/EGM](http://www.bel.com.bz/EGM)**. Shareholders will be asked to provide their contact information along with an electronic copy of a valid identification (ID) such as their Social Security card.

Shareholders are invited to appoint a proxy as permitted under the Company's Articles of Association or can choose to appoint the Company's CEO or the Corporate Secretary as proxy to represent you at the EGM. Furthermore, the Company will provide virtual access to the meeting for shareholders and proxies.

Pre-registration for virtual attendance commences on **Wednesday, July 6, 2022 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13, 2022**. Shareholders may do so either by visiting the Company's website at **[www.bel.com.bz/EGM](http://www.bel.com.bz/EGM)** or by contacting BEL's Securities Officer at 227-0954 extension 1512 for assistance.



# G20 economies show restraint in use of trade restrictions amidst ongoing instability

*Con'td from pg. 12*

the social and economic impacts of the pandemic significantly decreased over the past seven months. In the services sectors no new COVID-19-related measures were reported during the review period, but many measures introduced in 2020 were still in force and others were extended.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic in early 2020, 156 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures in goods have been implemented by G20 economies. Of these, 113 (72 per cent) were of a trade facilitating nature, with an estimated trade coverage of USD 111.8 billion. Forty-three (28 per cent) could be considered trade restrictive with an estimated trade coverage of USD 95.7 billion.

Export restrictions accounted for 93 per cent of all restrictive measures implemented, and more than half of them were phased out during the review period, meaning that 19 export restrictions remained in place.

The war in Ukraine was another factor weighing on trade during the review period. The Secretariat identified 14 export restrictive measures put in place by five G20 economies during the

review period in response to the conflict. These included quotas, temporary bans, or technical and administrative requirements limiting exports (or re-exports) of a wide range of agricultural commodities such as wheat, cereals, sunflower seeds, sunflower oil and other vegetable oils, soybean products, sugar, and flour. Various fuel products and fertilizers were also subject to export restrictions.

In addition, eight import facilitating measures adopted by ten G20 members were identified by the Secretariat during the review period in response to the conflict, including the reduction and/or elimination of import tariffs and other duties as well as the removal of import quotas on various agricultural commodities (including wheat, rice, flour, edible oils, cereals, and meats) and on fuel products. Five G20 economies suspended tariffs on all imports from Ukraine.

According to the Secretariat's preliminary estimates, the trade coverage of the export restrictive measures taken by G20 economies in response to the conflict (excluding sanctions), was estimated at USD 52.2 billion. The trade coverage of import facilitating measures was at USD 28.7 billion.

The report also refers to 43 specific trade and trade-related sanctions in the area of trade in goods, and 36 in the area of services, imposed on the Russian Federation by G20 economies. In the area of intellectual property, several G20 economies implemented measures and sanctions that might indirectly affect the maintenance and licensing of intellectual property rights (IPRs).

Overall, the Trade Monitoring Report notes that the stockpile of G20 import restrictions in force has grown steadily since 2009 – both in value terms and as a percentage of world imports. By mid-May 2022, 10.9 per cent of G20 imports were affected by import restrictions implemented by G20 economies since 2009 and which remain in force.

With regard to trade remedy initiations, the average number in the reporting period was the lowest since 2012 after reaching a peak in 2020. The report indicates that trade remedy actions remain an important trade policy tool for G20 economies, accounting for 46% of all non-COVID-19 related trade measures on goods recorded.

The WTO trade monitoring reports have been prepared by the WTO Secretariat since 2009. G20 members are: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; China; the European Union; France; Germany; India; Indonesia; Italy; Japan; the Republic of Korea; Mexico; the Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; South Africa; Türkiye; the United Kingdom; and the United States.





### Belize Sugar Industries Ltd.

Invites qualified and self-motivated individuals to submit applications for the post of:

## Customs Broker

at Belize City location

The **Customs Broker** is responsible to analyze and prepare customs documentation and ensure that shipments meet all applicable laws and regulations to facilitate the import and exports of goods. This role is also responsible to support logistics operations for delivery of goods.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- Minimum Associates Degree in General Studies, Business Administration or Management
- Must be a Certified/Licensed Customs Broker and a member in good standing of the Belize Customs Brokers Association
- Hold a Valid Belize Driver License
- Fluent in Spanish is an asset

**Skills and Competencies:**

- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Demonstrate ability to work independently and be a team player
- Adaptable, dependable and organized
- Ability to multitask and prioritize tasks and able to deliver on an urgency level
- Excellent negotiating skills
- Excellent verbal and written communication and relationship skills to deal with third party agencies
- Advanced skills in Microsoft Suite
- Minimum 2 years previous experience as a Customs Broker

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Examine product information to ensure compliance with local regulations
- Prepare customs entry and arrange for payment of taxes and duties on shipments/calculate duties and tariffs applicable for payment
- Prepare and process import and export documentation according to customs regulation, laws and procedures
- Coordinate with local agents to monitor and trace all incoming shipments via air, road or ocean and update end users

**Application Form along with a Résumé and two references should be submitted to:**

Human Resources Manager  
P.O. Box 29, Tower Hill, Orange Walk  
Or email  
HR.Belize@asr-group.com



**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS IS JULY 18, 2022**

## Ex-COLA President Now Employed Out of PM's Office

By Michelle Sutherland



Geovanni Brackett

Former COLA President Geovanni Brackett is the new information consultant operating out of the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), a leaked memo written by Financial Secretary Joseph Waight confirmed this week.

The memo, dated March 21st, 2022, informed that since February 1st, 2022 Brackett, has been working from out of the OPM. It also confirmed that Brackett's contractual employment is with effect from February 1st, 2022, and will run for a period of two years.

Brackett, when he was at the helm of Citizens Organized for Liberty Through Action (COLA), led multiple protests, demonstrations, and even press conferences criticizing the decisions of the government.

Brackett's COLA presidency ended in June 2019, when he was replaced by then 21-year-old Shawn Saldano.





# A Balanced and Evidence-based Approach to Minimum Wage Adjustments

By Dyon A. Elliott

As the conversation on a minimum-wage adjustment develops, it is good that all stakeholders agree—even the business community, as articulated in a recent interview with the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)’s President—that an uprate to the minimum wage is necessary.

Additionally, most stakeholders appear to agree that the best way to approach it is by having a minimum-wage-adjustment formula serving as the guide post. That is also a good thing.

The agreement in those two BROAD areas is a great start. However, there are a few technical things that must be highlighted.

**BALANCED AND EVIDENCED-BASED**

Let’s start here. The likes of the International Labour Organization (ILO) have advised that a Balanced and Evidence-based Approach (BEA) be employed when making uprates. What’s a BEA? Simply put (and is consistent with the ILO’s Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970) is for policymakers to consider the needs of workers, the conditions of the economy, and the ability of enterprises to actually afford the increase.

Candidly speaking, policy always has to consider, inter alia, the ability of the regulated entities to comply with the change. This is why, no one—with a straight face—has uttered that the minimum wage should increase to something like \$20 per hour.

More precisely, the ILO, in its minimum wage policy guide, puts it like this:

“A balanced approach is one that takes into account, on the one hand, the needs of workers and their families and, on the other, economic factors.

“Such an approach combines both social and economic factors in order to find a level that benefits workers and society WITHOUT PROMPTING NEGATIVE EFFECTS. A balanced approach is necessary because a minimum wage is a redistributive tool that has both BENEFITS and COSTS.

“If set too low, minimum wages will have little effect in protecting workers and their families against unduly low pay or poverty. IF SET TOO HIGH, minimum wages will be poorly complied with and/or have ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT EFFECTS.”

**CHANNELS OF ADJUSTMENT**

Before proceeding, there is value in discussing these “effects” alluded to by the ILO and others, as there is a need to expand the paradigm on this subject.

Frankly, the economic literature on MW changes has long since moved towards recognizing that there are many likely channels of adjustment (CoAs) associated with an MW change.

As pointed out by economists such as John Schmitt (2013) and Hirsh et. al (2015) there are POTENTIALLY multiple CoAs. Schmitt, for his part, identified at least ELEVEN that COULD follow an MW increase. These are: (1) Reduction in hours worked, (2) Reduction in non-wage benefits (bonus, health insurance, pension contributions), (3) Reductions in training, (4) Changes in employment composition, (5) Higher prices, (6) Improvements in efficiency, (7) Efficiency wage response from workers, (8 ) Wage compression (slower increases for non-MW workers), (9) Reduction in profits, (10) Increase in (consumer) demand, and (11) Reduced turnover.

Now, please notice the use of the words

“potential” and “could.” This area of economics is still evolving and many times the results are inconclusive across disparate research works. Nevertheless, there is value in keeping these adjustment channels in mind, as we discuss adjustments to the minimum wage.

Additionally, it is clear that not all of those eleven CoAs are “bad.” Now! Which of those 11 CoAs will dominate in Belize? Well! That should be the subject of our own idiosyncratic research. Remember. Each economy is like fingerprints: Unique, and thus requires unique, research-based attention.

**THE FORMULA**

The CoAs and the need for a balanced approach are, among other things, the key motivators for a formula-based approach to be utilized. Countries such as Costa Rica employ a formula that looks at the consumer price index (CPI)’s changes alongside the state of the economy, while still preserving the indispensable role of the social partners.

In other jurisdictions, other variables such as the poverty line, productivity measures, and more have been incorporated into their formula in an effort to balance the needs on both sides of the labour market.

Most importantly, the formula-based approach is more predictable, frequent, and structured.

Hypothetically speaking, if since 2012, a formula had been utilized to guide changes on either an annual (or biennial) basis, and those changes were incremental, it is likely that the conversation TODAY would NOT be about jumping from \$3.30 to \$5.00, which is a significant 51% increase that already struggling employers would have to find! Considering the inflationary times, that pill would be a lot for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to swallow virtually overnight.

If this process had benefited from more frequent updates (annually or biennially), then change might have been well below a 10% uprate (as opposed to more than 50%). Too sudden of a shift may summon the more negative members of that eleven-point list of CoAs mentioned above.

**MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY**

For this reason, the ILO’s advice on medium-term MW strategy is also instructive:

“Many countries have discovered that a GAP exists between the legitimate needs of workers and their families and what the ECONOMY IS CAPABLE OF PAYING IN TERMS OF MINIMUM WAGES. It will NOT be possible to eliminate this gap in a SINGLE MINIMUM WAGE ADJUSTMENT, at least NOT WITHOUT ADVERSE ECONOMIC EFFECTS.”

“This suggests that there should be a medium-to long-term target for this policy – that is, closing this gap in SUCCESSIVE, GRADUAL adjustments.”--ILO (2016, p. 52, at Link 1).

In order for there to be a “gap” there has to be two sides: In this case, workers and employers. Often, the conversation on minimum wage ventures into decreeing that the needs of the workers are at least \$5.00, \$10.00 or more. And, from a cost of living standpoint, that may very well be true!

However, the other half of that GAP is whether the average micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) can currently afford to fill those gaps practically overnight.

In short, then, the balanced and evidence-based approach is not an attempt to relegate or ignore the financial needs of workers in any economy. Instead, it rightfully recognizes that there are literally two sides of the equation, and the private

sector’s ability to pay cannot be ignored.

**ROLE OF SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS**


Of course, the retort can easily be the old adage: “While the grass grows the horse starves.” Can a responsible set of policymakers truly implement a judicious set of incremental increases to the minimum wage, while believing (or maybe even confirming) that the needs of workers are much higher?

The short answer is “no.” But then, at this point, it becomes a debate on responsibility sharing. While, yes, the workers should benefit more from their work via higher wages, in the interim this is where governments must step in with social protection and assistance programs that, among other things, help to fill the remaining “gap.” The minimum wage, therefore, cannot be the chief and only poverty-fighting strategy of policymakers; there is urgent need for other social protection programs to be upgraded or introduced, and these include “graduation programs,” rent assistance initiatives, and more.

*Graduation programs* are worthy of some special attention. These types of social protection programs tend to include cash transfers to individuals or households (e.g. the individual may receive a stipend). Simultaneously, the beneficiaries are (mandatorily) enrolled in skills training programs, and thereafter are matched with productive employment opportunities. Fundamentally, at the end of a prescribed period of time, the participant should be able to stand on his or her own two feet either as a productive employee or an entrepreneur, and may very well be earning more than the legislated minimum wage.

To conclude, then, we must not lose sight of the real problem that we’re trying to address: Poverty. Do minimum-wage adjustments help (however little) ease poverty? The empirical literature says, “Yes.” But is this the only and permanent solution? From an inclusive growth and development point of view, the answer would be “no.” Initiatives like “Graduation Programs,” if done correctly, and in tandem with other robust social protection institutions, can help individuals climb socially and beyond minimum-wage levels.

**Disclaimer: the opinions expressed by our columnists are theirs alone, and are not necessarily reflective of the newspaper’s stance on the issues touched. We believe it is critical that our columnists be allowed freedom to generate discussion through their expressions on any number of topics.**



### Oración al Espíritu Santo

Espíritu Santo. Tú que me aclaras todo, que iluminas todo mis caminos para yo alcance mi ideal; tú que das el don divino de perdonar y olvidar el mal que me hacen y que en todos los instantes de mi vida estas conmigo, yo quiero en este corto diálogo agradecerte por todo y confirmar una vez más que nunca quiero separarme de ti, por mayor que sea la ilusión material! Deseo estar contigo y todos mis seres queridos por tu misericordia para estar conmigo y los míos. (La persona debiera rezar esta oración 3 días seguidos sin decir el pedido. Dentro de tres días será difícil que sea. Publicar en cuando se reciba la gracia.

Gracias Espíritu Santo.

R.M.L.



No Excuses

The British Legacy Pt. II

CONTRIBUTED:  
Retr'd Public Officer

The USA followed France in getting rid of aristocracy and the people voted for their president, their representatives in the House and the Senate (not Lords) and for some other public posts such as Governors of a state - well renowned democracy! The Latin American countries are all Republican States but unlike the parliamentary democracy, there is a very wide degree of variation. In most of these Republics there are a relatively few people of European extraction at the helm from colonial times who are “rotten rich” and who own everything while the vast majority of the population, who are the indigenous people, are kept as poor and destitute peons. Many of their leaders are corrupt dictators such as Samosa of Nicaragua who was killed, Batista of Cuba who had to flee in exile, Peron of Argentina, Fuentes of Guatemala and others who are military dictators that refuse to demit office. Coup d’état is common place here. This is distinctly not the case in Parliamentary Democracies. Thus many poor people from these Latin American countries move out from their more developed countries to little non-developed Belize.

There are constant and steady migrations from their own homeland. Central Americans have been pouring into little Belize over the years, people from El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and especially Guatemala (all larger except El Salvador). They are more developed and vastly more populated than Belize. This has been putting stress on Belize’s social services e.g. education, medical, immigration, police, housing, lands etc. and it is also negatively impacting our fishing industry. Several of the commonwealth countries have decided to relinquish the Queen as the Head of State (HOS) represented by the Governor General. When they have done this they appoint a President as HOS and they call this a Republic. But that President was not elected and they are really still a Parliamentary Democracy. Nothing else is changed: Same person who was GG or PM now called President. Same Leader of the Opposition, same Speaker of the House, same Mace Bearer, same Representatives, same Senators...except the Head of State is not the Queen. It amounts to really a macho nationalistic expression not necessarily a realistic change in governance. How many of the independent countries are truly better

off socially today than when they were dependencies? Many former colonies that were small and lacked much resource want to show that they are truly completely independent and supposedly nationalistic and have sought to replace the Queen and inserted their own national HOS. But while this is so Caribbean island countries

heading for war with Germany just some eight years later, she initiated her claim and threatened to invade. Britain responded and established a garrison in Belize in 1945. Were it not for the British soldiers present in Belize, Guatemala would have taken over Belize with us as second or third class citizens languishing in poverty

These occurrences took place in our recent history and hardly anyone stopped to think about what was the cost of sending an aircraft carrier . . . We need to really seriously consider all these things when we seek to make major and serious nationalistic decisions and we need to remove party politics out of it.

like Barbados, Trinidad, Jamaica don’t have a Guatemala claiming and threatening them like Belize does. If Belize copied Barbados and the British said:” OK we will withdraw our BATSUB” will Barbados replace them? One needs to realize that it was the British that protected us for over 80 years after Guatemala reneged on the 1859 Treaty that they signed with Britannia. A treaty which they reaffirmed some seventy years later and together with Britain put up the three boundary markers along the western border. But when Guatemala realized that Britain was

and destitution. Then in about 1962 Guatemala was amassing troops at the border and Britain immediately responded by sending her aircraft carrier the Ark Royal with its compliment of Canberra Shackleton war planes that buzzed along the border to show Guatemala she was serious and meant business. Then again in 1977 Guatemala threatened and Britain sent in the Harrier jump jets which at the time were the modern, only of its kind, vertical takeoff and landing aircraft in the world. These occurrences took place in our recent history and hardly anyone stopped to think

about what was the cost of sending an aircraft carrier with all its men and equipment across the Atlantic Ocean some six thousand miles from England and then the Harrier jets with their pilots plus having a war ship anchored off shore to protect us. We need to really seriously consider all these things when we seek to make major and serious nationalistic decisions and we need to remove party politics out of it.


In reality there are about four different government systems in the world: (1) The Republican System, some of which are from the onset oligarchical (government by the few) that oppress the common people, some are from Coup d’état with military dictators ruling a vast majority of destitute citizens. (2) Communism which is absolutely socialistic with the state owning and running everything. (3) Fascism, a brutal system with little or no regard for its citizenry. Different brutal dictatorships in which rulers literally dictate on everything with laws enacted to suit. (4)The British Parliamentary System in which there is true and stable democracy. Former colonies who seek to obtain their independence do not themselves have any system of their own or seek to develop their own; they only look to the different systems already in existence and select one.

The United States has a democracy which was well worked out after they fought for their own Independence from Britain. Still, if a president is unpopular and not suitable to the vast majority of people, the people have to wait four years to vote him/her out. On the other hand if he happens to be a most outstanding competent individual and fairly young, he has a limit of only two 4 year terms or eight total years in office. In the Parliamentary System, if a PM is deemed unsuitable he does not have to serve out his term of five years. The Parliament can move a motion of no confidence in him and vote and remove

him before his term expires. He therefore has no guarantee that he must remain for a full term of office. On the other hand if a PM is really good, he can be voted in again and again and again if he continues his good works and is not incapacitated in any way. This system is the most stable and solid one of them all and we along with all the other commonwealth nations are blessed with it. We in Belize like what we have and have enjoyed such a system of government. Let us therefore preserve it and keep it for our off springs to enjoy.

Independence is not a nationalistic event, but more importantly it is how citizens of the country live; i.e. their standard of living, their quality of life. If a people are totally “independent” but their education system is decadent, roads and communication services are poor, if they are unable to get farm produce to the market, to get the sick quickly to the hospital or to get the police to a crime scene or the fire service to a fire, if medical services are poor and inadequate, housing dismal or crime and poverty rampant etc.; then nationalistic independence is almost pointless as with the indigenous people of Central America who just want to get out. Compare this to a situation of some dependence where the standard of living or the quality of life is good plus a people are safe and secure, then this latter situation is preferable. For example, consider the Cayman Islands; their quality of life is far superior to very many independent former colonies. These are things to consider when making national changes.

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Public Notice of Investment

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Social Security Act, Chapter 44 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, that the Social Security Board, as per its Investment Framework, Section 49, has proposed to lend the amount of **Four Million Dollars (BZ\$4,000,000.00)** to Citrus Products of Belize Limited for capital expenditures. The new loan facility will be consolidated for a term of twelve (12) years inclusive of a 2-year moratorium period on principal payment. Thereafter, Principal and Interest payments will be paid monthly on the declining balance.





# FUN FACTS!

## Does flying dehydrate you?



While technology and human ingenuity have unlocked our ability to travel across the world in record-time, hurdling through the air above Earth’s protective ozone layers is not exactly natural for the human body.

So, when you fly, your body experiences several challenges. One of those challenges is maintaining proper hydration levels.

There are a handful of reasons for travel dehydration, and understanding why this problem happens is the first step in remedying it.

Apparently, research shows that the conditions of an airplane can lead to 1.5-2 litres of water loss in a 10-hour flight despite water intake.

While the aircraft cabin is highly controlled, it’s still subject to shifts in altitude. Aircraft tend to have low air pressure, which contributes to dehydration by necessitating increased breathing.

Cabin air is dryer than the Sahara Desert. Seriously. You can expect a typical passenger aircraft to have about 12% humidity. The Sahara sees about 25% humidity. It has to be this way; to support a more comfortable humidity level, the aircraft would have to carry gallons of heavy water, and would be at risk for condensation which can be damaging to the parts of the aircraft.

Most people don’t even drink enough water when they’re at home, let alone on travel days, and decreased fluid intake doesn’t just come from the (lack of) water you’re drinking.

Around 60% of your body is made up of water. Water is needed for the proper functioning of every bodily system.

If you were to lose the 2 liters of H<sub>2</sub>O from water loss alone when you fly, you’d be saying goodbye to almost 5% of your fluid volume.

That’s more than 3x the amount of water loss that qualifies for mild dehydration. And that’s not even counting the other sources of airplane dehydration!

It’s no wonder you feel so dehydrated when you fly.



Sweeter Pineapples!

Adding salt to pineapple will actually cause it to taste sweeter.

Ring! Ring!

The average person makes about 1,140 telephone calls each year.

COLOR ME

**Snails have no backbone. Some land snails feed on other terrestrial snails.**



The snails that just hatch the egg can eat their shells and even other eggs of their brothers.

Most snails live from 2 to 5 years, but in captivity, some have exceeded 10 or 15 years of age.

In France, edible snails are “escargot,” a word that also applies to a dish made with them, which is an appetizer.

The courtship, process by which they attract each other before mating, lasts between 2 and 12 hours.

Usually, land snails hatch from eggs.

The mucus of the garden snail is used to treat wrinkles, spots, and scars on the skin.

Most snail species are hermaphrodites, so they have both male and female reproductive organs.

The speed of snails is around 0.5-0.8 inches per second. If they moved without stopping, it would take more than a week to complete 1 kilometer.

Land snails cover the entrance of their shell with a dry mucus secretion called epiphragm, but a few do it with a structure, that in the aquatic snails, has the name of the operculum.



# US energy agency revises oil price forecast up for 2022

By Sibel Morrow

The US Energy Information Administration (EIA) has revised up its 2022 forecast for global crude oil prices amid "heightened levels of uncertainty" resulting from a variety of factors, including Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

In the June Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO), the EIA on Tuesday revised up the price of Brent crude to an average of \$107.37 per barrel and American

benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) to \$102.47 a barrel in 2022. These figures were 103.35 and 98.20, respectively, in last month's report.

In 2023, the agency predicts that Brent will decline to \$97.24 per barrel, while WTI is projected to fall to \$93.24 a barrel.

However, the EIA cautioned that the price forecast is "highly uncertain," driven by a range of factors including how sanctions affect Russia's oil output,

the production decisions of OPEC+, and the rate at which US oil and natural gas producers increase drilling.

The agency also pointed to other key uncertainties expected to affect prices, including the impact and pace of sanctions on Russia, potential new sanctions, the pace of petroleum demand growth through the summer, and the potential for demand to decline because of high retail fuel prices.

Cont'd on pg. 18

## RF&G LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.

Date: July 4, 2022

Henry Lammey of #9377 Malcolm Street, Belize City, Belize District, Belize C.A. having made written declaration that Policy 5400000945 under RF&G Life Insurance Company Ltd has been lost and having made request to the Company for a duplicate of the Policy, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date herein, the requested duplicate policy will be issued.



CENTRAL BANK  
of BELIZE

www.centralbank.org.bz

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Central Bank Announces New Access to its Premises

**Belize City, 27 June 2022:** The Central Bank of Belize (Central Bank) advises that effective, **Monday, 4 July 2022**, visitors will now be required to use its Marine Parade entrance when conducting business at its headquarters.

As a result, access to the compound from the Gabourel Lane entrance will be discontinued at the close of business on Friday, 1 July 2022. The transition to the new entrance at Marine Parade is a procedural change that seeks to ensure the safety and security of staff and lawful visitors to the Central Bank.

The Central Bank remains committed to assuring financial system stability and, in so doing, serving the Belizean public and business community.

- ENDS -

ISSUED BY:  
THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

1 GABOUREL LANE.  
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE  
T: +501 223 6194  
E: communications@centralbank.org.bz

## belize NATIONAL Tourism AWARDS

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

#### CATEGORIES:

- Hotel of the Year Award
- Small Accommodation of the Year Award
- Tour Operator of the Year Award
- Tour Guide of the Year Award
- Frontline Person of the Year Award
- Restaurant of the Year Award
- Site of the Year Award
- Green Champion of the Year Award
- Cultural Experience of the Year Award
- Health and Wellness Provider of the Year Award



SCAN THE QR CODE TO NOMINATE!  
CLOSING DATE: JULY 12, 2022

A BTB Signature Event



# PG Town Council Downsizing Due to Financial Constraints

By Michelle Sutherland

Fourteen, long-time employees of the Punta Gorda Town Council have been left without a job after their services were terminated this week.

We can confirm that the employees who are from the administrative department, sanitation department, and traffic department were all given their termination letters on Friday, July 1st, and were told that their services were no longer required because the “council



Punta Gora Mayor Charles Selgado

is going through a

process of downsizing its workforce.”

Punta Gorda Mayor Charles Selgado said that the drastic decision to cut staff was made at a council meeting that was held last week, which focused on the

financial situation that the council is currently faced with. According to Selgado, over the past couple of months, the council has been finding it very difficult to meet its payroll and other obligations. That led the council to seek guidance from the Ministry of Labour and Local Government who Selgado claimed had advised them to cut staff by a whopping 50%. While Selgado said that the council had delayed as much as possible, in the end, they eventually had to proceed, but not by the entire amount that they were initially advised to let go.

The Mayor also deflected comments made in the public that the termination of the

14 staff members was politically fuelled. He said that it was not the case and instead claims that the terminations were triggered by the tough financial situation that he had acquired the council under. Selgado said that when he took over the Punta Gorda Town Council he allegedly found the council saddled in debts including a ballooning social security bill that was left by the previous council.

Apart from trying to meet those bills and also having their subvention cut, Selgado said that the residents of Punta Gorda Town are refusing to pay their taxes, despite being notified. This, according to Selgado,

has plunged the council into deeper financial woes and now he is asking the residents of Punta Gorda to pay their taxes so that the council does not have to resort to terminating additional staff.

Minister responsible for Labour and Local Government Oscar Requeña confirmed that while the ministry did meet with the council to discuss their financial situation he claimed that at no point did the ministry ever suggest that the council cut their staff by half. Requeña said that the meeting was centered around finding solutions for the council to improve their revenue collection, implement cost-saving measures and reduce their expenditures.

## US energy agency revises oil price forecast up for 2022

Cont'd from pg. 17

According to the statistics agency, the ongoing impact of the coordinated release of petroleum supplies from strategic reserves in the US and Europe, geopolitical uncertainties in Libya and Yemen, along with potential new developments on an Iran deal will also be important for oil price formation in the coming months.

The agency forecast that Russia's production of total liquid fuels would decline from 11.3 million barrels per day (bpd) in the first quarter of 2022 to 9.3 million bpd until the end of next year.

Noting that the EU will impose a crude oil import ban in six months and a petroleum product import ban in eight months, the agency said the possibility that these sanctions

or other potential future penalties reduce Russia's oil production by more than expected "creates upward risks for crude oil prices during the forecast period."

US crude oil production increases

The agency forecast that global oil demand would grow by 2.3 million bpd in 2022, reaching 99.6 million bpd and 101.3 million bpd in 2023.

Crude oil output in the US is forecast to average 11.92 million bpd in 2022, up from 11.2 million bpd in 2021.

In 2023, crude oil output in the country is expected to reach 12.97 million bpd.

The agency forecast that OPEC crude oil production will average 28.8 million bpd in 2022, up 2.52 million bpd from 2021, and 29.45 million bpd in 2023.

### PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY

BY ORDER of Chargees, Messrs. Alpha Gamma Financial Services Limited, Licensed Auctioneer, Fernando Molina, will sell the following properties:

Registration Section	Block	Parcel	Being the freehold properties of
San Pedro	7	5906 (915.37 sq. yds.)	5906GOA3208 Inc.
San Pedro	7	5907 (899.22 sq. yds.)	5907GOA4209 Inc.
San Pedro	7	5908 (416.67 sq. yds.)	5908GOA4210 Inc.
San Pedro	7	5909 (416.67 sq. yds.)	5909GOA4211 Inc.

TOGETHER with all buildings thereon in one lot by way of public auction onsite on Monday, 18th July, 2022 at 1PM.

Total Land Area: 2,647.93 SQ. YDS.

Buildings & improvements: Parcel #5906 – 4 Buildings, two-storey - 887 sq.ft & 140 sq. ft. of external porch, each.  
Parcel #5907 – two-storey building – 3,926 sq.ft. & 737 sq. ft. of external porch.  
Parcel #5908 & #5909 – two-storey building – 5137 sq. ft. and a single storey building – 983 sq. ft.

All these parcels of land are a portion of Mahogany Bay Subdivision situate on Ambergris Caye, Belize. The development has a series of canals with each lot having canal frontage.







# How does soap kill germs?

Twenty seconds of scrubbing with soap is one of the best ways to protect yourself — and the people and things you touch — from disease-causing germs. But how exactly do soapy suds kill pathogenic bacteria and viruses that infect us?

Soap’s germ-zapping superpowers are built into its molecular structure: a “head” attached to a long “tail,” according to Dr. Lee Riley, a physician, professor and chair of the Division of Infectious Disease and Vaccinology at the University of California (UC) Berkeley. The head is hydrophilic, or water-loving, while the tail is hydrophobic — water-fearing or water-repelling. That hydrophobic tail has an affinity for fats, and all bacteria and some viruses — including SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19 — have a lipid membrane, which leaves it vulnerable to a soap molecule’s fat-puncturing tail.

“The tail inserts itself into the [bacteria’s] lipid membrane, and that’s how it ends up getting killed,” Riley told Live Science.

Some types of pathogens have very robust cell walls, so they can survive even after soap’s hydrophobic tail penetrates their membrane. But even in these cases, soap molecules can vanquish bacteria and viruses by surrounding and isolating them.

When soap attacks these pathogens, the tails in soap molecules attach to the cell’s lipid membrane, with the hydrophilic heads facing outward. This forms a tiny ball of soap molecules, known as a micelle, around the pathogen, Dr. John Swartzberg, a physician, clinical professor emeritus and infectious disease expert at UC Berkeley told Live Science. Bacteria or viruses are easily captured by micelles because the outside of the micelle is hydrophilic, so it’s easily swept off your hands and down the drain — along with its pathogenic prisoners — when you rinse the soap away with water.

In 2010, researchers evaluated the effectiveness of soap by having 20 volunteers contaminate their hands a total of 480 times with diarrhea-causing bacteria. The subjects were then randomly assigned to perform one of three actions: wash their hands with

eliminating and annihilating the germs on our hands that antibacterial soap is completely unnecessary and can be harmful; by driving the evolution of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria, Swartzberg said. And when we wash antibacterial soap down the drain, it



soap, wash their hands with only water, or not wash their hands at all. Their hands were then tested for the diarrhea-causing bugs, the scientists reported in The International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

In the group of subjects that did not wash their hands, the bacteria were present in 44% of the participants. In those who washed their hands with water alone, bacteria were present in 23% of the study subjects. And in the group that washed their hands with soap and water, bacteria were detected in just 8% of the people, according to the study.

Soap molecules are so effective at

can promote the rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the local water supply.

On top of that, antibacterial soap kills all bacteria — even the good ones that we depend on to keep us healthy, Riley added.

One key component required for soap to do its job is often overlooked, however. And that’s time. It takes at least 20 seconds for the tail end of the soap molecule to sufficiently bind itself to the pathogens on your hands or on another surface. Cutting that time short could mean missing out on the full protective effect of using soap, Swartzberg said.

.- Livescience

## S U D O K U

Medium Puzzle

	3		9	4	7			
		7		1				6
1		8		3				
6						4	1	
	7					6	5	
							8	3
		4			6			
		5						4
			5	8				

Sudoku rules are extremely easy: Fill all empty squares so that the numbers 1 to 9 appear once in each row, column and 3x3 box. Tip. Use a soft erasable pencil. Start with the easy puzzles, then move on to the harder ones. Make small pencilmarks to show which numbers are allowed in empty squares. This will come handy when analyzing techniques are used. Never guess! Only make moves based on logical deductions. There is only one unique solution for each puzzle.

Answer to Puzzle

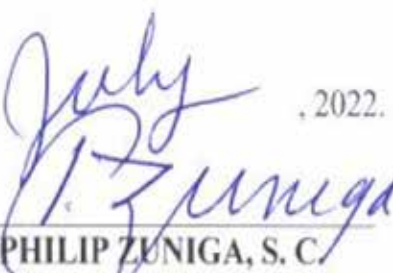
2	7	1	8	4	5	6	9	3
4	9	3	2	6	1	5	8	7
8	6	5	9	7	3	4	1	2
3	8	2	6	9	7	1	5	4
9	5	9	1	2	4	3	7	8
7	1	4	3	5	8	2	6	9
5	4	6	7	3	9	8	2	1
6	3	8	5	1	2	7	4	9
1	2	7	4	8	9	6	3	5




BELIZE CITY,  
Estate of FLORIANA THERESITA SALAZAR, deceased  
STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Pursuant to Section 36 of the Administration of Estates Act, Chapter 197 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of FLORIANA THERESITA SALAZAR, late of Belize City, Belize District, Belize, are required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to the Administratrix of the said estate, CECELIA MARIE LEIVA also known as CECILIA SALAZAR LEIVA of #60 Cleghorn Street, Belize City, Belize District, Belize, and to send such particulars not later than the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022, AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that at the expiration of the last mentioned date, the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the said FLORIANA THERESITA SALAZAR, deceased, amongst the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims or demands of which particulars have been delivered and the Administratrix will not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands she shall not then have had notice.

DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022.

  
PHILIP ZUNIGA, S. C.  
Attorney-at-Law for the Administratrix

  
**IMPORTANT CLOSURE NOTICE**

Dear Users of the Port of Belize Ltd.

The port needs to conduct essential maintenance on the trestle which links the pierhead to the land. This is required to preserve port operations for the next few years ahead. The repairs involve replacing three trestle girders, each one expected to take 8, 8 and 10 days to complete. During the period of the repairs, there will be no access to the pierhead and therefore vessel operations (discharge or load) cannot be conducted.

In our attempt to provide the earliest notice of the pierhead operation closures, we can advise that the following periods are presently the targeted dates for the repair works:

July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 05<sup>th</sup>, 2022

September 01<sup>st</sup> to 09<sup>th</sup>, 2022

October 06<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*We very much regret and apologize for the potential supply chain disruption and inconvenience that these closures might cause you.*

**The Container Yard and Warehouse will remain open during these periods.**

Thanks

Andy Lane  
Chief Executive Officer

STATUTORY NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 36 of the *Administration of Estates Act*, Chapter 197 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020 that all creditors having any claims or demands upon or against the Estate of Kathleen Grace McDonald, deceased, of #2803 W. Vernon Ave., #3, Los Angeles, California 90008 USA, who died on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013 in whose estate Grant of Administration with the Will Annexed has been granted to Cheryl Elizabeth Arnold, the Lawful Attorney of Violet Mavis Trapp-White, should lodge such claims or demands with the said Cheryl Elizabeth Arnold, c/o Marin Young & Co LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, No. 828 Coney Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Belize City, Belize District, Belize, on or before the expiration of three months from the first publication hereof AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the expiration of the said three months the Administrator shall proceed to distribute the assets of the said Kathleen Grace McDonald, deceased, amongst the parties entitled thereto having regard to all the claims and demands of which particulars are lodged and the Administrator shall not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons whose claims or demands she shall not then have had notice.

DATED the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2022

Marin Young & Co LLP  
Attorneys-at-Law for the  
Estate of Kathleen Grace McDonald

**TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE OF COMPOUND AT THE GREEN BUILDING COMPLEX NO. 7552 HUMMINGBIRD HIGHWAY, BELMOPAN CITY**

Tenders are invited from Security Companies for the general security and surveillance of The Green Building Complex NO. 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan City. The tender shall be for a period of one (1) year commencing (1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup>, July 2023). The successful tender will be responsible for the security of premises by an armed guard everyday including public and bank holidays.

1. The successful tender will be expected to provide the following security and surveillance services every day from 4:00 pm to 7:30 am.

A. (a) General security and surveillance of the premises which houses the offices of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management and the Protected Areas Conservation Trust located at NO. 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan City including all assets, the building and fixtures erected thereon.

(b) Control and Monitor access to the compound. The Security must maintain a log of all persons and vehicles entering and leaving the premises.

(c) Conduct patrols within and outside the building to ensure that doors remain locked and that there is no sign of breakage into the building.

(d) The Security Company will provide its personnel with equipment for the effective performance of their duties.

(e) The Security Company not its agents, shall not divulge to any person or persons, any proprietary information coming to their Knowledge in the course of their duties.

(f) Any other security related task as may be agreed upon from time to time by the Parties involved.

2. Cost incurred in visiting the premises and preparations of the tender bid are the sole responsibility of the tenderer. Bids are to be accompanied by Letters of Good Standing from the Belize Tax Service, Belize Companies Registry, the Belize Social Security Board and current Trade License, evidence of past jobs and recommendations would be an asset.

Additional information can be obtained from Ms Judith Middleton 828-6071 or by email at [MiddletonJJ@environment.gov.bz](mailto:MiddletonJJ@environment.gov.bz). Tenders are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "TENDER FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY SERVICE OF THE NEW GREEN BUILDING COMPLEX AT NO: 7552 HUMMINGBIRD HIGHWAY, BELMOPAN CITY" and delivered no later than 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 9:30 am Bids will be open at 10:00 am in front bidders or their representatives who wishes to attend the opening, Evaluation of bids will be carried out immediately after.

The lowest of any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Late bids will be disqualified and returned to the sender unopened.



# Belize engineers ready for CSME



APEB President Mrs. Ramy Chia, PEng

By William Ysaguirre

Qualified engineers are required by law to be registered with the Association of Professional Engineers of Belize (APEB) to practice their profession in Belize, and will soon be required to be registered regionally when new rules take effect under the CARICOM Single Market Economy (CSME) next year, APEB President Mrs. Ramy Chia told The Reporter on Tuesday, July 5.

CSME rules will require all professionals to be registered in an association to be able to work in their profession.

Safety and proper standards were the first consideration when the Professional Engineers (Registration) Act, Chapter 326 of the Laws of Belize was passed in 2001, and APEB was legally established as a self-regulatory body; the Act was last revised in 2003.

Chia was recently elected along with a new executive board to serve a two-year term when the Association held its annual general meeting at the Old Belize Pavilion on Saturday, June 1. Although women number only 11 among the 152 registered members, they are in a majority on the Board. Other members include the Vice President Ms. Lisha G. Sosa, Honorary Secretary Stacey L. Alpuche, Treasurer Mr. Jonas I. Sanchez, and councilors Ana Virginia

Fernandez, and Francisco Gonzalez.

APEB is recognized by the Central Building Authority (CBA) of Belize and is in good standing with the Pan American Union of Engineers Associations (UPADI). Professional engineers need to be registered with APEB, to be licensed to certify engineering drawings and designs. The Association is tasked with vetting the academic qualifications and work experience of engineers who apply to ensure they maintain a proper code of ethics, standards, and the integrity of the profession. Failure to comply with the Act can lead to fines and even imprisonment.

The list of Registered Professional Engineers in good standing and requirements for registering can be viewed at the Association’s website at <https://apebbelize.org>.

## NADO trains Anti-Doping Control officers

By William Ysaguirre


Belize has enhanced its capacity to enforce world controls against the use of performance enhancing substances in sports, when the National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) trained 16 new doping control officers in a seminar at the Marion Jones Sporting Complex in Belize City on Friday and Saturday, July 1-2.

The six women and 10 men were certified to highest standards of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), after completing the hands-on training conducted by Dr Paulina De La Loza of the Mexican Regional Anti-Doping Organization (MEX-RADO) and technician Paula Diaz of the Panama Regional Anti-doping Organization (PAN-RADO). This sets a new level of anti-doping controls that Belize will have at any sporting event, as typically there may be only four or five control officers for an entire tournament. Belize now has enough control officers for a one-to-one ratio to the athletes who may be randomly selected for testing after an individual event.

Testing athletes for banned substances becomes especially important for tournaments where the best athletes may go on to represent Belize in international competitions. Diaz instructed the doping control officers how to record the athlete’s information on the international forms which will be submitted to the laboratory along with the sample, most importantly the date and time the sample was taken. They learnt the theory and practice of safely collecting uncontaminated samples of body fluids, urine and blood, from the athletes immediately after sporting events. The control officer must accompany the athlete from the competition venue to the sampling facility and may not leave the athlete’s side, until the athlete has produced a sample for testing. This may require a wait of several hours until the athlete is able to urinate freely to produce the required volume of sample, at least 90 milliliters, or a more ample 110 milliliters.

The athlete must always be given a choice of at least three sealed sample containers in which to place their sample, Dr. De La Loza explained. This is to avoid any suggestion that the athlete was deliberately given a container which was already contaminated. The doping control officer must allow the athlete to verify that the packaging of the sample container is sealed, and once athlete selects a container, the control officer must not touch the container until the athlete has placed his sample in the container and sealed it. Once the container is sealed, it is safe for the control officer to place the container back in the packaging to be shipped to the laboratory for testing. The seals are such that only the laboratory is equipped to safely open the sample container. The lab will not test the sample if there is any evidence the seal has been tampered with. The control officer is required to have at least one witness or observer present when the sample is taken, to verify that the proper protocols are followed.


An athlete is also required to give a complete list of any medication or training supplements that they may be taking, which may mask a proper test result or give a false positive test for a banned substance. The trainers also offered a list of substances and medications which an athlete should not be taking before competition, as a simple cough syrup may contain drugs which would lead to a positive result for a banned substance.



SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

### Public Notice of Investment

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Social Security Act, Chapter 44 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, that the Social Security Board, as per its Investment Framework, Section 49, has proposed to lend the amount of **Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (BZ\$200,000.00)** to Good Stays Hotel Ltd. for capital expenditures. The new loan facility will be consolidated for a term of ten (10) years. Principal and Interest payments will be paid monthly on the declining balance.




SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD


### Public Notice of Investment

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Social Security Act, Chapter 44 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011, that the Social Security Board, as per its Investment Framework, Section 49, has proposed to lend the amount of **Twenty Million Dollars (BZ\$20,000,000.00)** to the Development Financing Corporation Ltd. for a mortgage program, residential expansion/improvement, real estate, infrastructure and refinancing. The loan facility will be disbursed in \$5M tranches over a 2 year period. The loan facility is for a term of twenty-five (25) years inclusive of 2 years grace period on principal payment. Interest is payable quarterly on any disbursed amount from the date of first disbursement. Principal and interest payments will commence after the moratorium period on the declining balance.





BELIZE ESTATE COMPANY  
LIMITED



RAM

### IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

Safety Recall Notice Z08 - Windshield Wipers

FCA US has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2019-2020 model year (D2) Ram 3500 Pickup, (DD) Ram 3500 Cab Chassis, (DJ) Ram 2500 Pickup, (DX) Ram, (DF) Ram 3500 Cab Chassis, (DP) Ram 4500/5500 Cab Chassis vehicles.


We apologize for this situation and want to assure you that, with your assistance, we will correct this condition. Our commitment, together with your dealer, Belize Estate Company Ltd, is to provide you with the highest level of service and support.

**What is the issue?** The windshield wipers have been built with an improperly formed wiper arm head joint that did not fully form the splines of the head joint on the wiper arm. This can allow the joint to strip and result in the wiper arm failing to operate properly when the system is activated.


**What will your dealer do?** Belize Estate Company Ltd will repair your vehicle free of charge (parts and labour). To do this, they will tighten the wiper nuts to the required torque.


**How long will it take?** The time needed for this repair is less than one-half hour.


Please contact Belize Estate Company Ltd for further assistance.





KEEPING BELIZE ON THE MOVE


 615-2824


 501 223-0641

 Belize Estate Company

 becbz

 info@becbz.com

 www.becbz.com

 #1 Slaughterhouse Road, Belize City, Belize



SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

### TENDER INVITATION FOR THE SUPPLY OF EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES TO SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD

Social Security Board (SSB) invites tenders for the supply of external audit services for the period **January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024.**

The Scope of Services document is available at SSB's Headquarter Office on Bliss Parade, Belmopan between the hours 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Friday. The Scope of Services document can also be forwarded electronically upon request.


Social Security Board, HQ  
P.O. Box 18, Bliss Parade, Belmopan, Belize  
Telephone: 822-2163 Ext. 1272  
Email: [seholder@socialsecurity.org.bz](mailto:seholder@socialsecurity.org.bz)

The closing date for tenders is **July 29, 2022, at 4:30pm** and must be submitted in a sealed envelope labelled:


**Suad Holder**  
**Manager, Internal Audit Services**  
**Social Security Board, Belize**  
**P.O. Box 18, Bliss Parade**  
**Belmopan, Cayo District**  
**Belize, Central America**

SSB reserves the right to accept any tender or reject all tenders.

*Social Security Board: Safeguarding You, your Family, your Future!*



For more information or appointments contact us at 630-8703 or visit us on Cemetery Road next to Rogers Stadium.



Anodyne Therapy  
Center of Belize

## Now Open:

Experiencing any of the following symptoms?

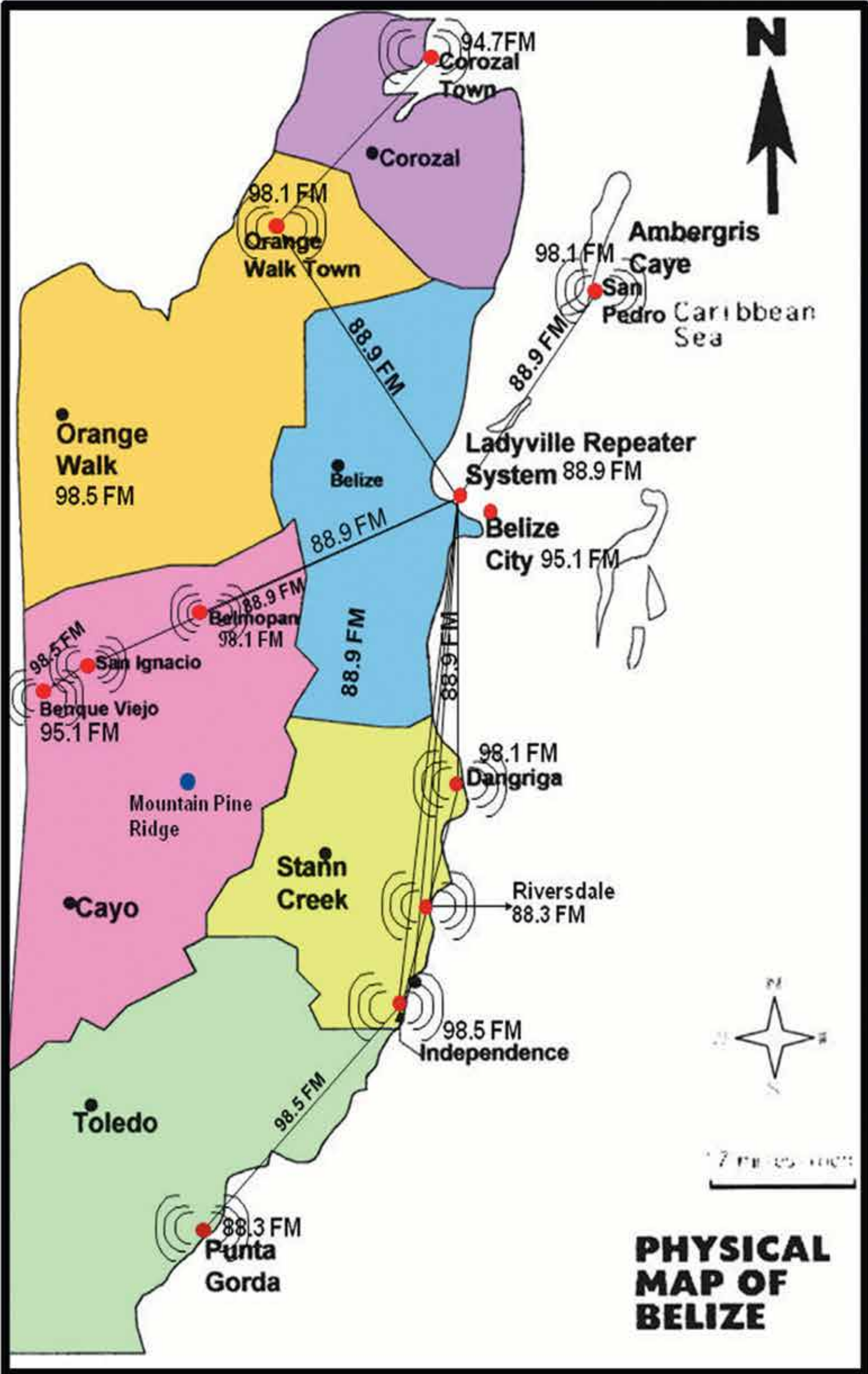
- Arthritis
- Bursitis
- Tendonitis
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Sprains
- Slow healing wounds
- Diabetic ulcers
- Stress Fractures
- Diabetic peripheral neuropathy (loss of sensation or feeling)

Anodyne Therapy can help you.

**How?** Anodyne is a unique therapy that harnesses the healing power of infrared light. It emits special wavelengths of energy which dramatically increase circulation to injury sites and areas of chronic pain. The result is rapid relief of discomfort and pain.



# LOVE NEWS AND MUSIC POWER



*Providing NATIONWIDE COVERAGE since 1996*  
*Belize and Beyond*  
**THANKS FOR CHOOSING LOVE!**







MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

**NOTICE**



**PROCUREMENT OF TWO (2) PROJECT ENGINEERS**

The **Government of Belize (GOB)**, through the **Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH)** has embarked on various road infrastructure projects which aims to promote sustainable economic development, increase climate resiliency, and improve road safety. The **Project Execution Unit (PEU)** is currently seeking to employ two (2) additional engineers for the monitoring and management of upcoming infrastructure projects.

**Scope of Services**

Under the general direction of the Engineering Coordinator of the PEU, the Project Engineers will be responsible for the effective coordination and monitoring of all aspects of the implementation of the infrastructure related activities of the assigned project in accordance with the approved Project Execution Plan (PEP).

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**The Project Engineers’ duties will include, but will not be limited to:**

- Review/ develop/ amend project designs and cost estimates as may be necessary.
- Review/ develop/ amend bid documentation utilizing approved templates to include invitations to bidders, instructions to bidders, bidding forms, form of contract, drawings, specifications, bill of quantities, and other schedules, etc.
- Assist the PEU during bid phase, including site visits with bidders, preparation of responses to queries raised by bidders, and the preparation and submission of a comprehensive bid report with recommendations.
- Prepare and submit annual project workplans and budget.
- Provide direction to and supervision of the day-to-day operations of the Project guided by the project documents and annual work plans.
- Monitor contractors’ performance to verify that the works are being executed in accordance with the contract, and that the quality of materials and workmanship are in accordance with standard specifications and good engineering practices.
- Review payment and completion certificates.
- Keep account of project-related expenditure and disbursement activities.
- Convene and document meetings with contractors, engineering consultants, and other relevant stakeholders as required for the purpose of coordinating activities.
- Participate in and report on, community engagement activities including public meetings,
- Prepare and submit progress reports in the time and format required.

**Academic Qualification and General Experience:**

**The Project Engineer must possess:**

- A minimum of a BSc. Degree in Civil Engineering or related field.
- A minimum of ten (10) years’ experience in the design and supervision of civil engineering works.
- Fluency in written and spoken English. Fluency in a second language, would be an asset.

**Specific Experience:**

**The Project Engineer must possess:**

- A minimum of seven (7) years working experience in the design and implementation of road infrastructure projects (pavements, bridges, drainage etc.).
- Experience in at least two (2) road infrastructure projects within the last five (5) years.
- Experience in the use of policies, guidelines, and requirements of International Financing Institutions (IFI's) would be an advantage.

**Reporting:**

The Project Engineer will report directly to the **Engineering Coordinator** within the PEU.  
The duty station for the position will be at the **PEU Headquarters in Belmopan.**

**Application Submission:**

Interested persons are requested to submit their application, in English, to any of the addresses below and shall include a letter of interest, Curriculum Vitae, two (2) recommendation letters, a copy of a valid social security card and a copy of the highest degree, supporting documentation shall also be in English. The deadline to submit applications is **Friday 29 July 2022.**

**Electronic submissions will also be accepted.**

1. **VICTOR ESPAT**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing**  
**Power Lane**  
**Belmopan**  
**BELIZE**

**Tel: +501-822-2136**  
**Email: ceo.secretary@mow.gov.bz**

2. **EVONDALE MOODY**  
**Engineering Coordinator**  
**Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing**  
**Power Lane**  
**Belmopan**  
**BELIZE**

**Tel: +501-828-5220**  
**Email: peu@midh.gov.bz**